

GE8291

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERINGL T P C
3 0 0 3**OBJECTIVES:**

- To study the nature and facts about environment.
- To finding and implementing scientific, technological, economic and political solutions to environmental problems.
- To study the interrelationship between living organism and environment.
- To appreciate the importance of environment by assessing its impact on the human world; envision the surrounding environment, its functions and its value.
- To study the dynamic processes and understand the features of the earth's interior and surface.
- To study the integrated themes and biodiversity, natural resources, pollution control and waste management.

UNIT I ENVIRONMENT, ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

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Definition, scope and importance of environment - need for public awareness - concept of an ecosystem - structure and function of an ecosystem - producers, consumers and decomposers - energy flow in the ecosystem - ecological succession - food chains, food webs and ecological pyramids - Introduction, types, characteristic features, structure and function of the (a) forest ecosystem (b) grassland ecosystem (c) desert ecosystem (d) aquatic ecosystems (ponds, streams, lakes, rivers, oceans, estuaries) - Introduction to biodiversity definition: genetic, species and ecosystem diversity - biogeographical classification of India - value of biodiversity: consumptive use, productive use, social, ethical, aesthetic and option values - Biodiversity at global, national and local levels - India as a mega-diversity nation - hot-spots of biodiversity - threats to biodiversity: habitat loss, poaching of wildlife, man-wildlife conflicts - endangered and endemic species of India - conservation of biodiversity: In-situ and ex-situ conservation of biodiversity. Field study of common plants, insects, birds; Field study of simple ecosystems - pond, river, hill slopes, etc

UNIT II ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

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Definition - causes, effects and control measures of: (a) Air pollution (b) Water pollution (c) Soil pollution (d) Marine pollution (e) Noise pollution (f) Thermal pollution (g) Nuclear hazards - solid waste management: causes, effects and control measures of municipal solid wastes - role of an individual in prevention of pollution - pollution case studies - disaster management: floods, earthquake, cyclone and landslides. Field study of local polluted site - Urban / Rural / Industrial / Agricultural.

UNIT III NATURAL RESOURCES

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Forest resources: Use and over-exploitation, deforestation, case studies- timber extraction, mining, dams and their effects on forests and tribal people - Water resources: Use and over- utilization of surface and ground water, floods, drought, conflicts over water, dams-benefits and problems - Mineral resources: Use and exploitation, environmental effects of extracting and using mineral resources, case studies - Food resources: World food problems, changes caused by agriculture and overgrazing, effects of modern agriculture, fertilizer-pesticide problems, water logging, salinity, case studies - Energy resources: Growing energy needs, renewable and non renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources. case studies - Land resources: Land as a resource, land degradation, man induced landslides, soil erosion and desertification - role of an individual in conservation of natural resources - Equitable use of resources for sustainable lifestyles. Field study of local area to document environmental assets - river / forest / grassland / hill / mountain.