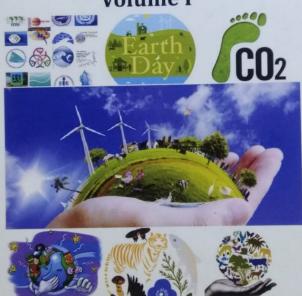
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Environmental Concerns of 21st Century: Indian and Global Context

Volume I



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Biodiversity Contributes to Climate Protection

Shukla Saluja and Pamil Tayal

ABSTRACT

Land species (both flora and fauna) have evolved to live in particular habitats and specific climatic ranges, but due to exceeding climatic fluctuations species cannot adapt to new temperatures at a faster rate, thereby threatening their survival. Climate change is expected to threaten one quarter of land species by 2050, surpassing habitat loss as the biggest factor contributing to decline in biodiversity. Climate change and biodiversity are inter-related with each other - increase in temperature impacts biodiversity loss and at the same time, loss of biodiversity magnifies adverse effects of climate change. Similarly, managing and protecting biodiversity will mitigate negative impacts of climate change by carbon sequestering and increasing energy efficiency measures; and help people to adapt to it. Lastly, to prevent the loss of natural environmental assets, government should design policies to develop a high carbon landscape, limiting pressures from agriculture pollution, lay attention on sewage treatment discharge and air pollution, ensure sustainable grazing and develop ecologically robust and varied landscape.

Keywords: Biodiversity; Carbon sequestration; Energy efficiency; Mitigation

1. Introduction

The rich variety of life on Earth always has to deal with changing climatic conditions in order to adapt to new patterns of temperature

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