



**CLASS IX**  
**DISASTER MANAGEMENT**  
**UNIT V**  
**CHAPTER 4**

**COMMON HAZARDS – PREVENTION AND MITIGATION**

**NOTES**

- **There are several types of common hazards which can be classified as followings:**
  - (i) **Sudden onset hazards** – earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, landslides, floods, tropical cyclones, avalanche, cloud bursts etc.
  - (ii) **Slow onset hazards** – drought, famine, environmental degradation, desertification, pest infection etc.
  - (iii) **Epidemics** – water/flood/air borne diseases, infectious diseases, vector borne diseases etc.
  - (iv) **Industrial/Technological accidents** – system failures, fire, explosion, chemical leakage/spillage etc.
- **These hazards cause a lot of undesirable effects which may be briefly listed as follows:**
  - (a) Physical damages,
  - (b) Casualties and deaths,
  - (c) Breakdown of public health,
  - (d) Dislocation of transport networks, and
  - (e) Breakdown of electricity and communication.
- To cope with these harmful effects of hazards, **mitigation strategies** are required, which may vary from case to case, depending upon the nature of the hazards.

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