

Can you identify and name the various items used in making life comfortable in our villages and towns. List the items and name the material used in their making.

Everything available in our environment which can be used to satisfy our needs, provided, it is technologically accessible, economically feasible and culturally acceptable can be termed as 'Resource'.



Fig. 1.1: Interdependent relationship between nature, technology and institutions

The process of transformation of things available in our environment involves an inter-dependent relationship between nature, technology and institutions. Human beings interact with nature through technology and create institutions to accelerate their economic development.

Do you think that resources are free gifts of nature as is assumed by many? They are not. Resources are a function of human activities. Human beings themselves are essential components of resources. They transform material available in our environment into resources and use them. These resources can be classified in the following ways-

- (A) On the basis of origin - biotic and abiotic
- (B) On the basis of exhaustibility - renewable and non-renewable
- (C) On the basis of ownership - individual, community, national and international
- (D) On the basis of status of development - potential, developed stock and reserves.

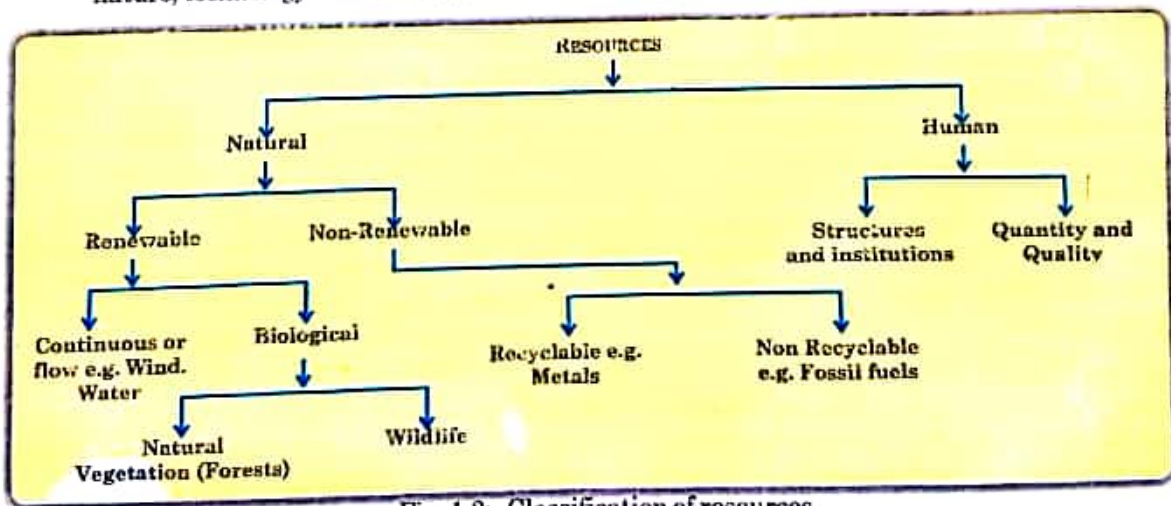


Fig. 1.2: Classification of resources

Activity

Identify at least two resources from each category.

TYPES OF RESOURCES

On the Basis of Origin

Biotic Resources: These are obtained from biosphere and have life such as human beings, flora and fauna, fisheries, livestock etc.

Abiotic Resources: All those things which are composed of non-living things are called abiotic resources. For example, rocks and metals.

On the Basis of Exhaustibility

Renewable Resources: The resources which can be renewed or reproduced by physical, chemical or mechanical processes are known as renewable or replenishable resources. For example, solar and wind energy, water, forests and wildlife, etc. The renewable resource may further be divided into continuous or flow (Fig. 1.2).

Non-Renewable Resources: These occur over a very long geological time. Minerals and fossil fuels are examples of such resources. These resources take millions of years in their formation. Some of the resources like metals are recyclable and some like fossil fuels cannot be recycled and get exhausted with their use.

On the Basis of Ownership

Individual Resources: These are also owned privately by individuals. Many farmers own land which is allotted to them by government against the payment of revenue. In villages there are people with land ownership but there are many who are landless. Urban people own plots, houses and other property. Plantation, pasture lands, ponds, water in wells etc. are some of the examples of resources ownership by individuals. Make a list of resources owned by your household.

Community Owned Resources: There are resources which are accessible to all the members of the community. Village commons (grazing grounds, burial grounds, village ponds, etc.) public parks, picnic spots,

playgrounds in urban areas are de facto accessible to all the people living there.

National Resources: Technically, all the resources belong to the nation. The country has legal powers to acquire even private property for public good. You might have seen roads, canals, railways being constructed on fields owned by some individuals. Urban Development Authorities get empowered by the government to acquire land. All the minerals, water resources, forests, wildlife, land within the political boundaries and oceanic area upto 12 nautical miles (19.2 km) from the coast termed as territorial water and resources therein belong to the nation.

International Resources: There are international institutions which regulate some resources. The oceanic resources beyond 200 nautical miles of the *Exclusive Economic Zone* belong to open ocean and no individual country can utilise these without the concurrence of international institutions.

Do you know?

Do you know that India has got the right to mine manganese nodules from the bed of the Indian Ocean from that area which lies beyond the exclusive economic zone. Identify some other resources which are international in nature.

On the Basis of the Status of Development

Potential Resources: Resources which are found in a region, but have not been utilised. For example, the western parts of India particularly Rajasthan and Gujarat have enormous potential for the development of wind and solar energy, but so far these have not been developed properly.

Developed Resources: Resources which are surveyed and their quality and quantity have been determined for utilisation. The development of resources depends on technology and level of their feasibility.

Stock: Materials in the environment which have the potential to satisfy human needs but human beings do not have the appropriate technology to access these, are included among

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Resource and development

Sub-geo.

Answer the following Questions in limited words -

- Q.1. Define 'Resource'?
- Q.2. Make a flow chart of classification of Resource on the basis of origin, Exhaustibility, and ownership?
- Q.3. On the political map of India, show the States and Capitals. (Take the help of Atlas. you may draw or carbon copy India's map)