LIFE SCIENCE CLASS - IX

Theme: Physiological Processes of Life Sub-theme: Plant Physiology

Topic: Photosynthesis

- 1. Discuss the role of water in the process of photosynthesis.
- **Ans.** Plants absorb water from the environment that they live in. Water is very important because
 - i. The source of the hydrogen present in glucose is water. So naturally without water, glucose which is a hydrocarbon, can never be formed.

ii. Photolysis of water occurs during light-dependent phase of photosynthesis and as a result H⁺ is formed. This H⁺ plays a significant role in reduction of carbon dioxide during the light-independent phase.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{\text{Sunlight}} & \text{H}^+ + \text{OH}^- \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{Active Chlorophyll}} & \text{H}^+ + \text{OH}^- \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{In light-independent process}} \end{array}$$

iii. The hydroxyl radicals, on the other hand, react with each other to form water and oxygen as by-product. This oxygen is released into the environment which in turn helps to maintain the O_2 - CO_2 balance of air.

$$4OH^- \rightarrow 2H_2O + O_2 \uparrow$$

iv. The electron that gets separated from water later returns to chlorophyll.

- 2. Explain the process of photophosphorylation.
- Ans. Adenosine diphosphate (ADP) is present in the protoplasm of plant cells that have chlorophyll. During the light-dependent phase of photosynthesis, inorganic phosphorous combines with ADP with the help of a high-energy bond to form adenosine triphosphate (ATP).

This process of formation of ATP in the presence of sunlight with the help of solar energy is called photophosphorylation.

$$ADP + Pi \xrightarrow{\text{Sunlight}} ATP$$

ATP is termed as energy currency and plays an important role in various metabolic processes.