

Studies On Biodiversity Of Surli Ghat Karad, Dist. Satara (M.S.) India.

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Biodiversity refers to the variety and variability among living organism and the ecological complexes in which they occur. It deals with the degree of nature's variety in the biosphere and can be observed at three levels - the genetic variability within a species, the variety of species within a community and the organization of species in an area in to distinctive plant and animal communities. The consumptive and productive value of biodiversity is closely linked to social concerns in traditional communities. Ethical values related to biodiversity conservation are based on the importance of protecting all forms of life. The appreciation of the presence of biodiversity is for its inherent value and beauty as well as for the contribution it makes to our knowledge, our aesthetics, imagination and creativity. Unsustainable anthropogenic activities are the major threat to biodiversity. It is our moral duty to look at our planet to the best and pass it in a good health to our future generation. With this background, the project was undertaken to study the biodiversity of Surli Ghat of Karad, Dist. Satara. The study reveals that there is variation in flora in different season. A systematic and taxonomical study reveals the occurrence of 53 families, 137 genera and 165 species. Since last many years the biodiversity and productivity of this Ghat is decreasing because of utilization of stone mining's. The area shows hilly region, scared grooves and many wild animals. A scientific study of animal biodiversity is carried out for first time at Surli Ghat and it reveals that there are about 16 reptiles, 77 bird species and 10 mammals. The extreme variation in temperature (10°C during winter and 46 °C during summer) was reported. The soil is with low moisture, poor nutrients and low water holding capacity. Therefore, there is a need of conservation of the rare, endemic and endangered plants of this area. Also, it is necessary that the relevant authorities should maintain animal and bird diversity.

Key words: Biodiversity, ecology, taxonomy, species