

Water Scarcity and Its Causes

Chapter 8: Water Resources · Topic 1

Key Concept

Growing population and increased agricultural, industrial, and domestic water use have significantly increased water demand, straining available water resources in many regions.

Pollution from industrial waste, agricultural runoff, and untreated sewage contaminates water sources, reducing the amount of usable, clean water available for communities.

Unequal distribution of water resources means some regions face severe water scarcity while others have relatively abundant supplies, often due to geographic and climatic differences.

Addressing water scarcity requires a combination of conservation efforts, improved water management, pollution control, and equitable distribution of water resources across regions.

Quick Revision Notes

- Water scarcity results from overuse, pollution and unequal distribution.
- Population growth increases water demand.
- Agricultural, industrial and domestic use strain water resources.
- Pollution contaminates water sources.
- Sources of pollution include industrial waste and sewage.
- Unequal distribution causes scarcity in some regions.
- Geographic and climatic differences cause this inequality.
- Addressing scarcity needs conservation and better management.

Practice Questions

- 1 Discuss a cause of water scarcity in your region.
- 2 Research how pollution affects water availability.
- 3 Explain why some regions face more water scarcity than others.
- 4 Discuss a water conservation method you could practice.
- 5 Research a government scheme addressing water scarcity.
- 6 Debate how water resources could be more equitably distributed.