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## Section 3

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## Impact Analysis of Urbanisation on Hydrological Profile

### A Case Study of Lucknow Region

Meenakshi Lohani and B.W. Pandey

#### Introduction

Water is a prime natural resource, a basic human need and a precious national asset. It is an integral part of the ecological cycle and is finite in its presence yet infinite because of its recycling properties through hydrological cycle. It is abundantly available; and human kind consumes only a fraction of it for sustenance. Water is the source of life and, right from the origin, human being is using it for various purposes. The ancient civilizations had developed in river valleys. This is also true about medieval township and other developments, and all modern developments that they are related directly or indirectly to water. The main concern is that by using water, humans have influenced both its quantity and quality. Earlier the influence of human activity on water resources was limited but now this has become a major problem of environmental degradation throughout the world. However, there are many ways in which humans influence water, for example, by direct channel manipulation, modification of watershed characteristics, pollution, and reduction in the level of water table.

#### Objective of the Study

This chapter aims to study primarily the nature and impact of land use change on the surface as well as sub surface water resources in Lucknow and secondly to recognize the depletion and shrinkage of water bodies and its management through formulation of future strategy for conservation of water resource.

#### Study Area and Research Methodology

The study area is Lucknow, the fastest growing city of India and is situated