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FORESTS OF INDIA



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INTRODUCTION

- The total plant life growing naturally in an area is called forest or natural vegetation.
- This is influenced by various ecological factors like temperature, rain, land forms, soil etc..
- According to 2009 survey there is 6.9 lakh sq.km of forest forming 21.2% of the total geographical area.



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The natural vegetation of India can be divided into 6 main types.

- **1. Evergreen forests.**
- **2. deciduous Monsoon Forests.**
- **3. Tropical Grasslands**
- **4. Desert vegetation**
- **5. Mangrove Forests.**
- **6. Alpine forests of Himalayan.**



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Tropical evergreen forest

This type of vegetation is found in areas which are not more than 900 mts above the sea level and receive the rainfall more than 250 cm and the temperature ranges between 25^oc and 27^oc.



- Temperature and humidity are responsible for it

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They grow about 60mts tall.



Canopy is formed





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Rubber Tree





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Bamboo Bushes





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Teak, sal





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Tropical Grassland

This type of vegetation is found in the central parts of the Peninsular Plateau, border areas of Thar desert to the west of Aravalli hills where the annual rainfall is between 60 cm and 75 cm.

These forests have trees with short trunks Babool, Seesum and Sabhai types of grass are seen here.



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Mangrove Forests

These forests are formed due to tides. They are found along the deltas and estuaries of rivers that are subjected tides. The deltas of river Ganges, Godavari, Mahanadi and Krishna have these forests. In Ganges delta, there are plenty of Sundari trees and hence the forests are known as ‘Sundarbans’

The total area of mangrove forest is 4.4 thousand km²



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Desert Forests

This type of vegetation is found in regions where the annual rainfall is less than 50 cm, Rajasthan's Thar Desert, and the adjacent parts of Punjab, Haryana and Gujarath have this type of vegetation. The trees which grow here are short, have deep roots, thick leaves and thorns. Date palms are common near the oasis. Babul, palms and cactus are the important trees.



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Alpine forests of Himalayan

Different types of forests are found here.

As height increases the tropical type of climate changes in to the polar type of climate.

According to the changes in climate, various types of plants are found.

The important types of trees growing in this type of forest are sal, toon, silver spruce, laurel etc.

These trees have pointed leaves.



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Importance of Forests

- **Forests are a very essential natural resources. They provide raw materials to industries such as–**
- **Timber, bamboo, cane, gum, medicinal plants, shrubs etc.**
- **They provide fodder to animals.**



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Distribution of forests

- Scientists opine that for good environment an area should have 33% of its land are under forests.
- In India it is only 21.2%, which is very less.
- Madhya Pradesh has largest area as forest.
- Haryana is in the last position.



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WILD LIFE

- India has a variety of wild life because of its varied relief features, climate and natural vegetation. There are **about 80,000 species of wild animals, birds and fishes.** India has some animals which are not found in any part of the world, e.g. swamp deer, Chausinga (four horns antelope), Kashmir stag, black buck and Neelgai. The spotted deer of India is very beautiful. One horned rhinoceros is found only in India and Nepal.



Swamp Deer





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Chausinga (four horned antelope)





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Black Buck





Neelgai





Spotted Deer



WILD ANIMALS





Snow leopard





Hornbills





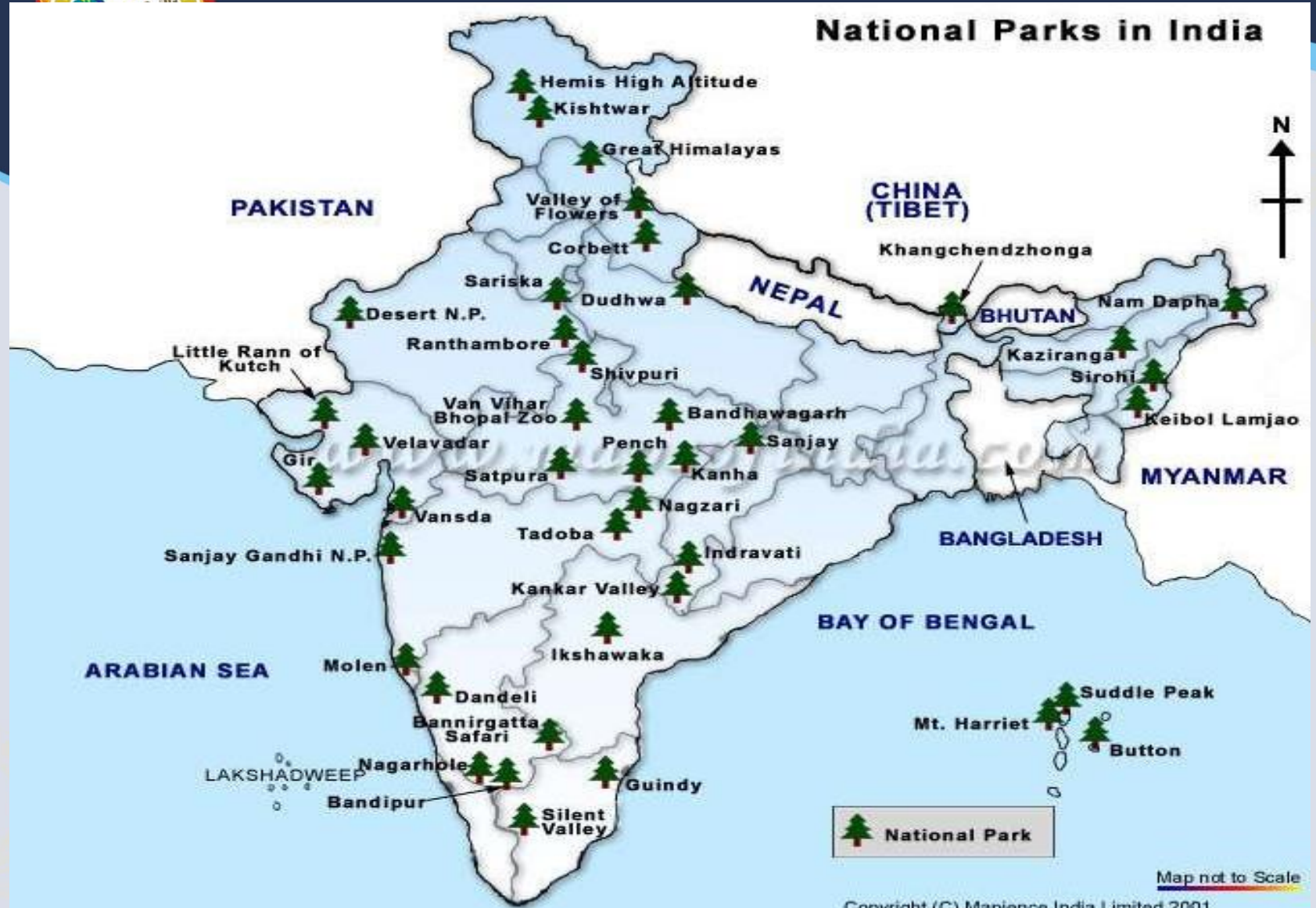
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National Parks

- Jim Corbett National Park
- Kaziranga National Park
- Hazaribagh National Park, Bihar
- Gir National Park Junagad,
- Kanha National Park,
- Tandova National Park



National Parks in India





Flora & Fauna





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Biosphere Reserves	Location
Nilgiri	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
Nanda Devi	Uttar Pradesh
Uttar Khand (Valley of flowers)	Uttar Pradesh
Nokrek	Meghalaya
Kaziranga	Assam
Sunderbans	West Bengal
Thar Desert	Rajasthan
Kanha	Madhya Pradesh
Namdapha	Arunchal Pradesh
Gulf of Mannar	Tamil Nadu
Rann of Kutch	Gujarat
Great Nicobar	Andaman and Nicobar
North Islands of Andamans	Andaman and Nicobar
Manas	Assam



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