

Maulana Mazharul Haque

Arabic and Persian University

Topic:- Resource: Concept and Classification

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By:- Owais Sir

What is Resource?

- A resource is a substance in the environment that is useful to people is economically and technologically feasible to access and socially acceptable to use. Resources include soil, water, food, plants. animals and mineral. -AP Human Geography
- Resource is a source of supply, support, or aid, especially one that can be readily drawn upon when needed. -*Dictionary.com*

What is Resource?

- A resource is a source or supply from which benefit is produced. Typically resources are materials or other assets that are transformed to produce benefit and in the process may be consumed or made unavailable. -Wikipedia
- Resources or natural resources are the naturally occurring materials that a human population, at any given state of economic development and technological awareness, perceives to be necessary and useful to its economic and material well-being. -Human Geography by Fellman- Getis- Getis

Classification of Resource

The resources can be classified in the following ways:

- On the basis of origin
- On the basis of exhaustibility
- On the basis of ownership
- On basis of the status of development

On the basis of origin

- **Biotic Resources** are obtained from biosphere and they have a life such as human beings, flora and fauna, fisheries, livestock etc.
- **Abiotic resources** include all those things which are composed of non-living things like rocks and metals

On the basis of origin

Biotic Resource



Abiotic Resource



On the basis of exhaustibility

- **Renewable Resources** are those resources which can be renewed or reproduced by physical, chemical or mechanical processes, e.g., solar and wind energy, water, forests and wildlife, etc. Renewable resources may further be divided into
 - continuous or flow resources, e.g., wind, water
 - biological resources, which are of 2 types :
 - Natural Vegetation (Forests)
 - Wildlife

On the basis of exhaustibility

- **Non-Renewable Resources** are formed over a substantially long geological time, e.g., minerals and fossil fuels. These can be subdivided into
 - recyclable resources, e.g. metals,
 - non-recyclable resources, e.g. fossil fuels, which cannot be recycled and get exhausted with their use

On the basis of exhaustibility

Renewable Resource



Non Renewable Resource



On the basis of ownership

- **Individual Resources** are resources that are owned privately by individuals. Examples- land owned by farmers (allotted by the government against the payment of revenue), plantations, pasture lands, ponds, water in wells owned by individuals, plots, houses and other property owned by people in the city etc.
- **Community Resources** are resources accessible to all the members of a community. Examples :Village commons (grazing grounds, burial grounds, village ponds, etc.) public parks, picnic spots, and playgrounds in urban areas.

On the basis of ownership

- **National Resources** are all the resources that belong to a nation. Examples :
 - roads, canals, railways, etc.
 - minerals, water resources, forests, wildlife, etc.
 - land within the political boundaries,
 - territorial water and the resources within

The term territorial water refers to the oceanic area upto 12 nautical miles (19.2 km) from the coast.

The country has legal powers to acquire even private property for public good. Urban Development Authorities get empowered by the

On the basis of ownership

- **International resources:** there are also international resources regulating resources. The oceanic resources beyond 200km of the Exclusive Economic Zone belong to open ocean and no individual country can utilize these without the consensus of international institutions.

On the basis of the state of development

- **Potential resources** are resources found in a region which have not been utilized. Examples : wind and solar energy development potential in the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- **Developed resources** are those resources which are surveyed and their quality and quantity have been determined for utilization. The development of resources however depends on technology and level of their feasibility.

On the basis of the state of development

- **Stock** refers to materials in the environment which have the potential to satisfy human needs but human beings do not have the appropriate technology to access these. Examples : water is a compound of two inflammable gases; hydrogen and oxygen, which could be used as a rich source of energy if we had the required technical 'know-how'. Hence, it can be considered as stock.

THANK YOU

