JCERT ENGLISH WORKSHEETS

CLASS-8 UNIT 3a SIACHEN:The Place of Wild Roses

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READ THE TEXT AND CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER

Not all soldiers die here of enemy action, some die because of blood clot in the lungs caused by the thin air on the high mountains. On an average, one Indian soldier is killed every other day, due to extreme weather conditions. The soldiers call it 'General Glacier'. The generals call it a prestige issue. They sacrifice their lives because they love their country and want to keep her borders intact. The soldiers gathered around the funeral pyre of their comrade on the banks of the frozen Nubra river, is a familiar sight. Fighting back the icy winds and flakes that sting the face like thorns, they come to pay their last respects to one of the Siachen warriors.

Daily existence here is so painful that soldiers cannot be sent up again for at least 15 years. Of every two men sent up, one is a casualty. The main glaciers and its seven branches face blizzards with speeds of up to 150 knots (nearly 300kmph) that can blow a man off. Temperature drops to 40 degrees below freezing point – the lowest recorded so far has been minus 45 degrees celcius. Added to this , the Wind Chill Factor (WCF) in the region has proved fatal.

1. What is the lowest temperature recorded at Siachen so far ?

2. What causes blood clotting in the lungs of soldiers, at Siachen?

3. Why do soldiers gather on the banks of the frozen Nubra river?

4. Apart from blizzards, what has proved deadly in the region?

5. What is the highest speed of strong winds faced at Siachen?

LIVEWORKSHEETS