

Management of Forest Resources in Uttarakhand

Dr. Bablee Chandra (HOD) Economics Department
Y.M.S. P.G College Mandi Dhanura Amroha U.P India

Abstract

Forest resources continue to be used for subsistence as well as commercial and recreational purposes. Many people use wood for all or part of their heating requirements. Plants and berries are harvested on a regular basis for personal consumption and economic purposes. A growing forest industry provides opportunities for jobs, training and economic development through the harvest and processing of timber for use as biomass and other products.

The Government of the Northwest Territories provides a policy, planning and regulatory framework for the stewardship, protection and sustainable management of forest resources on 40-million hectares of land in the NWT. The state Should utilize these resources to focus on the issues of development in the state.

Introduction :

Uttarakhand as a new state had been carved out of the northern part of Uttar Pradesh on 9th Nov, 2000. It had a total number of 13 Districts and for administrative division, viz. Garhwal which includes the seven districts of Chamoli, Dehradun, Garhwal, Haridwar, Rudra Prayag, Tehri Garhwal and Uttarkashi and Kumaun region which consists of six Districts of Almora, Bagheshwar, Champawat, Nainital, Pithoragarh and Udham Singh Nagar.

Natural resources include land, water resources, fisheries, Mineral resources forest, Marine resources climate, rainfall and topography. Some of these resources are known to man. For example, the topography of a region, the size of land surface, the climate, the area under forests, the discovered mines from a part of the natural wealth about which the people of a country possess knowledge. But nature possesses more in its bosom and in order to discover what it hides, Man is required to develop techniques of knowing the undiscovered resources.

NATURAL RESOURCES:

Uttarakhand has a total area of 53,489 km² of which 86% is mountainous and 65% is covered by forest. Uttarakhand state is well endowed with forest and water resources more than 12,000 glaciers and 8 major rivers catchments act as the lifeline for the entire hydrological system of Indo-Gangetic plain. Uttarakhand state is endowed with a unique and diverse

range of biodiversity from the snowbound peaks of the Himalaya as to the

Deciduous forests, the state possesses a wide biodiversity that in return nurtures a large multiplicity of floral and fauna forms. Uttarakhand state is undoubtedly a very rich state in natural resources point of view but besides of this hilly area of Uttarakhand state is full of difficulties like human only can survive here in natural ways specially in high altitude areas. Diversity in population in Uttarakhand state is just because of the wide biodiversity.

Forest Resources –Forests are important natural resources of India. They help control floods and thus they protect the soil against erosion. They supply timber, fuel wood, fodder and a wide range of non-wood products. They are the natural habitat for a bio-diversity and repository of genetic wealth forests, thus play an important role in environmental and economic sustainability. Despite their potentiality to reduce poverty and contribution to economic growth and their significant contribution to local and global environment, forest resources were not given the importance due to them.

Forest Resources in Garhwal Region of Uttarakhand– Nature has endowed Garhwal with rich natural vegetation which varies from the hick sub-tropical Sal forests of the Dehradun Valley to the dry alpine vegetation of Badrinath near the border with China. A combination of the parameters given below has

a bearing on the natural vegetation found in a particular part of the Garhwal hills.

1. Dominant climatic conditions such as rain fall and temperature.
2. Altitude or elevation
3. Aspect, topography and general slope of the land.
4. Latitude
5. Geology and soil.
6. Biotic factor such as grazing and human pressure

Forest Resources in Kumaun Region of Uttarpradesh– Nature has bestowed kumaun with rich forests that are made up of thousands of species of trees shrubs herbs and climbers. These combine to form forest types which vary from the sub-tropical forests in the lower hills of the dense temperate forests and the dry

vegetation of the upper Darma Valley of Northern Kumauni. The nature and type of vegetation occurring in the particular part of this region depends upon a combination of the factors listed below.

1. Prevailing climate conditions.
2. Altitude.
3. Edaphic and biotic factors.
4. Aspect topography and slope.

Forest Prospects– Medicinal plants are one of the gifts of nature to the people of Uttarakhand. There is good potential in Uttarakhand for establishing phyto pharmaceutical industry. However, there are several problems also indiscriminate exploitation of medicinal plants has endangered several species of plants. Some of the Medicinal Plants are at the verge of extinction.

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