



Short Answer Type Questions [4 Marks]

1. What is meant by common property resources? Explain with examples.

Answer: Common property refers to the rights and duties of a group together over natural resources with the following norms:

1. The group members enjoy rights and duties both over nature, levels of use and the maintenance of a given resource.
2. In India, many village communities have defined members' rights and responsibilities through mutual understanding.
3. The institutional arrangement for the actual management of sacred groves on state owned forest level appropriating fit the description of common property.

2. Explain the meaning of global commons. Give any four examples of global commons.

Answer: The areas of regions located outside the jurisdiction of any one state and require common governance by international community are Global Commons i.e. Earth atmosphere, Antarctic Ocean Floor and outer space. They are exploited and polluted due to:

1. Vague scientific evidences, these lack of consensus on common environmental issues.
2. North-South inequalities and their exploitative activities and competition lack proper management over outer space.
3. Technological and Industrial development have also affected the earth's atmosphere and ocean floor.

3. Describe any four steps taken by India to improve the environment.

Answer: The Indian government is participating in global efforts through a number of programmes:

1. India's National Auto-fuel policy mandates cleaner fuels for vehicles.
2. The Energy Conservation Act, 2001 outlines initiatives to improve energy efficiency.
3. Electricity Act, 2003 encourages the use of renewable energy.
4. Recent trends in importing natural gas and encouraging the adoption of clean coal technologies show that India is making real efforts.
5. India is also keen to launch a national mission on Biodiesel using about 11 million hectares of land to produce biodiesel by 2011-12.

4. Define indigenous population. Highlight any two problems of such people.

Answer: The UN defines indigenous population as comprising the descendants of people who inhabited the present territory of a country at the time when persons of a different culture or ethnic origin arrived there from other parts of the world and overcame them. The following problems are faced by such people:

1. They lost their lands which belonged to them only for a long time.
2. The loss of land refers to a loss of an economic resource base.
3. Issues related to the rights of the indigenous communities have also been neglected in domestic and international politics for long.

5. Explain the importance and role of concept common but differentiated pertaining to environment.

Answer: Compromise and accommodation are the two essential policies to Save Planet Earth by the states but the states from North and South have different notions towards environmental issues:

1. The Northern States (Developed) are concerned with Ozone depletion and global warming whereas Southern States (Developing) warn to address the relationship between economic development and environmental management.
 2. The developed countries of the North want to discuss the environmental issues which stands equally responsible for ecological conservation.
 3. The developing countries of the South feel that much of the ecological degradation in the world is created by developed countries through their industrial projects.
 4. And if developed countries cause more environmental degradation they are supposed to take more responsibility onwards.
 5. The developing countries are under process of industrialization and they should be exempted from restrictions imposed on developed countries through various conventions like Kyoto Protocol etc.
 6. The special needs of developing countries must be taken into considerations in the process of development, application and interpretation of rules of International Environmental Law.
- All the above mentioned provisions were accepted in Earth Summit, 1992 while adopting common but differentiated responsibilities.

6. Explain India's stand on environmental issues. What steps have been suggested by India in this respect?

Answer: India plays a dominating role among the Asian countries on environmental issues:

1. India signed and ratified the 1997 Kyoto Protocol in August 2002 which emphasised to follow the principle common but differentiated responsibility.
2. India feels this contravenes the very spirit of UNFCCC. Neither does it seem fair to impose restrictions on India when the country's rise per capita carbon emissions by 2030 is likely to still represent less than half the world average.
3. The Indian government is also keen to launch a National Mission on Biodiesel which makes India to have one of the largest renewable energy programmes in the world.
4. The Indian government is also participating in global efforts through a number of programmes i.e. National Auto fuel Policy, Electricity Act 2003, Energy Conservation Act, 2001 etc.

7. What is meant by environment? Suggest any two steps for the environmental improvement.

Answer: Environment refers to surroundings of a region which can be improved by taking following steps:

1. More focus should be on afforestation i. e. planting more trees to maintain ecological balance, prevent soil erosion and enhance water cycle also.
2. Eco-friendly industries should be set up as well as industries adherent should be disposed with scientific methods and industries should be established at far away places from populous/residential areas.

8. What do you mean by environmental movements? Explain.

Answer: Environmental movements are the movements of a group which are environmentally conscious to challenge environmental degradation to work at both the national and international levels or local levels:

1. These movements raise new ideas and long term vision of what we should not do in our individual and collective lines.
2. These environmental movements may be diverse in nature i.e. the forest movements of the south, in Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Malaysia, Indonesia, continental Africa and India are faced with enormous

pressures.

Categories of Environmental Movements:

1. Forest Movements
2. Movement against mining corporation and mineral industry (water pollution)
3. Anti Dam Movements against the construction of mega dams riot to disturb channels of rivers.

9. Oil is an important resource in global strategy that affects the geopolitics and global economy. Comment.

Answer. Oil is the resource which generates immense wealth, hence it creates political struggles involving industrialised countries to adopt various methods to ensure steady flows of oil:

1. These include deployment of military process near exploitation sites and along sea lanes of communications.
2. The stockpiling of strategic resources.
3. They support multinational companies by making favourable international agreements.
4. The global economy relied on oil as a portable and indispensable fuel, hence, the history of petroleum is the history of war and struggle.
5. It created conflict between Iraq and Saudi Arabia as Iraq's known reserves are second only to Saudi Arabia and since substantial portions of Iraqi territory are yet to be fully explored, there is a fair chance that actual reserves might be far larger.

10. Water is a crucial resource to global politics. Explain with examples.

Or

Explain the water wars with examples.

Answer: Water is a crucial resource relevant to global politics.

Regional variations and increasing scarcity of fresh water in some parts of the world point to the possibility of disagreements over shared water resources as a leading source of conflicts in 21st century, which is known as water wars:

1. Water wars may create violent conflict due to disagreement of countries over sharing rivers i.e. a typical disagreement is a downstream state's objection to pollution, excessive irrigation, or construction of dams which degrade the quality of water available to downstream states.
2. States have used force to seize fresh water resources i.e. 1950, struggle between Israel, Syria and Jordan and 1960s over attempts by each side to divert water from the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers.
3. The more recent threats between Turkey, Syria and Iraq over the construction of Dams on Euphrates river.

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