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## **Land and water resources management strategies for economic development of Birbhum district, West Bengal**

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Land and water resources are closely linked with economic development of an area. This study focused on suitable mechanisms (Zonal division on the basis of land use characterization) for agroforestry development with consequences of rural economic protection. Developmental planning should be introduced through ground level resource utilization. Through proper utilization of land and water resources to mitigate the population pressure on the study area. The study was conducted at Birbhum district, West Bengal and it covered 4545sq.km (19 C.D blocks and 6 statutory towns). A developmental strategy planning has been prepared on the basis of primary (survey) and secondary (district statistical handbook 2014) data, existing literatures, maps and field verifications. About 70% population is engaged in agriculture in the study area. Some blocks are gradually increasing the tertiary sectors (more than 50%) and work participation rates. Agricultural development through effective land utilization would serve the local interests. Development could be done through Integrated Zonal Management Strategies (IZMS) to mitigate problems associated with existing land characteristics and uses. The IZMS is top down as well as it encompasses macro to micro even Nano levels for building a sustainable society.

**Keywords:** Demography; Ground level resource utilization; Infrastructural development; Land management; Integrated Zonal Management Strategies (IZMS).