

Inventory of Degraded Lands of Champhai 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:** 3,18,583 ha
- 7. Agroclimatic Zone:** Eastern Himalayan Region (II) as per Planning Commission
- 8. Geographical Extent:** 23° 0' to 24° 05' N Latitude and 93° 0' to 93° 26' E Longitude

9. Nature, Extent and Percentage of Degraded Land

Sl. No.	Mapping Symbol	Description	Area(ha)	%
Degradation due to Severe Water Erosion				
1.	We1d2	Forest, hilly	91,818	28.82
Degradation due to Shifting Cultivation				
2.	i) Sc1d2	Forest, hilly, Current Jhumland	41,858	13.14
	ii) Sc2d2	Forest, hilly, Abandoned Jhumland	51,119	16.04
Total Degraded Land			1,84,795	58.00

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

Sl. No.	Mapping Symbol	Description	Area(ha)	%
1.	1	Agriculture, Non-degraded	1,616	0.51
2.	2	Forest, Non-degraded	1,29,286	40.58
3.	H	Habitation	1,620	0.51
4.	R	River	1,266	0.40
Total Non-Degraded Land			1,33,788	41.00

11. Salient Feature:

- Shifting Cultivation is the main degradation type covering 29.18% of the total district area. The area covered by the current Jhumland is 41,858 ha (13.14%) while that of abandoned Jhumland is 51,119 ha. (16.04%).
- Degradation due to severe water erosion is the next major degradation type covering 91,818ha (28.82%) of the total district area.