

CHAPTER 16

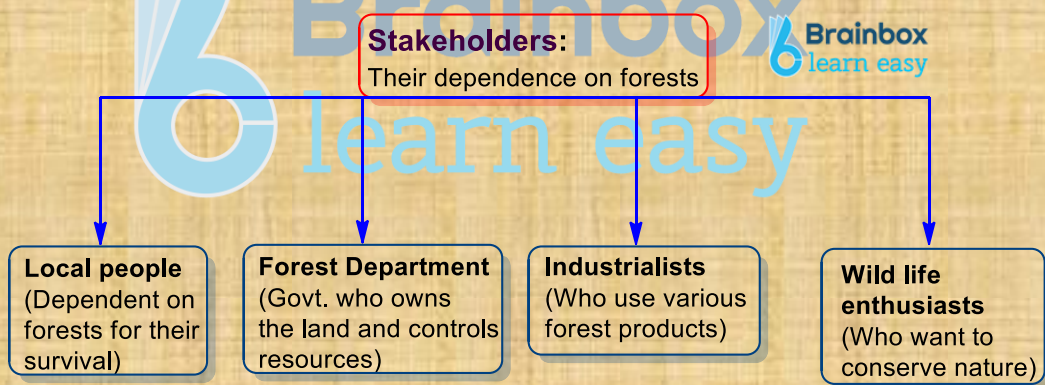
Sustainable Management of Natural Resources

Forest and wild life conservation:

Forests are biodiversity hot spots. Biodiversity of an area is the number of species of different life forms like bacteria, fungi, flowering plants, insects, birds, etc. Hotspot means an area full of biological diversity. Loss of diversity may lead to a loss of ecological stability/ecological imbalance.

Stakeholders:

A person having interest or concern for something is called as a stakeholder.



Sustainable Management:

Management of forest resources wisely to make it available for future generations. To consider the conservation of forests, we need to look at the stakeholders who are:

- The people who live in or around forests are dependent on forest products for various aspects of their life.

- The forest department of the Government, which owns the land and controls the resources from forests.
- The industrialists—from those who use ‘tendu’ leaves to make bidis to the ones with paper mills who use various forest produce.
- The wild life and nature enthusiasts who want to conserve nature in its pristine form. A major program called silviculture has been started to replenish the forests by growing more trees and plants.

Conservation of forests:

It is carried out by the following methods.

Afforestation:

It is growing of forests on unprotected barren lands. Van Mahotsava is a tree plantation movement carried out twice a year (February and July) by both government and voluntary agencies.

Reforestation:

It is developing forest cover in the area, which has been damaged or cleared during exploitation.

Separation of Commercial Forestry:

Useful plants required by industry should be planted separately preferably on wasteland. Growing industry required plants is called production plantation.

Grazing:

Grazing should be regulated according to the availability of pasturage.

Deforestation:

Removal decreases or deterioration of forest cover of an area is called deforestation.

