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**Based on NCERT patterns**

## Forests and Wildlife

### Forests and wildlife

- Forests are termed as biodiversity hotspots.
- Biodiversity is the variety and range of plant and animal life in a particular habitat. Loss of biodiversity may result in loss of ecological balance and damage to the ecosystem.

### Stakeholders of forest

When we consider conservation of forests we must consider the following stakeholders:

- People who habituate around forests and are dependent on forest produce.
- Forest Department of the Government that own the land and resources. Industrialists:
  - who use the forest to produce certain products e.g tendu leaves for bidis and paper mills.
- Conservationists and wildlife enthusiasts who want to conserve nature in its pristine form.

### Monoculture

- Monoculture is the cultivation of a single crop in a given area.
- Excessive monoculture destroys the biodiversity of the area.
- Various needs of the people local to forest areas are neglected such as leaves for fodder, herbs, and fruits for consumption.

### Industrialist's mentality and influence

- Industrialists consider forest as a source of raw materials.
- Industries have more political power than the locals and only bother about meeting their demands. They do not care about sustainability and will move on from one habitat to another in search of raw materials.

## **People intervention in forests**

- Human intervention is a necessity in the management of forest resources and landscapes.
- Resources must be utilised to ensure development while preserving the environment.
  - Benefits must go to the local people to ensure economic growth and conservation takes place simultaneously.
- Examples: Bishnoi community in Rajasthan for saving Khejri trees in Jodhpur Rajasthan.