

Conservation of Plants and Animals

Biosphere Reserves & Red Data Book

Biosphere Reserves: A biosphere reserve is designed to provide protection to the wild flora and fauna, the domesticated animals and plants, as well as to the traditional life styles of the tribals of the area.

OR

Large areas of protected land for conservation of wild life, plant and animal resources and traditional life of the tribals living in the area.

At present there are 14 biosphere reserves in India.

This concept was launched by MAB [Man and Biosphere] programme in 1971.

A biosphere reserve is much larger than a national park or a sanctuary.

There are 3 zones of biosphere Reserve.

- (1) Core Zone
- (2) Buffer Zone
- (3) Manipulating zone or Transition zone.

Important Biosphere Reserves in India

1. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve
2. Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve
3. Uttarakhand Biosphere Reserve
4. Nokrok Biosphere Reserve
5. Sundarbans Biosphere Reserve

Red Data Book: It is a record of animals and plant species which are in danger.

On the basis of degree of threat 9 red list categories have been given:

- (i) Extinct
 - (ii) Extinct in the wild
 - (iii) Critically Endangered.
 - (iv) Endangered
 - (v) Vulnerable
 - (vi) Near Threatened
 - (vii) Least concern
 - (viii) Data deficient
 - (ix) Not evaluated
- Head office of IUCN - Morges in Switzerland.
 - Red Data Book listed about 11096 species in 2000. Animal species - 5485, Plant species - 5611.