

Q) What is desertification? Give reasons for desertification? What solutions India can target to fulfill its LDN under UNCCD, by 2030?

Ans) Desertification is the process by which biological productivity of the land is degraded because of anthropogenic activity and natural activities. It can lead to formation of desert type of area.

if possible, give some data also

The reasons for desertification can be attributed to various factors :-

- A) Man-Made factors, under which we can consider
- 1) Overgrazing - reduces the productivity, and biodiversity of the land
 - 2) Deforestation - Forest acts as Carbon Sink. It leads to increase in greenhouse gases
 - 3) Urbanization - It leads to demand of resources and over exploitation of resources leads to desertification. Plastic from urban causing land degradation.
 - 4) Climate change - Changes in temperature and rainfall changes the soil productivity of land
 - 5) Farming Practices - Heavy tilling or over irrigation causes the mineral content of soil to get depleted
- B) Natural factors
- 1) Natural Disaster like cyclone or volcano eruption degrades land.
 - 2) Erosion which can be water or wind erosion causes land to become less productive

please

please
use
map,
charts-
to
present
in a
better
manner

India organised the COP-14 under UNCCD in Sept 2019 and announced voluntary target to achieve LDN by 2030. The steps that can be taken by India are as follows

- 1) Proper guidelines for land management policies and practices like National Afforestation Programme ^{Several} Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), Soil health Card scheme, Soil Health Management scheme, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Mitan Yojana (PMKMY), etc.
- 2) Soil management ^{Health Card} scheme will help the farmers with optimized inputs for farming.
- 3) With the help of Remote Sensing Satellite data from ISRO, India monitoring the desertification in India. ^{mention BHUVAN}
- 4) Reduction of the plastic waste will also help to achieve LDN.
- 5) Practices should be done to hold moisture in the and slowing down of runoff water.

overall, a very good answer
4.5/10

LDN targets will also help us to achieve the SDG-15 (Urgent action to protect, restore life on land). It will also help to achieve SDG-13 and SDG-14. Ending desertification will help to protect the biodiversity and is good for our own well being.