

Effect of Urbanization on Deforestation in India

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Abstract—*In recent times urbanization has emerged as one of the major cause for deforestation on large scale in country like India. Urbanization for the need of jobs, money, better resource availability, housing, medical facility, transportation, extensive agricultural practices has resulted in a rapid decline of forest cover initially from 33% to 23% to 11% and now at some urban areas to less than 9%. To satisfy our own greed we have utilized different resources of forest to an extent causing irreparable loss not only to forest but to biodiversity. Besides these anthropogenic causes such as forest fires, absence of top carnivorous animals from the ecosystem has resulted in increased deforestation. Decentralization of resources, money, opportunities and jobs can be some major steps which can help to reduce the practices of deforestation besides this afforestation, less use of insecticides, pesticides, organic farming, vermicomposting, plantation drive, awareness and education programme at national, state and regional level can be some of the preventive measures that need to be adapted to reduce deforestation.*

Keywords: *urbanization, biodiversity and deforestation.*