

UDAAN 2025

SST

Forest & Wildlife Resources (Important Questions)

SECTION - A (1 MARKS)

- Which one of the following is not responsible for the decline in India's biodiversity?
 - Mining activities
 - Hunting and poaching
 - Forest fire
 - Afforestation
- Assertion (A):** Project Tiger was launched in 1973.
Reason (R): Tiger population declined significantly and needed protection
 - Both A and R true, R is correct explanation of A
 - Both A and R true, R is not correct explanation of A
 - A is true, R is false
 - A is false, R is true
- Mayank wants to see tigers in their natural habitat on his tour in Assam. Mayank should visit _____.
 - Periyar Reserve
 - Manas Tiger Reserve
 - Sariska
 - Corbett
- Mohan's teacher asked him to identify the state that has the maximum area under the permanent forest. The state should be
 - Rajasthan
 - Bihar
 - Kerala
 - Madhya Pradesh
- Which of the following states were the first to implement Joint Forest Management?
 - Rajasthan
 - UP
 - MP
 - Odisha
- Ramesh was studying about Beej Bachao Andolan in class. Identify the place where the movement was active.

- Bihar
- Tehri
- Himachal
- Kerala

- Identify the act that was enacted to preserve the existing biodiversity in India and promote the conservation of biodiversity.
 - Indian Conservation Act
 - Indian Wildlife Act
 - Wildlife Protection Act
 - Both (a) and (b)
- Bhairo Dev Dakav Sonchuri is a protected area of 1200 hectares in _____.
 - Una , Madhya Pradesh
 - Nasik , Maharashtra
 - Chamoli, Uttarakhand
 - Alwar, Rajasthan
- Who among the following was the pioneer of starting a movement in Chamoli district against commercial felling of trees?
 - Medha Patkar
 - Sundar Lal Bahuguna
 - Sher Singh
 - Sunder Lal
- Which among the following were the major threats to the tiger population?
 - Illegal Poaching for skin and bones
 - Depletion of prey-based species
 - Increasing human population
 - All of the above

SECTION - B (2 MARKS)

- How have human activities affected the depletion of flora and fauna? Explain
- List various provisions made by "The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972" for protecting habitats.



13. Which agency manages forests in India? Name three broad categories in which the forests are classified.
14. What are 'Permanent Forest Estates' and why? Which state has maximum forest cover falling under this category? Write its percentage share in the total forest area of this state.
15. What are unclassified forests? Name two areas which have high percentages of their forests as unclassified forests.

SECTION - C (3 MARKS)

16. Write two characteristics of the Joint Forest Management Programme and its two benefits for the community. Which Indian state started this programme first of all and when?
17. Write a brief note on 'Project Tiger'.
18. Assess the need for the conservation of forests and wildlife in India.
19. "The destruction of biodiversity is highly correlated with the loss of cultural diversity." Discuss
20. Discuss the most important causes of environmental degradation.

SECTION - D (4 MARKS)

21. Read the following paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

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.

- i. The term used to describe the forests of the gods and goddesses
- ii. The Mundas and the Santhal of Chota Nagpur region worship _____.
- iii. How has the Bishnoi community of Rajasthan contributed to the protection of wildlife?

SECTION - E (5 MARKS)

22. Describe how communities have conserved and protected forests and wildlife in India.
23. Write a note on good practices towards conserving forests and wildlife.

Hints and Solutions

1. (d)
2. (a)
3. (b)
4. (d)
5. (d)
6. (b)
7. (c)
8. (d)
9. (b)
10. (d)
11. i. Various river valley projects have affected the flora and fauna.
ii. Many illegal mining projects have depleted the flora and fauna.
iii. Too many development projects for leisure activities in the forests have negatively affected them.
iv. Too many human activities in the forest area due to rising population and lack of space has created human-animal conflict.
12. i. An All India list of protected species was published.
ii. The thrust was on protecting the remaining population of certain endangered species by-
 - Banning hunting.
 - Giving legal protection to their habitats and
 - Restricting trade in wildlife
13. The forests in India are owned and managed by the Government through the Forest Department. They are classified under the following categories:
 - i. Reserved Forests
 - ii. Protected Forests
 - iii. Unclassed Forests
14. (a) Reserved and protected forests are referred to as the Permanent Forest Estates maintained for the purpose of producing timber and other forest produce.
(b) Madhya Pradesh has the largest area under permanent forests, constituting 75% of its total forest area.
15. (a) Unclassed forests are the other forests and waste lands belonging to both Government and private individuals as well as local communities.
(b) Two areas with a high percentage of unclassified forests are: North-Eastern states and parts of Gujarat.
16. Joint Forest Management Programme involves local communities in the management and restoration of degraded forests. It was first started in Orissa in 1988. Two characteristics: It depends on
 - i. The formation of local (village) institutions that undertake protection activities mostly on degraded forest land managed by the Forest Department and
 - ii. The local communities also work towards restoration of such degraded forests.**Two benefits:**
 - i. The members of these communities are entitled to intermediary benefits like non-timber forest products.
 - ii. They are also entitled to share in the timber harvested by 'successful protection'.
17. (a) Project Tiger' was one of the well-published wildlife campaigns in the world, launched in 1973. Initially it had shown an increase in tiger population till 1989 but in 1993 the tiger population dropped. There are 27 tiger reserves in India covering an area of 37,761 sq km.
(b) Tiger conservation has been viewed not only as an effort to save the endangered species but with equal importance as a means of preserving biotypes of sizeable magnitude.
(c) Corbett National Park, (Uttarakhand), Sundarbans National Park (West Bengal), Bandhavgarh National Park (Madhya Pradesh), Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary (Rajasthan) Manas Tiger Reserve (Assam) and Periyar Tiger Reserve (Kerala) are some of the reserves in India.
18. • Conservation of biodiversity is necessary because it preserves ecological diversity.
• Forests and wildlife preserve our life support systems, i.e., water, air and soil. For example, the plants, animals and micro-organisms recreate the quality of the air we breathe, the water we drink and the soil that produces our food without which we cannot survive.

- It also preserves the genetic diversity of plants and animals for better growth and breeding of species. For example, in agriculture we are still dependent on traditional crop varieties.
- 19.** i. Increasingly marginalised and impoverished many forests dependent communities.
- ii. Among the poor, women are affected more than men, for women bear the major responsibility of basic subsistence needs. With the depletion of these resources, the drudgery of women increased for they had to walk for more than 10 km to collect these resources which, in turn, affected their health and negligence of home and children.
- iii. The indirect impact of degradation, e. g. drought or floods etc. also hits the poor the hardest.
- iv. Poverty is a direct outcome of environmental destruction.
- 20.** i. Unequal access to resources.
- ii. Inequitable consumption of resources.
- iii. Differential sharing of responsibility for environmental well-being.
- iv. Overpopulation.
- 21.** i. Sacred groves
- ii. Mahua
- iii. 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.
- 27.** a. The famous Chipko movement in the Himalayas has not only successfully resisted deforestation in several areas but has also shown that community afforestation with indigenous species can be enormously successful.
- b. Certain societies revere a particular tree which they have preserved from time immemorial. The Mundas and the Santhals of Chota Nagpur region worship mahua (*Bassia latifolia*) and kadamba (*Anthocephalus cadamba*) trees.
- c. The tribals of Odisha and Bihar worship the tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*) and mango (*Mangifera indica*) trees during weddings. Many people also consider peepal and banyan trees sacred.
- d. 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 are explicitly rejecting government involvement.
- e. 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.
- 23.** a. In India, joint forest management (JFM) programme is a good example for the involvement of local communities in the management and restoration of degraded forests.
- b. The programme has been in formal existence since 1988 when the state of Odisha passed the first resolution for joint forest management.
- c. JFM depends on the formation of local (village) institutions that undertake protection activities mostly on degraded forest land managed by the forest department. In return, the members of these communities are entitled to intermediary benefits like non-timber forest produces and a share in the timber harvested by 'successful protection'
- d. The clear lesson from the dynamics of both environmental destruction and reconstruction in India is that local communities everywhere have to be involved in some kind of natural resource management.
- e. But there is still a long way to go before local communities are at the centre stage in decision-making.
- Accept only those economic or developmental activities that are people-centric, environmental friendly and economically rewarding.

