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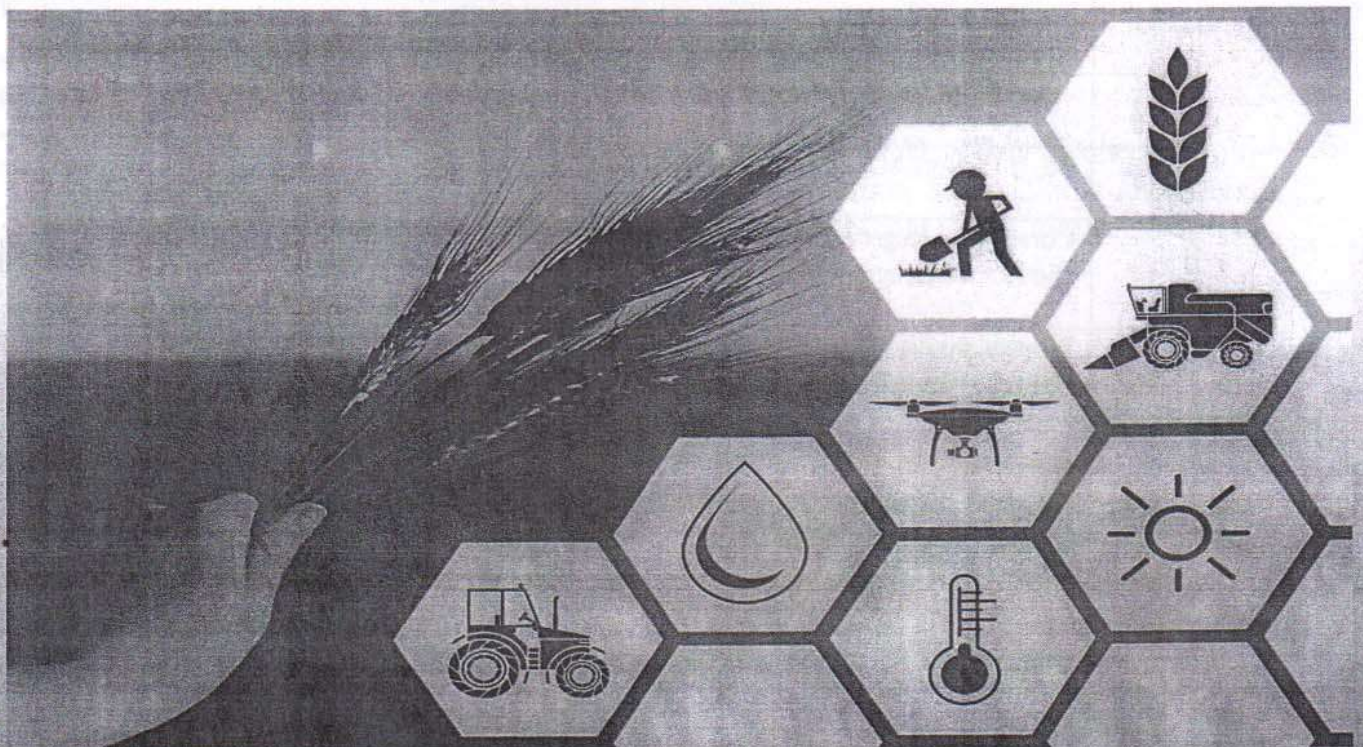
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A Geographical Study of Land Use and Land Cover in Kolhapur District (M.S.)

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Abstract:

The Study has been conducted in Kolhapur district land use and land cover of study in geography is fruitful in many ways, to study of land use and land cover the present study based on secondary source. The published source is revenue record, census handbook, socio-economic abstract of Kolhapur district. Mango plantations were also found in the middle and lower piedmont area sugarcane is cultivated area. The sugarcane is also growth in kharif and Rabi Season.

Keywords: Agricultural, Physiographical, Land Use and Land cover.

Introduction:

Agricultural is one of the older and most important avocation of the word. human civilization and cultures evolved based on the natural resources available in a given environment. such as plants, animals, soil, water and air. The Human community is dependent on Agricultural for foods, clothing, and Shelters even today. Conservation and management of these natural resource in a sustainable way is the need of the day and is a pre-requisite to improve the life of the people.

Objectives:

The Main objectives of the present Paper are followings.

- 1) To Geographical study of land use land cover in Kolhapur district.
- 2) To analyze changing pattern of the land use land cover in Kolhapur district.

Data Collection and Methodology:

The present study is based on secondary sources, the secondary data is collected from Census handbooks, Agriculture department of Pune Maharashtra State. District gazetteers, district statistical department, socio economic review (2001-2011), and district statistical abstract of Study region.

Geographical Study:

Kolhapur district is situated in the Southern part of Maharashtra. It is located in between 15° 42' 30" to 17° 11' 25" North latitude and 73° 43' 10" to 74° 43' 45" East longitude. Kolhapur district is surrounded by Sangli district to the North, Karnataka State to the East and South, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts to the West. The Sahyadri ranges to the West and Varna River to the North form the natural boundaries. For the administrative purpose, the district is divided into 12 tahsils i.e. Shahuwadi, Panhala, Hatkanangale, Shirol, Karvir, Bavda, Radhanagari, Kagal, Bhudargad, Ajra, Gadhinglaj and Chandgad. The total population of the district is 38, 76,001 persons, as per 2011 census, it constitutes 3.45 percent population to the state total. The geographical area of district is 7746.40 square

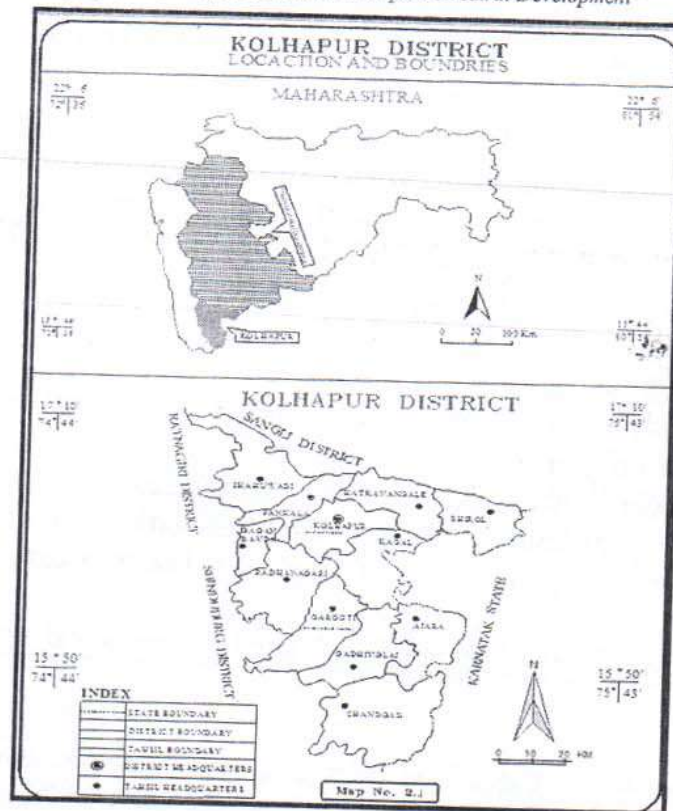


Fig. No. 1.

Land Use and Land Cover in Kolhapur:

Table No. 1. shows that land use pattern in Kolhapur district in 2001 and 2011. The total land cover categorized in net shown area, Cultivable waste, barren and uncultivated, Land not available for cultivation and forest.

Table No. 1. Land use Land cover in Kolhapur District: 2001-2011

Sr. No	Land use Category	Total Area (In Hectares)		Percentage		Changes
				2001	2011	
		2001	2011			
1	Net sown Area	417688	455085	53.81	58.62	5
2	Other Land	64542	26935	8.32	3.46	-4.86
3	Cultivable waste	76579	75981	9.87	9.78	-0.09
4	Barren and Uncultivated	34971	35921	4.51	6.62	2.11
5	Land not available for cultivated	42239	42239	5.44	5.44	0
6	Forest	140158	140100	18.05	18.05	0
Total Geographical Area		776177	776261	100	100	12.07

Source: Agriculture department of Pune Maharashtra State.

In 2001, the proportion of net shown area was about 53.81 percent to total geographical area it was increased for 5percent with 58.62 percent. Other lands account was 8.32 percent in 2001 and 3.46 percent it was declined with -4.86 percent. The next category Cultivable waste its proportion was 9.87 percent in 2001 and 9.78 in 2011, then barren and uncultivable land was 4.51 and 6.62, land not available for cultivation was 5.44 and forest cover was about 18.05 in both decades respectively. The above table clearly shows net shown area and barren land is increased compare to last decade while other land and cultivable waste land declined and Land not available for cultivation and Forest covered area was not changed from 2001 to 2011.

Conclusion:

The discussion in above mentioned text indicates spatial-temporal distribution of general land use for Kolhapur district the total area in study region has 53.81 and 58.62 percentage of net snow area during the study period, it was increased 5 percent. The maximum geograogical area of the district covered under the net shown area then forest covered area. Net shown area and Barren and uncultivated land is increased compare to last decade while other land and cultivable waste land declined and Land not available for cultivation but Forest covered area was not changed from 2001 to 2011.

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