

अभ्यास

CLASS 10TH

SOCIAL SCIENCE

GEOGRAPHY | FOREST AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Crafted with love 

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Forest and wildlife resources

Introduction

Conservation of forest and wildlife in India

- The Indian wildlife (protection) act 1972
- Project tiger

Types and distribution of forests and wildlife resources

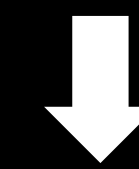
- Reserved forests
- Protected forests
- Unclassed forests

Community and conservation

- Different efforts by different communities
- Sacred groves

Flora and fauna in India

Vast biological diversity → But under threat 🤔



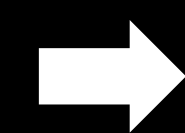
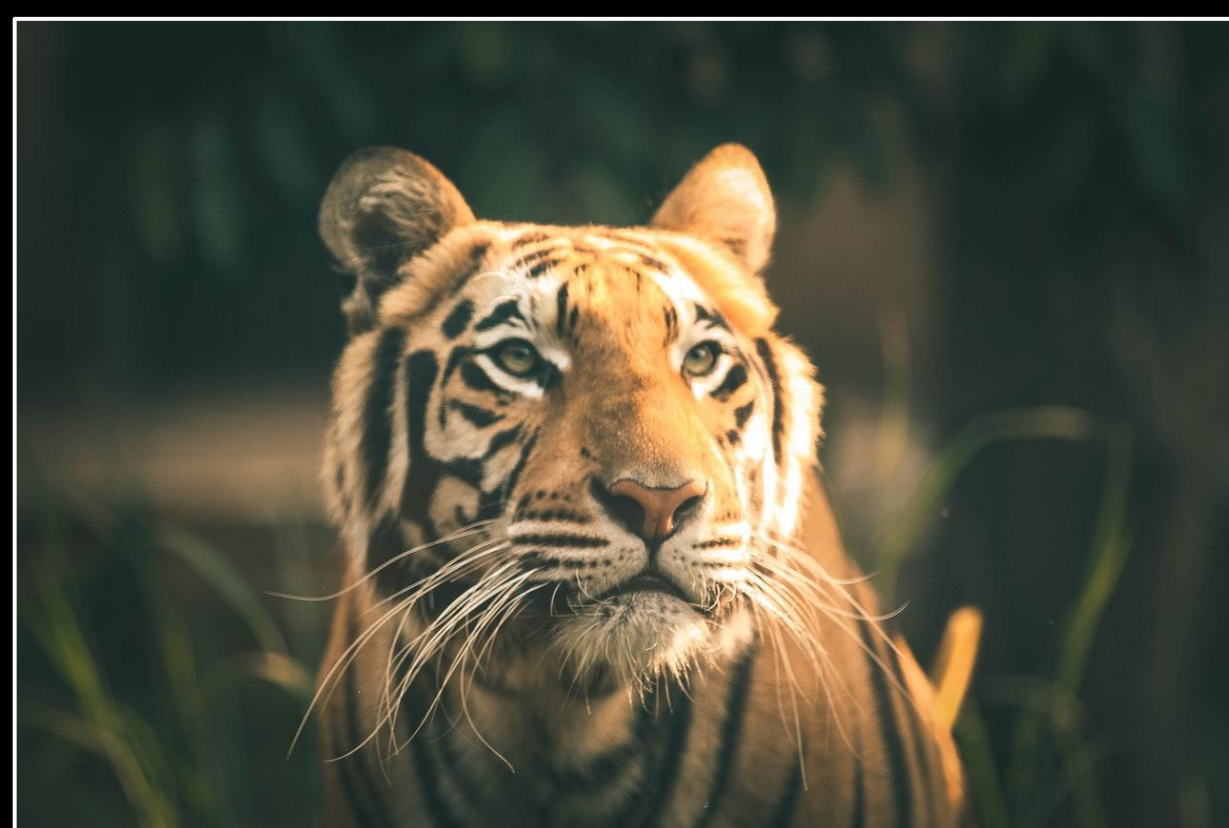
Biodiversity or Biological Diversity is immensely rich in wildlife and cultivated species, diverse in form and function but closely integrated in a system through multiple network of interdependencies.

∴ Conservation of forest and wildlife India was essential

→ Steps taken 🤔

- Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1973
- Establishment of national park and wildlife sanctuaries
- All India list of protected species was published.
- Several projects were announced for protecting specific species. E.g. project tiger
- The conservation projects are now focusing on biodiversity rather than on a few of its components. (Insects were included, Notification of 1980 and 1986, in 1991 six species of plants were included.

Project tiger



- It is tiger conservation programme launched on 1 April 1973 by government of India to save the dwindling population of tigers due to various reasons.
- Tiger conservation has been viewed not only as an effort to save an endangered species, but with equal importance as means of preserving bio types of sizeable magnitude.

When was the Wildlife Protection Act implemented ?

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a. 1973

b. 1972

c. 1980

d. 1985

Types and distribution of forest and wildlife resources

Reserved

More than half of total forest land
Most valuable section of forests

Protected

Almost one-third of total forest area
Protected to prevent further depletion

Unclassed

Other forest areas owned by
government or private

Permanent forest

- **Madhya Pradesh** has the largest area under permanent forests, Constituting 75% of the total Area.
- Jammu & Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Maharashtra have large (%) of Reserved forests
- Whereas Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh Odisha and Rajasthan have bulk of it under protected forest.
- All **North-eastern states** have a very high % of their forest under Unclassed Section managed by the local Communities.

Which of the following statements is true based on the above information?

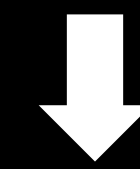
a. Reserved forests are considered the least valuable for conservation.

b. Protected forests are not protected from depletion.

c. Unclassed forests are managed by both government and local communities.

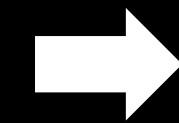
d. Madhya Pradesh has the smallest area under permanent forests.

Community and conservation



- Efforts of local community in conservation e.g. *Sariska Tiger reserves* against mining.
- Villagers in Alwar district of Rajasthan Have declared 1200 hectares of land as sacred and have their own rule for wildlife conservation.
- *Chipko movement* in Himalayas against deforestation.
- *Beej Bachao Andolan* in Tehri and *Navdanya* for diversified crop production.
- *Joint forest management (JFM)* started in 1988 in odisha where both government and public worked together for the restoration of forests.

Sacred Groves



Associating special religious importance to forests, animals, mountains and spring. A cultural outlook which worship and protects the nature and natural resources.



Assertion (A) : The famous Chipko Movement in the Himalayas successfully resisted deforestation in several areas.

Reason (R) : Through this, community afforestation campaign with indigenous species was made enormously successful.

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a. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

b. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

c. (A) is true, but (R) is false.

d. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Flora & Fauna : Flora refers to all the plant life found in a particular area, while fauna refers to all the animal life in that area. India is one of the richest countries in terms of biological diversity, with many unique plants and animals in different regions.

Biodiversity : Various type of plant and animal species which are diverse in form and function but closely integrated through a system of multiple network of interdependencies.

Indian wildlife (Protection) act : Wildlife Protection Act 1972 was enacted by the Government of India to safeguard wild animals, birds, and plants, with an aim to ensure the ecological and environmental security of India. The Indian Wildlife Protection Act also provides details about restrictions on hunting to safeguard animal species.

Project Tiger : Project tiger is a program set up by the Government of India in 1973 for the sole purpose of conserving tigers. It ensures that tigers are protected from extinction due to habitat destruction or poaching by hunters. This project has also helped the number of tigers increase pretty consistently.

Reserved forests : More than half of the total forest land in India has been declared reserved forest . These forest come under government protection and are completely reserved , activities like poaching and hunting are said to be illegal and have the most valuable resources.

Protected forests : Protected forests are forests with some amount of legal and constitutional protection in certain countries. Here the habitat and resident species are given legal protection against any further depletion. Almost 1/3 of the total forest area is declared as a protected forest by the forest department.

Unclassed forests : Unclassed forests are owned by both the government and private individuals or communities. North-eastern states and parts of Gujarat have a very high percentage of unclassified forests.

Chipko Movement: The Chipko movement, which started in the Himalayas, successfully stopped deforestation by having people hug trees to protect them. It also showed that planting native trees with the help of local communities can help restore forests.

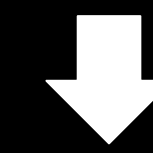
Permanent forests: Reserved and protected forests are also referred to as permanent forest these are maintained for the purpose of producing timber and other forest product and for protective reasons, e.g., Madhya Pradesh has the largest area under permanent forests.

Beej Bachao Andolan: The Beej Bachao Andolan, led by farmers and groups in Tehri, promotes saving traditional seeds and growing crops without harmful chemicals. It proves that growing a variety of crops naturally is possible and can be economically successful.

Sacred groves: Sacred groves are tracts of forest which are regenerated around places of worship. These are the parts of the forest left untouched by the local inhabitants and are protected by the local people due to their culture and religious beliefs.

Joint forest management: The Joint Forest Management Programme was started to involve local people in taking care of damaged forests. In 1988, Odisha was the first state to start this program. In this program, local communities help protect and restore forest areas that are managed by the forest department. In return, they get benefits like forest products (such as fruits or herbs) and a share of the timber when the forest is well-protected.

Explain the importance of forests in our life.



Forests play a vital role in our life as they are the house of all the resources and necessities

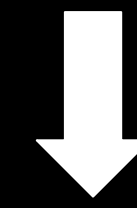
(1) They are the natural air purifiers, they provide food and are the natural habitat to animals.

(2) They contain natural medications and provide us with fuel wood.

(3) The cattle graze in the forests and get their food as well.

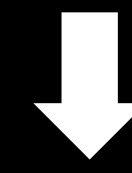
(4) Forests maintain a balanced life on the no planet.

What are the various steps taken by the government to protect and conserve the depleting flora and fauna? Explain.



- **Wildlife Protection Act (1972):** The government made a law in 1972 to protect animals and plants. This law stops hunting and illegal trading of wildlife.
- **National Parks and Sanctuaries:** The government created national parks and wildlife sanctuaries to give animals a safe place to live and grow.
- **Project Tiger (1973):** In 1973, the government started Project Tiger to protect tigers. This program works to stop poaching and protect tiger habitats.
- **Saving Specific Animals:** The government focuses on saving animals like the rhinoceros, Asiatic lions, and crocodiles by protecting them from poaching and losing their homes.
- **Protecting Insects and Plants:** In 1980, the government started protecting insects like butterflies and plants. In 1991, it also added plants to the list of protected species.

What has been the contribution of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act in protecting animal habitats in India?



The contribution of India Wildlife Protection Act can be seen through the following points

- An all India list of protected species was published. The act banned hunting of certain endangered species.
- It also gave legal protection to their habitats and restricting trade in wildlife.
- Many national parks and wildlife sanctuaries were established in which commercial activities were forbidden.
- Central Government also announced several projects for protecting specific animals, which were gravely threatened. These include the tiger, the one-horned rhinoceros, the Kashmir stag or hangul.
- Under the notification of wildlife act of 1980 and 1986 insects have been added to the list of protected species.

What is 'Project Tiger' ? Why it was started, and what are its benefits?



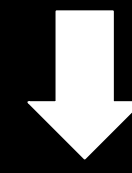
Project Tiger is a tiger conservation program launched by the Indian Government in 1973 to save tigers.

- **It was started because, In 1973 the tiger population had dwindled to 1,827 from an estimated 55,000 at the turn of the century. This happened because of Increase in activities such as poaching for trade, shrinking habitat, depletion of prey base species, growing human population, etc. left the tiger population on the verge of extinction.**

Benefits of Project Tiger:

- **It successfully stabilized and increased the tiger population in designated reserves, protecting them from threats such as poaching and habitat loss.**
- **Tigers are apex predators and play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance. Protecting tiger habitats indirectly supports the health of entire ecosystems.**

How would you differentiate reserved forest and protected forest?



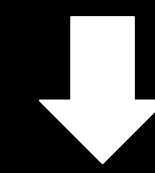
Reserved Forest

- In reserved forests, right to all activities like hunting, grazing etc are banned unless specific orders are issued by the government.
- Reserve forests enjoy a higher degree of protection and may be upgraded to the status of wildlife sanctuary and national parks.
- More than half of the total forest land has been declared as reserved forests.
- Madhya Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Maharashtra have large percentages of reserved forests of their total forest area.

Protected Forest

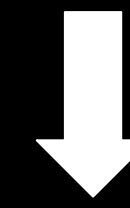
- But in protected areas, right to do activities like hunting and grazing etc are sometimes given to communities living on the fringes of the forests.
- The protected forests do not face such possibility.
- On the other hand, only one-third of the total forest area is under protected forests.
- Bihar, Odisha, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan have their large area under protected forests.

Describe how communities have conserved and protected forests and wildlife in India?



- **In the Sariska wildlife sanctuary in Rajasthan, villagers have fought against mining activities.**
- **The Chipko Movement which was conducted in the Himalayas, has successfully resisted deforestation in several areas.**
- **The Beej Bachao Andolan in Tehri district of Uttarakhand conserved local seed diversity and Forest.**
- **Joint Forest Management programme , which aimed formation of local (village) institution to manage and protect the forests.**

Write a short note on Sacred Groves.



- Sacred groves are forests or trees that are protected by local communities because they are considered sacred. These areas are preserved due to their religious importance.
- Sacred groves are often dense with plants like trees, shrubs, herbs, and climbers. They are usually found near a water source and are home to a village deity.
- Examples in India: In regions like Chota Nagpur, Odisha, and Bihar, communities worship specific trees like mahua, kadamba, tamarind, and mango during religious events like weddings.

These groves play an important role in both culture and conservation.

CBSE Board Paper 2023 - Set [32/2/1]

Suggest any two ways to conserve wildlife in India.

2

CBSE Board Paper 2023 - Set [32/6/1]

COMMUNITY AND CONSERVATION

Conservation strategies are not new in our country. We often ignore that in India, forests are also home to some of the traditional communities. In some areas of India, local communities are struggling to conserve these habitats along with government officials, recognising that only this will secure their own long-term livelihood. In Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan, villagers have fought against mining by citing the Wildlife Protection Act. In many areas, villagers themselves are protecting habitats and explicitly rejecting government involvement. The inhabitants of five villages in the Alwar district of Rajasthan have declared 1,200 hectares of forest as the Bhairodev Dakav 'Sonchuri', declaring their own set of rules and regulations which do not allow hunting, and are protecting the wildlife against any outside encroachments.

- 1) How are forests related with Communities? 1
- 2) Explain the aim of 'Wildlife Protection Act. 1
- 3) How are communities working for the conservation of Wildlife ? Explain with example. 2

CBSE Board Paper 2024 - Set [32/1/3]

Suggest any two measures for the conservation of forest.

2

CBSE Board Paper 2024 - Set [32/1/3]

Suggest any two measures for the conservation of wildlife.

2

CBSE Board Paper 2024 - Set [32/2/3]

Read the following source and answer the questions that follow:

Project Tiger

Tiger is one of the key wildlife species in the faunal web. In 1973, the authorities realized that the tiger population had dwindled to 1,827 from an estimated 55,000 at the turn of the 20th century. The major threats to tiger population are numerous, such as poaching for trade, shrinking habitat, depletion of prey base species, growing human population, etc. The trade of tiger skins and the use of their bones in traditional medicines, especially in the Asian countries left the tiger population on the verge of extinction. Since India and Nepal provide habitat to about two-thirds of the surviving tiger population in the world, these two nations become prime targets for poaching and illegal trading.

"Project Tiger", one of the well publicised wildlife campaigns in the world, was launched in 1973. Tiger conservation has been viewed not only as an effort to save an endangered species but with equal importance as a means of preserving biotypes of sizeable magnitude. Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand, Sunderbans National Park in West Bengal, Bandhavgarh National Park in Madhya Pradesh, Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary in Rajasthan, Manas Tiger Reserve in Assam and Periyar Tiger Reserve in Kerala are some examples of the tiger reserves in India.

- 1) Why was Project Tiger' considered a significant step for Tiger Conservation? 1
- 2) What role did India play in the global tiger population? 1
- 3) Mention any two major threats to the wildlife species. 2



Read the following source and answer the questions that follow:

Sacred Groves - A wealth of diverse and rare species

Nature worship is an age old tribal belief based on the premise that all creations of nature have to be protected. Such beliefs have preserved several virgin forests in pristine form called Sacred Groves (the forests of God and Goddesses). These patches of forest or parts of large forests have been left untouched by the local people and any interference with them is banned.

Certain societies revere a particular tree which they have preserved from time immemorial. The Mundas and the Santhal of Chota Nagpur region worship mahua (*Bassia latifolia*) and kadamba (*Anthocaphalus cadamba*) trees, and the tribals of Odisha and Bihar worship the tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*) and mango (*mangifera indica*) trees during weddings. To many of us, peepal and banyan trees are considered sacred.

Indian society comprises several cultures, each with its own set of traditional methods of conserving nature and its creations. Sacred qualities are often ascribed to springs, mountain peaks, plants and animals which are closely protected. You will find troops of macaques and langurs around many temples. They are fed daily and treated as a part of temple devotees. In and around Bishnoi villages in Rajasthan, herds of blackbuck, (chinkara), nilgai and peacocks can be seen as an integral part of the community and nobody harms them.

- (1) How does sacred groves relate to the belief in nature worship? 1
- (2) How do communities incorporate trees into their cultural practices? Explain with example. 1
- (3) Explain the cultural values that contribute to the coexistence of nature. 2





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