

# STATUS OF LANDUSE IN RURAL MARKET CENTRES IN KOOCHBEHAR DISTRICT.

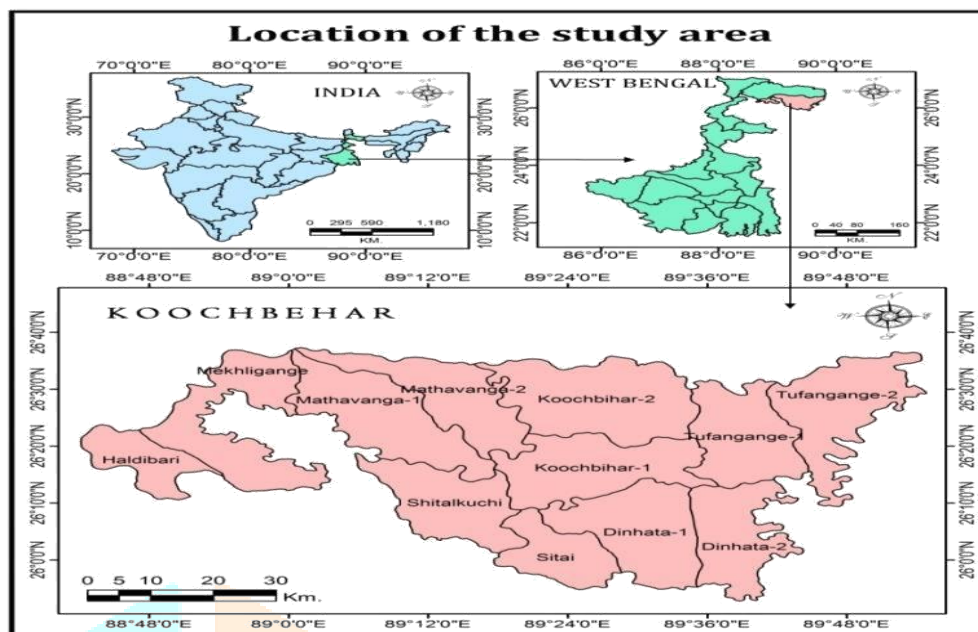
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**Abstract:** Landuse pattern analysis of rural market centre is a significant phenomenon of any particular area. The landuse pattern in rural market centres may be helpful to understand the existing status of rural market structure and functions. The market wise landuse pattern in any rural market centres depends not only on a single factor but multiple factors. A number of factors play vital role regarding the landuse pattern in rural market centres. The landuse pattern of rural market centres in any region depends on the location of market centres, demographic structure of region, structure of market, function of market, economic scenario of the region, market morphological characteristics, total area, hinterland of the market, and transportation facilities of the market centres. To understand the characteristics of rural market centres and pattern of rural market participants, landuse and land cover of market centres are necessary.

**Keywords:** Rural market, Landuse pattern, planning, Management.

**Introduction:** Land is a basic, fixed and limited natural resource. Land plays the key role in the determination of man's economic activities as well as social and cultural progress. All agricultural, animal, and forestry production depend on the land. The entire human activity depends on land. Rural market is one of the socio-economical institutions of human civilization, the development of which depends on land. Landuse of different orders of markets is not similar. It varies from one market centre to others, which is due to the market functions and other factors. Moreover the category of landuse, in term of percentage of market area, shows regional variation from block to block. There is no secondary data available for landuse different rural market centres according to Koochbehar district. Most of the data on landuse pattern of rural market centres in Koochbehar district have been collected through field survey and interview with members of market management committee.



**2. Study area:** The landuse pattern of rural market centres and proper landuse planning of market centres in study area is essential for integrated rural development based on field survey of 112 different sizes of markets. The district of Koochbehar is geographically a part of the Himalayan Terai of West Bengal. It lies between  $88^{\circ}54\text{mint } 35\text{ sec}$  to  $88^{\circ} 47\text{ mint } 40\text{ sec}$  East longitude and  $25^{\circ} 57\text{ mint } 40\text{ sec}$  to  $26^{\circ} 32\text{ mint } 20\text{ sec}$  north latitude in the north hemisphere. The cheap town bearing the same name is situated on the river Torsa with a territory extending over 3387 sq km.

### 3. Objectives:

1. To find out the nature of landuse in market centres.
2. To study the distribution pattern of the market land in rural markets
3. To study the landused pattern of rural market and its relation with market Percipients.

**4. Methodology and database:** Present study based on primary data which's collated from filed survey and interview with market management. The secondary information is also collected from census publications, the director of agriculture marketing of Koochbehar district, ministry of rural development GOVT. of India. There are a number of maps, which

have been taken from map info. In this stud we used some statistical technique for batter understood the matter.

**5. Nature of land used in market centres:** The term of landuse is used to describe the use of an area of land for various functional activities. It is related to human activity associated with a specific piece of land .Landuse the use of land, usually emphasises upon its functional role with respect to economic activities. Land use refers to “Man’s activities and the various uses which are carried on land” (Clawson and Steward 1965). Land use is a primary indicator of the extent and degree to which man has modified the land resources (**Vink, 1975**) Land use is the surface utilization of all developed and vacant land on specific point at given time and space (**Mandal, 1982**) It is mainly related to the optimum use of limited land between the alternative major types of land use. It is the result of a continuous interaction between available resources and human needs acted upon by human efforts. It is necessary for human survival and man has a definite role in managing and transforming his physical environment. As a result scientific knowledge of land use is essential to solve a number of problems associated with land use. Land is used for market development in study area. Most of market land is used shopping stall established average size of market land 1.3 acre to 5acre.

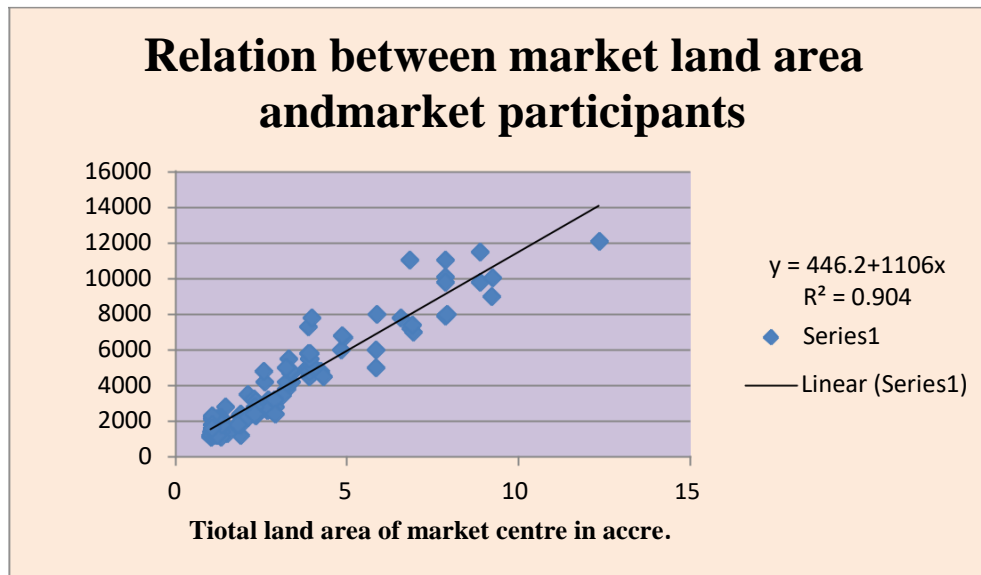
Table: Landused Pattern of Rural Market Centres in Koochbehar district.

S. No	Name of the Block	Total area of MC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Tufangang -I	10	25.03	2.4	1.9	6.5	11.7	2.5	1.3	12.5	35.95
2	Tufangang -II	07	24.71	2.21	1.42	9	10.42	2.42	2.26	1.71	33.28
3	Koochbehar- I	10	21.6	6	2.1	5.9	11.2	6.2	3.89	11.8	31.9
4	Koochbehar- II	11	22.9	5.45	1.8	5.54	10	6.36	3.73	11.27	26.94
5	Dinhata -I	12	22.33	6	1.75	5	8.16	2.33	2.86	11.08	38.49
6	Shitai	05	22.6	6.6	4.2	6.2	11.4	2.8	3.38	15	27.94
7	Dhinhata- II	11	20.81	4.81	2.36	5.09	9.45	4.63	3.36	10.72	38.53
8	Shatilkuchi	10	21.2	5	2.5	6.4	10.7	2.5	3.11	11.7	36.89
9	Mathabanga -I	11	22.27	5.45	3	6	10.8	3.27	3.44	12.72	33.05
10	Mathabanga-II	11	19.81	2.54	2.45	5.72	10.36	2.72	2.96	13.09	40.35
11	Mekligang	07	24.42	2.14	5.71	6.57	11.71	2.42	3.55	14	29.48
12	Haldibari	07	23.71	1.57	1.42	6.42	11.85	1.28	2.4	11.71	39.64
	TOTAL IN %		<b>22.61</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>6.19</b>	<b>10.64</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>2.77</b>	<b>11.44</b>	<b>34.37</b>

Indicator – \*1 for land use for shop. \*2 indicate land use for vendors. \*3 indicate land use for animal hat. \*4 indicate land use for storage. \*5 indicate land use for internal street and road. \*6 indicate land use for market shed. \*7 indicate land use for sanitation and drainage in market centre. \*8 indicate land use for settlements in market centre. 9 indicate land use for other Purpose like open space, banking, industry, office, plantation, etc. MC = MARKET CENTRES.

### Land is used in%

**6. Distribution Pattern of market land:** Koochbehar is an important district in North-Bengal area in the state of West Bengal. Koochbehar is located at north –east side of the state of West Bengal .Total area of the district is 3304 sq. Kilometre. Out 3304 sq kilometre only 400 acre land area is used for rural market setup. There are 12 CD blocks which have been distributed in this district where 112 rural markets centre have been developed. Out of 112 markets 47 markets are 3<sup>rd</sup> order, 16 markets are 2<sup>nd</sup> order and 49 markets are 1st order. Due to rural market development centre of rural area also increases. There are various market infrastructures have been also developed in various market centre in the district. According to our field survey the land use pattern of rural markets centre are also changing. Above table shows that 22.61 % total markets land of the district is used for permanent shop and shopping centre or market stall established meant. It is observed that vendors have significant role in periodic market development In Koochbehar district 4.18 % rural market land of the district is used for vendors. In Koochbehar district major market land use pattern are 2.55% for animals hat ,6.19% for storage , 10.64% for internal street & road ,3.28 % land is used for market shed .Other wise 2.77% total market lands of district is used for sanitation and drainage. Now a day's settlements have been developing in rural market centre and 11.44. % of rural market lands of this district is used for settlements purpose. Rest of 34.37% rural market land is used in other purpose like plantation, religion activity open land etc in rural markets area Koochbehar district.



**Fig: Scatter diagram and regression line between market total land area and market participants.**

**7. To study the landused pattern of rural market relation with market Percipients :** The regression co-efficient has been computed between total number of market participants (Y) and total **land area** of market centre (X1) the second variable is treated as the independent variable because that influence the first variable . In general a large number of markets participants are attracted to those markets where large market land area. The co- efficient (b) is 0.0862 and regression equation is  $y = 466.2 + 1106. X$ . This point out that due to per unit increase in the total land area in market centre, their wills be 1106 units increase in market participants. The test of significance indicates the statistical relation between the two variables is significant at 0.01 levels. So, the null hypothesis is rejected which states that “ there is no statistical relationship between total land area of and number of market participants in market centre “ and the alternative hypotheses is accepted. Intercept (a) shows minimum average number of markets participants. In this case it is 466.2 which mean number of markets participants in average is 466.2 and regression co- efficient shows variation above or below this constant figure.

Hence in those markets where a large land area of market attract a huge numbers of market participants from their surrounding hinterland.

The co- efficient of determination ( $r^2$ ) is 0.9049 which means **90.49 %** of the total variation in Y is being explained by x

**8. Major findings:** The major findings of study region are as follows:

1. Most of the market land used for shopping purpose.
2. Average land area of market centre is not big.
3. It is also found that though land area increases of market centres and number of market participants also increase.

**Conclusion:** In the above analysis we have attempted find out so many factors are controlling the landuse of rural market centres. It is clear that markets are set-up unplanned way. And landused pattern is not scientific. It is time to need proper landuse management future integrated market development.

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