

Report Writing On Environmental Studies (EVS) Field Trip



B.A 6th Semester Kohima College Kohima

Topic : Habitat Loss (Group – 3)

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INTRODUCTION

We deprived upon the environment for our survival. All the basis resources required for our living comes from our environment. The environment provides the essential for life to flourish on earth.

Habitat is a home place for living organism. Where they survive, reproduce and live peacefully but due to the encroachment/human intervention led to the habitat loss such as extinction, force to adapt new environment and also led to Human Animal conflicts. All the cause, depletion of nature and species are mainly by human activities. It also directly and indirectly affects human, and the concept of habitat Conservation should make matter in human life.

MEANING OF HABITAT

A habitat is a place where an organism makes its home. A habitat meets all the environmental conditions an organism needs to survive. For an animal, that means everything it needs to find and gather food, select a mate, and successfully reproduce.

For a plant, a good habitat must provide the right combination of light, air, water, and soil. For example, the prickly pear cactus, which is adapted for sandy soil, dry climates, and bright sunlight, grows well in desert areas like the Sonoran Desert in northwest Mexico. It would not thrive in wet, cool areas with a large amount of overcast (shady) weather, like the U.S. states of Oregon or Washington.

The main components of a habitat are shelter, water, food, and space. A habitat is said to have a suitable arrangement when it has the correct amount of all of these. Sometimes, a habitat can meet some components of a suitable arrangement, but not all.

HABITAT LOSS

Habitat loss refers to the reduction in the amount of space where a particular species, or group of species can survive and reproduce. Habitat loss is a consequence of human activities such as agriculture, urbanization, deforestation, resource extraction, alteration of the sea- floor due to trawling (fishing), or the release of pollutants. Habitat loss can also occur due to environmental changes, such as volcanic eruptions or tsunamis, or changes in climate or sea level, which today are largely the result of human activities. Habitat loss can decrease biodiversity and alters species ranges and interactions.

CAUSES OF HABITAT LOSS

*** MAN-MADE**

The cause of the loss of the habitat place of a species happen mostly due to human activities knowingly or unknowingly. In the recent years most of the animals are either getting endangered or in the red zone for the reason such as hunting, poaching, forest fires etc.

(a)Agriculture

Habitat loss in the field of agriculture at Khonoma village.

The shifting cultivation practice by the villagers has an impact on habitat loss due to cutting down of trees for agriculture purposes which lead to loss of soil fertility and accelerate deforestation and also it leads to forest fire due to out control of fires. The fallow period that was meant for regaining soil fertility has reduced from 20-30 years to less than 2-3 years. Thereby leading to degrading and creating ecological imbalance under shifting cultivation.



Jhum cultivation process going on in Khonoma village

(b) STONE MINING



An image of stone mining in process at khonoma village for the development of roads.

Khonoma has been blessed with many stone reserves. Stone mining is carried out at both large and small scale levels in Khonoma Village. Some of the environmental implication of stone mining are loss of forest and erosion of soil, degradation in agriculture reduction in biodiversity and instability of rock masses. Both large and small scale of mining have some negative effect on environment.

***NATURAL**

Natural phenomenon leading to the cause of loss of habitat is very low as there are many habitat place and as the place is fully covered with forests but by our own experience we come to know that the loss of habitat is mainly due to landslide. Also approaching the villagers, we came to know that the loss of habitat in recent years are caused by natural phenomenon such as earthquakes, snowing in the month of December and January, by carnivorous animals and even flus/diseases that are carried from one animals to another.

LANDSLIDE

We observed that large masses of soil, rock on debris slop down due to a natural phenomenon or by human activity. The natural phenomenon of landslide is both caused by human and natural, on an account of natural causes it is caused by rain, earthquake and other natural factors that make it unstable, the account of human activities such as clear-cutting, mining, quarrying, unstable agricultural practices, and even construction activities and development of road also leads to landslide. Landslide can wipe out large tracks of forests, destroy wildlife habitat, and reserve productive soils from slopes.



PREVENTIVE MEASURES OF HABITAT LOSS

The animals are getting extinct day by day it is due to either by evolution, human activities or natural activities. Many countries have taken up the step to preserve our environment by forming the environment protection act. Also in recent years forming of G-20 took a great extent in saving our environment both for animals and plants.

-PROHIBITION OF HUNTING AND POACHING



Many animals and birds are added to the brick of extinction every year as a result of poaching and hunting of wildlife Biodiversity. Illegal hunting, capturing and killing of should be stopped by implementing laws and protect the animals. To prevent poaching animal sanctuary should be provided. These can help paying special attention to animals who

need protection and may be vulnerable to attacks and violence. Another way to prevent poaching is to spread the world to public because this illegal practice cannot be stopped by law enforcement agencies only. Education also plays an important role in preventing hunting and poaching as education teaches people about the importance of animals and how they're connected to us.

-AFFORESTATION

It is the process of planting trees in an area that has been destroyed due to agricultural practice and to restore or reduce the amount of soil in an area and establish more fertile and stable soil base. More trees should be planted as it reduces the effect of drought. Afforestation helps to protect endangered species by providing natural habitat. We may choose a barren land, waste lands to plant trees to increase forest cover as forest plays the major role in changing the climates.

Beside this there are many more measures in order to prevent habitat loss such as recycle of waste at home, control inutile species, control and regular monitoring of water quality, get the most out of our habitat. These are the measures to prevent and protect the habitat loss.



***CONCLUSION**

The result of environment changing problems are all because of human activities so we should be aware and value the unique life of plants and animals too. Before they turn completely extinct we should take all the necessary measure in the above measures for the animals to be comfortable. Yes, the world has taken a very big lead in developing and even for the restoration of our forest but that doesn't mean that it will heal itself until every individual feels important. Recent plan such as a group of around 20 countries including India has formed a G-20 country and started taking measures in rebuilding the forest ecology. Another plan for the future was taken by Dubai to build a house such as that all the people in the country can live inside it will also have shopping malls, hospitals etc inside it, this is still an ongoing plan but if they apply the world would have a very great leap in building the forest ecology and also for the wild animals.

Awareness should be make in every urban and grass root level for the importance habitat and problem of its loss. Setting up of public meeting, eco-club, making postures should be our prior in different institutions, governmental organizations and NGOs. And our concerned should be based on sustainable and prevention of nature.

