

Specific Hazards and Mitigation

Short Answer Type Questions

1. What are the factors contributing to the vulnerability of population to earthquake?

Ans. Following are some of the main factors that contribute to the vulnerability of population to an earthquake—

- (a) **Location of settlements:** The population settled in the alluvial or windblown soil areas are more vulnerable to earthquake.
- (b) **Weak building:** A dense collection of weak buildings which are over occupied increases the vulnerability to the earthquake.
- (c) **Construction material:** The quality of the material also matters. If we use traditional building materials like, mud, raw bricks, local mason, etc. the structure becomes weak and thus vulnerable to an earthquake.

2. What are the elements at risk during a landslide? Explain.

Ans. The most common elements at risk are as follows-

- (a) The settlements built on the steep slopes, built at the toe and those built at the mouth of the streams emerging from the mountain valley.
- (b) All those buildings constructed without appropriate foundation for a given soil and in sloppy areas.
- (c) Roads, communication line and buried utilities.