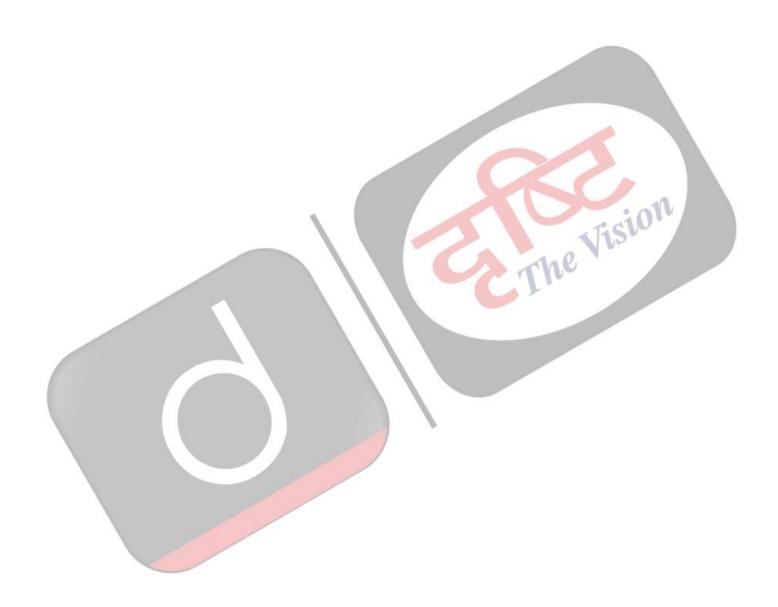


# **Desertification**



It is the process by which natural or human causes reduce the biological productivity of drylands.

# Causes for Desertification

### ☐ Man Made Causes:

- O Overgrazing
- DeforestationFarming Practices
- O Urbanization and other types of land development
  Climate Change
  Stripping the land of resources
  Overexploitation of Resources
  Overpopulation

- Natural Causes: Natural Disasters
  - Water erosion
- Wind Erosion
   Climate Variations

### □ Environmental Impacts:

- O Destruction of Vegetation
- Soil infertility
   Increased Soil erosion
- O Increased vulnerability to natural disasters O Land Degradation
- Water Pollution
- Extinction of Species
   Loss of Biodiversity

- □ Economical Impacts:
   Increased occurrences of Natural Hazards
  - like, ■ Floods
  - Landslides

  - Draughts
     Threatens Agricultural productivity
- O Repercussive impacts increases Poverty
- O Overall productivity of the economy

#### ☐ Social Impacts:

- O Rise of famine, poverty, social conflicts
- O Forces mass migrations i.e. Environmental Migration
- Food Security Issues

#### □ Political Impacts:

Desertification

Repercussive impacts also arises political instability

## Status of Desertification of India

- 29% of India's area is undergoing degradation.Currently degraded land constitutes almost
- 32% of India's areas.
  ☐ More than 80% of the country's degraded
- land are in nine states.

### Measures Taken by India to Curb Desertification

- □ Command Area Development (1974) □ Integrated Watershed Management
- Programme (1989-90)

  Desert Development Programme (1995)
  Signatory to the United Nations Convention
- to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1994 and ratified in 1996
- Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River
   Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (2000)
   National Afforestation Programme (2000)
- □ National Action Programme to combat desertification (2001)
- Fodder and Feed Development Scheme (2010)
   National Mission on Green India (2014)
   Desertification and Land Degradation Atlas of
- India, 2016 (released by ISRO)

# Global Efforts to Prevent Desertification

- □ The Bonn Challenge
  □ Goal 15 of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), 2030
- ☐ United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought observed every year on 17th June
  Great Green Wall

# Steps To Be Taken

- ☐ Sustainable Land Use
- Protection of vegetative cover which would prevent soil erosion
   Alternative Farming and Industrial Techniques
   Establish economic opportunities outside

- ☐ Practice of Sustainable Agriculture
- □ Practice of Eco Forestry
  □ Use of recycled paper
- □ Raise awareness about Desertification

- Way Forward

  Collective responsibility

  Balance between Environment and Development





PDF Refernece URL: https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/desertification-mind-map

