



SOCIAL SCIENCE

STANDARD FIVE

TERM II





1. OUR GREEN COVER

NATURAL VEGETATION

Forest are large areas of land that are covered with small plants and trees that grow naturally in the region. Climate, soil and rainfall influence the growth of these plants and trees.

Natural vegetation in India is **not uniform**. Climate, soil and rainfall influence the growth of plants in distinctive forms.

MAJOR TYPES OF FORESTS

Indian forests are broadly classified into five types. They are

1. Tropical Evergreen Forests
2. Tropical Deciduous Forests (Monsoon forests)
3. Mangrove Forests
4. Thorn Forests
5. Himalayan Forests

TROPICAL EVERGREEN FORESTS

These forests are found in the areas of the Western Ghats, the eastern parts of Himalayas and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands which receive more than **200 cm rainfall**.

Ebony, Mahogany, Bamboo, Rubber, Rose Wood and Sandalwood are the important trees grown here.

Tiger, Rhinoceros, Bears, Leopards, Pythons and Swamp deer are found here.



TROPICAL DECIDUOUS FORESTS (MONSOON FORESTS)

Peninsular India and the Northern parts of India are covered by monsoon forests. These areas receive **100 cm rainfall**.

Teak, Sandalwood, Sal, Deodar, Bamboo and Ebony are some of the important trees grown here. These trees

shed / their leaves during summer because of less rainfall. These forests are called deciduous forests. The wood is used for making furniture.



Do you know?

Very little wildlife can be found here as the forests are not dense .

MANGROVE FORESTS

Mangrove forests are seen in the Indian coastal line, in the Ganga delta and Brahmaputra region, in some backwater areas and salt marshes.

The roots of the trees of most forests are found usually under the ground. But **salt water trees** have **aerial roots** which are above the water in order to survive in the salt water. These prevent **soil erosion** and prevent

fertile soil from being washed away into the ocean. The marshy forest in the Glanga delta is known as Sunderbans after the Sundari trees that grow there.

Vedaranyam and Pichavaram areas in Tamilnadu have mangrove forests.

Pichavaram forests protected many people from **The Tsunami** waves in **2004**.



Do you know?

Deltas are formed when sand mounds are formed by wind and waves.

THORN FORESTS

Thorn forests are found in the areas which receive less than 50 cm rainfall.

Parts of the Deccan Plateau and Rajasthan have thorny trees like acacia, babul and palmyra.



HIMALAYAN FORESTS

The Himalayan Forests are covered with tall coneshaped leaves and are also called confierous forests.

The lower Himalayas have evergreen forests. The Middle Himalayas have temperate forest trees like Pine, Birch, Cedar, Oak, Chestnut, Walnut and Apple.

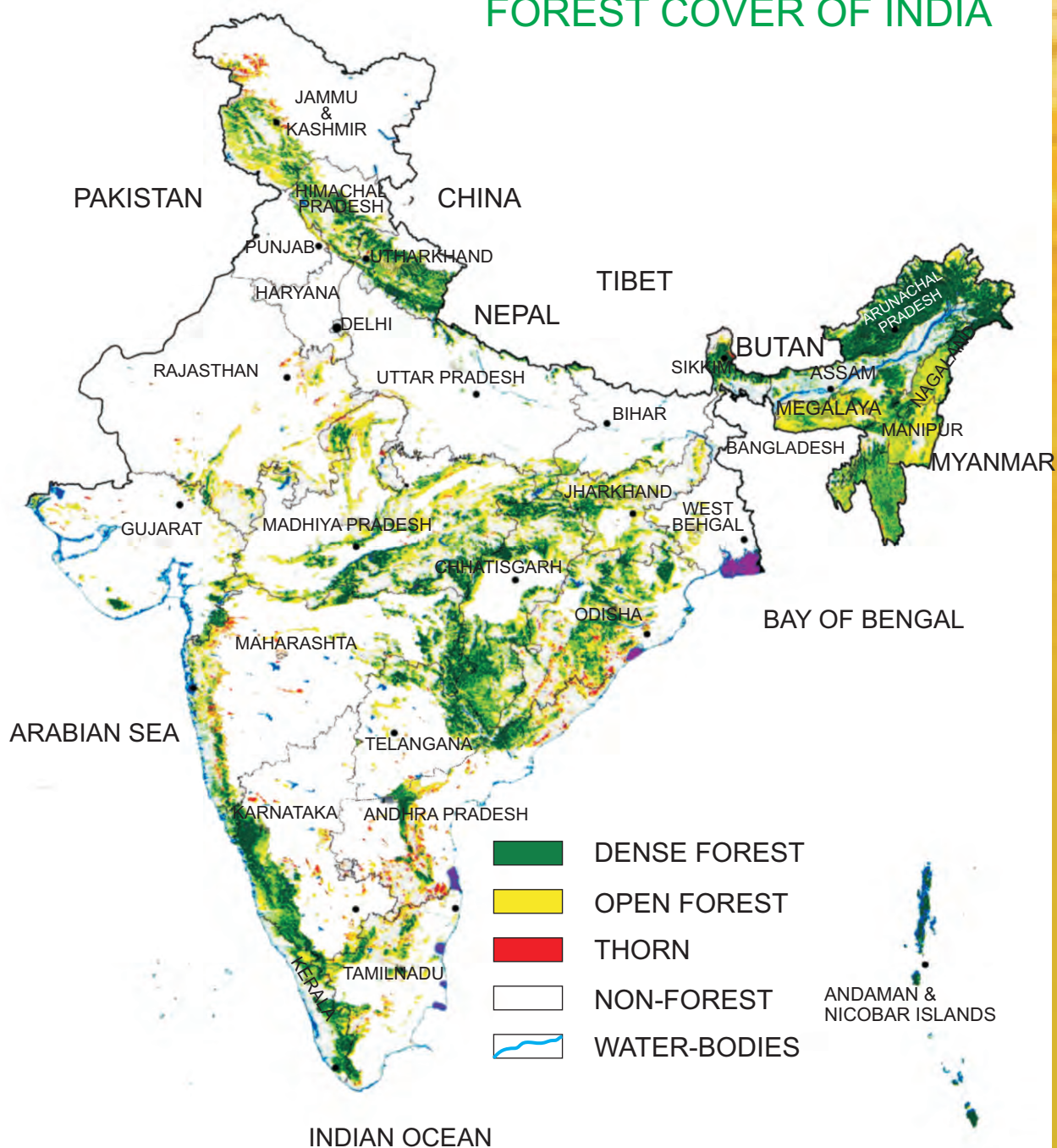
You can see some of these trees in Ooty, Upper Nilgiris and Kodi Hills.



Activity

Compare the trees of other forests with respect to size, shape, structure of the leaves etc.

FOREST COVER OF INDIA



Think over: How can we increase the forest cover in India?

THE USES OF FORESTS

- ★ Forests provide oxygen for living things.
- ★ Forests provide timber / wood for various types of construction work from house to ship building.
- ★ Forests give us firewood, fruits, nuts and medicinal leaves (herbs).
- ★ Forests have their own value; they bring rainfall, control soil erosion and purify the air by providing Oxygen.
- ★ Forests give revenue to the Government and employment opportunities to people
- ★ Forests provide shelter for wild animals like lion, tiger, elephant, bison, deer and hundreds of birds and wild creatures.
- ★ The dry leaves combine with the soil and change into manure thus adding fertility to the soil.
- ★ Forests are used to produce paper, gum, resin, olive oil and natural dyes.

Nowadays the benefits have declined considerably... Do you know why?

This is because of all our activities. The growing population has reduced the forests to less than 17 % of our country's total area. Remember, a country should have more than 33% of area under forest cover to get the maximum benefits from forests and for remarkable economic development.

Man has cleared the forests for human settlements, industrial purposes, construction of roads, railways and dams. Clearing of forests is called **deforestation**.

Other than this, valuable trees are illegally cut down and animals are hunted by poachers. In this way we have lost a lot of our forest wealth.

Results of that ...

Afforestation - The government encourages people to plant trees. Van mahotsav is celebrated at the beginning of the rainy season and trees are planted.

- ☀ We receive unseasonal and irregular rainfall.
- ☀ The earth's temperature is gradually increasing. "Man cannot tolerate the Earth's temperature after 300 years" is the prediction of US Climate Agencies 2010.
- ☀ We have lost our rare variety of plants and animals which are our country's rich heritage.
- ☀ Our National animal Tiger is facing the danger of extinction.

Do you know?

Over half of the world's wild tigers live in India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

- ☀ To protect some endangered animals there are some sanctuaries.
 - ☀ Gir forest in Gujarat for lions.
 - ☀ Mudumalai forest in TamilNadu for elephants.
 - ☀ Kaziranga in Assam for the rhinoceros.

"Grow more trees Save the Earth"

CHIPKO Movement

CHIPKO movement - In 1974 the villagers in Chamoli started a novel movement to prevent cutting of trees. They put their arms around trees and refused to allow the cutting of trees. It was started by Sunderlal Bahuguna.

Song of a tree

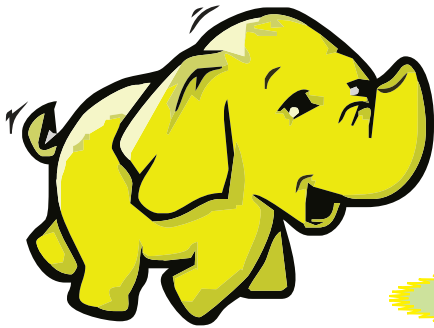


I am a tree , a tree ,
 A useful thing am I ;
 I give you oxygen free
 And the air I purify.
 My leaves, flowers and fruits
 Give shade, give food, as you can see
 The soil is held tight by my roots
 Animals and birds find homes in me.
 I give wood, I bring rain
 I protect weather naturally;
 Please don't give me pain!
 Don't cut me! Don't cut me!

Sudha Vyas

Interesting Facts

- ★ 19.39% of the total area of India is covered by forests.
- ★ 90% of the land of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is covered by forests.
- ★ Assam is the largest producer of tea in the world.
- ★ Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of sugarcane in India.
- ★ The major hill stations of India namely Nainital, Mussoorie, Almora and Ranikhet are in Uttar Pradesh.
- ★ Kodaikanal and Ooty are the summer hill resorts of Tamil Nadu.
- ★ The Indian state of Kerala accounts for 90% of the rubber production in the country.
- ★ Sikkim exports medicinal herbs.
- ★ Punjab stands first in the cultivation of wheat.
- ★ Manipur has a valley filled with flowers.
- ★ Meghalaya is the only state with a museum of butterflies.



Exercise

I. State whether each of the statements is true or false

1. Climate affects the natural vegetation of a place.
2. Evergreen forests have trees that shed their leaves.
3. Thorn forests are found in desert areas.
4. Mangrove forests have trees with aerial roots.
5. Forests bring rainfall.

II. Mention any two crops or trees that grow in these forests

1. Tropical evergreen forests
2. Monsoon forests

III. Match the following

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Vedaranyam | - | a) Deciduous forests |
| 2. Andaman | - | b) Coniferous forests |
| 3. Peninsular India | - | c) Thorn forests |
| 4. Middle Himalayas | - | d) Mangrove forests |
| 5. Thar | - | e) Evergreen forests |

III. Answer the Following

1. What is the difference between deciduous and evergreen forests?
2. Who Started the Chipko movement? What was novel about it?
3. What is the result of deforestation?

IV. Write a note on conservation of forests and wildlife

Project

Let us grow more trees-Save Nature

Name of student :

Class :

Date of Birth :

Name of the parents :

Address :

Phone number:

Mobile number:

Sir/Madam,

Subject:-Tree plantation

My son/daughter will plant a tree (type of tree)_____on(date)

_____ at (place) _____ as a part of the project

“Conservation of trees”.

Signature of the student

Signature of the parent

Date:

Place:



2. TREASURES UNDER THE GROUND

Among the following things pick out those we use for purposes like cooking, travelling and making ornaments.

petroleum	gold	cotton	wool
coal	copper	aluminium	leather



We call products like petroleum, coal, copper and gold minerals.

Minerals are products that are found in **rocks** and under the **ground**. The **mining industries** are responsible for obtaining minerals. A **mine** is an **excavation** in the earth from which **ores** of minerals can be extracted. The availability of minerals helps to establish many industries which contribute to the development of a country.

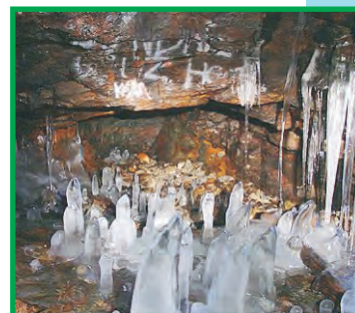
India is rich in mineral wealth. **Minerals** are of **two kinds** namely **Metallic and Non-metallic**. Iron, manganese, bauxite, copper and gold are the important metallic minerals while petroleum and coal are the important non-metallic ones. Most of these minerals are found in the Deccan Plateau and Chota Nagpur Plateau of India.

Do you know?

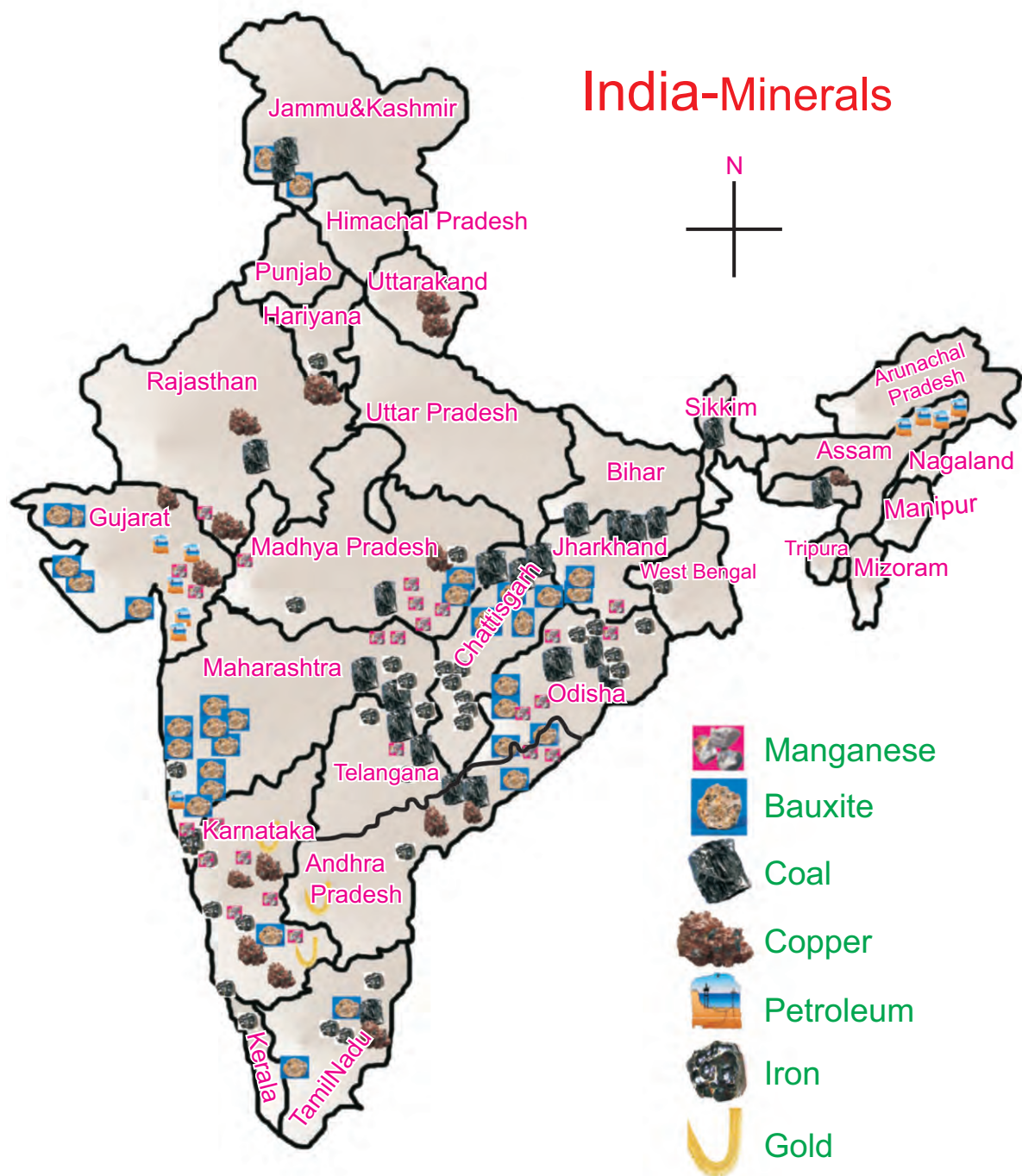
The study of minerals is called Mineralogy.

Iron

Iron is called the **key** mineral. Industries are mainly dependent on it. The best variety of iron ore is found in India in the states of Bihar, Odisha and Karnataka. Iron is also found in Jharkhand, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.



(eg.) USES OF IRON



One-fourth of all the iron ore in the world is found in India. Iron is useful to us in many ways. We make different vehicles and machines using iron. It is also used in buildings and bridges.

Iron is one of the major exports of India. Through the ports of Paradweep in Odisha and Vishakapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, iron is exported to different foreign countries.

EXPORT AND IMPORT

When we send products from our country to other countries it is termed as export. When we bring products from other countries to our country it is termed as import.

More export and less import will contribute to the progress of our country.

GOLD



Gold enjoys great popularity in India. Indians love gold ornaments and objects made of gold. The gold industry is booming in India. It is even importing gold.

Gold was primarily found in the mines of Kolar in Karnataka and a few places in Andhra Pradesh.

MANGANESE

Manganese is found in abundance in India. This is used in making iron products and in the glass industry.

Manganese is largely found in Odisha. It can also be found in Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka.



Manganese

BAUXITE



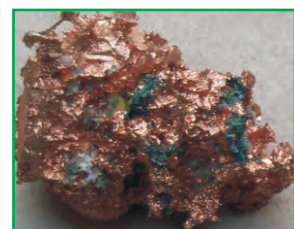
Bauxite is an **ore** of **aluminium**. Aluminium is **light** in nature. It is used in making vessels, electrical wires, automobiles, machines and aircraft.

It is found in the following states: Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh.

COPPER

Copper was the **first metal** used by **human beings**.

It is widely used in **electrical equipments**. Copper is mined in Uttaranchal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.



COAL

Coal is one of the **most important** minerals found under the earth.

Coal is primarily used as **fuel**. Asia accounts for **one-third** of the total coal found in the world. Railway engines, iron factories, industries and houses use coal as fuel for industrial use and cooking.



Coal mine



Coal

Coal is largely found in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Neyveli in Tamil Nadu has a number of coal mines.

PETROLEUM

Petroleum is a natural resource. It is believed that petroleum was formed over millions of years from the remains of sea animals.



The by-products of petroleum are petrol, diesel and kerosene all of which are used for generating energy and as fuel. Petroleum gel or paraffin is also another by-product.

Petroleum is found in large quantities at Digboi in Assam and Ankuleshwar in Gujarat. It is also found in the offshore station of Mumbai under the sea.

Petroleum is purified in Mumbai, Chennai and Cochin and many by-products are derived from it.

These two underground Non-Metallic Minerals, Coal and Petroleum play a vital role in the industrial development of India.

CONSERVING OUR MINERALS

Our minerals are being consumed so rapidly that there is a danger of their running out. We must learn to save them by using them wisely.



Alternate sources of energy and fuel are being considered. Chief among them are solar and wind energy. This aims at conserving the available mineral resources from being rapidly depleted.

Points to remember

- ★ Minerals are found in rocks and under the earth.
- ★ Through mines these minerals are obtained.
- ★ Iron, copper and gold are the most used minerals in India.
- ★ Coal and petroleum are non-metallic minerals.
- ★ Conserve the minerals and use them wisely.

Some interesting facts:-

- ★ Karnataka is the only state where mercury is found.
- ★ Bihar is the only state in India where pyrite is found.
- ★ Platinum has been discovered in Namakkal District recently.
- ★ Some years ago, dentists used gold to fill cavities in teeth.
- ★ Gypsum is found in the state of Himachal Pradesh in India.

Exercise

I. Choose the Correct Answer?

- a. Which metal is used in constructing bridges?
i. Gold ii. Copper iii. Aluminum iv. Iron
- b. Which of these is found in an off-shore station in Mumbai?
i. Coal ii. Petroleum iii. Goal iv. Iron
- c. The mines of kolar are in:
i. Odisha ii. Madhya Pradesh iii. Karnataka iv. Andhra Pradesh
- d. The mines of kolar are in:
i. Petroleum ii. Gold iii. Aluminum iv. Iron

II. Answer the following questions

1. What are minerals?
2. Name the major minerals found in India.
3. How was petroleum formed?
4. What are the by-products of petroleum? What are they used for?
5. What are the alternate sources of energy?

III. Activity

1. Find out if there are minerals found in your area. Tell your friends about them.
2. Form two groups and find out what minerals are used at home and in your school and for what purposes.
3. Write a small report of your findings and read it out.

Project

1. Bring samples of some minerals. Display them on a table. Label them and appoint students to speak about each of the minerals.
2. Make a rock collection and display it in Class.



3. BEYOND FRONTIERS

SPACE

Human beings have been extremely curious to know more about space. What is space? The atmosphere surrounds the earth upto a distance of 1600kms. Beyond this is the limitless space. It is an extension of the sky. The solar system is part of this space. Ancient Indian scientists and astronomers like Aryabhatta and Bhaskara have given a lot of facts about space and the heavenly bodies through their intense studies and research. Research about space continues even today.

ARTIFICIAL SATELLITES

Space scientists have created artificial satellites to study space. Satellites are **machines** specially made by **scientists**. These satellites are sent into space by means of rockets. Space stations are set up in space to conduct research.

Russia and U.S.A have competed with each other in sending satellites into space. On Oct 4-1957 Russia sent **Sputnik -1**. This was the first space satellite. In the very same year during the month of November, Russia sent a dog **Laika** in **Sputnik 2**, an another satellite. After this, America sent its own satellite "**Explorer**" to space.



Do you know?

From the year 1975 to July 2010, India has sent 56 satellites into space.

INDIAN SATELLITES

On 19th April 1974, India sent its first satellite Aryabhata into space followed by Bhaskara 1, Rohini, Apple, Insat-1A, Insat-1B, PSLV C-etc.

In October 2008 India sent **Chandrayaan-I**, an unmanned satellite to the moon. It was intended to study the surface in detail.

In July 2010 through the satellite **PSLV C - 15**, five smaller satellites have been launched for space research.

**For your information**

PSLV C -15 was launched from Satish Dhawan space centre in Sriharikota. Images taken by its camera can be used for planning roads in villages, building harbours, preparing accurate maps etc.

THE FIRST MAN IN SPACE

Russia realized its dream of being the first to send a man into space. On April 12th, 1961, **Yuri Gagarin**, a Russian cosmonaut, became the first human to travel into space in **Vostok I**. After his return, he became an instant celebrity.

**Do you know?**

Astronauts - Space travellers.

Cosmonauts - Space travellers from Russia.

Neil Armstrong



THE FIRST MAN ON THE MOON

America was not far behind in space travel. In July, 1969, **Neil Armstrong** of America was the first to set foot on the moon. The second man was **Edwin Aldrin** who went along with him in the spaceship **Apollo XI**. They brought back samples of rock and soil from the lunar surface.

Armstrong spoke the famous words, "One small step for man, a giant leap for mankind". Aldrin and Armstrong said that they had come from the planet earth in a spirit of friendship and peace. They signed under these words on a plate and left it on the moon.

Edwin Aldrin



SPECIAL TRAINING GIVEN TO SPACE TRAVELLERS

1. To swim in the deep water of the ocean.
2. To wear a space suit and play tennis in water.
3. To stay in a room with low atmospheric pressure for hours together and rectify the defects of the machines.
4. To stay in a place with less gravitational force for certain hours.
5. To operate all the machines connected with a space vehicle.

THE SPACE SUIT

Astronauts need to wear a special dress known as the space suit while going into space. This protects them from breathlessness as there is no air in space. This protects the body from excessive cold. This suit is also designed to provide enough **oxygen** to breathe and it helps to keep up the blood pressure of the body. Without this suit, space travel is impossible.



SPACE STATION

16 Nations of the world set up an international space station in space to conduct thorough research and gather information. Astronauts from different countries spend time there and send useful information to the earth.



INDIAN ASTRONAUTS



On 2nd April 1984 India sent **Rakesh Sharma** into space in Soyuz T-11 a spacecraft. He became the first Indian space traveller. He spent 8 days in space aboard the Salyut 7 space station in order to do research.

India ranks 7th in sending satellites into space.

Apart from Rakesh Sharma two women of Indian origin namely **Kalpna Chawla** and **Sunitha Williams** went into space to do research.

Do you know?

Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman to go into space.

KALPANA CHAWLA

Kalpna Chawla of Indian origin went to space in the space ship **Columbia** in the year 1997. In her first mission she was mission specialist and prime robotic arm operator on space shuttle STS 87. In her second mission she was one of the seven members of the crew of STS-107 as mission specialist. This mission from 16th January 2003 to 1st February 2003 lasted 15days, 22hours and 21 minutes in space. The crew conducted nearly 80 experiments related to microgravity, earth and space science, advanced technological development and astronaut's health and safety. Unfortunately while returning, the space craft exploded in space. All the astronauts on board were killed.



SUNITHA WILLIAMS

Sunitha Williams was born on September 19th 1965 in Cleveland in the district of Ohio in USA. Her father is Doctor Deepak Pandya of Indian Origin.

EDUCATION

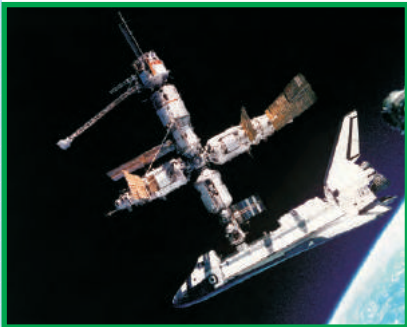
Sunitha was full of grit and determination from childhood itself. After her graduation in 1987, she joined in navy and flew helicopters. She has the experience of 2770 flying hours in 30 different types of aircraft.

AMBITION TO BECOME AN ASTRONAUT

She dreamt of flying into space as she flew helicopters. In order to qualify herself for this, she did higher studies in engineering in the Institute of Technology in Florida. She was selected in 1998 as an **Astronaut**.

SPACE TRAVEL

On December 9, 2006 she travelled to the international space station in STS-116 launched by the shuttle **Discovery**. She spent 6 months there.



She installed a new instrument in the space station to get electricity from solar rays. She completed **3 space walks** in 9 days.

INTERESTING EXPERIENCES IN SPACE

In space, eating and drinking should be done with utmost care. Once when Sunitha Williams started taking almonds, all slipped away from her hand and began to float in the space craft. She had to swim inside to pick them up one by one.

she narrates interesting experience, of how she tried to mix sauce in her food. As she opened the packet, the sauce came out with force and floated here and there. She tried to catch it and failed. Then she found the lid and closed the packet with great difficulty.



Sunitha Williams

ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPACE

Doctor Catherine held the record of the longest stay in space. Sunitha Williams broke this record by staying 195 days in space. This became the longest stay of any person in space.

In 2012, she served as a flight engineer for Expedition 32 and then commander for Expedition 33. In addition to holding the record for the longest single space flight by a

women. She holds the record for number of spacewalks for a woman.



Recent News : A group of scientists under the leadership of astro-scientist Crowther Paul of London Sheffield university has discovered a star 320 times bigger and brighter than the sun. They have named it the “Monster star”. This is 265 times heavier than the sun.

USES OF SATELLITES

Satellites are useful to mankind in many ways.

1. They have contributed significantly towards understanding earth based activities.
2. They help us in understanding about the ozone layer.
3. They help us in discovering the archeological sites or geological formations which were impossible to identify otherwise.
4. They connect people of all countries through effective communication.
5. They help us in understanding climatic changes.

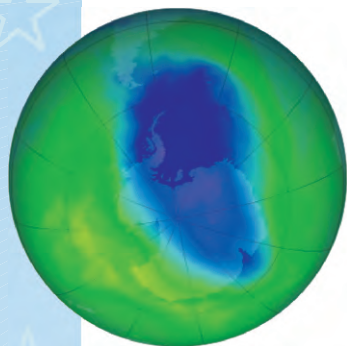
Space will continue to fascinate people. A day will come when space tourism may become possible.



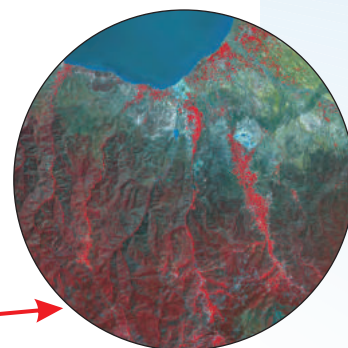
Agriculture



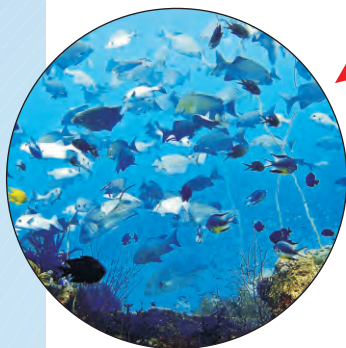
Seismic Activity



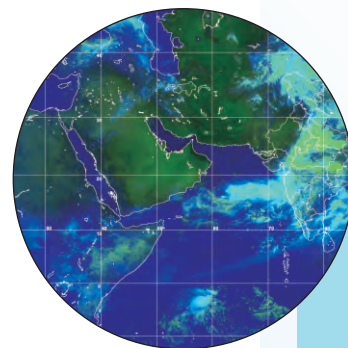
Ozone Layer



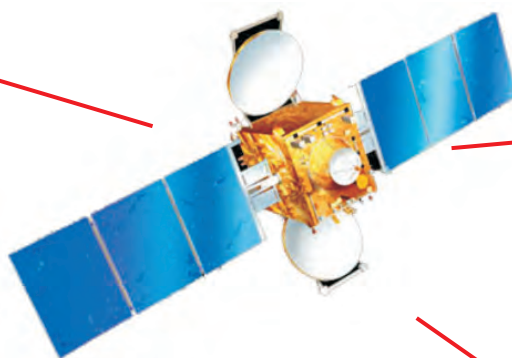
Mineral Wealth



Fishing



Climatic Changes



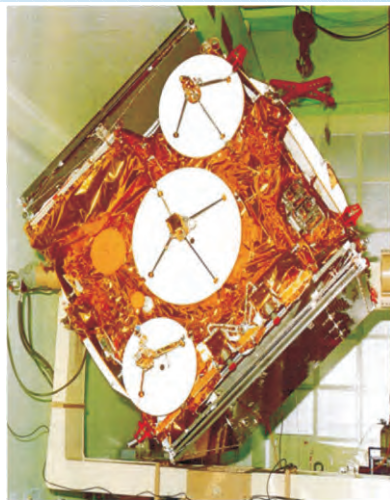
Communication

Some interesting facts.

1. The youngest person to fly in space is Gherman Titov. He was 25 years old when he flew Vostok 2.
2. The oldest person to fly in space was John Glena. He was 77 years old when he flew on STS – 95.
3. SHAR stands for Sriharikota. It is the launching centre for all Indian satellites.
4. Dr. Vikram Sarabhai is considered as the father of the Indian Space Programme.
5. The main factor in space travel is the gravity change experienced by the body.
6. To do any work in space, Astronauts have to move only the body parts like hands and legs and not the entire body.
7. The famous motto of Kalpana Chawla was “Follow your dreams”.
8. Chandrayaan's most important discovery was the presence of water molecules in lunar soil.

Expansions:

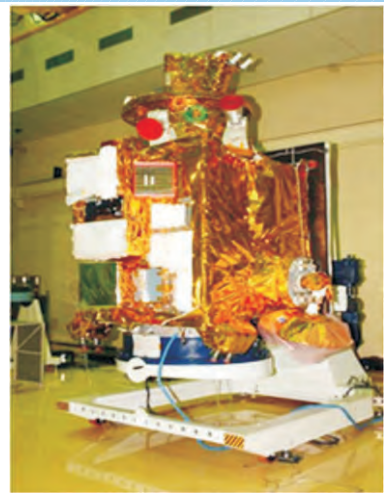
- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| 1. INSAT | - | Indian National Satellite System |
| 2. EDUSAT | - | Educational Satellite |
| 3. PSLV | - | Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle |
| 4. GSLV | - | Geo –synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle |
| 5. ISRO | - | Indian Space Research Organization |
| 6. NASA | - | National Aeronautics and Space Administration |



INSAT-2C in preparatory stage
(1995-1996)



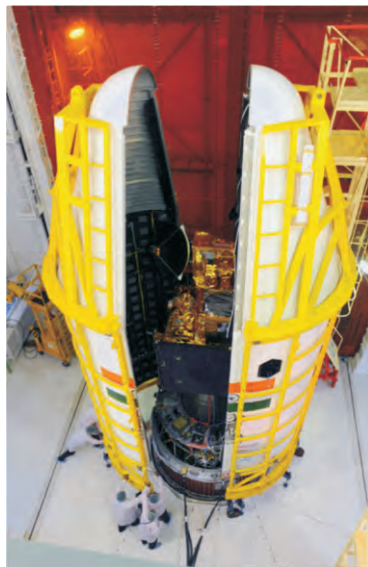
The first Indian Satellite
to the moon



Chandrayaan-1



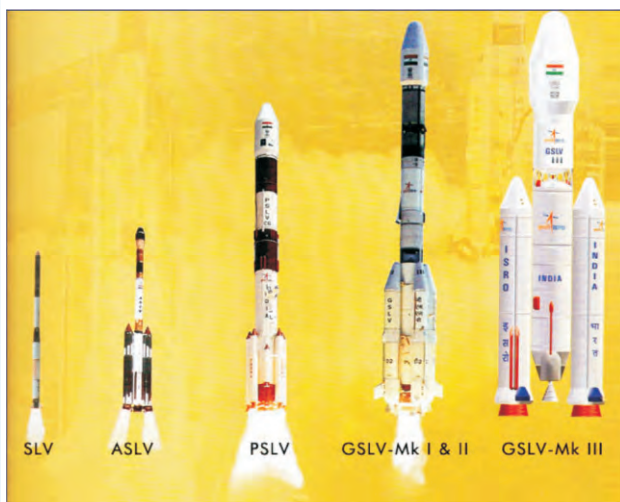
Fixing the Satellite



Rocket carrying the Satellite



Satellite launch



Indian Missiles



Artificial Satellites around the earth

Exercise

I. Choose the correct answer.

1. Cosmonauts is the name given to space travellers in
a. Russia b. USA c. Germany
2. The first country to launch a satellite into space was
a. America b. Russia c. India
3. The first satellite in space was
a. Sputnik I b. Explorer c. Bhaskara
4. The space ship in which Sunitha Williams travelled was
a. Discovery b. Apollo c. Explorer
5. The number of days spent by Sunitha Williams in space was
a. 200 b. 195 c. 190

II. Answer in a word.

1. First animal in space _____.
2. First man in space _____.
3. First man to set foot on the Moon _____.
4. The first satellite launched by India _____.
5. Name of India's satellite to the Moon _____.

III. Fill in the blanks.

1. Y—r—G—g—r—n
2. Sr—ha— —k—t—
3. A—y—b—a—t a
4. A—dr— —
5. R—h—n—

IV. Write brief answers.

1. Experience of Sunitha Williams in space.
2. The Space Suit.
3. Any two uses of satellites.

V. Activity.

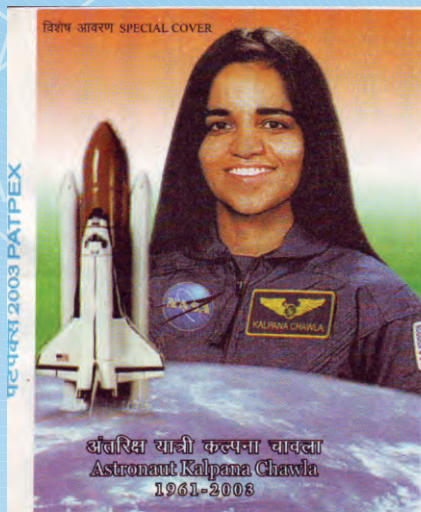
Discuss with your teacher about the changes that take place during Space Travel.

Project

- Visit the Birla Planetarium and record your observations.
- Try to make a telescope using PVC pipes with the help of your teacher.



By
S.Kumaresan



READ AND ENJOY

I AM SPACE



I am the limitless space here
 To speak to you Children dear!
 Humans to explore me did aspire,
 In rockets did fly higher and higher,
 Yuri Gagarin, Neil Armstrong - two brave hearts,
 Were the world's pioneer astronauts.
 Russia and America, then came India,
 She sent her own Rakesh Sharma.
 Then came the gritty Kalpana
 Followed by adventurous Sunitha.
 More and more to me are drawn
 Space Research is going on and on...
 So children! have faith, dream and fly
 Be brave and set your goals high!

N.Bhuvaneswari





4. OUR GOVERNMENT

Elango's family is visiting Delhi. His parents, Elango and Minnal, his sister visit the **Parliament House of India** in New Delhi. They see the Rashtrapathi Bhavan too, which is the residence of the Indian President. Both Minnal and Elango asked a lot of questions about the President, the Prime Minister and other ministers governing our nation. His mother, Mangai who is a government employee in the Secretariat, Chennai responds to their curious queries by explaining about the government, State Government, Central Government and Union Territories.

We live in groups because many conveniences like roads, water, electricity, transport, schools and hospitals can serve all of us. It is cheaper and more efficient when we share such facilities. But at the same time, we need rules on how to live in groups. We select some people among us to write these rules and ensure that all of us follow these rules.

Those whom we select to do these tasks form a government. Government makes common rules into laws. All of us need to follow the laws laid down by the government. The government is the agency which enforces these common rules or laws upon society.



Government functions at different levels. Just as you have classrooms in your school and then primary school, middle school and high school sections, we have different levels of government. Chennai for example is a city. It has a form of government called "**Municipal Corporation**". Villages have a local government called **panchayat**.

Chennai is in a larger piece of land called Tamil Nadu, just as your class is part of the primary section of your school. Larger areas like Tamil Nadu are called states. We who live in this area elect members of the government. This government is called the **state government**

Tamil Nadu is part of a larger land and society called India, just as the primary section of your school is part of the whole school. There are 29 such states. All these states together form the Indian Union and we have a **Union or Central Government**.

Democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people.



Democratic country



India follows a **democratic** form of governance. In a democratic country, people elect their representatives or leaders through elections. Citizens of 18 years and above can cast their vote in the elections. These **elected leaders** form the government. The majority of our population lies in the villages and the rest live in towns and cities. It is not possible for the central government to see to the needs of the people living in many states. So, in India, we have the following three levels of government.

- ★ The Central Government or Union Government
- ★ State Governments
- ★ Local Self Governments

DO YOU KNOW ?

The Constitution has laid down some directions for the government to follow. These are called Directive Principles. They help the government to function better for the welfare of the people.

Important subjects like foreign affairs, defence and finance are with the central government. During any crisis the central government comes to the rescue of the state government.

THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

This consists of the President, Vice-president and a Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister. The Parliament is the law making body. It consists of the President and the two houses namely- **Lok Sabha** and **Rajya Sabha**.



THE LOK SABHA OR THE LOWER HOUSE

It consists of 545 members. Its members are elected directly by the people. So this is also called the **House of the People**. This is the primary source of political power in the country. The members of the Lok Sabha are elected for a term of 5 years. Any Indian who is 25 years of age can contest in elections for the Lok Sabha.

The country is divided into many constituencies. The candidate who gets the highest number of votes in a constituency is declared as a member. The Lok Sabha can have a maximum of 552 members.

The Lok Sabha elects one of its own members as its **Presiding Officer** and he is called the **Speaker**. He is assisted by the Deputy Speaker, who is also elected by the Lok Sabha. The conduct of business in the Lok Sabha is the responsibility of the speaker.

DO YOU KNOW ?

The first Lok Sabha was formed in 1952.

Ms. Meira Kumar became the first woman Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

THE RAJYA SABHA OR THE UPPER HOUSE

The members of Rajya sabha are elected by Members of State Legislative Assemblies. There can be a maximum of 250 members.-238 elected members and 12 members nominated by the President of India. They are elected for a term of 6 years. One third of its members retire every 2 years. New members replace them. The **Vice- President** is the **Chairman** of the **Rajya Sabha**.



DO YOU KNOW ?

The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body. It cannot be dissolved. The Lok Sabha however can be dissolved by the President.

THE PRESIDENT (FIRST CITIZEN OF THE COUNTRY)

The members of the two houses are called Members of Parliament or MPs. The members of the Parliament and the State Legislative Assemblies elect the President of India. The President of India is the Head of the country. He resides at the **Rashtrapathi Bhavan**. The President is elected for a term of 5 years.

DO YOU KNOW ?

Mrs. Pratibha Patil is the first woman President of India.

HOW IS GOVERNMENT FORMED?

The most important feature of our democracy is the multi-party system. Different parties put up their candidates for election. The party that gets the maximum number of votes forms the government.

The party that forms the government then elects its leader. The President appoints him as the Prime Minister and on his advice the other ministers. But the Prime Minister is the powerful and effective head of the government. The Prime Minister chooses ministers for different portfolios like foreign affairs, agriculture, defence etc. They are appointed by the president and together they form the council of ministers or Union Cabinet. The ministers in the Union Cabinet can be either from the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha.

STATE GOVERNMENT

Government at the state level is called State Government. Every state has the Legislative Assembly. The representatives who win the elections are called Members of Legislative Assembly (M L As) They are elected by the people who are 18 years of age and above. They are elected for a term of 5 years.

The President appoints the Governor of the state, who is the head of the state. The Governor appoints the leader of the majority party as Chief Minister. The Chief Minister forms his / her council of ministers.

UNION TERRITORIES

A Union Territory is an administrative division of India. Unlike states, which have their own governments, **Union Territories** are directly ruled by the **Central Government**.

During the British rule, some of our regions were either directly ruled by the British or as Princely States by the local rajas. After 1956, these colonies especially French and Portuguese colonies in India were incorporated into the Republic as Union Territories..

S.No	Union Territories	Capitals
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Port Blair
2.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Silvassa
4.	Daman & Diu	Daman
5.	Lakshadweep	Kavaratti
6.	Puducherry (Pondicherry)	Puducherry
7.	National Capital Territory of Delhi	New Delhi

Activity

Enact a role play of Central Government and its ministers and State Government and its ministers in the class with the help of your teacher to discuss an urgent problem to be solved at once.

JUDICIARY

In India, our constitution has provided an independent judiciary. The **Supreme Court** in New Delhi is the highest judicial body. Its decision is final in any legal case. The **Chief Justice** of Supreme Court is appointed by the **President** on the advice of the **Prime Minister**.



The highest court in the State is the **High Court**. There are **District Courts** at the district level.

Find Out

The name of the present Chief Justice of India.

INDIA AND HER NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

India as a sub-continent is surrounded by some countries which are known as neighbouring countries. Indian neighbouring countries are as colourful as India herself. India's neighbours are Pakistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, China, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

The SAARC

The South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation is an economic and political organization of eight countries in Southern Asia. They are India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka (formerly known as Ceylon), Maldives, Pakistan and Afghanistan. SAARC was established and its charter was adopted on December 8th 1985. It also encourages co-operation in agriculture, health, population control, rural development and science and technology.



MYANMAR

Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, is taking some constructive steps towards becoming a member of the SAARC family.

Add to your memory

Majority party-The political party that gets the maximum number of votes in the election.

Points to remember

- ✿ India follows a democratic form of governance, where any citizen who is 18 years of age and above can cast his/her vote.
- ✿ The Parliament is the law making body. It consists of the President and the Two Houses- Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
- ✿ The President is the first citizen of our country.
- ✿ Members of the two houses are the Members of Parliament.
- ✿ The Prime Minister chooses various ministers in the cabinet for different portfolios.
- ✿ The Governor is the head of the state and he appoints the Chief Minister of the state.
- ✿ The Supreme Court in New Delhi is the highest judicial body in the country.

Interesting Facts

- ✿ The national emblem of India is an adaptation from the Sarnath lion.
- ✿ The design of the Indian National Flag was adopted by the constituent assembly of India on 22nd July 1947.
- ✿ The new rupee symbol is ₹. It was created by Udaya Kumar.
- ✿ Satyameva Jayathe means “Truth Alone Triumphs”.
- ✿ Our National Anthem “Jana Gana Mana” should be sung within 52 seconds.
- ✿ Sri Aurobindo translated “Vande Mataram”, our National song into English.
- ✿ Populationwise India stands second in the world.

Exercise

I. Answer in two or three sentences.

1. How is the President of India elected?
2. How are the members of the Lok Sabha elected?

II. Answer briefly.

1. Write in brief about SAARC.
2. Write about the relationship of India with her neighbouring countries.

III. Which is the odd one out?

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. a) Supreme Court | b) High Court | c) Legislative Assembly |
| 2. a) Puducherry | b) Goa | c) Uttar Pradesh |
| 3. a) Union Government | b) State Government | c) Chief Justice |
| 4. a) Nepal | b) Bhutan | c) Canada |
| 5. a) Floods | b) power cut | c) earthquake |

IV. Complete the pairs.

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------|-------------|---|-------|
| 1. Lok Sabha | = | Lower House | Rajya Sabha | = | _____ |
| 2. President | = | Central Government | Governor | = | _____ |
| 3. Lakshadweep | = | Kavaratti | Andaman | = | _____ |
| 4. Myanmar | = | Burma | Sri Lanka | = | _____ |
| 5. Member of Legislative Assembly = MLA | | | | | |
| Member of Parliament = _____ | | | | | |

V. Match the following.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Pratibha Patil | - | Highest Judicial Body |
| 2. Mrs. Meira Kumar | - | Permanent House |
| 3. Rajya Sabha | - | First Woman President of India |
| 4. Lok Sabha | - | First Woman Speaker of Lok Sabha |
| 5. Supreme Court | - | House of the People |

VI. Guess who I am.

I am one of the beautiful buildings of INDIA

I am in NEW DELHI, where leaders meet to discuss the matters related to the development of our country.

VII. Among the Presidents of India who has inspired you and why?

Fun to do

Find out the hidden words related to government in the word grid given below.

Grid

C	Q	P	C	H	I	E	F	M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R
O	I	S	U	P	R	E	M	E	C	O	U	R	T	E	A
U	R	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	V	E	N	R	J
N	S	T	U	H	I	G	H	C	O	U	R	T	O	S	Y
C	P	A	R	L	I	A	M	E	N	T	R	I	A	P	A
I	V	X	E	L	E	C	T	I	O	N	M	O	N	E	S
L	T	R	G	O	V	E	R	N	O	R	T	H	M	A	A
P	R	I	M	E	M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R	M	K	B
Q	S	O	V	L	O	K	S	A	B	H	A	R	Q	E	H
A	S	S	E	M	B	L	Y	B	V	O	T	E	P	R	A

Project

Conduct an election in your class for Class Leader and 2 Assistant Leaders.

Hints:-

1. Symbol
2. Candidates
3. Campaign
4. Booth
5. Ballot paper
6. Marker
7. Election Officers
8. Booth agents
9. Counting
10. Announcing results.

‘I can, I did’ Student’s Activity Record

Subject :

S.No	Date	Lesson No.	Topic of the Lesson	Activities	Remarks

