STATUS OF LANDUSE IN RURAL MARKET CENTRES IN KOOCHBEHAR DISTRICT.

Ratan Chandra Paul, Research Scholar Depart of geography, Visva-Bhariti.

Professor Debasish Das, Department of Geography, Vishva- Bharati

Abstract: Landuse pattern analysis of rural market centre is a significant phenomenon of any particular area. The landused 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 numbers 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. Landused 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 landused, in term of percentage of market area, shows regional variation from block to block. There is no secondary data available for landused different rural market centres according is Koochbeher district. Most of the data on landused pattern of rural market centres in Koochbeher district have been collected through of 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 Terrai of West Bengal. It lies between 88°54 mint 35 sec to 88° 47 mint 40 sec East longitude and 25° 57 mint 40 sec to 26° 32 mint 20 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 study we used some statistical technique for better understood the matter.

5. **Nature of land used in market centres:** The term of land use 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. Land 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 5 acre.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Name of the Block</th>
<th>Total area of MC</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>25.03</td>
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<td>1.9</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>35.95</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Tufangang - II</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>24.71</td>
<td>2.21</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10.42</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>2.26</td>
<td>1.71</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>31.9</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>22.9</td>
<td>5.45</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>5.14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.36</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>11.27</td>
<td>26.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dinhata - I</td>
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<td>22.3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8.16</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>2.86</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Shitai</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>11.4</td>
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<td>3.38</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>4.81</td>
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<td>3.09</td>
<td>9.45</td>
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<td>1.57</td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>6.42</td>
<td>11.85</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>11.71</td>
<td>39.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL IN %</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>22.61</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.18</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.55</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.19</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.64</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.28</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.77</strong></td>
<td><strong>11.44</strong></td>
<td><strong>34.37</strong></td>
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</table>
Indicator – *1 for land use for shop. *2indicate land use for vendors. *3indicate land use for animal hat. *4indicate land use for storage. *5indicate land use for internal street and road. *6indicate land use for market shed. *7indicate land use for sanitation and drainage in market centre. *8indicate land use for settlements in market centre. 9indicate 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 3rd order, 16 markets are 2nd 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.
Relation between market land area and market participants

\[ y = 446.2 + 1106x \]
\[ R^2 = 0.904 \]

Series 1
Linear (Series 1)

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

7. To study the land use pattern of rural market relation with market participants: The regression coefficient has been computed between total number of market participants (Y) and total land area of market centre (X). The second variable is treated as the independent variable because it influences the first variable. In general, a large number of market participants are attracted to those markets where a large market land area. The coefficient (b) is 0.0862 and the regression equation is \( y = 466.2 + 1106x \). This point out that due to per unit increase in the total land area in market centre, there will 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 market participants. In this case, it is 466.2 which means number of market participants in average is 466.2 and the regression coefficient 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 coefficient 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.

**REFERENCES:**

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