Environment & Ecology · GS - III

What is the ecological significance of wildlife corridors? Examine how their disruption contributes to human-wildlife conflict and suggest measures for their conservation.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 17/10/2026	GS - III	Environment & Ecology

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Wildlife connectivity, habitat fragmentation, elephant migration, human-elephant conflict, land-use planning, corridor protection, community participation, ecological restoration.

Model Answer

Introduction

Wildlife corridors are natural pathways that connect fragmented habitats and allow animals to move between forests in search of food, water and mates.

Ecological Significance

1. They maintain genetic diversity and support healthy wildlife populations.
2. They facilitate seasonal migration and access to essential resources.
3. They improve ecosystem stability and biodiversity conservation.

•

Challenges

Infrastructure projects, human settlements and fencing can block traditional elephant corridors. Such obstructions force elephants into agricultural fields and villages, increasing crop damage, property loss and human-animal

conflict. The re-erection of fences at Panthadikkalam in Idukki, Kerala, raises concerns about wildlife movement and habitat connectivity.

Measures for Conservation

1. Identify, map and protect important wildlife corridors.
2. Remove unnecessary barriers and restore natural habitats.
3. Incorporate wildlife movement into infrastructure and land-use planning.
4. Involve local communities and provide timely compensation for losses.
5. Strengthen coordination between forest departments and local authorities.

Conclusion

Protecting wildlife corridors is essential for biodiversity conservation and reducing human-elephant conflict. Development planning must balance human needs with ecological connectivity.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP