INTRODUCTION
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"Agriculture is the most constituent of man's primary occupation and from of first vital link of human interaction with his environment."

Just as history of mankind is closely related to the history of agriculture, agriculture to the main base of any country and its civilization. Agriculture is also the oldest and most important primary activity of world. The word ‘agriculture’, came from two Latin word ‘ager’ meaning ‘field’ and ‘culture’ meaning cultivation. Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy and more than 70% of population of country depend on this sector for their livelihood. Basic human needs are food, cloth, shelter. And most primary needs are water and grains; both are related with agriculture. In ancient period agriculture was processed for fulfill his own demand. But today agriculture was processed for commercial purpose and many industries are developed depending on agriculture.

SELECTION OF TOPIC:

Agriculture is the prime activity in our country. Chhattisgarh is also famous for the paddy cultivation. In India, Chhattisgarh is also known as ‘Dhan ka Katora’. Economic development of Chhattisgarh also depends on the agriculture. Due to rapid growth of population and industrialization characteristics of landuse and agriculture pattern are also changing. Many modern machine, equipment, technique are used for the development of agriculture. Many horticulture centres, animal husbandries are developed. Landuse and agriculture are related to each other with the changing of landuse agriculture pattern, production, efficiency are also changing. The rate of development of agricultural land.

So considering this aspect, the present study highlights, “Landuse and Agricultural Pattern of Dhamtari District”.

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OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

The main objectives of the present study are as follow –

i. To identify landuse pattern
ii. To identify importance of landuse
iii. To identify changing pattern of landuse
iv. To determine level of agriculture
v. To determine agricultural pattern
vi. To identify variations of crop
vii. To analyse the problems and prospects of landuse and agricultural pattern of Dhamtari district

IMPORTANT OF THE TOPIC:

In Chhattisgarh, Dhamtari district takes a significant place in paddy production. The river Mahanadi flows through Dhamtari district. The irrigation system in this area is also advanced. We can make high the productive power in this region through proper planning and modern techniques. This region can be included under the third system. Measuring the index of soil moisture context and rainfall variation. Through wet and dry variety we can develop agricultural system according to proper plan. Instead of deforestation, a forestation can be done and fallow land can be converted into cultivated land. Through plantation on fallow land along the road side limber industry can be developed.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

The concept of agriculture is not new. It is a branch of Agricultural Geography. So generally it is a old concept in Geography. Many research works have been done in this field.

The study of "An Agricultural Atlas of India" (1972) by Jasbir Singh is suitably measuring the cropping pattern and developmental indicator of Indian agriculture.
C.G. Pajpagary (1973) told in his research paper entitled “The impact of the environment upon the special distribution of population and landuse”.

The study by M. Shaffi (1960) in his book “Measurement the Agricultural Efficiency in Uttar Pradesh” described the regional agricultural intensity.

In 1976, Manju Mishra wrote a book of “Chhattisgarh basin ka Krishi Bhugol”. In her book she studied landuse, crop pattern, agricultural process and techniques.

H.S. Gupta’s research on the topic of “Distribution pattern of land holding” suitably analysed the various landholding categories. His another research paper published in 1979, “Food grain production efficiency in Madhya Pradesh”.

The better study has been done on the various thesis papers. In 1979 A.R. Chandrakar had researched on “Agricultural landuse and nutrition in Raigarh district”. He highlighted the suitable landuse pattern.

In 1987, Shinde wrote book on “Agriculture in an under developed region”. He studied on agricultural process, techniques, pattern in his book.

The another study is Majid Hussain’s (1982) “Crop combination in India”. His book is the suitable representation of the classification of food grain.


Prasad (1990) in his research paper “Role of irrigation development of Gyanpur tehsil in Varanasi district”, highlighted the important of irrigation in agriculture.

S.S. Lal and R.L. Katiyar (1990) also traced on irrigation in agriculture in his research paper “Role of irrigation in agricultural landuse of Farrukhabad district in U.P.”.
T.L. Barna (1999) researched about “Agriculture and health related problems of Tribal population of Bastar District”.

S.K. Sharma in his paper “The Deccan geography”, Vol.-41, 2003, studied about “Agricultural innovation and their impact on agricultural pattern and productivity in Madhya Pradesh”. His journal discussed in detail about productivity and cropping pattern of Madhya Pradesh.

HYPOTHESIS:

The following hypothesis are formulated –

1. The area and size of land holding decrease nowadays.
2. By use of machine and modern techniques on agricultural field production is increasing.
3. Agriculture and land use are related to each other.

SOURCE OF DATA:

The data has been collected from primary and secondary sources.

Primary sources of data:

Data from the primary sources is being collected through –

i) Survey of sample villages
ii) Household survey
iii) Interview and discussion through the schedule with the head of the family of the selected villages
iv) Interview and discussion through village dairy with the government official to collected detail information about the villages

Secondary sources of data:

Data from the secondary sources is being collected principally from the government offices of Raipur city and the Patwari offices of the villages.

i) District census hand book, 2001
ii) Patwari offices of villages
iii) Tehsil offices of Dhamtari district
iv) Record room, Collectorate, Dhamtari
v) Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur
vi) District Statistical Office, Raipur

METHODOLOGY:

The following methodology have been adopted in the present study.

Selection of the Samples:

Purposely eight sample villages has been selected.

Sample villages: Eight - Mulle, Pharkhanda, Kareli Chhoti, Luge Darri, Limtara, Podagaon, Hinchapur

Universe: Dhamtari district

Sample Unit: Household, selected randomly

Research Design: Analytical type

Statistical design: Pre planned design for analysis

The following methodology would be adopted in the proposed study:

Methodological Flow Chart
SCHEME OF REPRESENTATION:

The topic “Landuse and Agricultural Pattern in Dhamtari District” would be studied with in nine chapters through scientifically and systematically.

First Chapter deals with Geographical setting of Dhamtari District explaining the location, site, situation, physiography, geology, relief, drainage, soil, climate, natural vegetation. The chapter also describes the Historical development of Dhamtari district, characteristics of population, landuse, transport system of Dhamtari district.

The Second Chapter describes the geographical setting of the selected villages explaining the location, site and situation. The chapter also describes the demographic characteristics of sample villages, & population Sex Ratio, Family Type, Age-Sex Structure, Caste Structure, Religious Structure, Educational Status, Marital Status, Dependency Ratio, Occupational Structure.

The Third Chapter includes landuse of sample villages, explaining the general landuse, classification, definition, meaning, importance of landuse.

The Fourth Chapter describes agricultural landuse, explaining Kharif and Rabi landuse of Dhamtari districts and sample villages.

The Fifth Chapter deals with agricultural pattern of Dhamtari district. And also describe agricultural pattern of sample villages.

The Sixth Chapter explains about the agricultural techniques and mechanization. It also deals about land holding category, description about agricultural land, irrigation, use of fertilizer, pesticides, labour force, animal force, high yielding seeds, machine in sample villages.

The Seventh Chapter deals about agricultural investment, output and level of agriculture.

The Eight Chapter presents the finding, prospect and suggestion.

In the Ninth Chapter summary and conclusion has been presented.

Lastly, references to the study have been drawn in the form of Bibliography as tables in the Appendix.