

- 1074. Patnaik, U.S., Singh, R.K., Sharda, V.N. and Dhyani, S.K. 1995.** Reclamation of torrents in Doon Valley-A case study. In: *Torrent Menace: Challenges and Opportunities* (Eds.) G.Sastry, V.N.Sharda, G.P.Juyal and J.S.Samra, CSWCRTI, Dehradun: 260-272.

The authors bring out that encroachment into the fertile agricultural and forest lands through bank cutting and debris deposition by meandering and violent torrents is one of the major forms of land degradation in the foothills of the Himalayas and Shiwaliks. In Doon Valley, about 1/3rd of the geographical area is under the influence of the hill torrents. In a torrent control research project taken up at Bainkhala torrent at Selakui in western part of the valley, various mechanical and vegetative measures were tried. In this paper, their relative efficacy and limitations are discussed. Control measures used in the project were repelling spurs, retaining walls, cross barriers and vegetative hedge rows supported by vegetative spurs. All these measures achieved limited success as none of them was

found to be capable of handling violent peak flow events. Considering initial and maintenance cost, risk of total failure and efficacy of diverting the flows, vegetative measures and repelling spurs have been suggested.