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8. Soils of India

Loose - ढीला

Covering - आवरण / ढकना

Surface - सतह

Natural Resource - प्राकृतिक संसाधन

Affect - प्रभावित करना / असर

Habitat - आवास / प्राकृतिक वास

Crucial - महत्वपूर्ण / अत्यंत आवश्यक

Ecology - पारिस्थितिकी

Environment - पर्यावरण

Rock - चट्टान

Pebble - कंकड़

Silt - गाद / तलछट

Sand - रेत / बालू

Decayed - सड़ा हुआ / विघटित

Fertile - उपजाऊ

Manure - जैविक खाद / गोबर

Fertiliser - उर्वरक / रासायनिक खाद

Yield - उपज / पैदावार

Nutrient - पोषक तत्व

Molten - पिघला हुआ

Broken Down - टूटा हुआ / विघटित

Weathering - अपक्षय (चट्टानों का टूटना)

Distinctive appearance - विशिष्ट दिखावट / अलग रूप

Humus - ह्यूमस / जीवांश

Coarse - खुरदरा / मोटा

Irrigation - सिंचाई

Millet - बाजरा / मोटे अनाज

Barley - जौ

Pulse - दाल

Literate - साक्षर

Laterite Soil - लेटराइट मिट्टी

Soil - मिट्टी / मृदा

Temperature - तापमान

Mineral - खनिज

Wash away - बह जाना / बहा ले जाना

Cashew - काजू

Spice - मसाला

Deforestation - वनों की कटाई / निर्वनीकरण

Overgrazing - अत्यधिक चराई / अतिचारण

Urbanisation - शहरीकरण

Soil Conservation - मृदा संरक्षण

Afforestation - वनरोपण / पेड़ लगाना

Bare - बंजर / खाली

Embankment - तटबंध / बाँध

Exercises Solutions

A. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1. Mountain soil is good for growing tea. (a. Mountain)
2. Black soil is good for growing oilseeds. (a. Black)
3. Black soil is formed from lava rocks. (b. Black)
4. Mountain soil is rich in humus. (a. humus)
5. Desert soil is found in Rajasthan. (b. Rajasthan)

B. Write True or False.

1. There are three types of soil found in India. — False (Note: The top of the page mentions six types).
2. It takes hundreds of years for soil formation. — False (Note: The top of the page says it takes thousands of years).
3. Alluvial soil is infertile. — False
4. Rubber can be grown in laterite soil. — True
5. Red soil is rich in bauxite. — False (Laterite soil is rich in bauxite; Red soil is rich in iron).

D. Answer the following questions.

1. How is soil formed?

Soil is formed through the slow process of weathering. Large rocks are broken down into smaller pieces over thousands of years by the action of the sun, wind, water, and climate changes until they turn into fine powder or soil. It also involves the addition of humus (decayed plant and animal matter).

2. What are the different kinds of soil found in India?

The six main types of soil found in India are:

- Alluvial soil
- Black soil
- Red soil
- Laterite soil
- Mountain soil
- Desert soil

3. Name two types of crops grown in the black soil.

Two common crops grown in black soil are cotton and sugarcane (wheat and oilseeds are also widely grown).

4. Define soil erosion. What are the causes of soil erosion?

Definition: Soil erosion is the carrying away of the top fertile layer of soil by natural forces like water or wind.

Causes: The main causes of soil erosion are deforestation (cutting down trees), overgrazing by animals, and heavy rainfall or strong winds leaving the land bare.

5. How can soil erosion be prevented?

Soil erosion can be prevented by:

- Afforestation (planting more trees).
- Building embankments or dams along rivers.
- Practicing terrace farming on hill slopes.