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## Land Utilization Problems And Planning In South Bihar

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The study of land use pattern has been significant to understand the socio-culture and economic growth dynamics. Land is a vital Natural resource on which all the human activities are depend up on it. Landuse is a man made dynamic process in which human uses land resource in to full fill their various needs. Land utilization is a process of exploiting to land use. Landuse is verymuch essential for a number of planning and management. The total study area of South Bihar is 43.09 lakh hectare out of which 24.6 lakh hectare (57.1 percent) land is Net area shown which is big proportion of total land area. Non agricultural use of land is 17.1 percent follow land 12.18 percent forest, Grazing land 12.18 percent, barren land 0.64 percent, usar and non agriculture land is 7.1 percent. Average net area shown is 57.1 percent out of 17 district in the study area in 2016-17. The study area covers 43.34 percent and 37.93 percent of the total Geographical area and population of Bihar. Planning for the Socio-culture and economic development of South Bihar region has need better systematic and scientific management and appraisal of the land resource of the region.

### Study area :-

The study area South Bihar is bounded by the River Ganga in north, Uttar Pradesh in west, Jharkhand in the South and east. Its latitudinal extent is between 24<sup>o</sup> 21' 10" N. to 25<sup>o</sup> 33' 40" N. and its longitudinal extent is between 83<sup>o</sup> 19' 50" E. to 87<sup>o</sup> 50' 20" E. Its total population 3.14 core (2001 census) according for 43.34% and 37.64% area and population of Bihar respectively. As per 2011 census its population rose to 4.18 crores. It has four divisions out of nine division of Bihar and 17 districts. Ganga is the largest district and Rohtas and Kaimur is the smollest-district is reprinted by Shekhpura and followed by Lakhisarai district. The propsed study area has more east-west extension than its north-south extent. South Bihar plain is fertile soil and plateau region is rich in minerals.

### Methodology :-

The method of approach of the proposed study is observational as well as database. Changing spatial pattern of land use characteristics have been evaluated periodically with help of secondary as well as primary data. Data collected form verious published sources like Bihar through figure 2017-2018. Other sources of data take from agriculture statistical hand book, Bihar economic survey and also verious internet websites.

### Discusson :-

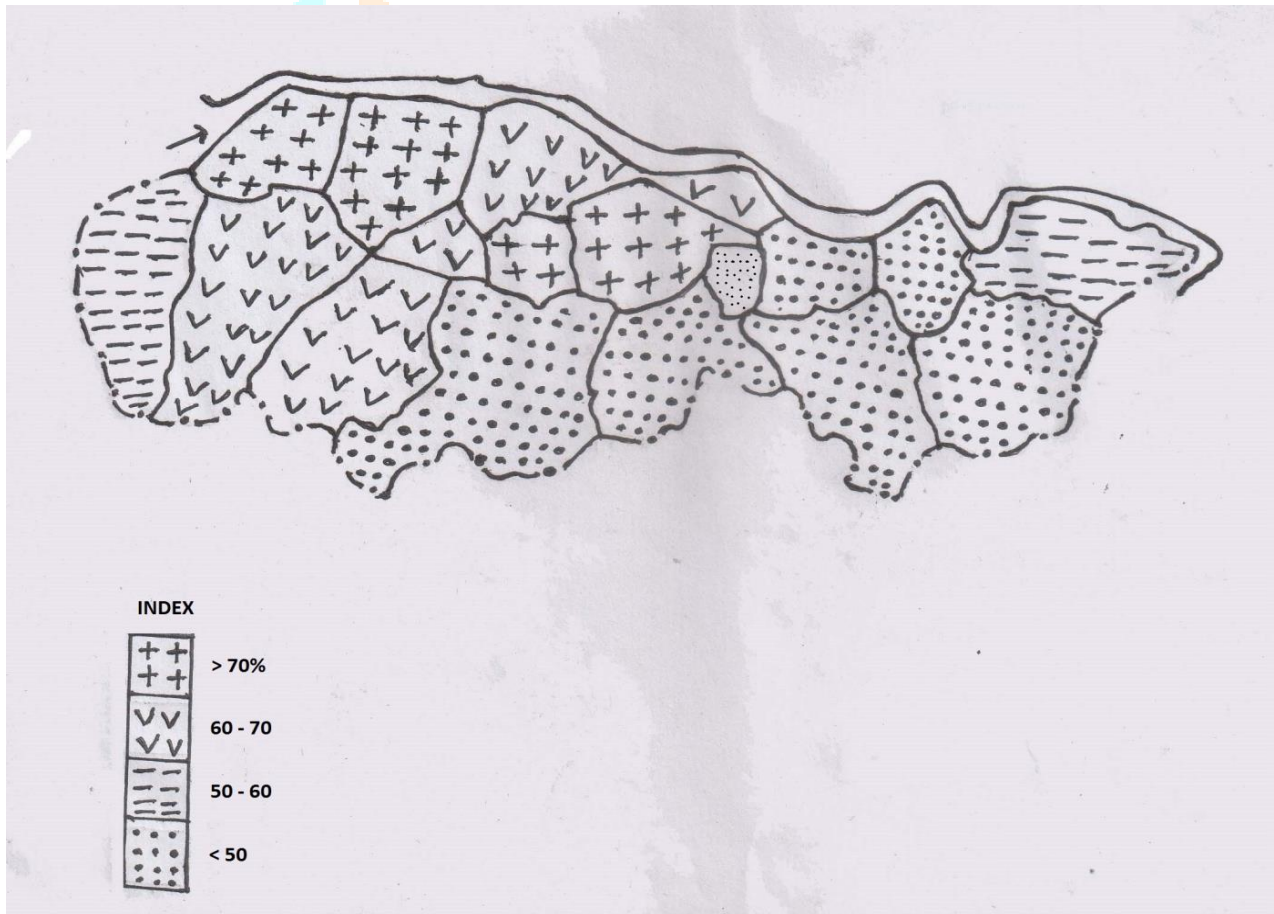
#### LAND UTILISATION OF THE STUDY AREA

The study area covers 43.34% & 37.95% of the total geographical area and population of Bihar, respectively. I relation to North Bihar position of South Bihar relatively better from availability of land.

Land has various uses. But it is more important for agriculture, as it is the mainstay of the people of the region. Out of the total available land the relative shares of various categories using the relative shares of various categories using land are given below in Table - 1

**Land utilisation in the study area.****Table - 1**

Sl. No.	Type of Land	Total Area hectare in lakh	% of Total area
1.	Forest area	3.95	11.8
2.	Grazing land & plantation	0.77	1.8
3.	Cultivable barren land		0.44
4.	Ushar & non cultivable Land		4.5
5.	Current fallow		12.18
6.	Land devoted To non cultivation		16.1
7.	Work Net sown area		57.1

**NET AREA SOWN IN SOUTH BIHAR****Map - 1**

## Districtwise land Utilisation in South Bihar

Table – 2

Sl. No.	District's Name	Area in Hectare (in lakh)	Net sown area (%)	Non – Agriculture Land (%)	Fallow Land (%)	Forest & Grazing Land (%)	Barren Land	Usar & non agriculture Land
1.	Patna	3.2	60.2	21.1	13.1	0.43	0.41	3.94
2.	Nalanda	2.36	74.82	17.14	4.1	2.38	0.14	0.52
3.	Bhojpur	2.37	80.1	13.89	3.82	0.44	0.26	3.56
4.	Buxor	1.62	80.18	10.1	8.1	1.89	0.38	0.2
5.	Rohatas	3.82	69.1	12.61	2.25	14.92	0.46	1.46
6.	Kaimur	3.42	42.1	9.05	17.1	33.1	0.58	1.74
7.	Gaya	4.97	45.1	19.1	9.1	20.19	0.59	6.68
8.	Jehanabad	1.56	68.56	16	11.05	1.45	0.02	3.73
9.	Nawada	2.49	50.17	14.05	10	32.45	0.48	4.56
10.	Aurangabad	3.3	56.1	15.95	17.56	4.55	0.79	5
11.	Munger	2.29	61.12	15.96	12.85	1.6	0.51	9
12.	Banka	3.05	45.1	13.46	7.38	3.83	0.72	14.5
13.	Bhagalpur	2.54	57.13	21	11.68	2.86	0.25	9.1
14.	Lakhisarai	2.26	56.15	20.56	8.9	7	0.65	8.9
15.	Sheikhpura	0.79	47.1	15.4	10.12	7.7	0.81	9.3
16.	Jamui	3.05	40.36	18.99	15.84	9.78	0.55	14.1
	State's average	94.16	63.21	10.52	9.46	10.9	0.61	5.1
	Region's average	43.09	57.1	17.1	12.18	11.8	0.64	7.1

Source :- Bihar Through Figures, statics Dept., Govt. of Bihar, Patna, 2019

From perusal of Table – 1 & Table – 2 The following conclusions may be made, firstly, out of total land area about 57% Geographical area is denoted to the net sown area. This is higher India's average (43%). About 17% area is under non-agriculture uses. The share of this category is increasing with each passing year due to unabated population pressure and growing demand for cultural a purposes such as construction of roads, rail lines, buildings etc. Current fallow holds 3<sup>rd</sup> position in order of importance. Share of forest is higher than the state's average but lower than India's average. To maintain ecological balance the share of forests much reach above 33% that the limit seems to be importance in the present countext. The higher share of net sown area may prove boon if water management is scientifically done.

## DISTRICT WISE NET SOWN AREA IN SOUTH BIHAR

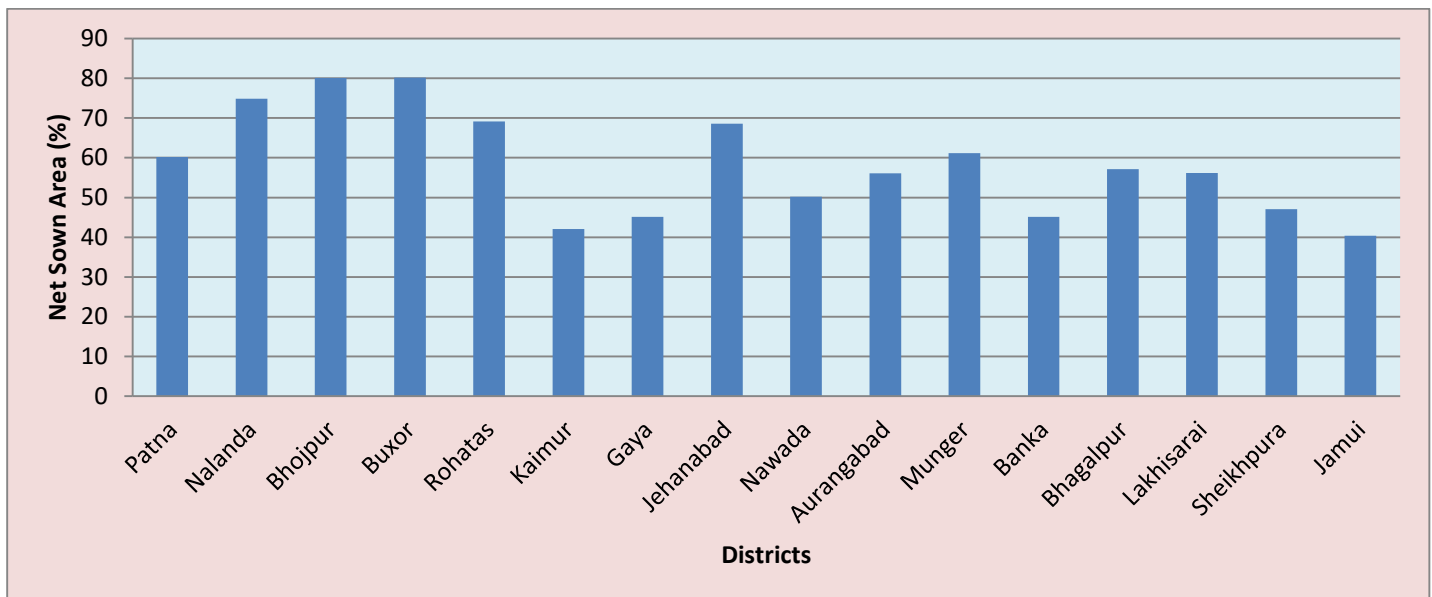


Fig. – 1

Among districts distribution of land area under different land use categories is not uniform. The average net sown area of the study area is 57%. Out of 17 districts in the study area then the region's average. These are Jamui, Kaimur, Gaya, Nawada, Aurangabad, Sheikhpura, Lakhisarai and Bhagalpur. The lowest net sown area in the region is represented by Jamui (40.36%) and followed by Kaimur (42.10%). Nine districts such as Buxor (80.10%), Nalanda, Rohatas, Jehanabad, Munger and Patna have more net sown area than the region's average. Among all districts lying in the study area, Buxor districts has the highest net sown area followed by Bhojpur. Like other districts lying in the south-west of the study area these two districts have the same rainfall characteristics. But irrigation has played a pivotal role in enhancing net sown area as well as gross sown area canal taken out from the some river has transformed the agri-economy of south-western part and known as the "rice bowl" of Bihar.

Similarly the distribution of area under non-agricultural category is not equal among all districts. More than 16% of the total Geographical area of the study area belong to this category. In other words, this category of land occupies 2<sup>nd</sup> position in importance. In this category Bihar's average land area is only 10.52%, significantly lower than the study area. However, only six districts such as Patna, Nalanda, Gaya, Bhagalpur, Lakhisanrai and Jamui have more non-agricultural land than a region's average. Remaining eleven districts such as Bhojpur, Buxor, Rohatas, Kaimur, Nawada, Jehanabad, Banka, Aurangabad, Munger and Sheikhpura have higher share of non-agricultural land. Among all district of the study area Patna district has the highest share of non-agricultural land seconded by Lakhisarai and Gaya. Contrary to it Kaimur and Buxor have the lowest percentage of non-agricultural land one interesting conclusion is that there is inversal relationship between net area and the non-agricultural area.

Third in importance is follow land category of the total area of the study area 12.18% area is fallow land, higher then the state's average (9.46%). Scanty rainfall assisted by naxal activities is mainly responsible for increasing share of land under this category. Unfertile and non-agricultural category and I holds 4<sup>th</sup> rank in order of importance of the total geographical area, 5.56% land belongs to this category. This is higher than the state's average figure. However, its inter and intra-district distribution is not uniform. Among all districts Banka district has the highest share in this category and Buxor has the lowest share.

Another category of land is related to grazing, Natural and Planted vegetation. Bihar is a very poor & hopeless state among all states of India in which share of the natural vegetation in its total geographical area is very low less than (6%) as against 21.8% shared by India. However the study area is fortunate enough in Bihar. Kaimur (33%), Nawada (26.2%), Gaya (20%), Banka (16%) and Rohatas (15%) are such districts having more shares of vegetative cover. Kaimur has about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of its geographical area under vegetative cover on the whole districts lying in south Bihar is comparatively better positioned.

For better development of the study area. Proper appraisal and utilization of unutilized current fallow land non-agricultural land must be given prime priority. By utilizing land belonging to this category, Further requirements of land to this category may be minimised. If not, I and under this category will go on in a easing progressively at the cost of cultivable land, which has already reached the saturation point. In this context, The view expressed by Prof. R. K. Mukherjee is worth quoting – “the densities of cultivation and population in many districts of the Ganga plain are extra ordinary “Forests meadows and marses all are now invaded by the plough due population increase, which also leads to scarcity of foods, fodder and grazing, grounds.” Recent enquiries show that in some areas of the middle Ganga plain much of cultivatable waste has been encroached upon or otherwise occupied because it is potentially productive.

Another important aspect of land utilization is that not only the region under reference but the state as a whole has lost its relevance in national parlance from the point of view of forest cover. It is a famous saying – “Forest bear the brunt of all sins committed by humanity. Men have forgotten the fact that three mean water, water means bread and bread is life.” All these submission reveal that region urgently needs better, systematic and scientific management and appraisal of the land resources of the region.

### **AGRICULTURE SCENARIO:-**

Since time immemorial Bihar has been a dominated agricultural state in India. Her agricultural forms the backbone of the entire socio-economic thread of the state. Despite of the roaring slogan of industrialization in the last 55 years, nothing concrete has taken place and agriculture still is the sum-mum the bonum of the people of this state. R. K. Mukherjee’s following remark is vary touchy indeed- In the middle – Ganga plain nothing can move until agriculture moves and agriculture is unable to move until water is put properly to use. Agriculture and allied activities provide employment to around 80% of the total workforce in the state as against 65% computed for India. If comparison is made between the position of agriculture in Bihar with in the other countries as regards the shares of agriculture in national income. In U.K. agriculture contributes only 2% of national income; in U.S.A it is 3%; in Canada it is 4%; in Australia it is 5% and so on and it is 22% for our country and it is 73% for our state.

### **Conclusion:-**

The study area is predominantly, agricultural area. Region is topographically featureless except river levees and mound of sands and diaras. It lies in the central middle part of the middle ganga plain where gradient of the surface is negligible. Forest land is available. To maintain ecological balance and off-set the ill-impact of floods, strategy should be two-pronged. While the govt. of Bihar through its regional agencies may try to raise forest in the govt. lands (along canals, gair-majurwa lands, land along roads, public places like schools, colleges and other govt. institutional lands) which are laying barrier or are under permanent pastures. Further, the private land owner may be given sufficient incentive to raise forests or orchards in their fallow and cultivable wastelands, Exemption of private forests and form the land ceiling Acts to a certain extent be the most effective incentive to persuade the private land owners to raise forestry or orchards.

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