

Worksheet – 7

Subject: - Social Science

Class: - VIII

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Name: _____ Class & Sec: _____ Roll No. _____ Date: 02.05.2020

Geography: Chapter 2: Land, Soil, Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources (Land)

1. Why is land considered as an important resource?

Land is considered as an important natural resource because of the following:

1. Land is used for different purposes such as agriculture, building, houses, roads, etc.
2. Land is a resource of various materials.
3. Land is used for growing crops and food and setting up of industries.

2. What is meant by land use? What factors determine it?

Land is used for different purposes such as agriculture, forestry, mining, building houses, construction of roads, setting up of industries, etc. this is commonly termed as land use. The use of land is determined by:

1. Physical factors

1. Topography
2. Soil
3. Climate
4. Minerals
5. Availability of water

2. Human factors

1. Population
2. Technology

3. Mention any two reasons which are responsible for land degradation.

The following reasons are responsible for land degradation:

1. **Deforestation:** forest have been cut to make the land available for agriculture and construction purpose. This is responsible land degradation.
2. **Industrialization:** industries have been set on land and these industries dump their wastage on land that effects the land quality.

4. How do you relate the main land use pattern of the country with economic pattern?

Cropland of India:- land in India is more under cropland because it has fertile soil, suitable climate and large population

Forestland in Japan:- In Japan most of the land is mountainous, rainfall is sufficient for the growth of forest and most of the people deal in forest products.

Pastureland in Australia:- Pastures are plenty in Australia because the climate is suitable for the growth of grasslands and a large number of people have the occupation of cattle rearing.

Land under other use in Canada:- Canada is very cold country and receives snow fall for 8-9 months in a year so the land is used for industrialization and commercial purpose.

(Landslides)

- 1) What are landslides? And how are they caused?

Ans:- 1) landslides are simply defined as the mass movement of rock, debris or earth down a slope.
2) They often take place in conjunction with earthquakes, floods and volcanoes.

- 2) Explain mitigation mechanism.

Ans:- Advancement in scientific technique has empowered us to understand what factors cause landslide and how to manage them some broad mitigation techniques of landslides are as follows:-

- Hazard mapping to locate areas prone to landslides. Hence, such areas can be avoided for building settlements.
- Construction of retention wall to stop land from slipping.
- Increase in the vegetation cover to arrest landslide.
- The surface drainage control works to control the movement of landslide along with rain water and spring flows.

Soil

1) What is soil?

Ans:-

- The thin layer of gray substance covering the surface of the earth is called soil. It is closely linked to land.
- Landforms determine the type of soil.
- Soil is made up of organic matter, minerals and weathered rocks found on the earth.

2) What is weathering?

Ans:- The breaking up and decay of exposed rocks, by temperature changes frost, action, plants, animals and human activity.

3) How much time is required to make soil?

Ans:- It takes hundreds of years to make just one centimeter of soil.

4) What are factors of soil formation?

- **Parent Rock:** Determines colour, texture, chemical properties, mineral content, and permeability.
- **Relief:** Attitude and slope, determine accumulation of soil.
- **Flora, fauna and Micro-organism:-** Affect the rate of humus formation
- **Time:** Determines thickness of soil profile
- **Climate:** Temperature, Rainfall influence rate of weathering and humus formation

5) Explain the methods of soil conservation?

- **Mulching:** The bare ground between plants is covered with a layer of organic matter like straw. It helps to retain soil moisture.
- **Contour Barriers:** stones, grass, soil are used to build barriers along contours, trenches are made in front of the barriers to collect water.
- **Rock dam:** Rocks are piled up to slow down the flow of water. This prevents gullies and further soil loss.
- **Terrace Farming:** Broad flat steps on terraces are made on the steep slopes so that flat surfaces are available to grow crops. They reduce surface runoff and soil erosion.
- **Inter cropping:** Different crops are grown in alternate rows and are sown at different times to protect the soil from rain wash.
- **Contour ploughing:** Ploughing parallel to the contour of a hill slope to form a natural barrier for water to flow down the slope.
- **Shelter belts:** In the coastal and dry region, rows of trees are planted to check the wind movement to protect soil cover.