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# Natural Vegetation & Wildlife

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(Om Sai Ram)

## Natural Vegetation & Relief features:-

→ Natural Vegetation refers to a plant community, which has grown naturally without human aid & has been left undisturbed by human for a long time. This is termed as virgin Vegetation.

- The term flora is used to denote plants of a particular region or period.
- The species of the animals are referred to as fauna.

## Relief features:-

→ This huge diversity in flora & fauna kingdom is due to the following factors:-

Land:- Land affects natural vegetation directly & indirectly.

→ The fertile level is generally devoted to agriculture.

→ The undulating & rough terrains are areas where grassland & woodland develop & give shelter to a variety of wildlife.

## Soil

Different types of soil provide a basis for different type of vegetation.

The sandy soils of the desert support cacti & thorny bushes, while wet, marshy, deltaic soils support mangrove & delta vegetation.

The soil at the hill slopes has conical trees.

## Climate

→ Temperature :- The character & extent of vegetation are mainly determined by temperature along with humidity in the air & precipitation & soil.

• The ~~fall~~ fall in the temperature affects the vegetation & its growth.

Photoperiod (Sunlight) :- The variation in the duration of sunlight at different places is due to differences in latitude, altitude, season & duration of the day. Due to the longer duration of sunlight, trees grow faster in summer.

Precipitation :- Areas of heavy rainfall have more dense vegetation as compared to areas of less rainfall.

Types of Vegetation :-

In India, the following major types of vegetation are found :-

1. Tropical Evergreen forests
2. Tropical Deciduous forests
3. Tropical Thorn forests & Scrubs
4. Montane forests
5. Mangrove forests.

## Tropical Deciduous forests

- These are the most wide-spread forests of India.
- They are also called the monsoon forests & spread over the region receiving rainfall between 200cm & 70cm.
- On the basis of availability of water

They are further divided into moist & dry deciduous forest.

### Moist Deciduous :-

→ The moist deciduous forest are found in areas receiving rainfall between 2000 & 1000 cm.

→ These forest exist mostly in Eastern part of the country. - North Eastern States along the foothills of the Himalayas, Jharkhand, West Odisha, Chhattisgarh.

→ Teak is the most dominant species of this forest.

→ Bamboo, Sal, Shisham, Sandalwood, Khair, Kaur, Arjun & Mulberry are other commercially important species.

### Dry Deciduous :-

→ The Dry deciduous forests are found in areas having rainfall between 1000 & 700 cm.

- These forests are found in the northern part of the peninsular plateau & the plains of Bihar & Uttar Pradesh.
- There are open stretches in which teak, sal, sheesham & neem grow.

Vegetation Zones	mean annual Average Temp (in degree C)	Mean Temp (in January) (in degree C)	Remarks
Tropical	Above 24°C	Above 18°	No frost
Sub tropical	17°C to 24°C	10°C to 18°C	frost is rare
Temperate	7°C to 17°C	-1°C to 10°C	frost some snow
Alpine	Below 7°C	Below (-1°C)	snow

As per this table it gives a reflection of the temperature with different forms of precipitation of various regions which differs with the increase of height & affects the growth of vegetation. For example if we travel from coastal region towards the altitude

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Different types of vegetation can be seen with the variation of temperature.

### Tropical thorn forest & Scrubs:-

- These forests are being found in the desert or arid areas which have ~~less~~ less than 70cm of rainfall.
- The areas it covers Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh.
- These trees have small leaves which preserve the moisture in them which does not allow the process of transpiration.
- The deep rooted roots of the plants cross a long distance to trap the water from the underground.
- The species of the trees are:- Acacia, Palms, Euphorbia & cacti.
- Species of animals are Hares, mice, Rabbits, Fox, wolf, tiger, Lion, wild dog.

## Montane forest

\* The montane forest are located at a altitude of 1500-3000 m above the sea level

\* With the increase of height & decrease in temperature. A corresponding change can be seen which is ~~formed~~ termed as montane forest

\* The distributed areas of Jammu Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim & Arunachal Pradesh.

→ There are 4 categories of distribution of montane forest:-

(i) Wet temperate forest:- In between 1000-2000 m, Evergreen trees with broad leaves are fairly distributed

(ii) Temperate forest:- In between 1500-3000 m, basically coniferous trees are found.

→ Species like pine, silver birch, cedar etc.



(iii) Alpine Vegetation :- Located in between 3600m.

→ Dominated species are - pine, silver pine, Birch & Snow line trees.

(iv) Alpine Grassland :- These are located above high altitude more than 3500 metres.

→ It's a dry & arid area where nomades like Gujjar makes a survival point.

Mangrove forest :- Mangrove forest is known as tidal forest.

→ Mangrove forest are found near to the delta region of ~~Ganga~~ Ganga, Brahmaputra, Mahanadi, Krishna, Kaveri.

→ Species like Palm, Coconut, Keora & agar etc.

→ Royal Bengal tiger is the famous animal in these forest.

→ Turtles, crocodiles, gharial etc.

# INDIA

## OUTLINE MAP WITH STATES & UNION TERRITORIES



ARABIAN SEA

BAY OF BENGAL

INDIAN OCEAN

International Boundary  
State/UT Boundary

Map not to Scale

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