

Chapter-5

Natural Vegetation and Wild Life

1 marks Questions

1. Which In which type of forests the roots of the plants are merged under water?

Ans. Mangrove Forest.

2. Which famous animal is found in the tidal forest?

Ans. Royal Bengal Tiger.

3. Write one use of Sarpagandha.

Ans. It is used to treat blood pressure.

4. In which regions the mangrove forests found?

Ans. Mangrove forests are found in the delta region of Ganga, the Mahanadi, and the Krishna.

5. How many bird species found in India?

Ans. 1200 species.

6. Which is the Largest Mammal on the land?

Ans. Elephant.

7. In which year Wildlife Protection Act was passed in India?

Ans. 1972.



8. How many Biosphere reserves have been set up in India?

Ans. Fourteen Biosphere Reserves.

9. What is virgin vegetation?

Ans. It means that plant community or group of trees grown naturally without any outside interference.

10. To which vegetation does rubber belong to?

Ans. Tropical Evergreen Vegetation.

11. In which state is the Simlipal Biosphere Reserve located?

Ans. Orissa.

12. In which state is the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve located?

Ans. Uttrakhand.

13. Silver fur is founded in which type of vegetation zone?

Ans. Mountane Forests.

14. Elephants are found in the hot and wet forests which states?

Ans. Assam and Karnataka.

15. Where in India do flamingos migrate to nest in large number?

Ans. Rann of kucch.

16. Which forests are affected by tides in coastal areas?



Ans. Mangrove Forests

17. Which type of vegetation is known as purely Indian Vegetation?

Ans. Indigenous Species

18. How many plant species are found in India?

Ans. About 47000

19. Name the plant that is used to cure cough and cold.

Ans. Tulsi

20. Which Indian states have maximum forest cover area?

Ans. Arunachal Pradesh



3 marks Questions

1. Can you list out the range of animals survive in extreme cold of the Himalayan Harbour?

Ans. A hardy range of animals survive in extreme cold of the Himalayan harbour:

The freezing high altitudes of Ladakh are a home to Yak, the shaggy horned wild ox weighing around tones. The Tibetan antelope, the pharal (blue sheep), wild sheep are found here.

The kiang-the Tibetan wild ass is also found in this region.

The ibex, bear, snow-leopard and very rare red Panda are found in certain pockets.

2. Distinguish between reforestation and Afforestation.

Ans.

Reforestation	Afforestation
1. It is practiced in areas where forests have been destroyed	1. New forests are planted in the new areas.
2. Two saplings are planted to replace every fallen tree.	2. One sapling is planted to get one tree.
3. It is practiced to avoid the evils of shifting agriculture.	3. It is practiced to bring more area under forests.

3. How do human beings influence the ecology of a region? Mention any three points.

Ans. Human beings are an integral part of ecosystem. They utilize the vegetation and wildlife. The greed of human beings leads to over-utilization of these resources.

They create ecological imbalance like cutting of trees and the killing of animals.

They also responsible for extinctions of some species of plants and animals



4. How far it is correct to say that Rann of kachchh is one of the extraordinary sights of India? Explain.

Ans. Some of the wetlands of India are popular with migratory birds, during winter, birds, such as Siberian Crane come in large number. One such place favourable with birds is the Rann of Kachchh. At this place where the desert merges with the sea, flamingo with their brilliant, pink plumage, come in thousands to built nest mounds from the salty mud and raise their young ones. Due to this reason environmentalists consider this place an extraordinary sight in the country. It is also a rich natural heritage of our country.

5. What are biosphere reserves and what are their uses.

Ans. A protected areas reserved for the conservation of endangered species of flora and fauna in their natural habitat is called a biosphere reserves. Following are the uses of biosphere reserves: Endangered species of animals and plants are protected. These rare plants and animals are transmitted to the future generations in all their natural glory. The surrounding areas are reserved for research work for the betterment of flora and fauna.

6. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.

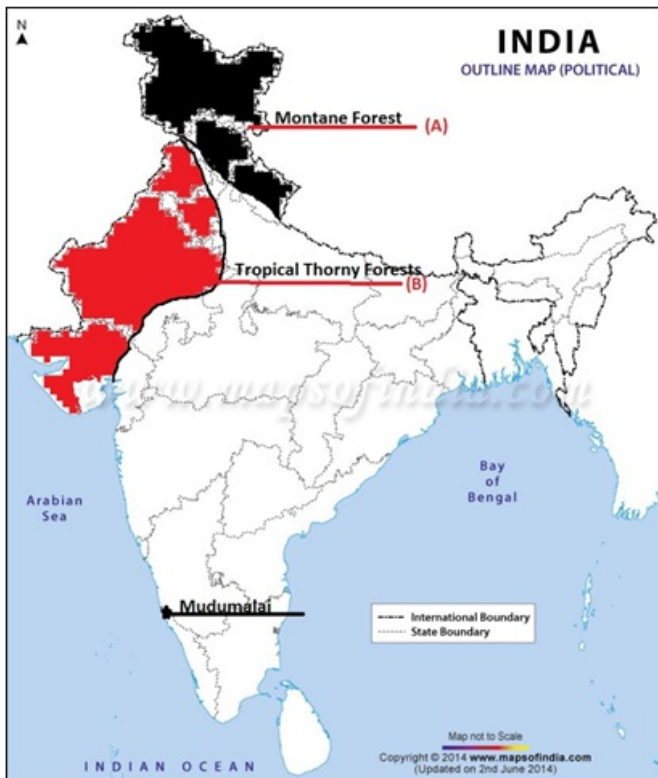
i) A Forest Type

ii) A Forest Type (On the same political map locate and label the following)

iii) Madumalai-A wild life sanctuary



Ans.



7. What is bio-diversity?

Ans. Biodiversity is the variation of life forms in an ecosystem biome on the entire earth. The bio diversity found on the earth consists of millions of different species. It is some total of all the living beings living on the earth.

8. What do you know about migratory birds?

Ans. Some of the wetlands of India are popular with migratory birds. During winters, birds, such as Siberian Crane come in large numbers. One such place favourable with birds is the Rann of Kuchchh. At a place where the desert merges with the sea, flamingo with their brilliant, pink plumage, come in thousands to build nest mounds from the salty mud and rise their young ones.

9. How has the temperature influence the vegetation cover of India?

Ans. The character and extent of vegetation are mainly determined by temperature along with humidity in the air, precipitation and soil.



On the slopes of the Himalayas and the hills of the Peninsula above the height of 915 meters. The fall in the temperature affects the types of vegetation and its growth, and changes it from tropical to subtropical temperature and alpine vegetation.

10. How has the photoperiod influence the vegetation cover of India?

Ans. The variation in duration of sunlight at different place is due to differences in latitude, altitude, seasons and duration of the day.

Due to longer duration of sunlight, trees grow faster in summer.

11. How has the precipitation influence the vegetation cover of India?

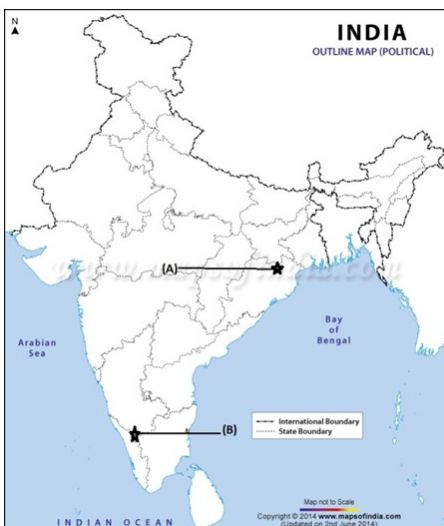
Ans. In India all most the entire rainfall is brought in by the advancing southwest monsoon and retreating north east monsoons. Areas of heavy rainfall have more dense vegetation as compared to other areas of less rainfall. The tropical evergreen forests are found in the areas where rainfall is more than 200 cm annually. In regions of India with less than 70 cm of rainfall the natural vegetation consists of thorny trees and bushes.

12. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.

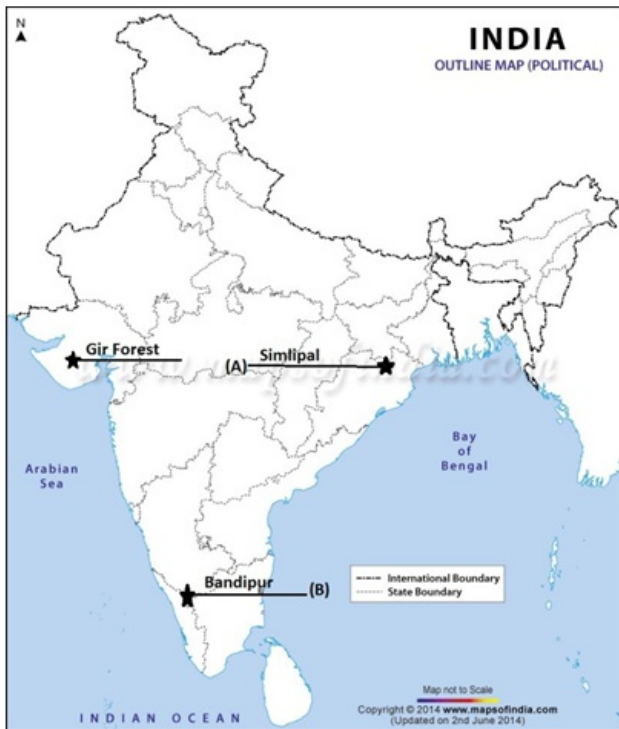
i) A National Park ii) A National Park

On the same political map locate and label the following

iii) Gir Forest



Ans.



13. How has the soil influence the vegetation cover of India?

Ans. The soils also vary over spaces. Different types of soils provide basis for different types of vegetation. The sandy soil of the desert support cactus and thorny bushes. While wet, marshy, deltaic soil support mangroves and deltaic vegetation. The hill slopes with some depth of soil have conical tree.

14. How has the land influence the vegetation cover of India?

Ans. Land affects the natural vegetation directly and indirectly. We cannot expect the same type of vegetation in mountainous, plateau and plain areas or in dry and wet regions. The nature of land influences the type of vegetation. The fertile level is generally devoted to agriculture. The undulating and rock terrains are areas where grass lands and woodlands develop and give shelter a variety of wild life.

15. Why do we need to conserve the fauna?

Ans. We need to conserve fauna because they make surrounding beautiful and clean. Forests are very helpful to bring rainfall and source of oxygen. We need to conserve forests



to maintain our ecosystem. Forests should be conserving to maintain the diversity of plants.

16. Why do we need to conserve the flora?

Ans. We need to conserve the wildlife for the maintenance and protection of many genetic diversities of wildlife. We need to conserve forests to maintain our ecosystem.
For the maintenance of food chain.

17. Name three medicinal plants found in India and write one feature of each.

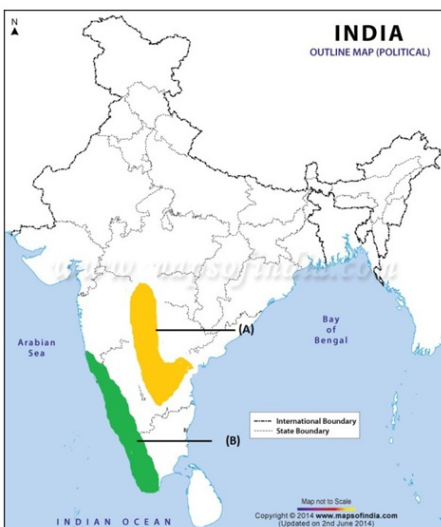
Ans. Sarpagandha: It is used to treat blood pressure. It is found only in India.
Jamun: The juice from ripe fruit is used to prepare vinegar which is carminative and diuretic and has digestive properties.
Arjun: The fresh juice of leaves is a cure for earache. It is also used to regulate blood pressure.

18. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.

i) A Forest type ii) A Forest Type

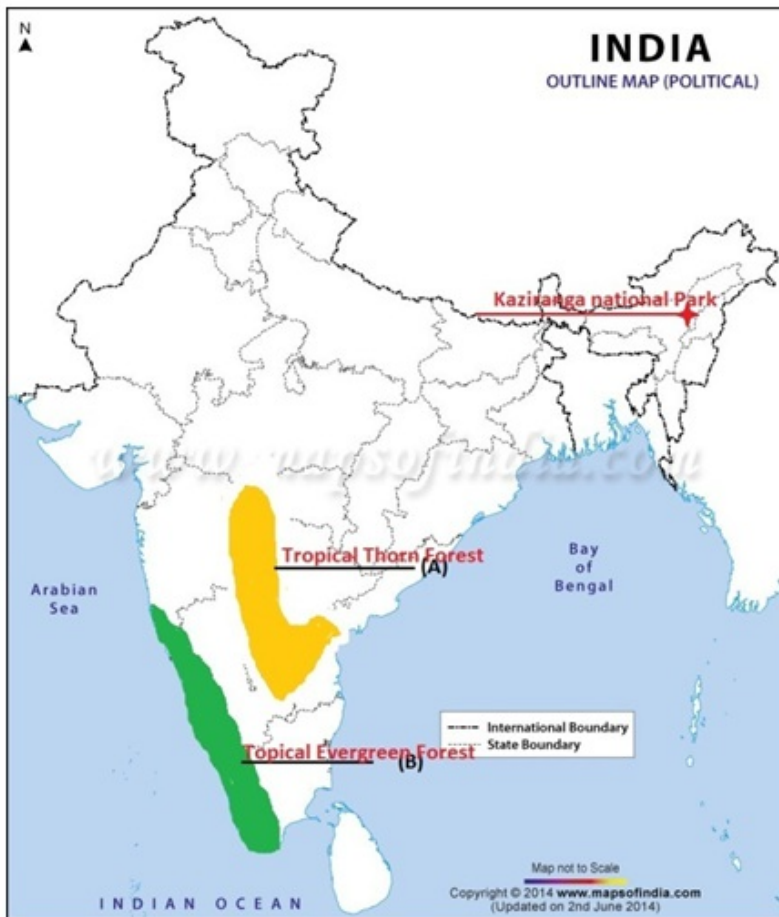
On the same political map locate and label the following

iii) Kaziranga National Park



Ans.





19. Name three medicinal plants found in India and write one feature of each.

Ans. Babool: Leaves are used as a cure for eyesores. Its gum is used a tonic.

Neem: It has high antibiotic and antibacterial properties

Tulsi Plant: It is used to cure cough and cold.

Kanchur: It is used to cure asthma and ulcers. The buds and roots are good for digestive problems.

20. Write the main causes which are a threat to the ecosystem.

Ans. People are inhabited the areas by clearing the forests

Reckless cutting of forest to bring land under cultivation and for the construction of houses, dams, roads and industries.

Pollution due to chemical and industrial wastes and acid deposits.

Hunting and poaching activities of human being are also a great threat to the ecosystem.

21. Name any two endangered species of Indian wildlife and write a step taken by government to save that species.

Ans. Two endangered species are Tiger and Rhino.

Project tiger was started by the government to save the Tigers. Land is acquired by the government to give them natural habitat.

Project Rhino was introduced by the government with an objective to save Rhinos.

National parks and wild life sanctuaries are set by the government.

22. Highlight the different subjects taken by government to protect flora and fauna.

Ans. Fourteen biosphere reserves have been setup in the country to protect flora fauna.

Four out of these, the Sunderban in the west Bengal, Nanda Devi in Uttaranchal, The Gulf of Mannar in Tamil Nadu and the Nilgiris have been included in the world network of Biosphere reserves.

Financial and technical assistance is provided too many Botanical gardens by government since 1992.

Project tiger, Project Rhino, Project Great Indian Bustard and many other eco-developmental projects has been introduced by the government.

23. Can you list out the range of animals survive in extreme cold of the Himalayan Harbour?

Ans. The freezing high altitudes of Ladakh are a home to Yak, the shaggy horned wild ox weighing around tones.

The Tibetan antelope, the pharal (blue sheep), wild sheep are found here.

The kiang-the Tibetan wild ass is also found in this region.

The ibex, bear, snow-leopard and very rare red Panda are found in certain pockets.

24. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.

i) A Bird Sanctuary



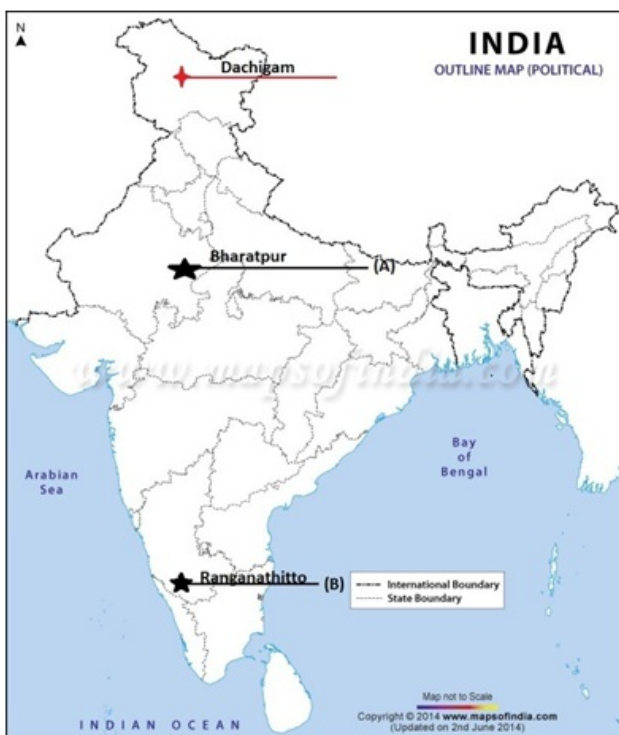
ii) A Bird Sanctuary

On the same political map locate and label the following

iii) Dachigam



Ans.



25. What is natural or virgin vegetation?

Ans. It means a plant community or group of trees grown naturally without any outside interference. It is grown without human help and left undisturbed for a long time. This kind of vegetation is called the virgin vegetation.



It may be of two kinds- endemic vegetation and exotic plants.

26. How temperature of an area affects the natural vegetation?

Ans. Temperature makes very important impact on the vegetation.

Very hot areas like desert etc., have thorn type of vegetation.

The cold areas such as the Himalayas have different type of vegetation. In the hilly areas, we may find tropical to sub-tropical and alpine vegetation.

Thus, temperature plays very important role in the growth of vegetation.

27. What is a biome?

Ans. Biome means plant community occurring in distinct groups in areas having similar climatic conditions. In other words a very large ecosystem on land having different types of flora and fauna is termed as biome. The biomes are categorized or identified on the basis of plant species. Thus, there may be many biomes.

28. Write three uses of forests.

Ans. The fallen leaves of the trees add humus to soil. Hence, the forests help in increasing the fertility of the soil.

Forests assist to check floods. The roots of trees absorb rain water. They regulate the flow water and help in controlling the floods.

Forests help in the prevention and control of soil erosion.

29. Write some characteristics of Tropical rain forest.

Ans. These forests are restricted to torrential rainfall areas of Western Ghats and the island group of Lakshadweep and Nicobar, upper parts of Assam and Tamil Nadu.

The areas having more than 200cm of rainfall with a short dry season are the most suitable for such forests.

The trees reach great heights up to 60 meters or even above. This area has luxuriant vegetation including tree of all kinds, shrubs and creepers giving it a multi-layered structure as the region remains warm and wet throughout the year.



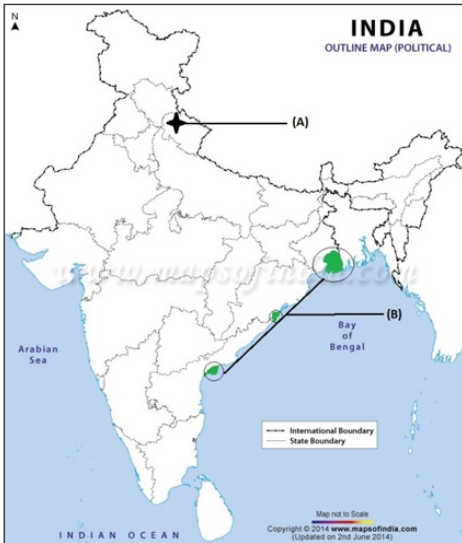
30. Two features A and B are marked in the given political map of India. Identify these features with the help of the following information and write their correct names on the lines marked on the map.

i) A National Park

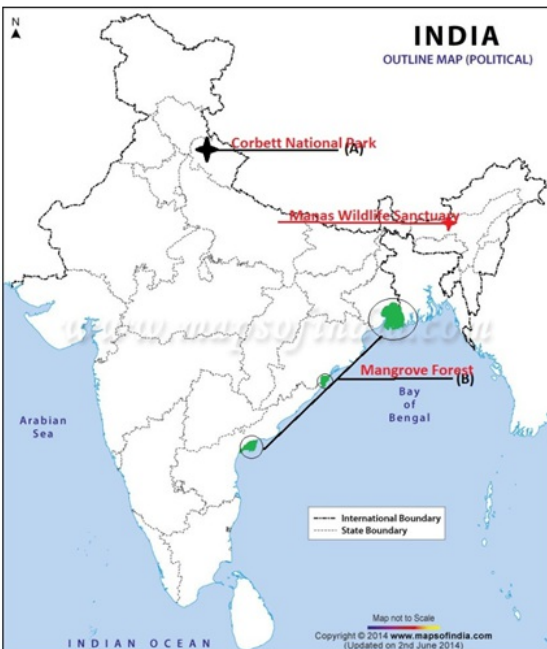
ii) A Forest Type

On the same political map locate and label the following

iii) Manas wildlife Sanctuary



Ans.



5 marks Questions

1. Can you assess the significance of forests to enhance the quality of environment? Justify the answer with suitable arguments.

Ans. Forests play a significant role to enhance the quality of environment as they are renewable resources.

Forests control soil erosion, modify local climate regulate stream flow, support a variety of industries, provide livelihood for many communities.

Forests offer panoramic or scenic view of recreation.

It controls temperature and causes rainfall. It provides humus to the soil and enhances the fertility of soil. Forests provide shelter to wild life.

2. Describe the factors responsible for the distribution of plants and animals in India.

Ans. Land: The nature of land influences the type of vegetation. The fertile land is generally devoted to agriculture. The undulating and rough terrains are the areas where grassland and woodlands develops and give shelter to a variety of wildlife.

Soil: different types of soils provide basis for different types of vegetation. The sandy soils the desert support cactus and thorny bushes while wet, marshy, deltaic soils support mangroves and deltaic vegetation. The hill slopes with some depth of soil have conical trees.

Temperature: on the slopes of the Himalayas and the hills of the peninsula above the height of 915 meters, the fall in temperature affects the types of vegetation and its growth and it changes it from tropical to sub-tropical temperate and alpine vegetations.

Photoperiod: The variation in duration of sunlight at different places is due to differences in latitude, altitude, season and duration of the day. Due to longer duration of sunlight, trees grow faster in summer.

Precipitation: Areas of heavy rainfall have more dense vegetation as compared to other areas of less rainfall.



3. Which are the most widespread forests of India? Mention any two characteristic features of these forests.

Ans. The Tropical deciduous forests are the most widespread forests in India.

These are the most wide spread forests in India.

They are also called the monsoon forests and are spread over the region.

They receive rainfall between 200 cm and 70 cm.

Trees shed their leaves for about six to eight weeks in dry summer.

These forests are further sub-divided into moist and dry deciduous depending on the availability of water.

These forests are to be found in the eastern part of the country, northeastern states and on the foothills of Himalayas, Jharkhand, and west Odisha and Chhattisgarh and on the eastern slope of the Western Ghats.

4. Can you name the forest which is found in the areas of Western Ghats and Island Groups of India? And write their any four features.

Ans. Tropical Rain Forests are found in the Western Ghats and the Island Groups of India.

These are also found in the upper parts of Assam and Tamil Nadu. Following are the feature of these forests

The areas having more than 200cm of rainfall with a short dry season are the most suitable for such forests.

The trees reach great height up to 60 meters or even above. The areas has luxuriant vegetation including trees of all kinds of shrubs and creepers giving it a multilayered structure as the region remains warm and wet throughout the year.

These trees appear green all the year round as there is no definite time to shed their leaves. Ebony, mahogany, rosewood, rubber and cinchona are important commercial trees in this forest.

5. Describe any five steps taken by government to conserve he flora and fauna of our country?

Ans. The government has set up fourteen biosphere reserves to protect flora and fauna.

Four out of these, the Sunder bans in the West Bengal, Nanda Devi is Uttaranchal, the Gulf of



Mannar in Tamil Nadu and Nilgiris have been included in the world network of Biosphere reserves. The government has been providing financial and technical assistance to many Botanical gardens since 1992.

Many eco developmental projects have been introduced including Project Tiger, Project Rhino, project Great Indian Bustard.

For taking care of Natural heritage, the government has set up 89 National parks, 46 wild life sanctuaries and zoological gardens

6. Write down the features of Tropical Rain forests of India.

Ans. These forests are restricted to torrential rainfall areas of Western Ghats and the island group of Lakshadweep and Nicobar, upper parts of Assam and Tamil Nadu.

The areas having more than 200cm of rainfall with a short dry season are the most suitable for such forests.

The trees reach great heights up to 60 meters or even above. This area has luxuriant vegetation including tree of all kinds, shrubs and creepers giving it a multi-layered structure as the region remains warm and wet throughout the year.

These trees appear green all the year round as there is no definite time for trees to shed their leaves. Ebony, mahogany, rosewood, rubber and cinchona are important commercial trees in these forests.

7. Write down the features of Montane forests of India.

Ans. The decreasing temperature with increasing altitude leads to the corresponding change in the natural vegetation in mountainous areas.

Such type of natural vegetation belt can be found in tropical tundra region.

The wet temperature type of forests is found in between height of 1000 and 2000 meters.

Oaks and chestnuts trees predominant here.

Trees like pine, deodar, silver fir, spruce and cedar are found in temperate forests between 1500 and 3000 meters. These forests cover mostly the southern slopes of Himalayas.

Temperate grasslands are common at higher elevation.

8. Write down the features of the Thorn Forests and Scrubs of India.



Ans. The natural vegetation like thorny trees and bushes are to be found in the regions having less than 70 cm rainfall.

Such type of vegetation grows in the north-western part of country including semi-arid areas of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

Acacias, plums, euphorbias and cacti are the main plant species of this region.

Trees are scattered and have long roots penetrating deep into the soil in order to get moisture. The stems are succulent to conserve water. To minimize evaporation, leaves are mostly thick and small. These forests give way to thorn forests and scrubs in dry area.

9. Write down the features of mangrove forests.

Ans. The mangrove tidal forests are found in the areas of coasts influenced by tides. Mud and silt get accumulated on such coasts.

Dense mangroves are the common varieties with roots of the plant submerged under water. The deltas of the Ganga, the Mahanadi, the Krishna, the Godavari and the Kaveri are covered by such vegetation.

In the Ganga-Brahmaputra delta, sundari trees are found, which provide durable hard timber.

Alm, coconut, krora, agar, also grow in some parts of the delta.

Royal Bengal Tiger is a famous animal in these forests. Turtles, crocodiles, gharials and snakes are also found in these forests.

10. 'India is one of the twelve mega diversity country of the world'. Explain.

Ans. Our country is one of the twelve mega bio-diversity countries of the world.

With about 47000 plant species India occupies tenth place in the world and fourth in Asia in plant diversity. There are about 15000 flowering plants in India which account for 6% in the world's total number of flowering plants. The country has many non-flowering plants such as ferns, algae and fungi. India also has approximately 90000 species of animals as well as rich variety of fish in its fresh and marine waters.

