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The hills of Southern India have large areas with soil erosion problem due to up and down or faulty cultivation practices on the hill slopes, large scale deforestation, overgrazing, industrialization and urbanisation. Soil erosion causes siltation of reservoirs built at the cost of crores of rupees. It further causes loss of fertile top soil, desertification, frequent landslides and landslips, floods, droughts and shortage in the production of food, fodder, fuel, fibre and fruit and thus leading to ecological imbalance and economic insecurity of people. To arrest soil erosion in the hills, soil conservation measures are to be adopted on watershed basis; since watersheds are convenient natural units. The paper discusses various components of the watershed management and suggests effective measures to control the problem of soil and water erosion in these areas.