

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
Content of the Question is more important than length.

(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हार्गिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Q Explain the various strategies that are required to expand the total forest cover of the country. (250 words).

The 'Forest Cover' refers to a land having a minimum area of 1 ha with a tree canopy density of more than 10%. (definition in sync with Kyoto Protocol.)

Strategies to expand total forest cover: →

As per the Indian State of Forest-report 2021, the forest and tree cover rose by 2,261 (km)² compared to 2019.

Some of the strategies to improve are as follows: →

→ Tiger/Lion reserves and Corridors

With impetus given to the "Tx2" campaign, natural habitats of tiger and lions has encouraged in expansion of the protected forest area.

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Thus, conservation of tigers and other animals will go a long way in this ecological protection campaign.

→ Plantations & Bamboo cover

With a rise of climate change uncertainties, plantations such as cashew, coconut have become vital in protecting coastlines.

Increased cyclones causing severe destruction on both western & eastern coast must be protected with mixed plantations.

For eg: → Native species mixed with ecological functional species.

→ Improving data collection →

The assessment of forest cover is based on satellite data.

The accuracy of this segregation of forest and non-forest area is roughly 95% to 96%

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Also, this satellite based data is corroborated from estimated field inventory data.

Hence the improved quality of data, better interpretation, extensive ground area corrections will help in giving a clearer picture of forest area in country.

Emphasis on increasing Tress outside Forest (or TOF)

→ Incentivising and promoting agro forestry and farm forestry

→ Expanding urban green spaces.
Example → Nagar-Van scheme,

Miyawaki forest technique.
→ Community partnerships.

Conclusion →

Implementation of above techniques

will fulfil the national determined contribution oath at COP 26, as well as land degradation neutrality pledged by India at UN.