

11/01/2020 Environment

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It is time to formulate an unambiguous and universally accepted definition of forests to get a true picture of the country's forest resources. Analyse in the light of State of Forest Report 2019.

As per latest forest & tree cover report of Forest Survey of India, India's tree cover increases all over except some north eastern states. Along with forest cover, Mangrove and wetland ecosystems show a positive growth. But actual problem arises about the definition of forest in India.

In India forest means any area recorded forest by any government authority is considered as forest as per Forest Act 1927. The colonial era definition not meets current demands of our nation.

In 2018 Forest Act Amendment to 1927 Act also not meet the demand.

Major provisions of 2018 Act (Amendment)

1) More Power to State Government to Conserve the forests

2) More Importance given to Forest Conservation

3) New Category of Forest "Production Forest" to Create Economical benefits from Conservation.

Increase in tree or forest cover, not means indirect Conservation ~~is~~ well, because the Conservation have different motto's than Unique to Save Ecosystem. Without changing the basic definitions of forest and related terms, the Conservation is ideal one. Same time the forest rights of tribals should be protected along with Conservation ~~along~~ with updation of Forest Right Act 2006 according to needs