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NATURAL CALAMITY, DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Geography of India

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NATURAL CALAMITY, DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Introduction

- On an average, 232 million people are affected by different types of disasters every year.
- In recent years disaster risks have been on the rise due to factors such as population growth, unplanned urbanization, environmental degradation, conflicts and competition for scarce resources, climate change, disease epidemics, poverty and pressure from development within high-risk zones. Hence, disaster risk reduction is the need of hour.
- Recognizing the importance of Disaster Risk Reduction in 2005, 168 governments and all leading development and humanitarian actors signed the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), committing themselves to a ten-year multi-stakeholder and multi-sector plan to invest in disaster risk reduction as a means to building disaster-resilient societies. Public awareness campaigns can be started modestly and tailored to meet the needs of specific populations and target groups.

Disasters :

- **Earthquake**
- **Landslide**
- **Cyclone**
- **Flood**
- **Drought**
- **Lightning**

Drought

- Drought is a period of time (months or years) during which a part of the land has shortage of rain, causing severe damage to the soil, crops, animals, and people.
- It sometimes causes even death. During drought high temperature is experienced. Such conditions may affect our health.
- The primary cause of drought is deficiency of rainfall and in particular, the timing, distribution and intensity.

Rules of action before, during and after Drought

Before drought:

- * Rainwater harvesting should be followed.
- * Sewage water should be recycled and used for domestic purpose.
- * Building canals or redirecting rivers for irrigation.
- * Utilise water economically.

During drought:

- * Wear cotton clothing and a hat.
- * In case of overheating, immediately move to a shady area.
- * Consume adequate amounts of water stay.

After drought:

- If anyone faints after sunstroke, emergency medical measures should be taken.
- Contact local government agencies to receive information about disaster and assistance for the population.