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STUDY NOTES

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CLASS- VIII (All Section)

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Science

CHAPTER: 7 Biodiversity and conservation of Flora and Fauna

Today's Topic: Red data book and Role of a zoo

Red Data Books:

Many countries including India, now bring out. Red Data Bookg, which contain a list of species that are endangered. The species are classified into different categories of perceived risk levels. Each Red Data Book usually deals with a specific group of animals or plants, for example, primates, reptiles, insects, mosses, etc. They provide useful information on the threat status of the species.

Role of a zoo:

Many cities have zoological parks or zoos where animals are kept for display. In a zoo, animals are protected and sometimes also bred. Zoos help in creating public awareness about nature and wildlife conservation. Zoos in different parts of the world, not only sustain their own populations of exotic and endangered animals but also help increase their depleting population.

However, a zoo cannot provide the same ambience to animals as in the wild. According to India's National policy, the main objective of a zoo should be to complement and strengthen the nation's efforts in conservation of the rich biodiversity of the country.

Migration:

Apart from endemic species, forests and sanctuaries often have visiting birds from distant lands. In India, lakes and water bodies become home to hundreds of thousands of birds of various species in winter where they breed and raise their young ones. These birds, called **migratory birds**, come from far away countries in the north, where the winters are very severe.

The birds often have to fly thousands of kilometres. Some birds even fly over the high Himalayas to reach their favourite breeding grounds. Keoladeo Ghana is a world-famous bird sanctuary in Bharatpur, Rajasthan, which receives thousands of migratory birds every year, including the rare Siberian crane.

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