

## Answer Key to Exercise

1. 1. natural  
2. Aftershocks  
3. famine  
4. mass  
5. germs  
6. destruction

2. earthquake Jammu & Kashmir  
drought Rajasthan  
flood Assam  
cyclone Tamil Nadu  
terror attack Mumbai

3. 1. True 2. False 3. False 4. True 5. True  
4. 1. d 2. d 3. b 4. c 5. b

5. 1. A natural disaster is a disaster caused due to natural phenomena. A natural disaster includes earthquakes, droughts, floods, and cyclones.  
2. The Bureau of Indian Standards has grouped the entire Indian subcontinent into four seismic zones. These seismic zones are zones II, III, IV, and V.  
3. Human activities often increase the impact of a drought due to an increased demand on the existing water sources.  
4. A chemical disaster refers to an event which results from the release of toxic gases or hazardous chemicals to human health.  
5. The epicentre of the Nepal earthquake, 2015, was between Lamjung and Gorkha districts in Nepal.

6. 1. The major causes of earthquakes are as follows:
- Tectonic plate movements
  - Sudden release of energy from within the earth
  - Sudden fracturing of tectonic plates
  - Volcanoes and underwater volcanic eruptions
  - Nuclear explosions

2. The drought-prone states of India are Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Karnataka, and Chhattisgarh. Almost one-sixth of the geographical area of India is drought-prone.



3. The Indian subcontinent has a coastline of around 7,000 kilometres, hence, the Indian coastline is extremely prone to flooding and cyclones.
4. Chernobyl disaster occurred at the Chernobyl nuclear power station in Ukraine, in the erstwhile Soviet Union. This disaster happened due to a failed experiment. Several explosions blew off the heavy concrete lid of the reactor.
5. An oil spill is an accidental release of crude or refined oil into large waterbodies. Such release occurs during drilling of oilfields, cleaning, during transportation, or due to the leakage in pipelines.

The after-effects of the Gulf oil spill in the USA are as follows:

- The coastal water of nearby states of Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Louisiana was severely contaminated.
- Various marine birds, fishes, and mammals were affected by the oil spill.
- Thousands of seabirds were killed.