

GS-II Devolution of Powers and Finances up to Local Levels and Challenges Therein.

1. The Gram Sabha-Based Forest Governance has to be implemented in a large way to maintain sustainability of Forests. Comment

Why this Question?

- The Union ministry of tribal affairs has taken the initiative to conduct research for the development of models of forest governance based on Gram Sabhas.

Key Demands of Question:

- Mention the importance of the sustainability of the forests in the increasing climate change phenomenon.
- Explain how Gram Sabha-based governance model will help to maintain the sustainability of the forests.
- Discuss the way forward measures to include Gram Sabhas in the effective management of the Forests.

Directive word:

Comment:

- When you are asked to comment, you have to pick main points and give your 'opinion' on them based on evidences or arguments stemming from your wide reading.
- Your opinion may be for or against, but you must back your argument with evidences.
- These types of question offer you a chance to consolidate your reading of different subjects to justify your opinion.

Structure of Answer:

Introduction:

- Explain what is sustainability of the forests is? And mention the importance of the sustainability of the forests in the changing climate phenomenon like increased Forest Fires, etc.

Body:

- Mention the various constraints in the present forest management practices.
- Explain how the inclusion of the Gram Sabha in the forest management will help to rectify the issues and also maintaining the sustainability of the forests.
- Mention the constitutional provisions like PESA ACT, 2006 and Forests Rights Act, 2006 which will give greater role of the Gram Sabhas in the management of the forests.
- Highlight the examples of the active role of the Gram Sabha in the Forest Management.

Conclusion:

- Conclude with the effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act and the empowerment of the Gram Sabha in the management of the Forests.

