

Std-5 Social Studies Assignment

Ch-14 Natural Disasters

(Continue your work after answer no. 2)

3. Give the main causes of landslides.

Ans: Some of the causes of landslides are the following:

- i) Sometimes sediments or part of mountain ranges slide down due to rains or gravitational pull of the earth.
- ii) The rivers weaken the foundation of the hills and as a result they can collapse anytime.
- iii) Human beings also contribute to the landslides when they build heavy structures on hills.
- iv) Sometimes deforestation also leads to landslides.

4. What are tropical cyclones? How are they hazardous?

Ans: Intense storms which develop over warm tropical oceans between 5° and 20° north latitudes and between 5° and 20° south latitudes are called tropical cyclones. They are hazardous in a number of ways.

- i) They cause much havoc to human life and settlements.
- ii) They cause damage to crops and uproot many trees.
- iii) They destroy electricity and telephone lines.
- iv) They are often accompanied with heavy rains which cause floods.

5. What is a drought? How does prove it harmful?

Ans: The scarcity of water, food, fodder and employment is termed as drought. Droughts affect us in a number of ways.

- i) Droughts affect the farmers most. They affect their crops and their animal stock.
- ii) Droughts lead to shortage of food supply. The prices of foodgrains rise which often leads to starvation and deaths.
- iii) Many farm-labourers become unemployed.

6. What is a flood? How is it dangerous?

Ans: A situation when a large area is covered by water due to heavy rains or due to overflow of rivers is a flood. Floods can be dangerous in the following ways:

- i) Crops and livestock are simply washed away by the strong currents of the flood.
- ii) It causes damage to human life and property.
- iii) Floods lead to the shortage of food and drinking water.
- iv) There is a great loss of transport and communication links.
- v) When the flood water recedes, people become prey to many water-borne diseases.