

CHAPTER EIGHT

GRAVITATION

Variation of 'g' w.r.t depth:

Let us consider a body of mass 'm' at a depth 'd' from the surface of earth.

From the relationship between g and G.

$$g_d = \frac{GM'}{r^2}, \text{ where } r = (R - d)$$

$$\Rightarrow g_d = \frac{GM'}{(R-d)^2} \text{ --- (1), } M' \text{ is mass of the earth up to a point of 'r'.$$

$$\text{Let } M = \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 \rho$$

$$\rho = \frac{3}{4} \frac{M}{\pi R^3}$$

$$\therefore M' = \frac{4}{3} \pi (R-d)^3 \rho$$

$$= \cancel{\frac{4}{3}} \cancel{\pi} (R-d)^3 \times \frac{\cancel{3}}{\cancel{4}} \frac{M}{\cancel{\pi} R^3}$$

$$M' = M \frac{(R-d)^3}{R^3} \text{ --- (2)}$$

Substituting (2) in (1),

$$g_d = \frac{G \times M(R-d)^3}{R^3} \times \frac{1}{(R-d)^2}$$

$$= \frac{GM}{R^2} \left[\frac{R-d}{R} \right]$$

$$g_d = g \left(1 - \frac{d}{R} \right)$$

$\therefore g_d < g$ which means 'g' value decreases with depth.

If $d = R$, then $g = 0$ at the centre of the earth.

Variation of 'g' w.r.t latitude:

$$g_\phi = g - rw^2 \cos \phi$$

At poles $\phi = 90^\circ$

$$\therefore g_{\text{poles}} = g \rightarrow \text{Max}$$

At equator $\phi = 0^\circ$

$$\therefore g_{\text{equator}} = g.w^2r \rightarrow \text{Min}$$

Variation of 'g' w.r.t local conditions:

'g' value increases where mineral deposits are present. The lines joining the places with same 'g' values on the surface of earth are called Isograms.