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**Development of Drought Mitigation Strategies for Kerala**

Drought is one of the most frequently occurring natural disaster in a particular space and time caused mainly due to the low precipitation or delay of monsoons, leads to significant water shortage and related issues. Its occurrence is a gradual process with long- lasting effects and it may vary with respect to nature of the region, availability of rain fall and incidence and intensity of drought. With its increased frequency and expanded coverage in the recent years, it can say Kerala is at the threshold of a severe drought. On October 2016, all the 14 districts of Kerala have been declared drought affected by the government based on the situation assessment report from State Drought Monitoring Cell. So under the existing circumstances, there is an urgent need for implementation of proper drought mitigation measures to reduce the impact of drought. This study focus on the existing condition of Kerala in terms of incidence and severity of droughts, causes and impacts of droughts and the development of appropriate strategies for drought mitigation which includes set of actions to take before and in response to drought in Kerala.

*Key words: Drought, Impact, Mitigation*