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Impact of development: Threat to biodiversity of Ramgarh

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Abstract : At the mid night of 15th of November 2000, a new state arose on the map of India, The JHARKHAND. It is full of forest, minerals, rivers, hills and biodiversity. Average temperature and high degree of annual rain fall increases its beauty and bio diversity. This is one of the most important and favorable climatic condition for the biodiversity of animals and especially the macro invertebrates. Ramgarh district is centrally located in Jharkhand full of industries, mines and power plants. Ramgarh town is situated at lat. 23.38° N and long. 85.34° E. Jharkhand is full of faunal diversity as well as it the home of many species of reptiles, mammals, birds. Longer summer and smaller winter plays an important role in the life cycle of animals. Variation in rain fall and temperature may lead to the variation in phonological events in many species. The development and regeneration of many species is dependent on the monsoon rain fall especially the dominant Sal, Mahua, Kattha, Tick trees and shrubs as puttush. The variation in such conditions may adversely affect the regeneration and growth of these species. Forest is spreaded throughout the Jharkhand examples are Betala National park, Palamu, Hazaribag national park, Hazaribagh, Dalma national park, Jamshedpur, etc. These are the restricted area for the wild animals but the wild animals are found in every part of the state which is also the natural habitat of many invertebrates. Ramgarh is full of forest and greenery and it is also rich in coal mines. Due to mines & factories developmental works, deforestation & pollution, disturbance in ecosystem is observed. Disturbances can increase the rate of species loss. The unplanned development in state disturb the climatic conditions which directly or indirectly affect the vegetation development and regeneration of important species. No detailed assessment of the biodiversity loss of state has been done, however available evidence suggest that the general effect of projected climate change is that the habitat of many species has been lost. All these have been discussed in the paper.

Keywords : Development, deforestation, gene, biodiversity

INTRODUCTION

Ramgarh district is centrally located in Jharkhand. It is situated at the prime location connecting "Ranchi" the capital of Jharkhand through N. H. 33 and N. H. 31.

Ramgarh is full of faunal diversity 'hence it is the natural habitat of many species of invertebrates, reptiles, mammals and birds. Longer summer, optimum rain and smaller winter play an important role in life cycle of animals.

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The distance of one part to another part of forest is no longer so the bio diversity in animals is very much similar.

The wild animals of Indian sub continent freely roam through the passage of Jharkhand especially Ramgarh.

Unplanned development creates problems to the nature and natural habitats of animals. The establishment of new factories, offices, townships, thermal power stations, dams and barrage on the rivers needs deep deforestation. The interference of mankind causes disturbance in the life cycles of animals, their nymph, their offspring's or their eggs.

The nymphs and the offsprings of animal die or lose their natural development.

OBSERVATION & CONCLUSION

Ramgarh is situated at lat 23.38°N and long 85.34°E. It is a part of old Hazaribagh district. The neighbouring districts of Ramgarh are Palamu, Dhanbad, Singhbhum, Ranchi. They are themselves full of dense forest and rich in biodiversity. The climatic condition of the Jharkhand is very much favourable for the flora and fauna. As such it is the home of many species of reptiles, mammals, birds, insects including threaten and endemic species.

The forest of Jharkhand is full of ornamental trees, fruit and timber trees as Gulmohar, Amaltas, Pallash, mango, lithchi, Mahua, Teak Sal, Gamhar, etc. As per its name Jharkhand it is full of bushes and hills. A number of varieties of wild animals such as elephant, tiger, leopard, sambhar, bison, jackals, deers, etc. are found in its forest. The Indian Government established three natural national park named Hazaribagh National Park, Betala National Park and Dalma National Park for protection of wild animals.

Beside these National Parks Wild animals are found all over the Jharkhand and pose major problem to the local population due to loss of their wealth and life. More than hundred people die per year by the attack of elephant. They damage their crops and house in search of their old natural path, food wine (country made wine made by Mahua and rice by the rural population). Damage by Wolf and Tiger are remarkable. They kill pets and people of forest area.

Jharkhand is rich in minerals and precious stones. (coal is found in Hazaribagh, Palamu, Dhanbad :- coal capital of India).

Singhbhum and Chibasa in known for iron ore and uranium, Palamu for dolomite, Lohardaga for buxite etc.

The altitude of hills, presence of variety of beautiful flora and fauna play an important role in the biodiversity. Ranchi itself is 3000 ft. above sea level.

The unplanned development cause tremendous disturbance for the ecosystem. Due to deforestation soil erosion take place which block the path of small rivers and cause their death. It also disturbs and compells

migration of the animals. As a result they venture into villages and cities in search of food, water and habitat. This results into struggle between human and wild animals (Amman *et. al.* 2002)¹.

Unplanned mining by Govt. and unauthorised mining by local people exploit the natural resources and Biodiversity (Jairam Ramesh, 2009)².

A number of factories have been established for minerals and ornamental stones, scattered through out Jharkhand and also in Hazaribagh district.

The total area become polluted and a various kind of disturbances occurs (Lantzy and Mackenzie, 1979; Ross, 1994)^{3,4}. Disturbances can increase the rate of species loss. The unplanned development in state disturb the climatic conditions which directly or indirectly affecting the vegetation development and regeneration of important species.

No detailed assessment of vulnerability of biodiversity of state to climate change exist, however available evidence suggest that the general effect of projected climate change is that the habitat of many species have been destroyed.

The scientist community of our country has to fulfill a special responsibility to observe and study the natural flow of genes and adaptation in Jharkhand. This plays an important role in the protection of biodiversity.

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