

Resource Geog.

Introduction →

⇒ In simple terms, RESOURCES are the matters @ substances which satisfy the Human wants. Therefore the basic concept of Resource is related to Human well-beings. In ~~other words~~ ^{broader term}, 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 "Resources". ^{Here in this sense,} Resource geography studies all types of resources of the Earth, their characteristics, production, patterns of areal distribution and conservation.

⇒ Pre-Condition of become Resources →

available in our environment which ^{common} → The process of transformation of things into Resources involves an interactive relationship between →

- Nature,
- Technology, &
- Institutions.

Human beings interact with nature through technology and create institutions to accelerate their economic development which includes knowledge & demand for the material @ services produced. If one of these conditions is not satisfied, a particular substance cannot be called as Resources. For instance - water

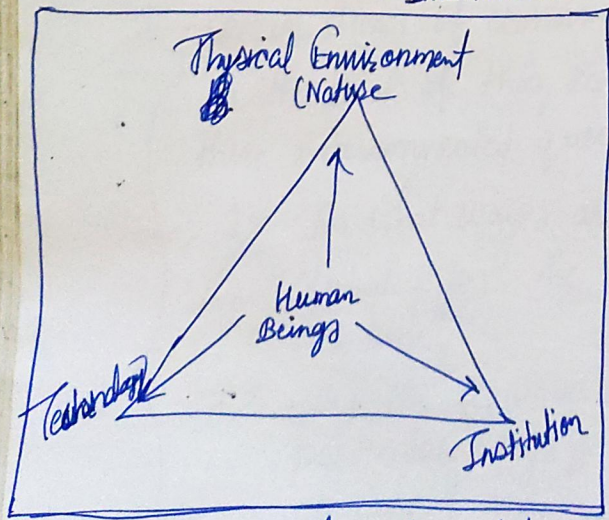
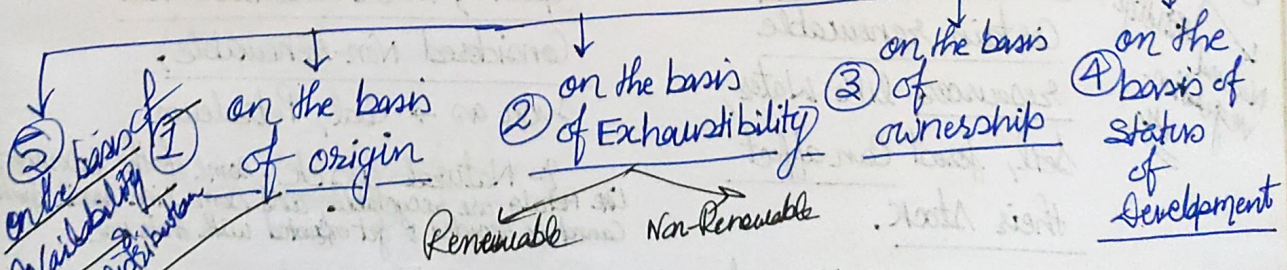
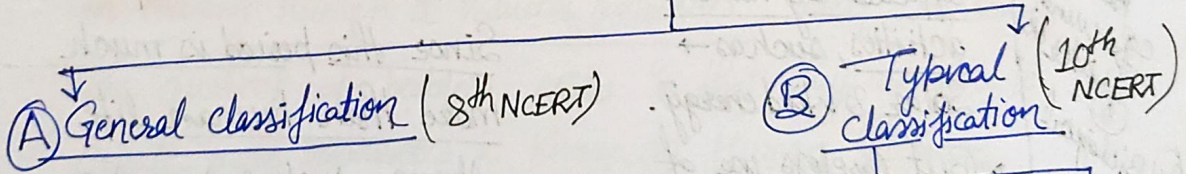


fig → Interdependent relationship between nature, technology & institutions.

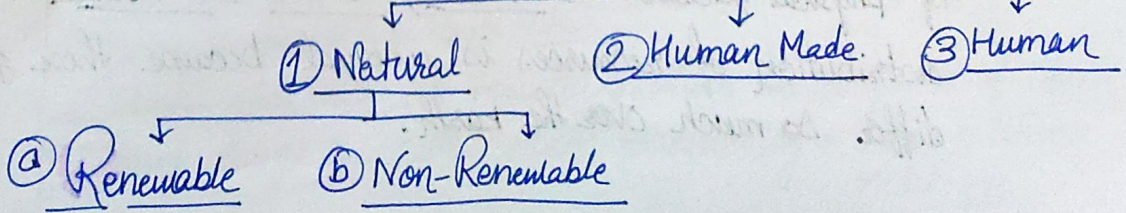
is present on the Earth. But it became a source of Energy when people acquired the knowledge and technical skills for generation of Hydropower. It is therefore, Human ability and need @ utility which create value @ worth for a substance and thereby make it a Resource, not in sheer physical presence.

Apart from that, Many assumed that Resources are free gift of Nature. But they are NOT. Resources are a function of Human activities. Human beings themselves are essential components of Resources because they transform material available in our environment into resources & use them.

⇒ Types of Resources ⇒ Resources can be classified in the following ways →



General classification → These are further sub-divided into →



① Natural Resources Resources that are drawn from Nature & used without ^{much} modification are called Natural Resources. eg → Air, Water, Soil, Minerals etc. Many of these resources can be used directly. In some cases tools & technology may be needed to use a Natural resources in the best possible way. Natural resources can be broadly ~~categorized~~ categorised into, →

Renewable Resources

are those which get reproduced or renewed or replenished quickly by the ^{and} physical, chemical & mechanical processes,

Some of these are unlimited and are not affected by human activities, such as → Solar & Wind energy.

But Careless use of certain renewable resources like Water, Soil, forest can affect their stock.

- Further be divided into
- ① Continuous Flow eg wind, water etc.
 - ② Biological eg Wildlife, Natural vegetation etc.

Non-renewable

are those which have a limited stock. once the stocks are exhausted it may take thousands of years to be renewed or replenished. Since this period is much

more than human life spans, such resources are considered Non-renewable, such as → Coal, Petroleum

& Natural gas etc. some of the resources like Metals are recyclable and some like fossil fuels cannot be recycled & get exhausted with their use.

Recyclable (metals)
Non-recyclable (fossil fuel)

(a very long geological time period)

→ The distribution of Natural Resources depends upon number of physical factors like Terrain, Climate & Altitude. The distribution of resources is unequal because these factors differ so much over the Earth.

② Human Made Resources → In some cases Natural Substances become resources only when their original form has been changed by the humans. Such as → Iron ore was not a resources until people learnt to extract iron from it. People use Natural resources to make buildings, bridges, roads, machinery etc. which are known as the Human Made Resources. Technology is also a Human Made Resources.

③ Human Resources → Human Resources refers to the number ^{of demography} (quantity) & abilities & skills (mental and physical) of the people. People can make the best use of nature to create more resources when they have the Knowledge, Skill and the Technology to do so. That is why human beings are a special resources. Education & Health helps in making Human a valuable resources. Thus, Improving the quality of people's skills so that they are able to create more resources is known as Human Resource Development.

B) Typical Classification →

- ① on the basis of origin →
- Biotic resources are obtained from biosphere and have life such as Human beings, Flora & Fauna etc.
 - Abiotic resources All those things which are composed of Non-living things are called Abiotic resources. eg → Rocks & ~~Minerals~~ Metals etc