

Flora And Fauna Of Sundarban Mangrove Forest, West Bengal, India

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Abstract: World largest mangrove forest is situated in Sundarban delta region. Sundarban is a part of active delta of Gangetic delta. Sundarban's mangrove forest is the single largest home for the Royal Bengal tiger (*Panthera Tigris*). In different part of the world people comes Sundarban for visiting. In Sundarban we can see not only mangrove forest but also in this forest there are lot of wild life.

Keywords: Sundarban, Royal Bengal Tiger, Mangrove, Wild life, Sundari

I. INTRODUCTION

Sundarban is characterized by a group of island facing the sea and it is the largest mangrove forest of the world. This land mass is formed due to the deposition of silt brought down by the river Ganga and Brahmaputra and their tributaries (Mandal, A.K. and Nandi, N.C.).

The Sundarban Biosphere Reserve supports the world's most luxuriant mangrove forest a well-known ecosystem in the tropical region. This Biosphere Reserve supports 4266.66 sq. km (about 66%) area out of a total 6419 sq. km mangrove cover area in India (Naskar, 2004). It is the habitat of famous and majestic "Royal Bengal Tiger". The dwellers could access the direct economic benefit from the forest. This flora and fauna are the source of different types of resources like food, honey, leafy vegetable, tannin, wax and wood thatching materials, timber for construction of house, boat, fence, and fuel.

II. STUDY AREA

Under West Bengal state both South and North 24 parganas district some CD and block are included in Sundarban. This area covered Hingaljanj, Hasnabad, Habra, Sandeshkhali, Minakhan, of North 24 parganas and Sagardwip, Namkhana, Kaddwip, Patharpratima, Kultali,

Mathurapur-I, Mathurapur-II, Jaynagar, Gosaba of South 24 parganas. Sundarban (India) is located between 21°30' North to 22°30' North latitudes and 88°10' East to 89°10' East longitudes covering 9630 sq. km area. Though the geographical area of Sundarban is 9630 sq. km but actual mangrove forest cover area is only 4266.66 sq. km.

OBJECTIVES

- Specific objectives behind this work are the following:
- ✓ To get an ordinary conception about Sundarban.
 - ✓ Enquiry the reason of the Sundarban.
 - ✓ To know about the animals, birds and different types of wild animal of the forest.
 - ✓ To get knowledge about the different features of mangrove forest.

III. DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study has conducted the different part of North and South 24 parganas. The research method adopted for this work are observation and case study method. The secondary data are collected from journal, books, reports, district statistical hand book and various related to this topic.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. FLORA

Sundarban not only in India or Bangladesh but also near all over the world familiar (known) names. Natural vegetation and some types of wild animals for providing the helps of the familiar. Among them like Sundari tree and the famous Royal Bengal tiger. Here in Keora branches we can see the saltation of the monkeys, the golden Halyon sitting secretly shush in green leaves, forsake from the depth of the forest, the sound of infatuation deer. The mixing rally of golpata, hental, garjan, garan increase the beauty of this place too much.

Crocodile in water and tiger in ashore. This sentence will be enjoyment if going to Sundarban. In this forest those flora species are present, between them some particular species are

Name of Trees	Scientific name
Sundari	<i>Heritiera Fomes</i>
Hental	<i>Phoeixpaludosa</i>
Goran	<i>Ceriops Decandra</i>
Genwa	<i>Excoecariaagallocha</i>
Keora	<i>Sonneratia Apetal</i>
Khagra	<i>Bruguiera Gymnorhiza</i>
Golpata	<i>Nypa Fruticans</i>
Garjan	<i>Rhizophora Apiculata</i>
Dhundul	<i>Xylocarpus Granatum</i>
Kankra	<i>Bruguiera Gymnorhiza</i>
Champa	<i>Bruguiera Parviflora</i>
Singra	<i>Cynometra Iripa</i>
Baen	<i>Avicennia Officinalis</i>
Dhanighas	<i>Portersia Coanetata</i>

Table 1

The main features of mangrove forest are

Without sundari we can see their have silt root and pneumatophore. Protect the seeds from the hands of drawing in slob water as floating in nullah we can see here viviparous germination.

At sea littoral side real mangrove trees, we can find here the rally of Banes. After that garjankakra, goransundari and lots of mixing forest observes in our eyes relatively in high places where seas or rivers water could not reached, there Halophytic typical flora has been grown like genwa. Someone says that for lots of Sundari trees this place has been entitle like this.

B. FAUNA

Sundarban means not only the tigers but also we can find here types of wild animals species mentioned in below –

a. AVIFAUNA

Open bill storks, Black capped Kingfishers (*Hateyonpileata*), Water hens, coots, Brahming kite (*Haliastur Indus*), Red jungletowl, Common mynahs, Green pigeons, Grey-headed fish eagles, Common kingfishers, Little stints, Curlews, Golden plovers, Goliath heron (*Ardea Goliath*).

b. AQUATIC FAUNA

Some aquatic animals which were found in this park are as below-

Sawfish, Butter fish, Silver carp, Star fish, Common carp, Horse shoe crabs, Gangetic dolphin (*Plantinista Gangetica*), Skipping frogs, Tree frogs.

c. REPTILES

King cobra (*Ophiophagus Hannah*), Indian corba (*Naja Naja*), Estuarine crocodiles, Salt water crocodile (*Crocodylus Porosus*), Chameleons, Monitor lizard (*Varanus Salvator*), Common krait (*Bungarus Caruleus*), Water monitor lizard (*varanus Salvator*), Rat snake, Dog face water snake, Common Indian Krait (*Bungarus Caculeus*), Hawksbill turtle (*Erit Mochelysoliuvace*).

d. ENDANGERED SPECIES

Royal Bengal tiger (*Panthera Tigress*), Salt water crocodile, River terrapin, Gangetic dolphin, Mangrove horseshoe crab. Wildboar (*Susserofa*), Leopard cat (*Felis Bengalensis*), Fishing cat (*Prionailurus Viverrina*), Jungle cat (*Felis Chaus*), Common Otter (*Lutra Lutra*).

Above mentioned animal and creature provides Sundarban a natural beauty and immense. For observation the famous Royal Bengal tiger (*Panthera Tigress*) lots of native foreigner tourists also come here. This is a unique creature by God. In water saltation of Dolphin similarly as well as deer's and colorful birds turn Sundarban world heritage site. Sundarban National park was declared as a World heritage site by UNESCO in the year 1987. There are about 58 mammals, 248 birds and 55 reptiles' species.

V. CONCLUSION

At sundarban flora as well as animal species will be separate this forest from any other world's national park. Since six or seven thousands years consist of Sundarban island lot of animal species assembled rally turn it like as buffer zone. The famous Royal Bengal tiger protect Sundarban and Sundarban also protect us from the hands of littoral tropical storm. So if the animal species were alive at sundarban then trees were alive and if the trees were alive then this is absolutely avail of us.

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