

CLASS -8TH
SUB -SCIENCE
CHAPTER 7TH

(CONSERVATION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS (NOTES))

1. Deforestation

- **Definition:** Cutting down of trees on a large scale.
- **Causes:** Urbanization, agriculture, logging, and forest fires.
- **Consequences:**
 - Loss of biodiversity
 - Soil erosion
 - Increase in CO₂ levels (global warming)
 - Disturbance of the water cycle

2. Conservation of Forest and Wildlife

- **Importance:** To protect the ecosystem, maintain biodiversity, and prevent extinction of species.
- **Methods:**
 - **Afforestation:** Planting trees to create forests.
 - **Reforestation:** Planting trees in areas where forests have been cut down.
 - **Protected Areas:** Wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, and biosphere reserves.

3. Wildlife Sanctuaries, National Parks, and Biosphere Reserves

- **Wildlife Sanctuary:** A protected area for animals where hunting is prohibited. E.g., Bharatpur Sanctuary.
- **National Park:** Large protected areas for conserving wildlife, habitats, and natural resources. E.g., Jim Corbett National Park.
- **Biosphere Reserve:** Large areas that include wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, and buffer zones for conserving biodiversity. E.g., Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

4. Endangered and Extinct Species

- **Endangered Species:** Species that are at risk of extinction. E.g., Bengal Tiger, Indian Rhinoceros.
- **Extinct Species:** Species that no longer exist. E.g., Dodo, Passenger Pigeon.

5. Red Data Book

- A record of endangered and extinct species.
- Helps in tracking and conservation efforts for threatened species.

6. Migration

- **Definition:** Seasonal movement of animals from one place to another for breeding or better climate.
- **Examples:** Siberian Crane migrates to India during winter.

7. Recycling of Paper

- Reduces deforestation by recycling used paper.
- Saves trees and reduces waste in landfills.

8. Reforestation

- **Definition:** Planting trees in deforested areas to restore the forest ecosystem.
- Aimed at increasing the green cover and improving the environment.

9. Importance of Conservation

- Maintains ecological balance.
- Preserves biodiversity for future generations.
- Ensures sustainable use of resources.