

Subject: Geography Class: X Teacher: Mini Arora

Topic: Chapter 6: Natural Vegetation (Continued)

In the previous session we had discussed about Natural Vegetation of India; Factors influencing them and three types of Natural Vegetation found in India. Today we continue the topic further and discuss two more types of Natural Vegetation and Forest Conservation.

4. MOUNTAIN FORESTS:

In the mountain regions temperature decreases with altitude that influence its vegetation type.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS: forests are found in areas where annual temperature is 12°C - 13°C (below 20°C) and rainfall between 150-250 cm.

These occur at an altitude between 1000m-4000m.

AREAS:- These forests are found in Himalayan regions, covering Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim.

CHARACTERSTIC FEATURES:

- These forests are mainly composed of Coniferous (Cone bearing trees), mostly pure with 30 to 50m of height.
- At foothills deciduous forests are found; between the altitude of 1500m and 1700m coniferous trees as Chir pine is common; At 2250m-3000m Blue Pine and Spruce are found.

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- At higher altitudes, Alpine forests and pastures are found followed by Mosses and Lichens. Beyond the snowline there is no vegetation.

Plant Species and their Uses:-

1. Chir pine - making packing case, turpentine.
2. Deodar - railway sleepers.
3. Silver Fir - Paper pulp, matchsticks, packing cases.

5. MANGROVE OR TIDAL FOREST:-

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS: These forests occur in and around the deltas, estuaries and creeks prone to tidal influence or swampy areas along the coast.

AREAS: In the delta regions of Ganga-Brahmaputra, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri. Sundarban in West Bengal, coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha.

CHARACTERSTIC FEATURES:-

- They can survive and grow both in fresh water and Brackish water (Saline water).
- The trees have Breathing roots (aerial roots or Pneumatophores).
- The tree trunks are supported by a number of Stilt roots which remain submerged under water during high tide and seen during low tide.

SPECIES :

1. Sundri - wood for construction and boat making.

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2. Hintal and Gorian → fuel for household.

- agar, Keora, rhizophora, screw pine etc are some of the species of trees found here.

IMPORTANCE OF FORESTS:-

- 1) Forests are the moderators of climate they controls temperature rise and precipitation amount.
- 2) Forests absorbs atmospheric carbon dioxide and purify the air.
- 3) It help in controlling soil erosion, floods etc.
- 4) They helps in water percolation and maintain underground water table.
- 5) Decayed plant leaves provide humus to soil.

FORESTS COVER IN INDIA:-

Administrative Classification of Forests.

Reserved. Forests 54%	Protected Forests 29%	Unclassed. Forests. 17%
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In India forest cover is just 21.8% (2013-14) of the total geographical area of the country. Which is much below the average of 33% as per the National Forest Policy.

PROBLEMS OF INDIAN FORESTRY:-

1. Inadequate Forest cover due to Shifting agricult-ure

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overgrazing etc.

2. Nature of Forest and their uneconomical use by the local people. (Local people use expensive wood as household fuel as they are unaware of it)
3. Forest fire (due to mismanagement).
4. Obsolete (very old) methods of Lumbering and Sawing.
5. Undue concessions to tribal and local people.

FOREST CONSERVATION.

To stop Deforestation and conversion of forest land to non-forest region, certain steps must be undertaken:

- i) Afforestation around Industrial Units: In the Afforestation scheme trees are planted or seeds are sown in barren land devoid of any tree to create a forest. Near the Industrial units as Iron and Steel plant the level of pollution is much higher. The trees act as a barrier for dust and purify the air.
- ii) Increasing the Area under forests: Loss of forest can be remedied by programme of tree plantation. It is also termed as Reafforestation which means restocking of existing forests that have been depleted through deforestation.
- iii) Using Alternative Sources of Energy as trees

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are felled for providing firewood. So to conserve forests renewable sources of energy as Solar, wind etc. are to be use.

iv) Proper Legislation and its Implementation

NATIONAL FOREST POLICY:- The Government of India adopted a forest policy in 1952, which was further modified in 1988. This policy lays emphasis on sustainable forest management in order to conserve and expand forest reserves. Under this government has initiated following measures:-

SOCIAL FORESTRY:- The management and protection of forests and afforestation on barren land with the purpose of helping in environmental, social and rural development. Under this Van Mahotsav Programme started in 1950, in this government organization plant trees during the month of July.

OBJECTIVES:-

- Providing fuel wood, fodder (cattle), timber to rural people.
- Utilising the available land.
- Providing employment opportunities to rural people.
- Developing local cottage industries by providing raw material.

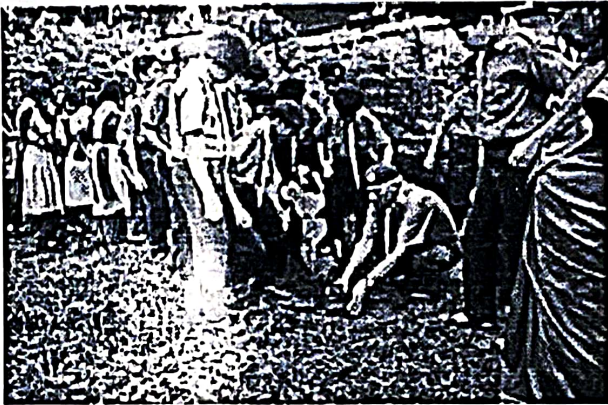
Features:- i) Raising plantations by local people.

ii) Making use of unused or fallow land.

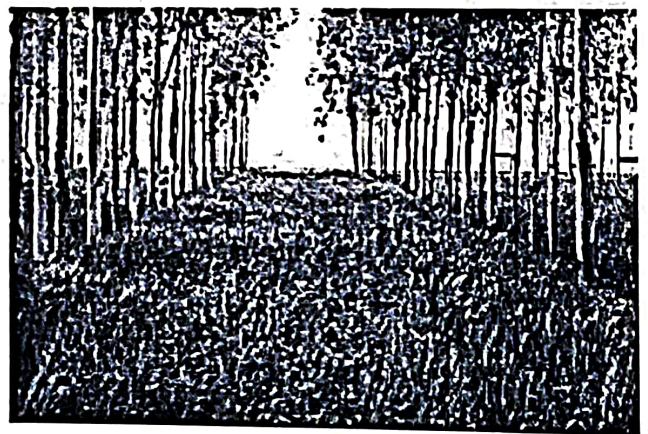
iii) Ensure Sustainable forestry

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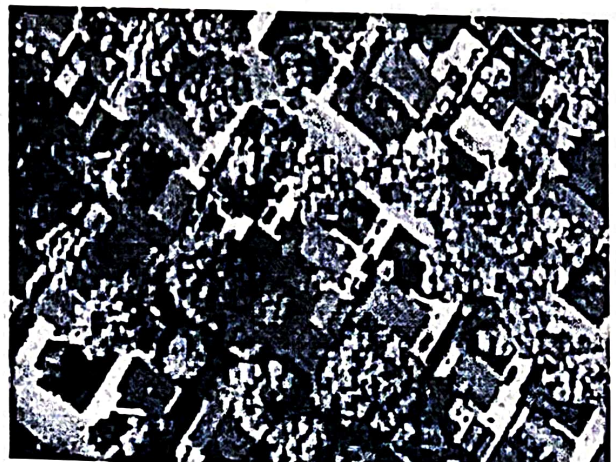
Van Mahotsav



Agro Forestry (Agricultural land + trees or forest)



Urban Forestry (city + forest/ trees)



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Agro-forestry:- It involves raising of trees and agricultural crop in close association. As trees or shrubs are grown around or among crops or pastureland. Agro-forestry has varied benefits including increased biodiversity and reduced soil erosion.

Urban-forestry:- Raising and management of trees on public and privately owned land it includes green belt, roadside avenue, recreational parks. (Collection of trees, that grow within a city, town or suburbs).

HOME-WORK:- On the basis of the above summary you had read, you are able to attempt following questions on your own.
Question no. 3, 4, 5, 6, 14, 15, 16, 22, 12, 28.

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