Environment & Ecology · GS - III

Examine the potential of controlled-environment attractions and ecotourism in promoting environmental awareness. Discuss their limitations from the perspective of biodiversity conservation.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 03/11/2026	GS - III	Environment & Ecology

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Environmental education; controlled ecosystems; sensor-based technology; tropical biodiversity; ecotourism; conservation awareness; ecological limitations; sustainable tourism

Model Answer

Introduction

Nature-based attractions can introduce visitors to biodiversity and ecological processes. The indoor rainforest reported near the Statue of Unity at Ekta Nagar, Gujarat, illustrates how controlled environments can combine tourism with environmental education.

Potential Benefits

Controlled facilities can regulate temperature and humidity to support selected tropical plant species. Artificial rainfall and interactive attractions may improve visitor engagement and encourage interest in biodiversity conservation. Such facilities can also diversify tourism and generate local economic opportunities.

Limitations

An artificial rainforest cannot fully reproduce the ecological complexity of a natural forest. It may lack the complete range of native species, food webs, soil processes and natural ecological interactions. Energy consumption, water requirements and maintenance costs also need consideration.

Way Forward

Authorities should integrate accurate ecological interpretation, native biodiversity education, water-efficient technologies and renewable energy where feasible. Tourism revenue can support habitat restoration and conservation programmes. Visitor facilities should complement, rather than substitute for, the protection of natural ecosystems.

Conclusion

Controlled-environment attractions can strengthen environmental awareness and support tourism. Their contribution to conservation will depend on responsible management, scientific education and meaningful links with natural habitat protection.