

Book Review

Biodiversity Conservation: Current Status and Future Strategies edited by Prof. Dushyant Kumar Sharma, Department of Zoology, Govt. Model Science College, Gwalior, M.P. Published by Write and Print Publications, New Delhi, India.

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Biodiversity, the variability among living organisms, is the very basis for the survival and existence of mankind. Biodiversity provides a variety of products such as food, clothing, medicine, housing and industrial raw material and ecological services like nutrient and water cycling, soil formation and retention, pollination of plants and regulation of climate to name a few. However, in the recent years, ever increasing loss of biodiversity has posed a serious threat to our survival. Biodiversity conservation is a global issue and biodiversity loss affects each and every one. Both in situ and ex situ methods of biodiversity conservation are equally important. The traditional beliefs and practices can play an important role in biodiversity conservation. In addition to the conventional methods of conservation, new strategies need to be developed. The book under review not only highlights on various methods, being used today for biodiversity conservation but also focuses on future strategies. The book contains 17 chapters, written by academicians and scientists, working in various institutions and research centers in different parts of the country. The book has both review articles as well as research papers. Most of the papers are well written and focus not only on the problem but also try to find out solutions. Shrestha Sinha, in her chapter on 'Biotechnology in Biodiversity Conservation: Present and Future strategies', has discussed different biotechnological approaches such as environmental DNA based approaches, somatic embryogenesis, germplasm conservation and molecular marker for biodiversity conservation. A.C. Raghvanshi has given a good account of India's biodiversity. Biodiversity conservation can be achieved not only through conventional methods but regional planning and awareness play very important role in biodiversity conservation, as discussed by Deepak Kumar Srivastava and Richa Singh. Research papers are based on various studies made on different aspects of biodiversity of aquatic, terrestrial as well as aerial ecosystems.

The print quality of the book is very good and the price is very apt. Overall, the book can be considered as a nice effort to discuss a subject which needs urgent attention from all sections of the society. In my opinion, such books are very much required to sensitize the people about such important issues so that they can play their role, in biodiversity conservation, more effectively.

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