

Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Gangetic Plains



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Problems Relating to Biodiversity

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4.1. PROXIMATE CAUSES OF LOSS OF WILD PLANT DIVERSITY AND THREATS

Exploitation of plants by cottage and paper pulp industry

Many cottage industries in the rural areas wholly depend on forest produce. Some of these like rope (*baan*) making, basket making, cane chairs (*moondha*) making and *dona* (country cups, plates and bowls made of leaves) obtain the raw material from the wild. *Saccharum ravennae* (L.) L. leaves are used in *baan* making while *Saccharum spontaneum* L. culms are used to make *moondhas*. Branches and canes of a good number of plant species are used in basket making. Plants used for this purpose include *Bauhinia racemosa* Lamk., *Butea monosperma* (Lamk.) Taub. *Cajanus cajan* (L.) Millsp., *Careya arborea* Roxb, *Crotalaria juncea* L., *Dendrocalamus strictus* (Roxb.) Nees, *Eulaliopsis binata* (Retz.) Hubb., *Hardwickia binata* Roxb. *Hibiscus sabdariffa* L., *Lannea coromandelica* (Houtt.) Merr, *Marsdenia tenacissima* (Roxb.) Moon, *Bauhinia integrifolia* Roxb. *Sida rhombifolia* L. *Calamus tenuis* Roxb., *Calotropis gigantea* (L.) Dryand., *Cannabis sativa* L., *Desmostachya bipinnata* (L.) Stapf., *Flemingia strobilifera* R. Br., *Helicteres isora* L., *Ichnocarpus frutescens*