



Timing and recurrence interval of Himalayan landslides

A.K. Pachauri

Department of earth sciences, Center of Disaster Mitigation, Indian Institute of technology Roorkee 247667-16 India

Himalayan landslides have been occurring since the 55 million years ever since the Himalayan mountains came into being. The fact is that Himalayas are rising even today at the rate of a few cm per year as supported by the Indian Plate motion measured by GPS. The recurrence of landslides has not been documented even for well known landslides and therefore the Border Road Organisation and Public Works departments of India are unable to realise the value of the data as the records are scanty and not formalised. There is a need to establish a data bank for landslides and debris flows as well as landslide related disasters in Himalayas so that modelling for recurrence can be done.

Some interesting examples of the landslides after the Chamoli earthquake are good examples of landslides that occurred after several weeks of the earthquake at Chamoli as studied by the author.

The present paper proposes the need for the analyses and a program that can be chalked out to prognosticate landslide occurrence.