

## **LAND, SOIL, WATER, NATURAL VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES**

### **I) Answer in a sentence:**

Q1. What is soil?

Q2. Define biosphere

Q3. What are common property resources?

Q4. What is weathering?

Q5. Mention any 2 regions of the world facing water scarcity.

### **II) Answer the following:**

Q6. Mention the factors of soil formation.

Q7. What are the common methods used to conserve land resources?

Q8. State the factors which determine the use of land.

Q9. Fresh water is the most precious substance on Earth. Explain.

Q10. Suggest 3 ways to conserve water.

Q11. Mention 2 steps taken by the government to conserve plants and animals.

Q12. Why have many plant and animal species become endangered?

### **III) Answer in detail:**

Q13. Mention the causes of soil erosion. Explain any 3 methods of soil conservation.

Q14. Write a short note on the major types of vegetation found in this world.

Q15. What are landslides? Give some of its causes and mitigation strategies.

### **IV) Diagram - Draw a neatly labelled diagram of soil profile.**

### **ANSWERS –**

Q8. State the factors which determine the use of land.

**ANS:** The use of land is determined by physical factors such as topography, soil, climate, minerals and availability of water. Human factors such as population and technology are also important determinants of land use pattern.

Q9. Fresh water is the most precious substance on Earth. Explain.

**ANS:** Three fourth's of our planet is covered with water but it is ocean water which is saline and not fit for human consumption.

Fresh water accounts for only about 2.7 per cent. Nearly 70 per cent of this occurs as ice sheets and glaciers in Antarctica, Greenland and mountain regions.

Only 1 per cent of freshwater is available and fit for human use. It is found as ground water, as surface water in rivers and lakes and as water vapour in the atmosphere.

Fresh water is therefore, the most precious substance on earth. Water can neither be added nor subtracted from the earth.

Q12. Why have many plant and animal species become endangered?

**ANS:** Changes of climate and human interferences can cause the loss of natural habitats for the plants and animals. Many species have become vulnerable or endangered and some are on the verge of extinction.

Deforestation, soil erosion, constructional activities, forest fires, tsunami and landslides are some of the human and natural factors which accelerate the process of extinction of these resources.

One of the major concerns is the poaching which result in a sharp decline in the number of particular species. The animals are poached for collection and illegal trade of hides, skins, nails, teeth, horns as well as feathers. Some of these animals are tiger, lion, elephant, deer, crocodile, rhinoceros.

Q15. What are landslides? Give some of its causes and mitigation strategies.

**ANS:** Landslides are defined as slipping of land in which a large mass of the earth moves or collapses down a slope. Landslides may be caused by natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, volcanoes and heavy rainfall.

Some of the mitigation strategies are:

Avoiding building settlements in landslide-prone areas.

Constructing a retention wall to stop landslides.

Increasing the vegetation cover to stop landslides.

Developing proper drainage systems so as to efficiently move water off the land.

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