

## UNFF20 - United Nations Forum on Forests (2025)

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance*

### Why in news?

Recently the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Forum on Forests was held at UN Headquarters, New York, from May 5 to 9, 2025.

- **United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)** - It is a functional body under the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- **Establish** - 2000
- **Objectives** - To promote the management, conservation, and sustainable development of all types of forests.
- To **strengthen long-term political commitment** to forest-related goals globally.

*United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, responsible for coordinating global economic, social, and environmental issues.*

### UNFF-20 Objectives

- To review progress toward the Global Forest Goals.
- To assess countries' Voluntary National Contributions (VNCs) toward forest conservation.
- To promote discussions on forest financing, forest fires, certification, climate resilience, and ecosystem valuation.
- To integrate **Country-Led Initiatives (CLIs)** into global decision-making.

*Country-Led Initiatives (CLIs) are voluntary initiatives hosted by individual UN member countries in support of the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF).*

### India on UNFF-20

*India now has **25.17% forest and tree cover** of its total geographical area as per India State of Forest Report.*

- **Restoring Degraded Forest Landscapes** - The event showcased India's experience in integrated forest restoration through policy innovation, convergence of resources,

community engagement, and use of technology for monitoring and evaluation.

- **Valuing Forest Ecosystems** - India called for ecosystem service valuation in national forest policy planning.

*Ecosystem Service Valuation refers to the process of identifying, quantifying, and assigning economic, social, or environmental value to the benefits humans receive from ecosystems.*

- India presented studies from Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, and tiger reserves.
- These studies quantified ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, water provisioning, and biodiversity conservation.

## Reference

[PIB| 20th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests](#)

