

Inventory of Degraded Lands of Serchhip District of Mizoram, Using Remote Sensing Techniques

Abstract

- 1. Kind of Survey:** Land Degradation Mapping
- 2. Level of Mapping:** Reconnaissance
- 3. Scale:** 1:50,000
- 4. Period of Survey:** November 2000 to March 2001
- 5. Base Materials:**
 - I) IRS-1D Geocoded Satellite Imagery (1:50,000 scale)
 - II) Survey of India Topographical Maps in 1:50,000 scale
- 6. Total Area of the District:** 1,42,160ha
- 7. Agroclimatic Zone:** Eastern Himalayan Region (II) as per Planning Commission
- 8. Geographical Extent:** $23^{\circ} 0'$ to $23^{\circ} 34'$ N Latitude and $92^{\circ} 41'$ to $93^{\circ} 10'$ E Longitude

9. Nature, Extent and Percentage of Degraded Land

Sl. No.	Mapping Symbol	Description	Area(ha)	%
Degradation due to Severe Water Erosion				
1.	i) We1d2	Forest, hilly	33,089	23.28
Degradation due to Shifting Cultivation				
2.	i) Sc1d2	Forest, hilly, Current Jhumland	16,389	11.53
3.	ii) Sc2d2	Forest, hilly, Abandoned Jhumland	21,224	14.93
Total Degraded Land			70,702	49.74

10. Nature, Extent and Percentage of Non- degraded (Normal) Land

Sl. No.	Mapping Symbol	Description	Area(ha)	%
1.	1	Agriculture, Non-degraded	812	0.57
2.	2	Forest, Non-degraded	60,303	42.42
3.	H	Habitation	1,624	1.14
4.	R	River	8,719	6.13
Total Non-Degraded Land			71,458	50.26

11. Salient Feature:

- Shifting Cultivation is the main degradation type covering 26.46% of the total district area. The area covered by current Jhumland is 16389 ha.(11.53%) while that of abandoned Jhumland is 21224ha. (14.93%).
- Degradation due to severe water erosion is the next major degradation type covering 33089 ha. (23.28%) of the total district area.