

Chapter 10: Natural Disasters

Assessment Zone :

I. Tick the correct option:

1. c

2. b

3. c

4. d

5. a

II. Fill in the blanks :

1. earthquake

2. Hudhud

3. magma, hot gases

4. cholera

5. rainwater

III. Unscramble the letters with the help of given hints.

1. CYCLONE

2. EARTHQUAKE

3. VOLCANIC ERUPTION

4. FLOODS

5. DROUGHT

IV. Answer in brief:

1. Focus is the point where an earthquake originates, and the area just above it, on the earth's surface is its epicentre.
2. Cyclones occur in the regions with warm seas and oceans.
3. A drought occurs when a region does not receive enough rainfall for an extended period of time.
4. Igneous rocks are formed by volcanic eruption.
5. Tsunami is an extremely large wave in the sea.

V. Answer the following questions :

1. We can save lives during a cyclone by following these precautions :

- Keep an emergency kit ready having torch, first-aid kit, non-perishable food, candles, matchbox, a portable radio and waterproof bags.
- Listen to weather reports on radio, television, and read them in newspaper regularly for any announcements

for cyclones.

- Immediately leave your home with your family and seek shelter with friends or other relatives when informed by the government.
- If you are driving when a cyclone hits, park your vehicle in an open area and stay inside it.
- Drink boiled water to prevent affliction by a waterborne disease.

2. Floods occur when water from waterbodies, such as a river or lake overflows, resulting in water escaping its usual boundaries and spreading to surrounding areas. Excessive rain, cyclones and tsunami in coastal areas, a ruptured dam or embankment, rapid melting of ice in the mountains are the primary causes of floods.

3. Earthquakes have disastrous effects on life and property. As they are difficult to predict, they occur without warning. Huge structures like buildings, bridges, dams, etc. get damaged. Electric poles, telephone wires and trees get uprooted which affects communication and electricity supply.

4. Droughts can be prevented by taking the following measures:

- Grow crops that are able to survive in less amount of water like sorghum, millet and maize.
- Harvest rainwater, which is another way to conserve rainwater, and use it for increasing the green cover by growing trees and plants.
- Use water conserving irrigation techniques to allow optimal usage of water and avoid any wastage.
- Develop advanced irrigation facilities to sustain crops in the periods of water scarcity.

5. Tsunami is a Japanese word which means 'harbour wave'.

It is an extremely large wave in the sea that occurs due to disturbances on ocean floor, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, etc.