

CBSE Class 9 Geography Notes Chapter 5: Chapter 5 of CBSE Class 9 Geography is about "Natural Vegetation and Wildlife." It talks about the different types of plants and animals found in India. The chapter describes various kinds of forests, like tropical evergreen forests, tropical deciduous forests, thorny bushes, mountain vegetation, and mangrove forests.

Each type of forest grows in specific weather and soil conditions. The chapter explains why forests are important for maintaining balance in nature and supporting wildlife. It also discusses factors like temperature, rainfall, and altitude that affect where different plants grow. India's wildlife is very diverse, with many kinds of animals, birds, and insects.

The chapter emphasizes the need to protect natural habitats to save this biodiversity, mentioning national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves as important conservation areas.

CBSE Class 9 Geography Notes Chapter 5 Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Overview

These notes for CBSE Class 9 Geography Chapter 5, "Natural Vegetation and Wildlife," are prepared by experts from Physics Wallah. This chapter talks about the different types of plants and trees in India, like tropical evergreen forests, tropical deciduous forests, thorny bushes, mountain vegetation, and mangrove forests. Each type grows in specific weather and soil conditions.

It explains why forests are important for keeping nature balanced and helping wildlife. The chapter also talks about factors like temperature, rainfall, and altitude that affect where plants grow. It covers the rich variety of animals, birds, and insects in India.

The notes highlight the need to protect natural habitats through national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves to save this biodiversity.

CBSE Class 9 Geography Notes Chapter 5 PDF

These notes for CBSE Class 9 Geography Chapter 5, "Natural Vegetation and Wildlife," are prepared by subject experts from Physics Wallah.

The chapter also talks about factors like temperature, rainfall, and altitude that affect where plants grow. It highlights India's rich variety of animals, birds, and insects and stresses the need to protect their natural homes through national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves. For more details, you can refer to the PDF linked below.

CBSE Class 9 Geography Notes Chapter 5 PDF

CBSE Notes Class 9 Geography Chapter 5 – Natural Vegetation and Wildlife

Natural Vegetation

Natural vegetation refers to a plant community that has grown naturally without human assistance and has remained undisturbed by human activity for a long time. This untouched plant community is termed virgin vegetation.

The term "flora" is used to denote the plants of a particular region or period, while "fauna" refers to the species of animals in a specific area. The diversity in the flora and fauna is influenced by several factors, including relief and soil.

Relief

Land

Land has a direct and indirect effect on natural vegetation.

- **Fertile Level Land:** This type of land is usually used for agriculture because it is rich in nutrients and suitable for growing crops.
- **Undulating and Rough Terrains:** These areas, with their uneven surfaces and rugged landscapes, are where grasslands and woodlands typically develop. Such terrains provide habitats for a variety of wildlife.

Soil

Different types of soils support different types of vegetation.

- **Sandy Soils of the Desert:** These soils are found in arid regions and are capable of supporting plants like cactus and thorny bushes that are adapted to dry conditions.
- **Wet, Marshy, Deltaic Soils:** These soils are found in wet and marshy areas, often in deltas, and support vegetation such as mangroves and other deltaic plants.
- **Soil on Hill Slopes:** The soil found on hill slopes is conducive to the growth of conical trees, which are adapted to the sloped terrain and often found in mountainous regions.

This variety in soil and land types across different regions of India leads to a diverse range of natural vegetation and wildlife, contributing to the rich biodiversity of the country.

Climate

Temperature

Temperature plays a crucial role in determining the character and extent of vegetation. It influences the types of plants that can grow in a region, as well as their growth patterns.

- **High Temperatures:** Regions with higher temperatures tend to support vegetation that is adapted to heat, such as tropical and subtropical plants.
- **Low Temperatures:** Areas with lower temperatures, especially those experiencing frost, support vegetation that can withstand cold, such as coniferous forests.

Temperature affects not only the types of plants that grow but also their growth rate. For instance, many plants grow more slowly in colder temperatures.

Photoperiod (Sunlight)

The amount of sunlight a region receives, known as the photoperiod, varies based on latitude, altitude, season, and the length of the day. This variation impacts plant growth significantly.

- **Longer Sunlight Duration:** In summer, the extended hours of daylight allow for more photosynthesis, leading to faster growth of plants and trees.
- **Shorter Sunlight Duration:** In winter, shorter days slow down the growth process due to reduced photosynthetic activity.

Precipitation

The amount of rainfall a region receives is directly linked to the density and type of vegetation found there.

- **Heavy Rainfall:** Areas with abundant rainfall support dense forests, such as tropical rainforests, where a wide variety of plant species thrive.
- **Low Rainfall:** Regions with sparse rainfall typically have less dense vegetation, such as grasslands and deserts, where plants are adapted to dry conditions and can survive with minimal water.

Together, temperature, sunlight, and precipitation create diverse climatic conditions that shape the natural vegetation and wildlife in different regions, contributing to the rich biodiversity found across various landscapes.

Types of Vegetation in India

In India, there are several major types of vegetation, each adapted to specific climatic and geographic conditions:

Tropical Evergreen Forests

- **Location:** Found in the Western Ghats, Lakshadweep Islands, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, upper Assam, and Tamil Nadu coast.
- **Climate:** Thrive in regions with more than 200 cm of rainfall annually and a short dry season.

- **Characteristics:** Trees reach heights of up to 60 meters with a dense, multilayered structure of trees, shrubs, and creepers.
- **Flora:** Includes ebony, mahogany, rosewood, rubber, and cinchona trees.
- **Fauna:** Home to elephants, monkeys, lemurs, and various deer species.

Tropical Deciduous Forests

- **Also Known As:** Monsoon forests.
- **Distribution:** Spread across regions receiving rainfall between 200 cm and 70 cm annually.
- **Seasonal Shedding:** Trees shed leaves during the dry summer period.
- **Animals:** Habitat for lions, tigers, pigs, deer, and elephants.

Moist Deciduous:

- **Rainfall:** Found in areas with rainfall between 200 cm and 100 cm.
- **Dominant Species:** Teak; other species include bamboos, sal, shisham, sandalwood, and khair.

Dry Deciduous:

- **Rainfall:** Found in areas with rainfall between 100 cm and 70 cm.
- **Flora:** Includes teak, sal, peepal, and neem trees.

Thorn Forests and Scrubs

- **Location:** Found in the north-western parts of India, including semi-arid regions of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, and Haryana.
- **Adaptations:** Trees and bushes are thorny with deep roots to access moisture.
- **Characteristics:** Moist stems and small, thick leaves to minimize water loss.
- **Flora:** Acacias, palms, euphorbias, and cacti.
- **Fauna:** Includes rodents, rabbits, foxes, wolves, tigers, lions, wild donkeys, horses, and camels.

Montane Forests

- **Location:** Found in mountainous regions.
- **Types:**
 - **Wet Temperate:** Located between 1000 and 2000 meters altitude.
 - **Alpine:** Above 3600 meters, transitioning to grasslands and alpine vegetation.
- **Flora:** Includes a variety of trees and grasses adapted to cooler temperatures.
- **Fauna:** Includes Kashmir stag, spotted deer, wild sheep, jackrabbit, Tibetan antelope, yak, snow leopard, squirrels, shaggy horn wild ibex, bears, red pandas, and various sheep and goats.

Mangrove Forests

- **Location:** Found in coastal areas influenced by tides, such as the Ganga-Brahmaputra delta.
- **Adaptations:** Trees rooted in saline sediments and submerged underwater.
- **Flora:** Sundari trees are prominent, providing hard timber.
- **Fauna:** Known for the Royal Bengal Tiger and diverse aquatic life adapted to brackish water conditions.

Each type of vegetation in India is uniquely adapted to its specific environment, contributing to the country's rich biodiversity and ecosystem diversity.

Wildlife in India

India boasts a diverse array of wildlife across its varied landscapes:

- **Elephants:** Found in the hot, wet forests of Assam, Karnataka, and Kerala.
- **One-horned Rhinoceroses:** Native to Assam and West Bengal.
- **Wild Donkeys:** Inhabit the Rann of Kachchh, while camels thrive in the Thar Desert.
- **Indian Lions:** Naturally occur in the Gir forest of Gujarat.
- **Tigers:** Populations exist in Madhya Pradesh, the Sundarbans of West Bengal, and the Himalayan region.
- **High Altitude Wildlife:** Ladakh hosts yak, shaggy horned wild oxen, Tibetan antelope, bharal (blue sheep), wild sheep, and kiang (Tibetan wild donkey).
- **Aquatic Life:** Rivers, lakes, and coastal areas are home to turtles, crocodiles, and gharials.
- **Birds:** Peacocks, pheasants, ducks, parakeets, cranes, and pigeons populate the forests and wetlands.

Threats to Flora and Fauna

Conservation efforts are crucial due to the significant threats faced by wildlife and plant species:

- **Causes:** Major threats include hunting for commercial purposes, pollution from chemical and industrial waste, and rapid deforestation for agriculture and urbanization.
- **Endangered Species:** Approximately 1,300 plant species are endangered, with 20 species already extinct.

Government Initiatives

The Indian government has implemented several initiatives to protect its flora and fauna:

- **Biosphere Reserves:** Established 18 biosphere reserves across the country, with 10 included in the world network of biosphere reserves.
- **Botanical Gardens:** Since 1992, financial and technical assistance has supported many botanical gardens.

- **Conservation Projects:** Initiatives like Project Tiger, Project Rhino, Project Great Indian Bustard, and other eco-developmental projects aim to protect endangered species and their habitats.
- **Protected Areas:** India has 103 National Parks, 535 Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Zoological Gardens dedicated to preserving its natural heritage.

These efforts underscore India's commitment to biodiversity conservation, ensuring the survival and well-being of its unique flora and fauna for future generations.

Benefits of CBSE Class 9 Geography Notes Chapter 5 Natural Vegetation

- **Understanding Ecosystems:** It helps students understand how different types of vegetation support diverse ecosystems and contribute to ecological balance.
- **Knowledge of Indian Geography:** Students gain insights into the geographical distribution of natural vegetation across India, including tropical forests, deciduous forests, thorn forests, montane forests, and mangroves.
- **Awareness of Wildlife:** The chapter covers various wildlife species associated with different vegetation types, enhancing students' knowledge of India's rich biodiversity.
- **Environmental Conservation:** Learning about threats to flora and fauna encourages students to appreciate the importance of conservation efforts and sustainable practices.
- **Exam Preparation:** These Notes provide concise information essential for exams, helping students prepare effectively and perform well academically.
- **Real-life Applications:** Understanding natural vegetation and wildlife helps students connect classroom learning to real-world environmental issues and conservation challenges.

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