

analogous phytoclimatic areas.

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In this paper, the authors have enumerated the ill-effects of quarrying for limestone in the outer Himalayas of Doon Valley which, according to them, has resulted in accelerated soil erosion, increase in per cent slope, decrease in soil depth, poor texture and low moisture retention capacities. It has further resulted in decrease in organic carbon content in soil and increase in pH, Ca and Mg contents and bulk density. Drastic changes in soil characteristics in the mined area have caused soil, water and air pollution thus resulting in environmental degradation. The vegetal degradation due to deforestation cum retrogression have shrunked the vegetal cover to 10% with very poor richness of species and reduced diversity accompanied with drying of perennial water resources and extinction of endemic stenohalobitic forms. The remaining about 50% species identified have been

into endangered, vulnerable, rare and threatened. Dust production during quarrying beside production of  $\text{CO}_2$  and CO in the limestone kilns in Doon Valley have further aggravated the environmental problems. Water resources of the area have dried due to mining and micro-climate of the area has also been adversely affected.