2 CHAPTER

Forest and Wildlife Resources

Level - 1

CORE SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Joint Forest Management (JFM) is a forest conservation strategy that involves local communities in the management and restoration of degraded forests in partnership with the government. It is a participatory approach where local communities help in protecting and regenerating forests while benefiting from forest resources. JFM was officially launched in 1990 through a Government of India resolution, though informal initiatives existed earlier. Odisha was the first state to pass the first resolution for this in 1988. Under JFM, villagers get rights to collect non-timber forest products (NTFPs) like fruits, medicinal plants, and honey.

2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: The Wildlife Protection Act was implemented in India in 1972 to provide protection to wildlife and conserve habitats. It aims to ensure the protection of animals and plants, regulate hunting, and prevent poaching and illegal trade of wildlife.

3. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Jhum cultivation, also known as shifting cultivation, involves clearing forests to grow crops and then moving on to a new area once the soil fertility is exhausted. This practice can lead to deforestation and degradation of forest cover because the land is often left barren and unable to regenerate naturally.

4. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Loss of biodiversity can lead to a scarcity of natural resources like medicinal plants, fuelwood, and other essential forest products that local communities rely on for their livelihoods. In this case, the depletion of these resources forces tribal women to walk long distances to gather what they need, which negatively impacts their health and well-being. This illustrates the social impact of biodiversity loss, as it affects the daily lives and health of the community.

5. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: In north-eastern and central India, shifting cultivation (jhum), a type of 'slash and burn' agriculture, leads to deforestation, soil erosion and land degradation.

6. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: The demarcation of wildlife sanctuaries is done by the forestry department and do not involve community participation.

7. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Endemic species are those which are found in single defined in particular geographical area.

8. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Soil erosion due to deforestation, overgrazing and shifting cultivation has a huge impact on the forest cover as it affects the quality of the soil.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: Reserved Forests are the most protected forests, where activities like hunting and grazing are strictly regulated. These are found in states like Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttarakhand.

Protected Forests have some level of protection, but local communities may be allowed controlled access. These are found in states like Haryana, Punjab, and Maharashtra.

Unclassed Forests have no clear ownership or legal protection and are mostly found in North Eastern states like Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, and Nagaland.

2. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: Kaziranga National Park is a national park in the Golaghat, Sonitpur, Biswanath and Nagaon districts of the state of Assam.

Jim Corbett National Park is a national park in India located in the Nainital district of Uttarakhand state.

Sundarbans National Park is a national park in West Bengal.

Bandhavgarh National Park is a national park of India, located in the Umaria district of Madhya Pradesh.

3. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Project Tiger was launched in 1973 to protect tigers and their habitats.

The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act was enacted in 1972 to protect wildlife and biodiversity.

Joint Forest Management (JFM) was introduced in 1988 as a participatory approach to forest conservation.

The Wildlife Act (Forest Conservation Act) was enacted in 1980 to prevent deforestation.

4. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The Mundas and the Santhal of Chota Nagpur region worship mahua (*Bassia latifolia*) and kadamba (Anthocaphaluscadamba) trees, and the tribals of Odisha and Bihar worship the tamarind (*Tamarindusindica*) and mango (*Mangiferaindica*) trees during weddings.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: The Chipko Movement (1973) was a grassroots environmental movement in the Himalayas. It successfully prevented deforestation by encouraging people, especially women, to hug trees and stop them from being cut down.

While the primary goal of Chipko was preventing deforestation, it also led to greater environmental awareness and inspired community afforestation efforts. Indigenous species were promoted in reforestation efforts following the movement's success.

Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion. 2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Forests and wildlife are crucial for maintaining ecological balance, providing essential services like air and water purification, carbon storage, and supporting biodiversity.

Conservation efforts help preserve biodiversity, ensuring that various species, ecosystems, and genetic diversity are protected. This is vital for the health and sustainability of the planet.

Reason supports the assertion as protecting forests and wildlife is necessary because conservation helps maintain ecological diversity, which is vital for the environment's stability and sustainability.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- **1.** (i) Excessive cutting down of forest trees should not be allowed by the Government to conserve forests.
 - (ii) More trees should be planted in the forest in place of cut down trees to conserve forests.
 - (iii) Paper products such as old newspapers, magazines, books and notebooks etc. should be recycled.
 - (iv) Laws should be implemented to save the forest.
 - (v) Communities should be made aware about conservations of forests. (Any two)
- 2. (i) To survey and collect all the information about wildlife, especially, their number of growth.
 - (ii) To protect habitat by protecting forests.
 - (iii) To delimit the areas of their natural habitat.
 - (iv) To protect wildlife from pollution and from natural hazard.
 - (v) In order to protect animals, many national parks, sanctuaries and biosphere reserves should be set up.
 - (vi) Laws should be implemented to save the wildlife.
 - (vii) Programmes such as Joint Forest Management should be encouraged.

(Any two)

- 3. (i) Afforestation and proper management of posture.
 - (ii) Planting of shelter belts of plants, control on overgrazing, stabilisation of sand dunes by growing thorny bushes are some of the methods to check land degradation in arid areas.
 - (iii) Proper management of waste lands.
 - (iv) Control of mining activities.
 - (v) Proper discharge and disposal of industries effluents and wastes after treatment can reduce land and water degradation in industrial and suburban areas. (Any two)
- 4. (i) Avoid over utilisation of resources.
 - (ii) Recycle of resources.
 - (iii) Reduce wastage of resources.
 - (iv) Judicious use of resources.

(Any two)

5. Overpopulation alone is not the primary cause of large-scale resource exploitation. In wealthy countries, overuse of resources due to industrialisation, consumerism, and unsustainable economic practices, contribute significantly to environmental degradation.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- **1.** (i) Conservation of forest biodiversity: This could be done by creating more protected areas, regenerating degraded forests, etc.
 - (ii) Stakeholder involvement: Giving local indigenous communities a greater role in forest management.
 - (iii) Certifying forest produce: Sustainable forest produce could be certified which would then become also a source of sustainable livelihood for the forest dependent communities.
 - (iv) Organising forest craft fairs and festivals in the city.
- **2.** (i) Planning helps in identifying the available resources and allocating them efficiently across various sectors.
 - (ii) It ensures maximising their utility and minimising wastage during activities.
 - (iii) Planning allows for a balanced development of different regions and sectors within the country.
 - (iv) By prioritising areas that need development the most, planning ensures that resources are distributed equitably. For instance, the planned development during the Green Revolution focused on enhancing agricultural productivity in regions that were lagging behind.
 - (v) Planning involves setting long-term goals and creating strategies to achieve them.

- (vi) Planning facilitates the development of infrastructure such as roads, railways, ports, and communication networks. This infrastructure supports economic activities and enhances connectivity, leading to overall development.
- **3.** (i) Identification and inventory of resources surveying, mapping, qualitative and quantitative estimation and measurement.
 - (ii) Evolving a planning structure appropriate technology, skill and institutional setup.
 - (iii) Matching the resource development plans with overall national development plans.
 - (iv) Planning is the widely accepted strategy for judicious use of resources.
- (i) Joint Forest Management depends on the formation of local (village) institutions that undertake protection activities mostly on degraded forest land managed by the forest department.
 - (ii) The members of these communities are entitled to intermediary benefits like nontimber forest produces and share in the timber harvested by 'successful protection'.
 - (iii) Joint Forest Management is not able to achieve the goal of keeping locals at the center of decision making but is a good example for involving local communities in the management and restoration of degraded forests, and of shared responsibility and accountability.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- (i) Promotion of a few favoured commercially viable species which led to the elimination/ damage of other species.
 - (ii) Expansion of railways, agriculture and mining during both British and post-colonial times, led to depletion of forests.
 - (iii) No conservation strategy in place during the British, Wildlife Conservation Acts and projects came up after independence.
 - (iv) An all-India list of protected species published in 1972.
 - (v) Several projects introduced for protecting specific species like tiger, gharials, rhinoceros
- **2.** The 33 per cent of area should be under forests of the following reasons:
 - (i) They reduce flooding and improve water quality by slowing the rate at which rainfall runoff and flows into rivers.

- (ii) They provide fallen leaves to feed the soil and aquatic organisms.
- (iii) They play an important soil erosion by holding the soil firmly to the ground.
- (iv) Forests increase the level of groundwater by showing the amount of rainfall runoff that percolates into the soil and replenishes our main source of drinking water.
- (v) Forests improve air quality, especially in summer, by lowering temperatures and filtering dust. These also absorb various gases like ozone, carbon monoxide, Sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, airborne ammonia and heavy metals and release oxygen.
- **3.** The conservation projects are now focusing on biodiversity rather than on a few of its components.
 - Following examples prove the above given statement:

- (i) In the 1960s and 1970s conservation approach was specific. On the basis of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, various projects were implemented.
- (ii) These projects were implemented to protect various species of animals including tigers, rhinoceros, crocodile, etc.
- (iii) But now conservation projects are focusing on biodiversity, i.e. whole gamut of species along with their habitat in a specific climatic region and not just on few components. Also the conservation measures are now intensified.
- (iv) Wildlife Act was revised in 1980s and 1986 to include various insects like butterflies and plants in the conservation planning.
- (v) Along with national parks, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserves are now designed and promoted in order to protect species along with natural habitat and whole complex of ecological webs.
- (vi) Participation of community as well as local people now gave a new dimension to conservation of planning. (Any five)

Level - 2 ADVANCED COMPETENCY FOCUSED QUESTIONS MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The statement highlights a contradiction — India is biologically rich, yet many species are becoming extinct. This reflects the impact of human activities like deforestation, poaching, industrialization, and pollution, which are major contributors to biodiversity loss.

2. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The statement highlights that deforestation for industrial and mining activities leads to habitat destruction and fragmentation, which directly affects wildlife. This implies that unplanned and unsustainable development poses a serious threat to natural ecosystems.

3. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Modern conservation strategies emphasise not just protecting endangered species but also maintaining ecological balance and ensuring sustainable use of natural resources. This approach integrates biodiversity preservation with human needs, promoting long-term environmental health.

4. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: The statement highlights how local communities, through movements like Chipko, contribute significantly to forest and wildlife protection. This shows that community

involvement and traditional practices play a vital role in effective and sustainable conservation efforts.

5. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The statement refers to biosphere reserves, national parks, and wildlife sanctuaries, which are types of protected areas designed to preserve ecosystems and biodiversity, and in some cases, allow sustainable use of resources by local communities (especially in biosphere reserves).

6. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Project Tiger aimed not only to protect the Bengal Tiger but also to preserve the entire forest ecosystem in which it lives. Protecting a top predator like the tiger helps conserve other species and maintain ecological balance in its habitat.

7. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: The criticism by environmentalists highlights the negative impact of unplanned development on forests and wildlife. It suggests the need for sustainable development, where environmental conservation is a key component of any development project.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because forests and wildlife are integral parts of natural ecosystems. Forests regulate climate, support biodiversity, and help in carbon absorption. Wildlife ensures food chain stability and species interdependence. Without their conservation, ecosystems become imbalanced, leading to environmental issues like climate change, soil degradation, and species extinction.

Reason is also true because forests contribute significantly to environmental regulation. Through transpiration, they release moisture into the air, aiding in rainfall formation. Forest cover prevents soil erosion, enriches soil with organic matter, and retains groundwater.

Thus, they are essential for maintaining both the water cycle and soil health.

Both assertion and reason are true and reason correctly explains the assertion.

2. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because India has lost significant forest areas due to expansion of commercial agriculture (like tea, coffee, rubber plantations), urbanisation, infrastructure projects, mining, and industrial development. These activities have caused large-scale deforestation, contributing to the rapid decline of forest cover. Reason is also true because clearing of forests for human use directly results in habitat loss. As a result, many species lose their natural homes, leading to fragmentation, population decline, and extinction, especially for species with small or specific habitat requirements.

3. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true. Project Tiger was launched in 1973 by the Government of India. Its objective was to protect the Royal Bengal Tiger, which was declared endangered due to rapidly declining numbers. The project aimed at preserving tiger habitats and establishing tiger reserves across India.

Reason is also true. Poaching for tiger skins, bones, and other body parts led to a sharp decline in their numbers. Deforestation and human encroachment into forest areas resulted in loss of natural habitat, further endangering the species. Both the Assertion and Reason are true, and the Reason correctly explains why Project Tiger was launched.

4. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is false. Joint Forest Management (JFM) and community-led initiatives have seen considerable success in many parts of India. In states like Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal, these programs have revived degraded forests, reduced illegal logging, and empowered local communities. While challenges remain, these programs have not failed overall. Reason is true. JFM is based on community participation where villagers help protect forests in return for a share in forest produce or other benefits. It reflects the shift from top-down forest governance to inclusive and participatory conservation.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- 1. 1. This practice reflects that traditional forest conservation in India is often rooted in cultural and religious beliefs, where local communities protect forests out of reverence, not enforcement. One such practice is the Sacred Grove system, where patches of forest are preserved by communities as part of their faith and tradition. These areas remain untouched, helping to conserve biodiversity and protect endangered species.
- **2.** Two consequences of mining and industrial development on forest biodiversity are:
 - (i) Habitat Destruction: Large-scale deforestation for mining and industries destroys the natural habitats of plants and animals, forcing species to migrate or leading to their extinction.
 - (ii) Loss of Biodiversity: Pollution, noise, and land degradation caused by these activities disturb the ecological balance, leading to a decline in native species and disruption of food chains.

- 3. Chipko Movement
 - Impact on Forest Conservation Policy: The movement raised national awareness about deforestation and environmental protection, leading the government to implement stricter forest conservation laws and promote community participation in forest management.
- 4. Two effective ways to curb illegal poaching are:
 - (i) Strengthening Community Vigilance: Local communities can form forest protection groups to report suspicious activities and assist in monitoring wildlife areas.
 - (ii) Strict Law Enforcement and Surveillance:
 The government can ensure stricter enforcement of Wildlife Protection Acts, use of drones, camera traps, and forest patrols to monitor and prevent poaching.
- 5. Mega biodiversity nation

Responsibility on India: As a mega biodiversity nation, India has the responsibility to conserve its rich variety of plant and animal life by promoting sustainable development, enforcing environmental laws, and involving local communities in conservation efforts.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- **1.** Three consequences of deforestation on the local ecosystem and biodiversity are:
 - (i) Loss of Habitat: Cutting down forests destroys the natural habitat of many species, leading to migration, endangerment, or extinction of wildlife.
- (ii) Disruption of Ecological Balance:
 Deforestation affects the food chain, reduces biodiversity, and leads to an imbalance in the ecosystem, impacting both flora and fauna.
- (iii) Soil Erosion and Climate Impact: Without tree cover, the soil becomes loose and erodes

easily, affecting soil fertility. It also leads to climate changes due to increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

2. Joint Forest Management promotes community involvement in forest protection. People living near forests are given a stake in management and are encouraged to prevent illegal cutting, forest fires, and overgrazing. This leads to better forest regeneration and biodiversity conservation.

Two Benefits to Local Communities:

- Access to forest produce such as dry wood, fruits, and medicinal herbs for personal use or income generation.
- (ii) Employment opportunities in forest management activities like plantation, patrolling, and eco-development.
- **3.** Biodiversity refers to the variety of all life forms on Earth, including different plants, animals, microorganisms, and ecosystems in which they live and interact.

India is called a mega biodiversity nation because it has:

- A wide range of climates and geographical features.
- (ii) Rich variety of flora and fauna,
- (iii) Several endemic species found only in India. One Measure Taken to Conserve Biodiversity: The government has established biosphere reserves, national parks, and wildlife sanctuaries, such as Project Tiger, to protect endangered species and their habitats.
- **4.** A biosphere reserve is a protected area meant for the conservation of biodiversity, where wildlife, traditional lifestyles, and natural resources are preserved in a sustainable manner.

Two Important Features:

(i) Biosphere reserves are divided into three zones:

Core Zone: Strictly protected for wildlife and natural ecosystems; no human activity allowed.

Buffer Zone: Surrounds the core; limited research and education activities are allowed. **Transition Zone:** Outer area where human settlements, farming, and sustainable development take place.

(ii) Integration of Conservation and Livelihoods: These reserves allow tribal communities to live sustainably while protecting biodiversity.

They promote co-existence of people and nature. Example:

Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve in West Bengal or Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats.

- **5.** Three major human activities responsible for the depletion of flora and fauna in India are:
 - (i) Deforestation and Habitat Destruction: Large-scale clearing of forests for agriculture, mining, urbanisation, and infrastructure projects leads to loss of habitat for many plant and animal species.
 - (ii) Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade: Animals are hunted for skins, bones, tusks, and other body parts, leading to a rapid decline in their populations.
 - (iii) Pollution and Overexploitation of Resources: Industrial waste, pesticides, and water pollution damage ecosystems, while overgrazing, overfishing, and excessive logging reduce biodiversity.

CASE BASED QUESTIONS

- 1. (i) 'Project Tiger' is an effort to save a single species on a large scale. Project aimed to address the decline in tiger numbers caused by threats like poaching, habitat loss, depletion of prey species and human encroachment. It played vital role in safeguarding the tiger population while indirectly protecting entire ecosystems.
 - (ii) (1) Wildlife Protection Act for protecting Habitat.
 - (2) Ban on hunting.
 - (3) Restriction on trade in wildlife.
 - (4) National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - (5) India and Nepal provide habitat to about two-third of the surviving tiger population in the world.
 - (6) Project Tiger was launched to protect tigers and their habitats.
 - (7) There are 39 tiger reserves in India.

(Any one)

- (iii) (1) **Poaching for trade:** Illegal hunting of tigers for their valuable skin and bones used in traditional medicines.
 - (2) **Habitat Loss:** Human activities like deforestation, urban expansion and agricultural activities etc.
 - (3) **Depletion of prey base species:**Reduction in the number of animals that tiger prey upon, resulting in food scarcity. (Any two)
- 2. (i) The concept of 'Sacred Groves' refers to patches of untouched, pristine forests that are preserved in nature worship. These groves are considered sacred and are protected by local communities as they believe that all creations of nature must be safeguarded. In these areas, human interference is banned to maintain the sanctity of natural environment. The groves exemplify the deep-rooted connection between nature worship and environment conservation.

- (ii) Certain societies express reverence for specific trees by incorporating them into their cultural practices. The Mundas and Santhal tribes worship the mahua and kadamba trees, respectively, during ceremonies. During weddings, the tribes in Odisha and Bihar hold special reverence for tamarind beliefs, reflecting a harmonious relationship between natures.
- (iii) (1) Animals like blackbucks, nilgai and peacocks hold significance for the Bishnoi communities in Rajasthan.
 - (2) They are considered integral to the community and way of life, representing a harmonious relationship with nature.
 - (3) The Bishnois follow the principle of and Jeevdaya; (compassion for all living beings) and have a strong cultural commitment to protect animals and the environment.
 - (4) This co-existence is driven by their religious beliefs and values that prioritize the well being of all creatures.

(Any two)

3. (i) Option (D) is correct.

Explanation: The greatest problem that Gharials face today is loss of habitat, which endangers them as a species. Agricultural farmlands that are situated on riverbanks for ease of irrigation threaten the survival of this species by taking over their natural habitat. Hence, relocation of farmlands away from riverbanks would allows Gharial populations to thrive safely.

(ii) Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Prevention of water pollution and conservation of river ecosystems would provide a safe habitat with non-interference for Gharial populations.

(iii) Option (C) is correct.

Explanation: Explanation: Sand mining negatively affects the Gharial population in the following ways:

It destroys egg-laying grounds.

Gharials lay eggs on sandbanks along rivers. Sand mining removes these nesting sites, reducing their breeding success.

It causes floods and the destruction of forests.

Unregulated sand mining destabilises riverbanks, increasing erosion and leading to flooding, which can destroy nearby forests and habitats.

It causes a change in the river course and displacement of Gharials.

Sand mining alters river flow, leading to habitat fragmentation and forcing Gharials to move to unsuitable locations, affecting their survival.

(iv) Option (B) is correct.

Explanation: Despite releasing thousands of young Gharials, habitat destruction and continued killing prevent their survival and recovery.

- 4. (i) The main objective of Project Tiger was to protect the endangered Royal Bengal Tiger and ensure the survival of its population in natural habitats.
 - (ii) One major reason is habitat destruction due to deforestation, mining, and infrastructure development, which reduces the space and resources tigers need to survive.
 - (iii) Protected areas such as tiger reserves, national parks, and wildlife sanctuaries help in conservation by:
 - (1) Providing a safe and undisturbed habitat for wildlife to live and reproduce.
 - (2) Restricting human activities like hunting, logging, and land conversion, thereby reducing threats to biodiversity.
- 5. (i) JFM stands for Joint Forest Management.
 - (ii) Community participation is important because local people depend on forests for their livelihood, and involving them ensures better protection, monitoring, and sustainable use of forest resources.
 - (iii) (1) Right to collect dry wood and medicinal herbs for personal use or income.
 - (2) Employment opportunities in replantation and forest protection activities.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- 1. (i) The ecological impacts of deforestation are:
 - (1) Landslides: The removal of trees loosens soil on slopes, making the region more prone to landslides.
 - (2) Drying of Springs: Deforestation reduces groundwater recharge and disrupts the water cycle, causing natural springs to dry up.
- (3) Extinction of Native Species: Loss of habitat leads to the disappearance of native plant and animal species, reducing biodiversity.
- (ii) The sustainable steps that could help balance conservation and livelihood needs are:
 - (1) Promote community-based forest management (e.g., JFM): Involving locals in forest protection while allowing regulated use of forest produce.

- (2) Encourage alternative livelihoods: Training locals in eco-tourism, handicrafts, or sustainable agriculture to reduce dependence on forest exploitation.
- **2.** (i) The importance of such conservation projects is:
 - (1) They help protect endangered species from extinction by providing safe and secure habitats.
 - (2) They maintain ecological balance by conserving entire ecosystems along with the species.
 - (ii) Two types of protected areas are:
 - (1) National Parks: Areas reserved for wildlife and natural habitats where no human activity (like grazing or habitation) is allowed.

Example: Jim Corbett National Park

- (2) Wildlife Sanctuaries: Protected areas where limited human activities such as grazing or tourism are permitted under regulation, mainly to protect wild animals in their natural habitat. Example: Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary
- (iii) Tiger under Project Tiger
- 3. (i) Sacred groves are forest patches protected by local communities due to religious or cultural beliefs. They are important because they:
 - (1) Preserve rare and endangered species of plants and animals.

- (2) Function as natural gene banks that support biodiversity without external interference.
- (ii) Traditional knowledge helps communities use forest resources sustainably, without harming the ecosystem. Community efforts, like protecting sacred groves or participating in forest management, promote long-term conservation by preventing illegal activities and encouraging reforestation.
- (iii) Khasi and Jaintia Hills in Meghalaya.
- **4.** (i) Biodiversity refers to the variety of all living organisms on Earth, including plants, animals, microorganisms, and the ecosystems they form. It represents the richness of life in a particular region.
 - (ii) The causes of Biodiversity loss in India are:
 - (1) Deforestation and habitat destruction due to industrialisation, urbanisation, and mining.
 - (2) Overexploitation of resources, such as overgrazing, overfishing, and excessive hunting.
 - (3) Pollution and introduction of invasive species, which disrupt native ecosystems and species balance.
 - (iii) The measures to conserve biodiversity are:
 - (1) Establishing protected areas like national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves.
 - (2) Promoting community participation and awareness programs to encourage sustainable resource use.

