



## **Soil Mapping at Village Level in a Part of Amethi District, U.P. using IRS LISS-IV and Cartosat-1 Merged Data for Sustainable Land and Crop Management**

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**Abstract :** The study presents a soil survey carried out in two nyayapanchayats, consisting of 23 villages of Amethi district of Uttar Pradesh. The soil resource database has been generated by interpreting Resourcesat-1 LISS-IV and Cartosat-1 merged data on 1:10,000 scale. Six physiographic units have been delineated in the area and soil compositions in each unit have been correlated. Twelve soil series have been mapped. The soil database was integrated with plot (khasra) boundary which help in generating soil information at plot identified and level. Village level action plan for sustainable land and crop management has also been prepared. Information on land capability, land irrigability, crop suitability and Storie index rating have also been generated. It is observed that LISS-IV and Cartosat-1 merged satellite data help in generating village level soil information, useful for detailed micro-level planning. The soil problems identified in the area include sodicity, erosion, and poor drainage.

**Keywords:** Geographic information system (GIS), high resolution satellite data, remote sensing landform - soil relationship

### **Introduction**

Soil maps presently available in India are generally on 1:50,000 scale, which provide information that are regional in nature, rather than local and site-specific. With the focus of rural development planning having been shifted to village panchayats, it has become imperative that the soil resource information is prepared on a larger scale, with finer level of details so that these can be used for developmental planning at village level (Ravisankar and Thamappa 2004; Rao *et al.* 2004). Large scale soil mapping in India has been mostly done by traditional methods, using cadastral map (village map) as base (Jagdish Prasad *et al.* 2009; Anil Kumar *et al.* 2010; Sah *et al.* 2010 and Sankar *et al.* 2010). The scale of these maps varies from 1:4,000 to 1:10,000. However, mapping using village cadaster as base and soil sampling at fixed grid interval requires large number of observations and are time consuming and expensive (Simon 2010). Due to

these reasons, the use of satellite remote sensing data as a base for soil mapping has become common in recent years. The dynamic relationship between physiography and soils is utilized in deriving information on soils from satellite data (Singh and Dwivedi 1986;). Dwivedi (2001) has observed that proper identification of land type, drainage pattern and drainage condition, vegetation, land use, slope and relief is essential in the interpretation of satellite image for soil mapping. The use of satellite image has been reported to save about 60-80% time in soil mapping, as compared to manual methods (Liengsakul *et al.* 1993). With the availability of high resolution satellite data from new IRS satellite sensors like- IRS LISS-IV (5.8 m multispectral), IRS 1D PAN (5.8 m panchromatic), Cartosat-1 PAN (2.5m panchromatic ), Cartosat- 2A PAN (1m panchromatic), their use for large scale soil mapping from 1:5000 to 1:12500 scale is becoming common in India (Dwivedi *et al.* 2001; Srivastava and Saxena 2004; Ardak *et al.* 2010; Wadodkar and Ravisankar 2011; Sahu *et al.* 2014). Kunwar et al (2010) have used

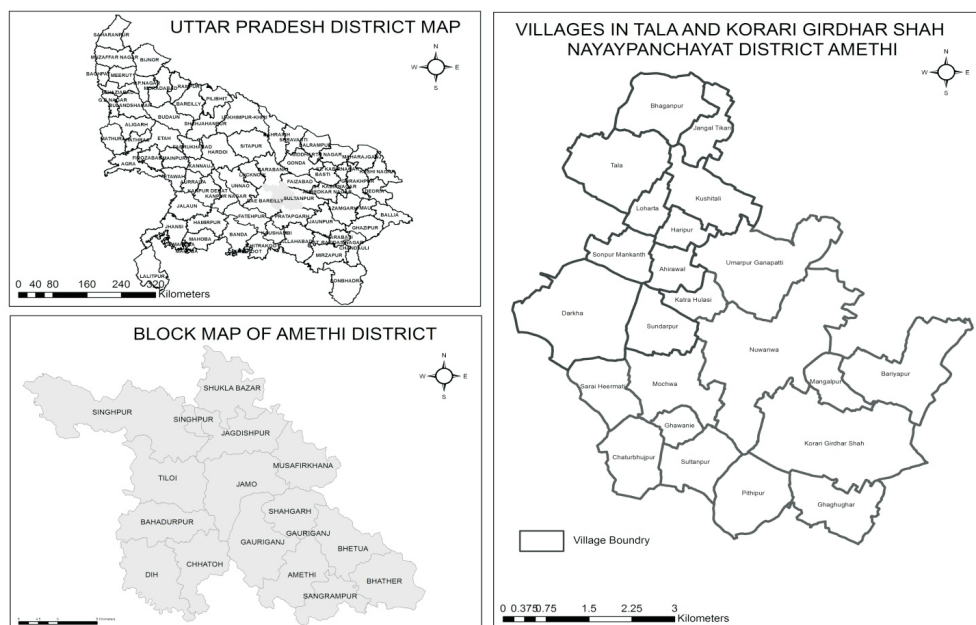
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IKONOS data with 1m panchromatic and 4m multispectral resolution in mapping of natural resources, including soils, on 1:4,000 scale for suggesting alternate land use in a hilly micro-watershed. High resolution LISS IV and Cartosat PAN data have also been used in soil mapping at village level in granitic terrain of Andhra Pradesh (Wadodkar and Ravisankar 2011), and in basaltic terrain of Central India (Sahu *et al.* 2016). Realizing the utility of satellite data in soil resource mapping, a study was taken up in two nyaya panchayats covering 23 villages of Amethi district of Uttar Pradesh, using IRS LISS-IV and Cartosat-1PAN data, to prepare soil map on 1:10,000 scale that would facilitate natural resource developmental planning at the village level.

## Materials and Methods

### Characteristics of the study area

Amethi district came into existence in July 2010 by merging three tehsils of the erstwhile Sultanpur district and two tehsils of the erstwhile Raebareli district of Uttar Pradesh. The study area of two *nyayapanchayats*, i.e. Tala and Korari Girdhar Shah, of Amethi district lies between parallels of 81°44'55.186"E / 26°11'23.152"N latitude to 81°47'3.109"E/ 26°6'37.629"N longitude (Fig.1). A total of 23 villages are included in these two *nyaya panchayats*, falling in block and district Amethi. Geographical area of these villages is 3567 ha. The distance of the study area from the district headquarter Amethi is 6 km.



**Fig. 1** Location Map of Tala and Korari Girdhar Shah Nayapanchayat, District Amethi, U.P

The climate of Amethi district is semi-arid subtropical monsoon type. The cold days start from 15 November and last up to 15 March. However, severe cold days are in December and January. Hot summer months are May and June. Monsoon sets generally by the end of June and lasts up to the first week of October. The average annual rainfall of the past 6 years (2010-2015) is 775 mm, about 80% of which is received between June and September. Mean maximum temperatures of 41.1 C and 38.9 C are recorded in the months of May and June, which are the hottest months. The month of April is also quite hot with a mean temperature

of 38.1 C. The mean minimum temperatures in the month of December and January are 7.7 C and 7.9C, respectively. The soil temperature regime of the study area is Hyperthermic and the soil moisture regime is *Ustic* (Anonymous, 1988). Block Amethi is a part of Lower Gangetic Plains. River Ganga has transported alluvial sediments especially from the Outer Himalayas and the Shivaliks. During the process of deposition of alluvium, water courses have been changed gradually. The present ox-bows and the buried channels at places are examples of the changes in water courses. The general slope is from north-west to south-east. The central

part is slightly elevated, on which the Amethi distributary of Sharda Sahayak canal is located. The land is very gently sloping out from the distributary towards the north-east and the south-west. The land use/land cover in the study area comprises mainly of agricultural land, fallow land, plantation, waterbody and sodic wastelands. About 68% of the area is covered by seasonal crops and about 15% by orchards and plantations.

#### Data used

Digital data of Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS) P6 LISS-IV with 5.8 m resolution and Cartosat-1 with 2.5m resolution of April 2011 were used. Ancillary data referred include Survey of India topographical maps 63F/12 and 63F/16 (1:50,000 scale). Cadastral maps of all the 23 villages falling within the two nyaya panchayats were taken from the district office, Amethi.

#### Methodology

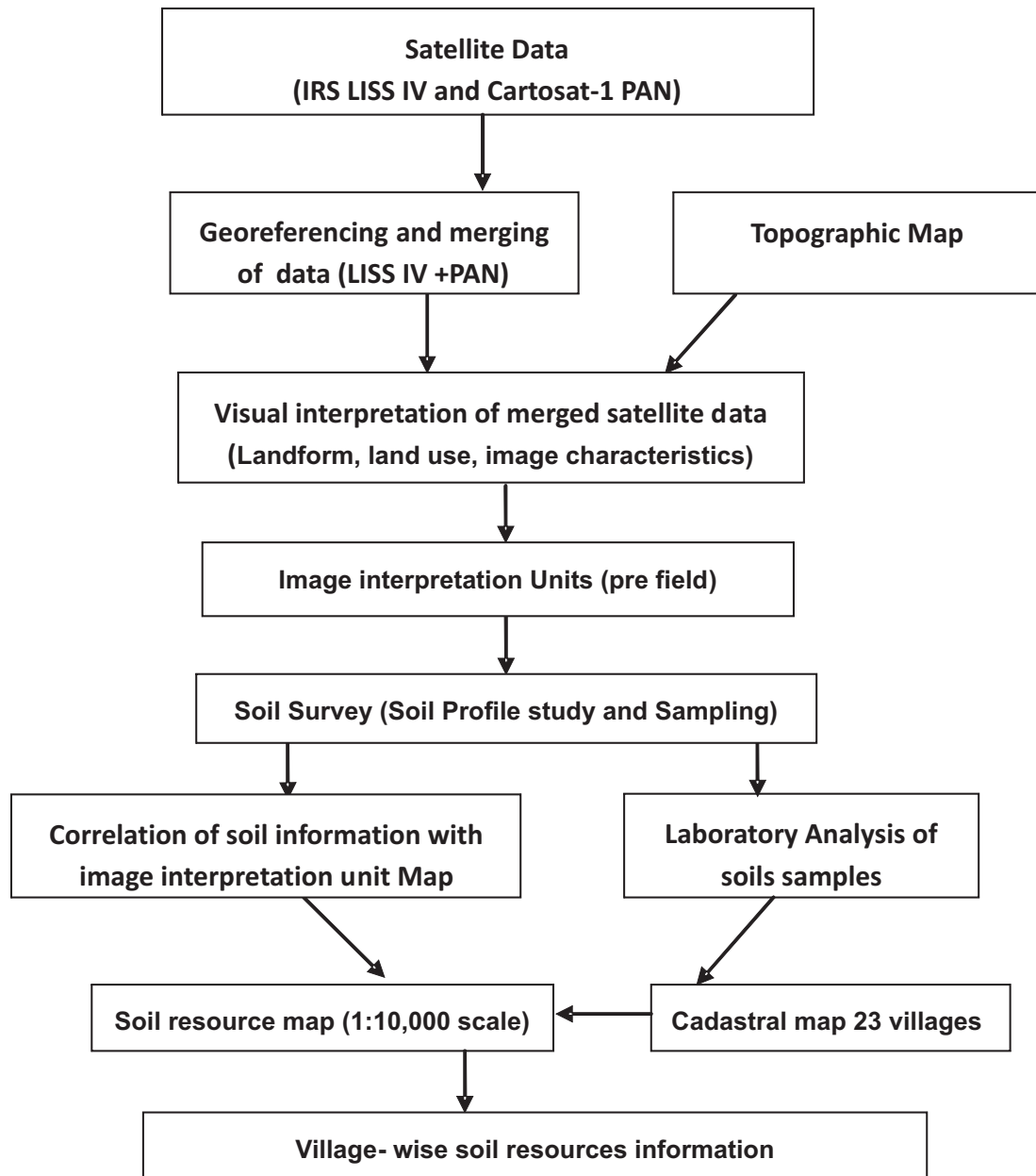
A detailed soil mapping of Tala and Korari Girdhar Shah nyayapanchayats was carried out using IRS LISS-IV and Cartosat-1 PAN data. Arc/Info based Geographic Information System (GIS) with ERDAS IMAGINE 1 image processing software have been used in the present investigation. Both the data sets were geo-referenced, rectified and then merged. On-screen interpretation was performed on the merged satellite image. Based on the image characteristics which include location, tone and color, size, shape, texture, pattern, and association, landform / physiography of the area and land use, six image interpretation units were delineated. Image characteristics of the delineated units are given in table 1.

**Table 1.** Image characteristics of pre-field interpretation units

Image interpretation unit no.	Landform / slope	Landuse	Image characteristics
1	Alluvial plain, highly sodic, levelled	Barren	White with irregular pattern, no field boundary
2	Alluvial plain, slightly sodic, levelled	Cultivated (poor crop stand)	White mixed with reddish patches, regular field plots
3	Alluvial plain, low-lying, , submergence-prone	Cultivated	Bluish black mixed with red and brown patches, regular plot size.
4	Alluvial plain, levelled	Cultivated (good crop stand)	Reddish colour, regular plot size
5	Alluvial plain, eroded, gently sloping	Cultivated	Reddish colour, irregular field plots, rough texture
6	Alluvial plain, nearly leveled	Orchard	Brown colour mixed with white, irregular field plots

Soil survey was carried out in the study area using the image interpretation unit map and a correlation between image characteristics, landform and soil characteristics established in the field. Soil profiles were studied in each landform unit, following the Soil Survey Manual (AISLUS, 1970). Auger bores were also taken in the same unit to verify the boundaries. A total of 22 soil profiles and 35 auger bores were studied. Horizon-wise samples were collected from representative pedons for laboratory analysis. Standard

methods were followed for determining mechanical composition, pH, EC, organic carbon, cation exchange capacity, base saturation and exchangeable sodium percentage (Jackson, 1973). Preliminary interpreted soil boundaries were modified in the light of field and laboratory information and the final soil map with legend was prepared. The soil map units is an association of soil series. The soils were also classified up to family level as per USDA soil Taxonomy (Soil Survey Staff, 2013). A flowchart showing the detailed methodology has been given as Fig.2.



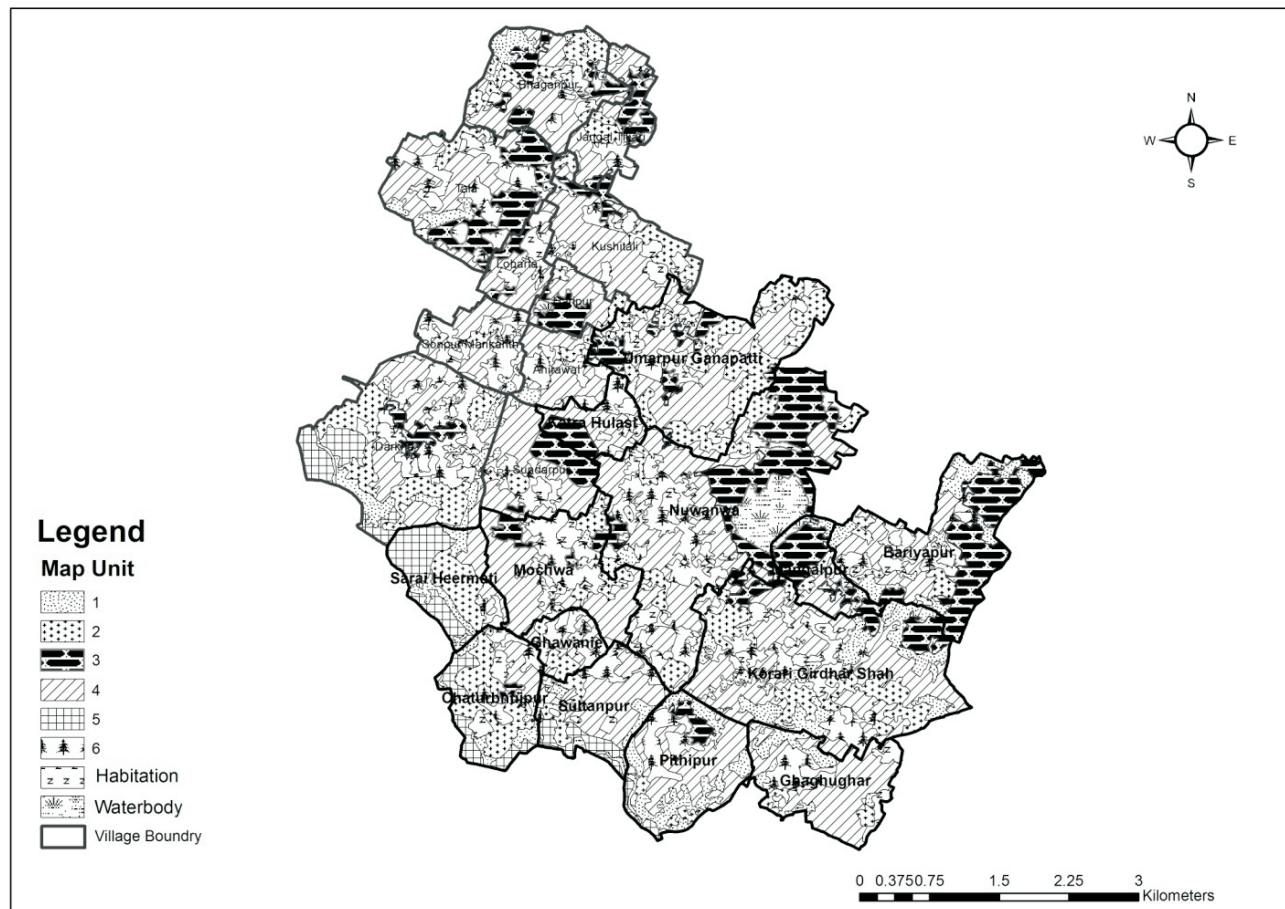
**Fig 2.** Methodology Flow Chart for Village- Level Soil Resources Information Generation.

## Results and Discussion

### Soil map

Information on important site and morphological characteristics of soils were studied in the field has been

presented in table 2. Physico-chemical characteristics of soils of representative pedons have been presented in table 3. The soil map of the study area has been presented in fig. 3 and the detailed soil map legend given in table 4.



**Fig. 3** Soil Map of Tala and Korari Girdhar Shah Nayapanchayat, district Amethi, U.P.

Twelve tentative soil series have been established in the area. As can be seen on the soil map, each mapping unit is an association of two series. The soils of the mapping unit-1 (Bhaganpur- Bariyarpur series association) are highly sodic and are presently lying barren. The pH of the surface soil is more than 10 and ESP is more than 15 in all the horizons. These soils cover 8.1% of the area. The soils of the mapping unit-2 (Korari Girdhar Shah -Bhaganpur –II Series association) are cultivated but have low productivity due to marginal sodicity (pH 8.4). The soils of the mapping unit-3

(Tala -Mangalpur Series association) have problem of water logging due to low- lying situation. Mapping unit-4 (Jhawanie- Lohrata series association) have good fertile soils. The pH is near natural in the surface and base saturation is high. These soils cover the largest area (36.3% of the area). Mapping unit-5 (Sultanpur-Sarai Hirmati series association) have erosion problem due to their proximity to a local drain. Soils in the mapping unit-6 (KatraHulashi -Nunawan series association) are under orchards but the management practices need to be improved as most of the orchards are old. These soils cover 15.3% area.

Table 2. Morphological characteristics of soils

Depth (cm)	Horizon	Colour (moist)	Mottle	Texture	Structure	Morphological characteristics of soils			Roots	Drainage	Effervescence with dil. HCl
						Fe-Mn concretions	Calcretes	Calcretes			
<b>Mapping unit-1 (Bhaganpur series), Pedon 1: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Dystric</i> haplustepts</b>											
0-26	A	10YR5/4	-	l	sbk	-	-	nil	Poorly drained	ev	
26-82	Bw1	10YR4/3	5YR3/2	l	sbk	m m	-	nil	Poorly drained	es	
82-110	Bw2	10YR3/4	5YR3/2	l	sbk	m m	calcareous pan	nil	Poorly drained	ev	
<b>Mapping unit-1 (Bariyarpur series), Pedon 2: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Dystric</i> haplustepts</b>											
0-15	A	10YR4/2	-	l	sbk	m m	-	nil	Poorly drained	es	
15-30	Bw1	10YR5/3	-	l	sbk	m m	-	nil	Poorly drained	es	
30-60	Bw2	10YR5/4	5YR3/2	l	sbk	m m	calcareous pan	nil	Poorly drained	ev	
60-90	Bw3	10YR5/4	5YR3/2	l	sbk	m m	calcareous pan	nil	Poorly drained	ev	
<b>Mapping unit-2 (Korari Girdhar Shah series), Pedon 3: Coars-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>fluventic</i> haplustepts</b>											
0-17	Ap	10YR4/3	-	l	sbk	-	-	-	Poorly drained	Nil	
17-45	Bw1	10YR4/3	5YR3/1	l	sbk	m m	-	m f	Poorly drained	Nil	
45-100	Bw2	10YR4/4	-	l	sbk	m m	-	f f	Poorly drained	Nil	
<b>Mapping unit-2 (Bhaganpur- II series), Pedon 4: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic</i> haplustepts</b>											
0-15	Ap	10YR4/3	-	l	abk	-	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil	
15-35	Bw1	10YR4/4	5YR3/2	l	sbk	m c	-	c m	Moderately well drained	Nil	
35-65	Bw2	10YR4/3	5YR3/2	l	sbk	m m	-	m f	Moderately well drained	Nil	
65-115	Aw3	10YR4/2	-	l	sbk	f f	-	f f	Moderately well drained	Nil	
<b>Mapping unit-3 (Tala series), Pedon 5: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Udic</i> haplustepts</b>											
0-10	Ap	10YR4/3	-	l	sbk	-	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil	
10-65	Bw1	10YR4/3	-	cl	sbk	m m	-	m f	Moderately well drained	Nil	
65-90	Bw2	10YR5/4	5YR3/2	cl	sbk	mm	-	v v	Moderately well drained	Nil	
<b>Mapping unit-3 (Mangalpur series), Pedon 6: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Udic</i> haplustepts</b>											
0-18	Ap	10YR4/2	-	l	sbk	-	-	-	Poorly drained	Nil	
18-40	Bw1	10YR4/2	-	cl	sbk	m m	-	m f	Poorly drained	Nil	
40-75	Bw2	10YR4/3	-	cl	sbk	m m	-	f f	Poorly drained	Nil	
75-82	Aw3	10YR4/3	-	l	sbk	m c	calcareous pan	-	Poorly drained	e v	



<b>Mapping unit-4 (Jhawani series), Pedon 7:Fin-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic haplustepts</b>										
0-15	Ap	10YR4/3	-	1	sbk	-	-	-	Well drained	Nil
15-35	Bw1	10YR3/4	-	1	sbk	-	-	-	Well drained	Nil
35-90	Bw2	10YR3/3	-	1	sbk	c f	-	-	Well drained	Nil
90-125	Aw3	10YR4/4	-	cl	sbk	c f	-	-	Well drained	Nil
<b>Mapping unit-4 (Lohrata serie)s, Pedon 8:Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic haplustepts</b>										
0-16	Ap	10YR3/2	-	scl	sbk	-	-	-	Well drained	e
16-35	Bw1	10YR4/3	-	1	sbk	-	-	-	Well drained	Nil
35-73	Bw2	10YR4/3	-	cl	sbk	c f	-	-	Well drained	Nil
73-94	Aw3	10YR4/4	-	cl	sbk	f f	-	-	Well drained	Nil
94-110	Bw4	10YR4/4	-	cl	sbk	-	-	-	Well drained	Nil
<b>Mapping unit-5 (Sultanpur series), Pedon 9:Fine-loamy,mixed, hyperthermic Typic haplustepts</b>										
0-14	Ap	10YR4/2	-	1	sbk	-	-	-	Moderately well drained	e
14-70	Bw1	10YR4/3	-	cl	Sbk	f f	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil
70-120	Bw2	10YR3/2	-	1	sbk	f f	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil
<b>Mapping unit-5 (Sarai Hirmati series), Pedon 10:Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic haplustepts</b>										
0-10	Ap	10YR4/1	-	1	abk	-	-	-	Well drained	es
10-23	Bw1	10YR5/2	-	1	abk	-	-	-	Well drained	es
23-75	Bw2	10YR4/2	-	1	sbk	c m	-	-	Well drained	e
75-92	Aw3	10YR4/4	-	1	sbk	f f	-	-	Well drained	e
92-105	Bw4	10YR4/5	-	1	sbk	-	-	-	Well drained	e
<b>Mapping unit-6 (KatraHulasi series), Pedon 11:Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic haplustepts</b>										
0-16	Ap	10YR5/2	-	1	sbk	-	-	-	Moderately well drained	e
16-70	Bw1	10YR5/4	-	cl	sbk	c m	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil
70-120	Bw2	10YR4/4	-	1	sbk	c m	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil
<b>Mapping unit-6 (Nunawan series) Pedon 12:Fine-loamy mixed Hyperthermic Typic haplustepts</b>										
0-28	Ap	10YR4/2	-	cl	sbk	-	-	-	Moderately well drained	e
28-56	Bw1	10YR4/4	-	1	sbk	c f	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil
56-100	Bw2	10YR4/5	-	1	sbk	m f	-	-	Moderately well drained	Nil

L-loam,CL-clay loam,Scl- sandy clay loamSbk-Sub-angular blocky, abk-angular blocky, mm-many medium, mc-many coarse, cf- common fineff- few fine cm-common medium, mf-many fine,vff-very fewfine,e-nil/veryslight effervescence, es - strong effervescence, ev - violent effervescence

**Table 3.** Mechanical composition and Chemical characteristics of soils

Depth(cm)	Sand	Silt	Clay	Texture	pH	EC	O.C.	CEC	BS	ESP
	%	%	%			(dS <sup>-1</sup> m)	(%)	cmol(p+)kg <sup>-1</sup>	(%)	(%)
<b>Pedon 1: Fine-loamy Mixed Hyperthermic Dystric Ustochrepts</b>										
0-26	36.9	46.0	17.1		10.4	3.5	0.03	13.42	68.24	17.14
26-82	32.9	40.0	27.1		9.8	2.1	0.03	20.28	55.50	15.63
82-110	36.9	44.0	19.1		8.7	1.7	0.10	14.61	50.40	15.42
<b>Pedon 2: Fine-loamy Mixed Hyperthermic Dystric Ustochrepts</b>										
0-15	33.4	49.1	18.6		10.2	4.1	0.05	16.58	53.14	16.24
15-30	36.9	44.0	18.3		9.9	4.2	0.06	13.86	44.69	18.24
30-60	38.9	34.8	26.3		10.1	3.6	0.04	15.32	55.61	17.75
60-90	42.9	33.8	22.3		10.3	4.2	0.03	16.71	59.14	16.54
<b>Pedon 3: Coarse-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Fluventic Ustochrepts</b>										
0-17	38.9	42.0	19.1		8.4	0.9	0.45	16.01	61.21	6.38
17-45	36.9	48.0	15.1		8.2	0.9	0.51	13.28	79.63	6.96
45-100	39.3	42.0	17.9		7.9	0.8	0.55	15.52	73.30	4.91
<b>Pedon 4: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Ustochrepts</b>										
0-15	38.9	28.0	19.1		8.4	0.8	1.0	18.09	57.20	2.98
15-35	40.9	42.0	19.1		8.1	0.9	1.0	18.17	43.54	1.96
35-65	36.9	40.0	25.1		7.9	0.8	0.97	22.52	54.20	4.90
65-115	35.8	39.7	26.5		8.4	0.8	0.97	18.09	57.20	2.98
<b>Pedon 5: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Udic Ustochrepts</b>										
0-10	38.9	38.0	23.1		7.2	0.7	0.72	20.07	48.31	2.36
10-65	36.9	32.0	31.1		7.4	0.8	0.74	26.10	26.80	3.40
65-90	34.9	36.0	29.1		7.1	0.8	0.73	24.57	31.47	1.81
<b>Pedon 6: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Udic Ustochrepts</b>										
0-18	30.3	29.6	21.1		7.6	0.9	0.82	18.98	62.63	4.74
18-40	39.3	39.6	29.1		7.5	0.8	0.86	25.09	65.24	3.16
40-75	41.3	31.6	27.1		6.9	0.8	0.85	23.56	50.64	2.31
75-82	39.3	31.6	25.1		7.1	0.7	0.78	21.80	66.22	3.44
<b>Pedon 7: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Ustochrepts</b>										
0-15	42.1	34.4	23.5		7.1	0.8	0.40	19.09	61.32	1.56
15-35	42.1	34.4	23.5		7.3	0.8	0.71	20.33	60.35	1.40
35-90	38.1	40.4	21.5		7.1	0.8	0.66	18.64	60.55	1.67
90-125	38.1	30.4	31.5		6.9	0.9	0.69	26.20	46.35	1.40
<b>Pedon 8: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Ustochrepts</b>										
0-16	56.5	22.4	21.1		7.8	0.9	0.37	17.18	77.01	5.17
16-35	40.5	34.4	25.1		7.6	0.9	0.40	20.28	77.00	2.69
35-73	38.5	34.4	27.1		7.4	0.9	0.42	21.84	71.38	2.75
73-94	36.1	30.4	33.9		7.3	1.0	0.39	26.78	51.43	2.28
94-110	38.1	30.0	31.9		7.8	0.9	0.37	17.18	77.01	5.17



<b>Pedon 9: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Ustochrepts</i></b>									
0-14	42.9	40.0	17.1	7.8	0.8	0.49	14.68	78.25	5.67
14-70	40.9	32.0	27.1	7.2	1.6	0.43	21.88	69.50	2.89
70-120	38.9	48.0	13.1	7.0	1.5	0.37	11.23	67.52	4.81
<b>Pedon 10: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Ustochrepts</i></b>									
0-10	38.5	44.4	17.1	7.9	0.9	0.49	14.68	73.24	7.52
10-23	40.5	44.4	15.1	8.3	0.8	0.50	13.24	68.50	8.08
23-75	38.5	36.4	25.1	8.7	1.1	0.51	20.72	51.35	5.46
75-92	36.5	38.4	25.1	7.2	0.7	0.48	20.60	52.51	4.94
92-105	36.5	42.4	25.1	7.9	0.8	0.45	20.48	60.24	4.84
<b>Pedon 1: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Ustochrepts</i></b>									
0-16	36.9	40.0	23.1	7.6	0.8	0.85	20.59	73.34	8.08
16-70	36.9	34.0	29.1	7.2	1.6	0.87	25.13	61.88	6.36
70-120	38.9	40.0	21.1	7.0	1.5	0.82	18.98	69.30	5.50
<b>Pedon 12: Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Ustochrepts</i></b>									
0-28	42.9	27.6	29.5	7.0	0.9	0.45	23.75	66.75	2.39
28-56	38.9	38.0	23.1	6.9	0.9	0.44	18.95	64.94	2.05
56-100	36.9	42.0	21.1	7.4	0.8	0.42	17.38	65.03	2.51

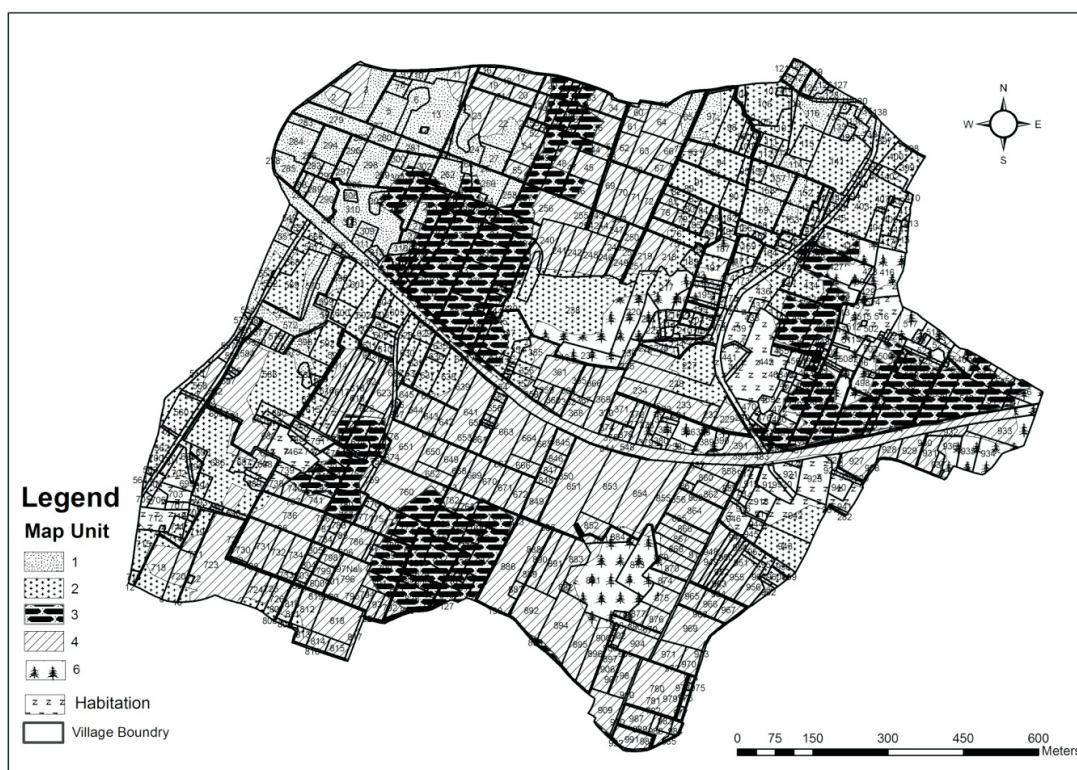
Table 4. Soil map legend

Map Unit	Laqndform unit	Series Association	Classification	Present Land Use	Pedon Representation	Area (ha)	% TGA
1	Alluvial plain, highly sodic	Bhaganpur-Bariyarpur series	Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Dystric Haplustepts Mixed with Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Dystric Haplustepts</i>	Barren	P1 & P2	291	8.1
2	Alluvial plain, moderately sodic	Korari Girdhar Shah -Bhaganpur -II series	Coarse-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Fluventic Ustochrepts Mixed with Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Haplustepts</i>	Cultivated (rice,wheat with low productivity)	P3 & P4	532	14.9
3	Alluvial plain, low lying	Tala -Mangalpur series	Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Udic Haplustepts Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Udic Haplustepts</i>	Cultivated (rice cultivation with submerged condition)	P5 & P6	488	13.7
4	Alluvial plain ,levelled	Jhawanie- Lohrata series	Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Haplustepts Mixed with Fine loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Haplustepts</i>	Cultivated (Rice, Wheat, Pigeon pea, Gram, Sugarcane, Potato, Plantation, etc)	P7 & P8	1295	36.3
5	Alluvial plain, eroded	Sultanpur-Sarai hirmati series	Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Haplustepts Mixed with Fine loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Haplustepts</i>	Cultivated (Wheat,Sugarcane, Pigeon pea, Grametc)	P9 & P10	130	3.6
6	Alluvial plain, nearly levelled	KatraHulashi - NunawansSeries	Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic <i>Typic Haplustepts Mixed with Fine-loamy, mixed, hyperthermic Typic Haplustepts</i>	Mainly orchard (Mango,Mahuwa,Eucalyptus, Seesam and Agri-horticulture, Agri-Silviculture,)	P11 & P12	547	15.3
-	Miscellaneous land (Habitation, Water bodies,etc)	-	-	-	-	284	8.0

#### Plot level information on Cadastral map

The field/ farmer level utilization of soil map can be achieved only if the soil information is available with field numbers (*khasra* numbers) on the village map. To achieve this, the information on roads, habitation, field/ '*khasra*' boundaries, canal, rail lines *etc.* was taken from the village cadastre, digitized, and overlaid on the soil map unit along

with habitation boundaries for all the villages. A sample map of village Bhaganpur prepared with '*khasra*' numbers and soil information is presented in fig-4. From the ownership of '*khasra*' numbers in the village register, farmer level information can also be generated. The database on soils of each plot (*khasra*) and each farmer will be useful in resource potential assessment of every plot of the village.



**Fig. 4** Bhaganpur village Map of Tala Nayapanchayat, district Amethi, U.P

#### Land Use

The land use analysis of the area showed that agriculture covers 68.78% of the total area of the two nayapanchayats, followed by orchards 15.34%, water body, river, canal and drain 1.64%, wastelands (scrubland, sodic land, water logging) 8.34% and others (habitation *etc.*) 5.90%.

#### Interpretative grouping of soils of the area

In order to assess the soils of the area for capability, suitability for irrigation and for growing different crops, each soil unit was placed into different classes of interpretative grouping. The Framework for Land Evaluation (FAO, 1976)

was followed for determining the crop suitability. The placement of each soil unit into land capability classification, land irrigability, Storie index rating, and crop suitability is presented in table 5.

The Land capability class (Table 5) shows that the Bhaganpur-Bariyarpur soils (Map unit -1) have been placed in Class-IVs due to limitations of severe sodicity. Korari Girdhar Shah-Bhaganpur -II (Map unit-2) have been grouped in class IIIs due to limitation of moderate sodicity. Tala-Mangalpur soils (Map unit-3) have limitation of poor drainage and hence placed in the class IIw, whereas Sultanpur- Sarai Hirmati soils (Map unit-5) have limitation

of erosion (gentle slope) and placed in class IIe. KatraHulashi-Nunawan soils (Map unit-6) have been grouped in class II with slight limitation poor drainage. The Jhawanie-Lohrata soils (Map unit-4) have no limitation and hence placed under class I

The land irrigability classes were determined based on soil and site characteristics. Soil unit 1 has been placed in class 3 because of higher amount of CaCO<sub>3</sub> and poor sub-soil drainage, where as soil units 2, 3, and 5 have moderate limitation, and therefore placed under class 2. Soil unit 4 has no soil limitation for sustained use under irrigation and hence placed in class 1.

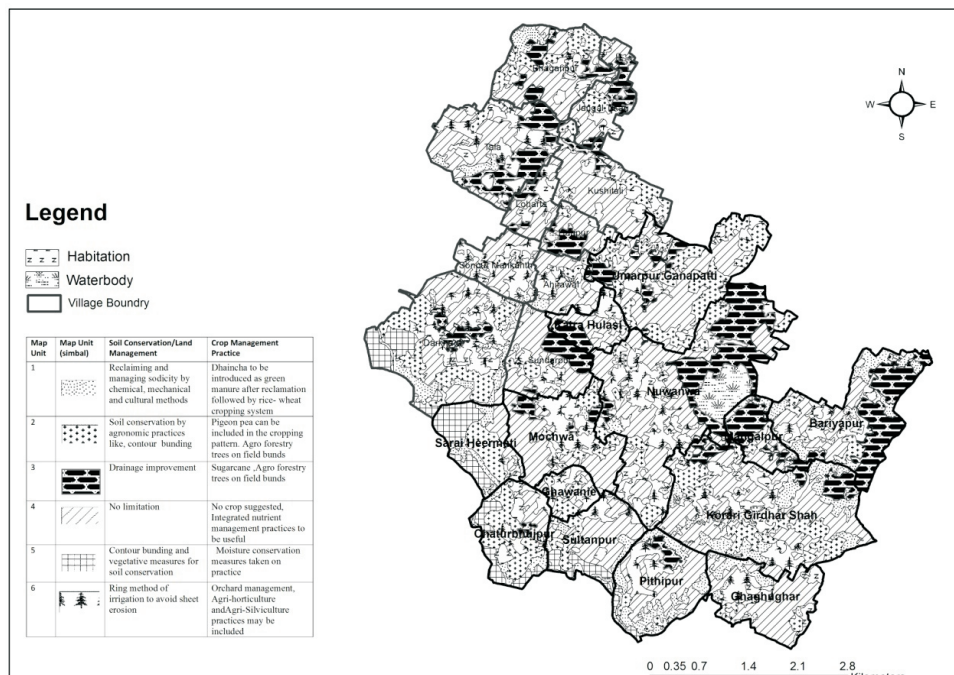
Storie Index rating shows that the soil unit- 4 covers 36.3% area and qualifies for excellent rating, whereas unit 2, covering 14.9% area qualifies for poor quality land . Unit 3 has been placed in fair good quality land due to wetness problem and covers 13.7% area. Unit 5 has slight to moderate erosion problem and placed under good quality land. Unit 1 which covers 8.1% area has been rated as very poor land because of its drainage and severe soil sodicity problem. Unit 6 which covers 15.3% land has been rated as good quality.

The soil suitability for major crops, like- wheat, rice, sugarcane, pigeon pea, gram,potato and plantation has

been assessed based on FAO Framework for Land Evaluation (1976). The suitability classes are marked as highly suitable (S1), moderately suitable (S2), marginally suitable (S3) and temporarily unsuitable (N1) for a particular crop. The suffix *n* represents salinity limitation, *s* represents physical limitation influencing soil/ water relationship and management, *f* represents soil fertility limitation, *t* represents topographic limitation, and *w* represents limitation of wetness.

*Action plan for soil water conservation measures*

An action plan for soil and water conservation has also been prepared to help in the watershed development programme in the area. The action plan map has been presented as Fig 5 and Table 6 presents the details of the activities to be taken up in the area. The soils of map unit -1 require reclamation of sodicity by adding of gypsum and then adoption of rice-wheat- dhaincha cropping system. Map unit-2 requires contour bunding and agronomic practices to conserve soil and water, whereas mapping unit-3 soils require drainage improvement. Map unit-5 needs contour bunding and other vegetative measures for soil erosion control.



**Fig. 5** Suggested conservation measures and crop management practices in Tala and Korari Girdhar Shah Nayapanchayat, distric Amethi, U.P

**Table 5.** Interpretative grouping of the Soils of the area

Soil map unit	Land Capability Sub-class	Land Irrigability Class	Storie Index Rating	Soil suitability for major crops						
				Rice	Wheat	Pigeon pea	Gram	Sugarcane	Potato	
1	IVs	3	Very Poor land ( grade-5)	S3nsf	N1	N1	N1	N1	N1	N1
2	IIIs	2	poor quality land ( grade-4)	S2ns	S3	S3ns	N1	S3	N1	N1
3	IIw	2	Fair good quality land ( grade-3)	S1	S(2)	N1	Swc	S(2)	N1	N1
4	I	1	Excellent quality land ( grade-1)	S1	S1	S1	S1	S1	S1	S1
5	IIe	2	good quality land ( grade-2)	S3ts	S3	S2	S2	S3	S3	S3fc
6	II	1	good quality land ( grade-2)	S1	S2	S2	S2	S2	S2	S2

**Table 6.** Action plan for soil water conservation measures and cropping pattern

Map Unit	Series Association	Suggested soil conservation measures	Existing crops	Suggested cropping pattern
1	Bhaganpur- Bariyarpur series	Reclaiming and managing sodicity by chemical, mechanical and cultural methods	Barren	Dhaincha to be introduced as green manure after reclamation followed by rice - wheat cropping system
2	Korari Girdhar Shah - Bhaganpur –II series	Soil conservation by agronomic practices like, contour bunding	Rice, Wheat	Pigeon pea can be included in the cropping pattern.
3	Tala -Mangalpur series	Drainage improvement	Rice ,Wheat	Agro forestry trees on field bunds. Sugarcane , agro forestry trees on field bunds.
4	Jhawanie- Lohrata series	No limitation	Rice, Wheat, Pigeon pea, Gram, Sugarcane, Potato, Plantation	Any field crop with, integrated nutrient management practices
5	Sultanpur-Sarai hirmati series	Contour bunding and vegetative measures for soil conservation	Wheat, Sugarcane, Pigeon pea, Gram,	Moisture conservation measures
6	KatraHulashi - Nunawan series	Ring method of irrigation to avoid sheet erosion	Mango, Mahuwa, Eucalyptus, Seasum	Orchard management, agri -horticulture and agri - silviculture.



## Conclusion

This study has shown that IRS LISSIV and Cartosat-1 PAN data is helpful in generating village level soil resource information on 1:10,000 scale. The landform-soil relationship can be studied on the high resolution satellite image. The soil mapping units consist of association of soil series, and soil phases in some cases. By integrating plot (*khasra*) information through GIS, farmer-wise and plot-wise soil information can be generated. These information will be helpful in planning soil and water conservation measures, land reclamation and crop management at the farm and at the village level. Various interpretative groupings viz. land capability, land irrigability, Storie index rating and suitability for important crops of for each soil unit will help in preparing land use plan of the village.

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