

PREFACE

In recent years, the study of agricultural land use change has gained in importance because of the decreasing realisation that an understanding of the processes underlying agriculture land use changes. In the present work an attempt has been made to study and its impact the existing and changes in agricultural land use scenario of Uttar Dinajpur District. The study of the nine blocks overall the district namely; Chopra, Islampur, Goalpokher-I, Goalpokher-II, Karandighi, Raiganj, Hemtabad, Kaliaganj and Itahar. In the district, total 50 villages were selected for the study and changes of agricultural land, area of crops, crop production and crop productivity over a period of twenty five years and data, map etc. for this purpose was obtained from the district and outside of the district. The area of the district is 3,140 km² and with an accommodation of 30,07,134 inhabitants and average population density of 956 persons per km² (Census of India, 2011).

The agricultural land use study of Uttar Dinajpur District highlighted many interesting points. Its advantage is realised in economic development as well as agricultural development, land use planning, resource planning and overall educational advancement of the people. Further information regarding the general agricultural situations, method of cultivation, use of agricultural inputs, yield rate of crops, change of cropping pattern and situation of the people were also obtained.

There were five main sections in taking up for this thesis. Firstly, it examines in detail the physical condition of the study area and it includes 1st chapter. In second section, chapters 3rd and 4th are devoted the factors for changing of agricultural land use and land potentialities. It emphasizes on the relationship between increasing population and its growing needs. As a result change of land ownership, expansion of urban area, the classification of land on the basis of fertility and productivity, land capability and suitability classification for agricultural improvements and many more. But in third section, 5th chapter is discussed the agricultural innovation and its potentialities which give the clear picture about the modern inputs used in agricultural sector like; method used in agriculture, rate of mechanization in agriculture, use of HYV seeds and advantage of chemical fertilizer and pesticides per hectare and increased of productivity per hectare. In fourth section, chapter 6th examines the situation of infrastructure condition in the district for the development of agriculture. Situations of the irrigation intensity

help of the agricultural seed farm, transport facilities, market facilities, storage capacity and banking role for the development of agriculture in the district. Lastly, in 5th section include chapter 7th examines the changes in cropping pattern area change of farm size and changes in agricultural land use scenario of the district and block-wise land use statistic at least two mouza and changing trends of the net sown area, fallow and other than fallow land, permanent pasture and other grazing land and land under miscellaneous trees and groves its impact on the sampled people as well as village people in the district. Moreover, the conclusion on the basis of the whole study is contained in 9th chapter. Present per capita income of the farmer's families, level of education, increased or decreased of yield rate, agricultural unemployment change and land ownership change over the study period in the district.

Dated: *The 26th February, 2021*

Place: Malda

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