

7. Recommendations

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

The research on monitoring and planning of social forestry plantation using RS-GIS technology has brought out interesting results which can suggest the following recommendations for the development of the study area.

- The study area should be developed considering the social forestry map, wasteland map and suitability map as these will provide a baseline for choosing the priority area which needs maximum development.
- Keeping the degraded land information as base, the monitoring of land degradation in the study area can be taken up in future using remote sensing at a regular interval of five years to know the effectiveness of reclamation/management programmes.
- The ecologically sensitive areas like the salt affected and waterlogged land should be taken up on top priority basis for their conservation/management and restoration, using the updated maps prepared using satellite data.
- Canalside plantations should be given more priority to prevent the seepage of canal and bind the soil.
- More fruit spp. like Pithecellobium, Manilkara, Zizyphus, in woodlots and Tamarindus, Mangifera in roadsides should be planted. These would serve not only to fulfil the requirement of minor forest produce but also play a passive role in recreation.
- Limited pruning from existing plantation on woodlots, roadsides, canalsides etc., should be allowed. This would help in production of farmyard manure and prevent the interference of plants specifically on the roadsides.

- To reduce the shortage of fuel wood, gobar gas and other biological alternative methods should be promoted.
- Mulberry plantation should be encouraged as an intercrop in the commonland, village woodlot etc., which could aid in silk production.
- The saline/alkaline patches should be mapped before it deteriorates the adjoining nonsaline/alkaline soils. Salt tolerant species should be suggested based on the severity of salinity. Research on salt tolerant spp. should also be encouraged.
- Severely salt affected patches can be utilised profitably for common salt production by collecting water in beds and then by successive evaporation.
- Seasonal waterlogging problem can be solved by providing antiwaterlogging measures like adequate drainage, limited/controlled water supply etc.
- People should be educated to understand the effect of deforestation, industrialisation and improper irrigation through extension services by audio and visual media.