

1. **Correct Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**
Explanation:
Statement 1 – Incorrect: Genetic diversity is the variation **within species**, not between species. It refers to differences in DNA among individuals of the same species (e.g., dog breeds).
Statement 2- Correct Species diversity refers to the variety and number of **different species** in a particular area (e.g., birds, plants, insects in a forest).
Statement 3 – Correct: Ecosystem diversity refers to the variety of **ecosystems** (like forests, wetlands, deserts) within a region.
2. **Correct Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**
Explanation:
 - **Alpha diversity** measures biodiversity **within a particular area or ecosystem** (local scale) e.g., number of species in a forest patch.
 - **Beta and Gamma diversity** assess biodiversity at **larger scales:**
 - **Beta diversity** compares species **between ecosystems** (difference in species between two habitats).
 - **Gamma diversity** measures **overall diversity** across multiple ecosystems in a region.
3. **Correct Answer: B. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
Simpson's Index and **Shannon-Weiner Index** are both widely used to **quantify biodiversity**, considering species richness and evenness.
Carrying Capacity Index relates to the **population an environment can support**, not biodiversity measurement.
4. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**
Explanation:
Provisioning services are the **products** we get from nature like **freshwater, food, and medicinal resources**.
Pollination is a **regulating service**, not provisioning.
5. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
 1. **In-situ conservation** means protecting species **in their natural habitats** (e.g., national parks, biosphere reserves).
 2. **Ex-situ conservation** is done **outside natural habitats** (e.g., zoos, gene banks, botanical gardens). **Biosphere reserves** are **in-situ**, not ex-situ.
6. **Correct Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**
Explanation:
Incorrect: The Red Data Book is **not published by UNEP**.
Correct: It lists **endangered and threatened species**.
Correct: It is maintained by the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**.
7. **Correct Answer: D. 1, 2, 3 and 4**
Explanation:
All listed factors are major **threats to biodiversity:**
Habitat loss & fragmentation reduces living space.
Invasive species outcompete native ones.
Overexploitation depletes resources (e.g., overfishing). **Climate change** alters ecosystems and species survival.
8. **Correct Answer: C. 1 and 3 only**
Explanation:
Correct: Species can go extinct naturally due to **catastrophes or evolution**.
Incorrect: **Human activities** like pollution, hunting, and habitat destruction **do significantly cause species loss**. **Correct:** **Island species** are more vulnerable due to **limited range and isolation**.
9. **Correct Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**
Explanation:
Loss of biodiversity can cause:
 1. **Disruption of food chains** and loss of **ecosystem services** like pollination.
 2. **Decline in agricultural productivity** due to fewer pollinators and genetic resources.
 3. **Reduced climate resilience**, making ecosystems less adaptable to changes.
10. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**
Explanation:
All listed species are **endangered and native to India:**
Great Indian Bustard is critically endangered.
Snow Leopard is endangered, found in the Himalayan region. **Olive Ridley Turtle** is endangered, primarily along India's eastern coast. **Indian Pangolin** is also endangered, found in various parts of India.
11. **Correct Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**
Explanation:
All of the listed initiatives aim at **biodiversity conservation** in India:
 1. **Project Tiger** focuses on conserving **tiger populations** and their habitats.

2. **National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)** works to **conserve biodiversity** and regulate its use.
3. **Eco-sensitive zones** are areas where activities are regulated to **protect biodiversity** and natural habitats.
12. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 4 only**
Explanation:
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) aims to conserve biodiversity globally.
Ramsar Convention focuses on the conservation of **wetlands**, which are crucial for biodiversity.
Kyoto Protocol is related to **climate change** and does not directly focus on biodiversity.
CITES regulates international trade of **endangered species** to protect biodiversity.
13. **Correct Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**
Explanation:
Incorrect: The **Trans-Himalayan zone** does not have the richest biodiversity. This zone is more barren and harsh, with relatively lower biodiversity.
Correct: The **Western Ghats** are one of the eight '**hottest hotspots**' of biodiversity, rich in species and endemism.
Correct: The **Indian Desert** zone, though arid, has areas of **high endemism** due to its unique conditions.
14. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**
Explanation:
All the listed mammals are **Critically Endangered** in India:
1. **Pygmy Hog** is a small wild pig, critically endangered, primarily found in Assam.
2. **Himalayan Wolf** is a rare species found in the Himalayas, critically endangered due to habitat loss.
3. **Malabar Civet** is critically endangered, found in the Western Ghats, with very few individuals remaining.
4. **Dugong** is a marine mammal, also critically endangered in the coastal regions of India, especially in the Gulf of Mannar.
15. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
Correct: The **Forest Owlet** is **Critically Endangered** and **endemic to Central India** (specifically in Madhya Pradesh).
Correct: India has more **marine fish species** than **freshwater species**, reflecting the richness of its marine biodiversity.
Incorrect: **Coral reefs in India** are not only found in the Gulf of Mannar and Andaman & Nicobar Islands; they are also found along the **Lakshadweep Islands** and parts of the **Gujarat coast**.
16. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**
Explanation:
All listed factors contribute to **man-animal conflict** in India:
1. **Habitat fragmentation and shrinking forest cover** limit animal habitats, pushing them into human settlements.
2. **Rapid urbanization and encroachment** reduce available land for wildlife and increase chances of conflict.
3. **Lack of ecological corridors** prevents safe movement of animals between habitats, leading to conflicts in human-dominated areas.
4. **Overpopulation of certain herbivore species** (e.g., elephants, deer) can result in more frequent interactions with human crops and settlements.
17. **Correct Answer: B. 1, 2 and 4 only**
Explanation:
Cycas (a type of cycad) is a **gymnosperm** found in India.
Pinus (pine trees) is also a **gymnosperm** found in India, especially in the Himalayan region.
Sal is a **angiosperm** (flowering plant), not a gymnosperm.
Cedrus (cedar trees) is a **gymnosperm** found in the Himalayan region.
18. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
Correct: **Nepenthes** and **Drosera** are both **insectivorous plants**, known for capturing and digesting insects.
Correct: **Lantana camara** and **Parthenium hysterophorus** are **invasive alien species** in India, causing harm to local ecosystems.
Incorrect: **Insectivorous plants** are usually found in **nutrient-poor** environments like wetlands or bogs, not arid regions.
19. **Correct Answer: C. 1, 2 and 3**
Explanation:
All the pairs are correctly matched:
Ashwagandha is known for its **stress-relieving properties** and as an **immunity booster**.
Neem has **antibacterial** and **antifungal** properties, commonly used in skincare and health products.
Saraca asoca (also known as Ashoka tree) is used for **treating menstrual disorders**.
20. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**
Explanation:

All the listed characteristics help in **species identification**:

Leaf shape and margin: The shape, size, and edge of leaves vary across species.

Bark texture: The texture, color, and patterns of bark are unique to certain tree species.

Fruit and flower structure: The structure of flowers and fruits is crucial for identifying species.

Presence of aerial roots: Species like mangroves and banyan trees have distinct aerial roots, aiding identification.

21. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**

Explanation:

1. **Correct: Schedule I animals** are given **absolute protection** under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and hunting them is prohibited.

2. **Correct: Schedule II animals** are also protected, but **hunting may be allowed under special licenses** in certain circumstances.

3. **Correct: Schedule V** includes animals that are considered **vermin** and can be legally hunted.

22. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

Correct: Phytoplankton are **autotrophic** (produce their own food through photosynthesis) and form the **base of the marine food web**.

Correct: Seagrasses are **flowering plants**, whereas **seaweeds** are **algae**.

Incorrect: Seaweeds do not contribute to **nitrogen fixation** in marine environments; this is typically carried out by certain **bacteria** and **cyanobacteria**, not seaweeds.

23. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**

Explanation:

Correct: Wildlife Sanctuaries allow **limited human activity** like grazing or sustainable use of resources, while **National Parks** prohibit all forms of human interference for conservation.

Correct: Conservation Reserves are often located in **areas adjacent to National Parks and Sanctuaries**, ensuring the protection of wildlife corridors.

Correct: Community Reserves are declared with the **voluntary participation of local communities**, allowing them to manage and protect the resources sustainably.

24. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve is a **coastal protected area** located along the Tamil Nadu coast, known for its rich marine biodiversity.

Bhitarkanika National Park is a **coastal protected area** in Odisha, famous for its mangrove forests and saltwater crocodiles.

Sundarbans National Park is a **coastal protected area** in West Bengal, known for its mangrove forests and the Bengal tiger.

Simlipal National Park is **not a coastal area**; it is a forest reserve located inland in Odisha.

25. **Correct Answer: B. 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

Correct: Sacred groves are areas of forest that are **traditionally protected by communities** due to **religious beliefs**.

Incorrect: While sacred groves are found in many parts of India, they are **most commonly found in the northeastern states, Kerala, and parts of southern India**, not specifically in **central India and the Indo-Gangetic plains**.

Correct: Sacred groves contribute to **in-situ conservation** by preserving **local biodiversity** and maintaining ecosystems in their natural state.

26. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**

Explanation:

Sandalwood oil: The **export of sandalwood** and its products, including oil, is prohibited under Indian law to prevent overexploitation.

Red Sanders wood: **Red Sanders** is a species found in India and is prohibited for export due to its endangered status.

Mongoose hair brushes: The export of **mongoose hair brushes** is banned because the mongoose is a protected species under Indian wildlife laws.

Shahtoosh shawls: The export of **Shahtoosh shawls**, made from the wool of the **Tibetan antelope (Chiru)**, is prohibited as the species is endangered.

27. **Correct Answer: B. 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

Correct: The **Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme** is indeed a **UNESCO initiative** aimed at promoting a balanced relationship between humans and nature through the creation of **Biosphere Reserves**.

Incorrect: Biosphere Reserves under MAB do not require areas to be **free from human settlements**. Human activities, including sustainable use, can occur, especially in the buffer and transition zones.

Correct: Biosphere Reserves under MAB include **three zones:** the **core zone** (protected area), the **buffer zone** (sustainable use area), and the **transition zone** (areas of human settlements and activities).

28. **Correct Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

Incorrect: The **National Biosphere Reserve Programme** of India is **not entirely funded and administered by UNESCO**. While UNESCO supports the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves**, the programme in India is managed by the Indian government.

Correct: The **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** was the **first biosphere reserve** established in India under this programme, in 1986.

Correct: **Not all biosphere reserves** in India are part of the **World Network of Biosphere Reserves** under UNESCO. Some are only designated within India.

29. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

Nilgiri: The **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** is part of the **UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves**.

Sundarbans: The **Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve** is also included in the **UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves**.

Nanda Devi: The **Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve** is part of the **UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves**.

Nokrek: The **Nokrek Biosphere Reserve** is **not** part of the **UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves**, although it is a designated biosphere reserve in India.

30. **Correct Answer: B. 1 and 3 only**

Explanation:

Correct: A biodiversity hotspot must have at least **1,500 species of vascular plants** that are **endemics** (found nowhere else in the world).

Incorrect: The **Eastern Himalayas** and **Western Ghats** are two of the biodiversity hotspots in India, but there are **more hotspots** in India, such as the **Sundaland, Indo-Burma, and Central Himalayas**.

Correct: A region must have lost **at least 70% of its original natural vegetation** to qualify as a hotspot. This criterion is part of the definition of a biodiversity hotspot.

31. **D; Correct Answer: All of the above**

Explanation:

Keoladeo National Park: Located in Rajasthan, this park is a **UNESCO Natural World Heritage**

Site due to its significance as a bird sanctuary, particularly for migratory birds.

Kaziranga National Park: Situated in Assam, this park is a **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site**, famous for its population of **one-horned rhinoceroses** and rich biodiversity.

Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks: Located in Uttarakhand, these parks are **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Sites**, known for their unique biodiversity, especially the Valley of Flowers, a UNESCO-recognized site for its endemic plant species.

Western Ghats: A **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site**, this region is known for its high biodiversity, containing a wealth of endemic species of flora and fauna.

32. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

Correct: **Project Tiger** was launched in **1973** as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** to protect tigers and their habitats.

Correct: The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** is responsible for monitoring and implementing Project Tiger.

Incorrect: **Not all tiger reserves** are notified as **national parks**; some include **wildlife sanctuaries or reserved forests** as well.

33. **Correct Answer: C. 1, 2 and 3**

Explanation:

Correct – Project Lion focuses on the **conservation of the Asiatic Lion**, which is found **only in Gir Forest, Gujarat**.

Correct – It includes the **translocation of lions** to other suitable habitats like **Kuno-Palpur in Madhya Pradesh** to ensure species safety and genetic diversity.

Correct – The project was **launched in 2020** by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change** as part of India's long-term species conservation efforts.

34. **Correct Answer: B. 2 only**

Explanation:

1. **Incorrect –** There is **no official national-level Project Leopard** launched in 2019 by the Indian government. However, leopard conservation is indirectly addressed under **Project Tiger**, as many leopards share tiger habitats.

2. **Correct –** Conservation efforts for leopards are often **integrated with tiger conservation strategies**, especially in **tiger reserves**, due to overlapping habitats. So, only statement **2 is correct**.

35. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

Correct – Project Elephant was launched in 1992 by the Government of India to **protect elephants, their habitats**, and corridors.

Correct – It also deals with issues like **human-elephant conflict** and the **welfare of captive elephants**.

Incorrect – The project is implemented by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**, not the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

36. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

1. **Correct –** The **Secure Himalaya Project** is a **joint initiative** of the **Government of India and UNDP**, funded by the **Global Environment Facility (GEF)**.

2. **Correct –** It aims to **conserve snow leopards** and other **high-altitude biodiversity** while supporting sustainable livelihoods.

3. **Incorrect –** The project covers **multiple Himalayan states**, including **Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Sikkim**, not just Ladakh.

Hence, only **statements 1 and 2 are correct**.

37. **Correct Answer: C. 1 only**

Explanation:

1. **Correct – Hangul (Kashmir Stag)** is **endemic to Dachigam National Park** in Jammu & Kashmir.

2. **Incorrect –** It is classified as **Endangered**, not **Critically Endangered**, by the **IUCN**.

3. **Incorrect – Project Hangul** is a part of **Project Tiger**, not **Project Elephant**.

So, only **statement 1 is correct**.

38. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation Statements 1 & 2 are correct.

Statement 3 is incorrect – MAB includes both **natural and human-modified ecosystems**.

39. **Correct Answer: B. 2, 3 and 4 only**

Explanation:

1. **Incorrect –** The **Lion-tailed Macaque** has not had a widely successful captive breeding program in India, as efforts have been more focused on habitat conservation and research.

2. **Correct –** The **Red Panda** has seen success in captive breeding programs, particularly in Indian zoos and conservation centers.

3. **Correct –** The **Gharial** breeding program in India has been successful, particularly in places like the **Katerniaghat Wildlife Sanctuary** and **Sariska Tiger Reserve**.

4. **Correct – Vultures**, particularly the **Indian Vulture**, have been part of successful captive breeding efforts to address their population decline due to the use of harmful veterinary drugs.

Thus, **statements 2, 3, and 4 are correct**.

40. **Correct Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**

Explanation:

Establishment of the Central Zoo Authority (CZA): The CZA was set up to regulate and manage zoos in India, ensuring they follow standards that aid in species conservation, including captive breeding programs.

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB): The WCCB helps in controlling wildlife crime, including illegal poaching, smuggling, and trade of endangered species, directly contributing to species protection.

Eco-sensitive zone notifications around protected areas: These zones help create buffer areas around protected areas, minimizing human impact and providing additional protection to species by reducing habitat degradation.

41. **Correct Answer: C. Genetic diversity provides raw material for evolution and adaptation.**

Explanation:

- **Genetic diversity** is crucial for evolution and adaptation, as it provides the variation needed for species to adapt to changing environments over time.

- **Species diversity** contributes to ecosystem stability, but it's not the only factor—other aspects like ecosystem interactions and genetic diversity also play a role.

- **Ecosystem diversity** encompasses all types of ecosystems, including terrestrial, aquatic, and marine, not just aquatic ecosystems.

42. **Correct Answer: D. 1, 2 and 3**

Explanation: **Alpha diversity** refers to the species richness or diversity within a specific habitat or ecosystem, which is correct. **Beta diversity** compares the diversity between ecosystems, looking at how species composition differs from one habitat to another, which is also correct. **Gamma diversity** refers to the overall diversity within a larger landscape or region, combining the alpha and beta diversities across multiple habitats, which is also correct.

43. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 4 only**

Explanation:

- **Shannon-Wiener Index, Simpson's Diversity Index, and Margalef's Index** are all commonly used to measure biodiversity. They quantify species diversity by considering species richness and evenness in a community.
 - **Gini Coefficient**, on the other hand, is primarily used to measure inequality or income distribution and is not typically used for measuring biodiversity.
44. **Correct Answer: D. All of the above**
Explanation:
- **Pollination, climate regulation, soil fertility, and water purification** are all considered **regulating services** of biodiversity.
 - **Pollination** aids in the reproduction of plants.
 - **Climate regulation** helps maintain stable climate patterns.
 - **Soil fertility** is influenced by biodiversity, which contributes to nutrient cycling.
 - **Water purification** is supported by ecosystems like wetlands that filter and clean water.
 These services are essential for maintaining ecosystem balance and supporting life on Earth.
45. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
- **In-situ conservation** refers to protecting species in their natural habitats (like national parks and wildlife sanctuaries), allowing them to live and reproduce in their natural environment.
 - **Ex-situ conservation** involves the conservation of species outside their natural habitats, such as in controlled environments like zoos, botanical gardens, and gene banks.
 - **National Parks and Biosphere Reserves** are examples of in-situ conservation, not ex-situ conservation, as they focus on protecting species in their natural settings.
46. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
- **Statement 1** is correct: The IUCN Red List classifies species based on their risk of extinction, providing categories such as "Least Concern," "Endangered," and "Critically Endangered."
 - **Statement 2** is correct: "Extinct in the Wild" refers to species that no longer exist in their natural habitat but are still found in captivity or cultivation (e.g., zoos or botanical gardens).
- **Statement 3** is incorrect: The IUCN Red List is maintained by the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**, not the **UNEP**.
47. **Correct Answer: C. 1, 2, 3 and 4**
Explanation: All four factors are recognized as major threats to biodiversity:
- **Habitat destruction** (1) occurs when natural habitats are cleared for agriculture, urbanization, and infrastructure, leading to loss of biodiversity.
 - **Invasive alien species** (2) outcompete or prey on native species, disrupting ecosystems.
 - **Overharvesting** (3) depletes species populations, whether through hunting, fishing, or logging, pushing species toward extinction.
 - **Climate change** (4) alters ecosystems, causing habitat loss and shifting species' ranges, which can threaten biodiversity.
48. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
- **Statement 1** is correct: Loss of a **keystone species** can indeed collapse an ecosystem. Keystone species play a crucial role in maintaining the structure and health of an ecosystem. Their absence can cause a chain reaction that disrupts the balance.
 - **Statement 2** is correct: **Functional extinction** refers to a species that still exists but no longer performs its ecological role. This can occur when a species' population drops to a level where it no longer influences its ecosystem in the same way it once did.
 - **Statement 3** is incorrect: **Extinction does not always lead to the loss of ecosystem services**. Some ecosystems can adjust to the loss of species, and other species may step in to take over roles. However, the loss of a keystone species typically results in more severe disruptions.
49. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**
Explanation:
- **Great Indian Bustard**: Listed as **endangered** in India, native to the Indian subcontinent, and primarily found in Rajasthan and Gujarat.
 - **Nilgiri Tahr**: Also **endangered** and native to the Western Ghats of India, facing threats from habitat loss and poaching.
 - **Indian Pangolin**: **Endangered** and native to India, threatened mainly by poaching for its scales and meat.
 - **Snow Leopard**: While **vulnerable**, it is not listed as **endangered** by the IUCN. Native to the

high-altitude regions of India, it faces threats but is not in the **endangered** category.

50. **Correct Answer: C. All of the above**

Explanation:

1. **Project Tiger:** Launched in 1973, it aims at the conservation of tigers and their habitats. It directly contributes to biodiversity conservation by protecting a flagship species and the ecosystem they inhabit.

2. **National Biodiversity Authority (NBA):** Established in 2003, the NBA is responsible for implementing the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. It promotes the conservation of biodiversity through policy and legal frameworks, and its initiatives indirectly contribute to biodiversity conservation across India.

3. **Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB):** Established in 2007, it works to combat wildlife crimes, such as poaching and illegal trade of species. By addressing illegal activities, it helps protect biodiversity.

4. **Secure Himalaya Project:** A joint initiative by the Government of India and UNDP, focusing on conserving snow leopards and high-altitude biodiversity in the Himalayan region. It directly contributes to biodiversity conservation.

51. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

1. **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD):** This is an international treaty aimed at conserving biodiversity, promoting sustainable use of its components, and ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources. It directly focuses on the conservation of biodiversity.

2. **CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora):** This international agreement regulates the trade of endangered species to prevent their extinction due to unsustainable trade practices. It helps conserve species by controlling their trade.

3. **Ramsar Convention:** This international treaty focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands worldwide. Wetlands are critical ecosystems that support biodiversity, and this convention works to protect them.

4. **Basel Convention:** This treaty regulates the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and their disposal. While it has environmental implications, it does not directly focus on biodiversity conservation.

52. **Correct Answer: B. 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

1. **Trans-Himalayan:** This region is not considered a biodiversity hotspot. It includes the high-altitude deserts and mountainous areas of the northernmost part of India, which have relatively low species diversity compared to other regions.

2. **Deccan Peninsula:** The Deccan Peninsula, particularly the Western part, is part of the **Western Ghats** hotspot, making it a biodiversity-rich area. It is a significant part of India's biodiversity and is known for its high endemism.

3. **Western Ghats:** The Western Ghats are recognized as one of the **biodiversity hotspots** due to their rich flora and fauna, and high levels of endemism. They are an internationally recognized hotspot.

53. **Correct Answer: B. 1, 2 and 4 only**

Explanation:

1. **Pygmy Hog:** The Pygmy Hog (*Porcula salvania*) is **Critically Endangered** according to the IUCN Red List. It is found in Assam's grassland habitats and is one of the most endangered species in India.

2. **Malabar Civet:** The **Malabar Civet (*Viverra civetta*)** is also listed as **Critically Endangered**. It is native to the Western Ghats and is considered highly endangered due to habitat loss and hunting.

3. **Indian Pangolin:** The **Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*)** is listed as **Endangered**, not **Critically Endangered**. It is found in parts of India, but it does not qualify as **Critically Endangered** under the IUCN Red List.

4. **Jerdon's Courser:** The **Jerdon's Courser (*Rhinoptilus bitorquatus*)** is listed as **Critically Endangered** and is found in the Eastern Ghats, specifically in Andhra Pradesh.

54. **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

1. **Great Indian Bustard:** It is indeed **endemic to the Thar Desert** and is classified as **Critically Endangered**. **Correct statement.**

2. **Coral reefs in India:** Found along the **east and west coasts** of India, as well as in **island territories** like the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. **Correct statement.**

3. **Marine vs Freshwater fish species:** India has a **greater diversity of freshwater fish species** than marine species. **Incorrect statement.**

55. **Correct Answer: C. All of the above**

Explanation:

1. **Linear infrastructure** like highways and railways fragment natural habitats, leading to increased interactions between humans and animals. **Contributes to conflict.**
2. **Depletion of natural prey base** forces carnivores to move into human-dominated areas in search of food. **Contributes to conflict.**
3. **Lack of buffer zones** in protected areas means that wild animals often wander into human settlements, increasing chances of conflict. **Contributes to conflict.**
4. **Plantation of non-native monocultures** like eucalyptus reduces the diversity of native plants and disrupts ecosystems, often pushing wildlife into agricultural areas. **Contributes to conflict.**

56. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

1. **Ferns – Pteridophytes:** Correct. Ferns are vascular plants that reproduce through spores and belong to **Pteridophytes.**
2. **Cycas – Gymnosperms:** Correct. **Cycas** is a genus of plants belonging to the group **Gymnosperms**, which includes plants that produce seeds exposed on cones.
3. **Mango – Angiosperms:** Correct. **Mango** is a flowering plant with seeds enclosed in fruit, classifying it under **Angiosperms.**
4. **Fungi – Cryptogams:** Incorrect. **Fungi** are not classified as **Cryptogams.** **Cryptogams** refer to non-flowering plants (like ferns and mosses) that reproduce via spores, but **fungi** are in a separate kingdom of life.

57. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

1. **Drosera:** Correct. **Drosera**, also known as sundews, are insectivorous plants found in India that trap insects with their sticky glandular hairs.
2. **Utricularia:** Correct. **Utricularia**, also called bladderworts, are aquatic insectivorous plants found in India that use small bladders to capture prey.
3. **Nepenthes:** Correct. **Nepenthes**, commonly known as pitcher plants, are insectivorous plants found in certain parts of India, using modified leaves to trap and digest insects.
4. **Eichhornia:** Incorrect. **Eichhornia**, commonly known as water hyacinth, is not an

insectivorous plant. It is an aquatic plant but does not consume insects.

58. **A; Correct Answer: 1, 2, and 3**

Explanation:

1. **Lantana camara:** An invasive species in India, known for spreading rapidly and displacing native plants.
2. **Prosopis juliflora:** Also invasive, it is a fast-spreading tree that negatively affects biodiversity, particularly in arid regions.
3. **Eupatorium:** Particularly **Eupatorium adenophorum**, this species is invasive and outcompetes native flora in various regions of India.
4. **Shatavari (Asparagus racemosus):** Native to India, not considered invasive. Thus, **Lantana camara**, **Prosopis juliflora**, and **Eupatorium** are invasive alien species in India.

59. **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

1. **Ashwagandha (Withania somnifera):** Native to India and widely used in traditional systems like Ayurveda. It's known for its adaptogenic properties.
2. **Amla (Phyllanthus emblica):** Also native to India, Amla is a key component in Ayurveda and is known for its high vitamin C content and antioxidant properties.
3. **Brahmi (Bacopa monnieri):** Native to India and used in traditional medicine for improving memory and cognitive functions.
4. **Belladonna (Atropa belladonna):** Not native to India. It is native to Europe and parts of Asia and is used in traditional medicine, but not specifically indigenous to India.

60. **Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**

Explanation:

- Indian Elephant – Schedule I (Correct)
- Sloth Bear – Schedule I (Correct)
- Common Mongoose – Schedule II (Correct)
- Indian Wild Boar – Schedule III (Incorrect, not Schedule V)

61. **Answer: D. All of the above**

Explanation:

- Phytoplankton are primary producers and perform photosynthesis (Correct).
- Zooplankton feed on phytoplankton and are primary consumers (Correct).
- Seagrasses are marine flowering plants, while seaweeds are algae (Correct).

62. **Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

Explanation:

- A Wildlife Sanctuary may permit limited human activity (Correct).
 - A National Park completely prohibits any human activity inside its core area (Correct).
 - National Parks are notified under the Wildlife Protection Act, not the Biological Diversity Act (Incorrect).
63. **Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**
Explanation:
- Conservation Reserves are declared on government-owned land adjacent to protected areas (Correct).
 - Local communities help in their management (Correct).
 - Human settlements and traditional activities are *not* completely prohibited, but regulated (Incorrect).
64. **Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
Explanation:
- Community Reserves are declared with community consent on private or community-owned land (Correct).
 - They are managed jointly by forest departments and locals (Correct).
 - Commercial plantations are not allowed in Community Reserves (Incorrect).
65. **Answer: A. 1, 2 and 4 only**
Explanation:
- **Bhitarkanika National Park, Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, and Sundarbans National Park** are coastal protected areas in India.
 - **Simlipal Biosphere Reserve** is inland, not coastal.
66. **Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**
Explanation:
- **Statement 1** is correct: Sacred groves are traditionally protected due to religious or cultural beliefs.
 - **Statement 2** is incorrect: Sacred groves are typically found in diverse ecosystems, not just semi-arid or desert regions.
 - **Statement 3** is correct: Sacred groves play a role in in-situ biodiversity conservation by preserving native species and ecosystems.
67. **Answer: A. 1, 2 and 4 only**
Explanation:
- **Red Sanders wood:** Prohibited for export due to its endangered status.
 - **Shahtoosh shawl:** Prohibited as it is made from the endangered Tibetan antelope.
 - **Mongoose hair brushes:** Prohibited due to the protection of mongoose species.
- **Sandalwood oil** is not prohibited, but regulated.
68. **Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only**
Explanation:
- The **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972** provides for the creation of **National Parks, Community Reserves, and Conservation Reserves.**
 - **Biosphere Reserves** are created under a different framework (the **Biological Diversity Act** and **UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme**).
69. **Answer: C. 1, 2 and 4 only**
Explanation:
- Sacred groves are traditionally protected forest patches found in **Khasi & Jaintia Hills (Meghalaya), Western Ghats, and Bastar region (Chhattisgarh).**
- They are **rare in the Thar Desert** due to arid conditions.
70. **Answer: C. Sanctuaries allow regulated human activities; National Parks do not**
Explanation:
- National Parks** have stricter protection—**no human activity** is allowed in the core area. **Wildlife Sanctuaries** permit **regulated activities** like grazing or tourism.
71. **Answer: C. Wildlife Sanctuaries require community consent for declaration**
Explanation: Community consent is **not required** for declaring **Wildlife Sanctuaries.** It's required for **Community Reserves.**
72. **Answer: C. UNESCO**
Explanation: The **Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme** is a **UNESCO** initiative to promote conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
73. **Answer: C. All of the above**
Explanation: Biosphere Reserves have **three zones:**
- **Core** (no human activity),
 - **Buffer** (research, education),
 - **Transition** (sustainable use, settlements).
74. **Answer: D. All of the above** **Explanation:** All four — **Nilgiri, Nokrek, Gulf of Mannar, and Pachmarhi** — are part of the **UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves.**
75. **Answer: A. 1 only**
Explanation:
- 1 The program is implemented by **MoEFCC.**
 - 2 Not all biosphere reserves are **World Heritage Sites.**
76. **Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**

- Explanation (extremely short):**
Hotspots must have $\geq 1,500$ endemic vascular plants and $\geq 70\%$ habitat loss. Area size is not a criterion.
77. **Answer: C. All of the above**
Explanation (extremely short): India's four biodiversity hotspots are **Western Ghats, Himalayas, Indo-Burma, and Sundaland (includes Nicobar Islands).**
78. **Answer: C. All of the above**
Explanation (extremely short): All listed sites — **Kaziranga, Western Ghats, Nanda Devi & Valley of Flowers, and Keoladeo** — are **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Sites** in India.
79. **Answer: B. CITES**
Explanation (extremely short): **CITES** (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) focuses exclusively on regulating trade in endangered species to ensure it does not threaten their survival.
80. **Answer: C. Wetland conservation**
Explanation (extremely short): The **Ramsar Convention** is an international treaty focused on the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.
81. **Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**
Explanation (extremely short):
- **Achanakmar-Amarkantak** is in **Chhattisgarh**.
 - **Dibru-Saikhowa** is in **Assam**, not West Bengal.
 - **Simlipal** is in **Odisha**.
82. B; Project Tiger was launched in **1973** to conserve tigers in India.
83. **Answer: C. All of the above**
Explanation
Project Tiger is a centrally sponsored scheme, implemented by the **NTCA**, and Tiger Reserves can include parts of reserve forests and protected areas.
84. **Answer: B. All of the above** . **Explanation**
All the listed reserves — **Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem, Sathyamangalam, Pilibhit, and Dampa** — are part of India's Tiger Reserves.
85. **Answer: A. Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972**
Explanation: The **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)** was established under the **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972** to ensure the protection of tigers and their habitats.
86. **Answer: C. All of the above**
- Explanation** India does not have a separate **Project Leopard**.
1. Leopard conservation is integrated into **Project Tiger** efforts.
 2. The **Indian leopard** is listed under **Schedule I** of the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**, offering it the highest protection.
87. **Answer: B. Conserve Asiatic lions in Gir and reintroduce them to other habitats**
88. The correct answer is **A. 1 and 3 only**.
Explanation:
- **Kuno National Park (Madhya Pradesh):** This site has been identified as a potential relocation site for Asiatic lions under Project Lion.
 - **Sathyamangalam (Tamil Nadu):** There is no official proposal or plan for Asiatic lion relocation to Sathyamangalam.
 - **Palpur-Kuno (Madhya Pradesh):** This site has been identified as a potential relocation site for Asiatic lions under Project Lion.
 - **Bandipur (Karnataka):** There is no official proposal or plan for Asiatic lion relocation to Bandipur.
89. The correct answer is **B. Gir Forest National Park**.
90. The correct answer is **A. 1992**.
91. The correct answer is **A. 1 and 2 only**.
Explanation:
- **1.** Project Elephant addresses **elephant corridors** and **human-elephant conflict** as part of its conservation strategy.
 - **2.** Elephants are listed under **Schedule I** of the **Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972**, which provides them with the highest level of protection.
 - **3.** Project Elephant is **not limited to Southern India**; it is implemented in multiple states across India with significant elephant populations.
92. The correct answer is **A. 1, 2 and 3 only**.
Explanation:
- **Odisha, Kerala, and Assam** all have Elephant Reserves as part of the national initiative to protect elephant habitats and migration corridors.
 - **Gujarat**, however, does not have any Elephant Reserves, as it is primarily known for the conservation of Asiatic lions, particularly in **Gir Forest National Park**.
93. The correct answer is **D. 1 and 3 only**.
Explanation:

- **Gaj Yatra** (1) is a national campaign for elephant conservation to raise awareness about elephant corridors and their protection.
- **MIKE Programme** (3) stands for Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants, a global initiative under CITES to monitor and combat illegal elephant poaching.

Haathi Mere Saathi Campaign (2) is unrelated to formal elephant conservation efforts, being a popular movie title.

Elephant Task Force Report (4) is an important report on elephant conservation but is not a term or campaign.

94. Answer: C. Snow Leopard habitat conservation.
95. The correct answer is **C. MoEFCC and UNDP**.
96. Answer: A. 1, 2 and 3 only.
97. A. **Dachigam National Park** Hangul, or the Kashmir stag, is found exclusively in Dachigam National Park, J&K
98. B; The IUCN status of the **Hangul** (Kashmir Stag) is **Critically Endangered**.
99. **C. Red Deer**
Hangul is a subspecies of the **Red Deer** (*Cervus elaphus*), and it's uniquely found in India, especially in the Kashmir region.
100. Correct Answer: B. 1975.