

# **SOCIAL STUDIES: GEOGRAPHY**

## **CHAPTER – 13**

### **INDIA- FOREST RESOURCES**

#### **3. Explain the significance and methods of conservation of forests?**

**Ans:-** Protection of forests from human beings, animals and natural disasters are called Conservation of forests. Indian forests areas are gradually decreasing, because of expansion of agriculture, animal-grazing, construction of roads and rail routes, irrigation projects, forest fires, mining forest fires etc, are the main causes for the destruction of forests. Hence it is very essential to protect forests. Certain measures have to be taken towards this purpose.

**Some of the methods of conservation of forests are –**

1. Control of deforestation,
2. Restriction on grazing,
3. Control of forest fires,
4. Prevention of encroachment on forests,
5. Control of forest insects and diseases,
6. Controlling illegal cutting of trees,
7. Scientific cutting of trees,
8. Legislation to check deforestation.
9. Encourage afforestation.
10. Creating of awareness among the people about the importance of forests.

#### **4. Write a short note on:**

1. Evergreen forests.
2. Deciduous monsoon forests
3. Tropical Grass land.
4. Mangrove forests
5. Desert vegetation.
6. Alpine forests of Himalayas.

**Ans:-**

**Evergreen forests:** In India, evergreen forests are found in regions which are not more than 900 mts above sea level and receive an annual rainfall of more than 250 cms. This type of forests are found in Western Ghats, North Eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland and Andaman-Nicobar islands. Evergreen forests occupy about 2.6 lakh hectares. Since the trees are always green they are called Evergreen forests.

**2. Deciduous monsoon forests :** This type of forests are more widely distributed in India. They are seen in areas receiving 75 to 250 cms of rainfall. It forms about 65.5% of the total area of forests. Since India has mainly monsoon climate, this type of forest is distributed widely. The trees shed their leaves during the dry winters. As such these are also called deciduous monsoon forests.

**3. Tropical Grassland :** This type of vegetation are found in the areas receiving 60 to 75 cms of rain fall.

These areas have tall grass and small herbs are rarely seen here and there. Central parts of the peninsular Plateau, border areas of Thar desert to the west of Aravalli hills have this type of vegetation. Babool, Seesum and Sabhai type of grass are seen in these areas.

**4. Mangrove forests :** These forest are formed due to tides. The Mangrove forests are found along the deltas and coastal regions and estuaries of rivers, that are subjected tides. River delta of the Ganga, Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna have this kind of forests. The ‘Sundari’ trees are plenty in the Ganga basin and hence these forests are called ‘Sunderbans’. The total area of these forests is about 4992 sq.km

**5. Desert forests :** This type of vegetation is found in regions receiving less than 50 cms of rain. The Thar desert in Rajasthan and its adjoining areas in Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat have these forests. The plants are deep-rooted and consists mainly of thorny shrubs.

**6. Alpine forests of Himalayas :** Different types forests are found in the Himalayas. As the height increases, the tropical type of climate changes into the polar type of climate. According to the changes in climate, various types of plants are found. The important types of trees growing in this type of forest are Sal, Byra, Toon, Silver Spruce, Laurel etc. These trees have pointed leaves

#### **5) What are the Importance of forests?**

**Ans:-** Forest is an important resource to both man and environment. Their importance is as follows

: 1) Pure air, food and fodder is provided.

2) It brings good rainfall.

3) It controls soil erosion

4) It is the shelter house for animals and birds.

5) Medicinal plants are found in abundance.

6) It attracts tourists.

7) It provides employment opportunities

8) It controls ecological balance

#### **6) Write a short Note on Wild life sanctuary (WLS)**

**Ans:-** Wild life sanctuary (WLS) refers to a place meant for providing protection to wild life. It is an area where killing or capturing of any species of animals is prohibited except under orders of the competent authority. There are about 567 wild life sanctuaries in India. The important WLS are as follows-Annamalai and Madumalai (Tamil Nadu) Dandeli, Bhadra, Talakaveri, B.R. Hills (Karnataka) Periyar (Kerala), Nagarjunasagar (Telangana), Bharathpur and Rathambor (Rajasthan) Manas (Assam), Jaldapara (W.Bengal) etc

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