

# ROLE OF VEGETATION IN LANDSLIDE DISASTER MITIGATION

**A.D. Kaushik\* and Vinod K. Sharma\*\***

*\*National Institute of Disaster Management,  
Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI, Hydro-Meteorology Division, New Delhi*

*\*\* Professor, Disaster Management & Environment,  
Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi.*

**Abstract:** Heightened human activity and urbanisation in hills has increased the incidence of active landslides, mudflows and erosion in general in the fragile Himalayas. The housing system and construction of the roads in this region needs to be changed. Structures must be light with minimum possible use of concrete and stone dumping excavated soil into rivers should be made punitive offence and all construction activity must be regulated by the strictest of laws. Simultaneously, State Governments may start to restore / rehabilitate the deforested or bare lands by planting the multipurpose trees and grasses scientifically tested (under agro or social forestry programme) along with the help of local people or community (Panchayats) in the fragile Himalayan regions. For this purpose the Govts. of State and Central must prepare a solid policy cum planning to mitigate the problem of landslide disaster in the Himalayas which almost occurred every year.

**Keywords:** Disaster, Landslide, Vegetation

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