

Inventory of Degraded Lands of Kolasib 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:** 1,38,251 ha
- 7. Agroclimatic Zone:** Eastern Himalayan Region (II) as per Planning Commission
- 8. Geographical Extent:** 23^o 52' to 24^o 32' N Latitude and 92^o 32' to 92^o 54' E Longitude

9. Nature, Extent and Percentage of Degraded Lands

Sl. No.	Mapping Symbol	Description	Area(ha)	%
Degradation due to Severe Water Erosion				
1.	We1d2	Forest, hilly	4,630	3.35
Degradation due to Shifting Cultivation				
2.	Sc1d2	Forest, hilly, Current Jhumland	5,348	3.87
3.	Sc2d2	Forest, hilly, Abandoned Jhumland	6,887	4.98
Total Degraded Land			16,865	12.20

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

Sl. No.	Mapping Symbol	Description	Area(ha)	%
1.	1	Agriculture, Non-degraded	1002	0.72
2.	2	Forest, Non-degraded	1,18,664	85.83
3.	H	Habitation	1,118	0.81
4.	R	River	602	0.44
Total Non-Degraded Land			1,21,386	87.80

11. Salient Feature:

- ⊙ Shifting Cultivation is the main degradation type covering 8.85% of the total district area. The area covered by current Jhumland is 5348 ha.(11.53%) while that of abandoned Jhumland is 6887ha. (4.98%).
- ⊙ Degradation due to severe water erosion is the next major degradation type covering 4630 ha. (3.35%) of the total district area.