

CLASS 8:GEOGRAPHY

CHAPTER 2: Land, Soil ,Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources

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Very Short Answer Questions

Q1. Mention any four uses of lands.

Ans1. Land is used for different purposes such as agriculture ,forestry, mining, building houses, roads and setting up of industries.

Q2. Which are the two main climatic factors responsible for soil formation?

Ans2. Temperature and rainfall are the two climatic factors which are responsible for soil formation.

Q3. Define water scarcity.

Ans3. Shortage of water as compared to its demand is known as water scarcity

Q4. What is weathering?

Ans4. The breaking up and decay of exposed rocks by temperature changes, frost action ,plants and animals and human activity is called weathering.

Short Answer Questions

Q5. Write short notes on the following:-

- a. Biosphere reserve**
- b. National parks**
- c. Rainwater harvesting**
- d. Shelter belts**

Ans 5

a. Biosphere reserve-

Biosphere Reserves are a series of protected areas linked through a global network ,intended to demonstrate the relationship between conservation and development.

b.National parks-

National Park is a natural area designated to protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for the present and future generations.

c. Rainwater harvesting-

Rainwater harvesting is the process of collecting rainwater from roof tops and directing it to an appropriate location where storing it for future. On an average, one spell of rain for 2 hours is enough to save 8000 litres of water .

d. Shelter belts-

In the in the coastal and dry regions rows of trees are planted to check the the velocity of the wind movement to protect soil cover. These are known as shelterbelts.

Q6. Why are animals poached?

Ans 6. The animals are poached for collection and illegal trade of hides, skin, nails teeth, horns as well as feathers. Some of these animals are tiger lion elephant deer black buck crocodile rhinoceros snow leopard ostrich and peacock.

Q7. Write any two reasons for land degradation today.

Ans. The two reasons for land degradation are:

- Ever growing demand of the growing population leads to overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Deforestation

Q8. Why land is considered as an important resource?

Ans. Land is considered as the most important resource because:

- All agricultural and industrial processes depend on it
- All living beings animals and plants are found on the surface of lands.
- Land serves as a link between the atmosphere and hydrosphere, together making up the biosphere.

Long Answer Questions

Q9. What measures the government has taken to conserve plants and animals?

Ans9. The government has taken several measures to conserve plants and animals.

- Establishment of national parks, Wildlife sanctuaries and Biosphere Reserves to protect the natural vegetation and wildlife.
- Awareness programs like social forestry and Vanamohatsava are encouraged at the regional and community level.
- School children are encouraged for bird watch and visits nature camps so that they appreciate the habitat of varied species.
- The government has also passed laws against the trades as well as killing of birds and animals. In India, killing of lions, tigers, deer and peacocks is illegal.

Q10. Suggest few ways to conserve water.

Ans.10. Few ways to conserve water are:

1. The contaminated water should be treated before releasing it into water bodies.
2. Rainwater harvesting is a useful method of collecting water while it rains. Hence it should be practiced at a large scale.
3. Wastage of water should be checked at home and schools.
4. Wastewater of kitchen and washing can be used in Gardens and toilets.

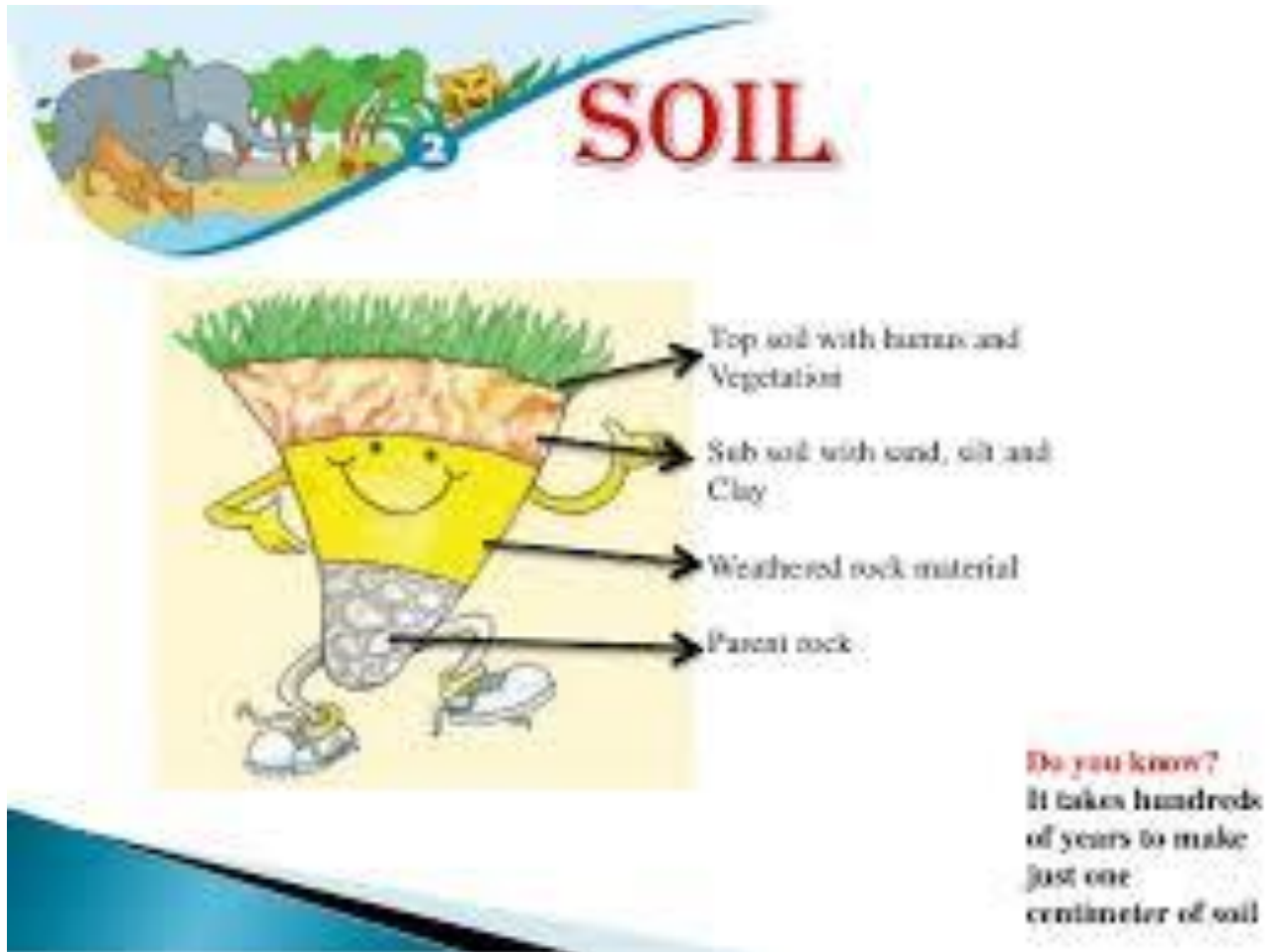
Q11. Explain the factors of soil formation.

Ans11. The nature of the parent Rock and climatic factors are the major factors of soil formation. Other factors are the topography role of organic material and time taken for the composition of soil formation. All these differ from place to place.

1. Parents rock: it determines colour, texture, chemical properties, mineral, content, permeability.
2. Climate: temperature and rainfall influence the rate of weathering and humus.
3. Relief : Altitude and slope determines the accumulation of soil.
4. Flora Fauna and microorganisms affect the rate of humus formation.

5. Time determines the thickness of soil profile.

Diagram: Soil Profile



Note: If the diagram is not clear you can download the same from Google.

This is all for chapter 2. Thank you. God bless.

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- A society is bound to certain set of rules which makes it what it is and differentiates it from other kinds of society.
- These rules, in large societies in which different communities of people live together, are formulated through consensus. In modern countries this consensus is usually available in written form.
- A written document in which we find such rules is known as Constitution.
- A constitution helps serve as a set of rules and principles that all person in a country can agree upon as the basis of the way in which they want the country to be governed.
- The Constitution defines the nature of a country's political system. In a monarchy king is the supreme power whereas in a democracy people rule the country. The government is run by the representatives elected by the people at large.
- SECULARISM-Secularism is a key feature of Indian Constitution, defines that a secular state is one in which the state does not officially promote any one religion.

WORDS THAT MATTER

- **CONSTITUTION** -: Usually a written document which contains the rules of governing a sovereign state.
- **CONSENSUS** -: Agreement of all the people on an issue.
- **DEMOCRACY** -: A form of Government in which people at large hold the ultimate power of governance.

VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

- 1) Who was the first Prime minister of free India?
A1). The first Prime Minister of free India was Pt Jawaharlal Nehru.
- 2) Who is known as the father of Indian Constitution?
A2) Baba Sahib Ambedkar is known as the father of Indian Constitution.
- 3) When was the constitution for independent India drafted?
A3) The Constituent Assembly was convened in December, 1946.

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

- Q1) Define Federalism.
- A1) Federalism is the prime feature of our constitution which refers to the existence of more than one level of Government in the country. In India there are government at the state and the center, panchayat raj is the third tier of the Government. India is a large country with a vast number of communities living together in it. Hence a system needed to be devised that did not involve only

persons sitting in the capital city of New Delhi and making decisions for everyone. Instead it was important to have another level of Government in states so that decisions could be made for that particular area. While each state in India enjoys autonomy in exercising powers on certain issues, subjects.

Q2) What do you mean by separation of powers?

A2) The provision of separation of powers in the Constitution of India recommends for three organs of the state.

- 1) **The legislature** - The legislature refers to our elected representatives.
- 2) **The executives** - The executives refer to a smaller group of people who are responsible for implementing laws and running the Government.
- 3) **The Judiciary** - Judiciary refers to the system of courts in the country for preventing the misuse of power by any branch of the state. It also ensures the balance of power between all three organs.

Q3) What would happen if there were no restrictions on the powers of elected represented?

A3) In a democratic country, leaders are chosen by the people. These leaders are expected to exercise power responsibly on our behalf. But there is always the possibility that these leaders might misuse their power. Hence constitution provides safeguards against this.

Q4) What is the parliamentary form of Government?

A4) The different tiers of Government consists of representatives who are elected by the people. The constitution of India guarantees universal adult franchise for all citizen. This mention that people of India have a direct role in electing their representatives. At the same time, every citizen of the country, irrespective of his/her social background, can also contest in elections. These representatives are accountable to the people.

Q5) Why did the people of Nepal want a new constitution?

A5) The people of Nepal wanted a new constitution because the country by moving from a monarchy to a democratic Government needs to change all its constitution rules in order to usher in a new society.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS

Q1) What are the fundamental rights given by the constitution of India? Explain briefly.

A1) The constitution of India guarantees certain basic rights. There are altogether six fundamental Rights.

- 1) **Right to equality** -: All persons are equal before the law. It means that all persons shall be equally protected by the laws of the country. It also states that no citizen can be discriminated against on the basics of their religion, caste, or sex. Every person has access to all public places

such as restaurants, parks etc. The state cannot discriminate against anyone on matters of employment.

- 2) **Right to freedom** -: Everyone has the right to freedom of speech and expressions, the right to move freely and reside in any part of the country and the right to practice any profession, occupation or business.
- 3) **Right against exploitation** -: The Indian Constitution prohibits trafficking child labor, and children working under 14 years of age.
- 4) **Right to freedom of religion** -: Everyone has the right to enjoy religious freedom. It means that everyone has the right to practice, profess and propagate the religion of their choice.
- 5) **Cultural and educational rights** -: Our Constitution states that all minorities, religious and linguistic can set up their own educational institutions in order to preserve and develop their own culture.

Q2) Why does a democratic country need a constitution?

A2) In a democratic country, leaders are chosen by the people. These leaders are expected to exercise power responsibly on our behalf. But there is always the possibility that these leaders might misuse their power. Here comes the constitution .it provides safeguards against this.
