

FYBCom/sem-1/unit-1/part-1

# Sub- Environmental Studies -



# Units -1 **ENVIRONMENT & ECOSYSTEM-**

## *Synopsis -*

1. Introduction
2. Meaning of environment
3. Nature & Scope
4. Components & types of environment
5. Man - Environment Relationship
6. Importance of environmental studies

# Introduction-

Natural environment around man is being rapidly degraded at alarming levels it is getting consistently polluted due to smoke dust, sewage and and city refuse. it most part the world people live in unhygienic condition with poor condition sanitation with the present type of Living there is the study going pressure on the resources like a lithosphere Hydrosphere And Atmosphere.



# Definition of Environment

“The term environment is derived from the word ‘**environs** which means around.

**Webster dictionary define the environment as**

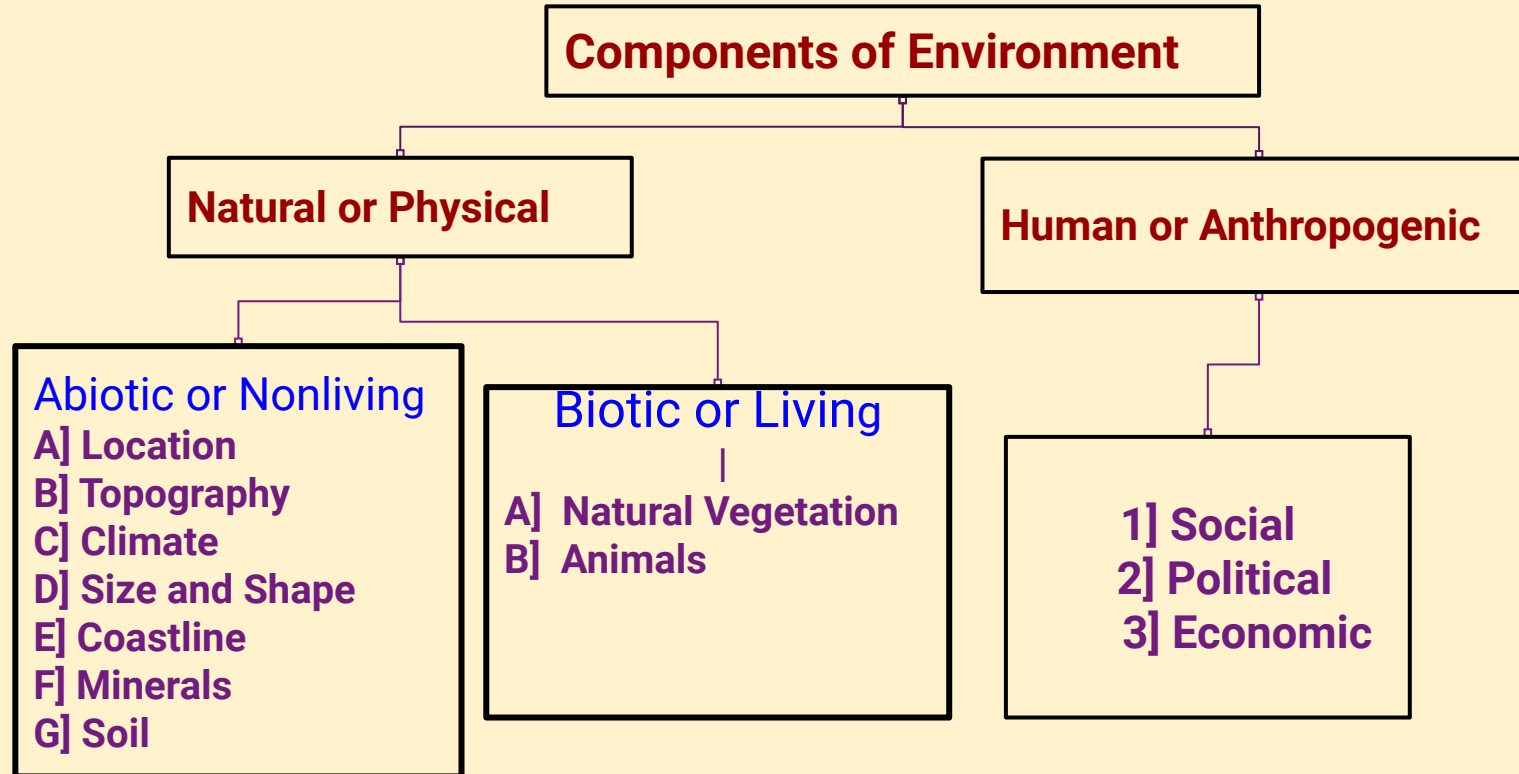
“ **circumstances ,object, condition by which one is surrounded the complex physical, chemical .and biotic factors that act upon an organism, or an ecological community and determine its form and survival the aggregate of social ,culture factors that influence the life of an individual or community”.**

## ***Nature & Scope-***

Environmental science is a comprehensive discipline of knowledge it is in interdisciplinary subject like Geography, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, and many Social Sciences. In the course of environmental studies geographical perceptions form basic foundations for the identification of the environmental upsets. It has to open out the important underlying principles of physical forces which are generally neglected by man in the struggle for development.

Deterioration of environmental quality projected serious problems of complex nature. Some of the major problems are population explosion, soil erosion, deforestation, pollution of air water and land, extinction of living species. Proper identification, knowledge and detailed study follows the nature of environmental studies.

# Components and Types of Environment



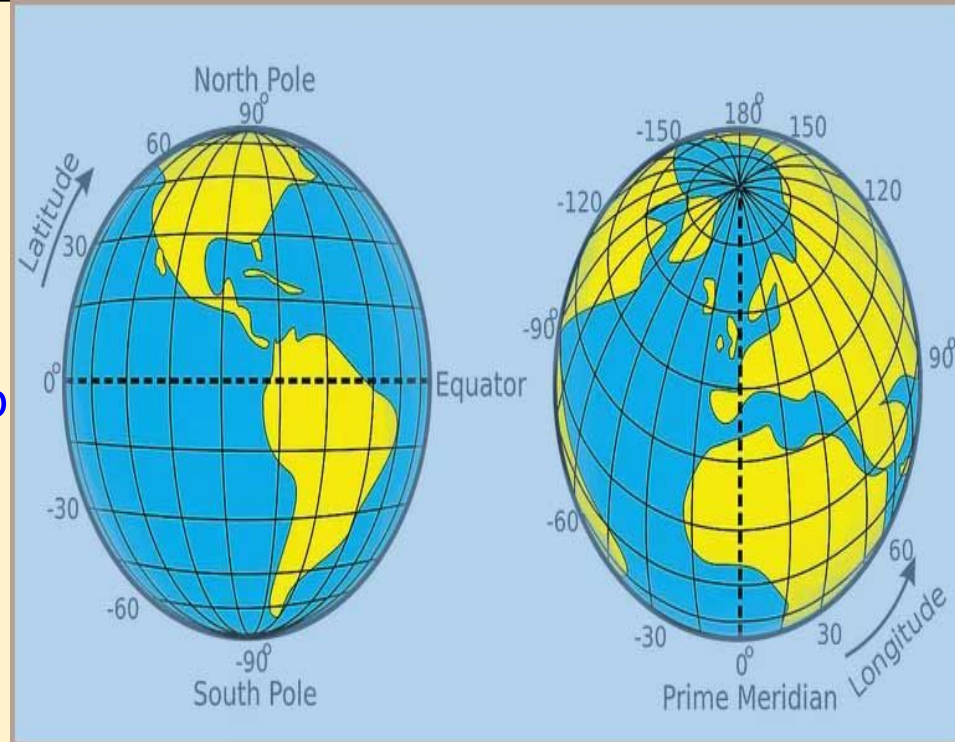
# Abiotic or Non living Components

## A] Location-

Derived from - Latin word “Locus” means Place.

The location of a Country become one of The most prime factors that influence the Range of human activities that will develop In the country.

Location is looked upon either as **absolute Location** or as **relative location**



# Absolute & Relative Location

**Absolute location** is referred in terms of latitudes and longitudes.

For example ,India's location is  $8^{\circ} 4' 28''$  and  $37^{\circ} 17' 53''$  North Latitudes and  $68^{\circ} 7' 3''$  and  $97^{\circ} 24' 47''$  East Longitudes .

*It gives us an idea about any country's products ,people and levels of economics and commercial development.*

**Relative location** is mentioned with reference to some other reference like country or a natural or man-made feature .

*Relative location its relation to water bodies and land areas [river ,lake, & peninsular plateau coastal region ect.]*

## **B] Topography -**

- Physical features of a region like mountains ,plateaus, plains ,valleys,etc form the topography .these factors of environment influence the development of economic activities.

### **1] Mountain -**

- mountain region have remained economically backward . due to lack of transport and communication facilities and undulating nature of the terrain,human settlements are limited and manufacturing industries are not developed.
- Mountain offer Limited opportunities for primitive activity such as fruit gathering animal rearing shifting agriculture etc Mountains are store .

## 2]Plains-;

- Occupy about 55% of the land area and support nearly 90% of the world population .
- The concentration of population in plains is mainly because of fertility of soil level land presence of number of rivers and well developed transport facilities. number of manufacturing industries are also well developed agriculture and manufacturing industries help to develop trade.

## 3] plateau-;

- Rolling or flat land at higher elevation is known as plateau. development of Economics and commercial activities on plateau depends upon location, climate, natural vegetation and the availability of minerals and power resources.

## C] Climate;

‘Sum total of the atmospheric condition experienced over any region during a long period of time also called Climate’

**Climate and activities**- Activities of man are greatly influenced by climate. Agricultural decision when to grow ,how to grow,what to grow,are influenced by climate. For example Rubber can not be grow anywhere else other than tropical countries or wheat can be grown world wide but the time of cultivating wheat is different

**Climate and Market**- Climate also affect the development of transport facilities. In the areas of heavy rain ,road and railway tracks are often flooded.River transport is also disrupted due to floods.Air transport become very difficult in stormy and cloudy or foggy weather condition.

## **D] Size and Shape of a Country**

Large size country like the USA , Canad ,Russia, China or India are likely to have a wider range of resources. smaller countries like the UK or Japan have limitation in the availability of resources.for example UK have import about 50% of its food requirements from Canada U.S.A. and Argentina.

## E] Coastline

- Among the different mode of Transport water transport ,water is the cheapest most of the World Trade is carried out by water transport.
- the development of ports and harbours for international trade depend upon the nature of coastline.
- coastline of many West European countries Japan and North America is broken and has encouraged the development of number of natural ports and harbours to develop international trade.

## F] Minerals

- Minerals are the most unevenly distributed resources on the earth surface.
- some countries possess large amount of the world's known deposit of minerals and power resources while others are completely devoid of those particular minerals for example 75% of the world's coal reserves are concentrated in the USA and western Europe, about 90% of the world's oil reserves are found in the USA and Middle Eastern countries,
- The areas with rich mineral deposits have attracted large numbers of people from distant places two areas which were considered to be less suitable for human settlement

## G] Soil

- Different type of soil are found in different region .for example laterite soil, desert soil, forest soil, sub mountain ,saline soil,etc.
- Soil is a governing factor in raising a particular crop e.g. black cotton soil are suitable for cotton & tobacco, Alluvial soil for sugarcane, rice,etc.
- The fertility of soil control the quality and quantity of a particular crop

# Biotic or Living Environment

## 1] Natural Vegetation-

- the vegetation cover is directly dependent on climate.
- natural vegetation provide us with Timber ,fruits,wood, ect. Lumbering is an important activity in the areas of softwood Coniferous region.
- it has also helped to develop paper and pulp industry and ship building industry.
- on the other hand ,in the regions of tropical hardwood forest the scope for the development of economic activity is very limited on account of the nature of wood, unhealthy climate ,lack of transport facilities

## 2] Animal-

- Hunting and fishing are among the oldest occupation of man from time immemorial ,native animal life of the land have been hunted for food, clothing ,and other materials, likewise from wherever man has lived by sea,lake, and rivers, fishing has developed.
- hunting and fishing are still the primary occupation of several tropical parts of the world. today commercial grazing and commercial fishing are the leading occupation in the extensive temperate grassland and coastal region of the temperate latitudes.

# Man - Environment Relationship

Man and environment are inter-related. The environment influences the life of human beings and also human beings modify their environment as a result of their growth, dispersal, activities, death and decay etc. Thus all living beings including man and their environment are mutually reactive affecting each other in a number of ways and a dynamic equilibrium is possible in between the two, i.e. human beings (society) and environment are interdependent. The different social structures like industrial, agricultural, religious, aesthetic etc.

The burning issues like quality of environment, disruption of earth's natural ecosystem, environmental degradation and pollution, ecological imbalances, depletion of resources etc. can be approached and solved only after considering the value judgments which may be determined by taking into account the consequences of 'environmental improvement programme' on the entire society and society's response towards the improvement programme. Actually all these depend on the interest and desire of the society in improving the quality of environment.

# Importance of Environmental Studies

- Study of environment become important as it help us to understand the relation between man and environment.
- environmental studies a systematic study of environmental factor which influence life on the earth in the contest of human existence.

## Focus of environmental studies

- understanding relation between society and environment and appreciate creative genius of nature and natural environment
- it should also help to understand the wisdom of tradition and culture but also question traditional practices/religious belief that are not environmentally sound a harmful for the environment
- it must also look into issues related to environment and development environment and social conflict based on gender, class ,rural ,urban, issues of access and control over resources and unequal distribution of resources



Thank  
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