Identification of habitations and agriculture areas on forest land using remote sensing and GIS techniques.

Objectives:
The main objective of the present study was to know the current status of habitations on forest land and mapping of habitation spread and cultivated area.

Study Area:
The study area covers Kashi forest division in Chandauli district, Kaimur, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, Obra and Renukoot forest divisions in Sonbhadra District of Uttar Pradesh

Brief Description:
The IRS P6 LISS IV data, which is multi spectral, and has a resolution of 5.8m together with Cartosat-1 Mono data, which is monochrome, having resolution of 2.5m have been used for this study. The boundary of territorial forest area, as made available by the funding agency, were digitized and overlaid over the satellite images, and then the habitations and agriculture area within these forest boundaries were identified and mapped in GIS environment. Habitations were categorized as single hamlet, scattered habitation and grouped habitation. Each habitation was given a unique code. The thematic maps with base layers were prepared on 1:25,000 scale. The thematic maps were verified in the field by forest department and the names of villages comprising the habitations within the forest were recorded. These names were then incorporated in the GIS data base.

Funding Agency:
Uttar Pradesh Forest Dept. Lucknow

Project Personnel:

Dr. T.S.Kachhwaha, Head-FRED & Project Manager, Dr. P.Kunwar, Scientist 'SD', Project Coordinator, Dr Anil Kumar and other Project Scientists.