

CONSERVATION OF NATURE - A NECESSITY

Nature and Natural

Conservation is the protection and sustainable use of living resources. It is an aid rather than a hindrance to development. It should be developed in the community at large. We are all familiar with the 3 R's - let us add a 4th 'R' - that of resource management and conservation.

The forests are a vast, largely untapped genetic reservoir - home to perhaps half of all the plant, animal and insect species on earth. Experts are of the opinion that unless their destruction is arrested, there may not be any more forests by the turn of the century.

Forest clearance results in destruction of watersheds, erosion of soils, occurrence of drought and flooding. Valuable soils washed out into the riverine, estuaries cause destruction of nursery grounds of fish. Rapid changes in vegetation cover affects local climate and results in desert areas.

Plants form the earth's soft green "security blanket". They are responsible for a high proportion of our nutritional resources. The genetic diversity of plants must be maintained so that domestic crops could be cross-bred with wild species to improve productivity and quality and resistance to disease.

Herbal remedies are well known - to name a few - quinine for malaria - reserpine for cardio-vascular diseases, ephedrine for respiratory ailment, and even a contraceptive pill from Mexican yam.....

Destruction of habitats has endangered the life and existence of several species of beautiful animals, birds, reptiles and insects. Nature maintains a very delicate balance between the life systems of creatures and the ecosystems. Cheetah, the Pink Headed Duck and Mountain Quail have become extinct; the Great Indian Bustard, the Gray Pelican, the Indian Rhino, the Panthers and even the mighty Indian Elephant is threatened with extinction.

Fortunately, India is one of the few countries which realised the danger posed to Nature and Natural resources and it is slowly being realised that Conservation of Nature is not a "luxury" but a dire necessity for the very continued well-being of man on this earth.

Conservation does not mean being against development. Nature's endowment is for the use and sustenance of human life. Nature should not be misused or overused. We should give Nature a chance to regenerate and flourish. In other words we must manage our resources intelligently for both man and beast.

THE SOCIETY FOR NATURE CONSERVATION has been formed with headquarters at Hyderabad with the following aims and objectives:

- a) to create awareness among the people and the youth of the importance of conserving nature and the natural environment and its bearing on all life and life supporting systems
- b) to promote among the people knowledge of flora and fauna and their role in maintaining the ecological balance and to inform the

public of the threats to the environment and to generate strongest possible support to prevent any wanton destruction of nature in all its forms: viz. fauna and flora, habitats, sanctuaries, national parks, lakes, soils, land-scapes, water, air and other natural resources and to work for their protection.

- c) to exchange views and co-operate and co-ordinate with similar organisations in this country and abroad for joint management, collaboration or affiliation of any other arrangements with societies or persons having similar or allied objects which may further benefit the objectives of this Society
- d) to organize lectures, meetings, and seminars to impress upon the people the values and functions of nature and natural resources.
- e) to bring out a newsletter or a journal from time to time on various aspects of nature conservation, and all allied matters
- f) to engage in any appropriate activity that is commensurate with the above said objectives.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

You as an individual may feel there is little you can do to help raise public awareness about CONSERVATION OF NATURE -

BUT REMEMBER - TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. Firmly commit yourself morally to the conservation of nature and life in all its forms
2. Convince your friends on the need for conservation
3. Financially help the Society by:
 - a. supporting its specific programmes and projects
 - b. become a member of the Society and join us in this crusade in spreading the concepts of conservation.

EACH ONE OF US - CONVINCED AND COMMITTED CONSERVATIONISTS -

TOGETHER CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THIS CRUSADE - HELP US

PRESERVE MANKIND'S SELF-RESPECT AND INHERITANCE ON THIS EARTH!!!!
