



General Landuse Pattern: A Case Study of Jalna District

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Introduction:

Landuse is the surface utilization of all developed and vacant land on a specific point at a given time and space. Landuse change occurs to meet the diverse demands by the society in its new ways and conditions of life. The demand for new uses of land may be inspired by a technological change or by a change in size, composition and requirements of a community. Some changes are short-lived whereas others represent a more constant demand. The growth of population may change the forest and pasture land into cropland including residential and industrial land utilization. The key to the most important aspect of landuse lies in the relation of population to land. Landuse is particularly linked with problems initiated in the process of deciding upon and translating into action. Thus, the study of land utilization has economic, geographic and demographic dimensions. The geographic aspect consists largely of a survey of the temperature, humidity, topography and soil conditions, which influence the utilization of land for crops, pasture or forest.

Objectives: The prime objective of this research paper is to assess the landuse pattern in Jalna district for the year 2015.

Data Collection & Methodology: For the current paper, data has been collected from the census handbook, district socio-economic analysis book, and related secondary sources. Year 2015 has been considered for study. Five major categories of the landuse pattern has been considered for analysis.

Jalna District (Study Region): Jalna district is located in the central part of Maharashtra State in Marathwada region. It is located between 19° 15' to 20° 32' North latitude and 75° 36' to 76° 45' East longitude. The north-south extension of Jalna district is 150 Kilometers and east-west stretch of the district is 110 Kilometers. Jalna district has a significant location on Deccan plateau. Jalna district comprises eight tahsils, four subdivisions, and eight panchayat samities. The geographical area of Jalna district is 7727



Sq. Km. According to Census- 2011; there are 4 cities, 970 villages and 781 grampanchayat's in Jalna district. Total population of Jalna district was 19, 59,046. Out of this total population, the male population were 10,11,473 whereas female population were 9,47,573. The population density of the district was 254 per sq. km.

Landuse Pattern in Jalna District:

For the current study, data of year 2015 has been considered. Table 1 shows the details of the landuse pattern

Table 1
General Landuse in Jalna District (Year 2015)
(Area in Hectares)

Tahsil	Area Under Forest	Area Not Available for Agriculture	Fallow Land	Uncultivable Land	Net Sown Area	Total Geographical Area
Bhokardan	1561	10641	22997	1017	94506	130722
	(1.19)	(8.14)	(17.59)	(0.78)	(72.30)	(100)
Jafrabad	190	4315	2719	2415	63105	72744
	(0.26)	(5.93)	(3.74)	(3.32)	(86.75)	(100)
Jalna	1678	17453	532	191	94858	114712
	(1.46)	(15.21)	(0.46)	(0.17)	(82.69)	(100)
Partur	96	10797	8295	639	55560	75387
	(0.13)	(14.32)	(11.00)	(0.85)	(73.70)	(100)
Badnapur	783	3793	4157	2079	66037	76849
	(1.02)	(4.94)	(5.41)	(2.71)	(85.93)	(100)
Ambad	1423	6137	5489	416	102247	115712
	(1.23)	(5.30)	(4.74)	(0.36)	(88.36)	(100)
Ghansawangi	629	7036	6223	544	94332	108764
	(0.58)	(6.47)	(5.72)	(0.50)	(86.73)	(100)
Mantha	100	11233	3100	889	62421	77743
	(0.13)	(14.45)	(3.99)	(1.14)	(80.29)	(100)
Jalna district	6460	71405	53512	8190	633066	772633
	(0.84)	(9.24)	(6.93)	(1.06)	(81.94)	(100)

Source: Jalna District Socio-Economic Abstract-2015

Figures in the bracket indicate percentage to total.



The Jalna district has total geographical area of 7726.33 sq. km. Out of total geographical area, area under forest 6460 hectares (0.84%), area not available for agriculture - 71405 hectares (9.24%), fallow land - 53512 hectares (6.93%), uncultivable land - 8190 hectares (1.06%) and net sown area is 633066 hectares (81.94%). The category-wise analysis given below:

1) Area Under Forest:

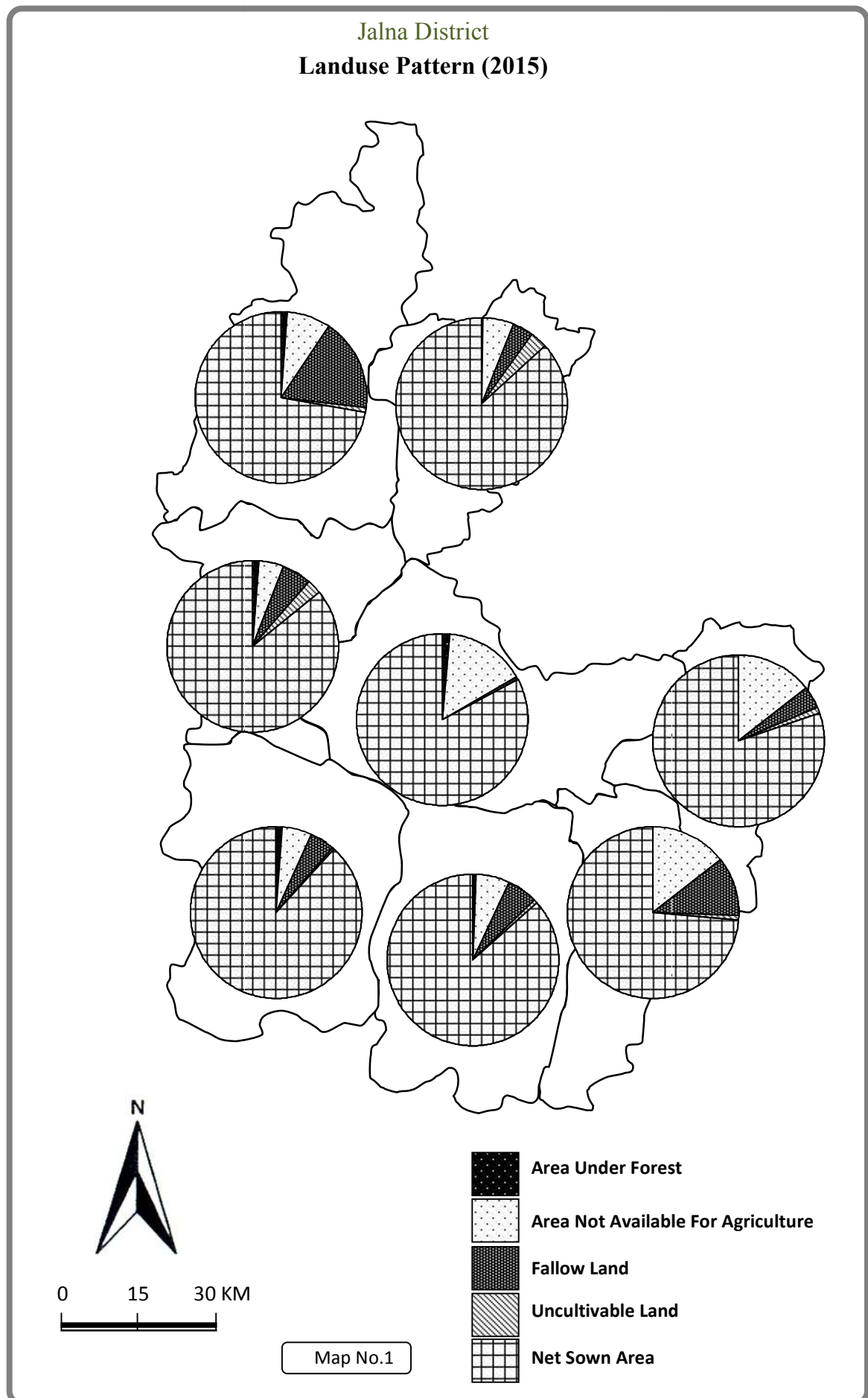
For healthy environment, at least 33% area should be under forest area. But unfortunately, Jalna district has only 0.84% area under forest which is very less than required. In all tahsils, Jalna tahsil recorded highest forest area i.e. 1.46%, whereas lowest area under forest is observed Partur tahsil. Above 1% area under forest is observed from Bhokardan, Ambad and Jalna tahsil whereas below 1% area is observed from Mantha Jafraabad and Ghansawangi tahsil.

2) Area Not Available for Agriculture:

This category includes the land which is not available for agriculture. In concern with Jalna district, this category covers 9.24% area out of total geographical area. Highest area under this category is observed from Jalna tahsil (15.22%) whereas lowest area under this category is observed from Badnapur tahsil (4.94%). Jalna city is the headquarter of the district as well as it is the major industrial destination of Marathwada region, so land under this category is increasing day by day on the contrary Badnapur is pure rural tahsil where agriculture is dominant sector. So least area under this category is observed.

3) Fallow Land:

Land becomes fallow due to many reasons. Heavy dose of chemical fertilizers and excess irrigation are the prime cause for converting land into fallow. Soils from such land become unfertile. In concern to Jalna district, out of total geographical area, 6.93% area is observed under this category. Lowest are under this category is found from Jalna tahsil (0.46%) where highest area is seen from Bhokardan tahsil. (17.59%) Remaining tahsils has shown variation in the area under fallow land.





4) Uncultivable Land:

This category of land covers the area other than fallow land and which is uncultivable. About 1.06% area of Jalna district is uncultivable land. Lowest area under this category is observed from Jalna tahsil (0.78%) whereas highest area is observed from Jafrabad tahsil (3.32%). Above 1% area under this category is observed from Mantha (1.14%) and Badnapur (2.71%) whereas below 1% area of this category is observed from Ambad (0.36%), Ghansawangi (0.50%), Bhokardan (0.50%) and Partur tahsil (0.85%).

5) Net Sown Area:

Net sown area includes the area under various crops. The net sown area is directly related with production of crops. About 81.94% area is net sown area in the district. Out of this, highest net sown area is observed from Ambad tahsil (88.36%) whereas lowest net sown area is observed from Bhokardan (72.29%). Above 85% net sown area is observed from Ghansawangi, Jafrabad and Ambad tahsils whereas 80% to 85% area is observed from Mantha, Jalna and Badnapur tahsil. Below 80% net sown area is observed from Bhokardan and Partur tahsil.

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