

VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYPITH SHAKTI UTTHAN ASHARAM LAKHISARAI

Ch: NATURAL VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE (Note)

Wildlife

India is rich in its fauna.

1. Elephants are found in the hot wet forests of Assam, Karnataka and Kerala.
2. One-horned rhinoceroses are found in Assam and West Bengal.
3. Rann of Kachchh is the habitat for wild ass whereas the Thar Desert is the habitat for camels.
4. The natural habitat of the Indian lion is the Gir forest in Gujarat.
5. Tigers are found in the forests of Madhya Pradesh, the Sundarbans of West Bengal and the Himalayan region.
6. Ladakh's freezing high altitudes are home to yak, the shaggy horned wild ox, the Tibetan antelope, the bharal (blue sheep), wild sheep, and the kiang (Tibetan wild ass).
7. In the rivers, lakes and coastal areas, turtles, crocodiles and gharials are found.
8. Peacocks, pheasants, ducks, parakeets, cranes and pigeons are some of the birds inhabiting the forests and wetlands of the country.

Cause of Major Threat to flora and fauna

Every species has an important role in the ecosystem. Hence, conservation of flora and fauna is essential. About 1,300 plant species are endangered and 20 species are extinct. The main causes of this major threat to nature are:

1. Hunting for commercial purposes
2. Pollution due to chemical and industrial waste
3. Rapidly cutting of the forests for cultivation and habitation