

723. **Prajapati, M.C. and Bhushan, L.S. 1985.** A case for ecology based approaches in reclamation and development of deep ravines. Abst. No. 70, Voluntary Papers, National Seminar on "Soil Conservation and Watershed Management", New Delhi, Sept. 17-18, 1985: 47.

Thick plantations of *Prosopis juliflora* and *Dendrocalamus strictus* were raised in 1950's at Agra and Kota ravine Centres to check the erosion. It was observed that despite dense stands and closed canopies the process of erosion was still rampant on the floor of these monocultural plantations. This phenomenon, however, was non-existent in the natural vegetation of adjacent ecological plots of identical age and site conditions. Above differences in protection ability are attributable to the differences in composition of vegetation of the two sites. The paper suggests that ecology based approaches weigh heavily in favour of any

successful long-lasting and economically viable utilization of deep ravines, mixed plantations of ecologically adapted and economically reputed species of *Acacia catechu*, *A. nilotica*, *Albizia lebbek*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Holoptelia integrifolia*, *Salmalia malabaricum*, etc. in desired combinations, interspersed and evenly dispersed all over the area, forming upto only 75% canopy cover at maturity, are the best means for reclamation and development of deep ravines.