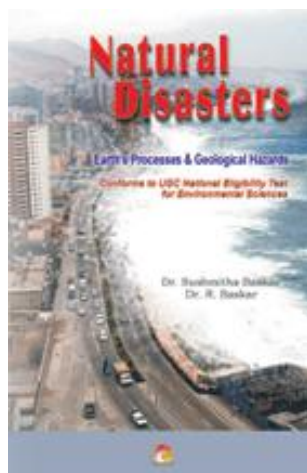




Natural Disasters



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This book has been written with a view to create awareness among students and other readers about various kinds of hazards and disasters. The salient features of the book include a simple explanation of the subject, relevant case studies and quotes, besides some interesting facts. This book will be found very useful for all undergraduates, postgraduates and those preparing for competitive examinations. It broadly conforms to UGC NET syllabus for Environmental Sciences.

Contents

Unit 1 INTRODUCTION TO NATURAL DISASTERS

Dimensions of Hazard, Hazard Classification – Natural hazards and Technological hazards, Case studies of natural hazards and technological hazards, Effects of hazards, Vulnerability and susceptibility of hazards, Assessing hazards and risks, Hazard prediction and warning, Role of different individuals, Natural disasters: international attention and strategies, Natural Service functions of natural hazards.

Unit 2 EARTHQUAKES

Earthquakes - Seismic waves, Genesis of earthquakes, Types and Distribution of earthquakes, Earthquake hazards, Prediction and control of earthquakes, Case studies of earthquakes, Natural Service functions of earthquakes, Tsunami - Hazards associated with tsunamis, Tsunami prediction and warning systems, Some case studies of tsunamis, Natural Service functions of tsunami.

Unit 3 VOLCANOES

Distribution of volcanoes, Different parts of a volcano, Volcanic eruption processes, Kinds of volcanic eruptions, Factors controlling volcanic eruptions, Products of volcanic eruptions, Hazards associated with volcanoes, Some case studies of volcanic eruptions, Natural service functions of volcanoes.

Unit 4 WEATHER RELATED HAZARDS

Cyclones - Effects of cyclones, genesis of a cyclone, Behaviour of a cyclone and their forecast, Factors affecting cyclone hazards, Structure of a tropical cyclone, Size of tropical cyclones, Cyclone risk and mitigation strategies, Case studies of cyclones, Storm surge, Hurricane - Case studies of hurricanes, Tornadoes, Service functions of hurricanes, cyclones and tornadoes, thunderstorms, lightening, Service functions of thunderstorms and lightening, Other severe weather phenomenas, Drought - Factors leading to drought, drought consequences, different stages of drought, impacts of drought, strategies for drought mitigation, Some case studies of drought, Desertification – Factors causing desertification, famine, El Nino – Effects of El Nino conditions, Human induced atmospheric hazards – Climate change, Acid rain, Ozone depletion, Global warming and greenhouse effect.

Unit 5 FLOODS



Different kinds of floods, Factors leading to floods, Factors affecting floods, Floods and their associated hazards, Flood control measures, Prediction of floods, Response to flood hazards, Case studies of floods, Natural service functions of floods.

Unit 6 LANDSLIDES

Factors causing landslides, slope failure and their causes, Different kinds of mass movements, Factors that affect mass movement, prediction of mass movement, Landslides and their effects, Precursor events before the occurrence of landslides, Prevention and mitigation of mass movements, case studies of landslides, Natural service functions of landslides.

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