

Chapter – 2 Geography

Inside Our Earth

- **What is Earth:**

- (i) The earth comprises of three layers: crust, mantle and core.
- (ii) Constant changes take place inside as well as outside the earth.

- **What is the Interior of the Earth:**

- (i) The Earth is made of several concrete layers. It is about 35 km on the constinental masses and only 5 km on the ocean floors.
- (ii) The uppermost layer over the earth's surface is called the crust.
- (iii) Silica and alumina are the main mineral constituents of the continental mass. It is, thus, called sial.
- (iv) The oceanic crust mainly consists of silica and magnesium called sima.
- (v) Just below the crust is the mantle up to an extent of 2,900 km.
- (vi) The innermost layer is core with a radius of 3,500 km. As it is made of nickel and iron, it is called nife.

- **Rocks and Minerals:**

- (i) The earth's crust is made of various types of rocks. Any natural mass of mineral matter that makes up the earth's crust is called a rock.
- (ii) There are three major types of rocks; igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks and metamorphic rocks.
- (iii) when the molten magma cools, it becomes solid. Rocks thus formed are called igneous or primary rocks. They are of two types, extrusive igneous rocks and intrusive igneous rocks.
- (iv) Rocks roll down and break into small fragments and these smaller particles are called sediments. These sediments are transported, compressed and hardened to form layers of rocks. These types of rocks are called sedimentary rock.
- (v) Igneous and sedimentary rocks can change into metamorphic rocks under great heat and pressure.
- (vi) The process of transformation of the rock from one to another is called the rock cycle.
- (vii) Rocks are made of different minerals. Minerals are naturally occurring substances which have certain physical properties and definite chemical composition.