



## ***Landscape analysis through Maps***

### **1. Importance of the preparation of maps:**

Finding the precise location of the earth's surface features.

### **2. Topographic Map:**

It depicts in detail all natural as well as man made features on the earth's surface.

### **3. Who is entrusted with the preparation of topographic maps in India:**

The Survey of India

### **4. Uses of topographic maps:**

- For urban planning.
- For military operations
- For preparation of military maps.
- To analyse the physical and the cultural features of the terrain.

### **5. What are knowledge require for reading Topographic map:**

- knowledge of the numbering scheme
- locational aspects
- the conventional signs and symbols
- the elevation and slope of the terrain
- the methods of their representation.

### **6. Numbering of toposheets:**

The number of the toposheet denotes the area which it represents.

### **7. Million sheets:**

These sheets with 4° latitudinal and longitudinal extent are prepared in 1:1000000 scale.

**8. Degree sheets.**

These sheets with 1° latitudinal and longitudinal extent are prepared in 1:250000 scale.

**9. Grid reference:**

North-south and east-west lines in red are incorporated in the topo sheets known as Grid reference.

**10. Eastings:**

- These are north-south lines
- Their value increases towards the east.
- The value of the eastings immediately left to the geographic features is considered for identifying a location.

**11. Northings:**

- These are east-west lines
- Their value increases towards the north.
- The value of the northings immediately to the south of the feature in the map is considered

**12. Reference Grid:**

The grid formed by the eastings and the northings.

Each grid with 2 cm width & 2 cm breadth covers an area with 1 km length & 1 km breadth on earth's surface.

**13. Contour Lines:**

Imaginary lines drawn connecting places having equal elevation from the sea level.

**14. Contour interval:**

Difference between the value of two adjacent contours.

**15. Space of contours:**

Closely spaced contours represent steep slopes and the widely spaced contours represent gentle slopes.

**16. Three things can be assessed from the contour lines in topographic maps:**

- Altitude of the place

- Nature of the slope
- Shape of the landform

### **17. Intervisibility:**

If any two places are mutually visible, then we can establish that these places are intervisible.

### **18. Toposheet interpretation:**

1. Marginal Information/Primary information
2. Physical/Natural features
3. Cultural/Man-made features.

### **19. Marginal information:**

General information given outside the margins in topographic maps.

Eg: toposheet number, name of the area, latitudes, longitudes, values of northings and eastings, scale of the map, contour interval, years of survey, publication, agency in charge of the survey.

### **20. Physical features:**

Different landforms are the physical features in topographic maps

Eg: rivers, streams, springs.

### **21. Cultural features:**

Settlements, different types of roads, boundaries, places of worship, agricultural lands, post office, police station, bridges.

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