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CLASS Xth. SUBJECT GEOGRAPHY DATE 13.5.2021.

Ch:RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT (Notes)

(d) On the Basis of the Status of Development – Potential, Developed Stock and Reserves

Potential Resources are the resources which are found in a region but have not been utilised.

Eg: Rajasthan and Gujarat have enormous potential for the development of wind and solar energy, but so far these have not been developed properly.

Developed Resources: Resources which are surveyed and their quality and quantity have been determined for utilisation. The development of resources depends on technology and level of their feasibility.

Materials in the environment which have the potential to satisfy human needs but human beings do not have the appropriate technology to access these, are called **Stock**.

Eg: Hydrogen can be used as a rich source of energy. But we do not have advanced technology to use it.

Reserves are the subset of the stock, which can be put into use with the help of existing technical 'know-how' but their use has not been started. These can be used for meeting future requirements.

Eg: Water in the dams, forests etc. is a reserve which can be used in the future.

Development of Resources

Resources have been used by human beings indiscriminately and this has led to the following major problems.

- Depletion of resources for satisfying the greed of a few individuals.
- Accumulation of resources in a few hands, which, in turn, divided the society into two segments i.e rich and poor.
- It has led to global ecological crises such as global warming, ozone layer depletion, environmental pollution and land degradation.

Resource planning is essential for the sustainable existence of all forms of life. **Sustainable Economic Development** means "development should take place without damaging the environment, and development in the present should not compromise with the needs of future generations."

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