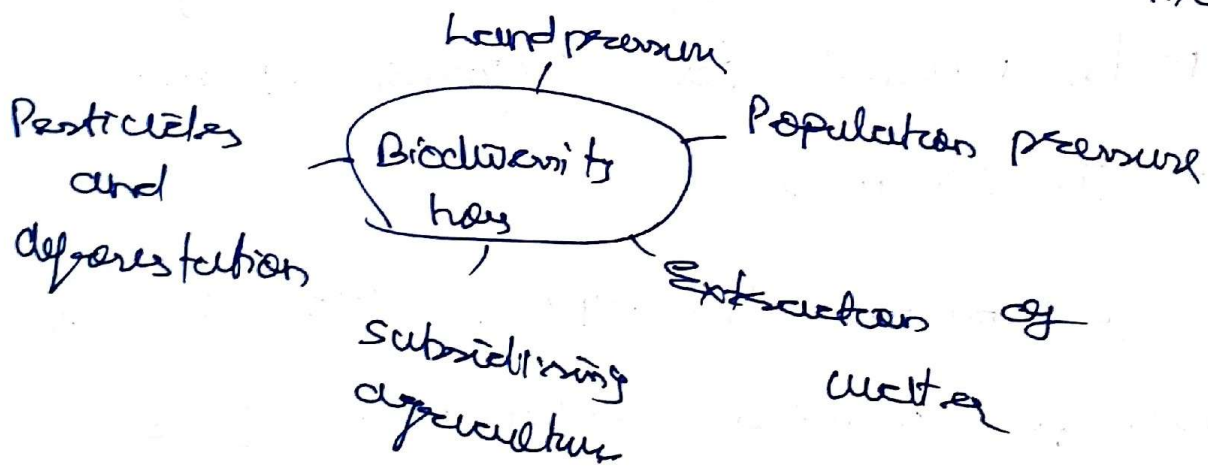


Biodiversity = human food needs. Discuss imp. of changing policies that we present a planet positive.

The population of the world has touched 8 billion in 2023 with India leading the lot. This means an increased pressure on food systems.

Food systems and biodiversity loss

As per the United Nations Environment Programme agriculture threatens 86% of species globally with overuse of fertilizers.



The pressure on land is on the rise due to the cheap food paradigm - which aims to reduce

the production costs thus puts pressure on land, water and other resources.

In order to address the food needs and protect biodiversity pro peasant and planet policies are needed.

Peasant positive policies

* Gradual shifting of peasants from water guzzling crops such as rice and wheat to millets.

* Subsidising and creating a niche market for organic produce by the farmers.

* Reducing the input cost of farmers through policies such as zero budget natural farming.

* Reducing the post harvest losses for the farmers which now stands at 14% to 10%.

Planet-positive policies

* Land improvement: such as practicing the New crop system which combines more crops - such as cereals, lentils. It improves soil fertility and water demand reduces by 50%.

* Changing practices such as using direct seeded rice technique and SRI technique for sugarcane can reduce water needs.

* Research on novel seed technologies that can reduce emissions.

The COP.28 had measures tackling emissions from agriculture which includes diet. sugr. Inclusive global and national policies are a priority to meet food security and prevent biodiversity loss.