

EUnit -1

- **Sustainable Development** : The sustainable development can be traced back to 1972 Stockholm conference in Sweden where economic growth was for the first time linked to environment, emphasising the need for efforts at international level. The need of social & economic quality for achieving sustainable development was also emphasised at this conference. Sustainability is the ability of the earth's various system including human culture system & economics, to survive and adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- Sustainable development is "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs" (WCED 1987).
- **Causes of unsustainability :**
 1. reduction of biodiversity
 2. increasing use of the earth's net primary productivity
 3. elimination of many natural predators
 4. relying mostly on polluting fossil fuels.
- **Scope of environmental studies** : The environmental biology includes several disciplines involving different branches of environmental studies. The physical, chemical and biological features of land are included under biogeochemistry. The concept of environment includes nearly all disciplines of science that are linked to humans directly or indirectly. These include bioecology, toxicology, environmental chemistry and ecology. Ecology deals with the several organisms under constant stress of different ecological principles. The study of toxic, physical, chemical and biological factors is included under environmental toxicology besides these prominent disciplines.
- **Importance of environmental studies :**
 1. It helps in maintaining ecological balance.
 2. It helps to achieve sustainable development.
 3. It gives us basic knowledge of environment and associated problems.
 4. It is useful in checking environmental pollution and related solutions
 5. It helps to educate people regarding their duties towards the protection of environment.
- **Environmental studies** : Environmental studies is a multidisciplinary academic field which systematically studies human interaction with the environment.
- **Multidisciplinary nature of environmental studies** : It is essentially a multidisciplinary approach and its components include biology, geology, chemistry, physics, engineering, sociology, health science, anthropology, economics, statistics & philosophy. Environmental studies is a multidisciplinary science that teaches us to protect & sustain our natural resources of land,

water, air and vegetation. Studies made in industry, agriculture, and technologies for improving human life quality have been made possible by relying on resources available in land, water and vegetation.