

Foundation Course - 2

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Common for BA/BCom/BSc/BBA/BCA Programmes

Semester – I

(Total 30 Hours)

Unit-I : Natural Resources:

6 Hrs

Definition, scope and importance. Need for public awareness.

Brief description of;

- Forest resources: Use and over-exploitation. Deforestation; timber extraction, mining, dams. Effect of deforestation environment and tribal people
- Water resources: Use and over-utilization. Effects of over utilisation of surface and ground water. Floods, drought.
- Mineral resources: Use and exploitation, environmental effects of extracting and using mineral resources.
- Food resources: World food problems, Effects of modern agriculture; fertilizer-pesticide, salinity problems.
- Energy resources: Growing energy needs, renewable and non-renewable energy sources, use of alternate energy sources.
- Land resources: Land as resources, land degradation, man induced landslides, soil erosion and desertification

Unit-II : Ecosystems, Biodiversity and its conservation

6 Hrs

- Concept of an ecosystem
- Structure and function of an ecosystem
- Producers, consumers and decomposers
- Food chains, food webs and ecological pyramids
- Characteristic features of the following ecosystems:- Forest ecosystem, Desert ecosystem, Aquatic ecosystem.
- Value of biodiversity: Consumptive use, productive use. Biodiversity in India.
- Threats to biodiversity: habitat loss, poaching of wildlife, man wildlife conflicts.
- Endangered and endemic species of India
- Conservation of biodiversity

Unit-III : Environmental Pollution

6 Hrs

- Definition
- Causes, effects and control measures of :-
 - a. Air pollution
 - b. Water pollution

- c. Soil pollution
- d. Noise pollution
- Solid waste management; Measures for safe urban and industrial waste disposal
- Role of individual in prevention of pollution
- Disaster management: Drought, floods and cyclones

Unit-IV : Social Issues and the Environment

6 Hrs

- From Unsustainable to Sustainable development
- Water conservation, rain water harvesting, watershed management.
- Climate change, global warming, ozone layer depletion,
- Environment protection Act
- Wildlife Protection Act, Forest Conservation Act

Unit-V : Human Population and the Environment

6 Hrs

- Population explosion, impact on environment.
- Family welfare Programme
- Environment and human health
- Women and Child Welfare
- Value Education
- Role of Information Technology in Environment and humanhealth.

Reference Books :

1. Environmental Studies by Dr.M.Satyanarayana, Dr.M.V.R.K.Narasimhacharyulu, Dr.G. Rambabu and Dr.V.VivekaVardhani, Published by Telugu Academy, Hyderabad.
2. Environmental Studies by R.C.Sharma, Gurbir Sangha, published by Kalyani Publishers.
3. Environmental Studies by Purnima Smarath, published by Kalyani Publishers.