

Evaluating Impact of Watershed Development Programme on Land Resources in Shiwalik Hills of J&K

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Abstract: The present study was undertaken for estimating the impact of Chenani watershed development programme in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir state, in terms of resource availability during 2005-08. A combination of both the conventional and advanced techniques like field visits and satellite images were used for data collection to estimate parameters like change in land use/cover pattern, production capacity of land resources and soil erosion level, for impact assessment of watershed developed programme (WDP). The study showed no significant improvement in the quality of land resources production capacity and soil erosion level in the project area than non project area. Hence, the analysis showed poor ecological viability of WDP due to poor implementation of the programme.

Key Words: Watershed, Carrying capacity, Quantitative/Qualitative approach, Discount rate