



## General Landuse Pattern in Aurangabad District: A Review

**Vikramsinh Laxmanrao Jadhav**

Research Student

### **Introduction:**

Landuse is the use actually made of any parcel of land, house, apartments and industrial location are landuse categories, whereas the term residential, industrial and agricultural refers to a system of land utilization implying roads, neighborhood retail and service activities as well as location of industries and the carrying of agricultural pursuits. There is little doubt that efficient use of land depends as much upon the capacity of man to treat the land and manage it, as upon the system of farming. Land is the basic resource of human society. In a simple way land classification means dividing the land into different categories or classes according to a single factor or a particular interpretation. It defines the value or quality of land for anyone type of use. Land classification attempts at integrating lands according to their native characteristics, pre-existing use, yield capacity and these classes are then assessed in relation to the suitability for different uses in envisaged in the plan.

### **Study Region:**

Aurangabad District is situated in the central part of the state which is an elevated land. It is incised by the Godavari river and its tributaries in the southern part. Except for a small portion in the north and north-west, which belongs to the Tapi drainage, the entire district falls in the Godavari Basin. Aurangabad district lies between 19<sup>0</sup>17' North to 20<sup>0</sup>40' North latitude and 74<sup>0</sup>39' East to 76<sup>0</sup>40' East longitudes. It is surrounded by Jalgaon district to the north, Jalna district to the east, Ahmednagar district to the south and south-west and Nashik district to the west.

Total area of the district is 10,100 Sq.KM which is 3.28% of Maharashtra. Out of total area 1.40% is Urban Area and remaining 98.60% is Rural Area. According to the 2011 census Aurangabad district has a population of 37,01,282. This gives it a ranking of 72nd in India (out of a total of 640). Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 27.76%. Aurangabad has a sex ratio of 923 females for every

1000 males, and a literacy rate of 79.02%. Study area comprising nine tahsils namely, Aurangabad, Khultabad, Kannad, Soygaon, Sillod, Paithan, Gangapur, Vaijapur and Phulambri.

### **Analysis of Landuse:**

#### **Area Under Forest**

Out of the total geographical area, there is total 5.73% area under forest. Out of that, above 6% area under forest has been noticed from the tahsils of Soygaon (14.87%), Aurangabad (14.08%), Kannad (13.39%) tahsil whereas Phulambri (5.47%), Khultabad (3.79%) recorded the area between 3% to 6%. Below 3% area under forest has been noticed from the tahsils of Vaijapur (1.87%), Gangapur (1.68%), Sillod (1.61%), Paithan tahsil (1.11%).

#### **Area Not Available for Cultivation**

This group includes a) the land put to non-agricultural uses and b) barren and uncultivable land. These uses show that these areas will be no more available for crop cultivation shows close association with other uncultivated land and the net sown area in Aurangabad district. About 9.77% of land was observed under this category in the study region during 2001-02. Area not available for cultivation increased from 9.77% to 9.99% between 2001-02 and 2018-19 in entire study region. Out of the total geographical area below 6% area was found under this group in Kannad (5.79%) and Phulambri tahsil (5.76%) while 6% to 12% geographical area was not available for cultivation in Aurangabad (9.97%), Vaijapur (7.46%), Soygaon (7.18%), and Khultabad tahsil (6.36%) during 2018-19.

#### **Uncultivable Land**

Uncultivable land excluding fallow land consists three types of land viz. a) culturable waste b) permanent pasture and grazing land and c) land under miscellaneous trees etc. In the ensuing discussion they are considered together. This is potential agricultural land which will be available for extension of agriculture but not been cultivated owing the different reasons. Out of the total geographical area below 3% geographical area was found under uncultivable land in Kannad (2.03%) and Soygaon tahsil (0.75%) whereas 3% to 5% area was observed under uncultivable land in Sillod (4.01%), Gangapur (3.99%) and Aurangabad tahsil (3.48%) during the year



2018-19. Above 5% area was recorded under this group in Khultabad (11.39%), Vaijapur (5.84%), Phulambri (5.77%) and Paithan (5.62%) during the same period.

### **Fallow Land**

The fallow land includes current fallow land and old fallow land largely found due to inadequate water supply or excess of moisture supply, extensive holdings and heavy clayey, soil difficult for filling at proper time. The study area has large amount of land under fallow land viz. 4.58% of the total geographical area during 2018-19. Out of the total geographical area below 3% area was found under fallow land in Vaijapur (2.61%), and Kannad tahsil (2.35%) whereas 3% to 6% area was found under this group in Sillod (4.80%) and Soygaon tahsil (3.28%) during 2018-19

### **Net Sown Area**

This category and fallow lands together constitute the extent of cropped land in any region and therefore is of vital significance in studies relating to agricultural geography. The net sown area is the actual area under crops counting areas sown more than once in the same year only once. Out of the total geographical area below 73% area was found under net sown area in Khultabad (72.35%), Aurangabad (70.02%) and Paithan (69.49%) while 73% to 76% area was found under net sown area in Gangapur (75.80%), Sillod (75.19%) and Soygaon tahsil (73.92%) during 2018-19. Above 76% geographical area was recorded under net sown area in Vaijapur (82.22%) and Kannad tahsil (76.43%) during 2018-19.

### **References:**

- 1) Buck J.L. (1937) : "Land utilization in China" University of Chicago press, Chapter VI.
- 2) Freeman, T.U. (1968) : Geography and Planning Hutchin Son University Library, London.
- 3) Mohammad, N. (1978): "Agricultural Landuse in India", Concept Publishing Co, New Delhi.
- 4) Noor Mohammad (1992): "New Dimension in Agricultural Geography", Vol. IV, Concept Publishing Co., New Delhi.
- 5) Siddiqui, N.A. (1971): "Land Classification for Agricultural Planning", A Study in Methodology, The Geographer, Vol. XVIII.
- 6) Stamp, L.D. (1967): "Applied Geography", Penguin Books, Suffolk.