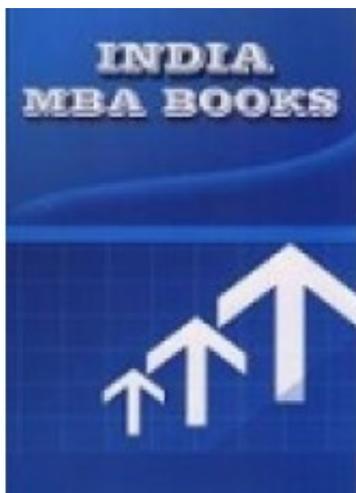


ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



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ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

UNIT-I: Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies

Definition, Scope and importance, need for public awareness

UNIT-II: 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 an individual in conservation of natural resources
Equitable use of resources for sustainable lifestyles

UNIT-III: 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 following ecosystems :-

- Forest ecosystem
- Grassland ecosystem
- Desert ecosystem
- Aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries)

From Unsustainable to Sustainable development, Urban problems related to energy, Water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management, Resettlement and rehabilitation of people; its problems and concerns.

Environmental ethics: Issues and possible solutions

Climate change, global warming, acid rain, ozone layer depletion, nuclear accidents and holocaust, Wasteland reclamation, 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

UNIT-IV: Biodiversity and its conservation

Introduction – Definition: genetic, species and ecosystem diversity, Biogeographical classification of India

Value of biodiversity: consumptive use, productive use, social, ethical, aesthetic and option values, Biodiversity at global, National and local levels, 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 Conservation of biodiversity: In-situ and Ex-situ conservation of biodiversity.

UNIT-V: Environmental Pollution

Definition, Cause, 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.

Population growth, variation among nations,Population explosion – Family Welfare Program,Environment and human health, Human Rights, Value Education,Women and Child Welfare, Role of Information Technology in Environment and human health.

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