



## **Multidisciplinary Nature of Environmental Studies**



# NEED FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS

- Earth's natural resources are dwindling/decreasing and the environment is being increasingly degraded by human activities.
- We always feel that managing the environmental problems is something that the Government should do (plantation by forest dept.).
- Prevention is better than cure - prevention of environment degradation.
- Importance of individual role in environment management.



- Reducing the wastage of natural resources and informing the Government about sources that lead to pollution and degradation of our environment – only possible through **public awareness**.
- Media - newspapers, radio, television could strongly influence public opinion.
- Politicians in a democracy always respond positively to a strong publicly supported movement.
- If you join an NGO that supports conservation, politicians will make green policies.



## Suggested further activities for concerned students:

- Join a group to study nature, such as World Wide Fund for Nature – India (WWF-I) or Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), or another environmental group.
- Begin reading newspaper articles and periodicals such as ‘Down to Earth’, WWF-I newsletter etc. that will tell you more about our environment.

- Practice and promote issues such as saving paper, saving water and power, reducing use of plastics, practicing the 3Rs principle of reduce, reuse, recycle, and proper waste disposal.
- Join local movements that support activities such as saving trees in your area, go on nature treks, recycle waste, buy environmentally friendly products.



- Practice and promote good civic sense such as no spitting or tobacco chewing, no throwing garbage on the road, no smoking in public places, no urinating or defecating in public places.
- Take part in events organized on World Environment Day, Wildlife Week, earth hour, world environment day, world water day, etc.
- Visit a National Park or Sanctuary, or spend time in whatever nature you have near your home.



- There is a famous Chinese proverb.....

***“If you plan for one year, plant paddy.  
If you plan for ten years, plant trees.  
But if you plan for hundred years, educate  
people.”***

If we want to manage our planet Earth, we  
have to make all the persons environmentally  
educated.



It is absolutely essential to create awareness about environment because:

- Rapidly changing technologies lead to abandoned wastes
- Our fast and energy demanding life style pollutes the environment
- Crazy consumerism leads to environmental degradation
- The earth has a definite capacity to tolerate pollutants and sustain populations



# Multidisciplinary Nature of Environmental Studies



# Institutions in Environment

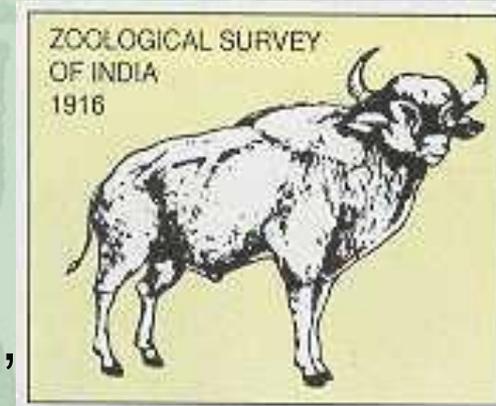
➤ Several Government and Non-government organizations (NGOs) working towards environmental protection.

## Government Organizations:

- BSI (The Botanical Survey of India), Calcutta, 1890, survey of plant resources in different regions of India.

- ZSI (The Zoological Survey of India), Calcutta, 1916, collects specimens of different animal lives,

working in 16 regional centers in India.



## Non-Government Organizations:

- BNSH (The Bombay Natural History Society), Bombay, 1883, working on wild life, policy building, research, popular publications and Public awareness.
  
- WWF-I (The World-Wide Fund for Nature - India), Bombay (presently in New Delhi), 1969, Wildlife education, workshops, conferences, publishing articles and awareness.



- CSE (Center for Science and Environment), New Delhi, workshops, conferences, publishing articles and awareness.
- CPR-EEC (C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyar Env. Edu. Center), Madras, 1988, conservation of environmental assets, wild life, biodiversity issues.
- CEE (Center for Env. Education), Ahmedabad, 1989, conducting programs, producing variety of educational materials

- BVIEER (Bharati Vidyapeeth Institute of Environment Education and Research), Pune.

- Implements a large outreach program with 135 schools in which teachers conduct fortnightly Environment Education Programs.

- Biodiversity Conservation is a major focus of its research initiatives.

### **Uttarkhand Seva Nidhi (UKSN), Almora**

- A Nodal Agency and supports NGOs in need of funds for their environment related activities.

- The main targets are linked with sustainable resource use at the village level through training school children.

- Its environment education program covers about 500 schools.



## **Kalpavriksh, Pune**

- It is an NGO and works on education and awareness; investigation and research; direct action and lobbying; and litigation with regard to environment and development issues.
- Kalpavriksh was responsible for developing India's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan in 2003.

## **Salim Ali Center for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Coimbatore**

- It is an independent organization and is based at Coimbatore since 1990.
- It has instituted a variety of field programs that have added to the country's information on our threatened biodiversity.



- **Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun**
  - A major training establishment for Forest Officials and Research in Wildlife Management, established in 1982.
  - It trains personnel in eco-development, wildlife biology, habitat management and Nature interpretation (explanation of the meaning of a work of art).
- **Botanical Survey of India (BSI)**
  - Established in 1890 at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Calcutta.
  - It carries out surveys of plant resources in different regions.



- **Zoological Survey of India (ZSI)**

- Established in 1916, systematic survey of fauna in India.
- Its origins were collections based at the Indian Museum at Calcutta, which was established in 1875.
- It has done an enormous amount of work on taxonomy and ecology.



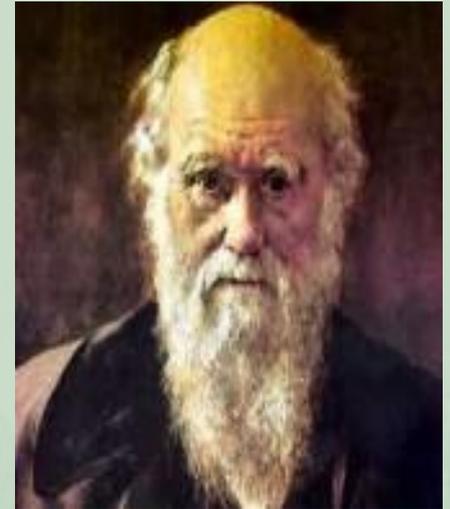
# Peoples in Environment

- Charles Darwin (author of origin of species)
- Ralph Emerson
- John Muir
- Aldo Leopold
- Eu Wilson
- Indira Gandhi (Wildlife protection act)
- S.P. Godrej
- M.S. Swaminathan
- Madhav Gadgil
- M.C. Mehta
- Anil Agarwal
- Sunderlal Bahuguna



# Charles Darwin

- Author of “Origin of Species” that brought to light the close relationship between habitats and species.
- It also brought about a new thinking of man’s relationship with other species that was based on evolution.



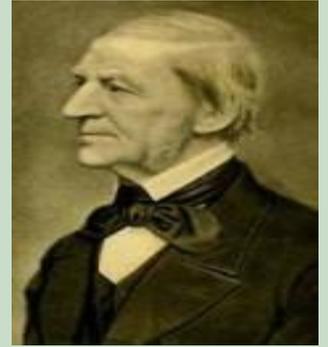
# Henry Thoreau

- Most people did not care for nature and would sell it off for a small sum of money.



# Ralph Emerson

- He spoke of the dangers of commerce to our environment way back in the 1840s.



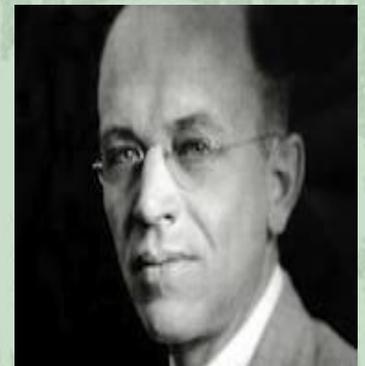
# John Muir

- Remembered as having saved the great ancient sequoia trees in California's forests.
- In the 1890s he formed the Sierra club, which is a major conservation NGO in the USA.



# Aldo Leopold

- Designed the early policies on wilderness conservation and wildlife management.



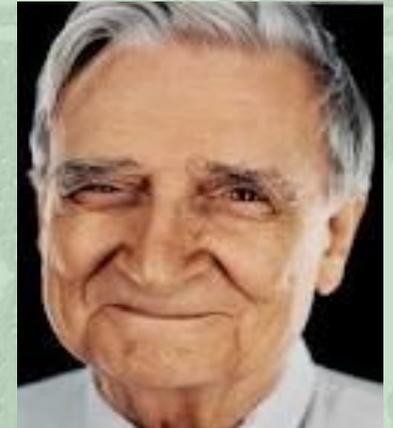
## Rachel Carson

- Published several articles that caused immediate worldwide concern on the effects of pesticide on nature and mankind.
- 'Silent Spring' book led to a change in Government policy and public awareness.



## EO Wilson

- An entomologist - biological diversity as a key to human survival on earth.
- He wrote 'Diversity of Life' in 1993, which was awarded a prize for the best book published on environmental issues.



# Indira Gandhi

- As a PM, she has played a highly significant role in the preservation of India's wild life.
- The Wildlife Protection Act was formulated during the period when she was PM.



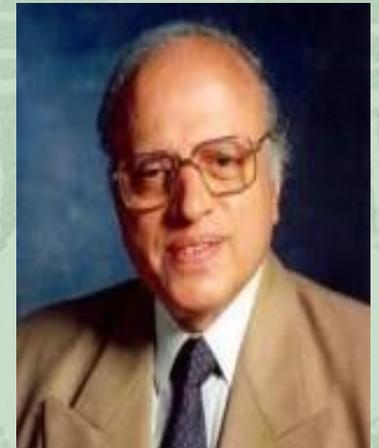
## **S P Godrej**

- One of India's greatest supporters of wildlife conservation and nature awareness programs.
- Awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1999 and several other awards between 1975 and 1999.



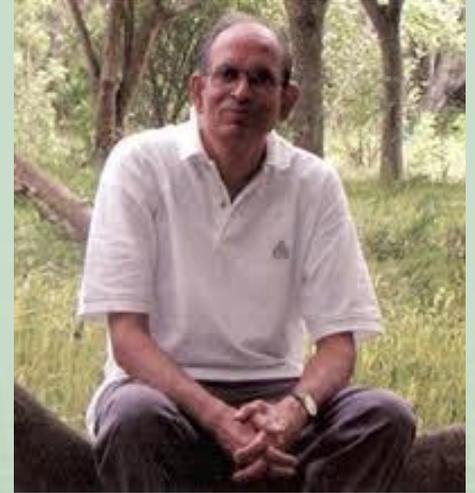
## **M S Swaminathan**

- One of India's foremost agricultural scientists and has also been concerned with various aspects of biodiversity conservation both of cultivars and wild biodiversity.
- Founder of the MS Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai, which does work on the conservation of biological diversity.



# Madhav Gadgil

- A well known ecologist in India.
- Interests range from broad ecological issues such as developing Community Biodiversity Registers.



# Anil Agarwal

- A journalist who wrote the first report on the 'State of India's Environment' in 1982.
- Founded the Center for Science and Environment - an active NGO that supports various environmental issues.



# Medha Patkar

- Known as one of India's Champions who has supported the cause of downtrodden tribal people whose environment is being affected by the dams on the Narmada river.



# Sunderlal Bahuguna

- Chipko Movement - became an internationally well-known example of a highly successful conservation action program through the efforts of local people for guarding their forest resources.
- Fought to prevent the construction of the Tehri Dam in a fragile earthquake prone setting.



# ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN AND RECOGNITION AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The 2004 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Kenyan Environmentalist Wangari Maathai for her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace.



This is the greatest recognition given to the cause of environment at international level.

“Peace on Earth depends on our ability to secure our living Environment”.

Maathai has given a beautiful slogan

“When we plant new trees,we plant the seeds of peace”





Nobel peace prize 2007 was awarded jointly to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change (IPCC) headed by Indian environmentalist Dr. R K Pachauri and former US vice-president Al Gore



# Environmental Protection efforts at national level

A full fledged ministry named Ministry of Environment and Forests since 1986, is looking after all environmental related issues and framing guidelines, polices and legislations for environmental protection.

- Concept of ecomark
- Eco-clubs
- Eco-task-force



**IMAGINE IF**

**WE SWITCH OFF BUSINESS LIGHTS  
AT NIGHT**

**WE COMMIT TO ZERO NET  
DEFORESTATION BY 2020**

**OUR WORLD IS 100% POWERED  
BY RENEWABLES IN 2050**

**WE USE THE RESOURCES OF ONE  
PLANET ANNUALLY INSTEAD OF  
ONE AND A HALF**

**WE LIMIT CLIMATE CHANGE TO  
BELOW 2°C**



**DARE THE WORLD TO SAVE THE PLANET**

**MARCH 23 8:30PM EARTH HOUR.ORG**





crops for domestication for arid and desertic lands

Thank you



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THANK YOU



you are filled with  
new joy new beginnings..