

UNIT: 3 - UNDERSTANDING DISASTER

CLASS: VI

SUBJECT: SOCIAL (GEOGRAPHY)

I. Answer in brief.

1. Define Disaster

- A disaster is a serious disruption of the functioning of a society involving human and material loss.
- Disaster is broadly classified into natural and man-made disasters.

2. What are the two types of disasters? Give examples.

- Disaster is broadly classified into natural and man made disasters.

3. Write a short note on 'Thunder and lightning'.

- Thunder is a series of sudden electrical discharge resulting from atmospheric conditions.
- This discharge results in sudden flashes of light and trembling sound waves which are commonly known as thunder and lightning.

4. Chennai, Cuddalore and Cauvery delta are frequently affected by floods. Give reason.

- Chennai lies on the south eastern coast.
- The north east monsoon along with tropical cyclone hits Chennai every year and gives heavy cyclonic rainfall.

5. Differentiate: Landslide - Avalanche.

Landslide:

The movement of a mass of rocks, debris, soil etc., down slope is called a landslide.

Avalanche:

A large amount of ice, snow and rock falling quickly down the side of a mountain is called an Avalanche.

II. Answer in a paragraph

1. What is flood? Explain the do's and don'ts during floods.

(i) An overflow of a large amount of water, beyond its normal limits, especially on the rain fed areas is called a flood.

(ii) During floods - Do's.

(a) To find out the settlement area whether it is to be affected by flood or not.

(b) Keeping radio, torch and additional batteries, storing drinking water, dry foods items, salt and sugar. Safeguarding materials like kerosene, candle, match box, clothes and valuable things.

- (c) Keeping umbrella and bamboo poles.
- (d) Keeping first aid box and strong ropes to bind things.
- (e) To dig canals from the farm land, to drain the excessive water, keeping sand bags etc.

III. Activity.

Make a flood plan

On a piece of paper, draw your village/town map roughly. Locate your home, school and playground on the map. Then draw the rivers/stream/lake and road, located nearest to your village/ town. Answer the questions listed below.

1. Which areas and roads would be mostly affected by flood?

- ❖ Floods can happen on flat or low-lying areas when water is supplied by rainfall or snowmelt more rapidly than it can either infiltrate or run off.
- ❖ The excess accumulates in place, sometimes to hazardous depths.
- ❖ Surface soil can become saturated, which effectively stops infiltration, where the water table is shallow, such as a floodplain, or from intense rain from one or a series of storms.
- ❖ Infiltration also is slow to negligible through frozen ground, rock, concrete.
- ❖ Areas near water bodies such as lake, river, etc. are also affected by flood.

2. Can you find out evacuation route?

- ❖ In order to avoid great losses and fatality affected by flooding, an evacuation route is to be found out.
- ❖ A study of non physical mitigation, i.e. to establish some alternatives of evacuation routes to some temporary shelters is to be conducted well in advance.
- ❖ A research on the selected several evacuation routes, with the help of Geographic Information System (GIS) can be done.
- ❖ The research can be conducted by analyzing the flood magnitude, inundation area, population density, settlement concentration, temporary shelter locations, topographic condition and existing road system.

3. If you live in a flood-prone area, what are the precautionary measures you have to take during heavy rains?

Precaution measures:

- ❖ Listen to the weather reports from Radio, TV, etc.
- ❖ Do not wait until you see rising water.

- ❖ Get out of low areas subject to flooding.
- ❖ If driving, do not drive through flooded roadways!
- ❖ Precaution measures:
- ❖ Listen to the weather reports from Radio, TV, etc.
- ❖ Do not wait until you see rising water.
- ❖ Get out of low areas subject to flooding.
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4. What are things that you should have in your 'Go - kit' / 'Drive - away kit'?

- ❖ Drinking water containers.
- ❖ Food that does not require cooking.
- ❖ Cash.
- ❖ Medications and first aid supplies.
- ❖ Clothing, Blanket, toiletries.
- ❖ Battery-powered radio.
- ❖ Flashlights.
- ❖ Extra batteries.
- ❖ Important documents: insurance papers, medical records, bank account numbers.

5. Make a list of emergency numbers. ('Go-Kit' - A kit prepared by and for an individual or group who expects to develop it in alternative locations during emergency)

The following are the list of Emergency help line telephone numbers:

Police	-	100
Police SMS	-	9500099100
Fire Service / Rescue Service	-	101
Traffic Police	-	103
Accidents	-	100,103
Traffic Police SMS	-	9840000103
Ambulance Service	-	102, 108
Women Help line	-	1091
Child Help line	-	1098
Emergency & Accidents	-	1099
Senior Citizen Help line	-	1253
Emergency Help line in National Highways -		1033
Coastal Emergency Help line	-	1093

Blood Bank Emergency Help line	-	1910
Eye Bank Emergency Help line	-	1919.

