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Class IXth. SUBJECT GEOGRAPHY DATE 10.6.2021.

Ch:DRAINAGE

Long Answer Type Questions Answer.

READ THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THROUGHLY AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND AND WRITE IN YOUR H.W.COPY.

Question 1.

Why are the rivers considered as the lifeline of human civilization? Answer:

The Rivers are considered as the lifeline of human civilization because of the following reasons.

- Abundant Supply of Drinking Water : The rivers and lakes fulfill the basic need of all living being including, human beings.
- Water for Irrigation : Rivers are the main source of irrigation. :
- Navigation : Rivers are the cost-free means of water transportation of goods and people from one place to another.
- Biologically Productive Areas : Most of the estuaries formed at the meeting point of freshwater and saline water of the sea. These are found in the most suitable places for fish breeding.
- Source of Generation of Hydro-Power : Rivers are an abundant source of generating electricity. Large dams have been built for this purpose.

Question 2.

Define the term drainage? What are the different types of drainage patterns? Answer:

The term drainage describes the river system of an area. The streams within a drainage basin form certain patterns, depending on the slope of land, underlying rock structure as well as the climatic conditions of the area.

The different drainage patterns are :

- Dendritic Pattern : The dendritic pattern develops where the river channel follows the slope of the terrain. The stream with its tributaries resembles the branches of a tree, thus the name dendritic.
- Trellis Pattern : A river joined by its tributaries, at approximately right angles, develops a trellis pattern. A trellis drainage pattern develops where hard and soft rocks exist parallel to each other.

- Rectangular Pattern : A rectangular drainage pattern develops on a strongly jointed rocky terrain.
- Radial Pattern : The radial pattern develops when streams flow in different directions from a central peak or dome like structure.

Question 3.

What do you know about the Ganga River System? Answer:

The Ganga System : The Ganga acquires its name after its two head streams—the Alaknanda and the Bhagirathi join at Devprayag. The Ganga enters the plains from the Himalayas at Haridwar. It is joined by a large number of tributaries from the north. Among them the Ghaghara, the Gandak, and the Kosi enter the northern plains of India from Nepal. They are the rivers, which flood parts of the northern plains every year, causing widespread damage to life, whereas, they enrich the soil for agricultural use. These rivers have tremendous potential to generate waterpower and to irrigate lands both in Nepal and India. By mutual trust and cooperation, the sharing of river water for developmental purposes can used in prosperity to the people of both the countries. The main tributaries, which come from the peninsular uplands, are the Chambal, the Betwa and the son.

The length of the Ganga is over 2,500 km. In India, it has the largest basin. The Ganga river system drains most of north India.

Question 4.

Write a note on the Brahmaputra Drainage System.

Answer:

The river Brahmaputra rises in Tibet, east of the Mansarowar lake. The river flows eastwards parallel to the Himalayas in its upper course. It is known as Tsang Po in Tibet. It carries smaller volume of water and less silt in Tibet as it is a cold and a dry area.

The river takes a U-turn bend at Namcha Barwa (7757 m) and enters India in Arunachal Pradesh through a gorge. In Arunachal Pradesh, it is known as Dihang. Here, it is joined by the Dibang, the Lohit, the Kenula and many other tributaries. The volume of the river increases here, and it is known as the Brahmaputra in Assam.

The region receives heavy rainfall during the monsoon which increases the volume of water and silt content of the river. Devastating floods are caused by the river in Assam and Bangladesh every year during the rainy season. The deposition of the silt in the riverbed due to the heavy load, leads to the formation of braided channels intervened by riverine islands.

The Brahmaputra has a braided channel in its entire length in Assam. Many riverine . islands like the Majuli, the world's largest riverine island, are formed in between the channels. The Brahmaputra is known as Jamuna in Bangladesh.

Question 5. In what different ways do rivers get polluted? Answer:

Rivers get polluted in the following ways :

- The growing domestic, municipal, industrial and agricultural demand for water from rivers naturally affects the quality of water.
- The volume of river is also reduced because more and more water is being drained out of the rivers.
- A heavy load of untreated sewage and industrial effluents are emptied into the rivers. This affects not only the quality of water but also the self-cleansing capacity of the river.
- The increasing urbanisation and industrialisation also contribute to the river pollution.
- Dumping of garbage into the streams is another cause of river pollution. They are changing the life-giving rivers into toxic streams.

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