

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

UPSC

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
Content of the Question is more important than length.
(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

Q. Soil Health is critical for quality food production and robust food security of the country.

↳ World Soil Day (2022) theme, soils: where food begins is a means to raise awareness on importance of maintaining healthy soil.

↳ Soil Health is critical for Quality Food product.

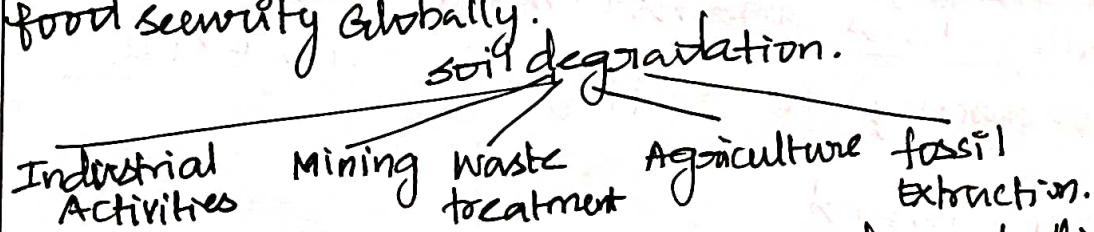
↳ Healthy soil support healthy plant growth to enhance our Nutrition and water percolation.

↳ helps to regulate the planet's climate by storing carbon

↳ As soil is the basis of food system.

Degradation and its consequences

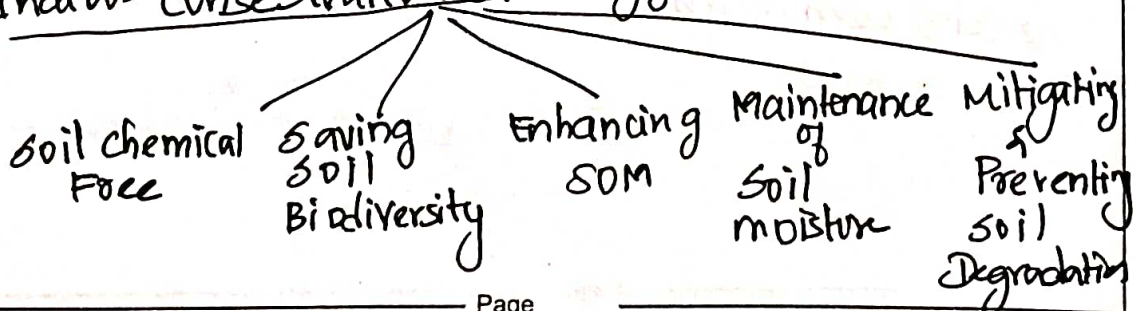
↳ Nutrient loss and pollution significantly threaten soils thereby undermine Nutrition & food security Globally.



↳ 29% of India's total land area degradation happens in some other forms.

↳ Nearly 3.7 million hectares suffer from Nutrient loss in soil or depletion of soil organic matter (SOM)

India's conservation strategy



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↳ Scheme

↳ Soil Health Card Scheme → assess current soil health.

↳ PM Krishi sinchayee yojana → To prevent soil erosion, regeneration of Natural Vegetation.

↳ National Mission for sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) → promote traditional indigenous practices on chemicals and other agri inputs.

↳ FAO is Association with Ministry of Rural Development supports Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana - National rural livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) to increase their capabilities supporting farmlivelihoods for adoption of sustainable and resilient practices

↳ Way Ahead

↳ Need to strengthen communication channels between academia, policymakers and society for the identification, management & restoration of degraded soil.

↳ Greater cooperation and partnership are central to ensure the availability & knowledge sharing of successful practices and universal access to clean and sustainable technologies.

↳ As consumer and citizens, we can contribute by planting trees to protect topsoil, developing & maintaining home/kitchen gardens and consuming foods that are mainly locally sourced & seasonal.