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Assessment of the impact of land use land cover change on food security of district Anantnag of Kashmir valley, J&K-India

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Land use changes are vital to the food security challenge. Food security has determined the history of mankind. The global population will increase to about 9 billion during the next four decades. Food and feed demands have been projected to double in the 21st century, which will further increase the pressure on the use of land, water and nutrients. The interactions between food security and land use, both now and over the next few decades, are of paramount interest to policy, science and society at large. During the past one decade the study area has undergone many LULC changes due to rapid urban growth, poorly planned infrastructural development and attitude towards horticulture that have adversely affected the food security. For LULC change detection analysis temporal Landsat satellite data captured by thematic mapper (TM) were employed. Maximum Likelihood (MLH) supervised classification algorithm was applied to classify the study area, whereas, Post classification comparison (PCC) approach was adopted to analyze the LULC changes. Results revealed that over a period of 10 years, a decrease has taken place in agriculture and forest at a change rate of -3.7% and -2.26% respectively. On the other hand, horticulture, built up to have increased at a rate of 2.17% and 1.13% respectively.

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