

Natural Resources and its Scarcity



The resources that are obtained from nature are called natural resources. For example, sunlight, air, water, minerals, and soil.

Natural resources are broadly classified into two kinds on the basis of their availability in nature.

Inexhaustible Natural Resources:

The resources that are present in unlimited quantity in nature and cannot be exhausted by human activities are called inexhaustible natural resources. For example, sunlight and air.

Exhaustible Natural Resources:

The resources that are present in limited quantity in nature and can be exhausted by human activities are called exhaustible natural resources. For example, Forests, wildlife, minerals, coal, petroleum, natural gas, etc.

1. Fossil fuels are the exhaustible resources that are formed from the decomposition of dead organic matter. These were formed from the dead remains of living organisms. E.g.: Coal, Natural gas.
2. A fuel is any substance that reacts with other substances so as to release large amounts of energy in the form of heat and light. For example, coal and petroleum are fuels.
3. Coal, petroleum, and natural gas are fossil fuels that are formed under the earth's crust by the decomposition of dead plant and animal remain.

