Class 10 Geography Chapter 10

India - Natural Disasters

I. Answer the following questions in brief:

Question 1.
What are natural disasters?

Answer:
Naturally occurring destructive incidents that result in the loss of human life and property are called natural disasters. Examples are earthquakes, floods, cyclones, landslides and droughts.

Question 2.
What are the effects of cyclones?
Answer:

- Cyclones cause large-scale loss of human life.
- Ocean tides inundate inland areas and make water bodies salty.
- Crops are destroyed.
- Transport, electricity supply and daily life are badly affected.
- Infectious diseases spread in cyclone-hit areas.

Question 3.
What are floods?

Answer:
When heavy rainfall or excessive melting of ice increases the volume of water in rivers, causing them to overflow and occupy low-lying areas, it is called a flood.

Question 4.
What is a Landslide?

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Answer:
The sliding of land masses down the slopes of mountains or hills, along with stones, mud and debris, is called a landslide.

Question 5.
What is an Earthquake?

Answer:
The vibration or movement of the upper layers of the earth due to pressure created inside the earth is called an earthquake.

Question 6.
What are the causes of floods? Describe flood-prone areas in India.

Answer:
Causes of floods:

- Heavy and uncertain monsoon rainfall.
- Accumulation of silt in rivers.
- Breach of dams and retention walls.
- Rivers changing their courses.
- Heavy rainfall during cyclones.
- Earthquakes in the sea.
- Deforestation and illegal encroachment.

Flood-prone areas in India:

- Ganga, Yamuna, Gandak, Kosi and Ghagra cause floods in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- Damodar and Suvarnarekha cause floods in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal.
- Brahmaputra and its tributaries cause floods in Assam.
- Cloudbursts cause floods in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim.
- Narmada, Tapti, Sabarmati and Mahi cause floods in Gujarat.

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- Krishna, Tungabhadra, Ghataprabha, Malaprabha and other rivers cause floods in Karnataka.

Question 7.
What is Coastal Erosion? Mention its management.

Answer:
The erosion of coastal land by sea waves is called coastal erosion.

Management:

- Prohibiting sand mining in coastal areas.
- Constructing retention walls along the coast.
- Placing large rocky boulders along the coast.
- Growing mangrove forests along the coast.

Question 8.
Write about the effects of the earthquake and precautions to be taken.

Answer:
Effects of earthquakes:

- Loss of human life and destruction of property.
- Obstruction to transport.
- Spread of infectious diseases.
- Increased tidal activity and tsunamis.
- Changes in the direction of rivers.

Precautions:

- Restricting the construction of multi-storied buildings in earthquake-prone areas.
- Using lightweight materials for house construction.
- Constructing houses to ensure stability.
- Providing basic amenities to affected areas.
- Disconnecting power supply during an earthquake.

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III. Additional Important Questions and Answers

Question 1.
Mention any four natural disasters.

Answer:
Earthquakes, floods, cyclones and landslides are four examples of natural disasters.

Question 2.
What are the causes of cyclones?

Answer:
Cyclones are caused by intense heating of ocean water, which produces humid and unstable air masses. They commonly originate in the Bay of Bengal.

Question 3.
Mention the preventive measures of cyclones.
Answer:

- Evacuating people from low-lying areas.
- Keeping food, drinking water and medicines ready.
- Providing transport and medical facilities.
- Informing people about cyclone movements.
- Keeping rescue teams ready.

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Question 4.
What are the effects of floods?
Answer:

- Loss of human life, houses and property.
- Destruction of crops and fertile soil.
- Damage to transport and electricity facilities.
- Spread of dangerous diseases due to stagnant water.

Question 5.
Mention the causes of landslides.
Answer:

- Heavy rainfall and flowing water.
- Construction of roads, railways and canals on steep slopes.
- Deforestation.
- Mining activities.
- Deep ploughing of slopes.

Question 6.
Mention the effects of coastal erosion.
Answer:

- Coastal land gets submerged into the sea.
- Houses and other properties are damaged.
- People living in coastal areas may lose their homes and land.

Question 7.
What are the causes of earthquakes?
Answer:

- Increase in pressure inside the earth.
- Movement of magma.
- Urbanisation.
- Deforestation.
- Construction of dams and mining activities.

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III. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. Which natural disaster is caused by the movement of the earth's upper layers?

A) Flood
B) Cyclone
C) Earthquake
D) Drought

Answer:

C) Earthquake

2. Cyclones commonly originate in the _____.

A) Arabian Sea
B) Bay of Bengal
C) Indian Ocean
D) Red Sea

Answer:

B) Bay of Bengal

3. Which season experiences more coastal erosion along India's west coast?

A) Winter
B) Summer
C) South-west monsoon
D) Spring

Answer:

C) South-west monsoon

4. Which river causes floods in Assam?

A) Krishna
B) Brahmaputra
C) Narmada
D) Mahi

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Answer:

B) Brahmaputra

5. Which of the following helps prevent coastal erosion?

A) Deforestation
B) Sand mining
C) Growing mangrove forests
D) Cutting trees

Answer:

C) Growing mangrove forests

6. The sliding of land masses down mountain slopes is called _____.

A) Flood
B) Landslide
C) Cyclone
D) Earthquake

Answer:

B) Landslide

7. Which of the following is a man-made cause of floods?

A) Heavy rainfall
B) Cloudburst
C) Deforestation
D) Snow melting

Answer:

C) Deforestation

8. Which of these rivers causes floods in Karnataka?

A) Tungabhadra
B) Yamuna
C) Brahmaputra
D) Ghagra

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Answer:

A) Tungabhadra

9. Which of the following is a preventive measure against floods?

A) Deforestation
B) Constructing bunds along rivers
C) Removing dams
D) Encroaching riverbanks

Answer:

B) Constructing bunds along rivers

10. Which state experienced the destructive Kedarnath floods in 2013?

A) Karnataka
B) Gujarat
C) Uttarakhand
D) Kerala

Answer:

C) Uttarakhand

11. Which months experience cyclones more frequently in India?

A) January–February
B) October–November
C) July–August
D) March–April

Answer:

B) October–November

12. Which cyclone originated in 2007?

A) Gonu
B) Nisarga

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C) Nilofer
D) Laila

Answer:

A) Gonu

13. Which river caused the destructive Kedarnath floods in 2013?

A) Krishna
B) Mandakini
C) Godavari
D) Kaveri

Answer:

B) Mandakini

14. Accumulation of _____ in rivers can cause floods.

A) Sand dunes
B) Silt
C) Rocks
D) Minerals

Answer:

B) Silt

15. Which of the following rivers causes floods in Gujarat?

A) Mahi
B) Kosi
C) Ghagra
D) Brahmaputra

Answer:

A) Mahi

16. Which of the following is commonly found along with landslides?

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A) Stones, mud and debris
B) Snow only
C) Sea water
D) Sand dunes

Answer:

A) Stones, mud and debris

17. Which state is severely affected by coastal erosion along the west coast?

A) Punjab
B) Haryana
C) Kerala
D) Rajasthan

Answer:

C) Kerala

18. Which of the following activities can cause landslides?

A) Afforestation
B) Mining
C) Rainwater harvesting
D) Planting trees

Answer:

B) Mining

19. Which of the following is an important precaution in earthquake-prone areas?

A) Constructing unstable buildings
B) Using lightweight construction materials
C) Cutting down trees
D) Building on steep slopes

Answer:

B) Using lightweight construction materials

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20. Which organisation is responsible for selecting cyclone names in India under the regional naming arrangement?

A) ISRO
B) IMD
C) RBI
D) DRDO

Answer:

B) IMD

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