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Class 11th

Subject Geography

### Ch Geography as a Discipline

Read the following question and answer throughly and try to understand and Write down in your H.W.Copy.

#### Long Answer Type Questions

##### Question 1.

What is the importance of Physical Geography?

Answer:

Physical geography includes study of Lithosphere, Atmosphere, Hydrosphere and Biosphere. Each element is very important for human beings. Landforms provide base for agriculture, industries, transport and communication, and settlements. Mountains provide water to rivers, forests-center for tourist spots. Climate influences on the cropping pattern, livestock, food and clothes of the people. Climate and precipitation influence the type of forests. Oceans provide food, water transport, and influence the climate; they are the source of hydrological cycle.

Each element of physical environment is important for human beings. Landforms provide the base on which human activities are located. The plains are utilised for agriculture. Plateaus provide forests and minerals. Mountains provide pastures, forests, tourist spots and are sources of rivers providing water to lowlands. Climate influences our house types, clothing and food habits.

The study of physical geography is emerging as a discipline of evaluating and managing natural resources. In order to achieve this objective, it is essential to understand the intricate relationship between physical environment and human beings. Physical environment provides resources, and human beings utilise these resources and ensure their economic and cultural development. Accelerated pace of resource utilisation with the help of modern technology has created ecological imbalance in the world. Therefore, a better understanding of physical environment is essential in study of Geography.

##### Question 2.

Physical and human factors both are dynamic not static. Explain.

Answer:

The geographical phenomena, both the physical and human, are not static but highly dynamic. They change over times as a result of the interactive processes between ever changing earth and untiring and ever-active human beings.

1. Primitive human societies were directly dependent on their immediate environment. Human beings have come to terms with nature through adaptation and modification.
2. The present society has passed the stage of primitive societies, which were directly dependent on their immediate physical environment for sustenance. Present societies have modified their natural environment by inventing and using technology and thus, have expanded the horizon of their operation by appropriate utilisation of the resources provided by nature.
3. With the gradual development of technology, human beings were able to loosen the shackles of their physical environment. Technology helped in reducing the harshness of labour, increased labour efficiency and provided leisure to human beings to attend to the higher needs of life. It also increased the scale of production and the mobility of labour. The interaction between the physical environment and human beings has put their imprints everywhere and created new possibilities in collaboration with nature. Thus, we find humanised nature and naturalised human beings and geography studies this interactive relationship.
4. The space got organised with the help of the means of transportation and communication network. The links (routes) and nodes (settlements of all types and hierarchies) integrated the space and gradually, it got organised.
5. It takes note of the associations and interrelationships between the phenomena over space and interprets them providing explanations for these patterns. It also takes note of the associations and inter-relationships between the phenomena resulting from the dynamic interaction between human beings and their physical environment.

### Question 3.

Explain different branches of Physical geography.

Answer:

It has four sub-branches which are as follows:

**Geomorphology:** It is concerned with the study of landforms, their evolution and related processes.

**Climatology:** It is concerned with the study of structure of atmosphere and elements of weather and climates and climatic types and regions.

**Hydrology:** It studies the realm of water over the surface of the earth including oceans, lakes, rivers and other water bodies and its effect on different life forms including human life and their activities.

**Soil Geography:** It is concerned with the study of the processes of soil formation, soil types, their fertility status, distribution and use.

### Question 4.

What matters are studied under Human Geography?

Answer:

Following facts are studied under Human Geography:

**Social/Cultural Geography:** It is concerned with the study of society and its spatial dynamics as well as the cultural elements contributed by the society.

**Population Geography:** It studies population growth, distribution, density, sex ratio, migration and occupational structure, etc.

**Settlement Geography:** It studies the characteristics of rural and urban settlements.

**Economic Geography:** It studies economic activities of the people including agriculture, industry, tourism, trade, and transport, infrastructure and services, etc.

**Historical Geography:** It studies the historical processes through which the space gets organised. In other words, it studies how history has influenced the geography of a region.

**Political Geography:** It studies the impact of political events and studies boundaries, space relations between neighbouring political units, delimitation of constituencies, election scenario and develops theoretical framework to understand the political behaviour of the population.

SUBJECT TEACHER      MUKESH KUMAR