

Observations on Soil quality:

Soils of study area are sandy loam by nature. Specific Conductivity and pH are in normal range. Organic matter content is sufficient. The concentration of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium were medium. The soils of study area are fit for cultivation.

3.6 Biological Environment

The basic purpose of exploring the biological environment under Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is to assist the decision making and to ensure that project option under consideration is environmental friendly. An Ecological survey of study area was conducted particularly with reference to listing of species and assessment of existing baseline ecological condition in study area. The main objective of ecological survey were aimed at assessing the existing flora and fauna component to study area to understand the possible impact on biological environment caused by any project activity and to formulate if necessary the appropriate mitigation/preventive measures for such impact. Data for same has been collected through secondary source and by site visit.

3.6.1 Scope Aim and Objectives ofThe Study:

1. To inventories the floral and faunal components of the project area (Project site or core zone and 10 km radius buffer zone)
2. To locate demarcate and understand ecological setting of the project area in term of National Park/Wildlife sanctuary/Reserve Forest/ Eco-sensitive area/wetland etc. within 10 km radius of project site (if any).
3. To identify schedule-I, rare, endemic and endangered species within the study area and prepare conservation plan for the same.
4. To identify impact zone and evaluate the likely impact of the project on floral and faunal component of project study area.
5. To suggest/prepare action plan to mitigate likely impact on biodiversity of project area through plantation around project area.

The information present in this chapter has been collected through field study, consultation with local people and collation of available literature with various institution and organization. The summary of data collected from these sources as a part of EIA study is outlined. With change in environmental condition the vegetation cover as well as animal reflects several changes in it's structure, density and composition respectively.

Survey Methodology:

The information presented in this chapter has been Collation of available published literature including those from relevant organizations like the Botanical survey of India, and wildlife institute of India. The respective forest department of the state concerned, research papers, article, books and reliable website

available. Apart from that Primary field survey was carried out for Floral & Faunal Inventory/Importance by Field Studies.

Field study: The detailed ecological survey was carried out in the following two zones of project area:

- **Core zone:** Within the project site.
- **Buffer zone:** Around the project site within 10 km radius.

3.6.2 Flora

General Vegetation Pattern-The climatic, edaphic and biotic variations with their complex interrelationship and composition of species, which are adapted to these variations, have resulted in different vegetation cover, characteristic of each region (Ohasi,1975). The tree species, herbs, shrubs, climbers and major crops, were documented during this baseline study. Hisar is the west central most district of Haryana state with total geographical area of 3,983 sq. kms it lies between 28° 56' 00" to 29° 38' 00" north latitude and 75° 21' 12" to 76° 18' 12" east longitude. It is surrounded by Fatehabad district in north, Bhiwani district in south, Jind and Rohtak district in east and Rajasthan in west. The district has predominantly plain topography and is located 234 mts above mean sea level. . As per the Champion & Seth Classification of Forest Types (1968), the forests in Haryana belong to three Forest Type Groups i.e. Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest, Tropical Thorn Forest and Subtropical Pine Forests which are divided into 10 Forest Types.

Table 3.10: FOREST COVER AREA IN HISAR DISTRICT OF HARYANA (Area in Sq Km)

| Geographical Area | Very Dense Forest | Mod Dense Forest | Open Forest | Total | % Green Area |
|---|-------------------|------------------|-------------|-------|--------------|
| 3,983 | 0.00 | 11.86 | 45.78 | 57.64 | 1.45 |
| Source: India State Forest Report, Haryana, 2019 | | | | | |

Floral biodiversity: A general study of floral community for both core area and buffer zone are carried out separately the details are provided below-

Core Zone- The existing project has already developed approx. 34581 sq m [9.6% of plot area] of green belt within the premises. JSHL has also developed extensive green area in the vicinity of the premises i.e., Jindal Club, OP Jindal Marg, OP Jindal Mill Gate area Park etc. The list of tree species planted are provided below in the table.

Table 3.11: The list of species planted

| S.NO. | BOTANICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY |
|-------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| TREES | | | |
| 1 | <i>Azardirecta indica</i> | Neem | Meliaceae |
| 2 | <i>Pongamia pinnata</i> | Karanj | Fabaceae |
| 3 | <i>Cassia Seamea</i> | Amaltas | Caesalpiniaceae |
| 4 | <i>Delonix regia</i> | Gulmohar | Caesalpiniaceae |
| 5 | <i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> | Ashoka | Annonaceae |

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 6 | <i>Alstoniascholaris</i> | Saptparni | Apocynaceae |
| 7 | <i>Seamea saman</i> | Siris | Mimosaceae |
| 8 | <i>Eucalyptus</i> | Safeda | Myrtaceae |
| 9 | <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> | Arjun | Combretaceae |
| 10 | <i>Mimusopselengii</i> | Moulsari | Sapotaceae |
| 11 | <i>Plumeria alba</i> | Champa | Apocynaceae |
| 12 | <i>Lagerstromia speciosa</i> | Jarul | Litharaceae |
| 13 | <i>Bombax ceiba</i> | Semal | Bombacaceae |
| 14 | <i>Ficus religiosa</i> | Peepal | Moraceae |
| 15 | <i>Ficus infectoria</i> | Pilkhan | Moraceae |
| 16 | <i>Mangifera indica</i> | Aam | Anacardiaceae |
| 17 | <i>Syzigiumcumini</i> | Jamun | Myrtaceae |
| 18 | <i>Grevillea robusta</i> | Silver oak | Proteaceae |
| 19 | <i>Melia azadirachta</i> | Bakain | Meliaceae |
| 20 | <i>Delbergia sissoo</i> | Sheesham | Fabaceae |
| 21 | <i>Ficus elastica</i> | Rubber | Moraceae |
| 22 | <i>Moringa oleifera</i> | Sahijan | Moringaceae |
| 23 | <i>Morus alba</i> | Sahtoot | Moraceae |
| 24 | <i>Bauhinia purpurea</i> | Kachnar | Caesalpiniaceae |
| 25 | <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> | Neeli gulmohar | Bignoniaceae |
| 26 | <i>Neolamarckiacadamba</i> | Kadam | Rubiaceae |
| 27 | <i>Tabebuia argentic</i> | Basant rani | Bignoniaceae |
| 28 | <i>Aegle marmelos</i> | Bel | Rutaceae |
| 29 | <i>Callistemon lanceolatus</i> | Bottle brush | Myrtaceae |
| 30 | <i>Albizia lebbeck</i> | Siris | Mimosaceae |
| 31 | <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> | Indian goseberry | Phyllanthaceae |
| 32 | <i>Washington filifera</i> | Desert fan palm | Arecaceae |
| 33 | <i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> | Date Palm | Arecaceae |
| 34 | <i>Cycas revoluta</i> | Sago palm | Cycadaceae |
| 35 | <i>Bismarkia sp.</i> | <i>Bismarkia</i> | Arecaceae |
| 36 | <i>Wodyetiabifurcata</i> | Fox tail Palm | Arecaceae |
| 37 | <i>Caryota mitis</i> | Fishtail Palm | Arecaceae |
| 38 | <i>Areca palm</i> | Betel Palm | Arecaceae |
| 39 | <i>Rhapisexcelsa</i> | Lady Palm | Arecaceae |
| 40 | <i>Cycuscircinalis</i> | Queen sago | Cycadaceae |

| S.NO. | BOTANICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| SHRUBS/HEDGES | | | |
| 1 | <i>Thevetia peruviana</i> | Kaner | Apocyanaceae |
| 2 | <i>Conocarpus</i> | Buttonwood | Combretaceae |
| 3 | <i>Hamelia patens</i> | Fire bush | Rubiaceae |
| 4 | <i>Ticoma capensis</i> | Tecoma | Bignoniaceae |
| 5 | <i>Ticomagorichori</i> | Tecoma | Bignoniaceae |
| 6 | <i>Bougainvella glabra</i> | <i>Bougainvella</i> | Nyctaginaceae |
| 7 | <i>Ficus panda</i> | Weeping fig/Pukar | Moraceae |
| 8 | <i>Ficus retusa</i> | | Moraceae |
| 9 | <i>Murraya exotica</i> | Orange jasmine/Kamini | Rutaceae |

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 10 | <i>Tabernaemontanadivaricata</i> | Crape jasmine/Chandni | Apocyanaceae |
| 11 | <i>Clerodendrumnerme</i> | Sankuppi | Lamiaceae |
| 12 | <i>Jatropha curcas</i> | Ratanjyot | Euphorbiaceae |
| 13 | <i>Durantaerrecta</i> | Golden duranta | Verbenaceae |
| 14 | <i>Rosa indica</i> | Rose | Rosaceae |
| 15 | <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> | Saavni | Lythraceae |
| 16 | <i>Bambusawamin</i> | <i>Buddha belly bamboo</i> | Poaceae |
| 17 | <i>Bombusa vulgaris</i> | <i>Golden Bamboo</i> | Poaceae |
| 18 | <i>Bauhinia tomentosa</i> | Kachnar | Leguminoceae |
| 19 | <i>Hibiscus rosa sinensis</i> | Gurhal | Malvaceae |
| 20 | <i>Jasmine sambac</i> | Bela | Oleaceae |
| 21 | <i>Nyctanthes arbor-tristis</i> | <i>Harsingar</i> | Oleaceae |

Buffer Zone-Bir Hisar Protected forest is situated 7.2 km NW from the project site. The vegetative community of the area is mainly under open scrub forest and because of urbanization area is usually surrounded with planted varieties e.g., Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), Safeda (*Eucalyptus*), Peepal (*Ficus religiosa*), Shisham (*Delbergia sissoo*) etc. The prominent grass species is *Cyanodondactylon*.

Trees: The dominant trees in and around the study area are Listed below in the **Table 3.12**

Table 3.12 :Dominant Trees In and Around the Study Area

| SN | Botanical Name | Common Name | Family |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <i>Albizia lebeck</i> | Siris | Fabaceae |
| 2 | <i>Aegle marmelos</i> | Bel | Rutaceae |
| 3 | <i>Azadirachta indica</i> | Neem | Meliaceae |
| 4 | <i>Acacia nilotica</i> | Babool | Fabaceae |
| 5 | <i>Acacia catechu</i> | Khair | Fabaceae |
| 6 | <i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i> | Jackfruit (Kathal) | Moraceae |
| 7 | <i>Alianthusexcelsa</i> | Mahanimb | Simaroubaceae |
| 8 | <i>Alstoniascholaris</i> | Saptparni | Apocyanaceae |
| 9 | <i>Bauhinia purpurea</i> | Kachnar | Fabaceae |
| 10 | <i>Butea monosperma</i> | Palash | Fabaceae |
| 11 | <i>Bombax ceiba</i> | Semur | Malvaceae |
| 12 | <i>Cassia fistula</i> | Amaltas | Caesalpinaceae |
| 13 | <i>Callistemon lanceolatus</i> | Bottle Brush | Myrtaceae |
| 14 | <i>Carrisa karandas</i> | Karaunda | Apocyanaceae |
| 15 | <i>Cordia myxa</i> | Lasura | Fabaceae |
| 16 | <i>Delbergiasisso</i> | Sheesham | Fabaceae |
| 17 | <i>Delonix regia</i> | Gulmohar | Caesalpeniaceae |
| 18 | <i>Diospyrus melanoxylon</i> | Tendu | Ebenaceae |
| 19 | <i>Emblica officinalis</i> | Amla | Euphorbiaceae |
| 20 | <i>Eucalyptus sp.</i> | Safeda | Myrtaceae |
| 21 | <i>Ficus racemosa</i> | Goolar | Moraceae |

| SN | Botanical Name | Common Name | Family |
|----|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 22 | <i>Ficus virens</i> | Pakad | Moraceae |
| 23 | <i>Ficus benghalensis</i> | Bargad | Moraceae |
| 24 | <i>Ficus religiosa</i> | Pipal | Moraceae |
| 25 | <i>Ficus infectoria</i> | Pilkhan | Moraceae |
| 26 | <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> | Neeli Gulmohar | Bignoniaceae |
| 27 | <i>Kigelia pinnata</i> | Balamkheera | Bignoniaceae |
| 28 | <i>Morus alba</i> | Sahtoot | Moraceae |
| 29 | <i>Mangiiifera indica</i> | Aam | Anacardiaceae |
| 30 | <i>Madhuca longifolia</i> | Mahua | Sapotaceae |
| 31 | <i>Mimusopselengii</i> | Moulasari | Sapotaceae |
| 32 | <i>Moringa oleifera</i> | Sahajan | Moringaceae |
| 33 | <i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> | Asoka | Annonaceae |
| 34 | <i>Pithecolobium dulce</i> | Jungle Jalebi | Fabaceae |
| 35 | <i>Prosopis julifera</i> | Khejri | Fabaceae |
| 36 | <i>Psidium guajava</i> | Amrood | Myrtaceae |
| 37 | <i>Populus ciliata</i> | Poplar | Saliaceae |
| 38 | <i>Syzygiumcumini</i> | Jamun | Myrtaceae |
| 39 | <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> | Arjun | Combretaceae |
| 40 | <i>Terminalia bellirica</i> | Bahera | Combretaceae |
| 41 | <i>Thevetia peruviana</i> | Kaner | Apocyanaceae |
| 42 | <i>Tamarindus indicus</i> | Imli | Fabaceae |
| 43 | <i>Tectona grandis</i> | Teak | Lamiaceae |
| 44 | <i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> | Ber | Rhamnaceae |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples and concerned State ForestDept.

Herbs Shrubs& Grasses: The species observed in the study area are listed below in the in the **Table 3.13**

Table 3.13: Herbs, Shrubs& Grasses Observed in the Study Area

| SN | Botanical Name | Common Name | Family |
|--------------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| HERBS | | | |
| 1 | <i>Aloe vera</i> | Ghrit Kumari | Liliaceae |
| 2 | <i>Achyranthus</i> | Chirchita | Amaranthaceae |
| 3 | <i>Amaranthus gracilis</i> | Cholai | Amaranthaceae |
| 4 | <i>Argemone maxicana</i> | Satyanasi | Papavaraceae |
| 5 | <i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> | GandhauriGhas | Asteraceae |
| 6 | <i>Adhatodavasica</i> | Bansa | Acanthaceae |
| 7 | <i>Boerhaviadiffusa</i> | Gadahpurna | Nyctaginaceae |
| 8 | <i>Cannabis sativa</i> | Bhang | Urticaceae |
| 9 | <i>Calatropisprocera</i> | Madar | Asclepiadaceae |
| 10 | <i>Chenopodium albus</i> | Bathua | Amaranthaceae |
| 11 | <i>Dhaturainoxia</i> | Dhatura | Solanaceae |

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 12 | <i>Euphorbia hirta</i> | Dudhi | Euphorbiaceae |
| 13 | <i>Ocimum sanctum</i> | Tulsi | Lamiaceae |
| 14 | <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> | GajarGhas | Asteraceae |
| 15 | <i>Solanum nigrum</i> | Makoi | Solanaceae |
| 16 | <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> | Gokharu | Zygophyllaceae |
| SHRUBS | | | |
| 1 | <i>Abutilon indicum</i> | Kanghi | Malvaceae |
| 2 | <i>Bougainvillia glabra</i> | Bougainvillia | Nyctaginaceae |
| 3 | <i>Cestrum nocturnum</i> | Raat Rani | Solanaceae |
| 4 | <i>Carrisa carandas</i> | Karaunda | Apocyanaceae |
| 5 | <i>Citrus aurentifolia</i> | Lime | Rutaceae |
| 6 | <i>Cassia tora</i> | Chakunda | Caesalpiniaceae |
| 7 | <i>Ipomea</i> | Besharam/Behaya | Convolvulaceae |
| 8 | <i>Lawsoniainermis</i> | Mehandi | Lytharaceae |
| 9 | <i>Lantana camara</i> | Raimunia | Verbenaceae |
| 10 | <i>Mimosa pudica</i> | Chui Mui | Fabaceae |
| 11 | <i>Murrayakoeniigi</i> | Curry patta | Rutaceae |
| 12 | <i>Nerium indicum</i> | Kaner | Apocyanaceae |
| 13 | <i>Ricinus communis</i> | Arandi | Euphorbiaceae |
| 14 | <i>Sacchrummunja</i> | Moonj | Gramineae |
| 15 | <i>Tridax procumbens</i> | Baramasi | Asteraceae |
| 16 | <i>Vinca rosea</i> | Sadabahar | Apocyanaceae |
| 17 | <i>Vitex negundo</i> | Begunia | Lamiaceae |
| GRASSES | | | |
| 1 | <i>Andropoganannulatus</i> | Gandra | Poaceae |
| 2 | <i>Cyanodondactylon</i> | Dub | Poaceae |
| 3 | <i>Cymbopogan martini</i> | Lemon Grass | Poaceae |
| 4 | <i>Desmostachya</i> | Kusha | Poaceae |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples and concerned State Forest Dept.

Medicinal Plant Species of the area: The project area is also endowed with several medicinal plants. The common medicinal tree plants of the region are *Aegle marmelos*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Emblia officinalis*, *Terminalia arjuna* etc. The herb species which are recorded in area having medicinal values are *Aloe vera*, *oscimum sanctum* etc.

Table 3.14: List of Medicinal Plants in the Study Area

| SN | BOTANICAL NAME | FAMILY | COMMON NAME | MEDICINAL USE |
|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| TREES | | | | |
| 1 | <i>Acacia nilotica</i> | Fabaceae | Babool | Pharmacy, preparing emulsions, Tablets, pills |
| 2 | <i>Aegle marmelos</i> | Rutaceae | Bel | Anti-inflammatory, anti-pyretic, anti-fungal |
| 3 | <i>Azadirachta indica</i> | Meliaceae | Neem | Antiseptic, insecticidal, oil as stimulant |
| 4 | <i>Bauhinia</i> | Caesalpiniaceae | Kachnar | Used in dropsy, pain, rheumatism, thigh |

| | | | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| | <i>purpurea</i> | | | swelling, convulsion, intoxication, blackness |
| 5 | <i>Butea monosperma</i> | Fabaceae | Palash | Gum is astringent for treatment of diarrhea |
| 6 | <i>Cassia fistula</i> | Fabaceae | Amaltas | Control fever, gas trouble, and laxative |
| 7 | <i>Emblica officinalis</i> | Euphorbiaceae | Amla | Source of Vitamin C, coolant & laxative |
| 8 | <i>Eucalyptus sp.</i> | Myrtaceae | Safeda | Oil used as an antiseptic, Hypertension, pulmonary hemorrhage |
| 9 | <i>Madhuca indica</i> | Sapotaceae | Mahua | Flower liquor as an appetizer, pulmonary hemorrhage, hypertension |
| 10 | <i>Magnifera indica</i> | Anacardiaceae | Aam | Control stomach pain, diarrhea, urine sugar |
| 11 | <i>Syzygiumcumini</i> | Myrtaceae | Jamun | Anti: bacterial, fungal, viral, inflammatory, diarrheal, allergic, cancer,diabetic, ulcerogenic,cardio-protective, hypoglycemic |
| 12 | <i>Terminalia arjuna</i> | Combretaceae | Arjun | Bark of tree used in High BP and cholesterol control |
| SHRUBS | | | | |
| 13 | <i>Calotropisprocera</i> | Asclepiadeaceae | Madar | Useful in digestive disorder, diarrhea, stomach ulcer, toothache, Cramps |
| 14 | <i>Citrus aurentifolia</i> | Rutaceae | Nimbu | Rich source of Vitamin C |
| HERBS | | | | |
| 15 | <i>Argemone maxicana</i> | Papavaraceae | Satyanasi | Painkiller, diuretic, and anti-inflammatory. The seed is used as a purgative |
| 16 | <i>Dhaturainoxia</i> | Solanaceae | Dhatura | Treat asthma, malarial fever, palpitation, hypertension, distrace, aortic disorder |
| 17 | <i>Tribulus terrestris</i> | Zygophyllaceae | Gokharu | Useful in kidney, bladder, urinary tract, and urogenital related conditions |
| 18 | <i>Tridex procumbens</i> | Asteraceae | Baramasi | Antibacterial, anti-inflammatory, reduce high blood sugar, wound healing etc. |
| 19 | <i>Aloe vera</i> | Liliaceae | Ghratkuma ri | Aloe vera is known for its antibacterial, antiviral, and antiseptic properties |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples and concerned State ForestDept.

Economically Important Flora of Study Area:

Agricultural Crops: Climatic conditions of a region affect the agricultural cropping pattern of different are. Thus, it produces different crop. Amongst the host of climatic factors i.e., rainfall, temperature, humidity, wind velocityand duration of sunshine affect the cropping pattern in significant way, Annual rainfall and it's distribution over the entire year and regimes of diurnal and annual temperature are by far the prominent factors affecting agriculture and life style of people.Cropping pattern is shown in **Table 3.15:**

Table 3.15: Seasonal Crop of Study Area

| Crop | Name | Season |
|--------|---|-----------------|
| Rabi | Wheat, Gram, Mustard, Seeds, Potatoes, Onion | September-April |
| Kharif | Paddy, Maize, Bajra, Groundnut, Sugarcane, Rice | June-October |

Different fruits like Banana, Papaya, Mangoes, and Vegetables like potatoes, chilly, brinjal, cauliflower, capsicum are also grown by local peoples. The consultation with local peoples reveals that farmers are cultivating the improved varieties in the fields.

Table 3.16: Major Crops of the Study Area

| KHARIF | | | RABI | |
|------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| SN | SCIENTIFIC NAME | COMMON NAME | SCIENTIFIC NAME | COMMON NAME |
| CEREALS | | | | |
| 1 | <i>Oryza sativa</i> | Rice | <i>Triticum aestivum</i> | Wheat |
| 2 | <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> | Jwar | | |
| 3 | <i>Millets</i> | Bajra | | |
| 4 | <i>Zea mays</i> | Maize | | |
| PULSES | | | | |
| 5 | <i>Cajanus cajan</i> | Arhar | <i>Cicer arietinum</i> | Gram |
| 6 | <i>Phaseolus angularis</i> | Urad | | |
| 7 | <i>Phaseolus aurens</i> | Moong | | |
| OIL SEEDS | | | | |
| 8 | <i>Sesamum indicum</i> | Til | | |
| 9 | <i>Arachis hypogea</i> | Groundnut | | |
| VEGETABLES | | | | |
| 10 | <i>Capsicum annum</i> | Chilly | <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> | Potato |
| 11 | <i>Zinziber officinale</i> | Ginger | <i>Coriandrum annum</i> | Coriander |
| 12 | <i>Allium cepa</i> | Onion | <i>Allium sativum</i> | Garlic |
| 13 | <i>Vitis vinifera</i> | Grapes | <i>Daucus carota</i> | Carrot |
| 14 | <i>Solanum melongena</i> | Brinjal | <i>Pisum saivum</i> | Pea |
| 15 | | | <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> | Tomato |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples and concerned State Forestdept.

Waste Land: Wasteland are also observed in the area which are found dominated by

Lantana, Ipomea Calatropis, Parthenium, Argemone etc.

Vegetation in and Around Human Settlement- The common species grown near village are Neem, Mahua, Jamun, Imli, Safeda, Bargad etc.

Rare, Endangered & Endemic Species: No rare, endangered or endemic species of flora is recorded from core area as well as buffer zone of the project site.

3.6.3 Fauna

Faunal biodiversity A general study of faunal community for both core area and buffer zone are carried out separately the details are provided below-

Core Zone-The core zone of the project area doesn't have any unique faunal community as the habitat and environmental conditions of core area is similar to buffer zone. So some faunal species from buffer zone frequently visit to core zone in search of food and water.

The common species which are observed during site visit are Monkey (*Macaca mullata*), Indian garden Lizard (*Calotes versicolor*), Gilahari (*Funambulus pennantii*) and birds like Pigeon (*Columba livia*) and Crow (*Corvus splendens*) etc.

Table 3.17: List of Species in Core Zone:

| SN | ZOOLOGICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY | STATUS IN WPA 1972 | STATUS IN IUCN CATEGORY |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| MAMMALS | | | | | |
| 1. | <i>Funambulus pennantii</i> | Gilhari | Sciuridae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 2. | <i>Maccacamulata</i> | Monkey | Cercopethicidae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| REPTILES | | | | | |
| 3. | <i>Chamaleochamaleons</i> | Chameleon | Gekkonidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 4. | <i>Calotes versicolor</i> | Common Garden Lizard | Agamidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| AVES | | | | | |
| 5. | <i>Corvus splendens</i> | Crow | Corvidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 6. | <i>Columba livia</i> | Pigeon | Columbidae | Not Enlisted | Least Concern |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples

Buffer Zone-The species observed in buffer zone (10 Km around the project area) are listed in the table given below-

Table 3.18: Faunal Biodiversity of Study Area

| SN | ZOOLOGICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY | STATUS IN WPA 1972 | STATUS IN IUCN CATEGORY |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| MAMMALS | | | | | |
| DOMESTIC SPECIES | | | | | |
| 1. | <i>Felis catus</i> | Domestic Cat | Felidae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| 2. | <i>Sus scrofa</i> | Pig | Suidae | Schedule III | Least Concern |
| 3. | <i>Bos taurus</i> | Cow | Bovidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 4. | <i>Canis lupus</i> | Dog | Canidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 5. | <i>Capra aegagrus hircus</i> | Goat | Bovidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 6. | <i>Bubalus bubalis</i> | Buffalo | Bovidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| WILD SPECIES | | | | | |
| 7. | <i>Herpetesedwardsii</i> | Nevala | Herpestidae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| 8. | <i>Funambulus pennantii</i> | Gilhari | Sciuridae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |

| SN | ZOOLOGICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY | STATUS IN WPA 1972 | STATUS IN IUCN CATEGORY |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 9. | <i>Rattus rattus</i> | Chuha | Muridae | Schedule V | Least Concern |
| 10. | <i>Rousettus leschenaultii</i> | Indian Fruit Bat | Pteropodidae | Schedule V | Least Concern |
| 11. | <i>Semnopithecus entellus</i> | Langur | Cercopethicidae | Not Enlisted | Least Concern |
| 12. | <i>Maccacamelata</i> | Monkey | Cercopethicidae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| REPTILES | | | | | |
| 13. | <i>Ptyasmucosus</i> | Common rat snake/Dhaman | Colubridae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| 14. | <i>Bungarus caeruleus</i> | Common Indian Krait | Elapidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 15. | <i>Hemidactylus maculates</i> | Rock Gaeko | Gekkonidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 16. | <i>Chamaleochamaleons</i> | Chameleon | Gekkonidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 17. | <i>Hemidactylus brooki gray</i> | Chipkali | Gekkonidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| AMPHIBIANS | | | | | |
| 18. | <i>Rana tigrina</i> | Common Frog | Ranidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 19. | <i>Rana hexadactyla</i> | Indian Pond Frog | Ranidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 20. | <i>Bufo bufo</i> | Toad | Bufo | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| BUTTERFLIES/INSECTS | | | | | |
| 21. | <i>Delias eucharis</i> | Common jezebel | Pieridae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| 22. | <i>Danaus chrysippus</i> | Plain tiger | Nymphalidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 23. | <i>Euremahecabae</i> | Common grass yellow butterfly | Pieridae | Schedule II | Least Concern |
| 24. | <i>Papiliopolymnestor</i> | Blue mormon | Papilionidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 25. | <i>Acheta domesticus</i> | Jhingur/Cricket | Gryllidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |
| 26. | <i>Apis dorsata</i> | Honey Bee | Apidae | Not Enlisted | Not Evaluated |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples and concerned State Forest Dept.

Birds: The List of Avifauna present in and around the study area are listed below in the **Table 3.19**.

Table 3.19: List of Avifauna present in and around the study area

| SN | ZOOLOGICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY | STATUS IN WPA 1972 | STATUS IN IUCN CATEGORY |
|----|------------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Gallus gallus</i> | Jungli Murghi | Phasianidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 2. | <i>Achridotherustristris</i> | Common Myna | Sturnidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 3. | <i>Corvus splendens</i> | Crow | Corvidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |

| SN | ZOOLOGICAL NAME | COMMON NAME | FAMILY | STATUS IN WPA 1972 | STATUS IN IUCN CATEGORY |
|-----|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 4. | <i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i> | Koel | Cuculidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 5. | <i>Psittacula krameri</i> | Parrot | Psittaculidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 6. | <i>Pycnonotus cafer</i> | Bulbul | Pycnonotidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 7. | <i>Saxicoloides fulicatus</i> | Robin | Muscicapidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 8. | <i>Ploceus philippinus</i> | Baya Weaver | Plocidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 9. | <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> | Bater | Phasianidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 10. | <i>Vanellus indicus</i> | Red Wattled Lapwing | Charadriidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 11. | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | Bagula | Ardeidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 12. | <i>Bubo bubo</i> | Owl | Strigidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 13. | <i>Ardeola grayii</i> | Pond Heron | Ardeidae | Schedule IV | Least Concern |
| 14. | <i>Columba livia</i> | Pigeon | Columbidae | Not Enlisted | Least Concern |
| 15. | <i>Passer domesticus</i> | Sparrow | Passeridae | Not Enlisted | Least Concern |

Source: On the basis of primary site visit and in consultation with Local Peoples and concerned State Forest Dept.

Table 3.20: Schedules Species in Study Area

| S.No. | Schedule of Wildlife Protection Act 1972 | Number of Species |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Schedule I | 0 |
| 2 | Schedule II | 5 |
| 3 | Schedule III | 1 |
| 4 | Schedule IV | 19 |
| 5 | Schedule V | 2 |
| 6 | Schedule VI | 0 |

Methodology Sample Collection, Preservation & Analysis:

The samples were collected from 10 cm depth below the water surface in polyethylene bottles presoaked in 10% nitric acid solution for 24 hours and thoroughly rinsed with distilled water before use.

Preservation of sample is done by adding 5 ml of 4% Formalin. The preserved samples were kept undisturbed for 24 hours to allow the sedimentation of plankton suspended in water. After 24 Hrs the supernatant was discarded carefully without disturbing the sediment and final volume of concentrated sample was maintained 50 ml.

Qualitative analysis of Phytoplankton is done by Lackey Drop Method (Lackey, 1938). A drop of sample is placed on the strip of slide and covered with coverslip. Now the no. of individual of each microorganism is counted under microscope and the no. is expressed per ml of sample.

For zooplankton desired volumes of water were filtered through plankton net having mesh size of 75µ to represent all the available groups. Drop count method for the analysis were followed, as prescribed in APHA (1995).

PHYTOPLANKTON: The Phytoplankton community in the study area comprises of mainly Chlorophyceae, Cyanophyceae and Euglenophyceae. Chlorophyceae and Cyanophyceae were the most dominant group observed in the study area. Dominant Species observed are *Microcystis*, *Nostoc*, *Anabaena*, *Scenedesmus* and *chlorella* etc.

Table 3.21: Phytoplankton community in the study area

| Family | Species | Family | Species |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Chlorophyceae | <i>Scenedesmus sp.</i> | Cyanophyceae | <i>Anabaena sp.</i> |
| | <i>Closterium sp.</i> | | <i>Nostoc sp.</i> |
| | <i>Ulothrix sp.</i> | | <i>Microcystis sp.</i> |
| | <i>Chlorella sp.</i> | | <i>Oscillatoria sp.</i> |
| | <i>Volvox sp.</i> | Euglenophyceae | <i>Euglena sp.</i> |
| | <i>Oedogonium sp.</i> | | |

ZOOPLANKTON:

The Zooplankton of the study area comprises of four group i.e Protozoans, Rotifers, Copepods and Cladocerans. List of zooplankton species identified are provided below in table:

Table 3.22: Zooplankton community in the study area

| GROUP | SPECIES | GROUP | SPECIES |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Protozoans | <i>Paramecium sp.</i> | Copepods | <i>Cyclops sp.</i> |
| | <i>Vorticella sp.</i> | | <i>Mesocyclops sp.</i> |
| Cladocerans | <i>Daphnia sp.</i> | | |
| | <i>Moina sp.</i> | | |

CONCLUSION& INTERPRETATION

The biological environment in the surrounding of the study area is dominated by grasses with scattered tree/Shrub species, All the species reported from core zone are common and generally found in wide variety of habitat of the urban ecosystem of the study area, no endemic/endangered sp. were recorded from core area of the project site. Apart from that there is no Biosphere reserve, National Park, Wildlife sanctuary, Tiger Reserve or Elephant reserve are reported within 10 Km radius of project site and project area is also devoid of any breeding and nesting ground of any faunal species. Bir Hisar Protected Forest and a deer park is situated 7.2 km NW of project site. So, it can be stated that existing project and associated activities do not influence biodiversity of the area.

3.7 Satellite Imagery & LULC Map of Study Area

The study of land use in the area enables one to know about the present land use practices as well as to know the type of land that can be used for various development activities envisaged in post project scenario. The land use pattern indicates the manner in which different parts of land in the study area is

being utilized. It is an important indicator of environmental health and human activity and a degree of inter-play between these two. The land-use map of the study area was prepared by utilizing principal resources: -

- Survey of India topo-sheet of 1:50,000 scale (44O/16);
- Satellites imagery data without any cloud cover of year 2021 Sentinel 2A Satellite Image. Sentinel-2 carries the Multispectral Imager (MSI). This sensor delivers 13 spectral bands ranging from 10 to 60-meter pixel size. Its blue (B2), green (B3), red (B4), and near-infrared (B8) channels have a 10-meter resolution. Next, its red edge (B5), near-infrared NIR (B6, B7 and B8A) and short-wave infrared SWIR (B11 and B12) have a ground sampling distance of 20 meters. finally, its coastal aerosol (B1) and cirrus band (B10) have a 60 m pixel size.
- This Land use Land Cover Map is prepared with help of Sentinel 2A Satellite Image (downloaded from <https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>) with using tools Knowledge Base Classification of Arc GIS 10.8 and ERDAS Imagine 2016 Software.
- Ground validation for interpretation of the FCC imagery

The impacts on land environment would be in the form of permanent change in landuse pattern as well as direct and indirect impacts on surrounding land due to discharge of wastes on the land and unscientific means of disposal. Area statistics of land-use classes has been generated within 10 Km radius of mine lease area (Core zone and Buffer zone).

3.7.1 Contour Map

Contours are lines that connect points of equal value (such as elevation, temperature, precipitation, pollution, or atmospheric pressure). Contour map is prepared by using surface tool which is present in Spatial analyst tool which can be achieved by using Arc GIS 10.8. The contour map of the study area is given as Figure-3.9.

Interpretation (Contour Map):-

- Project site and its surrounding area are situated on flat terrain. Contour elevation at project site varies within premises between about 212m AMSL to 214m AMSL.
- Map is showing maximum elevated contour of 230m AMSL in Southern part of Map.
- While lowest contour is located in North Western Part of the Map showing 210 m AMSL.
- Whitish portion of the map showing moderately flat terrain.
- Contour map comprising in 10 km buffer area from the project site is situated on Moderately Flat topography.
- Contour topography reveals that terrain is Flat and slopes towards North Western direction.
- Map is not showing dense contours while less dense contour occurs in whole Map.
- Contour map clearly demonstrates area is overlain by Alluvial terrain.

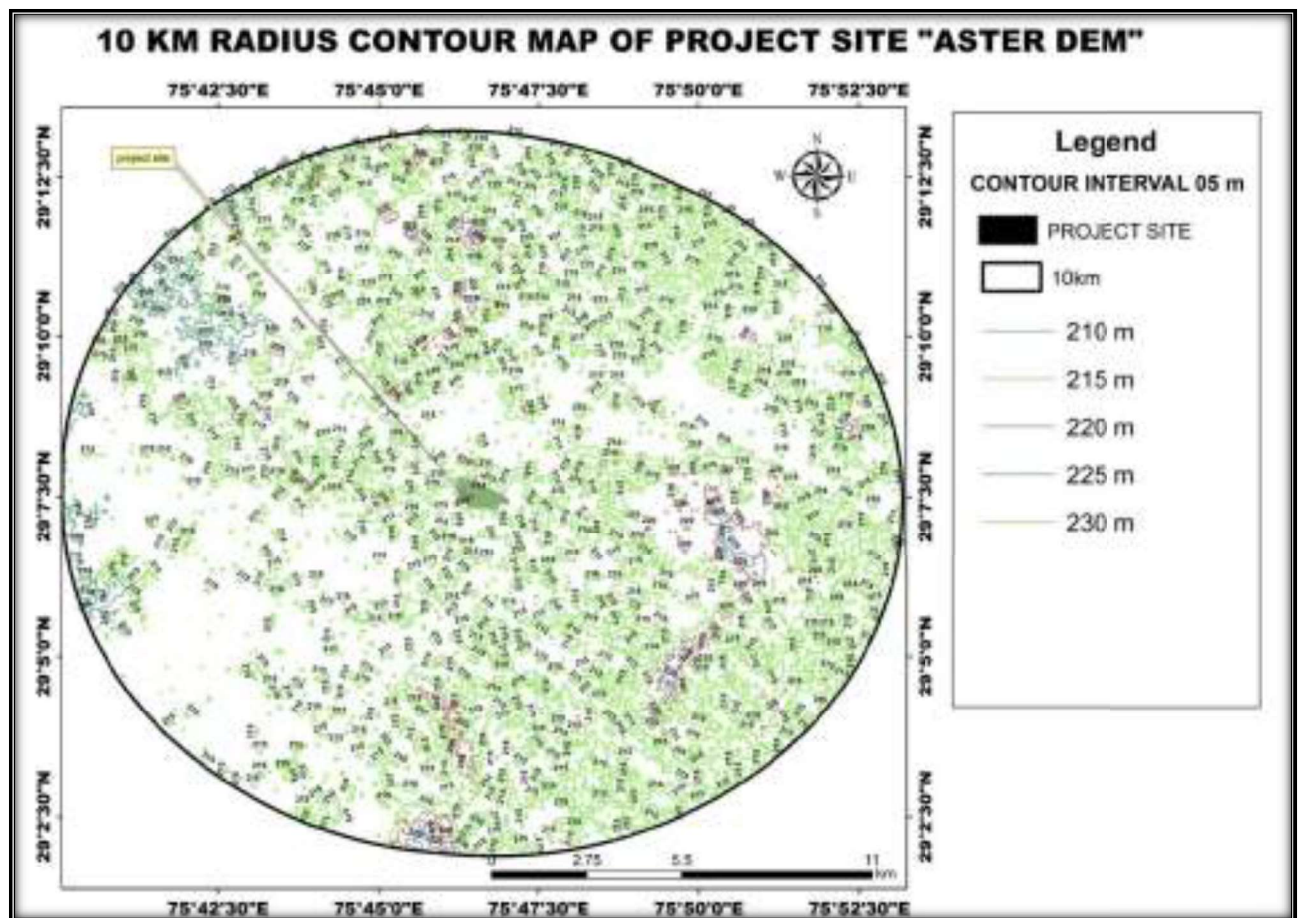


Figure 3.9: Contour Map of the Study Area

3.7.2 Drainage Map

The study area displays a variety of drainage pattern which is governed by the arrangement of lithological boundaries, drainage network and distribution of linear structural features such as faults, lineaments and thrusts. The drainage map of the study area is given as Figure-3.10 below-

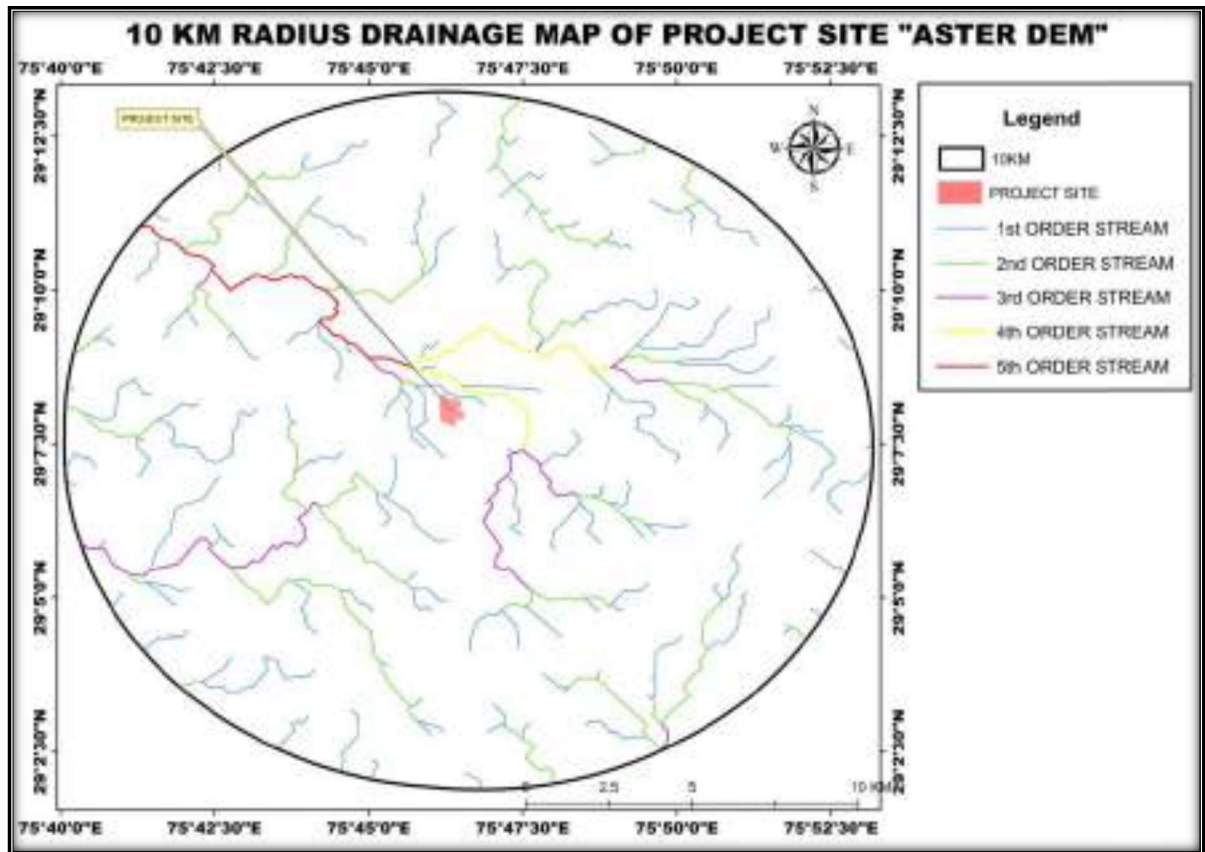


Figure 3.10: Drainage Map of the Study Area

Interpretation (Drainage Map):-

- This drainage map is prepared in 10 km radius area from project site and covers about 350.70 sqkm.
- After interpretation map reveals 5th order of Drainage Orders.
- The Lease area & Surrounding area sloping towards 5th order drainage (Main Stream)
- First order drainage (blue color) having characteristic situated at high elevation with smallest distance in comparison with other drainage in its drainage Basin.
- While Fifth order drainage (red colour) situated at lowest elevation and having greater length than other drainage in its drainage Basin.
- First, Second, Third and Fourth order of drainage successively meet to Fifth order drainage which is the main channel of whole Catchment area and flows towards North West direction.
- Drainage map is showing dominantly Dendritic to sub dendritic drainage pattern.
- Drainage map clearly demonstrate area is overlain by Alluvial terrain.

3.7.3 Land Use Land Cover Map

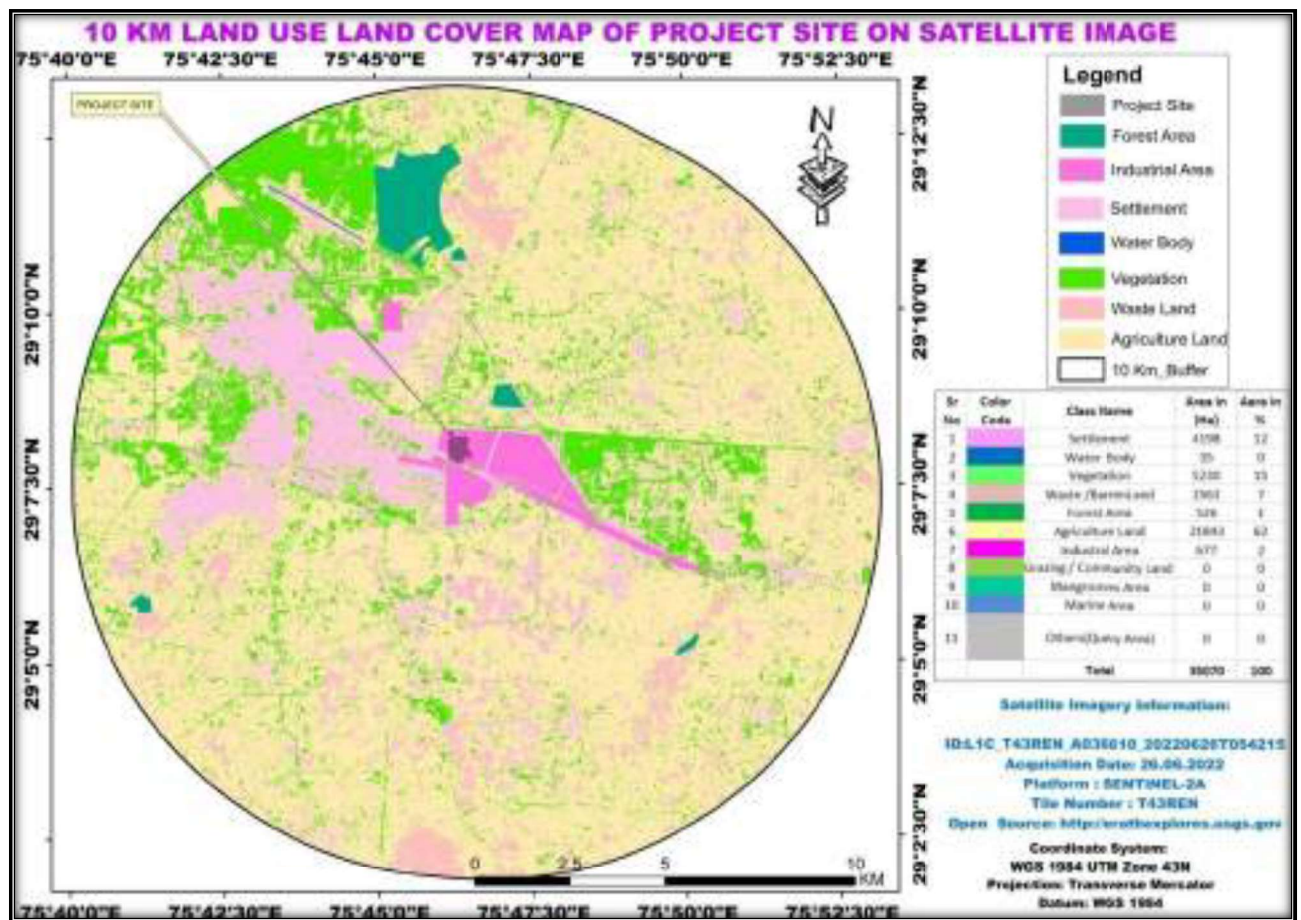


Figure 3.11: Land use land cover Map of the Study Area

Table 3.23: Description of Land Use

| Sr No | Color Code | Class Name | Area in (Ha) | Aera in % |
|-------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| 1 | | Settlement | 4198 | 12 |
| 2 | | Water Body | 35 | 0 |
| 3 | | Vegetation | 5230 | 15 |
| 4 | | Waste /BarrenLand | 2561 | 7 |
| 5 | | Forest Area | 526 | 1 |
| 6 | | Agriculture Land | 21843 | 62 |
| 7 | | Industrial Area | 677 | 2 |
| 8 | | Grazing / Community Land | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | | Mangrooves Area | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | | Marine Area | 0 | 0 |
| 11 | | Others(Query Area) | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | 35070 | 100 |

Interpretation (LULC Map):-

- 62 % of the land of the study area comprises of Agriculture land. This is an indicator why the Particulate matter is high in the region. **The loose unconsolidated soil contributes to the windblown dust and thereby increasing the particulate matter in the ambient air.**

3.8 Hydrogeology**3.8.1 Physiography**

Hisar is the west central most district of Haryana state with a total geographical area of 3860 sq. Km and it lies between the north latitudes 28° 56' 00" to 29° 38' 30" and east longitudes 75° 21' 12" to 76° 18' 12". Hisar district is one of the 21 districts of Haryana state, India. Hisar city serves as the district headquarters. Hisar is one of the five cities belonging to Indus Valley Civilization.

As of 2011 it is the second most populous of the 21 districts of Haryana, after Faridabad. Hisar is also known as the steel city because of the Jindal Stainless Steel Factories. It is also the largest producer of galvanized iron in India.

The 2011 census the district had a population of 1,742,815 and gave it a ranking of 276th in India out of a total of 640 districts. The district has a population density of 438 inhabitants per square kilometer. Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 13.38%. Hisar has a sex ratio of 871 females for every 1000 males and a literacy rate of 73.2%. Haryanvi is the most spoken dialect in the district. Hisar is 98% Hindu, only about 40,000 are Muslims rests are mostly Jain and Sikhs. The district is under control of Hisar division and administratively divided into nine community development blocks namely Agroha, Adampur, Barwala, Bass (Hansi-II), Hansi-I, Hisar-I, Hisar-II, Narnaund, and Uklana Mandi. The district has 05 towns namely Hisar, Hansi, Narnaund, Barwala and Uklana and 269 villages.

3.8.2 Hydrology and Drainage Network

The district falls in Ghaggar basin of Indo-Gangetic plains. The area is traversed by two artificial drains which are confined in Bass, Hansi-I, Narnaund and Barwala blocks. There are a total of 39 drains existing in the area, which run for a distance of 126.25 km.

There is no major river in the district yet there is a good network of canal irrigation system. The district is located in the arid zone of the State. Rainfall is scanty and unreliable. The sub soil water is deep and unfit for irrigation in most parts of the district. The area is irrigated by shallow tube wells and network of Bhakra Canal Systems and Western Yamuna Canal Systems. The main canals are the Fatehabad branch of Bhakra Canal, Barwala Branch, Balsamandh and Pabra Sub-branch of Barwala Link and Sirsa branch from Bhakra Main Line, Hisar major distributary and Deosar feeder of Western Yamuna canal System through Hansi branch.

3.8.3 Geomorphology

The geomorphology of Hisar district is classified into two major categories they are fluvial origin and Aeolian origin landforms. The fluvial originated landforms existed in this district are older deep alluvial plains, palaeo-channels etc. and the other landforms i.e., dune complex, eolian plain deep, interdunal flat and sand dunes fall under eolian originated landforms. The details of landforms of the Hisar district are shown in the below map.

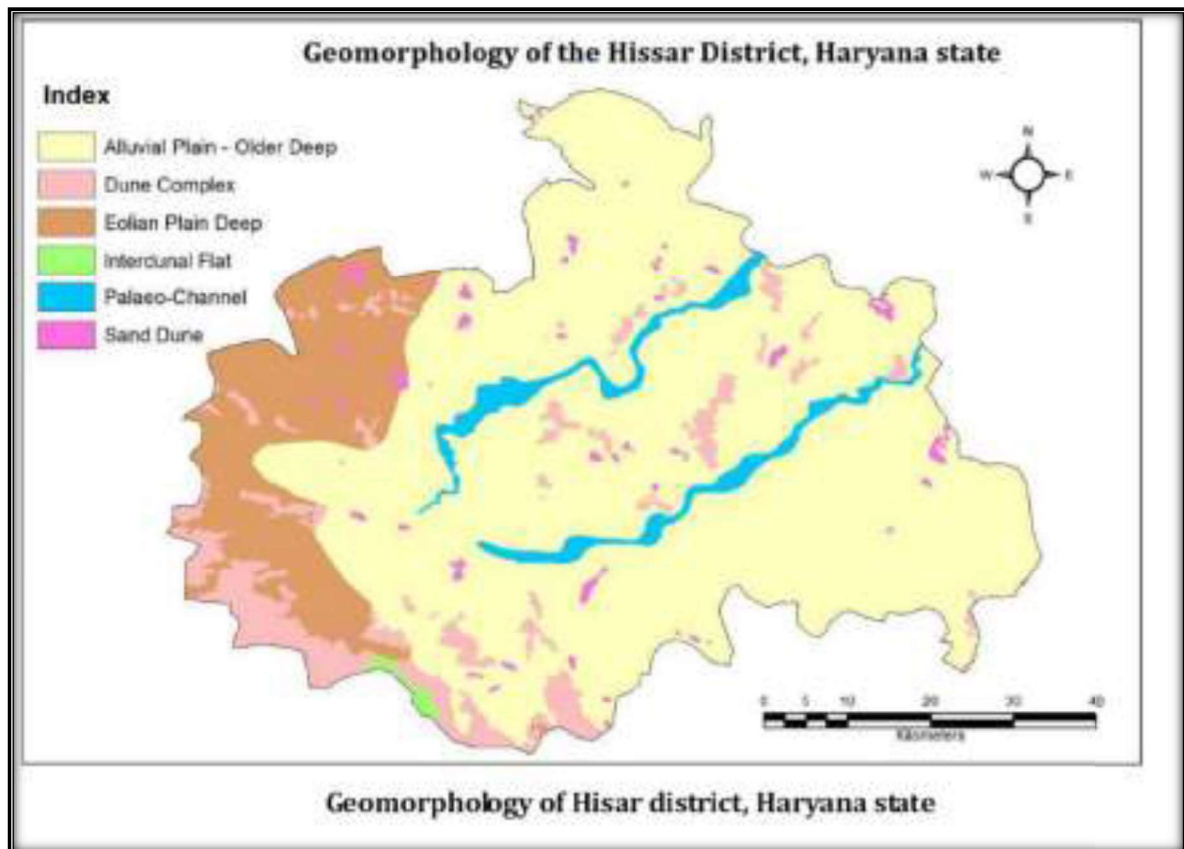


Figure 3.12: Geomorphology of Hisar District

3.8.4 Hydro -Geology

The district is occupied by geological formations of Quaternary age comprising of maximum area of older alluvium i.e., Ambala formation belonging to the vast Indus alluvial plains and small part of western part of district is occupied with aeolian deposits. The shallow aquifers, which are unconfined in nature, are being tapped chiefly by shallow tube-wells for irrigation. The deeper aquifers are underlined and over-lined by extensive impermeable clays with existence of saline groundwater. The geological formations of Hisar district is shown in below map:

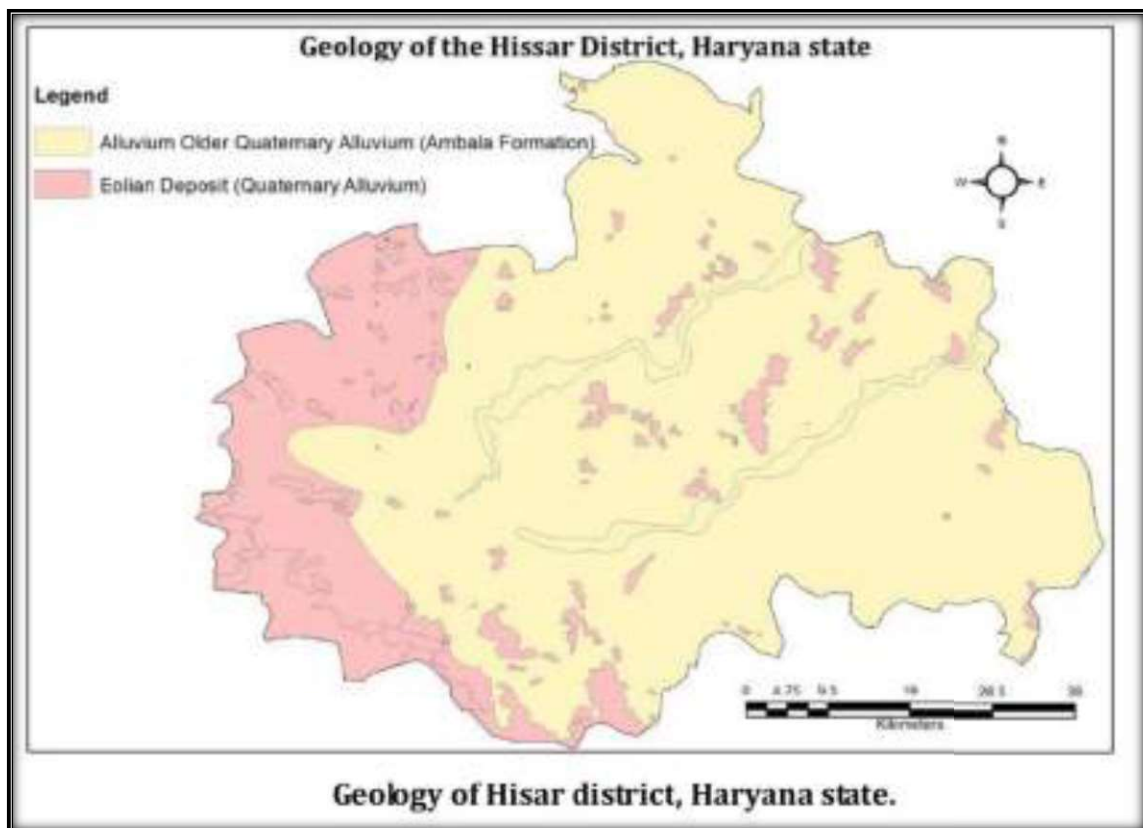
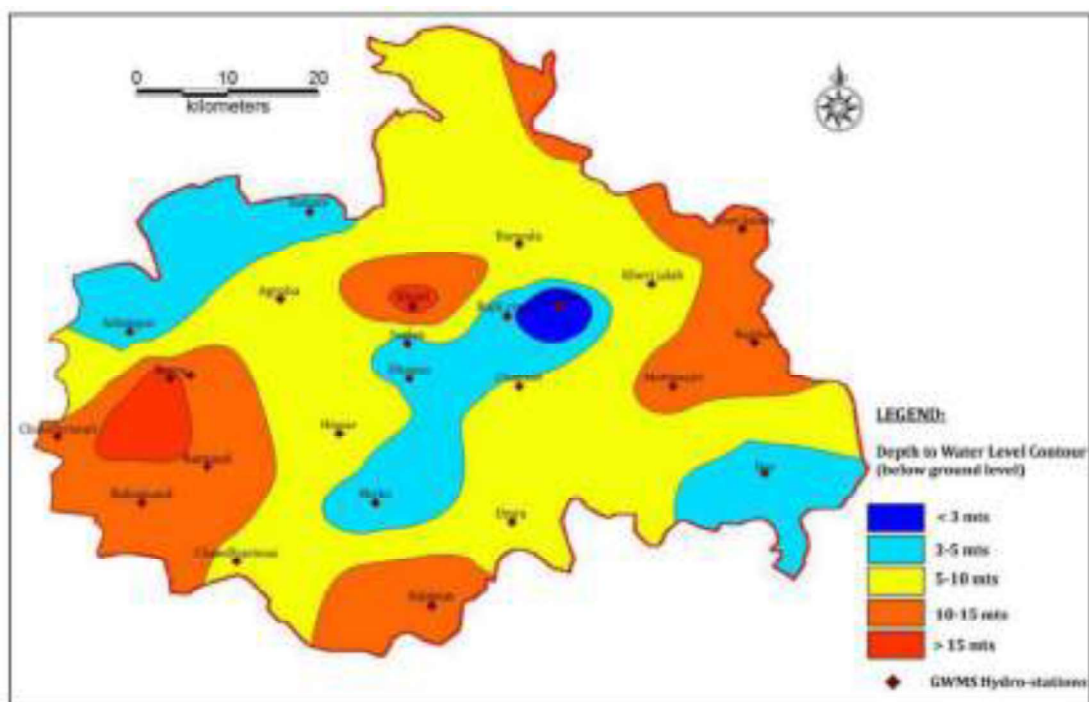


Figure 3.13: Geology of Hisar District

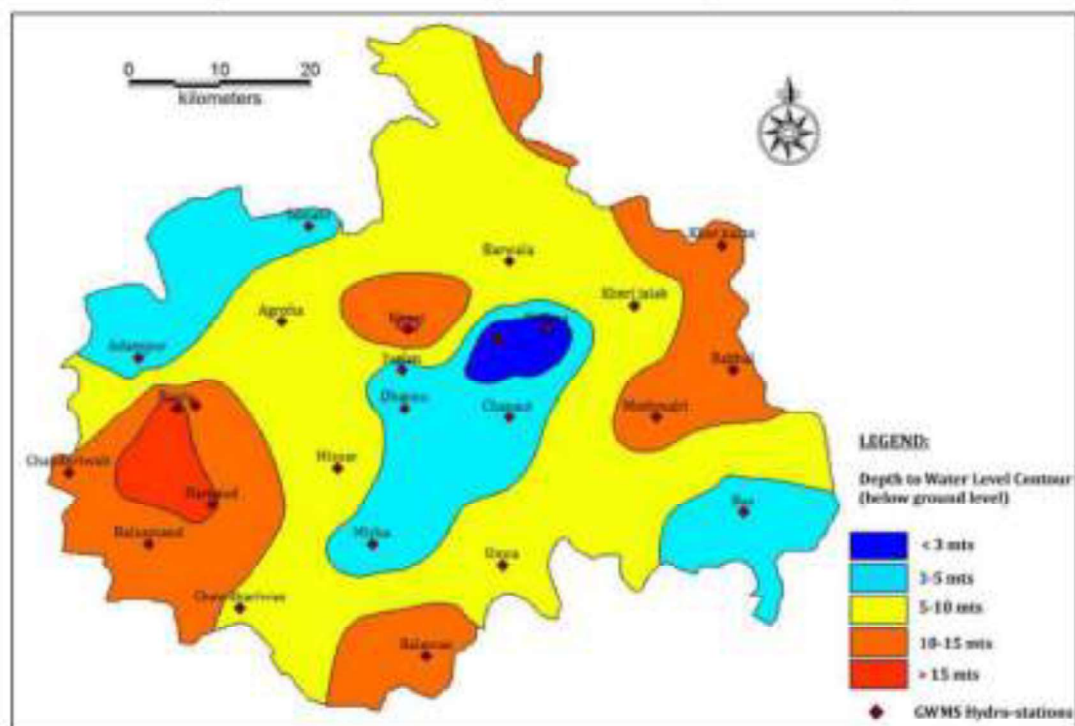
3.8.5 Water Level Behaviour:

Depth to water level in the district ranges from 1.50 mbgl at Gurana (Hansi block) to 17.88 mbgl at Basra (Adampur block) during pre-monsoon 2016 and post-monsoon, 2016 water levels ranges from 2.10 to 16.76 mbgl in respective locations. The depth to water level contour maps is generated for pre and post monsoon seasons for the entire district and water level fluctuations map are shown in following maps.

About 60% of the Ground Water Monitoring Wells are showing rising of water levels and remaining 40% shows declining in water levels. The water levels are declining seasonal fluctuation in south west part, north east part, south east and north western parts of the Hisar district. The water level data of pre and post-monsoon periods, 2016 and its seasonal fluctuations data for all Ground Water Monitoring Wells of Hisar district are given below



Depth to water level map of Hisar district, Pre-monsoon, 2016



Depth to water level map of Hisar district, Post-monsoon, 2016

Figure 3.14: Water Level depth pre-monsoon vs Post monsoon

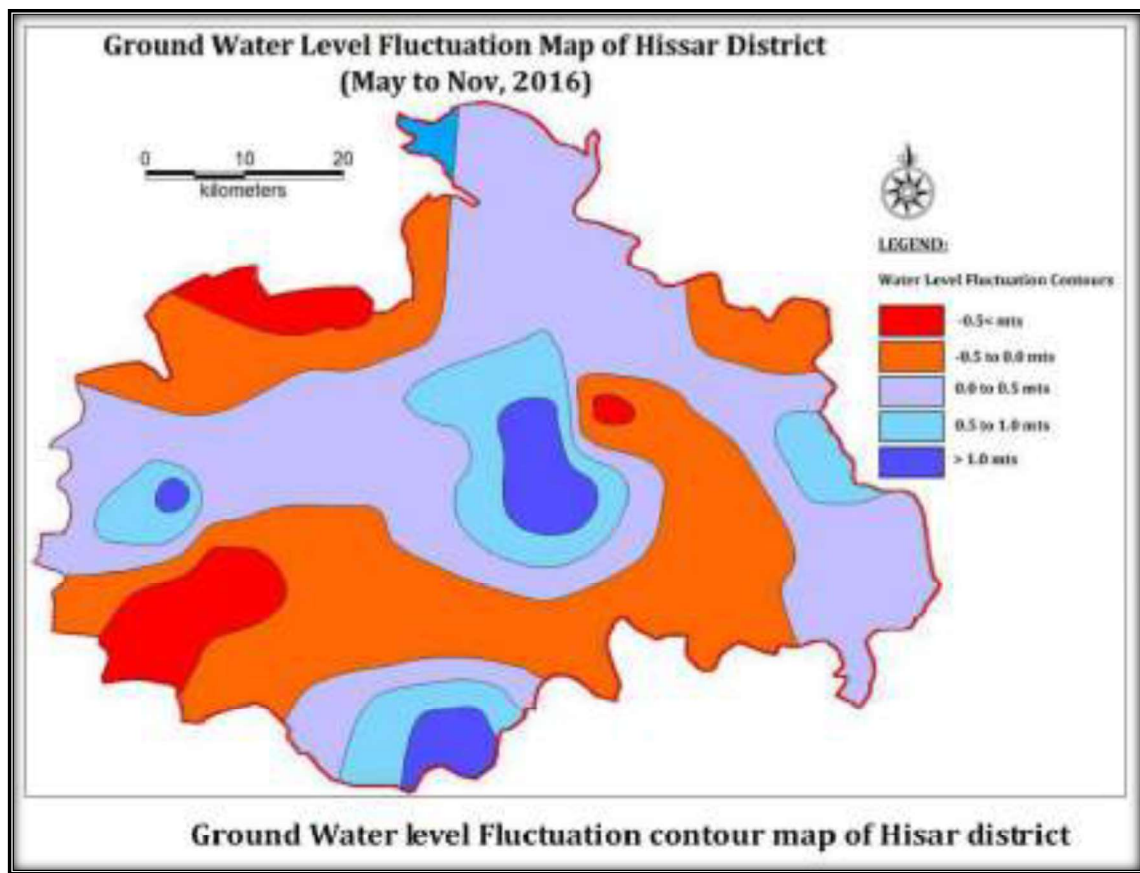


Figure 3.15: Water Level fluctuation Map of Hisar District

The long-term trend in the water level reflected by water level hydrographs is indicative of the change in groundwater storage in phreatic zone with time. Maximum ground water monitoring stations show rising trend and this may be due to local hydrogeological conditions prevailing in the area. Whereas hydrographs of few GWMS show declining trend which may be due to over exploitation of ground water and these areas require careful management of surface water and conjunctive use of surface water and ground water. For the rest of the stations, hydrograph neither indicate any substantial rise nor decline thus indicating that the storage (Dynamic) is being maintained at the normal level which is not disturbed by the present level of ground water development.

Source: Aquifer Mapping and Management Plan - Hisar District Haryana CGWB.

3.9 Socio Economic Study

3.9.1 Introduction: Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) refers to systematic analysis of various social and economic characteristics of human being living in a given geographical area (study area/impact area). The prime objective of SEIA is to identify and evaluate potential socio-economic and cultural impacts of a project on the lives & conditions of people, their families and communities. If the potential impacts are significant