

Land Resources and Land Use

Chapter 6: Resources and Development · Topic 2

Key Concept

Land use classification includes forest land, land for agriculture, land not available for cultivation (like barren land), and land under non-agricultural uses (like settlements and industries).

India's land use pattern has changed over time, with increasing land dedicated to non-agricultural uses like urban development, industry, and infrastructure, often reducing agricultural land.

Land degradation, caused by factors like deforestation, overgrazing, and improper irrigation, is a serious concern, reducing land's productivity and usability over time.

Sustainable land use practices, including proper land management, afforestation, and controlled urban expansion, are essential for maintaining land resources for future generations.

Quick Revision Notes

- Land use classification includes forest, agricultural and non-agricultural land.
- Barren land is not available for cultivation.
- Non-agricultural land includes settlements and industries.
- India's land use has shifted toward non-agricultural uses.
- This often reduces available agricultural land.
- Land degradation is caused by deforestation and overgrazing.
- Improper irrigation also causes land degradation.
- Sustainable land use requires proper management and afforestation.

Practice Questions

- 1 Classify the land use around your area (agricultural, urban, forest, etc.).
- 2 Discuss why agricultural land might decrease over time.
- 3 Research a cause of land degradation.
- 4 Explain how afforestation helps land resources.
- 5 Discuss a sustainable land use practice.
- 6 Create a chart showing India's land use categories.