

CA5CRT15 - IT & Environment (Core)

Theory:4 hrs. per week

Credits:4

Unit 1 : (18 hrs.) Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies : Definition, scope and importance, Need for public

awareness.

(2 hrs)

Natural Resources: Renewable and non-renewable resources: Natural resources and associated problems. a) **Forest resources:** Use and over-exploitation, deforestation, case studies. Timber extraction, mining, dams and their effects on forest and tribal people. b) **Water resources:** Use and over-utilization of surface and ground water, floods, drought, conflicts over water, dams-benefits and problems. c) **Mineral resources:** Use and exploitation, environmental effects of extracting and using mineral resources, case studies. d) **Food resources:** World food problems, changes caused by agriculture and overgrazing, effects of modern agriculture, fertilizer-pesticide problems, water logging, salinity, case studies. e) **Energy resources:** Growing energy needs, renewable and non renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources, Case studies. f) **Land resources:** Land as a resource, land degradation, man induced landslides, soil erosion and desertification. Role of individual in conservation of natural resources. Equitable use of resources for sustainable life styles. (10hrs)

Ecosystems : Concept of an ecosystem, Structure and function of an ecosystem, Producers, consumers and decomposers, Energy flow in the ecosystem, Ecological succession, Food chains, food webs and ecological pyramids., Introduction, types, characteristic features, structure and function of the given ecosystem:- Forest ecosystem

(6 hrs)

Unit 2: (26 hrs) Biodiversity and its conservation: Introduction, Biogeographical classification of India, Value of biodiversity: consumptive use, productive use, social, ethical, aesthetic and option values., India as a mega-diversity nation, Hot-spots of biodiversity, Threats to biodiversity: habitat loss, poaching of wildlife, man-wildlife conflicts, Endangered and endemic species of India

(8

hrs) Environmental Pollution :Definition, Causes, effects and control measures of: - Air pollution, Water pollution, Soil pollution, Marine pollution, Noise pollution, Thermal pollution, Nuclear hazards, Solid waste Management: Causes, effects and control measures of urban and industrial wastes., Role of an individual in prevention of pollution, Pollution case studies, Disaster management: floods, earthquake, cyclone and landslides.

(8 hrs)

Social Issues and the Environment :Urban problems related to energy, Water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management, Resettlement and rehabilitation of people: its problems and concerns, Case studies, Environmental ethics: Issues and possible solutions, Climate change, global warming, acid rain, ozone layer depletion , nuclear accidents and holocaust, Case studies, Consumerism and waste products, Environment Protection Act , Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, Wildlife Protection Act, Forest Conservation Act, Issues involved in enforcement of environmental legislation, Public awareness. (10hrs) **Unit 3: (10 hrs.)**

Internet as a knowledge repository, academic search techniques, creating cyber presence. Academic websites, open access initiatives, opens access publishing models, Introduction to use of IT in teaching and learning -Educational software, Academic services–INFLIBNET, NPTEL, NICNET, BRNET . (10hrs)

Unit 4: (10 hrs.) IT & Society- issues and concerns- digital divide, IT & development, the free software movement , IT industry: new opportunities and new threats, software piracy, cyber ethics, cyber crime, cyber threats, cyber security, privacy issues, cyber laws, cyber addictions, information overload, health issues- guide lines for proper usage of computers, internet and mobile phones. e-wastes and green computing, impact of IT on language & culture-localization issues- Unicode- IT and regional languages, Green Computing Concept. **(10hrs)**

Unit 5: (8 hrs.) **Human Rights**– An Introduction to Human Rights, Meaning, concept and development, Three Generations of Human Rights (Civil and Political Rights; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

Human Rights and United Nations – contributions, main human rights related organs - UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO, ILO, Declarations for women and children, Universal Declaration of Human Rights. **Human Rights in India** – Fundamental rights and Indian Constitution, Rights for children and women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Castes and Minorities

Environment and Human Rights - Right to Clean Environment and Public Safety: Issues of Industrial Pollution, Prevention, Rehabilitation and Safety Aspect of New Technologies such as Chemical and Nuclear Technologies, Issues of Waste Disposal, Protection of Environment **Conservation of natural resources and human rights:** Reports, Case studies and policy formulation. Conservation issues of western ghats- mention Gadgil committee report, Kasthurirengan report. Over exploitation of ground water resources, marine fisheries, sand mining etc. **(8 Hrs)**

Internal: Field study

- Visit to a local area to document environmental grassland/ hill /mountain
- Visit a local polluted site – Urban/Rural/Industrial/Agricultural Study of common plants, insects, birds etc
- Study of simple ecosystem-pond, river, hill slopes, etc (Field work Equal to 5 lecture hours)

References:

1. —Technology in Action|| Alan Evans, Kendall Martin, Mary Anne Poatsy, Pearson
2. Bharucha Erach, Text Book of Environmental Studies for undergraduate Courses. University Press, IInd Edition 2013 (TB)
3. Clark.R.S., Marine Pollution, Clanderson Press Oxford (Ref)
4. Cunningham, W.P.Cooper, T.H.Gorhani, E & Hepworth, M.T.2001 Environmental Encyclopedia, Jaico Publ. House. Mumbai. 1196p .(Ref)
5. Dc A.K.Enviornmental Chemistry, Wiley Eastern Ltd.(Ref)
6. Down to Earth, Centre for Science and Environment (Ref)
7. Heywood, V.H & Watson, R.T. 1995. Global Biodiversity Assessment, Cambridge University Press 1140pb (Ref)

8. Jadhav.H & Bhosale.V.M. 1995. Environmental Protection and Laws. Himalaya Pub. House, Delhi 284p (Ref)
9. Mekinney, M.L & Schock.R.M. 1996 Environmental Science Systems & Solutions. Web enhanced edition 639p (Ref)
10. Miller T.G. Jr., Environmental Science, Wadsworth Publishing Co. (TB)
11. Odum.E.P 1971. Fundamentals of Ecology. W.B. Saunders Co. USA 574p (Ref)
12. Rao.M.N & Datta.A.K. 1987 Waste Water treatment Oxford & IBII Publication Co.Pvt.Ltd.345p (Ref)
13. Rajagopalan. R, Environmental Studies from crisis and cure, Oxford University Press, Published: 2016 (TB)
14. Sharma B.K., 2001. Environmental Chemistry. Geol Publ. House, Meerut (Ref)
15. Townsend C., Harper J, and Michael Begon, Essentials of Ecology, Blackwell Science (Ref)
16. Trivedi R.K., Handbook of Environmental Laws, Rules Guidelines, Compliances and Stadards, Vol I and II, Enviro Media (Ref)
17. Trivedi R. K. and P.K. Goel, Introduction to air pollution, Techno-Science Publication (Ref)
18. Wanger K.D., 1998 Environmental Management. W.B. Saunders Co. Philadelphia, USA 499p (Ref)
19. M-Magazine, R-Reference TB- Text Book