

## MANAGEMENT OF COMMON PROPERTY LAND RESOURCES (CPLRS): A STUDY IN NORTH EASTERN ZONE OF TAMIL NADU

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### Abstract

The area of land in all category is being converted from its earlier use due to the rapid changes occurred in the advanced society. Therefore, a sizeable quantity of agriculture land has put on the non-agricultural use, the cultivable land becomes uncultivable and the size of wasteland goes up. In this perception, the present study intended to analyze the status of CPLRs in the North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu during 1998-99-2013-14. There are seven Agro-Climatic Zones in Tamil Nadu based on the climatic conditions and monsoon patterns prevailing in these areas. Among six districts in the North Eastern Zone, three district data shown an decline of 27.90 per cent to 25.43 per cent in Thiruvallur, 33.46 per cent to 33.13 per cent in Thiruvannamalai and 22.14 per cent to 21.75 per cent in Villupuram district during 1998-99-2013-14. The remaining districts such as Kanchipuram, Vellore, and Cuddalore district showing an increasing trend of CPLRs during the study periods.

**Keywords:** *CPLRs, Geographical Area, North East Region, Per Capita CPLRs and PPLRs, Sustainable Development, Management.*

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## **Introduction**

The Common Property Land Resources (CPLRs) are considered as the important source of natural resources in the World as it contains a variety of resources like forests, land, water resources, etc. In the era of globalisation, the availability of CPLRs is mainly an issue in different parts of the World particularly for poor people who are depending on CPLRs for their livelihood and moreover the development of infrastructure facilities, such as roads, dams, power plants and transportation networks has opened up the markets for some natural resources, which further results in depletion of CPRs. (Iyengar, 1989). The common property resources are of crucial importance to the people, particularly poor women, in terms of maintaining their livelihoods.

In addition, the argument is that the access to CPRs by the poor is diminishing, cutting them off from a key physical and cultural resource (Beck and Ghosh, 2000). In a country like India, where farming is the prime source of bread and butter for a vast majority of people living in rural and tribal pockets of India. Though the members of scheduled castes and tribes are mostly reside in the countryside and derive their livelihood by working on the land, they are the most disadvantaged in respect of land. The incidence of landlessness is more pronounced among this group of people (Mohanty, 2001). Common property resources are those used by an entire community without any exclusive individual ownership or access rights. In the absence of regulatory institutions, rapid population growth has led to degenerative patterns of use and the gradual depletion of common property resources (Jodha, 1985).

From this background, the present study made an attempt to analyze the status of CPLRs and its per capita availability in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu during the periods of 1998-99 to 2013-14. It is highly recognized that the status of CPLRs has been declining over the years due to multiple impacts of various factors and this had affected the environment and living things severely. The main objectives of the study are two viz., to analyze the status of CPLRs in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu and to estimate the per capita availability CPLRs and Private Property Land Resources (PPLRs) of North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu during the study periods.

## Methods and Materials

The study covers North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu, which comprises six districts such as Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Vellore, Thiruvannamalai, Cuddalore and Villupuram. The present study is entirely relay on secondary data. The relevant data were collected from the reports of Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India for the period of 16 years i.e., from 1998-99 to 2013-14. Simple percentage analysis was used to exhibit the data in a simple manner.

## Results and Discussion

In this section, the status of CPLRs and the per capita availability of the same in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu has been discussed in detail.

**Table 1: Availability of CPLRs in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu during 1998-99 to 2013-14 (in Ha.)**

Year	Kanchi puram	Thiruvallur	Vellore	Thiruvan namalai	Cuddalore	Villupuram
<b>1998</b>	121785 (27.48)	95471 (27.90)	228650 (38.62)	209129 (33.46)	35598 (9.68)	159893 (22.14)
<b>1999</b>	122546 (27.65)	99987 (29.22)	229700 (38.80)	222789 (35.30)	35770 (9.73)	162124 (22.45)
<b>2000</b>	126456 (28.53)	101704 (29.72)	272244 (45.99)	221777 (35.14)	36078 (9.81)	162681 (22.53)
<b>2001</b>	132209 (29.83)	102344 (29.90)	266498 (45.02)	223363 (35.39)	36482 (9.92)	161427 (22.35)
<b>2002</b>	134481 (30.34)	104016 (30.39)	270691 (45.72)	228942 (36.27)	38855 (10.56)	174527 (24.17)
<b>2003</b>	143063 (32.28)	115993 (33.89)	256565 (43.34)	228432 (36.19)	38373 (10.43)	168293 (23.30)
<b>2004</b>	150861 (34.04)	105179 (30.73)	261710 (44.21)	228432 (36.19)	37747 (10.26)	167627 (23.21)
<b>2005</b>	136698	96229	240343	224868	36711	162750

	(30.84)	(28.12)	(40.60)	(35.63)	(9.98)	(22.54)
<b>2006</b>	114106 (25.75)	90286 (26.38)	246768 (41.68)	224956 (35.64)	36676 (9.97)	161591 (22.37)
<b>2007</b>	120340 (27.15)	88825 (25.95)	249351 (42.12)	220341 (34.91)	37872 (10.30)	159931 (22.14)
<b>2008</b>	127506 (28.77)	87871 (25.68)	252076 (42.58)	215715 (34.18)	37625 (10.23)	159221 (22.05)
<b>2009</b>	132569 (29.91)	88129 (25.75)	264626 (44.70)	212245 (33.63)	37892 (10.30)	158293 (21.92)
<b>2010</b>	131004 (29.56)	85916 (25.10)	264167 (44.62)	209831 (33.24)	40824 (11.10)	157113 (21.75)
<b>2011</b>	137346 (30.99)	84281 (24.63)	265667 (44.87)	212435 (33.66)	41368 (11.25)	156503 (21.67)
<b>2012</b>	140541 (31.71)	83954 (24.53)	268040 (45.28)	211914 (33.57)	46163 (12.55)	155881 (21.58)
<b>2013</b>	133707 (30.17)	87037 (25.43)	268075 (45.28)	211205 (33.13)	45008 (12.24)	157104 (21.75)

**Source:** Department of Economics & Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu

Table 1 shows that the nine fold land use classification data were put into two types on the basis of the property rights owned by the community. Common Property Land Resources were estimated in Kanchipuram district was 27.48 per cent in 1998 and then it has slowly increased to 34.04 in 2004 and it further declined to 30.17 per cent in 2013. About 2.69 per cent increase of CPLRs was observed in Kanchipuram district during 1998 to 2013. In Thiruvalluvar district, the availability of CPLRs was 27.90 per cent in 1998. It had declined to 25.43 per cent in 2013. The Vellore district has witnessed that an increase of CPLRs from 38.62 per cent in 1998 to 45.28 per cent in 2013. Merely 6.66 per cent of increase in CPLRs was observed during 1998 to 2013.

The extent of CPLRs in Thiruvannamalai district is estimated at 33.13 per cent in 1998 and it was slowly increased to 36.27 per cent in 2002 and further it has come down to 33.46 per cent in 2013. It is estimated that 0.33 per cent variation has observed during the period from

1998 to 2013. The proportion of CPLRs as available in Cuddalore district was estimated at 9.68 per cent in 1998 and it has increased to 12.24 per cent in 2013. It is estimated that around 2.56 per cent of increase in CPLRs were observed during 1998 to 2013. The endowment of CPLRs in Villupuram district shows that a declining trend of 22.14 per cent in 1998 to 21.75 per cent in 2013. It is estimated that around 0.39 per cent of decrease in CPLRs as observed during 1998 to 2013.

**Table 2: Availability of PPLRs in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu during 1998-99 to 2013-14 (in Ha.)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Kanchi puram</b>	<b>Thiruval lur</b>	<b>Vellore</b>	<b>Thiruvan namalai</b>	<b>Cuddalore</b>	<b>Villupuram</b>
<b>1998</b>	321425 (72.52)	246772 (72.10)	363368 (61.38)	422076 (66.87)	332183 (90.32)	562310 (77.86)
<b>1999</b>	320664 (72.35)	242256 (70.78)	362318 (61.20)	408416 (64.70)	332011 (90.27)	560079 (77.55)
<b>2000</b>	316754 (71.47)	240539 (70.28)	319774 (54.01)	409428 (64.86)	331703 (90.19)	559522 (77.47)
<b>2001</b>	311001 (70.17)	239899 (70.10)	325520 (54.98)	407842 (64.61)	331299 (90.08)	560776 (77.65)
<b>2002</b>	308729 (69.66)	238227 (69.61)	321327 (54.28)	402263 (63.73)	328926 (89.44)	547676 (75.83)
<b>2003</b>	300147 (67.72)	226250 (66.11)	335453 (56.66)	402773 (63.81)	329408 (89.57)	553910 (76.70)
<b>2004</b>	292349 (65.96)	237064 (69.27)	330308 (55.79)	402773 (63.81)	330034 (89.74)	554576 (76.79)
<b>2005</b>	306512 (69.16)	246014 (71.88)	351675 (59.40)	406337 (63.37)	331070 (90.02)	559453 (77.46)
<b>2006</b>	329104 (74.25)	251957 (73.62)	345250 (58.32)	406249 (64.36)	331105 (90.03)	560612 (77.63)
<b>2007</b>	322870 (72.85)	253418 (74.05)	342667 (57.88)	410864 (65.09)	329909 (89.70)	562272 (77.86)

<b>2008</b>	315704 (71.23)	254372 (74.32)	339942 (57.42)	415490 (65.82)	330156 ( 89.77)	562982 (77.95)
<b>2009</b>	310641 (70.09)	254114 (74.25)	327392 (55.30)	418960 (66.37)	329889 (89.70)	563910 (78.08)
<b>2010</b>	312206 (70.44)	256327 (74.90)	327851 (55.38)	421374 (66.76)	326957 (88.90)	565090 (78.25)
<b>2011</b>	305864 (69.01)	257962 (75.37)	326351 (55.13)	418770 (66.34)	326413 (88.75)	565700 (78.33)
<b>2012</b>	302669 (68.29)	258289 (75.47)	323978 (54.72)	419291 (66.43)	321618 (87.45)	566322 (78.42)
<b>2013</b>	309503 (69.83)	255206 (74.57)	323943 (54.72)	420000 (66.54)	322773 (87.76)	565099 (78.25)

**Source:** Department of Economics & Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu

Table 2 illustrated that a marked proportion of decline in Private Property Land Resources in Kanchipuram district was 72.52 per cent in 1998 to 69.83 per cent in 2013. It indicates that about 2.69 per cent of decline in PPLRs was marked in this district between 1998-99 to 2013-14. In Thiruvallur district, it was estimated at 72.10 per cent in 1998. It has declined to 66.11 per cent in 2003 and then it has increased to 74.57 per cent in 2013. The same in Vellore district was estimated at 61.38 per cent in 1998 and it has declined to 54.72 percent in 2013. The decline was found to be 6.66 per cent over the periods in Vellore district.

The availability of PPLRs in Thiruvannamalai district was found to be 66. 87 per cent in 1998 and it has fallen down to 66.54 percent in 2013. It has been around 0.33 per cent decrease of PPLRs in Thiruvannamalai district was observed during 1998-2013. While in Cuddalore district, it was accounted that about 90.32 per cent in PPLRs as available in 1998 and it has declined to 87.76 per cent in 2013. A sizable proportion of 2.56 per cent of declining in PPLRs was found in Cuddalore district in the above periods. In Villupuram district, the PPLRs availability was estimated at 77.86 per cent in 1998 and then it went up to 78.25 per cent in 2013. It finds that around 0.39 per cent of CPLRs as converted into PPLRs in Villupuram district during 1998 to 2013.

**Table 3: Per Capita of CPLRs & PPLRs in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu (in Ha.)**

District	Per Capita of CPLRs		Per Capita of PPLRs	
	2001	2011	2001	2011
Kanchipuram	0.05	0.03	0.11	0.08
Thiruvallur	0.04	0.02	0.09	0.07
Vellore	0.08	0.07	0.09	0.08
Thiruvannamalai	0.10	0.09	0.19	0.17
Cuddalore	0.02	0.02	0.14	0.13
Villupuram	0.05	0.05	0.19	0.16

**Source:** Department of Economics & Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu

In table 3 reveals that the per capita availability of CPLRs in Kancheepuram district is 0.05 hectares in 2001 which has declined to 0.03 hectares in 2011. The per capita of CPLRs in Thiruvallur district is 0.04 hectares in 2011 and it has declined to 0.02 hectares in 2013. The per capita CPLRs availability in Vellore district was estimated at 0.08 hectares in 2001 and it comes down to 0.07 hectares in 2011. In Thiruvannamalai district, the per capita availability of CPLRs found in 0.1 hectares in 2001 and it has turn down to 0.09 hectares in 2011. The per capita availability of CPLRs in Cuddalore and Villupuram district is estimated to be same in the above two census periods.

On the other side, the per capita availability of private property resources in Kancheepuram district was 0.11 hectares in 2001 which has come down to 0.08 hectares in 2011. In Thiruvallur, it was 0.09 hectares in 2001 which has declined to 0.07 hectares in 2011. The same in Vellore district was estimated at 0.09 hectares in 2001 and it was declined to 0.08 hectares in 2011. In Thiruvannamalai district, it was 0.19 hectares in 2001 which has declined to 0.17 hectares in 2011. In Cuddalore district, per capita availability of PPLRs is estimated at 0.14 hectares in 2001. It has declined to 0.12 hectares in 2011. It is noted by Villupuram district that the per capita availability PPLRs is estimated at 0.19 hectares in 2001 and it has declined to 0.16 hectares in 2011.

It is observed from the table (4) that there has been a remarkable change was observed in the case of area under forests during 1998-99 to 2013-14 in all the districts of this Zone. Except

in Cuddalore district, the remaining districts data shows that an increase in the extent of availability of barren and uncultivable land from 1998-99 to 2013-14. For instance, the extent of barren land in Kanchipuram district was 2.49 per cent in 1998-99 and it had declined to 2.47 per cent in 2013-14.

**Table 4: Categories of CPLRs in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu during 1998-99 to 2013-14 (In percentage)**

District	Year	Forest	Barren and Uncultivable land	Cultivable waste land	Permanent Pastures and other Grazing Land	Fallow and other Current Fallow Land
Kanchipuram	1998-99	5.38	2.49	2.41	4.16	13.04
	2013-14	5.38	2.47	2.57	4.13	15.61
Thiruvallur	1998-99	5.77	4.01	2.17	2.38	13.57
	2013-14	5.77	3.98	2.07	2.38	11.23
Vellore	1998-99	27.23	4.40	1.13	0.65	5.21
	2013-14	27.41	3.33	1.89	0.60	3.01
Thiruvannamalai	1998-99	24.29	3.33	1.89	0.60	3.01
	2013-14	24.21	3.26	1.33	0.46	4.20
Cuddalore	1998-99	0.38	3.98	1.99	0.20	3.13
	2013-14	0.38	3.98	1.64	0.58	2.06
Villupuram	1998-99	9.93	7.94	1.64	0.58	2.06
	2013-14	9.93	7.84	1.33	0.58	2.08

**Source:** Department of Economics & Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu

Whereas in Thiruvannamalai district, it was 4.01 per cent in 1998-99 then it has declined to 3.98 per cent in 2013-14. In the case Vellore district, it was showing a decline of 4.40 per cent to 3.33 per cent between 1998-99 to 2013-14. A small change was observed in the case of Thiruvannamalai and Villupuram district during the same periods. While in cultivable waste, Kanchipuram and Vellore district are showing an increase in the extent of the area and the remaining four districts were showing a decline in the area under cultivable waste during 1998-99 to 2013-14. There are no remarkable changes was observed during the study districts in the case of permanent pastures and other grazing land during the study periods exception to



Kanchipuram district. It was estimated that a decline of 4.16 per cent to 4.13 per cent during the study periods. But in fallow other than current fallow shows that an increase of 13.04 per cent to 15.61 per cent during 1998-99 to 2013-14 in Kanchipuram district. In Thiruvannamalai district, it was estimated at a decline of 13.57 per cent to 11.23 per cent in 1998-99 to 2013-14. In Vellore district data stated that a decline from 5.21 per cent to 3.01 per cent during the study periods. In Thiruvannamalai district, the picture of cultivable waste showing an increase of 3.01 percent in 1998-99 to 4.20 per cent in 2013-14.

**Table 5: Per capita of CPLRs and PPLRs in North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu**

Per Capita			
CPLRs		PPLRs	
2001	2011	2001	2011
0.06	0.04	0.13	0.11

**Source:** Department of Economics & Statistics, Government of Tamil Nadu

The above table (5) reveals that the per capita of CPLRs availability in the North Eastern Zone of Tamil Nadu was found that about 0.06 hectares in 2001 and it has declined to 0.04 hectares in 2011. The Private Property Land Resource (PPLRs) in the North Zone Tamil Nadu was estimated at 0.13 hectares in 2001. It has declined to 0.11 hectares in 2011.

## Conclusion

The Common Property Resources are the important sources of natural resources and it provides the supplementary sources of employment and income of the rural people's livelihood. The significance of CPLRs in sustaining ecosystem has been ignored by its commercial value. It is estimated that around 2.47 percent and 0.39 per cent of decrease in CPLRs as observed in Thiruvalluvar and Villupuram district during 1998 to 2013. The remaining district data indicate that increase in the extent of area under common property land resources in the study zone during the study periods. It further found that the per capita of both types of lands has gone down rapidly due to rapid population growth and declining common property resources as well observed in the study Zone. Therefore, an integrated approach is required from the part of the Government as well as other organizations which are intended to act for nature that meant for preserving the same for future generations in the rural and urban pockets of Tamil Nadu.

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