

Chapter 16 – Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (30 Important Q&A)

Basic Concepts

Q1. What is meant by natural resources?

Ans: Resources available in nature such as air, water, soil, forests, coal, petroleum, etc.

Q2. Define sustainable development.

Ans: Development that meets present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Q3. Why is sustainable management necessary?

Ans: To prevent overexploitation, conserve biodiversity, and ensure resources are available for future generations.

Q4. List two examples of renewable resources.

Ans: Forests, water.

Q5. List two examples of non-renewable resources.

Ans: Coal, petroleum.

Forest & Wildlife

Q6. Why should we conserve forests and wildlife?

Ans: To maintain ecological balance, prevent soil erosion, regulate climate, and preserve biodiversity.

Q7. What is biodiversity?

Ans: Variety of plants, animals, and microorganisms present in an ecosystem.

Q8. Name two traditional methods of forest conservation.

Ans: Chipko Movement, Bishnoi Movement.

Q9. What is the Chipko Movement?

Ans: A movement in which villagers hugged trees to prevent cutting, started in Garhwal Himalayas (1970s).

Q10. What is the effect of deforestation?

Ans: Loss of biodiversity, soil erosion, floods, global warming.

Water Management

Q11. Why is water conservation important?

Ans: To prevent water scarcity, maintain groundwater levels, and meet agricultural/industrial demands.

Q12. What is watershed management?

Ans: Scientific conservation of water and soil resources in a watershed area.

Q13. Name one successful water management practice in India.

Ans: Johads in Rajasthan by Rajendra Singh (Waterman of India).

Q14. What is rainwater harvesting?

Ans: Collecting and storing rainwater for later use.

Q15. State two traditional water harvesting systems in India.

Ans: Tankas in Rajasthan, Khadins in Jaisalmer.

Coal and Petroleum

Q16. Why are coal and petroleum called fossil fuels?

Ans: They are formed from the remains of ancient plants and animals over millions of years.

Q17. Why are fossil fuels considered non-renewable resources?

Ans: They take millions of years to form and cannot be replenished quickly.

Q18. What are the disadvantages of using fossil fuels?

Ans: Air pollution, greenhouse effect, acid rain, depletion of resources.

Q19. What is the greenhouse effect?

Ans: Trapping of heat in Earth's atmosphere due to gases like CO₂, CH₄, leading to global warming.

Q20. Suggest two alternatives to fossil fuels.

Ans: Solar energy, wind energy.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Q21. What are the 3Rs of sustainable management?

Ans: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Q22. Give one example of 'Reduce'.

Ans: Using less plastic bags.

Q23. Give one example of 'Reuse'.

Ans: Refilling glass bottles.

Q24. Give one example of 'Recycle'.

Ans: Recycling waste paper to make new paper.

Q25. Which of the 3Rs is best for environment? Why?

Ans: Reduce, because it minimizes waste generation at source.

Conservation Practices

Q26. Why should we manage resources in a community-based manner?

Ans: Involves local people, reduces misuse, ensures equal sharing.

Q27. What is sustainable forestry?

Ans: Using forest products without depleting them, ensuring regeneration.

Q28. State one advantage of dams.

Ans: Provide water for irrigation, electricity generation, flood control.

Q29. State one disadvantage of dams.

Ans: Displacement of people, loss of biodiversity, deforestation.

Q30. Mention two steps you can take in daily life for sustainable resource management.

Ans: Use public transport instead of private vehicles, avoid plastic, save electricity and water.
