

1. Name three states having black soil and the crop which is mainly grown in it.

Ans. Three states having black soils are Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Cotton grows best in this soil and it is known as 'black cotton soil'.

2. What type of soil is found in the river deltas of the eastern coast? Give three main features of this type of soil.

Ans. Alluvial soil is found along the Eastern coastal plains.

Three characteristics of this soil are:

- (i) This soil is formed by deposition of materials brought down by rivers.
- (ii) It is highly fertile.
- (iii) It is deficient in organic and nitrogenous materials.

3. What steps can be taken to control soil erosion in the hilly areas?

Ans. Following steps are taken to control the soil erosion in hilly areas:

- (i) Contour ploughing: this refers to ploughing along contour lines.
- (ii) Terrace farming: construction of steps along the hilly areas by cutting the rock layers to reduce the flow of rivers.
- (iii) Plugging of gullies to prevent gully erosion.

4. What are the biotic and abiotic resources? Give some examples.

Ans. Biotic Resources: Resources obtained from biosphere or living things like plants, animals and human beings.

Abiotic Resources: Resources available from non-living things like rocks, mountains, rivers etc.

5. Define resource. Classify resource on the basis of ownership.

Ans. Objects or things in the environment that fulfils the basic needs of man. These should be technologically accessible, economically feasible and culturally acceptable. It can be classified on the basis of ownership as follows:

- ❖ **Individual resources :** These are owned privately by individuals e.g. Many farmers own land many urban people own plots, houses.
- ❖ **Community owned resources :** These are resources which are accessible to all the members of the community. E.g. Grazing grounds, burial grounds, village ponds, parks, picnic points etc.
- ❖ **National resources :** Technically all the resources available in a country belong to that nation are called national resources. E.g. All the minerals, water resources, forests, wild life, land etc.

❖ **International resources** : There are international institutions which regulate some resources. The oceanic resources beyond 200 km of the Exclusive Economic Zone belong to open ocean and no individual country can utilise these without the concurrences of international institutions.

6. What is land degradation? Describe any five measures of controlling land degradation.

Ans. Land degradation refers to the processes both natural and man-made which makes the land unfit for use.

Land degradation is caused due to:

- (i) Soil erosion in hills, arid and semi arid areas.
- (ii) Human activities such as over grazing by animals, shifting cultivation.
- (iii) Deforestation

Measures of controlling land degradation:

- (i) Check soil erosion by construction of terraces for farming and plugging of gullies by construction of check dams.
- (ii) Preparation of shelter belt of plants.
- (iii) Control of overgrazing.
- (iv) Stabilization of sand dunes by growing thorny bushes.
- (v) Regularization of grazing.
- (vi) Proper management of wastelands and Control of mining.

7. Explain land use pattern in India and why has the land under forest not increased much since 1960-61?

Ans. The present land use pattern in India for the year 2000-03 is as follows:

- (i) Forests 22.5%.
- (ii) Area under non-agricultural use 7.92%.
- (iii) Barren and wasteland 6.29%.
- (iv) Permanent pastures and grazing lands 3.45%
- (v) Area under miscellaneous tree crops 1.1%.
- (vi) Culturable waste 4.4%.
- (vii) Fallow other than current fallow 3.82%
- (viii) Current fallow 7.03%.
- (ix) Net sown Area 43.4%.

Forest area has increased marginally from 18% in 1960-61 to 22% in 2000-03. This is mainly due to increasing pressure of population on land.

8. How have technical and economic development led to more consumption of resources?

- Ans.**
- (i) The consumption of resources depends on the needs and aspiration of the people which changes with the development of technology and economic development of the country.
 - (ii) In developed nations the needs of the people are high and they consume more resources, while in developing nations the needs of the people are less resulting in low consumption of resources.
 - (iii) The wealth combined with rapid economic development enables individuals to consume more resources. The development of technology contributed to increased production of quality goods and provide better services to the people. Hence greater the technical and economic development, greater the consumption of resources.

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