## **Editor's Note**

It's a privilege and immense pleasure for me to pen down and share views on "Wildlife and forest conservation" as the editor of the wildlife initiative "Fawn".

A balanced ecosystem which consists of animals, plants, microorganisms, and more, is essential to control ecological processes and promote lives. It provides a habitat, various food chains, and food webs for plants and wild animals. Environmental balance is extensively required. In continuation to this, the protection of wildlife and nature become very significant and vital. We, humans, belong to the beautiful planet, "Earth" and for environmental balance, we need to share the planet with our wildlife and other bio-diversities of nature. In this run, forests are expedient for mankind in various ways. For the coming generation, we need to plant more trees and maintain the forest area. With an aim to conserve forest lands, preservation of all natural resources, strategies for forest conservation, sustainable forest management, protection against forest fires, and controlling deforestation not only many preventive measures have been taken but also various Forest Conservation Projects have been developed.

Similarly, for wildlife protection and conservation, in India today many laws and projects are running. Wildlife Conservation projects aim to preserve and use natural resources sustainably. The government of India has initiated many wildlife conservation projects like Project Snow Leopard, Project Tiger, Indian Rhino Vision 2020, Project Hangul, Crocodile Conservation Initiative, and many more. Also, by developing national parks, and wildlife sanctuaries we can protect the animals in their natural habitat. Forests are the abode of a variety of animals and therefore, the cutting of forests should be strictly prohibited. Hunting of wild animals should be strictly banned. In this vein, the Wildlife Protection Act, of 1972 is a law that was enacted to safeguard wild animals, birds, and plants to ensure India's ecological and environmental security. A Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has also been established to combat illegal wildlife trafficking, particularly the trade of endangered species.

In the end, I would like to add that more human activities in the habitats of wild animals have resulted in substantial damage to the ecosystem. Being the most intelligent species on the planet, we humans must ensure that our actions do not harm nature and wildlife. When one critical part of the ecosystem is vanished, the entire planet will eventually suffer. Hence, the balance in all forms and aspects needs to be maintained!

Sincerely, **Dr. Anubha Jain**Leading Journalist

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