



NAYAGRAM P.R.M GOVT. COLLEGE

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

**CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND
REMEDIES OF DEFORESTATION : STUDY
ON JUNGAL MAHAL AREA OF
NAYAGRAM : JHARGRAM**

Submitted by -

NAME :- AJANTA SAREN

REG. NO. :- VU221310002

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B.A (Hons) 2ND SEMESTER

YEAR :- 2022 – 2023



Govt. of West Bengal
Office of the Principal
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Baligeria, Nayagram, Jhargram-721125

Date: 09/10/2023

CERTIFICATE FOR COMPLETING PROJECT WORK/FIELD WORK IN ENVS

This is to certify that AJANTA SAREN.....
of B. A. Hons. 2nd Semester (CBCS).....
bearing Roll No. I.I.2.131 - 220118..... has successfully
completed and submitted the Project Report on "*Causes, Consequences and Remedies of
Deforestation: Study on Jungal Mahal Area of Nayagram, Jhargram*" as a part of the Ability
Enhancement Compulsory Course (AECC) under CBCS system of Vidyasagar University.

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CONTENTS

Concept of Deforestation

Study area:

Causes of Deforestation

1. Agriculture :
2. Commercial logging :
3. Mining :
4. Increase in Population :
5. Urbanization and industrialization :
6. Construction of dam reservoirs :
7. Forest fires :
8. Overgrazing :

Consequences of Deforestation :

1. Food problem:
2. Exposing soil to heat and rain
3. Flooding
4. Loss of biodiversity?
5. Displacement of indigenous communities:
6. Climate change:
7. Economic loss:
8. Health issues:

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Solutions of the problem of Deforestation :

Concept of Deforestation

Deforestation is the permanent destruction of forests in order to utilize the land or trees. Typically, deforestation is clearing a lot of trees without the intention of establishing future growth. Harvesting, forest fires, and insect infestations do not count as deforestation because the affected areas will eventually grow back. In some countries, such as Canada and America, all areas harvested must be reforested either by replanting or through natural regeneration.

The land is then often converted into farms, plantation, roads, housing, and other city uses. Deforestation is most severe in various countries such as the Amazon, Borneo, Congo Basin and the Russian Far East. Over half of the world's forests have been destroyed over 10,000 years, the majority in just the last 50 years. These immense changes include large-scale extinction events, desertification, climatic changes, topsoil loss, flooding, famine, disease outbreaks, and more.

Deforestation has been caused by extensive war—throughout history fire has often been used to deprive the enemy of necessary resources. If they're not reforested, they inevitably end up as wastelands directly from soil erosion and desertification.

Study area:

Jungle Mahals, (lit. jungle estates) was a district formed by British Possession and some independent chiefdoms lying between Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore and the hilly country of Chota Nagpur in what is now the Indian State of West Bengal. The area of Bankura, Purulia and West Midnapore and Jhargram districts of West Bengal is still colloquially referred to as "Jungle Mahal".

Nayagram is a village and a gram panchayat in the Nayagram CD block in the Jhargram subdivision of the Jhargram district in West Bengal, India.

Nayagram is located at 22° 01' 54.8"N 87° 10' 41.2"E.

Jhargram subdivision, the only one in Jhargram district, is composed of hills, mounds and rolling lands. "The western boundary is more broken and picturesque, for the lower ranges of the Chhotanagpur Hills line the horizon, the jungle assumes the character of forest, and large trees begin to predominate. The soil, however, is lateritic a considerable area is unproductive, almost uninhabited, especially in the extreme north-west where there are several hills over 1000 feet in height. The remainder of the country is an almost level plain broken only by the sand hills" 3.48% of the population lives in urban areas and 96.52% lives in the rural areas 20.11% of the total population belonged to Scheduled Castes and 29.37% belonged to Scheduled tribes.

Rapid cutting of trees and the resultant deforestation is a major problem in the entire jungle mahal area especially in Nayagram block of Jhargram district.

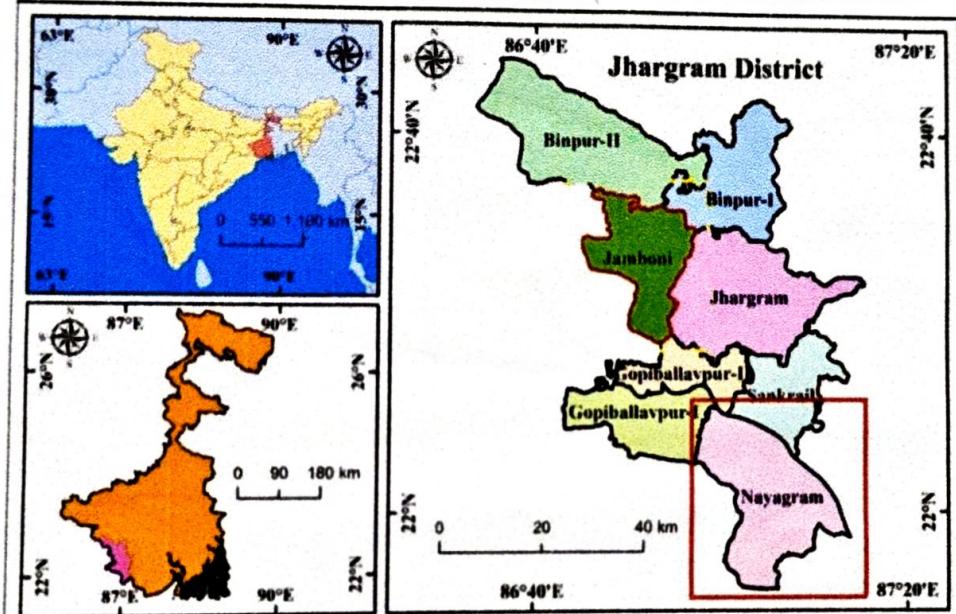


Fig 1: The Study Area

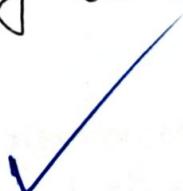
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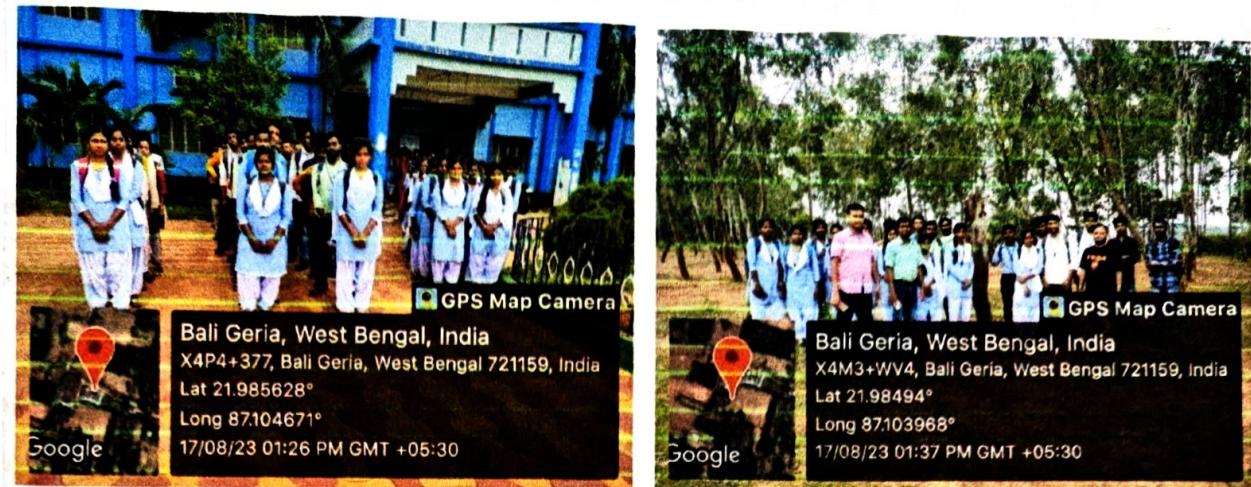
1. Agriculture:

Conversion of forests to agricultural land to feed growing needs of people. There are an estimated 300 million people living as shifting cultivators who practice slash and burn agriculture and are supposed to clear more than 5 lakh ha of forests for shifting cultivation annually. In India, we have this practice in North-east and to some extent in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and M.P. which contribute to nearly half of the forest clearing annually.

2. Commercial logging:

(which supplies the world market with woods such as meranti, teak mahogany and ebony) destroys trees as well as opening up forest for agriculture. Cutting of trees for fire wood and building material, the heavy lopping of foliage for fodder and heavy grazing of saplings by domestic animals like goats.





3. Mining:

This causes environmental impacts like erosion, formation of sinkholes, loss of biodiversity, and contamination of soil, ground water and surface water by chemicals from mining processes. In some cases, additional forest logging is done in the vicinity of mines to increase the available room for the storage of the created debris and soil. Contamination resulting from leakage of chemicals can also affect the health of the local population if not properly controlled. Extreme examples of pollution from mining activities include coal fires, which can last for years or even decades, producing massive amounts of environmental damage.

4. Increase in population:

The needs also increase and utilize forests resources. To meet the demands of rapidly growing population, agricultural lands and settlements are created permanently by clearing forests.

5. Urbanization and industrialization:

Since Industrialization and Urbanization needs land to grow, so major amount of forest lands are cut in order to promote Industrialization and Urbanization.

This creates harmful effect on environment and forest ecological balance.

6. Construction of dam reservoirs:

For building big dams, large scale devastation of forests takes place which breaks the natural ecological balance of the region. Floods, droughts and landslides become more prevalent in such areas. Forests are the repositories of invaluable gifts of nature in the form of biodiversity and by destroying these we are going to lose these species even before knowing them. These species could be having marvelous economic or medicinal value. These storehouses of species which have evolved over millions of years get lost due to deforestation in a single stroke.

7. Forest fires:

They may be natural or manmade, and cause huge forest loss.

8. Overgrazing:

Overgrazing occurs when plants are exposed to intensive grazing for extended periods of time, or without sufficient recovery periods. It can be caused by either livestock in poorly managed agricultural applications, or by overpopulations of native or non-native wild animals. Overgrazing reduces the usefulness, productivity, and biodiversity of the land and is one cause of desertification and erosion. Overgrazing is also seen as a cause of the spread of invasive species of non-native plants and of weeds.

Consequences of Deforestation:

Depending on the needs of the social group concerned, deforestation has made it possible for communities to be built. Forest makes way for residential houses, office buildings and factories. Governments are able to build roads to make trade and transport easier and therefore more convenient to residents.

Deforestation can also mean the conversion of forest land to productive land for agricultural uses. This results in better and more abundant production of food and materials, virtually eradicating periods of want and lack. Economically, deforestation has contributed much in giving many communities the opportunity to make positive changes in their times. Unfortunately, the negative consequences of deforestation far outweigh its positive effects.

Here are few of them.

1. Food Problems:

Non suitability of deforested area for conservation. Most of the area that has undergone deforestation is actually unsuitable for long-term agricultural use such as ranching and farming. Once deprived of their forest cover, the lands rapidly degrade in quality, losing their fertility and arability. The soil in many deforested areas is also unsuitable for supporting annual crops. Much of the grassy areas are also not as productive compared to more arable soils and are therefore not fit for long-term cattle grazing.

2. Exposing Soil to heat and rain:

Heavy rainfall and high sunlight quickly damage the topsoil in clearings of the tropical rain forests. In such circumstance, the forest will take much longer to regenerate and the land will not be suitable for agricultural use for quite some time.

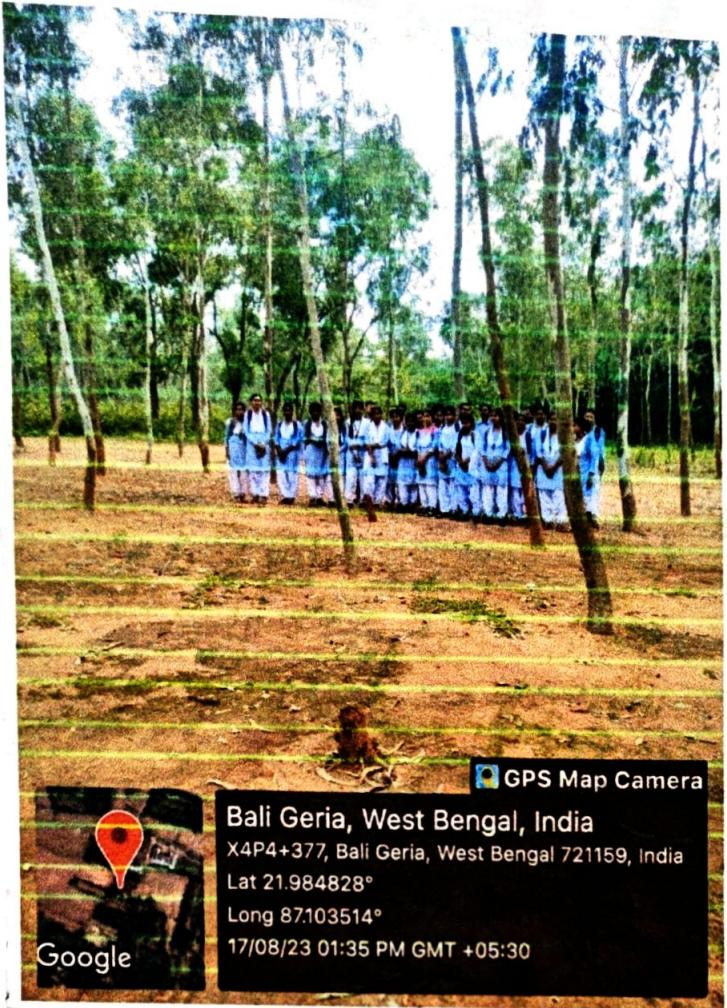
3. Flooding:

Deforestation can result to watersheds that are no longer able to sustain and regulate water flows from rivers to streams. Trees are highly effective in absorbing water quantities, keeping the amount of water in watersheds to a manageable level. The forest also serves as cover against erosion. Once they are gone, too much water can result to downstream flooding, many of which have caused disasters in many parts of the world.

The fertile top soil is eroded and flooded into the lower regions, many coastal fisheries and coral reefs suffer from the sedimentation brought by the flooding. This results to negative effects in the economic viability of many business and fatalities in wildlife population.

4. Loss of biodiversity:

This is probably most serious consequence of deforestation. Put simply, it means the destruction and extinction of many plant and animal species, many of which remain unknown and whose benefits will be left undiscovered.



GPS Map Camera

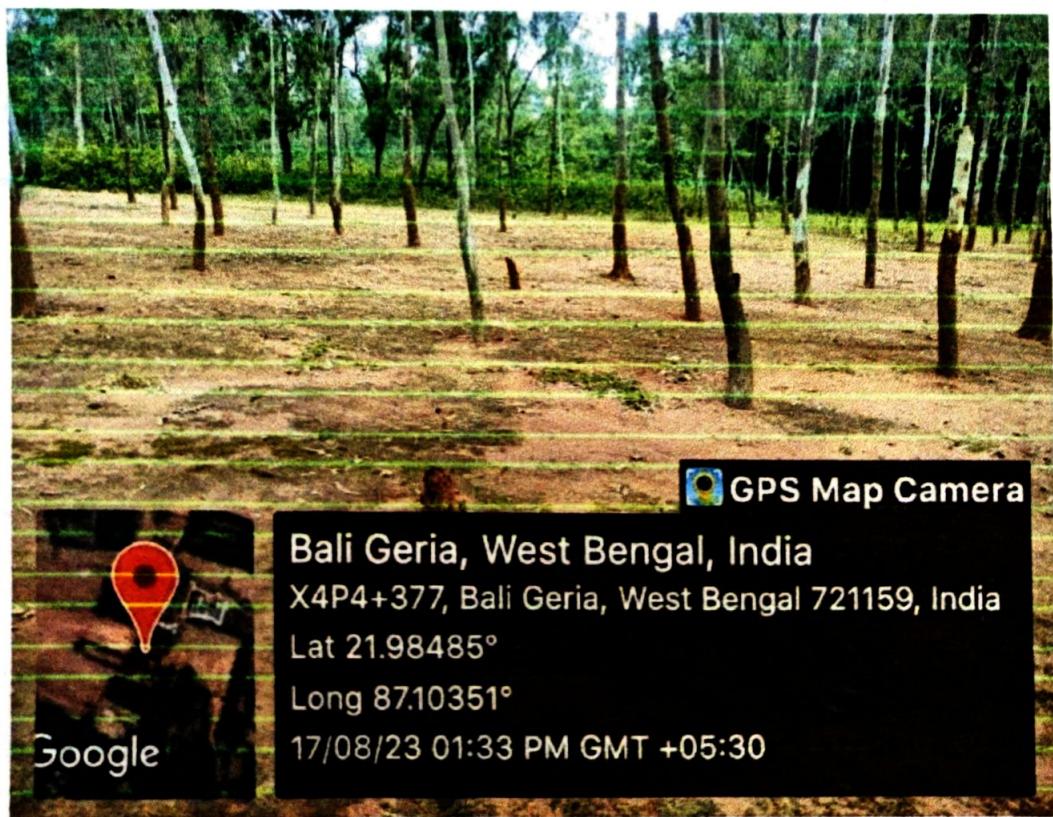
Bali Geria, West Bengal, India

X4P4+377, Bali Geria, West Bengal 721159, India

Lat 21.984828°

Long 87.103514°

Google



GPS Map Camera

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Google

5. Displacement of indigenous communities:

Some indigenous people's way of life and survival are threatened by the loss of forests. Fewer trees results in an insecure future for forest workers.

6. Climate change:

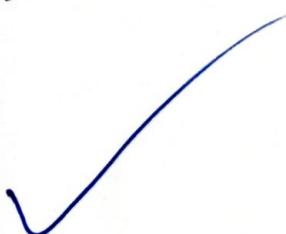
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7. Economic loss:

The occurrence and strength of floods and droughts affecting the economy. It also leads to loss of future markets for eco-tourism. The value of a forest is often higher when it is left standing than it could be worth when it is harvested.

8. Health issues:

The stress of environmental change may make some species more susceptible to the effect of insects, pollution and diseases.



Solutions of the problem of Deforestation

1. The best solution to deforestation is to curb the felling of trees, by employing a series of rules and laws to govern it. Deforestation in the current scenario may have reduced however it would be too early to assume. The money channeled forest resources can, is tempting enough for deforestation to continue.
2. Clear cutting of forests must be banned. This will curb total depletion of the forest cover. It is a practical solution and is very feasible.
3. Land skinned of its tree cover for urban settlements should be urged to plant trees in vicinity and replace the cut trees. Also the cutting must be replaced by planting young trees to replace the older ones that were cut. Trees are being planted under several initiatives every year, but they still don't match the numbers of the ones we've already lost.



NAYAGRAM P.R.M GOVT.COLLEGE ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT

**CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND
REMEDIES OF DEFORESTATION:
STUDY ON JUNGAL MAHAL
AREA OF NAYAGRAM,
JHARGRAM**

NAME:- BASANTA SING

ROLL NO:-1112131 NO:-220006

REG NO:-VU221310031

(B.A HONOURS) 2nd SEMESTER

YEAR:-2022-2023



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The land is then often converted into farms, plantation, roads, housing, and other city uses. Deforestation is most severe in various countries such as the Amazon, Borneo, Congo Basin and the Russian Far East. Over half of the world's forests have been destroyed over 10,000 years; the majority in just the last 50 years. These immense changes include large-scale extinction events, desertification

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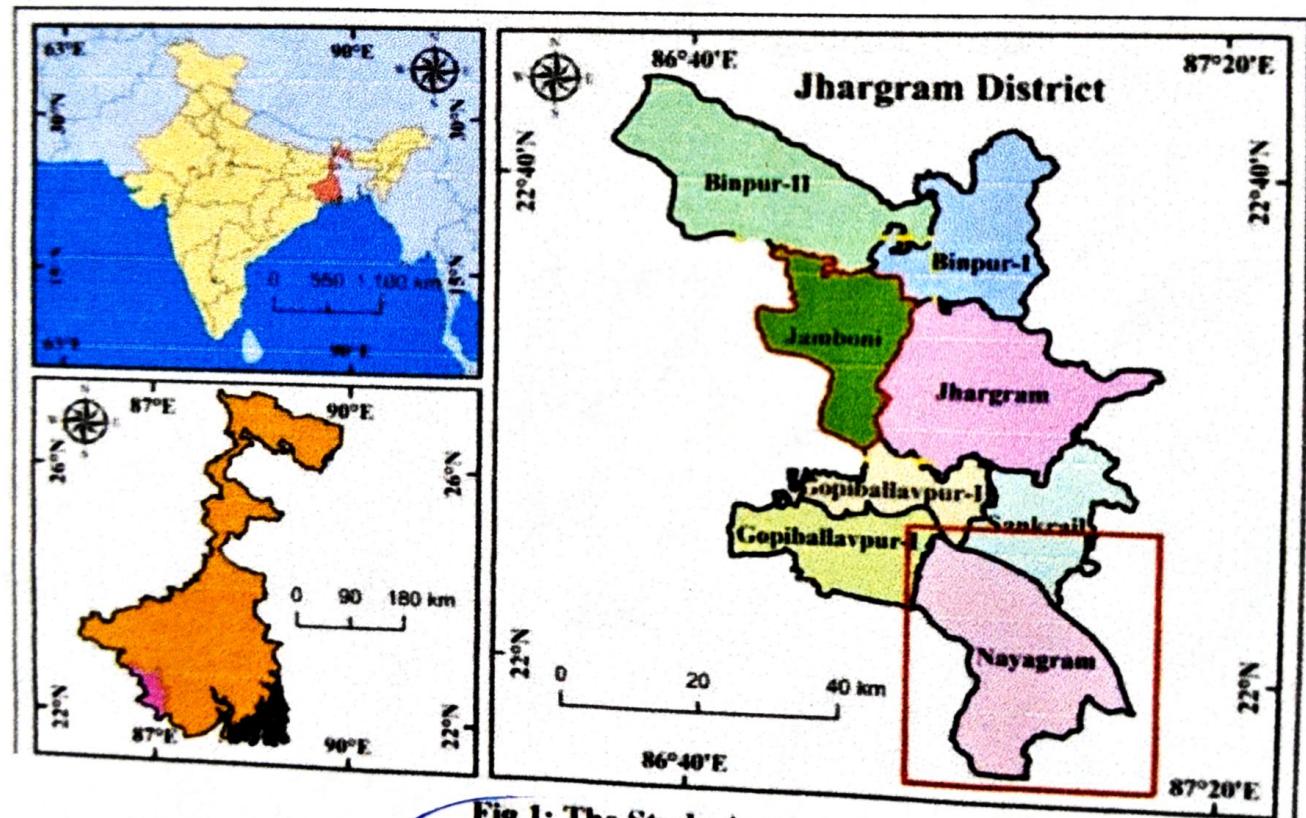


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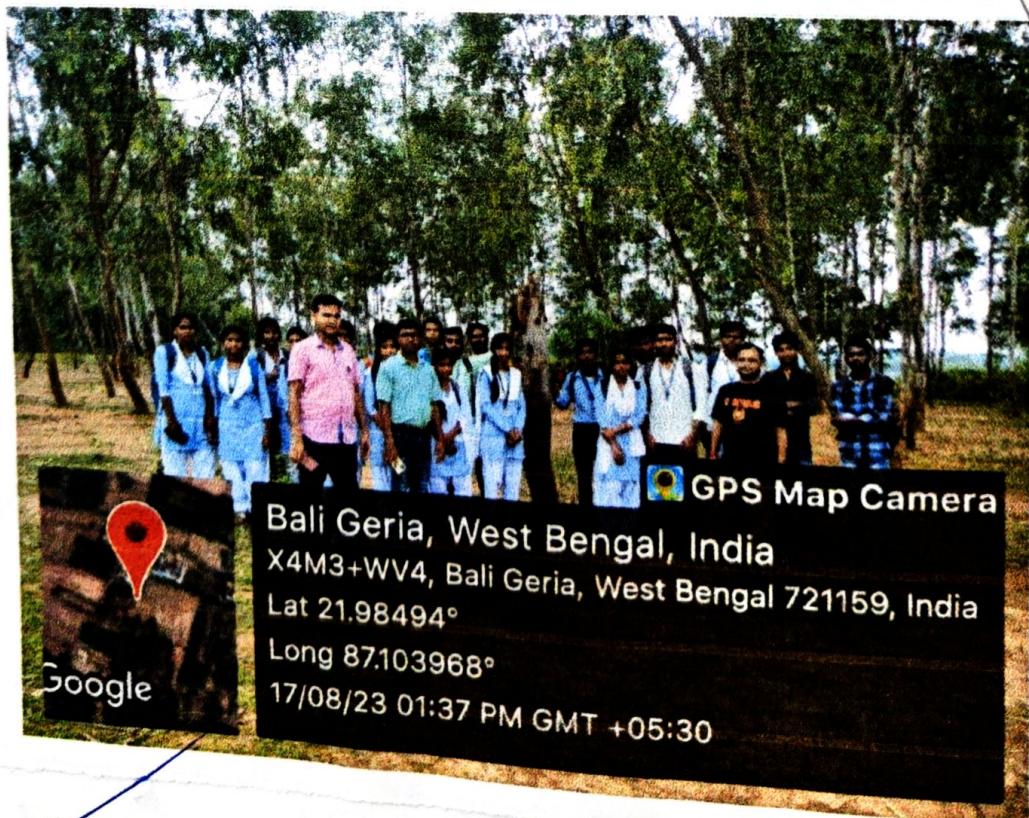
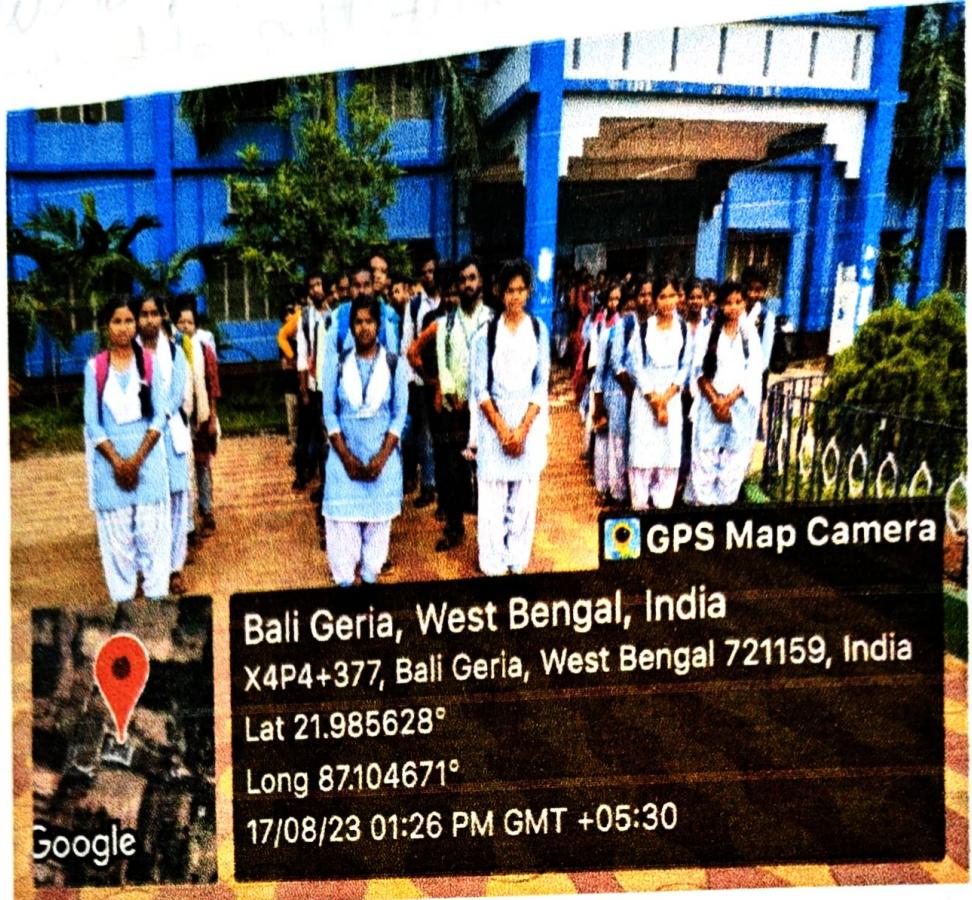
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of forests from shifting cultivation annually. In India, we have this practice in North-east and to some extent in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and M.P. Which contribute to nearly half of the forest clearing annually.

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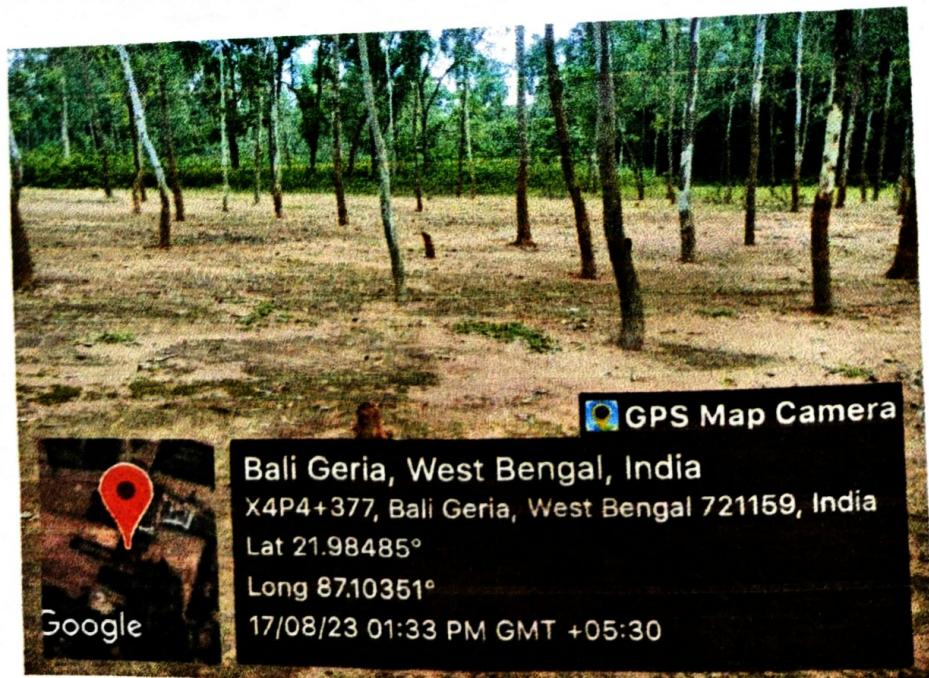
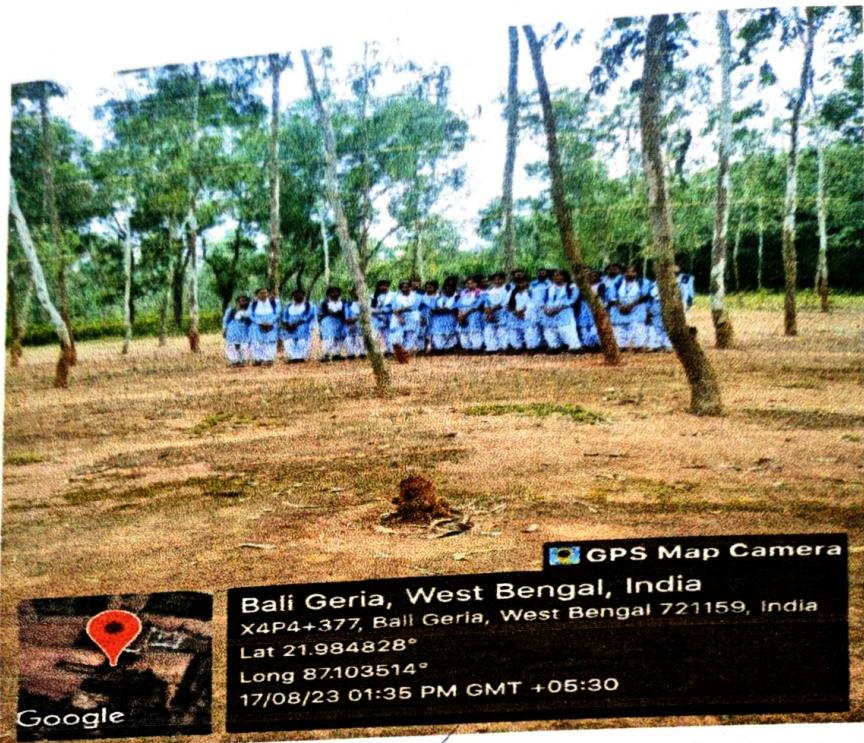
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VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY



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SEMISTER - II

NAME - POULAMI MAHAKUL

ROLL - 1111131 NO - 220016

REGISTRATION - VU221310113

SESSION - 2022 - 2023

YEAR - 2023



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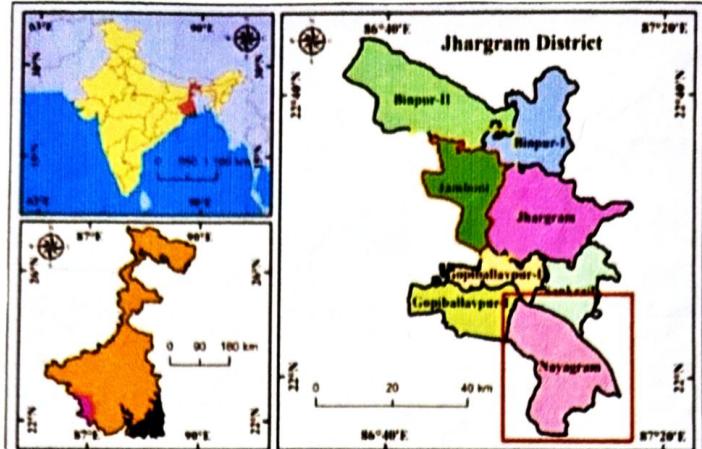


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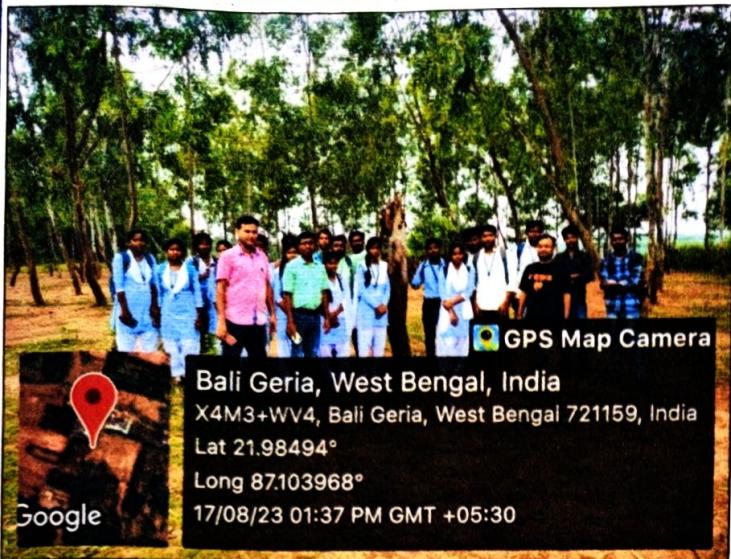
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For building big dams, large scale derestation of forests takes place which breaks the natural ecological balance of the region. Floods, droughts and landslides become more prevalent in such areas. Forests are the repositories of invaluable gifts of nature in the form of biodiversity and by destroying these we are going to lose these species even before knowing them. These species could be having marvelous economic or medicinal value. These storehouse of species which have evolved over millions of years get lost due to deforestation in a single stroke.

7. Forest fires:

They may be natural or manmade, and cause huge forest loss.

8. Overgrazing:

Overgrazing occurs when plants are exposed to intensive grazing for extended periods of times, or without sufficient recovery periods. It can be caused by either livestock in poorly managed agricultural applications, or by overpopulations of native or non-native wild animals. Overgrazing reduces the usefulness, productivity, and biodiversity of the land and is one cause of desertification and erosion. Overgrazing is also seen as a cause of the spread of invasive species or non-native plants and of weeds.

Consequence of Deforestation:

Depending on the needs of the social group concerned, deforestation has made it possible for communities to be built. Forest makes way for residential houses, office buildings and factories. Governments are able to build roads to make trade and transport easier and therefore more convenient to residents.

Deforestation can also mean the conversion of forest land to productive land for agricultural uses. This results in better and more abundant production of food and materials, virtually eradicating periods of want and lack. Economically, deforestation has contributed much in giving many communities the opportunity to make positive changes in their lives. Unfortunately, the negative consequences of deforestation far outweigh its positive effects.

Here are few of them.

1. Food problems:

Non-suitability of deforested areas for conservation. Most of the area that has undergone deforestation is actually unsuitable for long-term agricultural use such as ranching and farming. Once deprived of their forest cover, the lands rapidly degrade in quality. The soil in many deforest areas is also unsuitable for supporting annual crops. Much of the grassy areas are also not as productive compared to more arable soils and are therefore not fit for long-term cattle grazing.

2. Exposing soil to heat and rain:

Heavy rainfall and high sunlight quickly damage the topsoil in clearings of the tropical rain forests. In such circumstance, the forest will take much longer to regenerate and the land will not be suitable for agricultural use for quite some time.

3. Flooding:

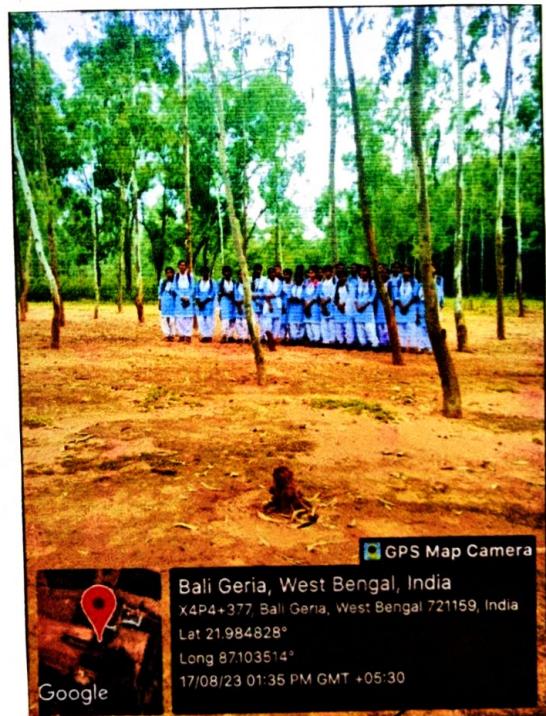
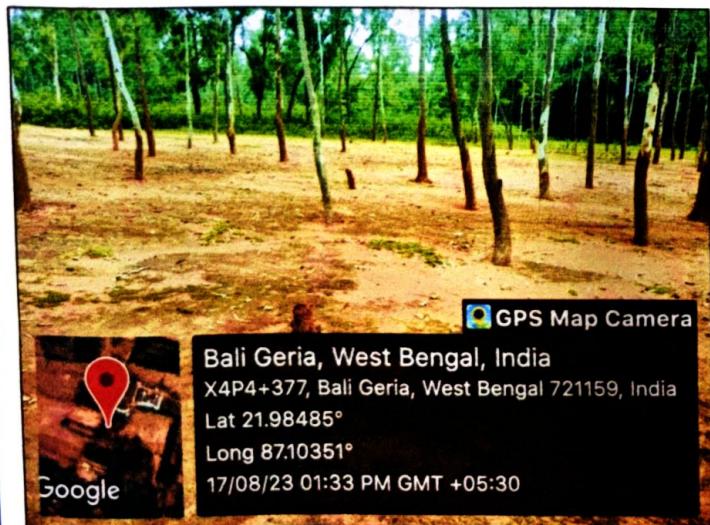
Deforestation can result to watersheds that are no longer able to sustain and regulate water flows from rivers to streams. Trees are highly effective in absorbing water quantities, keeping the amount of water in watersheds to a manageable level.

The forest also serves as cover against erosion. Once they are gone, too much water can result to downstream flooding, many of which have caused disasters in many parts of the world.

The fertile top soil is eroded and flooded into the lower regions, many coastal fisheries and coral reefs suffer from the sedimentation brought by the flooding. This results to negative effects in the economic viability of many business and fatalities in wildlife population.

4. Loss of biodiversity :

This is probably most serious consequence of deforestation. Put simply, it means the destruction and extinction of many plants and animal species, many of which remain unknown and whose benefits will be left undiscovered.



5. Displacement of indigenous communities:

Some indigenous people's way of life and survival are threatened by the loss of forests. Fewer trees results in a secure future for forests workers.

6. Climate change:

Deforestation can cause the climate to become extreme in nature. It increases CO₂ concentration in atmosphere and contributes to global warming.

7. Economic loss:

The occurrence and strength of floods and droughts affecting the economy. It also leads to loss of future markets from eco-tourism. The value of a forest is often higher when it is left standing than it could be worth when it is harvested.

8. Health issues:

The stress of environmental change may make some species more susceptible to the effect of insects, pollution and diseases.

Solutions of the problem of Deforestation:

1. The best solution to deforestation is to curb the felling of trees, by employing a series of rules and laws to govern it. Deforestation in the current scenario may have reduced, however it would be too early to assume. The money-churner that forest resources can be, is tempting enough for deforestation to continue.

2. Clear cutting of forest must be banned. This will curb total depletion of the forest cover. It is a practical solution and is very feasible.

3. Land stripped of its tree cover for urban settlements should be urged to plant trees in the vicinity and replace the cut trees.