

## **2.5 NATURAL RESOURCES AND ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS**

- Continuous increase in population caused an increasing demand for natural resources.
- Due to urban expansion, electricity need and industrialization, man started utilising natural resources at a much larger scale.
- Non-renewable resources are limited. They cannot be replaced easily.
- We should ensure a balance between population growth and utilisation of resources.
- This overutilization creates many problems. Thus, there is need for conservation of natural resources.

### **Forest resources and associated problems**

Use and over-exploitation.

Deforestation.

Timber extraction.

Mining and its effects on forest.

Dams and their effects on forests and tribal people.

### **Water resources and associated problems**

Use and overutilization of water.

Floods, droughts etc.

River water conflicts.

Dams and rehabilitation problems.

### **Mineral resource and associated problems**

Use and exploitation.      Environmental effects of extracting and using minerals.

### **Food resources and associated problems**

World food problems.

Effects of modern agriculture.

Changes caused by agriculture and over grazing.

Fertilizer-pesticide problems.

Water logging and salinity.

### **Energy resources and associated problems**

Growing energy needs.

### **Land resources and associated problems**

Land degradation.

Man-induced landslides.

Soil erosion and desertification.