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## Land Use Transformation and Socio-Economic Changes in Rural Areas of Hugli District

## ABSTRACT

Hugli district is characterized by a diverse landscape comprising urban areas, agricultural fields, forests, water bodies, and industrial zones. The period from 1991 to 2021 witnessed a transformation in rural areas of Hugli district's Land use dynamics. The study attempts to explain and highlight the C.D. block-wise land use pattern and its spatio-temporal changes. An enquiry has been made on the impact of land use alteration and socio-economic changes. The expansion of the built-up area has resulted in the conversion of agricultural lands and natural vegetation. Agricultural land has experienced significant changes, indicating the growth of agricultural activities. Settlement areas have expanded over time, reflecting the development of residential, commercial, and industrial sectors. Land use pattern will be shown to analyze the previous scenario of social communication and present status of landform of the said area. This study also presents some interdisciplinary findings related to social, economic, and environmental implications. Replication of such studies for other areas and a comparative analysis could give useful insights for policy planning and implementation. Geographical technique, interpretation and analysis will be cultured to show a new way to build up a new land use policy for development. This research also holds relevance in the context of achieving sustainable development goals, which are vital for a developing economy like India.

**Keywords:** Hugli District, Land use dynamics, Agricultural activities, Land Use Policy

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