

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 11th



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Subject : Sociology

Chapter : 3

Chapter Name : Environment and Society

Q1 Describe in your own words what you understand by the term 'ecology'.

Answer. The term ' ecology' stands for the interaction and relationship between the biological and physical components of the environment . It is often considered as the term that overarchingly defines the relationship between different branches of environment as usual in connection with different social spheres.

Page : 65 , Block Name : Exercises

Q2 Why is ecology not limited only to the forces of nature?

Answer. The concept of ecology is not limited to the natural aspects because it is essentially affected by different human activities also . The clash between the natural and human forces often affect the mechanisms and processes of ecology .

For example , the problem of deforestation is caused by the rapid industrialization empowered by the capitalistically oriented individuals and affect the ecology within different economic parameters often termed as "economic ecology".

Page : 65 , Block Name : Exercises

Q3 Describe the two-way process by which social environments emerge.

Answer. The social environments emerge by the interaction between different biophysical aspects with the human interactive agencies or processes. It runs on the principle that nature affects the human beings and vice-versa.

The abundance of land is a natural occurring state but the transformation of such land into the agriculturally productive land creates a 'social environment' where all the changes in the social structure will affect the nature of 'land' and the natural changes particularly calamities will also affect the social structures. This is to be considered as a primary creation or example of 'social environment'.

Page : 65 , Block Name : Exercises

Q4 Why and how does social organisation shape the relationship between the environment and society?

Answer. The structures and the processes of social organisation have a colossal impact upon the relationship between the environment and society.

The social organisations mandated by caste , class and religious scriptures often affect these parameters to concentrate the power among the major privileged sections of the society. The social organisations also affects this relationship in terms of gendered and stereotyped notions of discrimination to exclude the inheritors of the distribution of resources .

The caste based social organisation limits the access of the underprivileged sections of the society to particular natural resources and leads to a very politically centered position of resources often termed globally as "geo politics".

The gendered discrimination often affects the participation of social organisations in different social movements as the participation of women is highly visible in environment related movements as it directly affects their day to day life powered by gender roles.

Page : 65 , Block Name : Exercises

Q5 Why is environmental management a complex and huge task for society?

Answer. The environmental management is a huge task for the society as the stakeholders of the value are quite inter sectional in their vested interests in society.

The clash with the capitalists to manage the resources in a sustainable way is quite difficult because of the lack of incentives and the political backing to these business oriented figures.

The lack of laws to support the environment and even if the papered notion of laws are present it doesn't show any result in practicality.

The lack of accountability and transparency among the major institutions responsible for the sustainable use of the resources.

Page : 65 , Block Name : Exercises

Q6 What are some of the important forms of pollution-related environmental hazards?

Answer. The environmental pollution is mainly responsible for the primal ecological concerns of the status quo and some of these hazards are :

The Air pollution results in many respiratory problems like asthma , SARS etc and also affects the balance of climate within ecological and environmental parameters.

The water pollution affects marine life and often results in the formation of toxic hydrological resources which in turn affects the geo politics.

The industrial pollution increases the level of chemical and other toxic substances in natural bodies which affects the life of different organisms and noise pollution is another raising concern in metropolitan cities.

Page : 64 , Block Name : Exercises.

Q7 What are the major environmental issues associated with resource depletion ?

Answer. The declining amount of the non - renewables is a major ecological concern in the contemporary era as we have witnessed a rapid decline in the amount of land and water in major areas of the world altogether. The degradation of agricultural productivity and water pollution often result in the denudation of the resources.

The decline in the amount of bio - diversity hotspots and ecological diversity has also affected the environment and the tourism industry altogether.

Page : 64 , Block Name : Exercises

Q8 Explain why environmental problems are simultaneously social problems ?

Answer. The environmental problems are simultaneously social problems as they are deeply connected with each other which is often termed as ' social ecology ' and in economic sense , 'economic ecology'.

The monopoly over the natural resources has been the major reason of the ascribed power or authority to a particular section of the section. The natural catastrophes also affects the economic structures and well being of the people.

The increasing industrialization of areas often affects the environment but it also affects the livelihood of the people and that is why we see the large number of movements against the government and enterprises.

Page : 64 , Block Name : Exercises

Q9 What is meant by 'social ecology' ?

Answer. Social ecology essentially means the process of interaction between the ecological and social components . It deals with the relationship between the natural resources and the social processes of a stratified society.

Page : 64 , Block Name : Exercises.

Q10 Describe some environment related conflicts that you know of or have read about.(Other than the examples in the text.)

Answer. The contemporary world has witnessed many environment related problems as recently we have witnessed the mass protest against the Amazon Fires all across the world against the Brazilian Government to not accept the aid by other countries. In India, the protest is also brimming against the removal of mango plantations from the state of Maharashtra and people are also protesting against the growing capitalistic structures in the country of India.

Page : 64 , Block Name : Exercises.

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