

Soil

Synopsis

- Soil is the uppermost layer of earth's crust. It is formed of rock particles and organic matter called humus.
- Soil is a good habitat. Plants depend on soil for nutrients like mineral salts and water.
- We depend on soil for agricultural and construction purposes, making utensils and toys.
- Soil is important for life on the earth. It supports the existence of living organisms. It is essential for agriculture.
- Soil is formed by the weathering of rocks by the action of wind, water and climate. It contains coarse particles, clay, moisture and humus. Soil contains three important layers: top soil, subsoil and bed rock.
- Soil profile consists of three horizons. Top soil or Horizon-A, Middle layer or Horizon-B. Third layer or Horizon-C.
- Soil is of different types: Clayey, loamy and sandy
- Soil holds water in it, which is called soil moisture. Holding capacity of water is important for various crops.
- Clayey soil is used to make pots, toys and statues.
- Clay and loam are suitable for growing wheat, gram and paddy, cotton is grown in sandy loam or black soil.
- Removal of top soil by wind, water or any other means is known as soil erosion.