



CLASS - VII - SOCIAL SCIENCE NOVEMBER MONTH NOTES

6. Human Environment Interactions

I. Technical Words :

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1. Tropical Regions | - | The regions that lie between the tropic of cancer and Tropic of capricorn. |
| 2. Soil | - | Upper thin layer of the lithosphere that consists of tiny sand particles. |
| 3. Basin | - | An area drained by a river and its tributaries. |
| 4. Thatched | - | Made of dry materials like strews and stems. |
| 5. Population density | - | Number of persons living in one square km.of area. |
| 6. Leaching | - | Loss of materials of soil due to rainwater. |

II. Short answer type questions :

1. Write a short note on the environmental degradation of the Amazon basin.

The developmental Activities are leading to the gradual destruction of the rainforests and the lush forests of this area and are turning them into barren landscapes. The present global warming is mainly responsible for the damage of the Amazon rain forests. The commercialfarming, deforestation, construction of roads, settlements and industries have also caused great harm to the Amazon basin.

2. Write a short note on the natural vegetation and wildlife of the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin.

Natural Vegetation of the GangaBrahmaputra Basin: This region is densely forested and the habitat of Wild Animals. This region has tropical deciduous forest. Teak, Sal, Peepal, etc. are the main trees of these forests. Thick bamboo groves are common in Brahmaputra basin. In Assam, Sikkim and Uttarakhand the coniferous trees like deodar, pine and fir are also found.

Wildlife of the Ganga-Brahmaputra Basin: Langoors, leopards, elephants, tigers, deer monkeys etc. are the main animals of this basin Sundarbans, Kaziranga, Manas (Assam), Sariska (Rajasthan) and Banbasa (Uttarakhand) are main wildlife sanctuaries of this region.

3. Name the commercial crops grown in the Amazon basin.

Cocoa, coffee and rubber are the main cash crops grown in the Amazon basin. Big commercial farms of coffee Estate and cocoa farms have been established here.

III. Long answer type questions :

1. Explain the Amazon basin in detail.

The Amazon basin lies in Brazil (South America). It is a tropical region. The Amazon basin is the world's largest river basin. Francisco de Orellana firstly visited the river Amazon. In the Amazon basin, the climate is hot and wet. The rainforests of the Amazon basin are also called the cradle of biodiversity. The latitudinal extent of the Amazon basin is 10° N and 10° S latitudes. The Amazon basin is the largest river basin in the world. It is joined by numerous tributaries and has its mouth on the coasts of the Atlantic Ocean near the equator. The Amazon River basin covers about 70,000,000 sq. km of area. The abundance of organic materials and nutrients in the rainforest areas have made the soil rich in humus in the Amazon basin. The soils found in Amazon basin are of low fertility. Climate of Amazon basin is hot and wet. The average temperature is about 27°C. Natural vegetation of Amazon basin is abounded with lush green plants. It is the world's largest tropical rainforest and covers much of Northern South America. The Amazon basin has wide variety of wild animals including monkeys, sloth and ant-eating tapirs. This region is very rich in many types of minerals. Oil, copper, tin and bauxite are the main minerals found in the different parts of the Amazon basin. Manioc is the staple food here that grows under the ground. Cocoa, coffee and rubber are the main (cash) commercial crops growing in this region. Tribals and now many Europeans especially the Spaniards are settled in this area.

2. The Ganga-Brahmaputra basin is one of the world's famous plains and one of the highly populated regions. Explain the statement.

The Ganga-Brahmaputra basin lies in India. Ghaghara, Son, Chambal, Gandak and Kosi are the tributaries of the river Ganga while Lohit, Dhanasiri, Manas, Teesta, etc. are the tributaries of river Brahmaputra. This region is rich in farming, Agriculture activities, wildlife, natural vegetation, mineral, transport, tourism, people due to their monsoon type climate and plain. Being a level

plain with high population density, all the four modes of transport— roading, railways, waterways and airways are well developed in the region. This region has also a high level of industrial development, agricultural and mining activities. GangaBrahmaputra basin has a great tourist attraction with a large number of monuments ancient structures Mughal gardens, temples. Allahabad situated on the confluence of river Ganga and Yamuna is visited by millions of Hindu devotees every year. This basin is one of the most density populated region of the world. There are many historically as well as politically important town and cities. Capital Delhi is also lies in this region.

3. Why do you think the environment is degrading day-by-day in the tropical and subtropical regions of the world?

The environment is degrading day-by-day in the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world due to the developmental activities are leading to gradual destruction of the rainforests and lush forests of these areas all these forests are turning into barren landscapes. The present global warming is mainly responsible for the damage of these forests. The commercial farming, deforestation, construction of roads, settlements, industries have also caused great harm to these regions. The people throw waste material in the rivers and the rivers get polluted. Large cities are polluting river waters on a large scale. Air pollution is also affecting the region very badly. The vehicles exhaust dangerous gases in enormous quantity. It is causing a variety of health problems.

4. Compare and contrast the Amazon basin and the Ganga-Brahmaputra basin on the following points.

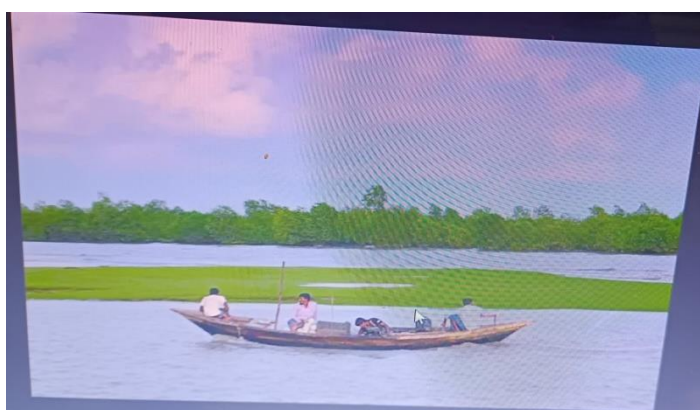
- (a) Soil (b) Climate
(c) Main crops (d) Minerals

	Amazon Basin	angaBrahmaputra Basin
(a) Soil	Soil is rich in humus but is affected by leaching	Very fertile alluvial soil.
(b) Climate	Hot and wet climate, high humidity, rainfall between 130-145 cm	Monsoon type of climate with hot summers and cold winters.

(c) Main crops	Tapioca, pineapple and sweet potato.	Paddy, wheat, maize, sorghum and millets.
(d) Minerals	Copper, tin, bauxite and mineral oil.	Iron ore, manganese, mica and coal.

IV. Picture Study :

Look at the picture and answer the questions that follow:



1. Which states are covered by the GangaBrahmaputra basin in India?

The Ganga-Brahmaputra basin covers 11 states – Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Delhi.

2. Name the main crops grown in this region.

Paddy, wheat, maize, sorghum and millets are the main crops of this region.

3. List two steps we can take to prevent pollution of rivers in this basin.

Two steps we can take to prevent pollution of rivers in this basin are:

- Prevent the flow of untreated industrial and urban waste into the rivers.
- Reduce the use of pesticides, insecticides, fungicides and fertilisers.

4. Name two pilgrimage cities situated in this basin.

Haridwar and Prayagraj.

5. Name two wildlife sanctuaries of this region.

Manas (Assam) and Banbasa (Uttarakhand).

V. Source Based Questions:

This basin, in recent times, has seen environmental degradation of the worst kind in the history of mankind. Here, you can find crowded settlements which have given rise to Jhuggi—Jhoparies (slums) alongside high buildings. These settlements lack in basic sanitation facilities. The waste materials are thrown in the rivers which get polluted. The sewage and industrial waste from the cities situated in this region flow directly into the river Ganga and Brahmaputra and their tributaries. The Susu (blind Dolphin) found in the fresh waters of the Ganga and the Brahmaputra is facing life threat due to the untreated industrial and urban waste flown into the rivers. You will be surprised to know that the presence of Susu is an indication of the health of a river. In this way, large cities are polluting river waters on a large scale. To save the river Ganga, the Ganga Action Plan had been initiated some decades back.

1. Which basin is being referred to in the above paragraph?

Ganga-Brahmaputra basin.

2. Which major problem is discussed in this paragraph?

River pollution.

3. 'Susu' is a variety of dolphin.

4. The Ganga Action Plan aims to clear river.

Ganga