

INvenTree Dataset for Indian Forests

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Environment

Why in News?

Recently, researchers from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) and partner institutions compiled the InvenTree-meta dataset.

InvenTree

- The ***largest meta-dataset of tree inventory studies from India***, covering 465 published studies (1991-2023) across 4,650+ hectares of forests.

Key Features

- **Scope** - Harmonises fragmented datasets into a unified framework.
- **Coverage** - All major Indian biomes.
- **Accessibility** - Over **80% of datasets remain non-public**, due to high costs, lack of incentives, and global publishing biases.
- **Under-sampled Regions** - Biodiversity-rich landscapes like Northern Western Ghats, Northeastern India, the Western Himalayas, and the Nicobar Islands remain relatively under-sampled.
- **Critical Areas** - Regions facing rapid forest loss (North East and Eastern India) lack sufficient ecological data.

Significance

- **Carbon Storage** - Helps assess forests' role in climate mitigation.
- **Biodiversity** - Supports species richness and ecological monitoring.
- **Climate Change** - Tracks forest responses to warming.
- **Conservation** - Provides evidence for sustainable forest management.

Reference

[The Hindu | InvenTree](#)



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