

(a)

What is deforestation? State disadvantages caused to environment due to this.

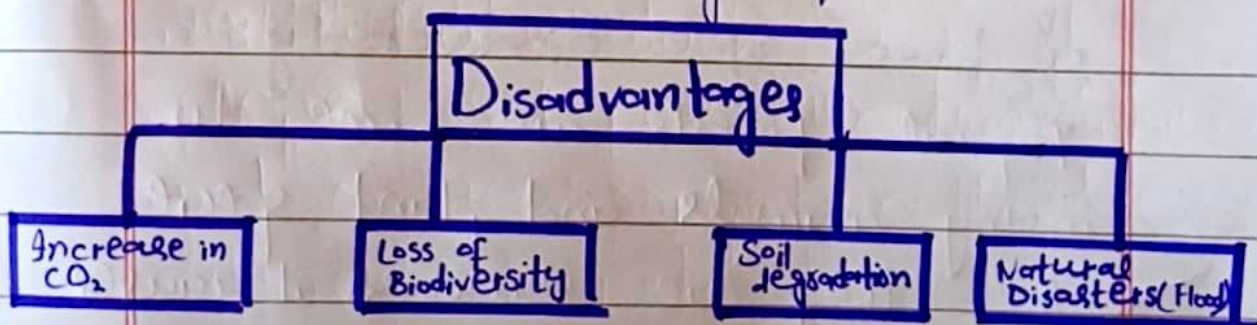
Answer:-

Deforestation Definition:

It is purposeful clearing or thinning of forested land caused by human actions for agriculture, animal grazing and to obtain wood for fuel, manufacturing and construction.

Disadvantages caused by deforestation:

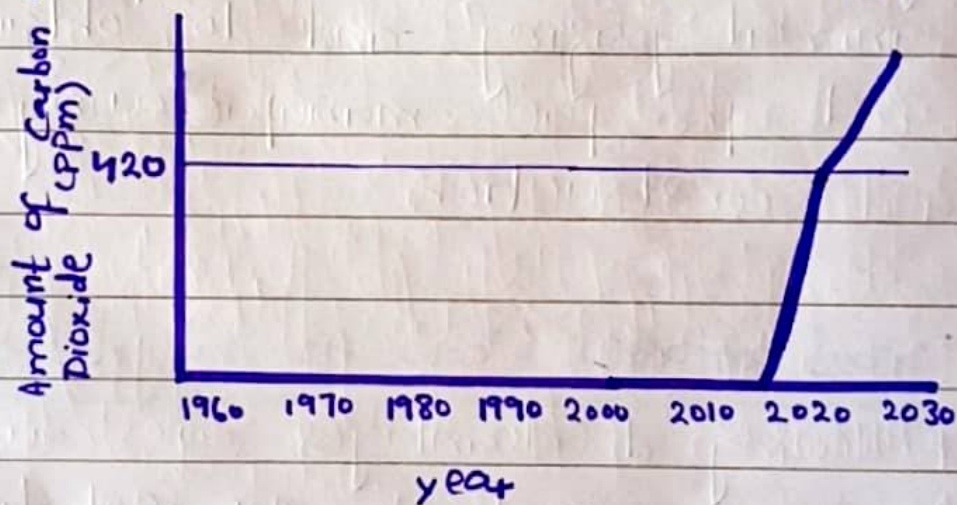
Following disadvantages are caused to environment by deforestation:



i. Increase in Carbon Dioxide Levels:

Trees are natural sequestrators. When they are removed, level of CO_2 increase in atmosphere. CO_2 is greenhouse gas. It causes global warming.

Atmospheric CO_2 set a new high record in 2024: 422.7 ppm



ii. Loss of Biodiversity:

Tropical forests are home to many animals and plant species. When they are removed, it causes loss of biodiversity. According to some scientists, world is in midst of mass extinction episode.

iii. Soil degradation:

Forests support healthy soil through natural return of organic matter. Loss of forest can cause soil prone to erosion. This causes remaining plants to become more vulnerable to fire as forest shift from moist environment to open dry environment.

iv. Natural Disasters:

Deforestation can exacerbate the impacts of natural disasters like floods, droughts, and slides. Removal of trees makes slopes more vulnerable to landslides and removal of trees can worsen flooding.