

PREFACE

My work attempts to represent the causes and effects of flood in the District of Koch Bihar. The District is much prone to flood. More than half of the area and little less than half dweller of the District are living in flood affected areas specially in the remote villages. Flood is a yearly problem as well as a burden for inhabitants of the District, but it is unavoidable also. The economic prosperity of the District mainly depends on flooding effects as it comes in each and every year. More or less all people of the District suffer due to flooding since the ancient period. But there is very little information as well as works about flood like disaster in the District. Being the native of this District I have been observing the floating villages from my childhood. Therefore, I have been tried to present in my thesis, the cause and effects of flood in the District. I tried to analyse the rainfall, slope, siltation problems and how these are responsible for flood and its effects on socio-economic aspects of the District.

I have divided the entire thesis in nine chapters. The first chapter is introductory focusing on the Methodology adopted in the thesis. The second chapter deals with the natural set up of the District. The District is a land of numerous large and small rivers which overflow and create flood. The Chapter 3 deals with the drainage systems and their characteristics.

The District is fully a plain area. The land use and land cover categories are discussed as cultural aspect in chapter 4. Flood is the main disaster for the District. The causes which are responsible for the flood disaster are discussed in chapter 5.

Flood water flows over a vast area and stays for long duration in the District. Natures of flood are discussed in chapter 6.

In every year vast area of the District is flooded. Large amount of fertile agricultural land changes into infertile and waterlogged. Crops, infrastructure and lives are lost. These effects of flood are discussed in chapter 7. In chapter 8, the remedial measures and recommendations from flood affects are discussed. In the last chapter 9, the concluding remarks are given.

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