

Geography Important Questions Class 12 Water Resources

Answers at the Bottom

India Water Resources

1. Mention any two cultural activities responsible for water pollution in India.
2. How much rainfall occurs in western parts of Rajasthan?
3. What is the local name of the rainwater harvesting structure in Rajasthan?
4. What is water cycle? Why is it important?
5. What are the implications of using groundwater in drought-prone areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu?
6. Why the share of total water used is less in other sector?
7. Why there is a need to conserve water resources?
8. Why is India endowed with a rich variety of mineral resources?
9. The depleting water resources may lead to social conflicts and disputes. Elaborate it with suitable examples.
10. What can be your role in water conservation as an individual?

India Water Resources

Answer

1. Cultural activities responsible for water pollution in India are:
 1. Pilgrimage
 2. Religious fairs
2. Average annual rainfall of 100 mm occurs in western parts of Rajasthan.
3. The local name of the rainwater harvesting structure in Rajasthan is Kund or Tanka.
4. Water cycle describes the continuous movement of water on, above and below the surface of the Earth. Water cycle is important for the maintenance of most life and ecosystems on the planet.
5. The implications of using groundwater in drought-prone areas of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu are,
 1. The over-use of ground water resources has led to decline in ground water table in these states.
 2. Over withdrawals in some states like Rajasthan and Maharashtra has increased fluoride concentration in groundwater.

6. Agriculture accounts for most of the surface and ground water utilisation, it accounts for 89 per cent of the surface water and 92 per cent of the groundwater utilisation. While the share of industrial sector is limited to 2 per cent of the surface water utilisation and 5 per cent of the ground-water, the share of domestic sector is higher (9 per cent) in surface water utilisation as compared to groundwater. The share of agricultural sector in total water utilisation is much higher than other sectors.
7. Conservation of water resources is essential in India due to following reasons:
 1. To safeguard ourselves from health hazards as the quality of water is badly affected by discharge of urban wastes, industrial effluents, pesticides and fertilisers.
 2. To ensure food security to the people.
 3. Continuation of human activities and prevention of degradation of environment.
 4. To control over-exploitation and mismanagement of water resources leading to depletion of water and ecological crisis affecting the life of millions of people.
8. India is endowed with a rich variety of mineral resources due to its varied geological structure. Large size and diverse geological formations have favoured India in providing a wide variety of minerals. Bulk of the valuable minerals are products of pre-palaeozoic age and are mainly associated with metamorphic and igneous rocks of the peninsular India.
9. After independence, demand for water had been increasing at an accelerated pace due to rapid growth of population, agricultural development, urbanisation, industrialisation, etc. These developments have led to several inter-state disputes about sharing of water of these rivers.

Following inter-state river water disputes are worth mentioning:

1. Cauvery water dispute between Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.
2. The Krishna water dispute between Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
3. The Tungabhadra water dispute between Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.
4. The Aliyar and Bhivani river water dispute between Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
5. The Godavari river water dispute between Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Karnataka.
6. The Narmada water dispute between Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.
7. The Mahi river dispute between Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.
8. The Ravi and Beas river water dispute between Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi.
9. The Satluj-Yamuna Link canal dispute between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.
10. The Yamuna river water dispute between Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi.

10. Water is essential to the survival of all organisms. Our earth is composed of 71 per cent of water whereas only 2.4 per cent of water is potable water. Recently a research was conducted wherein it was stated that more than 40 per cent of the world's total population has no access to clean water. There are no proper sanitation facilities and a large amount of waste materials by industries and other factories are released into rivers, seas and oceans without proper treatment. Access to safe drinking water is increasingly compromised by agrochemicals, arsenic and fluoride pollution. Water is contaminated with industrial and household waste, or lead and other heavy metals also pose health risks and due to contamination the situation is getting worse day by day. This contamination of water is causing a great harm to marine life and plant life. According to the report of the research, 14,000 people die owing to water-borne diseases daily. Lack of potable water is also producing chronic illnesses such as HIV, AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis, and is a major cause of death and misery in many countries. There are so many NGOs working for the conservation of water. Chitral is also among the lucky districts of Pakistan where the sanitary system has improved and the development work is in progress, thanks to the hard work of non-governmental organisations. Citizens should now play an active role in saving water without any dependence on any institution or NGOs. We should accept our responsibility before it is too late. Monitor how much water you use. Installing a water meter will help you do this effectively – most homes in England and Wales may have a free one installed by their water company. Fix leaks, dripping taps and don't leave taps running – it really can save you money! Use water-efficient appliances, devices and techniques. For example install a more efficient showerhead that reduces water use. Reuse water wherever possible and when it is safe to do so e.g. water used to rinse vegetables could be used to water plants. Capture rainwater for garden and other outside uses and make space for rainwater to drain away naturally