

Ch-1 :- Components of Environment

\* Environment :- The external conditions in which an organism lives. Environment is our basic life support system. It provides the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat and the land where we live.

\* Elements of Environment :- Environment has both natural and man-made elements.

\* Natural Environment :- All gifts of nature such as land, water, air, plants and animals form a part of the Natural environment. The Natural Environment can be divided into two groups -

- (i). Physical Environment :- The physical environment includes all non-living things like land, water and air.
- (ii). Biological Environment :- The Biological environment includes all living things such as plants and animals. Man is the most important component of the biological environment.

\* Four spheres of Environment :-

- (i). Lithosphere :- The literal meaning of 'Lithosphere' is the 'sphere of rocks'. The earth's solid layer is called Lithosphere.
- (ii). Atmosphere :- The literal meaning of 'Atmosphere' is the 'sphere of air.'
- (iii). Hydrosphere :- Hydrosphere refers to the 'sphere of water'.
- (iv). Biosphere :- The word 'biosphere' literally means the 'sphere of life.'

\* Biodiversity :- It is a variety of life on earth comprising of plants, animals and micro-organisms.

-----> P. (2).

- \* The Government of India has passed the Wildlife Protection Act in 1972 to protect and conserve the biodiversity.
- \* Self Assessment :-

- Q. (1). What is an environment ?
- Q. (2). Name the major components of the environment
- Q. (3). Give the literal meaning of four spheres of environment.
- Q. (4). What is biodiversity ? In which year was the Wildlife Protection Act passed in India ?

\* Activity :-

Prepare a columned diagram showing different spheres of the environment.

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