

BA5CRT23 ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Core Course

No. of credit : 4

No. of contact hour: 5

MODULE I

Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies .Definition, scope and importance
Need for public awareness. Natural Resources : Renewable and non-renewable
resources : Natural resources and associated problems.

a) Forest resources : Use and over-exploitation, deforestation, case studies. Timber extraction, mining, dams and their effects on forest and tribal people.

b) Water resources : Use and over-utilization of surface and ground water, floods, drought, conflicts over water, dams-benefits and problems. c) Mineral resources : Use and exploitation, environmental effects of extracting and using mineral resources, case studies.

d) Food resources : World food problems, changes caused by agriculture and overgrazing, effects of modern agriculture, fertilizer-pesticide problems, water logging, salinity, case studies.

e) Energy resources: Growing energy needs, renewable and non-renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources, Case studies.

f) Land resources: Land as a resource, land degradation, man induced landslides, soil erosion and desertification

- Role of individual in conservation of natural resources.
- Equitable use of resources for sustainable life styles.

Ecosystems

- 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 given ecosystem:- Forest ecosystem

MODULE II

Biodiversity and its conservation

Introduction, Biogeographical classification of India ,Value of biodiversity: consumptive use, productive use, social, ethical, aesthetic and option values. 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 Environmental Pollution

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 urban and industrial wastes, Role of an individual in prevention of pollution, Pollution case studies, Disaster management: floods, earthquake, cyclone and landslides Social Issues and the Environment- Urban problems related to energy, Water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management, Resettlement and rehabilitation of people: its problems and concerns, Case studies, Environmental ethics:Issues and possible solutions, Climate change, global warming, acid rain, ozone layer depletion, nuclear accidents and holocaust, Case studies,

Consumerism and waste products, Environment Protection Act , Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,Water (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, Wildlife Protection Act, ForestConservation Act,Issues involved in enforcement of environmental legislation

MODULE III

Introduction to Environment and Business Introduction of ways in which business has and is responding to environmental and business issues; business and sustainable development; issues of corporate/business greening.

MODULE IV

Green entrepreneurship What is green entrepreneurship, definition, meaning, scope, nature and characteristics. Green entrepreneurship in India. Difference between conventional and green entrepreneurship.

MODULE V

Unit 1 - Human Rights

An Introduction to Human Rights, Meaning concept and development – History of Human Rights – Different Generations of Human Rights- University of Human Rights –Basic International Human Rights Documents – UDHR, ICCPR,ICESCR – Value dimension of Human Rights

Unit 2 -Human Rights and United Nation

Human Rights co-ordination within UN system –Role of UN secretarite – The Economics and Social Council- The Commission Human Rights- The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination – The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women- the Committee on Economic , Social and culture Rights- the Human Rights Committee- Critical Appraisal of Human Rights Regime.

Unit 3-Human Rights National Perspective

Human Rights in Indian Constitution –Fundamental Rights- The Constitutional Context of Human Rights – directive Principles of State Policy and Human Rights- Human Rights of Women- children-minorities – Prisoners Science Technology and Human Rights – National Human Rights Commission- State Human Rights Commission- Human Rights Awareness in Education.

Internal: Field study

- Visit to a local area to document environmental grassland/ hill /mountain
- Visit a local polluted site – Urban/Rural/Industrial/Agricultural Study of common plants, insects, birds etc
- Study of simple ecosystem-pond, river, hill slopes, etc

(Field work Equal to 5 lecture hours)

REFERENCES

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- Human Rights
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