

Question 9.

Which is the man-made disaster that India witnessed in the last century?

Answer:

The man-made disaster that India witnessed in the last century is the Bhopal Gas Tragedy of 1984.

Question 10.

Name some of the major natural disasters faced by India during this century.

Answer:

Some of the major natural disasters faced by India during this century are: The Gujarat earthquake (2001), the Mumbai-Gujarat floods (2005), the tsunami (2004), the Uttarakhand flash-floods and the hurricane Phailin in coastal Orissa and Andhra Pradesh (2013).

Question 11.

Which are the lifeline support systems that get damaged in disasters?

Answer:

The lifeline support systems that get damaged in disasters are communication, power supply and water supply systems.

Drainages get are damaged. Healthcare and hospitals come under severe stress.

Commercial and economic activities are badly affected. Life, then, almost comes to a standstill.

Question 12.

Which is the man-made disaster mentioned here? Which section of the society is most affected by disasters? Why?

Answer:

The man-made disaster mentioned here is riots. The most affected are the poor sections of society. It is so because they have to work daily to earn their livelihood.

Question 13.

What are the major limitations in constructing safe and secure buildings?

Answer:

The major limitations in constructing safe and secure buildings are people don't follow the regulations laid down for ensuring safety and security. In developing countries, only 30% of the buildings are constructed in accordance with the regulations. The lack of a master-plan and the inferior quality of materials used for construction are also major limitations.

Question 14.

What measures need to be taken to ensure the safety and security of the buildings?

Answer:

To ensure the safety and security of the buildings, both private and public buildings should be constructed according to the guidelines prescribed by law. Construction should be according to the master plan approved by the authorities. Good quality materials should be used for construction.

Question 15.

What is the requirement in the areas vulnerable to earthquakes in order to reduce damage and death?

Answer:

In areas vulnerable to earthquakes, the existing buildings should be technically assessed and owners should be informed about the weaknesses in their construction. It is estimated that nearly a million buildings are constructed in India each year and an equal number of them gets damaged as a result of disasters. To reduce the damage to buildings, a monitoring mechanism should be set up. It should work in proper coordination with the concerned authorities to ensure the fulfilment of building codes.