Abstract

Conceptual background
Rural life is maintained through land based resource appropriation processes which is guided by several socio-economic factors principally caste hierarchy and economic status which are directly related.

Objectives
The thesis will aim to verify the hypothesis in terms of the distribution of land resource among different social groups and identify the nature of economic resources generated and examine the sustainability of rural enterprises.

Methods
i. Distribution pattern of agricultural land among different social groups have been analyzed,
ii. Perception survey of land as the resource base has been done.

Part-I: Chapter-I defines the socio-economic dimensions of land as used in the study. The justification of selection of these dimensions has also been elaborated. Thereafter in Chapter-II and Chapter-III the ecological and socio-economic dimensions of study area have been given in detail. Chapter-IV describes study sites and the methods of their selection as well as the survey design that have been carried out in the study sites. Part-II: Chapter-V and Chapter-VI explains the social dimensions of land in study sites through the analysis of distribution of different land classes among different social groups. Part-III: Chapter-VII focuses on agriculture as a source of rural livelihood through different dimensions of cropping pattern. Chapter-VIII describes land use and land cover in study sites as a resource base and scope for probable use of land. Chapter-IX explores pattern of nutrition in study sites with respect to different social linkages. Chapter-X examines the pattern domestic fuel use with respect to landholding size, cattle wealth. Part-IV: Chapter-XI gives some recommendations and Chapter-XII summarizes the study, conclude it.

Concluding Remarks
Findings provide a framework to plan for sustainable development based on microlevel considerations that will be self sustaining. Therefore what has been suggested and recommended is an ‘endogenetic’ model for efficient rural resource planning for balanced development instead of an economic growth oriented development, the detrimental effects of which is increasingly becoming evident now.