

FOREST CONSERVATION

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- ▶ Forest Conservation means- The maintenance and upkeep of Forest and Forest Resources
- ▶ The Forests play a vital role in the protection of environment, climate change etc. hence it is the duty and responsibility of every citizen to protect the forests for the welfare of human and also wild life (Fauna and Flora).
- ▶ The Forest cover must be 33% of the geographical area whereas as per the Forest Survey Of India Reports the present Forest cover is 21.54% approximately and 23.20% in Andhra Pradesh which is 63,814 SqKm.

METHODS OF FOREST CONSERVATION

- ▶ A) Regulated and planned cutting of trees
- ▶ B) Control over Forest Fires
- ▶ C) Deforestation and Afforestation
- ▶ D) Check over Forest clearance for Agricultural purpose and industrial use
- ▶ E) Protection of Forests
- ▶ F) Proper utilisation of Forests and Forests Products

Regulated and Planned Cutting of trees

- ▶ The Forest resources are valuable as an integral part of ecosystem and shelter to wildlife.
- ▶ Forest provide raw materials for over 5000 products worth about 23 Million \$
- ▶ More destruction of Forests done after industrial revolution and urbanisation
- ▶ The commercial use of Forests now a days reached such an extent that it has become a threat to the environment in the form of
 - a) Increase in temperature
 - b) Lesser precipitation
 - c) Natural calamities like floods, tsunamis
 - d) increased rate of soil erosion

DEFORESTATION AND AFFORESTATION

- ▶ DEFORESTATION- Commercial felling of trees for various purposes and replanting the area
- ▶ Cutting of trees to be regulated by adopting following methods
 - a) Clear cutting
 - b) Selective cutting
 - c) Shelter wood cutting
- ▶ Clear Cutting-Where ever same type of trees are available over a large area and trees can be cut down and taken up for planting
- ▶ Selective cutting-Only matured trees are to be selected for cutting on rotation
- ▶ Shelter wood cutting- The progression of forest cuttings leading to the establishment of a new generation of seedlings of a particular species or group of species without planting. This Silviculture system is normally implemented in forests that are considered mature, often after several thinning
- ▶ The forest can be managed in such a way that a timber crop may be harvested year after year without being depleted .This technique is called **sustained yield**

AFFORESTATION

- ▶ Planting of seedlings in open areas is called as afforestation
- ▶ The following are the methods of afforestation
 - i) Avenue plantation- Planting of seedlings all along the roads. The purpose of raising of avenue plantation is to provide shade and also to have aesthetic view .The species proposed for avenue plantation are i) Peltophorum, ii) Neem iii) Pongamia (Kanuga) iv) Ficus v) Spathodia vi) Raintree vii) Bahunia viii) Tamarind ix) Delonix x) Sissoo etc.
 - ii) Block Planation- Planting of seedlings in the community lands, Government lands in order to increase the tree cover. The species proposed for planting are Neem, Pongamia, Seema thangedu, Peltophurum, Tamarind, Usiri, Seethaphal, Tellamaddi, Red sanders, Sandalwood etc.
 - iii) Barren Hill afforestation- Planation of seedlings in the barren hillocks to make the barren hillock into green cover in this the species proposed are Narepi, Albizia, Ficus, Pongamia, Neem, Cassia siamia etc.
 - iv) Tank fore shore planation- Raising of plantation in the fore shore area of the tanks after receding of the water. Mainly Thumma (Babul) plants are planted
 - v) Shelter Belt Plantations- These are mainly raised all along the sea coasts in order to control the lifting of sand. Casurina plants are planted in multiple rows.

Control over Forest Fires

- ▶ Forest Fires are common during summer seasons
- ▶ Forest fires caused due to friction between the trees, lightening , any natural burnings , man made fires etc.
- ▶ The forest fires are of two types
 - a) Ground fires- caused due to human- like shepherds, throwing of lighted ciggratee/beedi into the forests- there by the grass catch the fire and spreads
 - b) Crown fires- these are due to friction and lightening

Measures to control the Forest Fires

- ▶ Fire lines are to be formed in the forests
- ▶ Fire fighting equipment's are to be used to extinguish the forest fires
- ▶ Forest fire alerts from FSI and alerting the forest staff
- ▶ Usage of technology, identifying the forest fire prone areas alerting the staff

Check over forest clearance for Agricultural and Habitation purpose

- ▶ Clearance for Agriculture
- ▶ Podu cultivatin by Tribals
- ▶ Most of the lands are once upon a time were forests and clearance of forests leads to dangerous impacts
- ▶ The tribals who are doing podu cultivation prior to 2005 are issued pattas under RoFR Act
- ▶ For conservation of forests , the forest lands are to be utilized to a limited extent for development of villages, towns, cities etc and also the mining activities within the forest are to be limited
- ▶ Forest Conservation Policy 1980 was evolved to have control over diversion of the forest lands for other purposes,

Protection of Forests

- ▶ Forests are to be protected from illegal cutting of trees. For example Red sanders is a challenging task to the Forest Department where in protecting it from the smugglers
- ▶ Apart from cutting grazing is also to be controlled like damages to the forest through cattle, sheep, goat etc. for this controlled grazing can be adopted.
- ▶ Protection of forests from the pest, insect attack etc. which can be controlled by spraying or by spreading disease resistant trees.

Proper utilisation of Forest Products and Forest

- ▶ Generally the forest have been cut for logs and rest of the trees like stumps, branches are left which need to utilise all the waste products.
- ▶ Can be utilised for water proof glues, board , converting into charcoal etc.
- ▶ Forests can be developed as eco- tourism centres to realise the revenue- national parks, sanctuaries etc.

Soil and Moisture conservation works

- ▶ SMC works can be taken up in forest areas in order to control soil erosion, to improve ground water levels etc.
- ▶ SMC works like construction of check dams across the streams, rock fill dams, digging of contour/ staggered trenches across the slopes
- ▶ Desilting of old Kuntas and construction of percolation tanks

Awareness Programmes

- ▶ Awareness programmes are to be created among the public on protection of the forests, planting of seedlings, on wildlife etc.
- ▶ Vanamahostavam is one programme taken up every year in the month of July where in tree planting activity is done on a large scale involving public representatives, school children, local people, employees, NGO's etc
- ▶ The seedlings are distributed to the public every year for planting purpose
- ▶ Rally's are to be conducted involving school children and other people on the protection of the forest, wildlife, forest fires etc.
- ▶ Wide publicity is to be given through news papers, TV, radio etc.
- ▶ Kalajatharas, Burrakatha etc are to be conducted in the villages on protection of forests and wildlife.

Save Forests

Thank you