CELEBRATIONS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PLACES RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES.

Celebrations related to environmental activities.

1) **World Environment Day (WED)** is celebrated every year on June 5 to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth. It is run by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

2) **World Forestry Day 2014** or International Day of Forests is celebrated worldwide every year on 21st of March at the international level in order to increase the public awareness among communities about the values, significance and contributions of the forests to balance the life cycle on the Earth.

3) **World Habitat Day** is observed every year on the first Monday of October throughout the world. It was officially designated by the United Nations and first celebrated in 1986. The purpose of the day is to reflect on the state of our cities and towns and the basic human right to adequate shelter. It also aims to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the habitat of future generations.

4) The **International Day for Biological Diversity** (or **World Biodiversity Day**) is a United Nations-sanctioned international day for the promotion of biodiversity issues. It is currently held on May 22.

5) **Earth Day** is an annual event, celebrated on April 22. Earth Day is usually celebrated with outdoor performances, where individuals or groups perform acts of service to earth. Typical ways of observing Earth Day include planting trees, picking up roadside trash, conducting various programs for recycling and conservation, using recyclable containers for snacks and lunches. Some people are encouraged to sign petitions to governments, calling for stronger or immediate action to stop global warming and to reverse environmental destruction. Television stations frequently air programs dealing with environmental issues.

6) **World Meteorological Day**- Each year, on 23 March, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), its 188 Members and the worldwide meteorological community celebrate **World Meteorological Day** around a chosen theme. The theme for 2014 is **Weather and climate: engaging youth**.

7) **International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**. September 16 was designated by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer. On this day primary and secondary school educators throughout the world organize classroom activities that focus on topics related to the ozone layer, climate change and ozone depletion. Other activities that are organized by different community groups, individuals, schools and local organizations across the
world include: the promotion of ozone friendly products; special programs and events on saving the ozone layer.

8) National Wildlife Week-March 17-23. In 2014, the theme of National Wildlife Week is wildlife and water. National Wildlife Week is National Wildlife Federation's longest-running education program designed around teaching and connecting kids to the awesome wonders of wildlife. Each year, we pick a theme and provide fun and informative educational materials, curriculum and activities for educators and caregivers.

9) Earth Hour is a worldwide movement for the planet organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The event is held worldwide annually encouraging individuals, communities, households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the last Saturday in March, as a symbol for their commitment to the planet.[1] It was famously started as a lights-off event in Sydney, Australia in 2007. Since then it has grown to engage more than 7000 cities and towns worldwide. Earth Hour 2014 was on Saturday, March 29, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm. Earth Hour 2015 will be on Saturday, March 28, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m..

Achievements related to environmental activities.

1) Chilka Lake is a brackish water lagoon, spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha state on the east coast of India. In 1981, Chilika Lake was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention due to its rich biodiversity.

2) Chipko Movement 1973 -The Chipko movement (Hug the Trees Movement) in Uttarakhand was led by Chandni Prasad Bhatt and Sunderlal Bahuguna, it was a people’s revolt against mindless deforestation.

3) Appiko movement (The local term for "hugging" in Kannada is appiko.) September 1983- It is organised by Pandu Ram Hegde of Karnataka to save their forests.

4) Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA) led by Medha Patkar is a social movement consisting of adivasis, farmers, environmentalists, and human rights activists against a number of large dams being built across the Narmada river. The river flows through the states of Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh in India.

5) Save Silent Valley was a social movement aimed at the protection of Silent valley, an evergreen tropical forest in the Palakkad district of Kerala, India. It was started in 1973 to save the Silent Valley Reserve Forest from being flooded by a hydroelectric project. The valley was declared as Silent Valley National Park in 1985.

6) Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI) it was formally established in 1974 with the purpose of tackling and dealing with the rapid depletion of the Earth’s finite energy resources which are largely non-renewable. The director of TERI is Dr. R.K.Pachauri. This institute is located in Delhi.
7) **Sulabh International**—Sulabh International is a social service organization which works to promote human rights, environmental sanitation, non-conventional sources of energy, waste management and social reforms through education. It was founded by Dr Bindeshwar Pathak in 1970.

8) The **Centre for Environment Education** (CEE) in India was established in August 1984 as a Centre of Excellence supported by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The organisation works towards developing programmes and materials to increase awareness about the environment and sustainable development. The head office is located in Ahmedabad.

**On the basis of the above content answer the following questions.**

**Q1 Fill in the blanks.**

1) World Environment Day is celebrated on______________.

2) _______________is celebrated on 22 April every year.

3) Full form of WMO is ________________________________.

4) In 2014, the theme of National Wildlife Week is______________________________.

5) Earth Hour 2015 will be on________________________.

6) ________________________ was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance.

**Q2 Answer the following questions.**

1) Write a short note on Earth Hour.

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2) When was Chipko Movement started and by whom?
3) What is the full form of TERI and who is the director of this institute?

4) Write a note on Narmada Bachao Andolan (NBA).