NATIONAL WETLAND ATLAS:

MIZORAM

Sponsored by

Ministry of Environment and Forests

Government of India

Space Applications centre
Indian Space Research Organisation
Ahmedabad – 380 015

This publication deals with the updated database and status of wetlands, compiled in Atlas format. Increasing concern about how our wetlands are being influenced has led to formulation of a project entitled “National Wetland Inventory and Assessment (NWIA)” to create an updated database of the wetlands of India. The wetlands are categorised under 19 classes and mapped using satellite remote sensing data from Indian Remote Sensing Satellite: IRS P6- LISS III sensor. The results are organised at 1: 50, 000 scales at district, state and topographic map sheet (Survey of India reference) level using Geographic Information System (GIS). This publication is a part of this national work and deals with the wetland status of a particular State/Union Territory of India, through text, statistical tables, satellite images, maps and ground photographs.

The atlas comprises wetland information arranged into nine sections. How the NWIA project work has been executed highlighted in the first six sections viz: Introduction, NWIA project, Study area, Data used, Methodology, and Accuracy. This is the first time that high resolution digital remote sensing data has been used to map and decipher the status of the wetlands at national scale. The methodology highlights how the four spectral bands of LISS III data (green, red, near infra red and short wave infra red) have been used to derive various indices and decipher information regarding water spread, turbidity and aquatic vegetation. Since, the aim was to generate a GIS compatible database, details of the standards of database are also highlighted in the methodology.

The results and finding are organised in three sections; viz: Maps and Statistics, Major wetland types, and Important Wetlands of the area. The Maps and Statistics are shown for state and district level. It gives details of what type of wetlands exists in the area, how many numbers in each type, their area estimates in hectare. Since, the hydrology of wetlands are influenced by monsoon performance, extent of water spread and their turbidity (qualitative) in wet and dry season (post-monsoon and pre-monsoon period) are also given. Similarly the status of aquatic vegetation (mainly floating and emergent types) in two seasons is also accounted for. Status of small wetlands are also accounted as numbers and depicted in maps as points. Wetland map also show important ancillary information like roads/rail, relevant habitations. False Colour Composite (FCC) of the satellite image used (any one season) is shown along with the derived wetland map to give a feeling of manifestation of wetlands in remote sensing data and synoptic view of the area. The status of some of the important wetlands like Ramsar sites, National Parks are shown with recent field photographs.

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Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

As a part of the project on National Wetland Inventory and Assessment (NWIA)

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC), Aizawl, Mizoram

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JAIRAM RAMESH

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MESSAGE

MESSAGE

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this Atlas, the latest in a series, prepared by Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad in connection with the National Wetland Inventory and Assessment Project.

This Atlas maps and catalogues information on Wetlands across India using the latest in satellite imaging, one of the first of its kind. Wetlands are areas of land critical ecological significance that support a large variety of plant and animal species adapted to fluctuating water levels. Their identification and protection becomes very important.

Utility-wise, wetlands directly and indirectly support millions of people in providing services such as food, fiber and raw materials. They play important roles in storm and flood control, in supply of clean water, along with other educational and recreational benefits. Despite these benefits, wetlands are the first target of human interference and are among the most threatened of all natural resources. Around 50% of the earth's wetlands are estimated to already have disappeared worldwide over the last hundred years through conversion to industrial, agricultural and residential purposes. Even in current scenario, when the ecosystem services provided by wetlands are better understood - degradation and conversion of wetlands continues.

Aware of their importance, the Government of India has formulated several policies and plans for the conservation and preservation of these crucial ecosystems. Realising the need of an updated geospatial data base of these natural resources as the pre-requisite for management and conservation planning, National Wetland Inventory and Assessment (NWIA) project was formulated as a joint vision of Ministry of Environment & Forestry, Govt. India, and Space Applications Centre (ISRO). I am told that the latest remote sensing data from Indian Remote Sensing satellite (IRS P6) have been used to map the wetlands. The present atlas is part of this project and highlights the results of the study state in terms of statistics of various types of wetlands, extent of water, aquatic vegetation and turbidity in pre and post monsoon period. I also note that special efforts are made to provide detailed information of important wetlands like Ramsar sites, National Parks etc.

I am certain that this Atlas will raise the bar in developing such database and will be of great use for researchers, planners, policy makers, and also members of the general public.

(Jairam Ramesh)

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FOREWORD

Wetlands defined as areas of land that are either temporarily or permanently covered by water exhibit enormous diversity according to their genesis, geographical location, water regime and chemistry. Wetlands are one of the most productive ecosystems and play crucial role in hydrological cycle. Utility wise, wetlands directly and indirectly support millions of people in providing services such as storm and flood control, clean water supply, food, fiber and raw materials, scenic beauty, educational and recreational benefits. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment estimates conservatively that wetlands cover seven percent of the earth's surface and deliver 45% of the world's natural productivity and ecosystem services. However, the very existence of these unique resources is under threat due to developmental activities, and population pressure. This calls for a long term planning for preservation and conservation of these resources. An updated and accurate database that will support research and decision is the first step towards this. Use of advanced techniques like Satellite remote sensing, Geographic Information System (GIS) is now essential for accurate and timely spatial database of large areas. Space Applications Centre (ISRO) took up this challenging task under the project "NWIA" (National Wetland Inventory and Assessment) sponsored by Ministry of Environment & Forests. To account for numerous small yet important wetlands found in the country, mapping at 1:50,000 scales has been taken up. Two date IRS LISS III data acquired during pre and post monsoon season are used for inventory to account for wet and dry season hydrology of wetlands. The map outputs include the status of water spread, aquatic vegetation and turbidity. Ancillary layers like road/rail, habitations are also created. Very small wetlands below the mappable unit are also identified and shown points. The results are complied as Atlases of wetlands for states/Union Territories of India. This Atlas highlights results for a particular state/UT and hopes to improve our understanding of the dynamics and distribution of wetlands and their status in the area.

I congratulate the team for bringing out this informative atlas and sincerely hope that this will serve as a useful source of information to researchers, planners and general public.

January 25, 2010

(Ranganath R. Navalgund)

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This project has benefited from the wisdom of many people**.** It is a pleasure to acknowledge the contributions made by the wetland experts especially to Prof. C.K. Varshney, Former Dean, School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Prof. A.R. Yousuf, The University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Prof. Pradeeep Shrivastava, Head, Wetland Research Centre, Barakatullah University, Bhopal, Dr. Prikshit Gautam, Director, WWF-India, Dr. S. Narendra Prasad, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Nature, Coimbtore and Dr. R.K. Suri, Additional Director, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, New Delhi, and the database experts from ISRO who participated in the peer Review meeting to finalise the “Wetland Classification System” followed in this project.

We acknowledge the positive role played by 16th SC-B (Standing Committee on Bioresources and Environment) of NNRMS (National Natural Resources Management System) meeting in formulating this project. We are extremely thankful to the members of the” Steering Committee” of the project, under the chairmanship of Dr E J James, Director – Water Institute, Karunya University, for their periodical review, critical comments and appreciation of the efforts by the project team. We are thankful to SC-B under the chairmanship of Secretary, MoEF, for periodic review of the progress of the project and guidance towards timely completion of the work. We acknowledge the valuable contributions made by Dr J K Garg, the then scientist of SAC for his active role in formulation of this project, co-authoring the procedure manual document.

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(Sushma Panigrahy)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

It is increasingly realized that the planet earth is facing grave environmental problems with fast depleting natural resources and threatening the very existence of most of the ecosystems. Serious concerns are voiced among scientists, planners, sociologists, politicians, and economists to conserve and preserve the natural resources of the world. One of the difficulties most frequently faced for decision making is lack of scientific data of our natural resources. Often the data are sparse or unconvincing, rarely in the form of geospatial database (map), thus open to challenges. Thus, the current thrust of every country is to have an appropriate geospatial database of natural resources that is based on unambiguous scientific methods. The wetland atlas of Meghalaya, which is part of the National Wetland Atlas of India, is an attempt in this direction.

1.1 Wetlands

Wetlands are one of the crucial natural resources. Wetlands are areas of land that are either temporarily or permanently covered by water (Westlake & Pratt, 2006).This means that a wetland is neither truly aquatic nor terrestrial; it is possible that wetlands can be both at the same time depending on seasonal variability. Thus, wetlands exhibit enormous diversity according to their genesis, geographical location, water regime and chemistry, dominant plants and soil or sediment characteristics. Because of their transitional nature, the boundaries of wetlands are often difficult to define. Wetlands do, however, share a few attributes common to all forms. Of these, hydrological structure (the dynamics of water supply, throughput, storage and loss) is most fundamental to the nature of a wetland system. It is the presence of water for a significant period of time which is principally responsible for the development of a wetland. One of the first widely used classifications systems, devised by Cowardin *et al.,* (1979), was associated to its hydrological, ecological and geological aspects, such as: marine (coastal wetlands including rock shores and coral reefs, estuarine (including deltas, tidal marshes, and mangrove swamps), lacustarine (lakes), riverine (along rivers and streams), palustarine ('marshy'- marshes, swamps and bogs). Given these characteristics, wetlands support a large variety of plant and animal species adapted to fluctuating water levels, making the wetlands of critical ecological significance. Utility wise, wetlands directly and indirectly support millions of people in providing services such as food, fiber and raw materials, storm and flood control, clean water supply, scenic beauty and educational and recreational benefits. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment estimates conservatively that wetlands cover seven percent of the earth's surface and deliver 45% of the world's natural productivity and ecosystem services of which the benefits are estimated at $20 trillion a year (Source : www.MAweb.org). The Millennium Assessment (MA) uses the following typology to categorise ecosystem services:

Provisioning services: The resources or products provided by ecosystems, such as food, raw materials (wood), genetic resources, medicinal resources, ornamental resources (skin, shells, flowers).

Regulating services: Ecosystems maintain the essential ecological processes and life support systems, like gas and climate regulation, water supply and regulation, waste treatment, pollination, etc.

Cultural and Amenity services: Ecosystems are a source of inspiration to human culture and education throughout recreation, cultural, artistic, spiritual and historic information, science and education.

Supporting services: Ecosystems provide habitat for flora and fauna in order to maintain biological and genetic diversity.

Despite these benefits, wetlands are the first target of human interference and are among the most threatened of all natural resources. Around 50% of the earth's wetlands is estimated to already have disappeared worldwide over the last hundred years through conversion to industrial, agricultural and residential developments. Even in current scenario, when the ecosystem services provided by wetlands are better understood - degradation and conversion of wetlands continues. This is largely due to the fact that the 'full value' of ecosystem functions is often ignored in policy-making, plans and corporate evaluations of development projects.

1.2 Mapping and Geospatial Technique

To conserve and manage wetland resources, it is important to have inventory of wetlands and their catchments. The ability to store and analyse the data is essential. Digital maps are very powerful tools to achieve this. Maps relate the feature to any given geographical location has a strong visual impact. Maps are, thus essential for monitoring and quantifying change over time scale, assist in decision making. The technique used in the preparation of map started with ground survey. The Survey of India (SOI) topographic maps are the earliest true maps of India showing various land use/cover classes including wetlands. Recent years have seen advances in mapping technique to prepare maps with much more information. Of particular importance is the remote sensing and geographic information system (GIS) technique. Remote sensing is

now recognized as an essential tool for viewing, analyzing, characterizing, and making decisions about land, water and atmospheric components.

From a general perspective, remote sensing is the science of acquiring and analyzing information about objects or phenomena from a distance (Jensen, 2000; Lillesand and Keifer, 1987). Today, we define satellite remote sensing as the use of satellite borne sensors to observe, measure, and record the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) reflected or emitted by the earth and its environment for subsequent analysis and extraction of information. EMR sensors includes visible light, near-, mid- and far-infrared (thermal), microwave, and long-wave radio energy. The capability of multiple sources of information is unique to remote sensing. Of specific advantage is the spectral, temporal, and spatial resolution. Spectral resolution refers to the width or range of each spectral band being recorded. Since each target affects different wavelengths of incident energy differently, they are absorbed, reflected or transmitted in different proportions. Currently, there are many land resource remote sensing satellites that have sensors operating in the green, red, near infrared and short wave Infra red regions of the electromagnetic spectrum giving a definite spectral signature of various targets due to difference in radiation absorption and reflectance of targets. These sensors are of common use for land cover studies, including wetlands**.** Figure 1 shows typical spectral signature of few targets from green to SWIR region. Converted to image, in a typical false colour composite (FCC) created using NIR, red and green bands assigned as red, green and blue colour, the features become very distinct as shown in Figure 2. In FCC, the vegetation thus appears invariably red (due to high reflection in NIR from green leaves).

Since the early 1960s, numerous satellite sensors have been launched into orbit to observe and monitor the earth and its environment. Most early satellite sensors acquired data for meteorological purposes. The advent of earth resources satellite sensors (those with a primary objective of mapping and monitoring land cover) occurred, when the first Landsat satellite was launched in July 1972. Currently, more than a dozen orbiting satellites of various types provide data crucial to improving our knowledge of the earth's atmosphere, oceans, ice and snow, and land. Of particular interest to India is the indigenous series of satellites called Indian Remote Sensing satellites (IRS-Series). Since the launch of the first satellite IRS 1A in 1987, India has now a number of satellites providing data in multi-spectral bands with different spatial resolution. IRS P6/RESOURCESAT 1 is the current generation satellite that provides multi-spectral images in spatial resolution of 5.8 m (LISS IV), 23.5 m (LISS III) and 56m (AWiFS). Over the past few decades, Indian remote sensing data has been successfully used in various fields of natural resources (Navalgund et al.).

Development of technologies like Geographic Information System (GIS) has enhanced the use of RS data to obtain accurate geospatial database. GIS specialises in handling related, spatially referenced data, combining mapped information with other data and acts as analytical tool for research and decision making. During the past few decades, technological advances in the field of satellite remote sensing (RS) sensors, computerized mapping techniques, global positioning system (GPS) and geographic information system (GIS) has enhanced the ability to capture more detailed and timely information about the natural resources at various scales catering to local, regional, national and global level study.

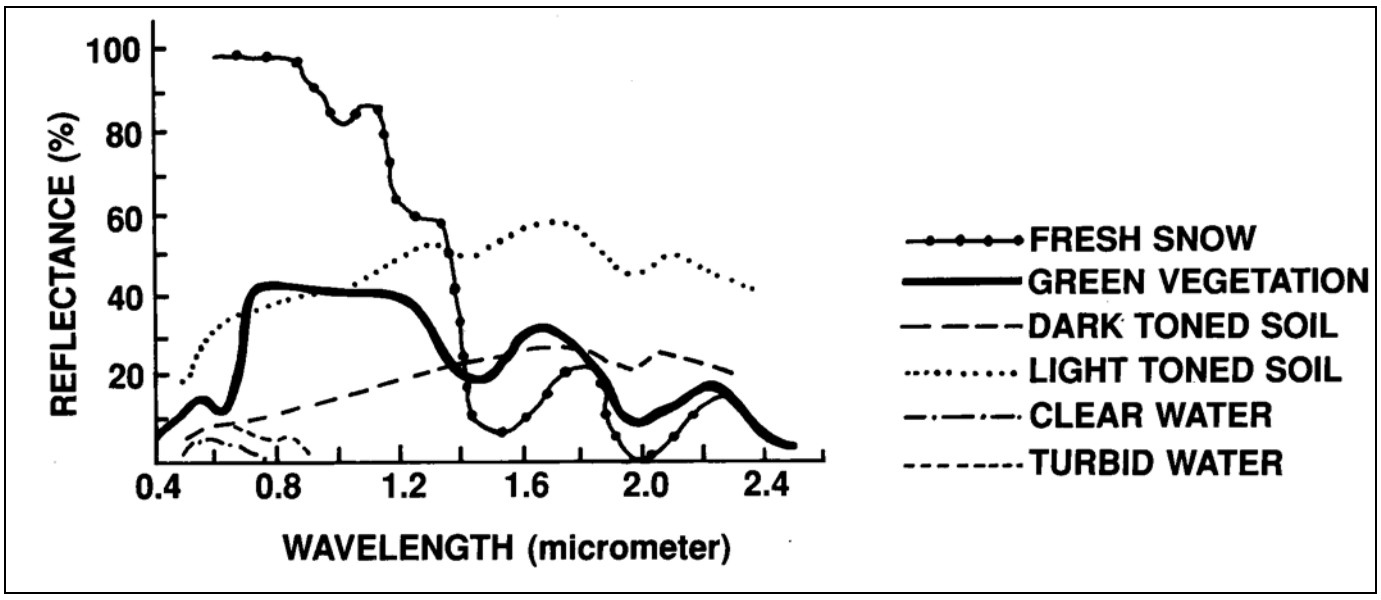
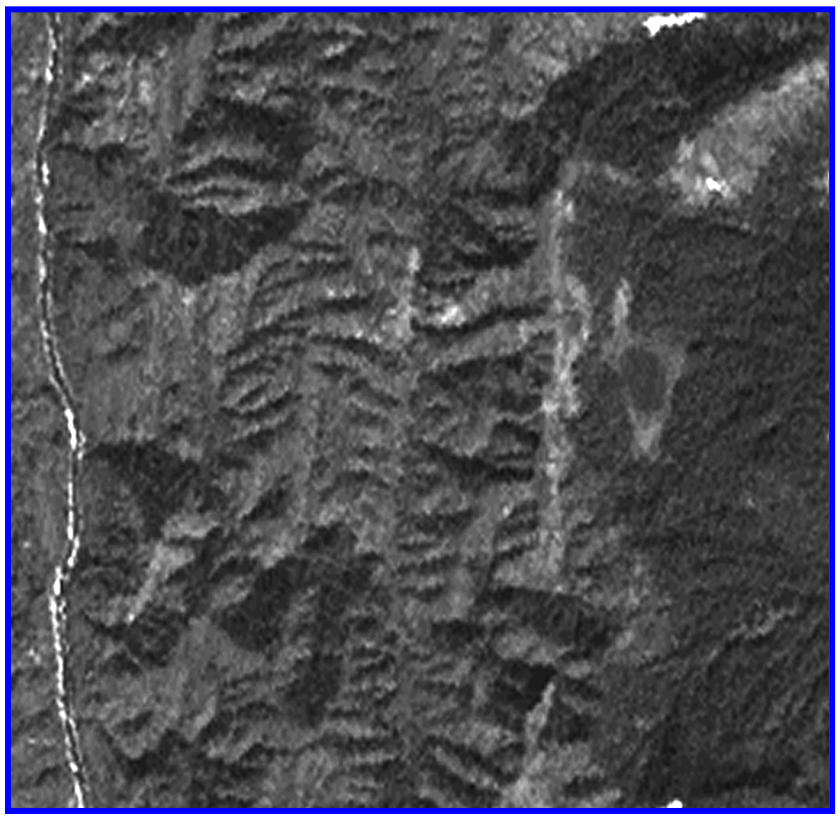
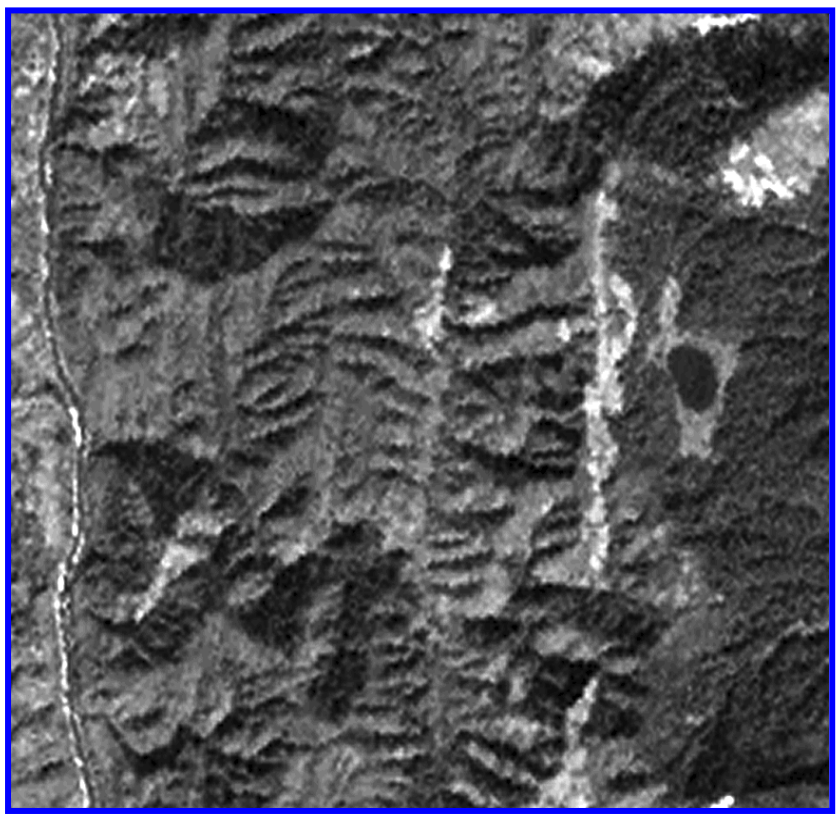


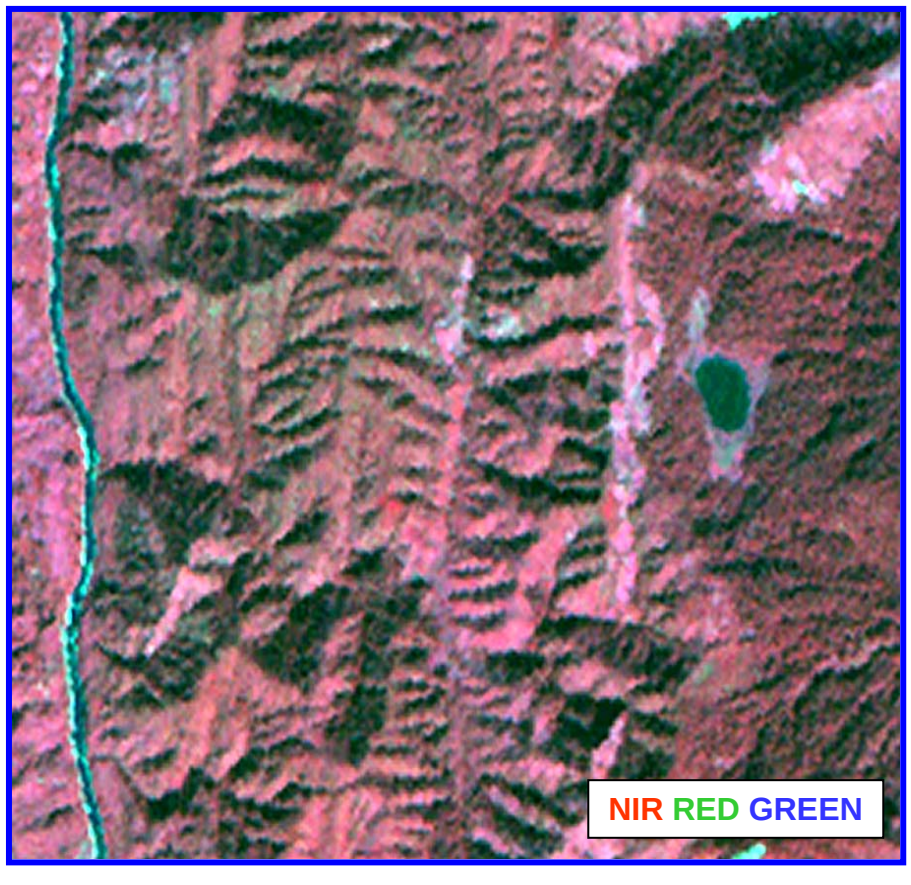
Figure 1: Spectral signature of various targets



RED



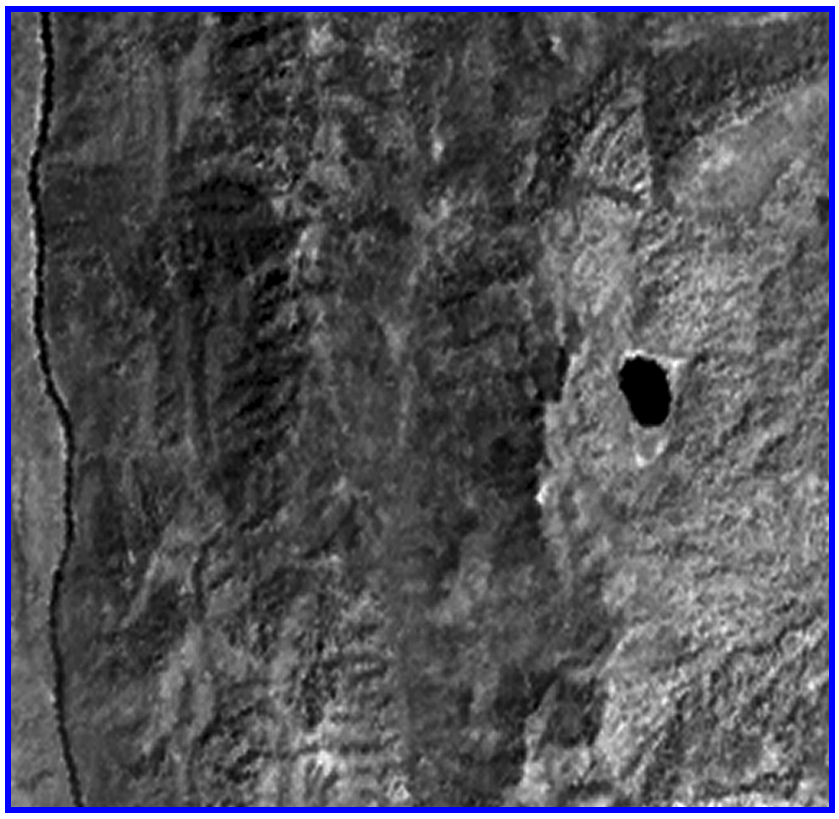
GREEN



NIR

IRS LISS-III FCC

SWIR



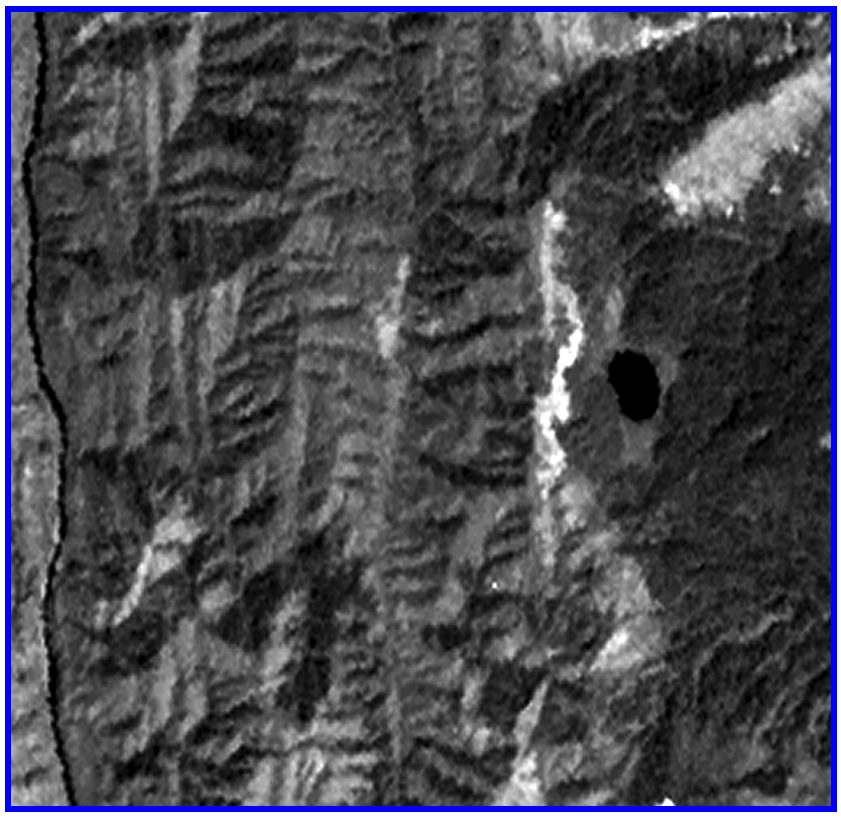


Figure 2: Various land features as they appear in four spectral bands and in a typical three band FCC.

1.3 Wetland Inventory of India

India with its large geographical spread supports large and diverse wetland classes, some of which are unique. Wetlands, variously estimated to be occupying 1-5 per cent of geographical area of the country, support about a fifth of the known biodiversity. Like any other place in the world, there is a looming threat to the aquatic biodiversity of the Indian wetlands as they are often under a regime of unsustainable human pressures. Sustainable management of these assets therefore is highly relevant. Realising this, Govt. of India has initiated many appropriate steps in terms of policies, programmes and plans for the preservation and conservation of these ecosystems. India is a signatory to the Ramsar Convention for management of wetland, for conserving their biodiversity and wise use extending its scope to a wide variety of habitats, including rivers and lakes, coastal lagoons, mangroves, peatlands, coral reefs, and numerous human-made wetland, such as fish and shrimp ponds, farm ponds, irrigated agricultural land, salt pans reservoirs, gravel pits, sewage farms, and canals. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has identified a number of wetlands for conservation and management under the National Wetland Conservation Programme and some financial assistance is being provided to State Governments for various conservation activities through approval of the Management Action Plans. The need to have an updated map database of wetlands that will support such actions has long been realized.

Mapping requires a standard classification system. Though there are many classification systems for wetlands in the world, the Ramsar classification system is the most preferred one. The 1971 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat is the oldest conservation convention. It owes its name to its place of adoption in Iran. It came into being due to serious decline in populations of waterfowl (mainly ducks) and conservation of habitats of migratory waterfowl. Convention provides framework for the conservation and 'wise use' of wetland biomes. Ramsar convention is the first modern global intergovernmental treaty on conservation and wise use of natural resources (www.ramsar.org). Ramsar convention entered into force in 1975. Under the text of the Convention (Article 1.1) wetlands are defined as:

"areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six meters".

In addition, the Convention (Article 2.1) provides that wetlands:

"may incorporate riparian and coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands, and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six meters at low tide lying within the wetlands".

The first scientific mapping of wetlands of India was carried out during1992-93 by Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad, at the behest of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Govt. of India using remote sensing data from Indian Remote Sensing satellites (IRS-Series). The mapping was done at 1:250,000 scale using IRS 1A LISS-I/II data of 1992-93 timeframe under the Nation-wide Wetland Mapping Project. Since, no suitable wetland classification existed for comprehensive inventory of wetlands in the country at that time, the project used a classification system based on Ramsar Convention definition of wetlands. The classification considers all parts of a water mass including its ecotonal area as wetland. In addition, fish and shrimp ponds, saltpans, reservoirs, gravel pits were also included as wetlands. This inventory put the wetland extent (inland as well as coastal) at about 8.26 million ha. (Garg et al, 1998). These estimates (24 categories) do not include rice/paddy fields, rivers, canals and irrigation channels.

Further updating of wetland maps of India was carried out by SAC using IRS P6/Resourcesat AWiFS data of 2004-05 at 1:250000 scale. In recent years, a conservation atlas has been brought out by Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON, 2004), which provide basic information required by stakeholders in both wetland habitat and species conservation. Space Applications Centre has carried out many pilot projects for development of GIS based wetland information system (Patel et al, 2003) and Lake Information system (Singh et al, 2003).

2.0 NATIONAL WETLAND INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT (NWIA) PROJECT

Realising the importance of many small wetlands that dot the Indian landscape, it has been unanimously felt that inventory of the wetlands at 1:50,000 scale is essential. The task seemed challenging in view of the vast geographic area of our country enriched with diverse wetland classes. Space Applications Centre with its experience in use of RS and GIS in the field of wetland studies, took up this challenging task. This is further strengthened by the fact that guidelines to create geospatial framework, codification scheme, data base structure etc. for natural resources survey has already been well established by the initiative of ISRO under various national level mapping projects. With this strength, the National Wetland Inventory and Assessment (NWIA) project was formulated by SAC, which was approved and funded by MoEF.

The main objectives of the project are:

- To map the wetlands on 1:50000 scale using two date (pre and post monsoon) IRS LISS III digital data following a standard wetland classification system.
- Integration of ancillary theme layers (road, rail, settlements, drainage, administrative boundaries)
- Creation of a seamless database of the states and country in GIS environment.
- Preparation of State-wise wetland atlases

The project was initiated during 2007. The first task was to have a classification system that can be used by different types of users while amenable to database. An expert/peer group was formed and the peer review was held at SAC in June 2007 where wetland experts and database experts participated and finalized the classification system. It was agreed to follow the classification system that has been used for the earlier project of 1:250,000 scale, with slight modification. Modified National Wetland Classification system for wetland delineation and mapping comprise 19 wetland classes which are organized under a Level III hierarchical system. The definition of each wetland class and its interpretation method was finalized. The technical/procedure manual was prepared as the standard guideline for the project execution across the country (Garg and Patel, 2007). The present atlas is part of the national level data base and deals with the state of Meghalaya.

2.1 Wetland Classification System

In the present project, Modified National Wetland Classification system is used for wetland delineation and mapping comprising 19 wetland classes which are organized under a Level III hierarchical system (Table 1). Level one has two classes: inland and coastal, these are further bifurcated into two categories as: natural and man-made under which the 19 wetland classes are suitably placed. Two date data pertaining to pre-monsoon and post monsoon was used to confirm the classes. Wetlands put to agriculture use in any of the two dates are not included as wetland class. Definitions of wetland categories used in the project is given in Annexure-I.

2.2.1 Spatial Framework and GIS Database

The National Spatial Framework) (NSF) has been used as the spatial framework to create the database (Anon. 2007). The database design and creation standard suggested by NRDB/NNRMS guidelines is followed. Feature codification scheme for every input element has been worked out keeping in view the nationwide administrative as well as natural hierarchy (State-district- within the feature class for each of the theme. All data elements are given a unique name, which are self explanatory with short forms.

Following wetland layers are generated for each inland wetland:

- Wetland extent: As wetlands encompass open water, aquatic vegetation (submerged, floating and emergent), the wetland boundary should ideally include all these. Satellite image gives a clear signature of the wetland extent from the imprint of water spread over the years.

- Water spread: There are two layers representing post-monsoon and pre-monsoon water spread during the year of data acquisition.

- Aquatic vegetation spread: The presence of vegetation in wetlands provides information about its tropic condition. As is known, aquatic vegetation is of four types, viz. benthic, submerged, floating, and emergent. It is possible to delineate last two types of vegetation using optical remote sensing data. A qualitative layer pertaining to presence of vegetation is generated for each season (as manifested on pre-monsoon and post-monsoon imagery).

- Turbidity level of open water: A layer pertaining to a qualitative turbidity rating is generated. Three qualitative turbidity ratings (low, medium and high) is followed for pre and post-monsoon turbidity of lakes, reservoirs, barrages and other large wetlands.

- Small wetlands (smaller than minimum mappable unit) are mapped as point features.

- Base layers like major road network, railway, settlements, and surface drainage are created (either from the current image or taken from other project data base).

  In the case of coastal wetlands only wetland extent is given.

Table 1: Wetland Classification System and coding

Wettcode*	Level I	Level II	Level III
1000	Inland Wetlands		
1100		Natural	
1101			Lakes
1102			Ox-Bow Lakes/ Cut-Off Meanders
1103			High altitude Wetlands
1104			Riverine Wetlands
1105			Waterlogged
1106			River/stream
1200		Man-made	
1201			Reservoirs/ Barrages
1202			Tanks/Ponds
1203			Waterlogged
1204			Salt pans
2000	Coastal Wetlands		
2100		Natural	
2101			Lagoons
2102			Creeks
2103			Sand/Beach
2104			Intertidal mud flats
2105			Salt Marsh
2106			Mangroves
2107			Coral Reefs
2200		Man-made	
2201			Salt pans
2202			Aquaculture ponds

* Wetland type code

3.0 STUDY AREA

Mizoram lies in the southern part of the North-Eastern region. The geographical location of the state is between 92^{o} 15’ to 93^{o} 29’ N latitude and 21^{o} 58’ to 24^{o} 35’ E Longitude. The total geographical area of the state is 21,087 Sq km, extending 277 km from north to south and 121 km west to east.

It is bounded on the north by Cachar district of Assam, on the north-east by Manipur and on the north-west by Tripura. The eastern and Southern boundary is the International border between India and Myanmar, whereas, the western part of the state is bounded by Bangladesh.

The geological formation and its resultant topography have lead to the creation of abundant drainage network in Mizoram. The state is blessed with number of perennial rivers and the major rivers run either in Northward or in Southward direction. Satellite imagery identifies the adaptation of streams along major and minor lineaments. The rivers flowing in northward direction drain into Barak river of Assam, where as, the rivers flowing towards the south fall into the Myanmar plain and those rivers in the western part fall into the Bangladesh plain.

Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram is bounded by two major rivers, Tuirial River in the east and Tlawng River in the west. It is linked with other states by air route and surface route (NH-54). There are eight districts in the state *viz.* Aizawl, Champhai, Kolasib, Mamit, Serchhip, Lunglei, Lawngtlai and Saiha district. There are about 791 villages in the state. The total population of the state is 8,88,573. (Statistical hand book of Mizoram, 2008)**.**

The major rivers of the state are Serlui, Tuirial, Tuivai, Langkaih, Tlawng, Teirei, Tuivawl, Tut, Khawthlangtuipui, Tiau, Tuichang, Tuipui, Mat, Mar, De, Kau, Kawrpui, Tuichawng, Phairuang, Chhimtuipui and Mengpui, etc. Chhimtuipui River is the largest river in Mizoram by volume and is navigable by small boat from Akyap (Myanmar) upto a considerable distance within the state. Where as, Tlawng river is the longest river of the state and is also navigable by small boat throughout the year and hence it provides water transport route with the neighbouring state Assam.

The state has eight districts and is covered by 47 Survey of India topographical maps on 1:50,000 scale that form the spatial frame work for mapping (Figure 4). The spatial framework was prepared using 15’ x 15’ grid.

A detail of district information followed in the atlas is given in Annexure-II.

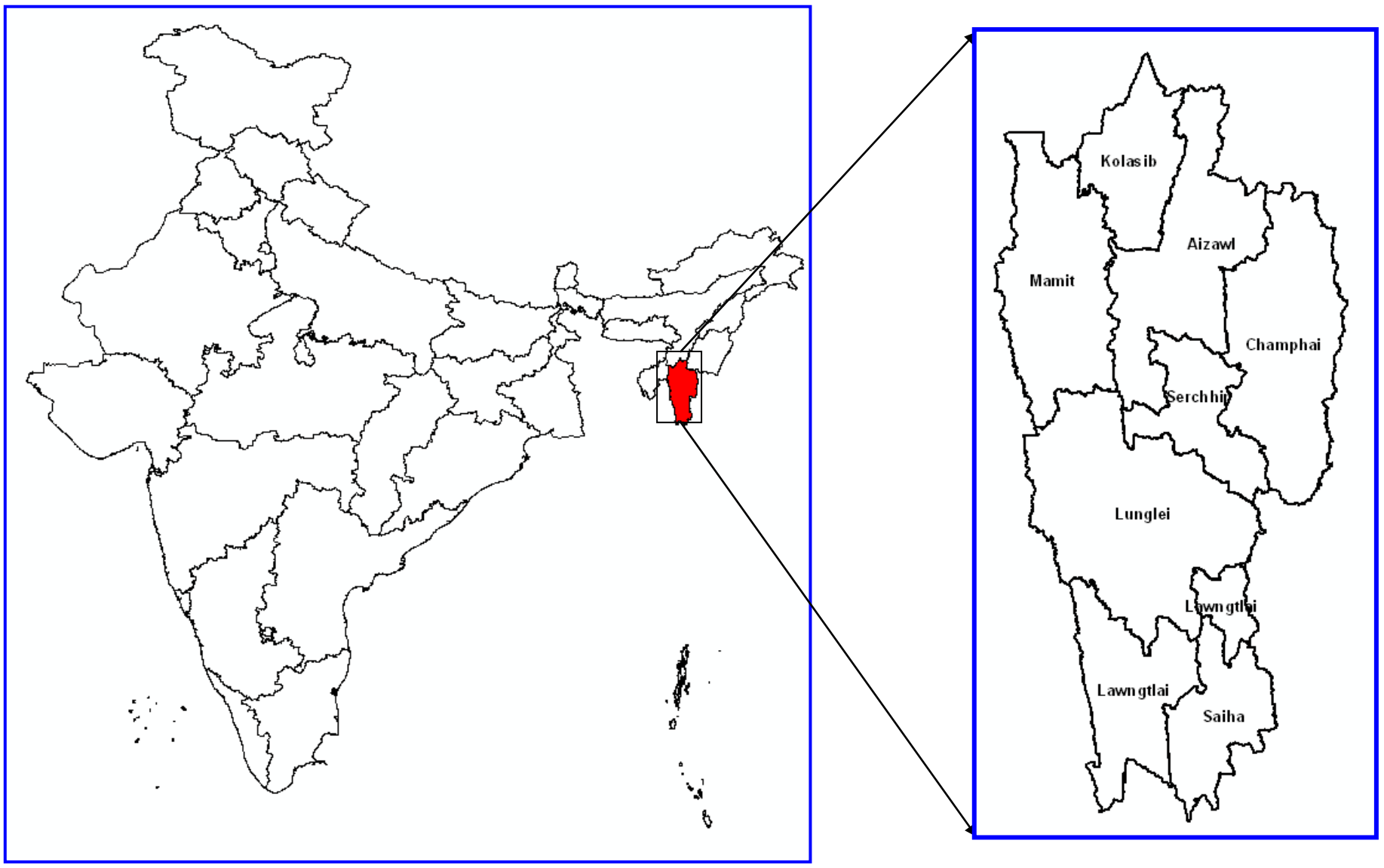


Figure 3: Location map

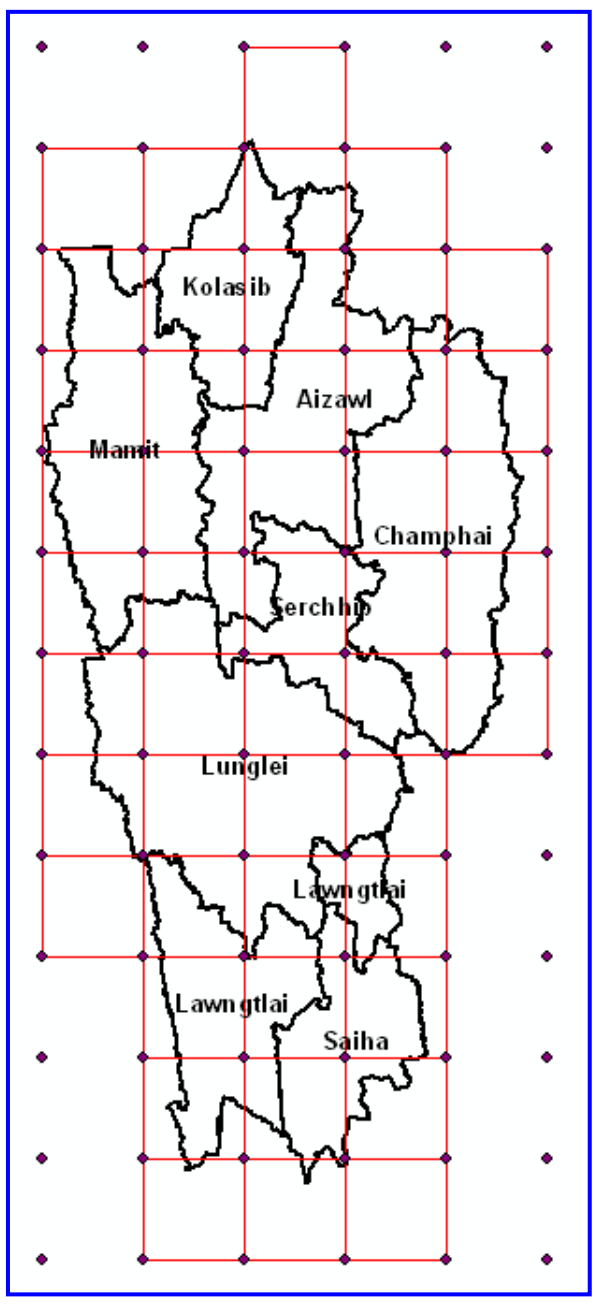


Figure 4: Spatial Framework of Mizoram

4.0 DATA USED

Remote Sensing Data

IRS P6 LISS III data was used to map the wetlands. IRS P6 LISS III provides data in 4 spectral bands; green, red, Near Infra Red (NIR) and Short wave Infra Red (SWIR), with 23.5 m spatial resolution and 24 day repeat cycle. The spatial resolution is suitable for 1:50,000 scale mapping. The state of Meghalaya is covered in 3 IRS LISS III scene (Figure 5). Two date data, one acquired during March and another during January were used to capture the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon hydrological variability of the wetlands respectively (Table-2). Figure 6 shows the part of the study area as seen in the LISS III FCC of post- monsoon pre-monsoon data respectively.

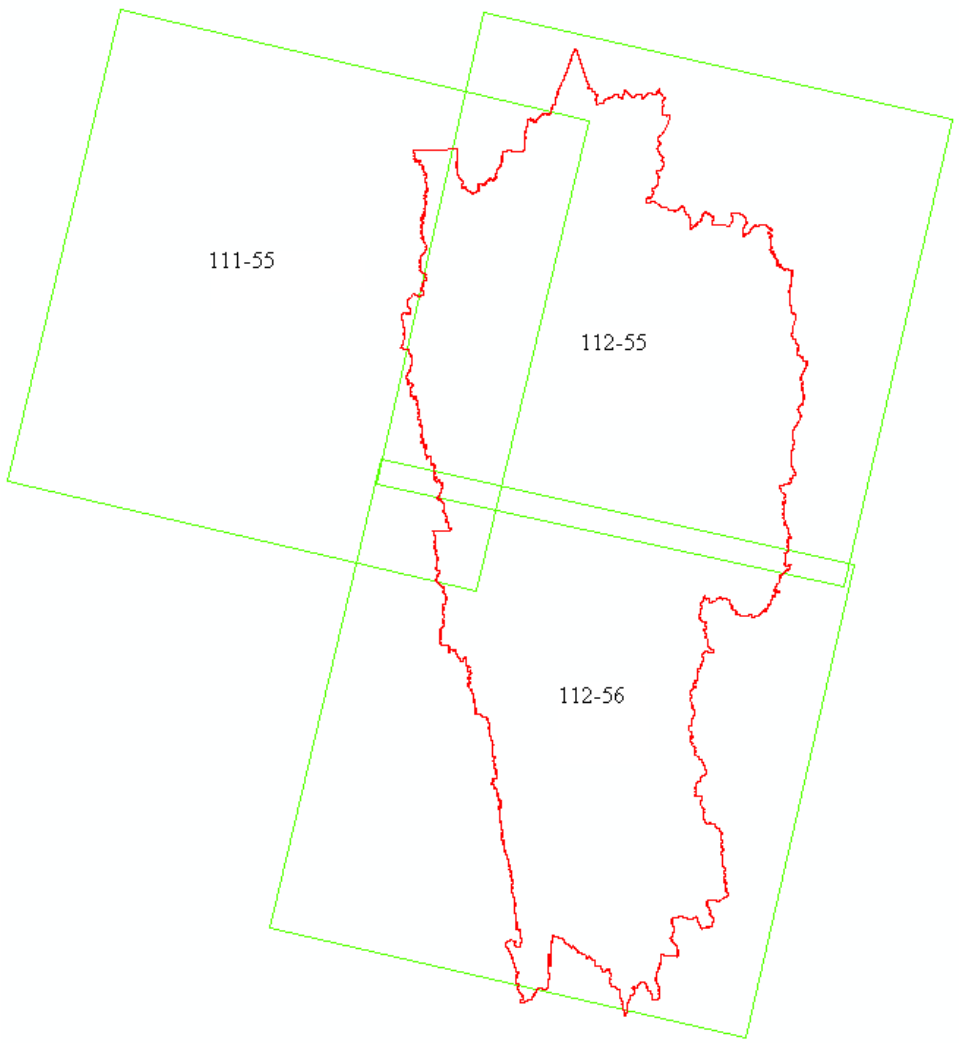


Figure 5: IRS P6 LISS-III coverage of Mizoram

Table-2: Satellite data used

Sr. No	Resourcesat LISS III Path/ Row	Post-Monsoon	Pre-Monsoon
1	112/55	Dec 05, 2006	Mar 11, 2007
2	112/56	Dec 05, 2006	Mar 11, 2007
3	111/55	Dec 05, 2006	Mar 11, 2007

Ground Truth Data

Remote sensing techniques require certain amount of field observation called “ground truth” in order to convert into meaningful information. Such work involves visiting a number of test sites, usually taking the satellite data. The location of the features is recorded using the GPS. The standard proforma as per the NWIA manual was used to record the field data. Field photographs are also taken to record the water quality (subjective), status of aquatic vegetation and water spread. All field verification work has been done during October and November 2008.

Other Data

Survey of India topographical maps (SOI) were used for reference purpose. Lineage data of National Wetland Maps at 1:50,000 scale was used for reference.

5.0 METHODOLOGY

The methodology to create the state level atlas of wetlands is adhered to NWIA technical guidelines and procedure manual (Garg and Patel, 2007). The overview of the steps used is shown in Figure 7. Salient features of methodology adopted are

- Generation of spatial framework in GIS environment for database creation and organisation.
- Geo-referencing of satellite data
- Identification of wetland classes as per the classification system given in NWIA Manual and mapping of the classes using a knowledge based digital classification and onscreen interpretation
- Generation of base layers (rail, road network, settlements, drainage, administrative boundaries) from satellite image and ancillary data.
- Mosaicing/edge matching to create district and state level database.
- Coding of the wetlands following the standard classification system and codification as per NWIA manual.
- Preparation of map compositions and generation of statistics
- Outputs on A3 size prints and charts for atlas.

Work was carried out using ERDAS Imagine, Arc/Info and Arcgis softwares.

5.1 Creation of Spatial Framework

This is the most important task as the state forms a part of the national frame work and is covered in multiple map sheets. To create NWIA database, NNRMS/NRDB standards is followed and four corners of the 1:50,000 (15' x 15') grid is taken as the tics or registration points to create each map taking master grid as the reference. Spatial framework details are given in NWIA manual (Garg and Patel, 2007). The spatial framework for Mizoram state is shown in Figure 4.

5.2 Geo-referencing of Satellite Data

In this step the raw satellite images were converted to specific map projection using geometric correction. This is done using archived geometrically corrected LISS III data (ISRO-NRC-land use / land cover project). Standard image processing software was used for geo-referencing. First one date data was registered with the archived image. The second date data was then registered with the first date data.

5.3 Mapping of Wetlands

The delineation of wetlands through image analysis forms the foundation for deriving all wetland classes and results. Consequently, a great deal of emphasis has been placed on the quality of the image Interpretation. In the present study, the mapping of wetlands was done following digital classification and onscreen visual interpretation. Wetlands were identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. There are various methods for extraction of water information from remote sensing imagery, which according to the number of bands used, are generally divided into two categories, i.e. Single-band and multi-band methods. Single-band method usually involves choosing a band from multi-spectral image to distinguish water from land by subjective threshold values. It may lead to over- or under-estimation of open water area. Multi-band method takes advantage of reflective differences of each band. In this project, five indices known in literature that enhances various wetland characteristics were used (McFeetres, 1986; Xu Hanqiu, 2006; Lacaux *et al*, 2007; Townshend and Justice, 1986; Tucker and Sellers, 1986) as given below:

i) Normalised Difference Water Index (NDWI) = (Green-NIR) / (Green + NIR)

ii) Modified Normalised Difference Water Index (MNDWI) = (Green-MIR) / (Green + MIR)

iii) Normalised Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) = (NIR - Red) / (NIR + Red)

iv) Normalised Difference Pond Index (NDPI) = (MIR – Green / MIR + Green)

v) Normalised Difference Turbidity Index (NDTI) = (Red – Green) / (Red + Green)

The indices were generated using standard image processing software, stacked as layers. (Figure 8). Various combinations of the indices/spectral bands were used to identify the wetland features as shown in Figure 9. The following indices were used for various layer extractions:

- Extraction of wetland extent :
  MNDWI, NDPI and NDVI image was used to extract the wetland boundary through suitable hierarchical thresholds.

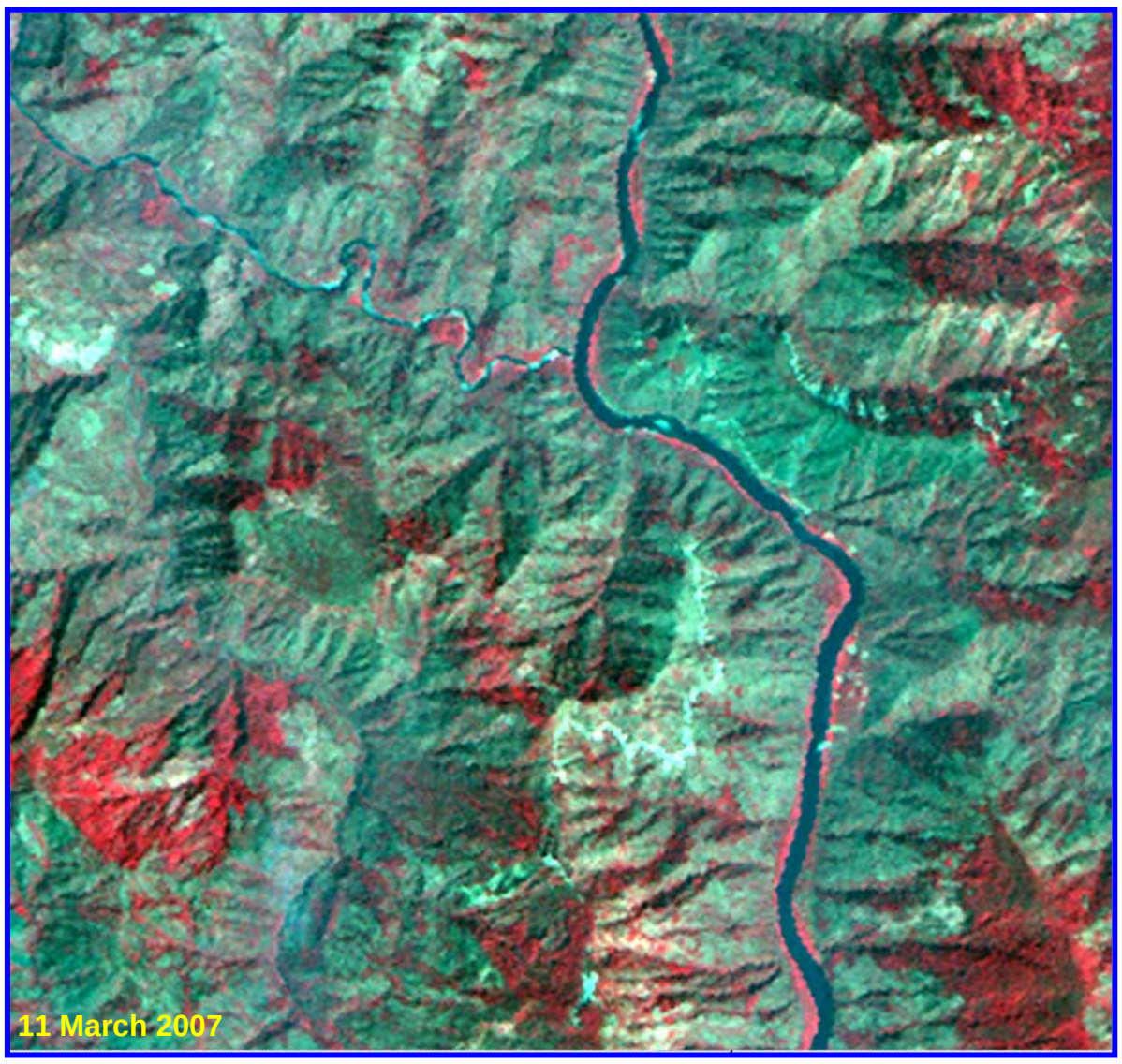


Figure 6: IRS LISS-III FCC part of Mizoram (Post-monsoon and Pre-monsoon)

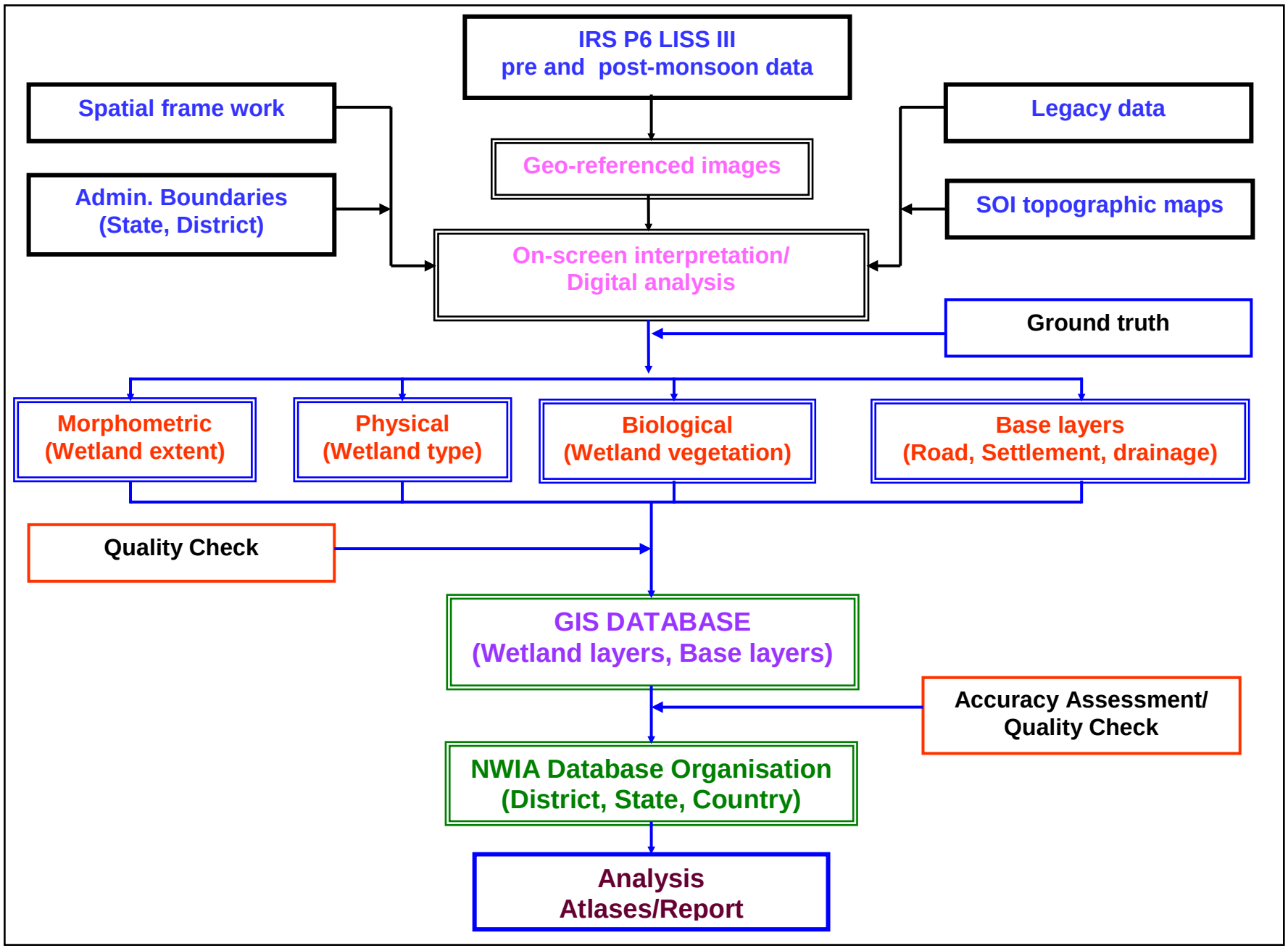


Figure 7: Flow chart of the methodology used

- Extraction of open water :
  MNDWI was used within the wetland mask to delineate the water and no-water areas.

- Extraction of wetland vegetation :
  NDPI and NDVI image was used to generate the vegetation and no-vegetation areas within a wetland using a suitable threshold.

- Turbidity information extraction :
  NDTI and MNDWI image was used to generate qualitative turbidity level (high, moderate and low) based on signature statistics and standard deviations. In the False Colour Composite (FCC) these generally appear in different hues (Table-3).

Table 3: Qualitative turbidity ratings

Sr. No.	Qualitative Turbidity	Conditional criteria	Hue on False Colour Composite (FCC)
1.	Low	> $+1\sigma$	Dark blue/blackish
2.	Moderate	> -1σ to <= $+1\sigma$	Medium blue
3.	High/Bottom reflectance	<= $\mu - 1\sigma$	Light blue/whitish blue

5.4 Conversion of the raster (indices) into a Vector Layer

The information on wetland extent, open water extent, vegetation extent and turbidity information was converted into vector layers using region growing properties or on-screen digitisation.

5.5 Generation of Reference Layers

Base layers like major rail, road network, settlements, drainage are interpreted from the current image or taken from other project database. The administrative boundaries (district, state) are taken from the known reference data.

5.6 Coding and Attribute Scheme

Feature codification scheme for every input element has been worked out keeping in view the nationwide administrative as well as natural hierarchy (State-district) within the feature class for each of the theme. All data elements are given a unique name/code, which are self explanatory with short forms.

5.7 Map Composition and Output

Map composition for atlas has been done at district and state level. A standard color scheme has been used for the wetland classes and other layers. The digital files are made at 1:50,000 scale. The hard copy outputs are taken on A3 size.

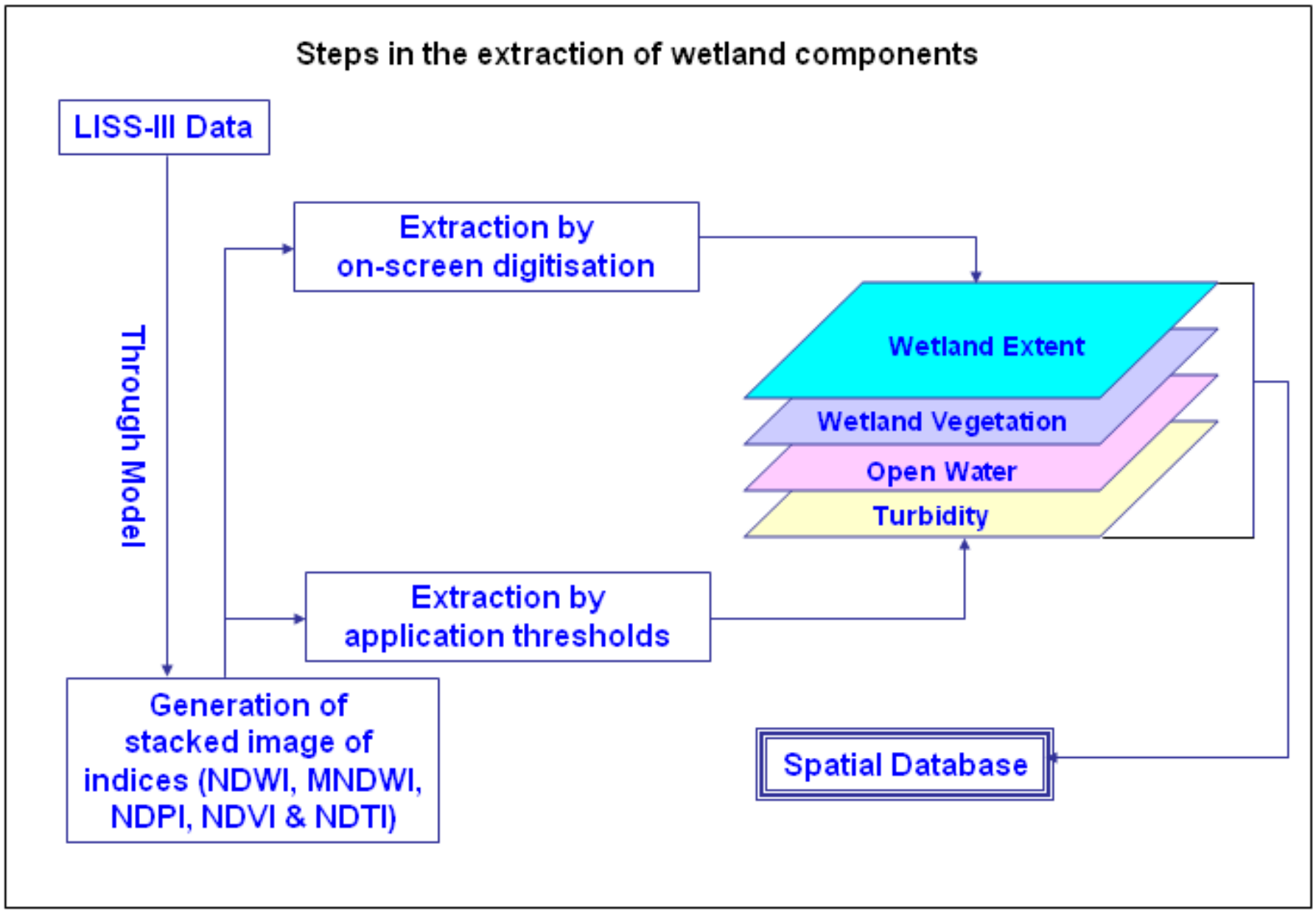


Figure 8: Steps in the extraction of wetland components

6.0 ACCURACY ASSESSMENT

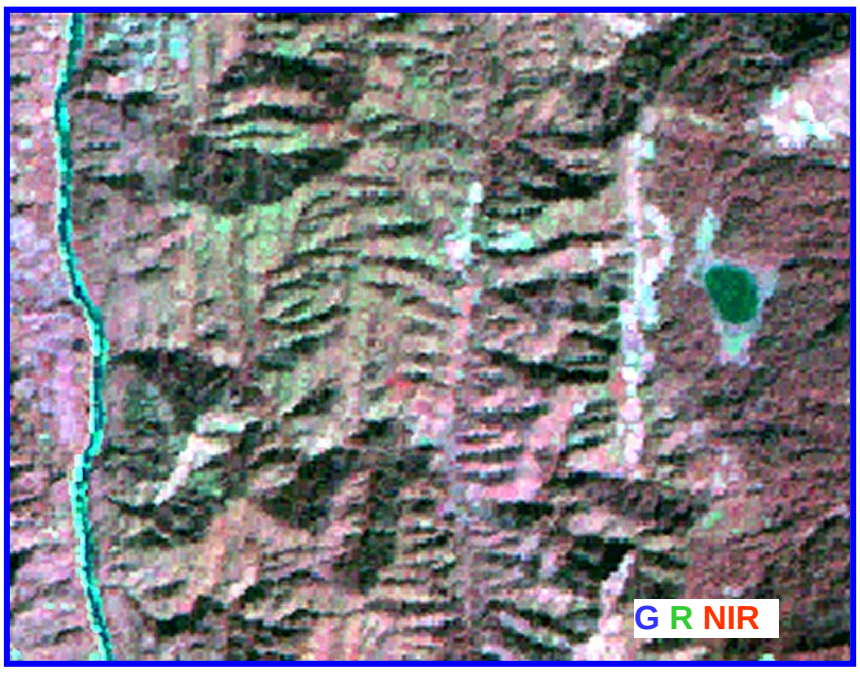
A comprehensive accuracy assessment protocol has been followed for determining the quality of information derived from remotely sensed data. Accuracy assessment involves determination of thematic (classification) as well as locational accuracy. In addition, GIS database(s) contents have been also evaluated for accuracy. To ensure the reliability of wetland status data, the project adhered to established quality assurance and quality control measures for data collection, analysis, verification and reporting.

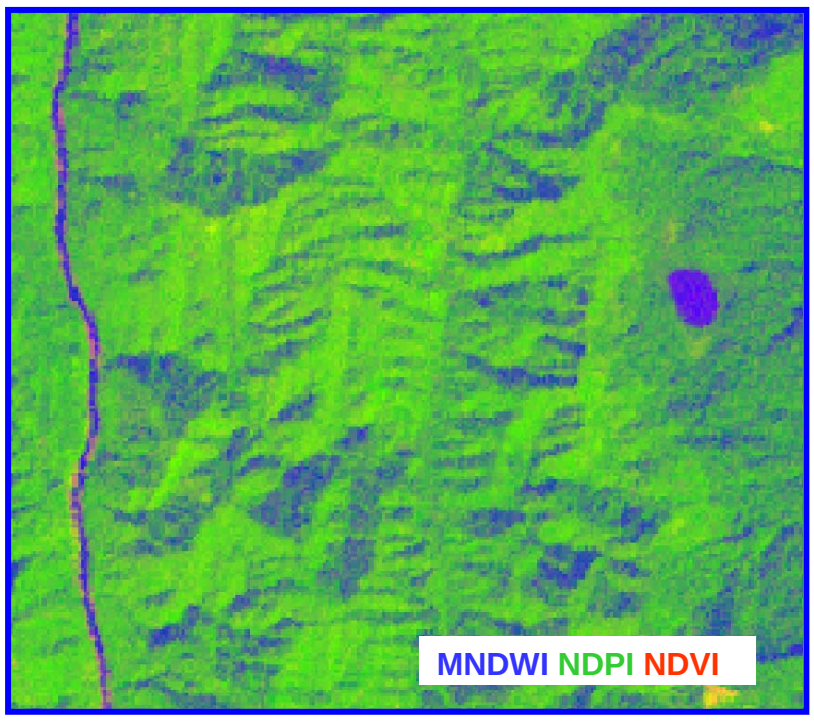
This study used well established, time-tested, fully documented data collection conventions. It employed skilled and trained personnel for image interpretation, processing and digital database creation. All interpreted imageries were reviewed by technical expert team for accuracy and code. The reviewing analyst adhered to all standards, quality requirements and technical specifications and reviewed 100 percent of the work. The various stages of quality check include:

1. Image-to-Image Geo-referencing/Data generation
2. Reference layer preparation using NWIA post monsoon and pre-monsoon LISS-III data.
3. Wetland mapping using visual/digital interpretation techniques.
4. Geo-database creation and organization
5. Output products.

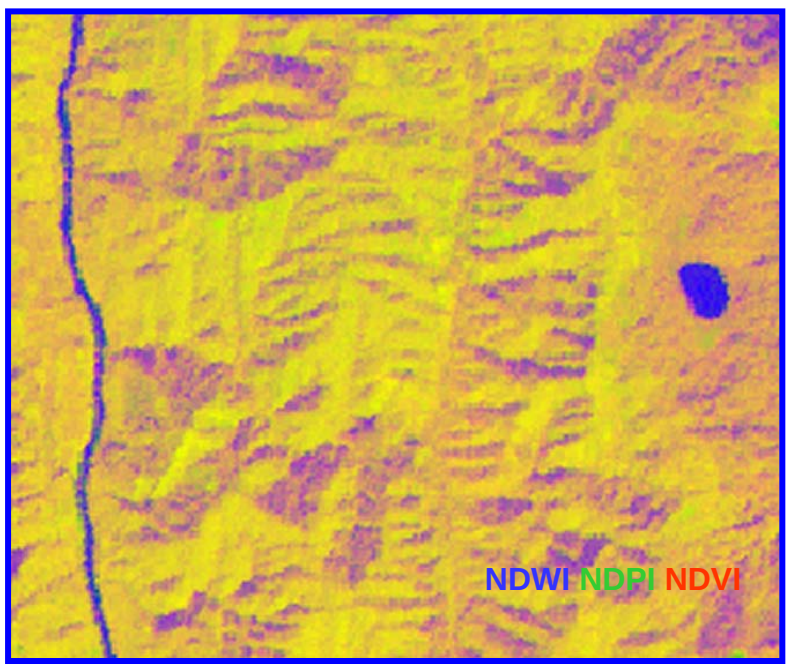
6.1 Data Verification and Quality Assurance of Output Digital Data Files

All digital data files were subjected to rigorous quality control inspections. Digital data verification included quality control checks that addressed the geospatial correctness, digital integrity and some cartographic aspects of the data. Implementation of quality checks ensured that the data conformed to the specified criteria, thus achieving the project objectives. There were tremendous advantages in using newer technologies to store and analyze the geographic data. The geospatial analysis capability built into this study provided a complete digital database to better assist analysis of wetland change information. All digital data files were subjected to rigorous quality control inspections. Automated checking modules incorporated in the geographic information system (Arc/GIS) were used to correct digital artifacts including polygon topology. Additional customized data inspections were made to ensure that the changes indicated at the image interpretation stage were properly executed.

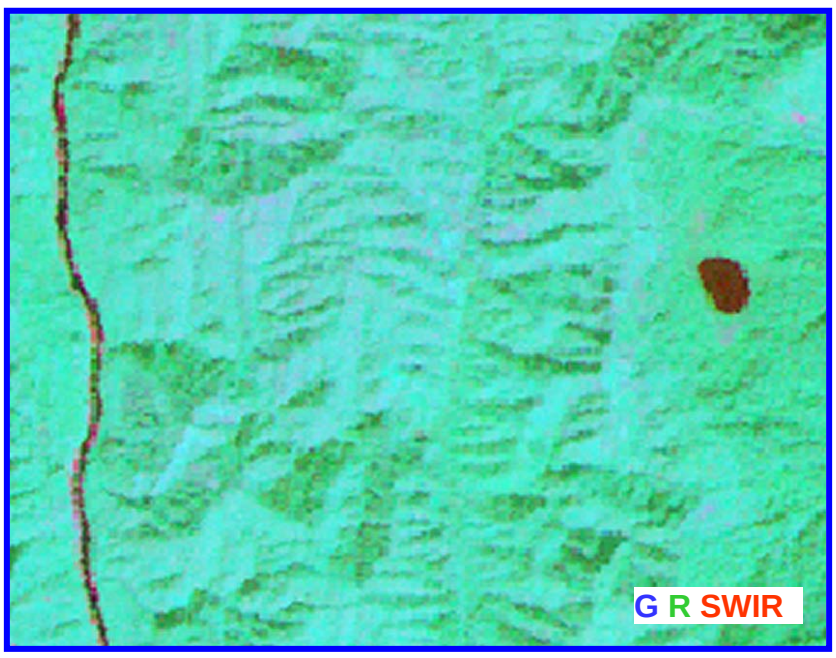


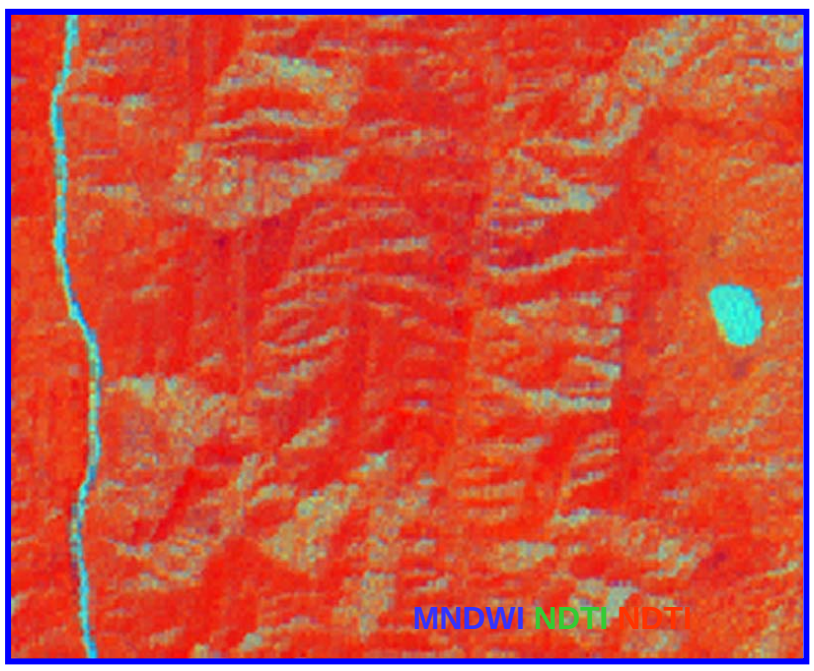


Useful for wetland boundary extraction/delineation



Useful for wetland vegetation & open water features





Useful for qualitative turbidity delineation

Palak lake and chhimtuipui river in Saiha district, IRS LISS III data, March 2007

Figure 9: Various combinations of the indices/spectral bands used to identify wetland components

MAPS AND STATISTICS

7.0 WETLANDS OF MIZORAM: MAPS AND STATISTICS

Area estimates of various wetland categories for Mizoram have been carried out using GIS layers of wetland boundary, water-spread, aquatic vegetation and turbidity. In the state of Mizoram, 88 wetlands have been delineated. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 146 in the district. Total wetland area estimated is 13988 ha (Table 4). Graphical distribution of wetland type is shown in Figure 10.

Table 4: Area estimates of wetlands in Mizoram

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	25	185	1.32	153	149
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	15	133	0.95	122	105
6	1106	River/Stream	46	13497	96.49	13497	13497
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	2	27	0.19	27	27
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**88**	**13842**	**98.96**	**13799**	**13778**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	146	146	1.04	-	-
		Total	**234**	**13988**	**100.00**	**13799**	**13778**

Area under Aquatic Vegetation	37	42

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	13755	13722
Moderate	44	56
High	-	-

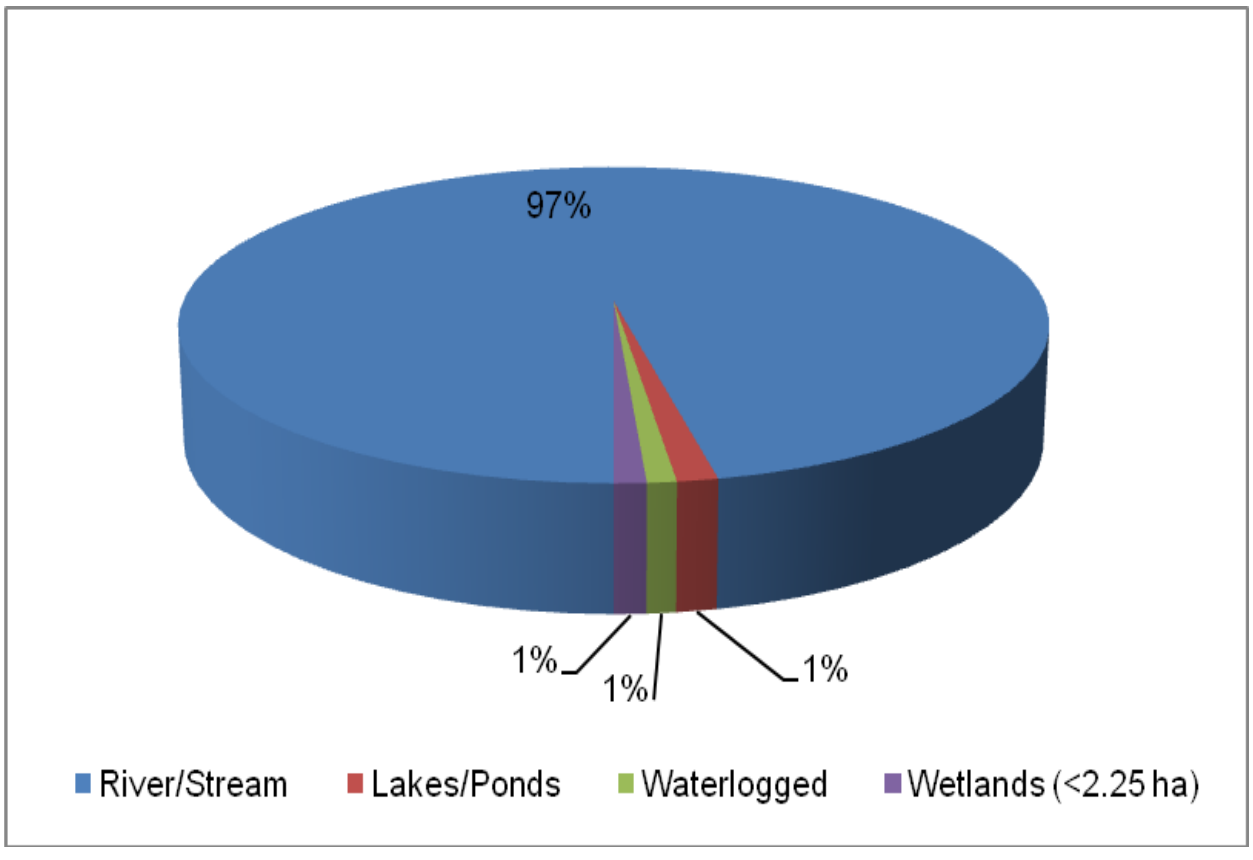


Figure 10: Type-wise wetland distribution in Mizoram

7.1 DISTRICT-WISE WETLAND MAPS AND STATISTICS

The state has eight districts. District-wise wetland area estimates is given in Table-5. Luinglei district covers the maximum wetland area (22.78%). A major portion of wetland areas are observed in Mamit, Lawngtlai, Saiha and in Aizawl. Champhai, Serchhip and Kolasib district covers small portion of wetland area. The graphical distribution of district-wise wetland area is shown in Figure 11.

Wetland statistics followed by wetland map and corresponding satellite data for each district is given to have a fairly good idea about the distribution pattern and density of wetlands in the district.

Table – 5: District-wise wetland area

Sr. No.	District	Geographic Area* (sq. km)	Wetland Area (ha)	% of total wetland area	% of district geographic area
1	Mamit	3026	2167	15.49	0.716
2	Kolasib	1383	884	6.32	0.639
3	Aizawl	3576	1646	11.77	0.460
4	Champhai	3186	1520	10.87	0.477
5	Serchhip	1422	928	6.63	0.653
6	Lunglei	4538	3186	22.78	0.702
7	Lawngtlai	2557	1998	14.28	0.781
8	Saiha	1400	1659	11.86	1.185
	Total	**21087**	**13988**	**100.00**	

* Data Source: Census 2001

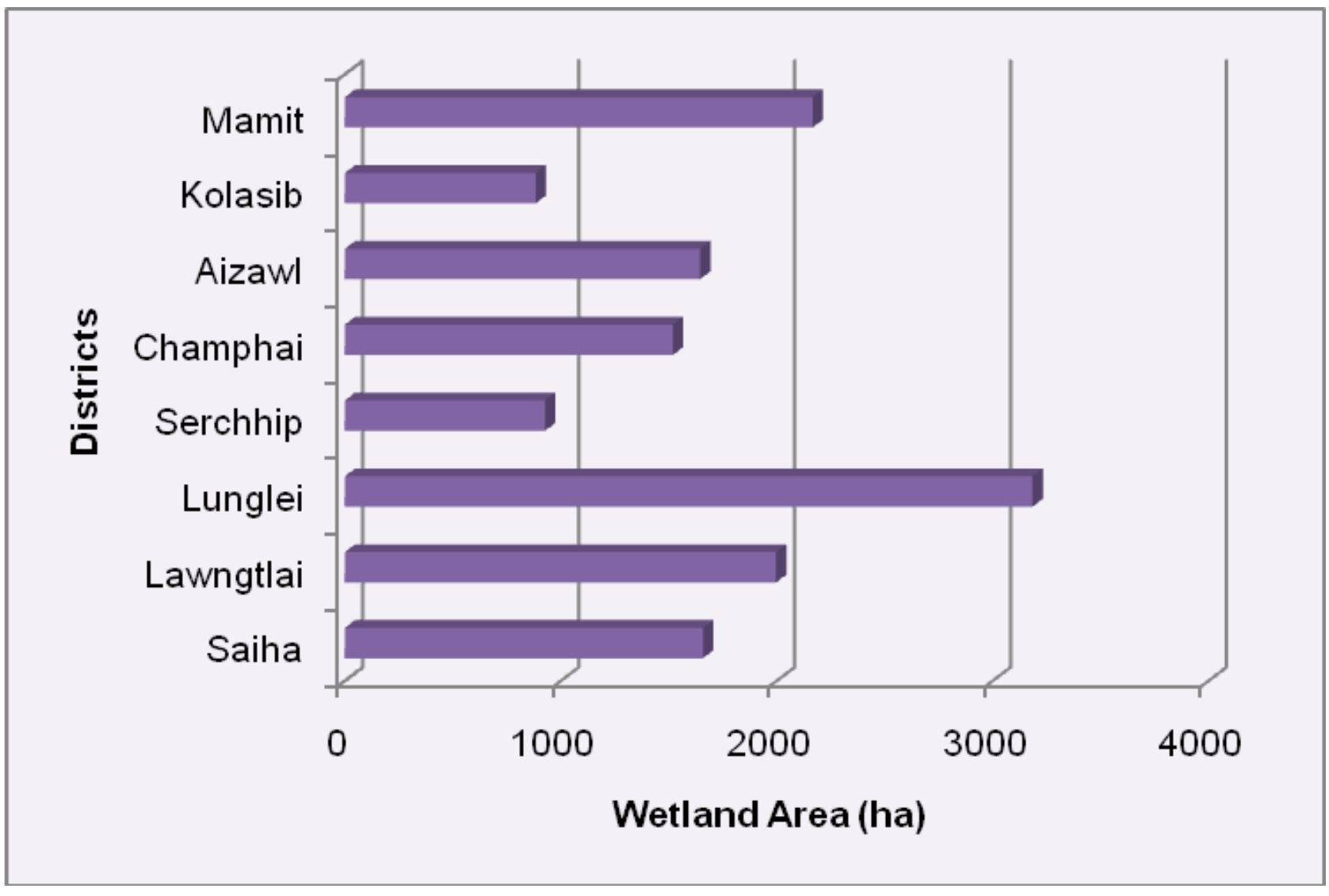
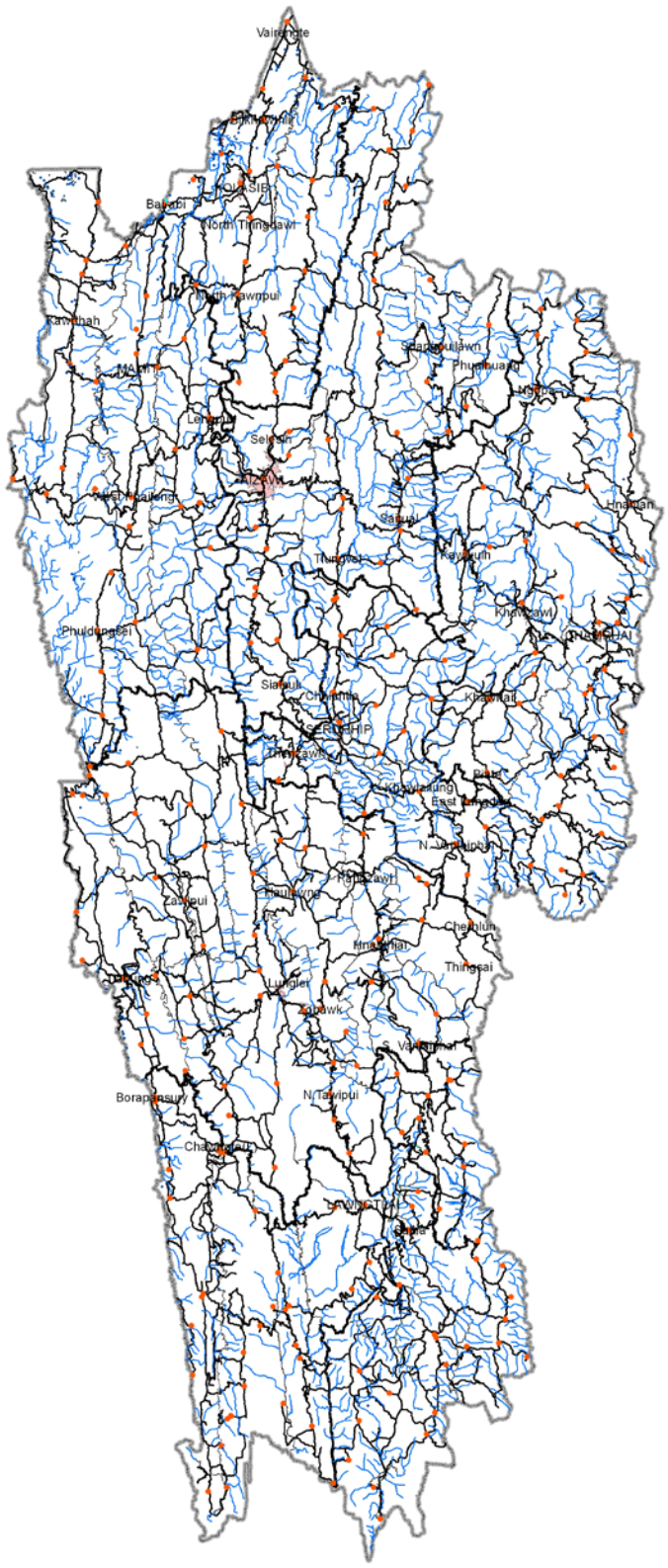


Figure 11: District-wise wetland distribution

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP



Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- State Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map

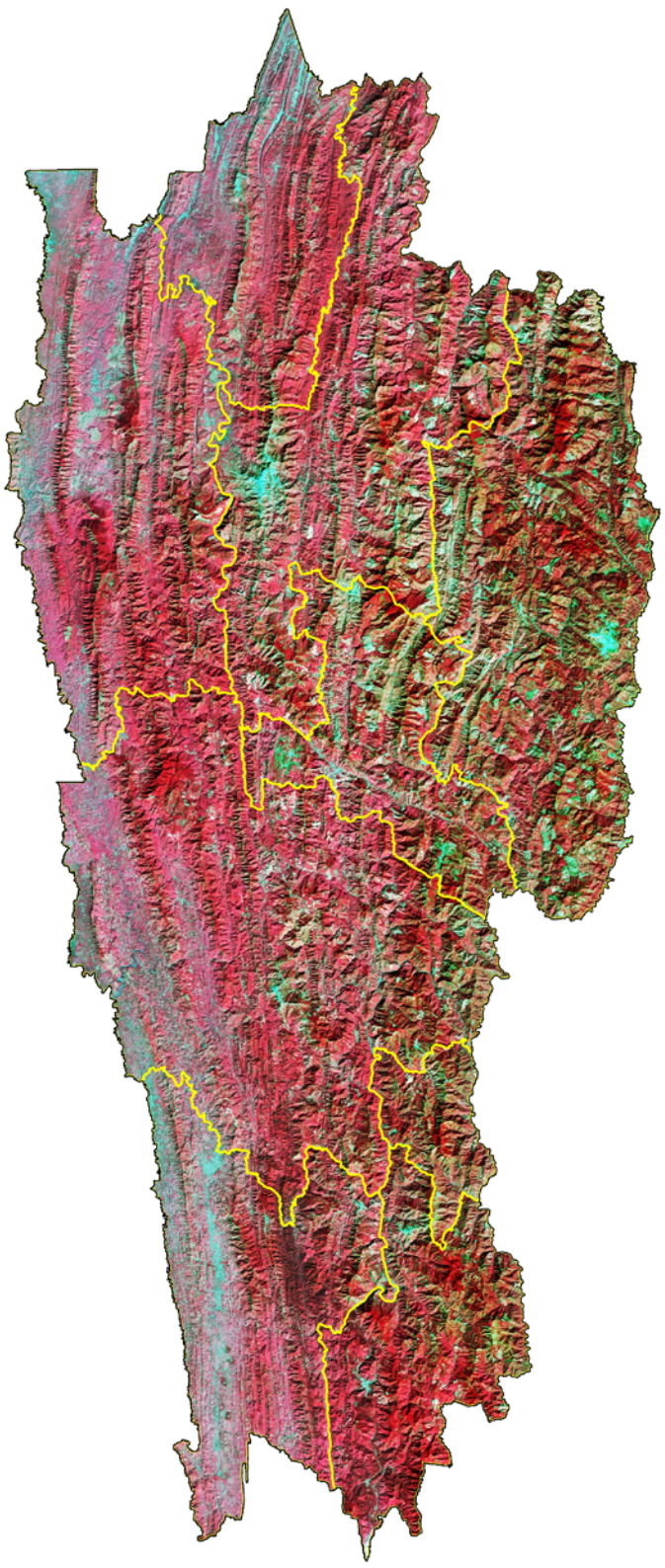
0 15 30 60 90 Kilometers

Data Source:
IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram



IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.1 **Mamit**

Mamit district lies in the north western part of the state and share a boundary with Bangladesh and Agartala. The north western part of the district comprises more or less low lying area while the eastern part is made up of medium to high structural hills. The major rivers within the district are Tut, Tlawng, Mar, Teirei and Khawthlangtuipui rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2692 mm. The total geographic area of Mamit district is 302575 ha. The wetland area estimated is 2167 ha. Details are given in Table 6. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 58 in the district. The major wetland types are River/Stream, Lakes/Ponds, reservoirs/barrages and waterlogged areas.

Table 6: Area estimates of wetlands in Mamit

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	13	84	3.88	79	84
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	7	47	2.17	46	39
6	1106	River/Stream	6	1951	90.03	1951	1951
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	2	27	1.25	27	27
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**28**	**2109**	**97.32**	**2103**	**2101**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	58	58	2.68	-	-
		Total	**86**	**2167**	**100.00**	**2103**	**2101**

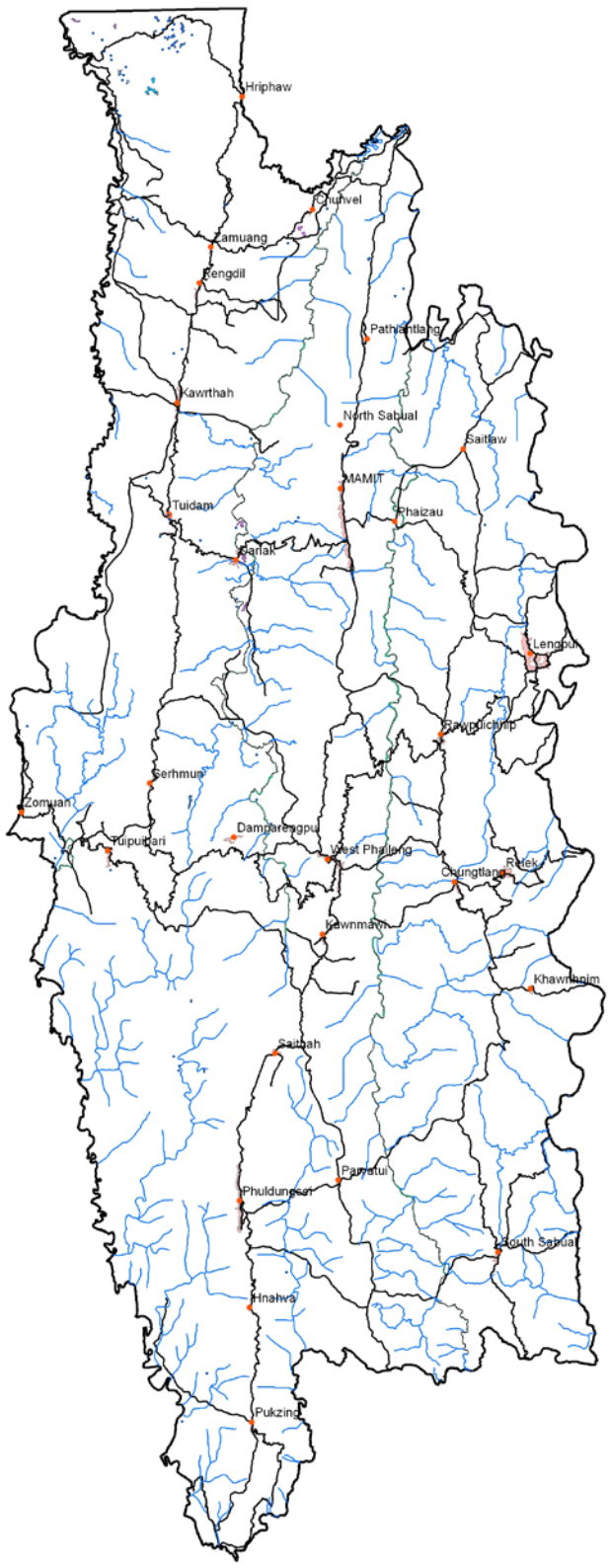
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	-	-

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	2097	2083
Moderate	6	18
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Mamit

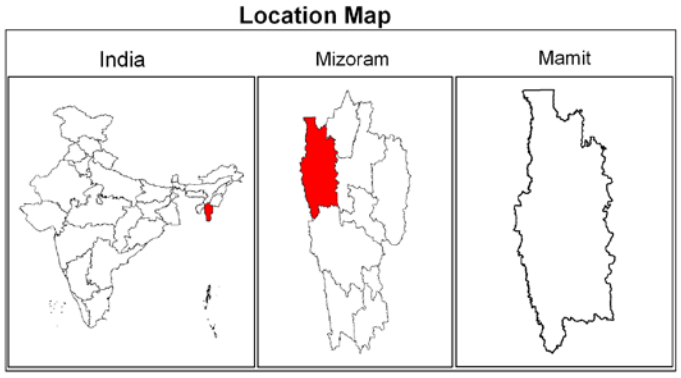


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers

Data Source:
IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Mamit

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.2 Kolasib

Kolasib district lies in the Northern-most part of the state and it shared a common boundary with Cachar district of Assam. The major rivers within the district are Tuirial, Serlui and Tlawng rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2667.6 mm. The total geographic area of Kolasib district is 138251 ha. The wetland area estimated is 884 ha. Details are given in Table 7. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 50 in the district. The major wetland types are River/Stream, lakes/ponds and waterlogged areas.

Table 7: Area estimates of wetlands in Kolasib

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	5	26	2.94	26	25
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	6	64	7.24	64	51
6	1106	River/Stream	3	744	84.16	744	744
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**14**	**834**	**94.34**	**834**	**820**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	50	50	5.66	-	-
		Total	**64**	**884**	**100.00**	**834**	**820**

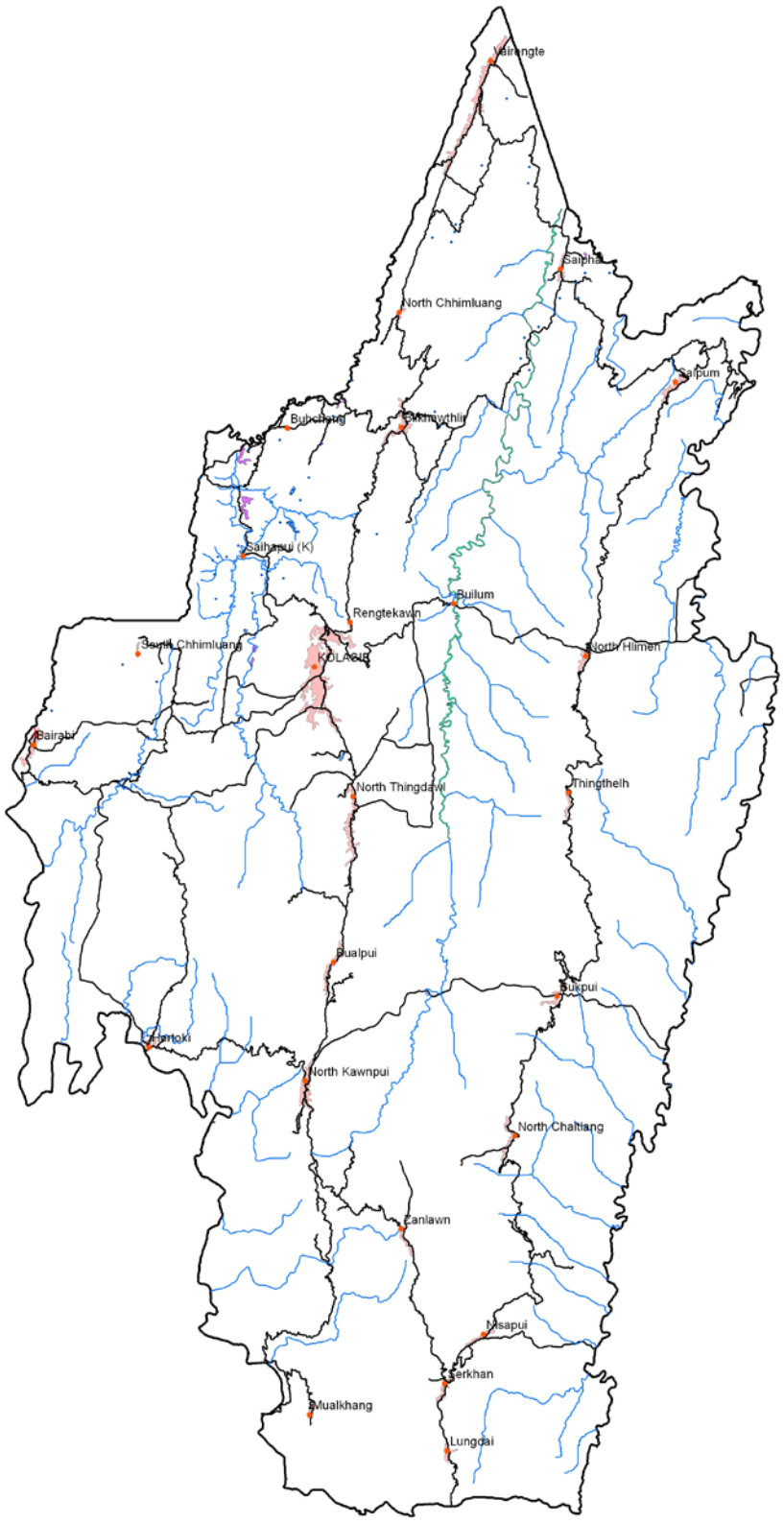
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	-	-

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	834	820
Moderate	-	-
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Kolasib

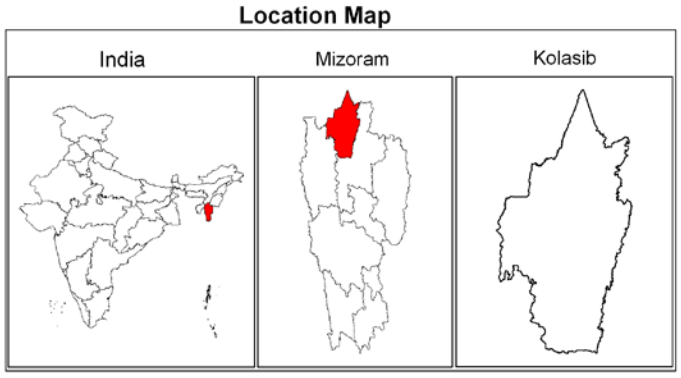


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 3 6 12 18 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

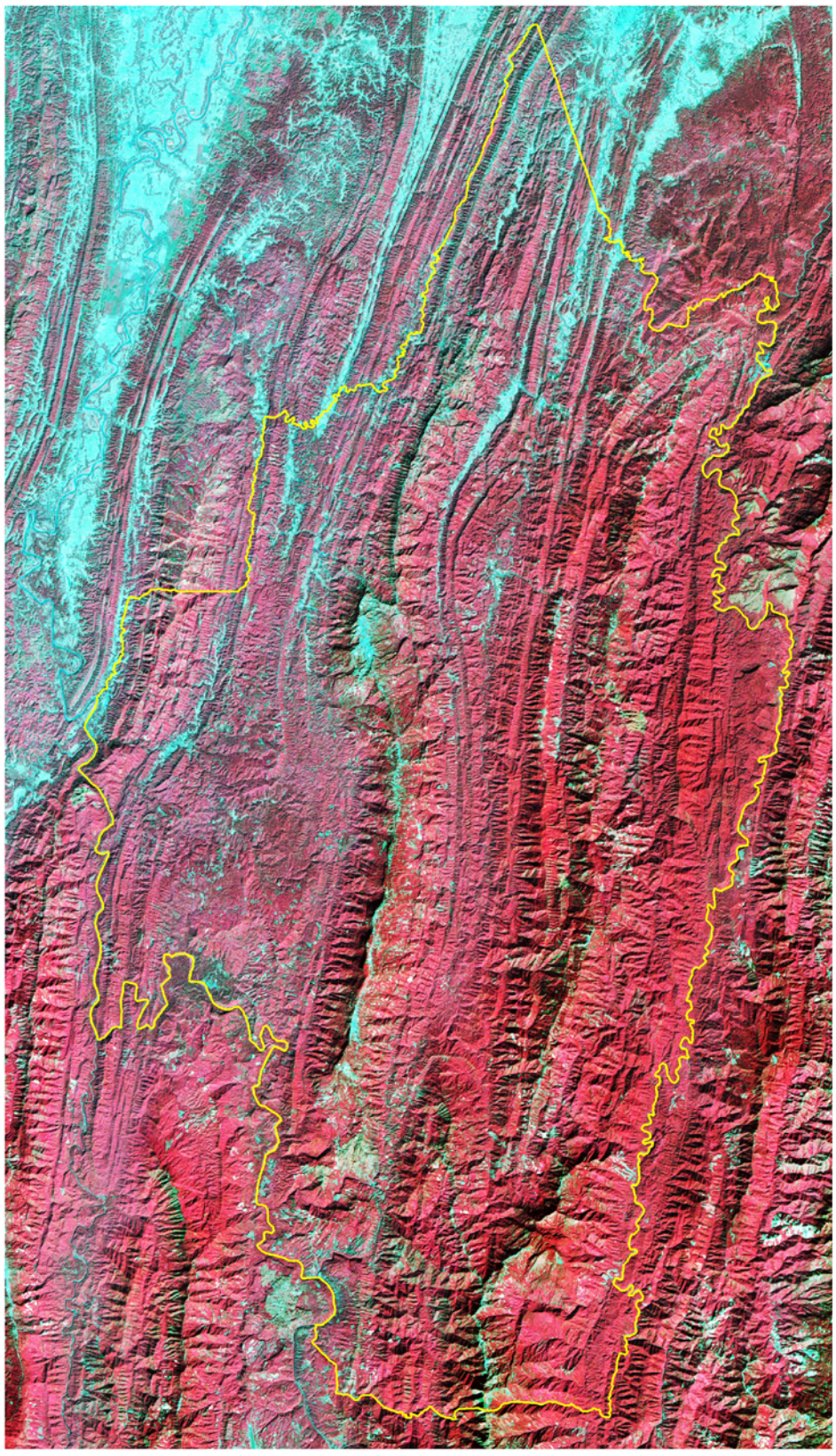
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Kolasib



IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.3 Aizawl

Aizawl district lies in the northern part of the state. The major rivers within the district are Tlawng, Tuirial, Tuivawl and Tuivai rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2795.5 mm. The total geographic area of Aizawl district is 357631ha. The wetland area estimated is 1646 ha. Details are given in Table 8. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 7 in the district. The major wetland types are River/Stream and lakes/ponds.

Table 8: Area estimates of wetlands in Aizawl

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	2	10	0.61	10	10
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
6	1106	River/Stream	5	1629	98.97	1629	1629
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**7**	**1639**	**99.57**	**1639**	**1639**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	7	7	0.43	-	-
		Total	**14**	**1646**	**100.00**	**1639**	**1639**

Area under Aquatic Vegetation	-	-

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	1639	1639
Moderate	-	-
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

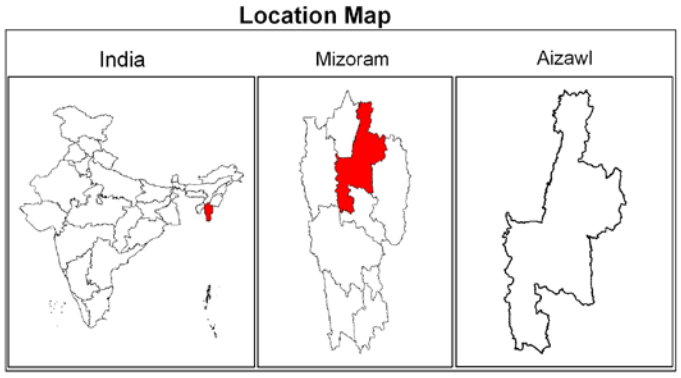
District : Aizawl

Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Aizawl

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.4 Champhai

Champhai district lies in the Eastern-most part of the state and shared an international boundary with Myanmar. The major rivers within the district are Tiau, Tuichang, Tuipui, Tuivawl and Tuivai rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2149.8 mm. The total geographic area of Champhai district is 318583 ha. The wetland area estimated is 1520 ha. Details are given in Table 9. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 3 in the district. The major wetland types are River/Stream.

Table 9: Area estimates of wetlands in Champhai

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
6	1106	River/Stream	7	1517	99.80	1517	1517
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**7**	**1517**	**99.80**	**1517**	**1517**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	3	3	0.20	-	-
		Total	**10**	**1520**	**100.00**	**1517**	**1517**

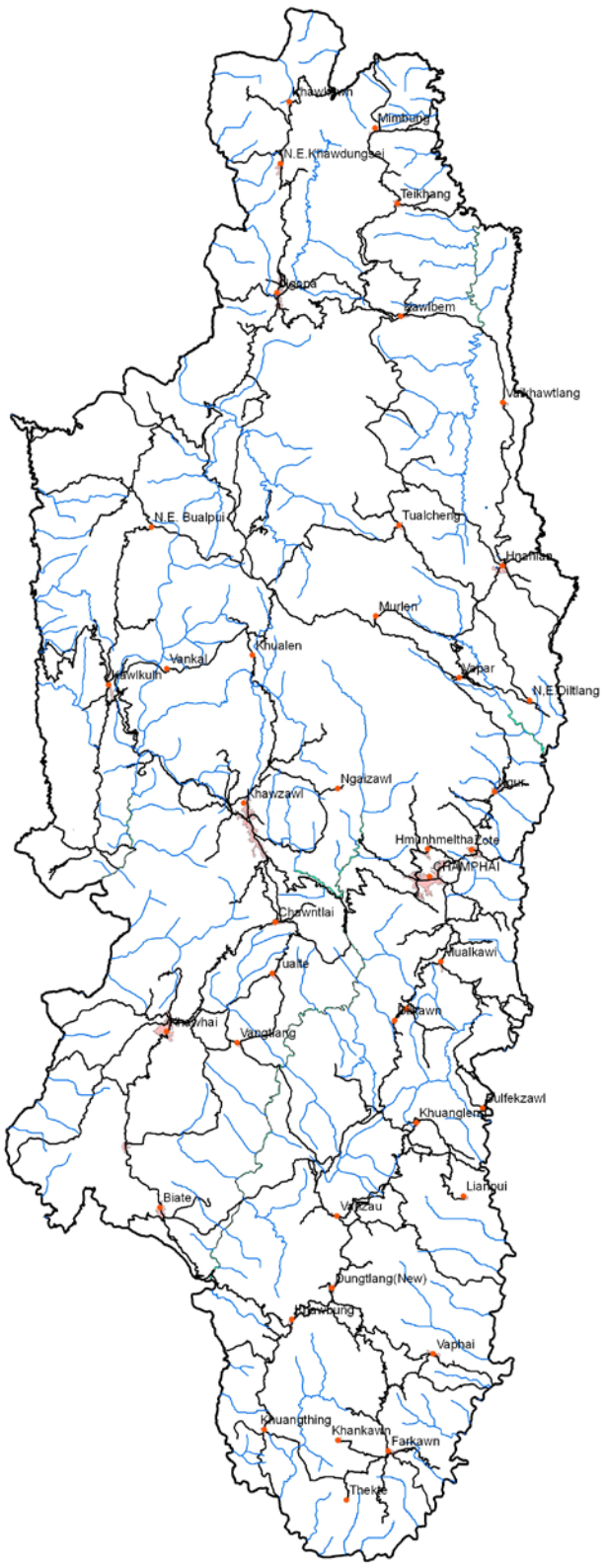
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	-	-

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	1517	1517
Moderate	-	-
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Champhai

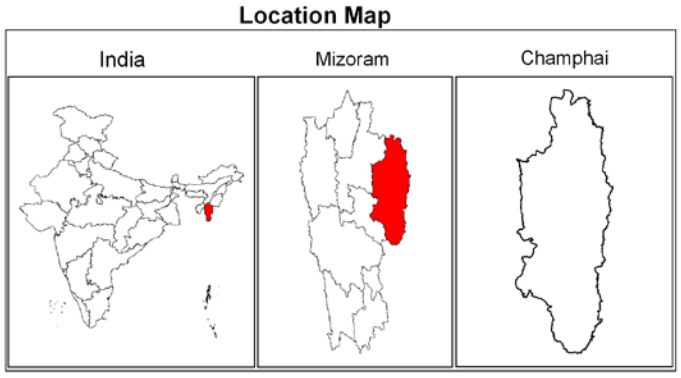


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Champhai

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.5 Serchhip

Serchhip district lies in the central part of the state. The largest lake of the state- Palak lake is located within this district. The major rivers within the district are Tuipui, Mat, Tlawng and Tuichang rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2481.5 mm. The total geographic area of Serchhip district is 142160 ha. The wetland area estimated is 928 ha (Table 10). Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 1 in the district. The major wetland types are River/Stream.

Table 10: Area estimates of wetlands in Serchhip

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
6	1106	River/Stream	7	927	99.89	927	927
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**7**	**927**	**99.89**	**927**	**927**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	1	1	0.11	-	-
		Total	**1**	**928**	**100.00**	**927**	**927**

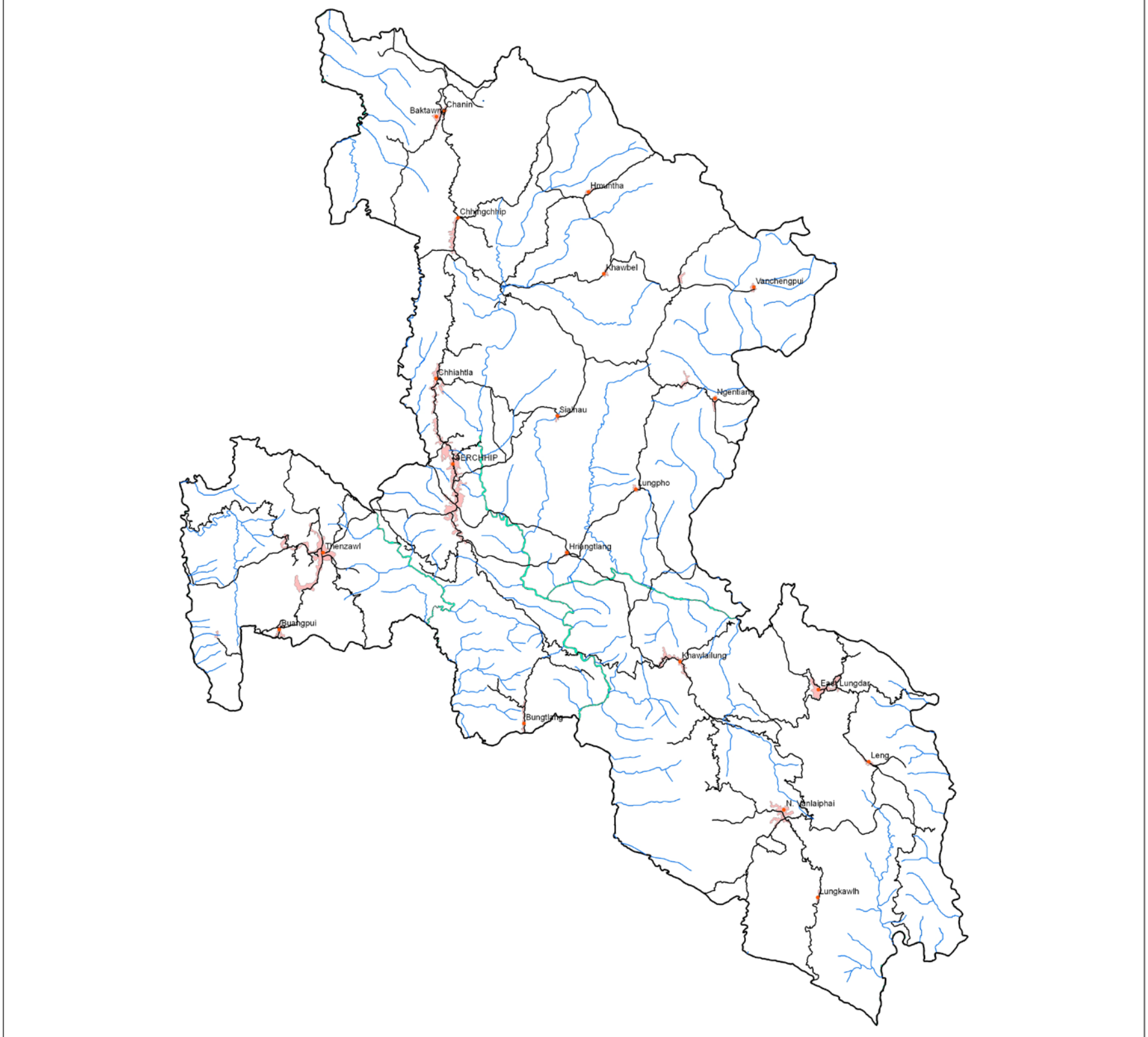
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	-	-

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	927	927
Moderate	-	-
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Serchhip

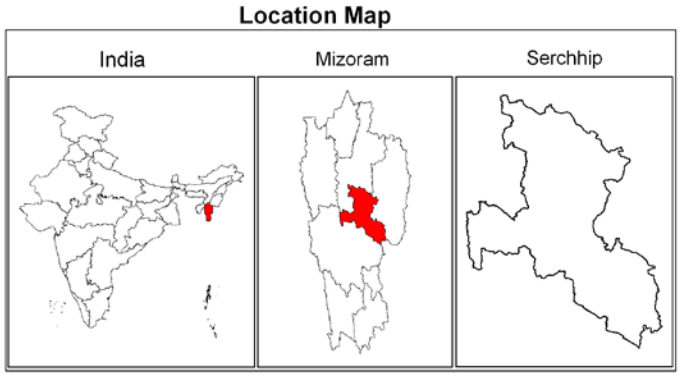


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 3 6 12 18 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Serchhip

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.6 Lunglei

Lunglei district lies almost at the central part of the state and is the largest district. It shared an international boundary with Bangladesh in the west and with Myanmar in the east. The major rivers within the district are Chhimtuipui, Tlawng and Khawthlangtuipui rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2527.7 mm. The total geographic area of Lunglei district is 453800 ha. The wetland area estimated is 3186 ha. Details are given in Table 11. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 16 in the district. The major wetland types are River/Stream, lakes/ponds and waterlogged areas.

Table 11: Area estimates of wetlands in Lunglei

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	3	22	0.69	20	12
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	2	22	0.69	12	15
6	1106	River/Stream	16	3126	98.12	3126	3126
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**21**	**3170**	**99.50**	**3158**	**3153**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	16	16	0.50	-	-
		Total	**37**	**3186**	**100.00**	**3158**	**3153**

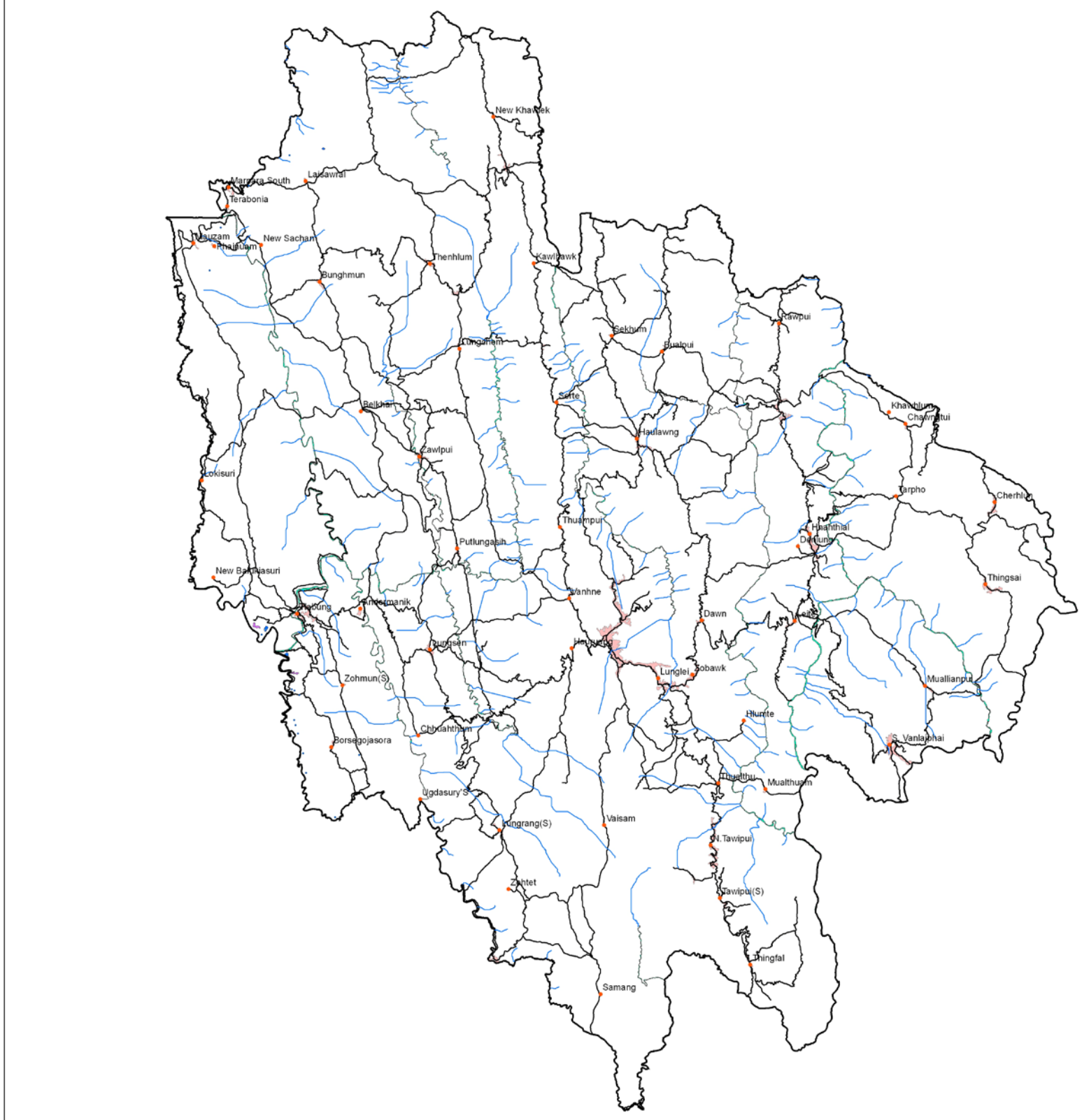
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	12	17

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	3138	3135
Moderate	20	18
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Lunglei

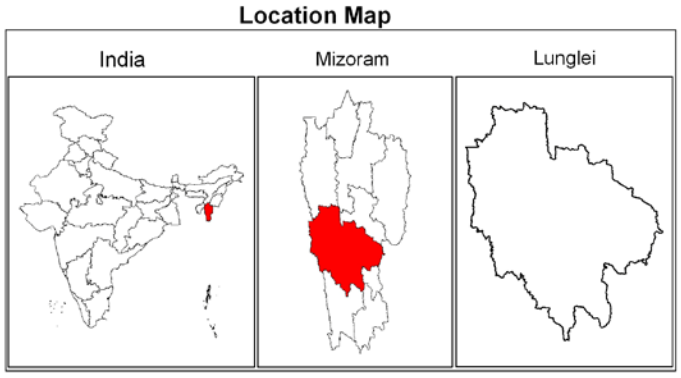


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers

Data Source:
IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Lunglei

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.7 Lawngtlai

Lawngtlai district lies in the South-western part of the state and shared an international boundary with Bangladesh. The major rivers within the district are Chhimtuipui, Tlawng and Sekul rivers. The western part of the district Comprise low lying areas to some extend. The average annual rainfall is 2532.4 mm. The total geographic area of Lawngtlai district district is 255710ha. The wetland area estimated is 1998 ha. Details are given in Table 12. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 9 in the district. The only wetland types is River/Stream.

Table 12: Area estimates of wetlands in Lawngtlai

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
6	1106	River/Stream	9	1989	99.55	1989	1989
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**9**	**1989**	**99.55**	**1989**	**1989**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	9	9	0.45	-	-
		Total	**18**	**1998**	**100.00**	**1989**	**1989**

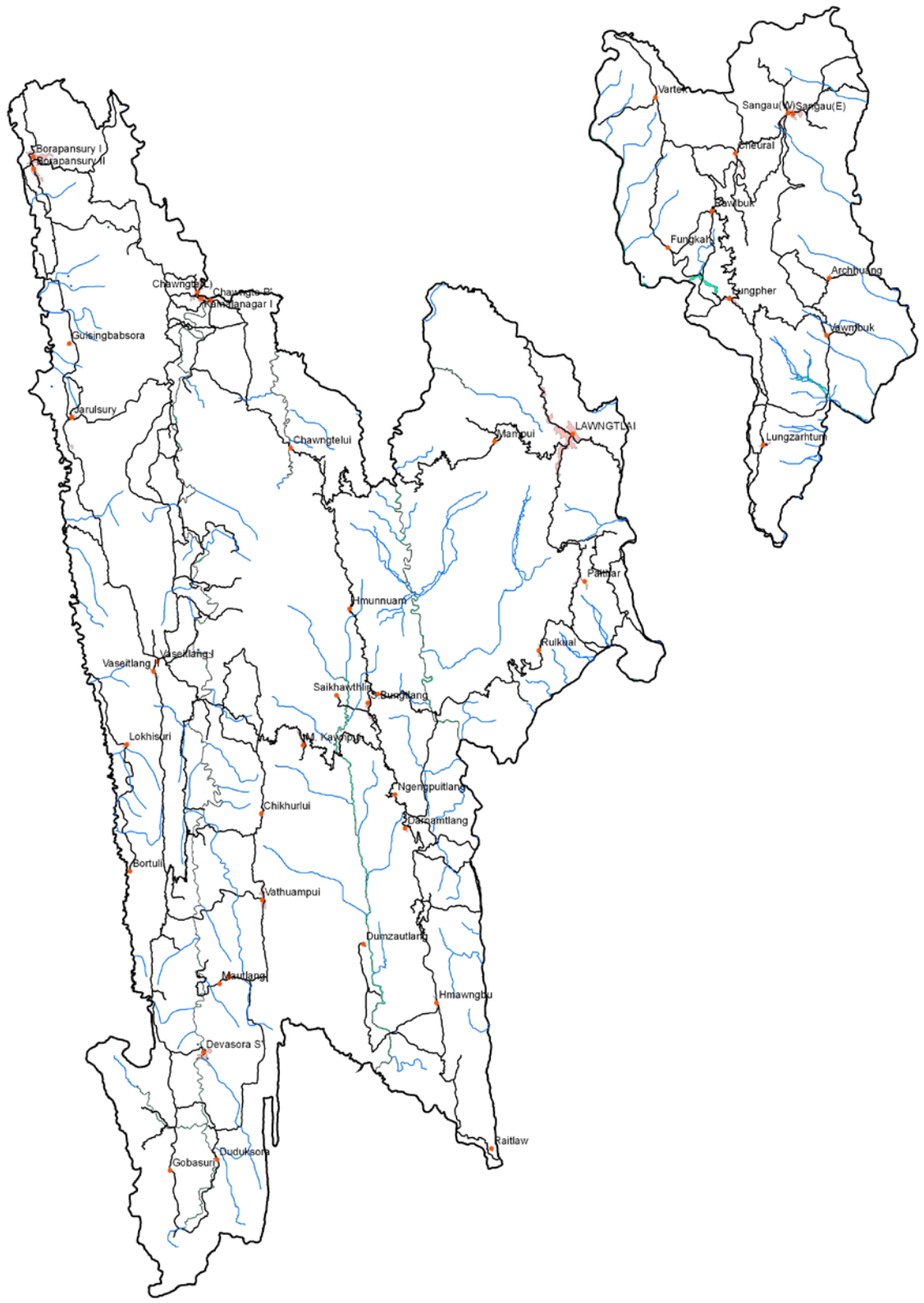
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	-	-

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	1989	1989
Moderate	-	-
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Lawngtlai

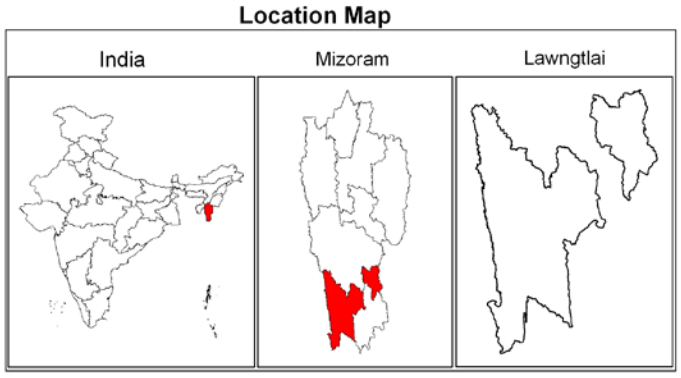


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

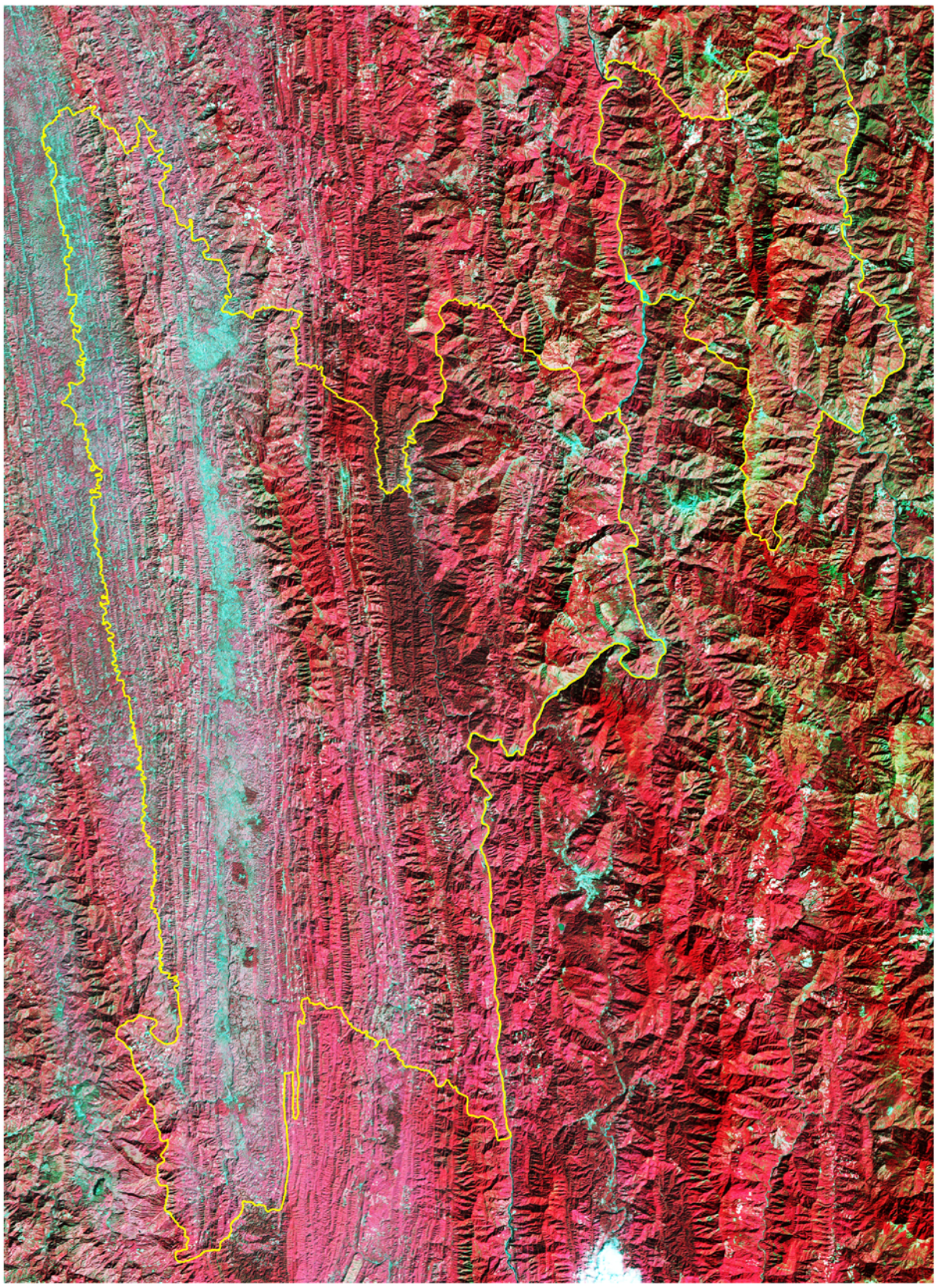
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Lawngtlai



IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

7.1.8 Saiha

Saiha district lies in the south eastern part of the state and share an international boundary Myanmar. Almost the whole district is made up of medium to high structural hills. The largest lake of the state- Palak lake is located within this district. The major rivers within the district are Chhimtuipui, Kawlawh and Palak rivers. The average annual rainfall is 2642 mm. The total geographic area of Saiha district is 139990 ha. The wetland area estimated is 1659 ha. Details are given in Table 13. Small wetlands, which are less than minimum mapable units (MMU), are 2 in the district. The major wetland type is River/Stream.

Table 13: Area estimates of wetlands in Saiha

Area in ha

Sr. No.	Wettcode	Wetland Category	Number of wetlands	Total Wetland Area	% of wetland area	Open Water	
						Post-monsoon Area	Pre-monsoon Area
	1100	**Inland Wetlands - Natural**					
1	1101	Lakes/Ponds	1	43	2.59	18	18
2	1102	Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders	-	-	-	-	-
3	1103	High altitude wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
4	1104	Riverine wetlands	-	-	-	-	-
5	1105	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
6	1106	River/Stream	10	1614	97.29	1614	1614
	1200	**Inland Wetlands -Man-made**					
7	1201	Reservoirs/Barrages	-	-	-	-	-
8	1202	Tanks/Ponds	-	-	-	-	-
9	1203	Waterlogged	-	-	-	-	-
10	1204	Salt pans	-	-	-	-	-
		Sub-Total	**11**	**1657**	**99.88**	**1632**	**1632**
		Wetlands (<2.25 ha), mainly Tanks	2	2	0.12	-	-
		Total	**13**	**1659**	**100.00**	**1632**	**1632**

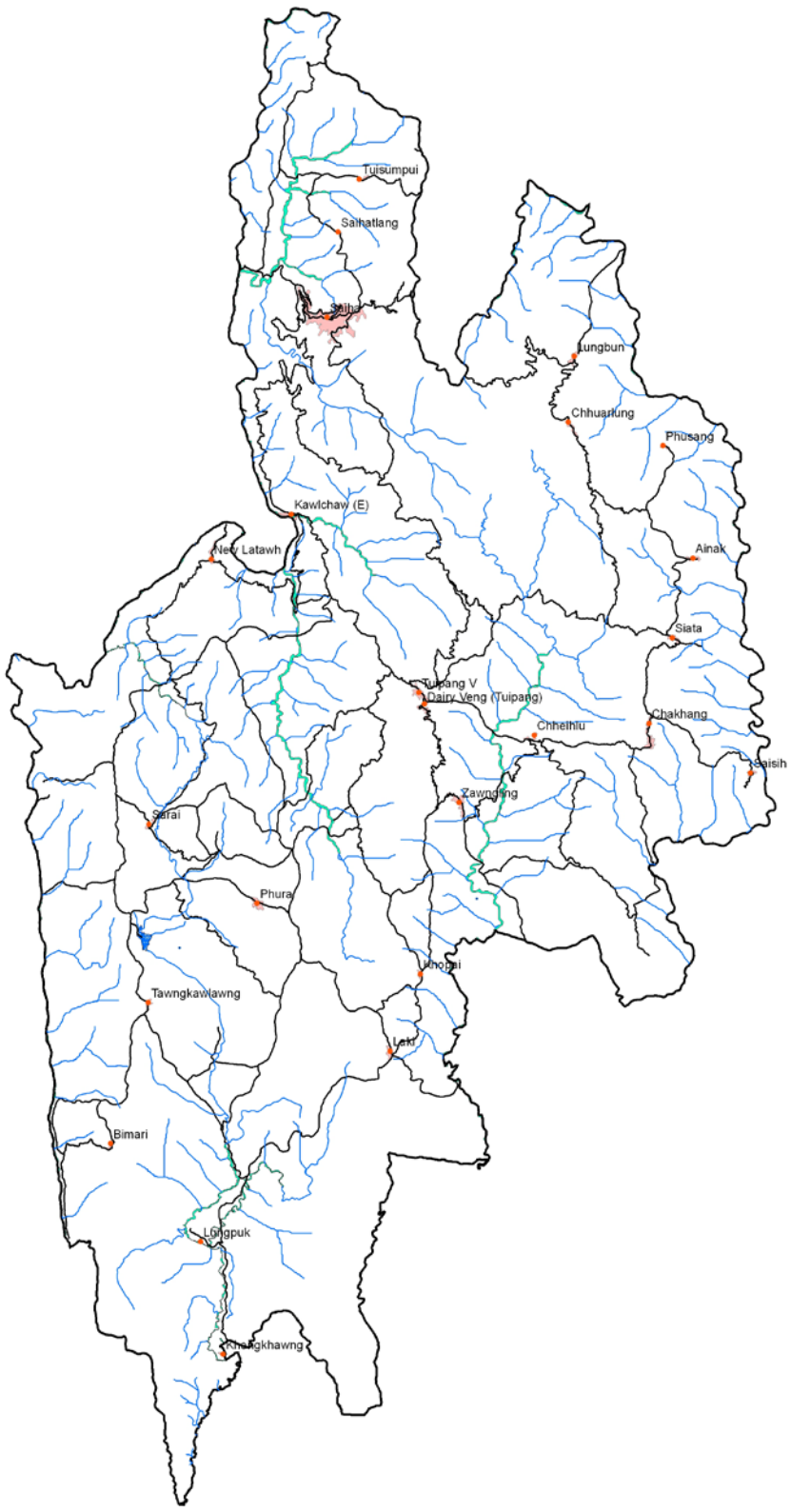
Area under Aquatic Vegetation	25	25

Area under turbidity levels		
Low	1614	1612
Moderate	18	20
High	-	-

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

District : Saiha

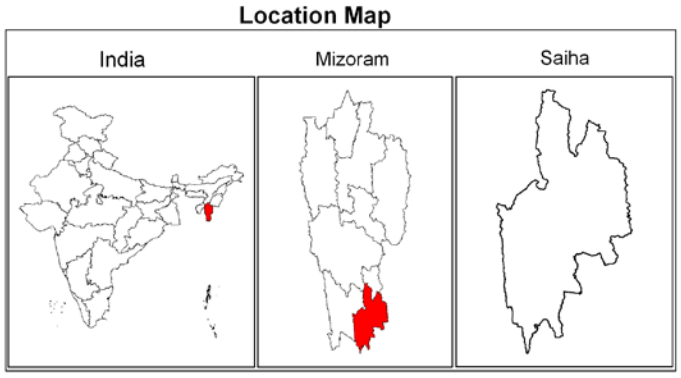


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

District : Saiha

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

MAJOR WETLAND TYPES

8.0 MAJOR WETLAND TYPES OF MIZORAM

Major wetland types observed in the state are rivers and few lakes. Details are given in Plate-1. Ground truth data was collected for selected wetland sites. The standard proforma was used to record the field data. Field photographs are also taken. The location of the features was recorded using GPS. Field photographs and ground truth data of different wetland types are shown in Plates 2a,2b and 2c.

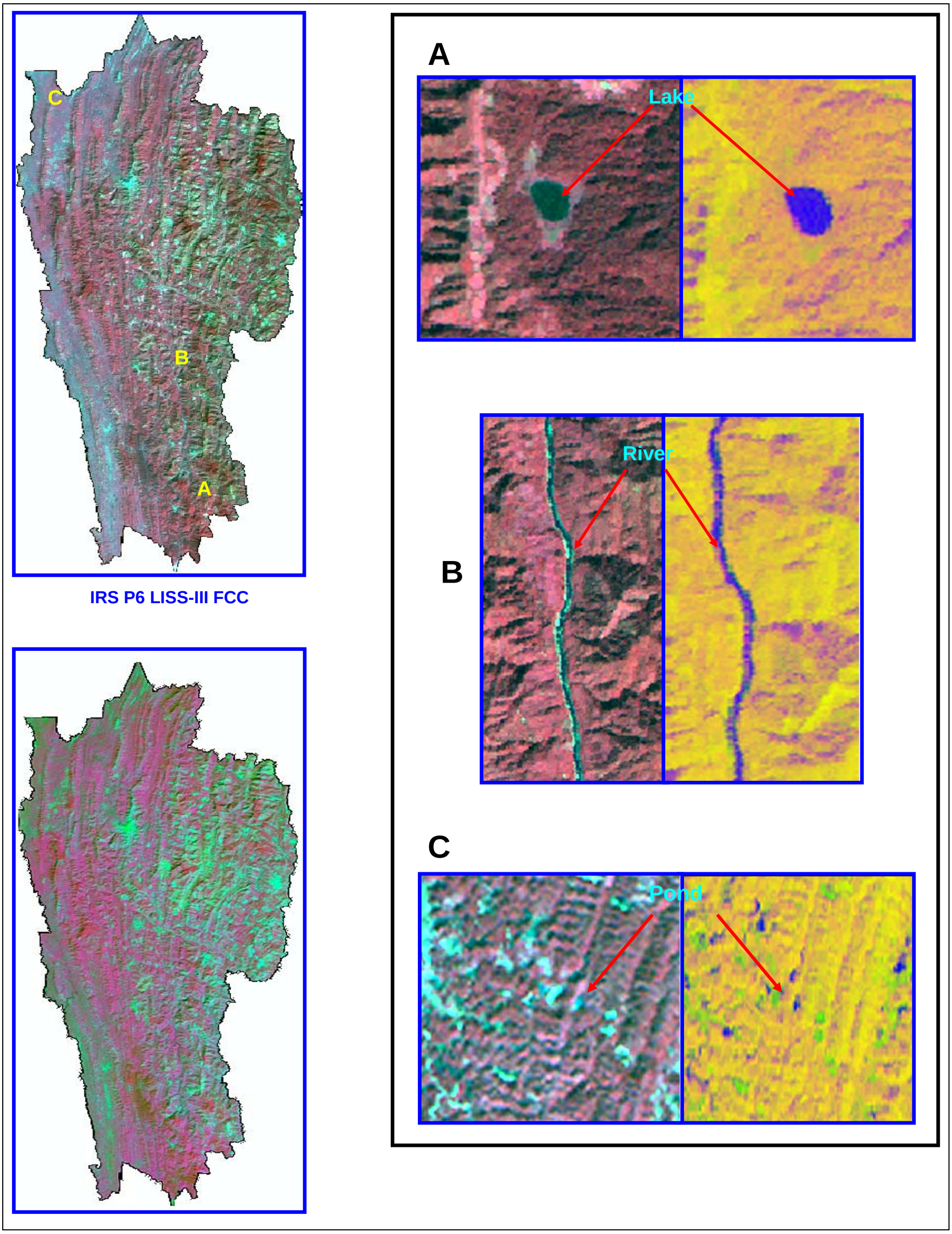


Plate - 1: Major wetland types of Mizoram

Sr. No	Description	Field Photographs
1	Wetland Type : Lake-Palak Location : Longitude : 92^0 53’ E Latitude : 22^0 12’ N	
2	Wetland Type : River-Chhimtuipui Location : Longitude : 92^0 57’ E Latitude : 22^0 22’ N	
3	Wetland Type :Lake-Rungdil Location : Longitude : 93^0 03’ E Latitude : 23^0 59’ N	
4	Wetland Type :River-Tut Location : Longitude : 92^0 31’ E Latitude : 23^0 46’ N	

Plate 2a: Field photographs and ground truth data of different wetland types in Mizoram

Sr. No	Description	Field Photographs
5	Wetland Type : Pond Location : Longitude : 92^0 23’ E Latitude : 23^0 54’ N	
6	Wetland Type : River-Tuichawng Location : Longitude : 92^0 31’ E Latitude : 22^0 54’ N	
7	Wetland Type : Lake-Tamdil Location : Longitude : 92^0 57’ E Llatitude : 23^0 44’ N	
8	Wetland Type : River-Tuipui Location : Longitude : 92^0 23’ E Latitude : 23^0 15’ N	

Plate 2b: Field photographs and ground truth data of different wetland types in Mizoram

IMPORTANT WETLANDS OF MIZORAM

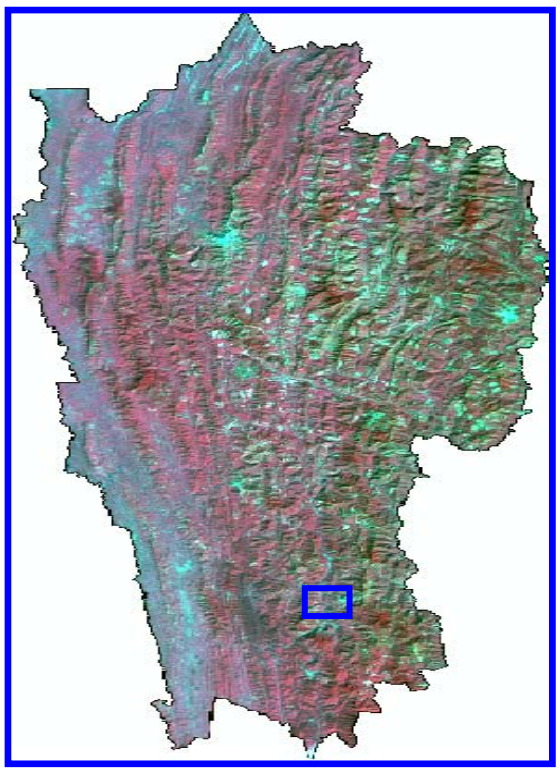
9.0 IMPORTANT WETLANDS OF MIZORAM

Palak lake, Tlawng river and Tamdil lake are the important wetlands of Mizoram. Chhimtuipui river is in the south-eastern part of the state. Extensive field work was carried out for these wetland areas. Wetland maps have been prepared for 5 km buffer area of each wetland sites. Details of each wetland and wetland map of 5 km buffer area are shown in plates 3 to 11.

9.1 Palak Lake

Palak Lake is located at about 200 km from Aizawl in Saiha distirct. It is the largest lake in Mizoram.

	Name: Palak lake
1	**Location** : longitude : 92^0 53' E latitude : 22^0 12' N
2	**Area** : 2685 ha
3	**Wetland type** : Natural lake
4	Palak lake is located in Saiha district, the southern-most district of Mizoram. There are series of mountain ranges in the middle parts of the district. Hence, the district has different temperature conditions for the low lying areas and the hill ranges. However, the district enjoys a moderate climate owing to its tropical location. The area falls under the direct influence of the south west monsoon. As such the area receives an adequate amount of rainfall
5	Palak lake is the largest lake in Mizoram. It is in the midst of a dense forest. It is used for pisciculture by the forest department and is a sanctuary for birds and other animals.



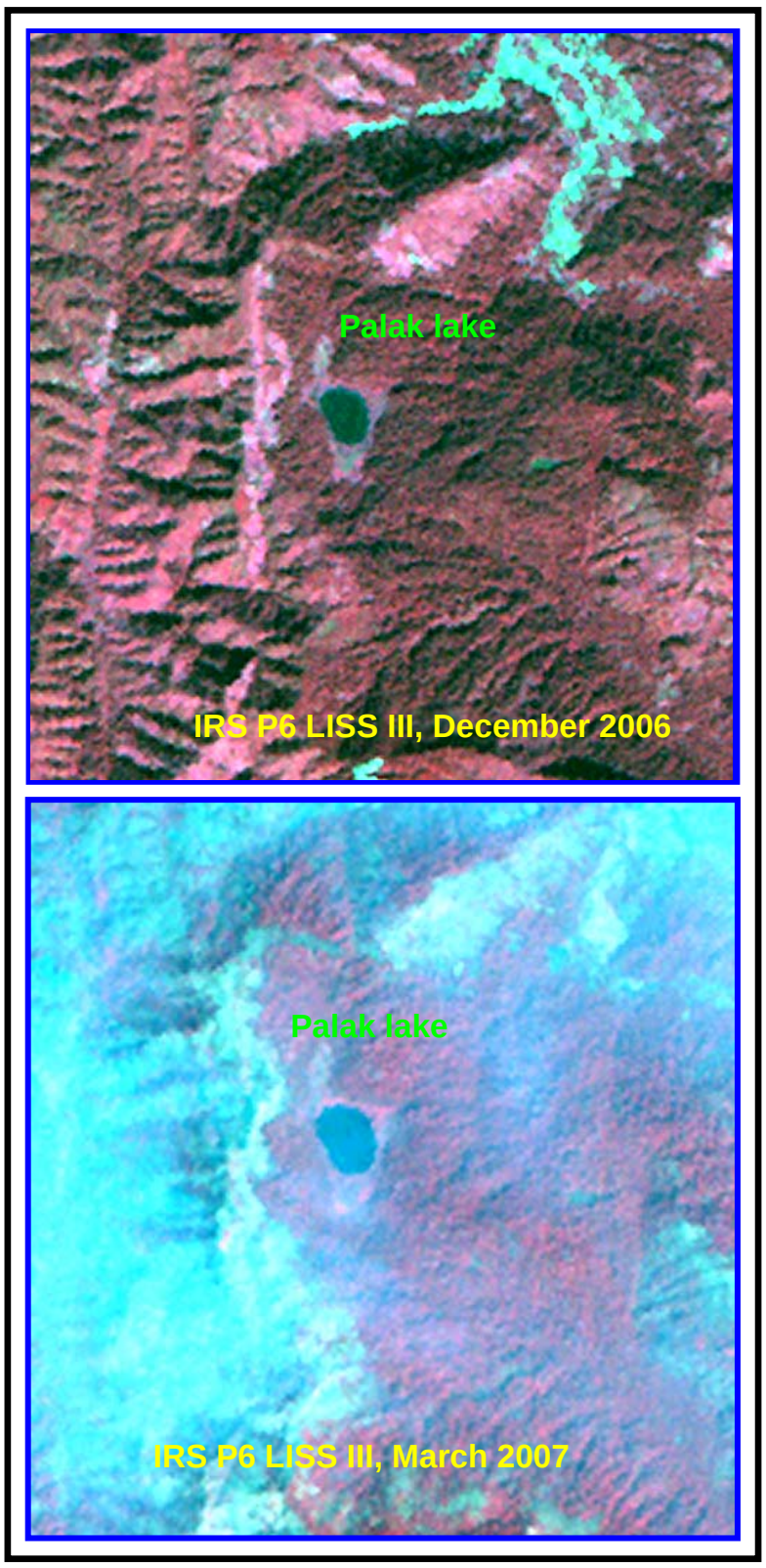
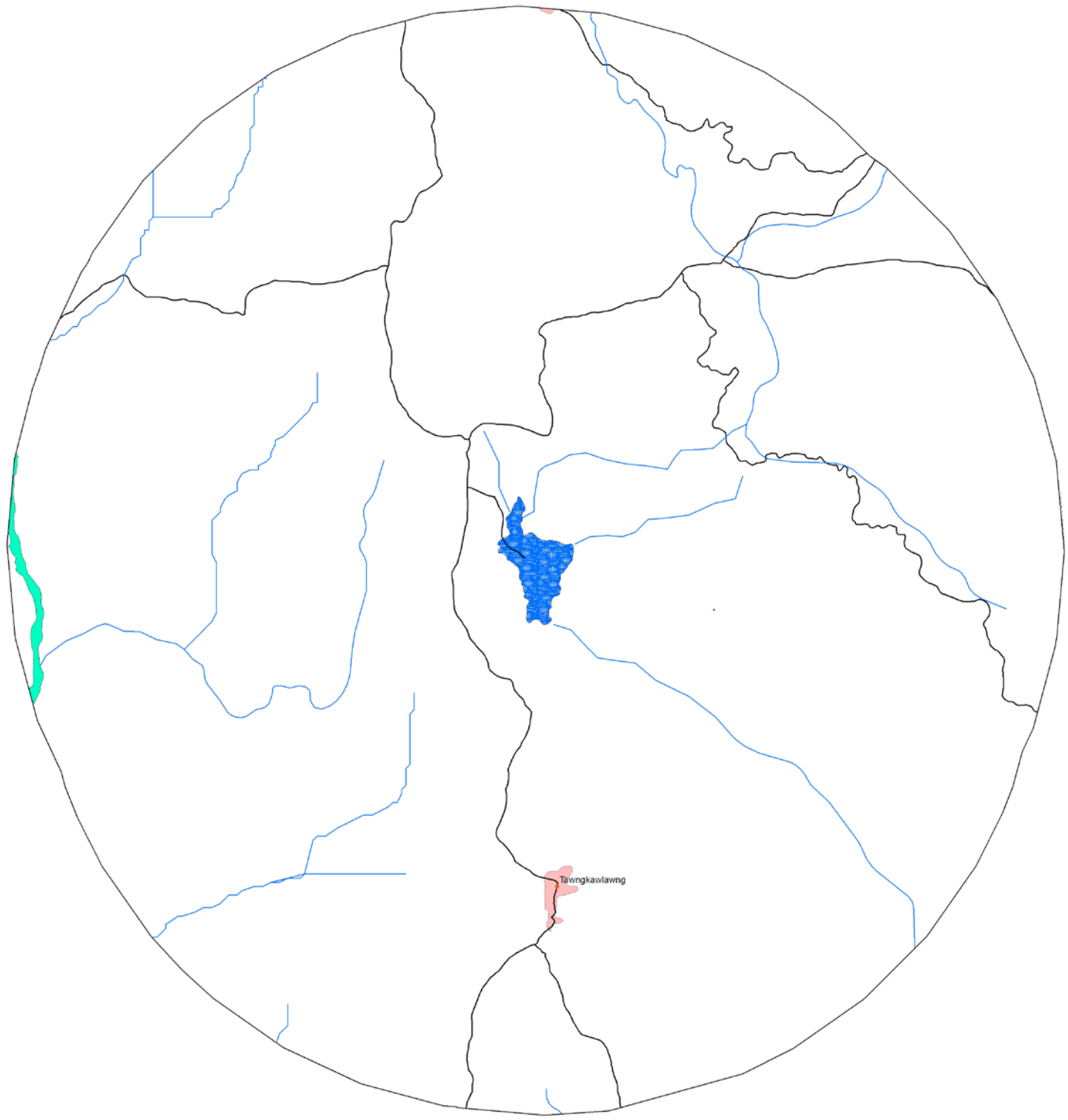


Plate 3: Palak Lake

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

Palak Lake

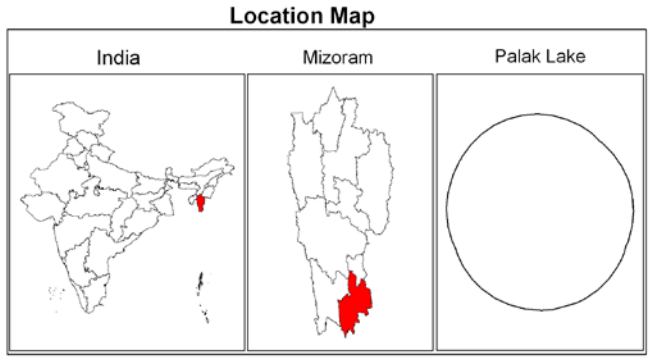


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 0.5 1 2 3 Kilometers

Data Source:
IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:
Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

Plate 4: Wetland map - 5 km buffer area of Palak Lake

State : Mizoram

Palak Lake

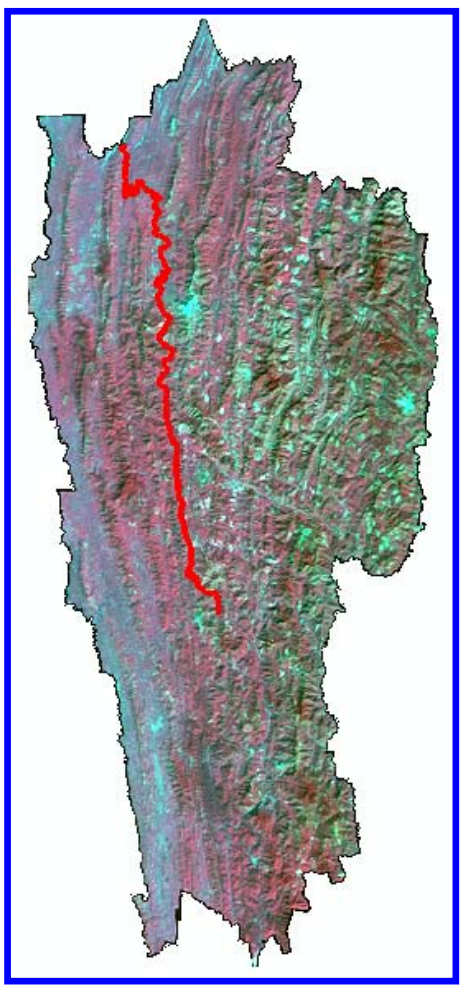
IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

Plate 5: IRS LISS-III FCC of 5 km buffer area of Palak Lake

9.2 **Tlawng River**

Tlawng river is the longest river in Mizoram. Its passes through five districts of the state forming district boundary lines while running along its course.

	Name: Tlawng River
1	**Location** : Northern part of the state
2	**Length** : 185 km
3	**Wetland type** : River
4	The climate of Mizoram is Tropical Monsoon type of climate. So, the area around Tlawng river also enjoys a moderate climate owing to its tropical location. It is neither very hot nor very cold throughout the year. The area falls under the direct influence of the south west monsoon. As such the area receives an adequate amount of rainfall which is responsible for a humid tropical climate characterized by short winter and long summer with heavy rainfall.
5	Tlawng river is one of the most important and the longest river of Mizoram. It is navigable by small boat throughout the year and hence it provides water transport route with neighboring state of Assam.



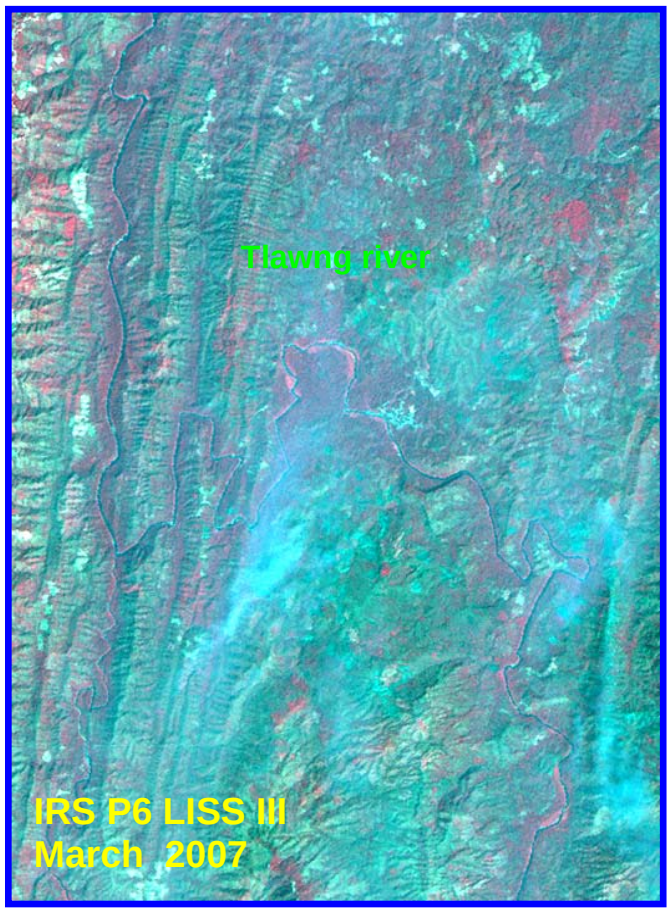
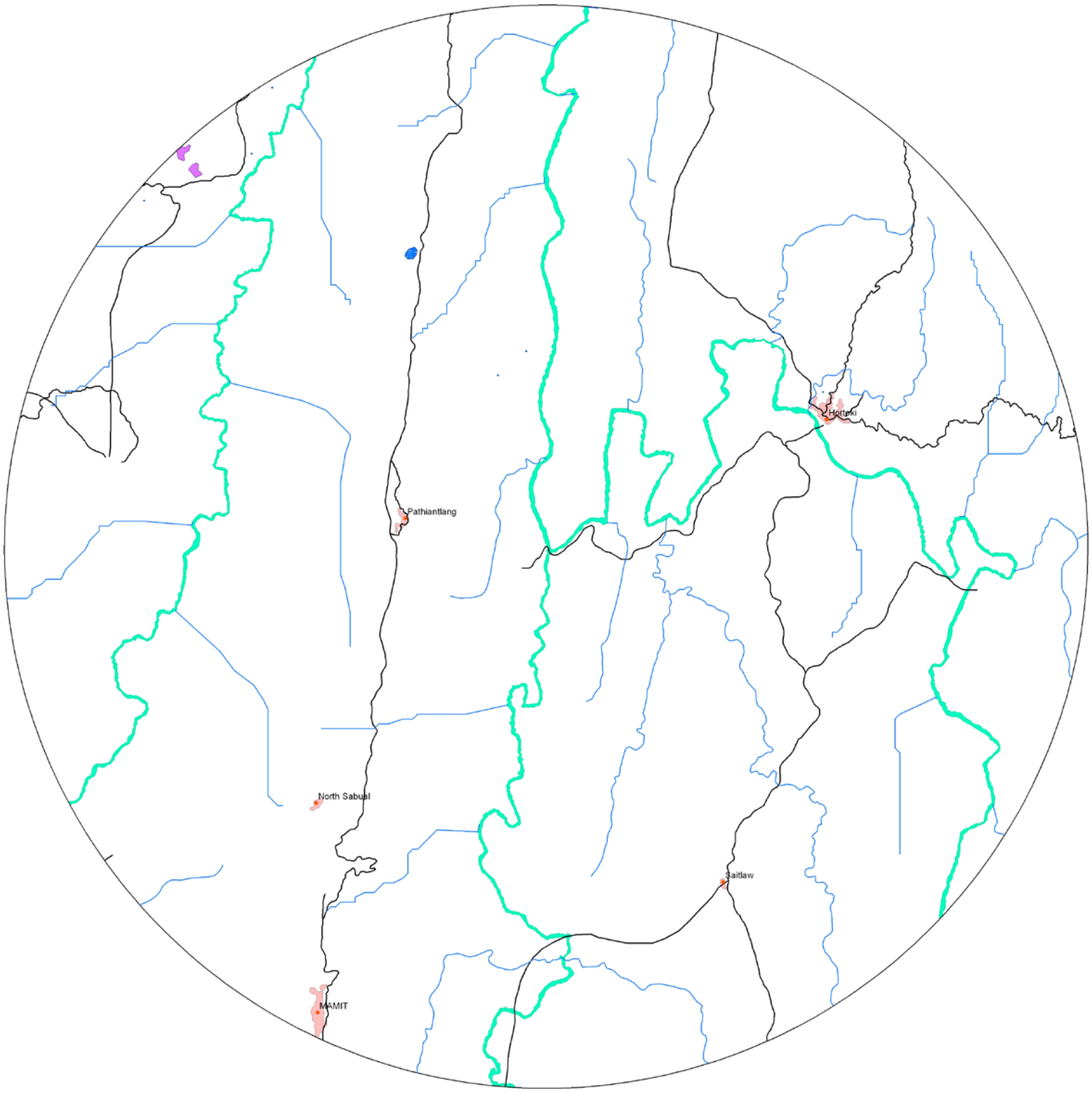


Plate 6: Tlawng River

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

Tlawng River

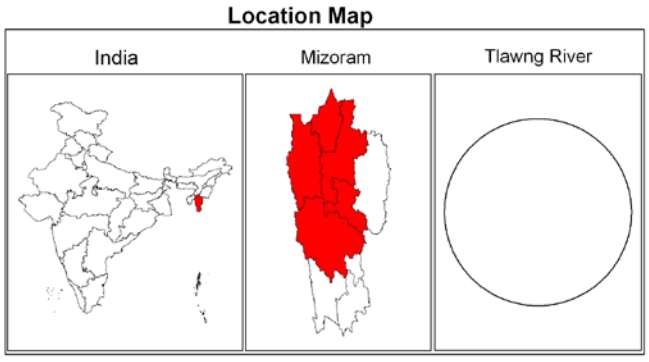


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 1 2 4 6 Kilometers

Data Source:
IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:
Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:
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Government of India

Plate 7: Wetland map - 5 km buffer area of part of Tlawng River

State : Mizoram

Tlawng River

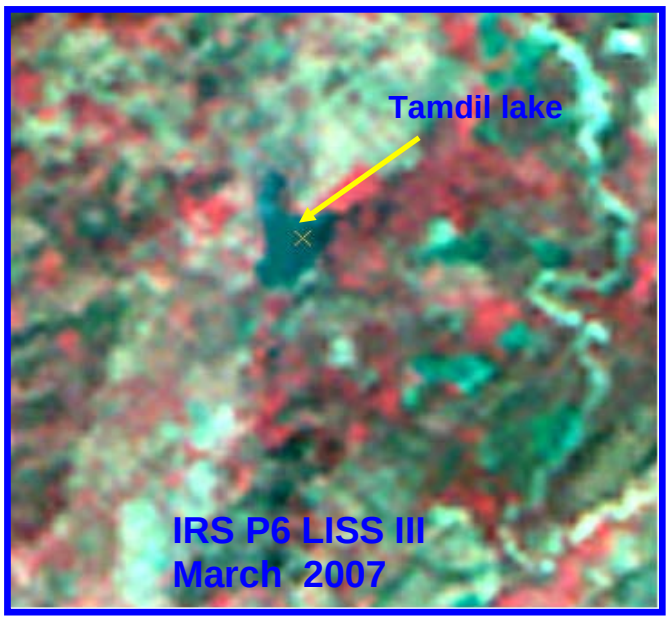
IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

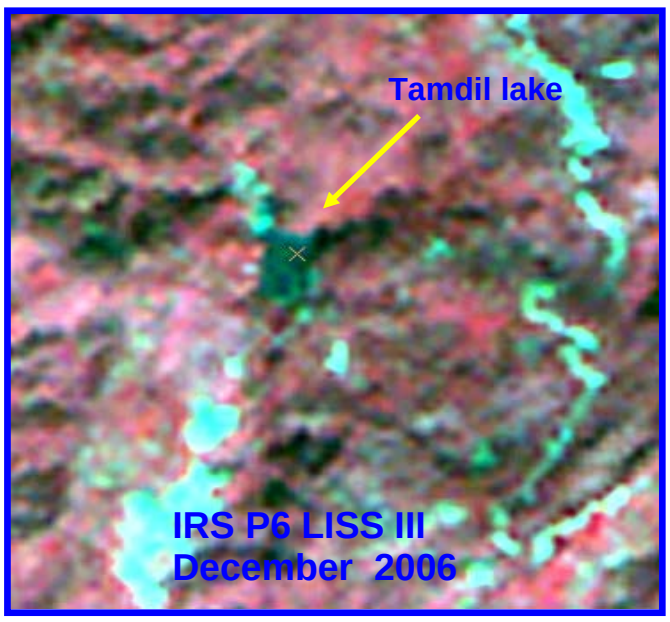
Plate 8: IRS LISS-III FCC of 5 km buffer area of part of Tlawng River

9.3 **Tamdil Lake**

Tamdil Lake is located at a distance of 100 km from Aizawl, near Saitual town. It is the second largest lake in Mizoram.

	Name: Tamdil Lake
1	**Location** : longitude : 92^0 57' E latitude : 23^0 44' N
2	**Area** : 791.55 ha
3	**Wetland type** : River
4	The area around Tamdil lake enjoys a moderate climate owing to its tropical location. It is neither very hot nor very cold throughout the year. The area falls under the direct influence of the south west monsoon. The area receives an adequate amount of rainfall.
5	Tamdil lake is the second largest lake in Mizoram. It is use mainly as a recreational centre. It is fed by small streams from surrounding catchment. The lake is surrounded by thick forest where different kinds of animals and birds are found.





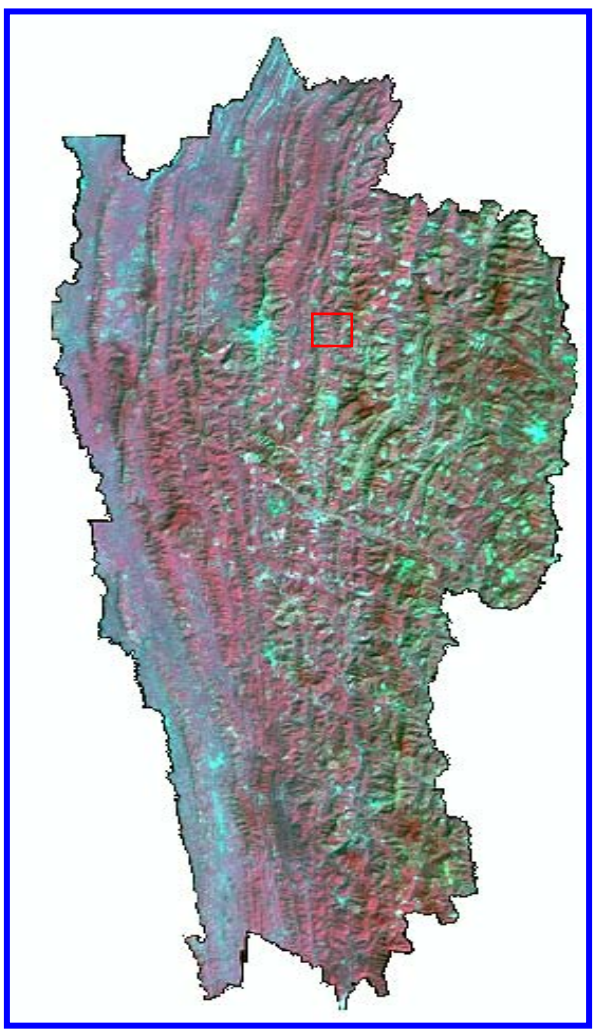


Plate 9: Tamdil Lake

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

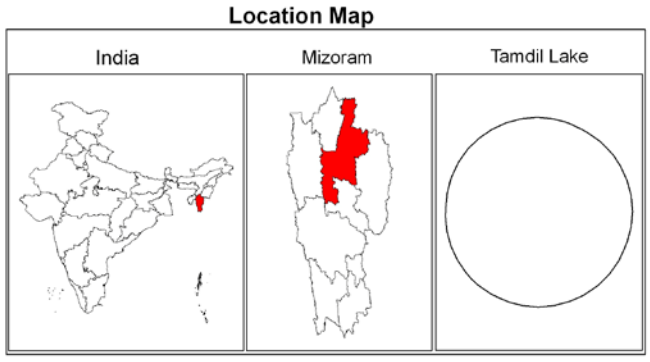
Tamdil Lake

Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 0.5 1 2 3 Kilometers

Data Source:
IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:
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Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:
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Plate 10: Wetland map - 5 km buffer area of Tamdil Lake

State : Mizoram

Tamdil Lake

IRS P6 LISS-III post monsoon data (2006)

Plate 11: IRS LISS-III FCC of 5 km buffer area of part of Tamdil Lake

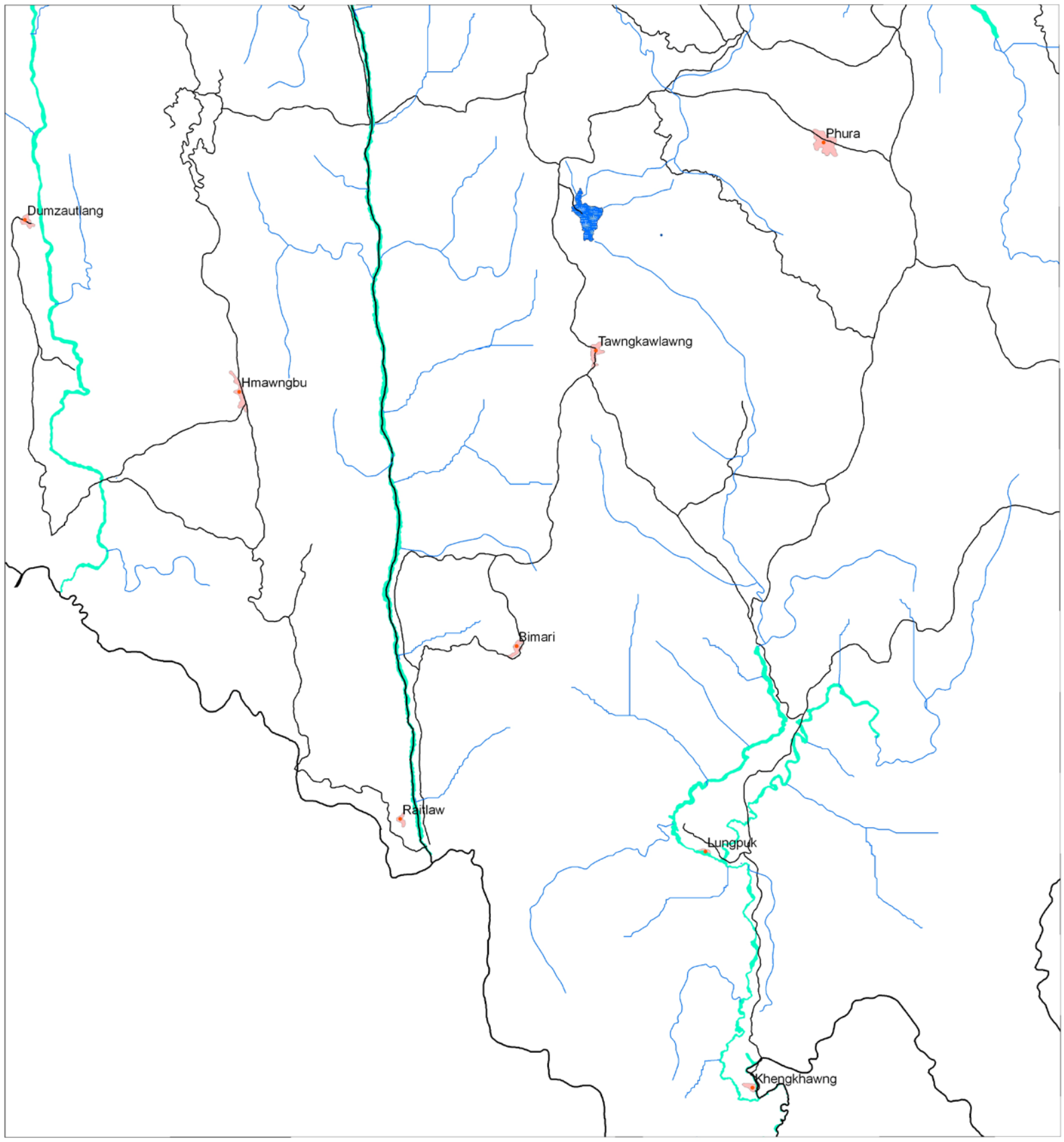
SOI MAP SHEET-WISE WETLAND MAPS

(Selected)

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

Map No. :84B/16



Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
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	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
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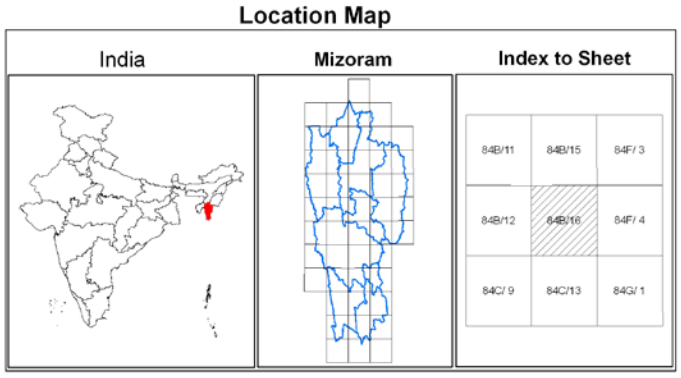
Location Map



0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

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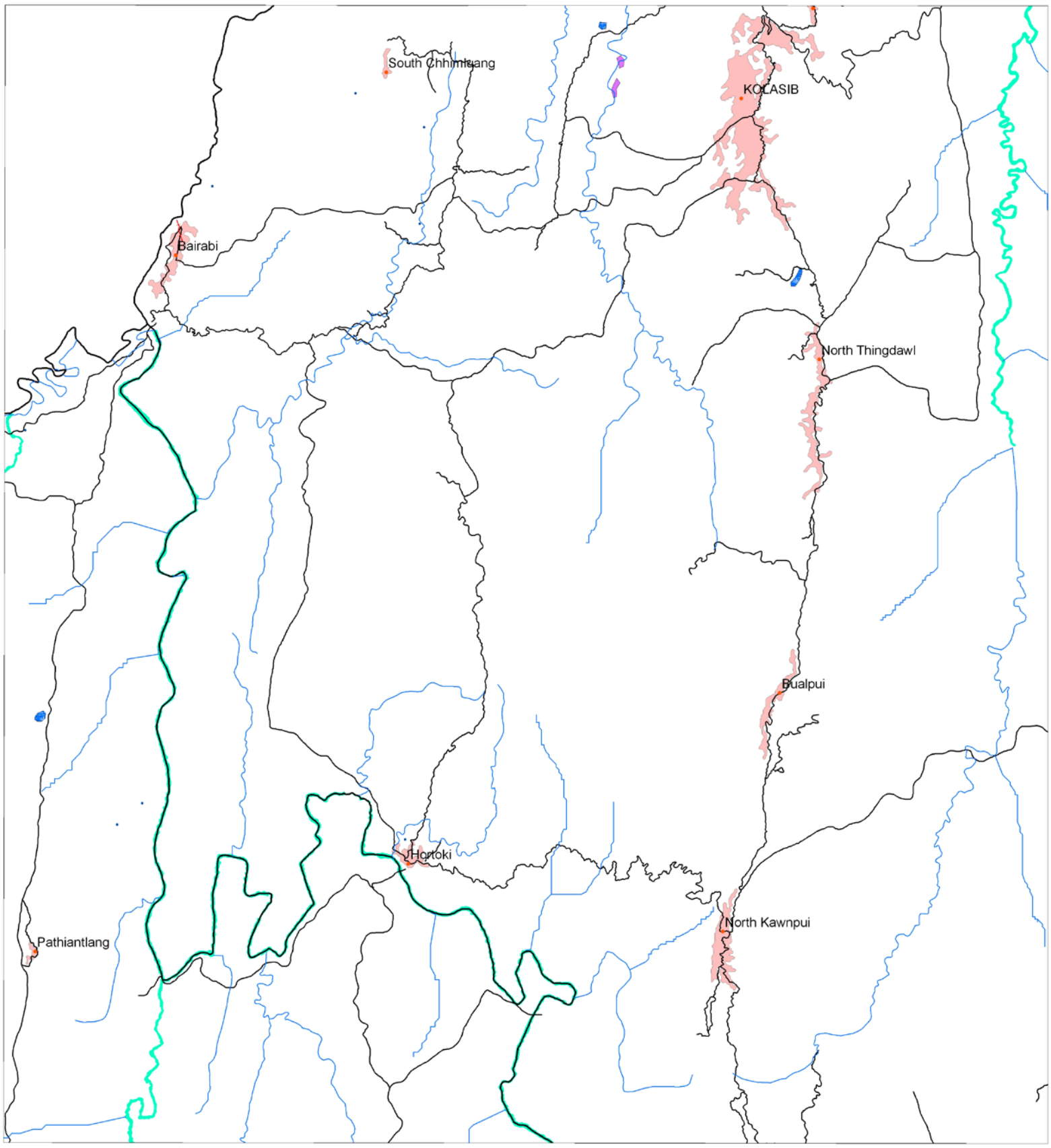
Government of India

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

Map No. :83D/12



Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
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	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
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	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
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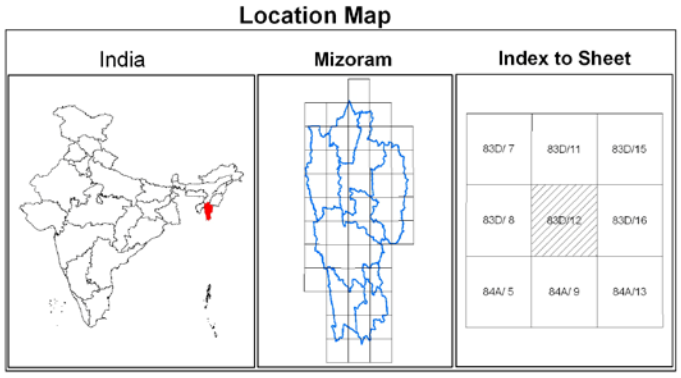
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

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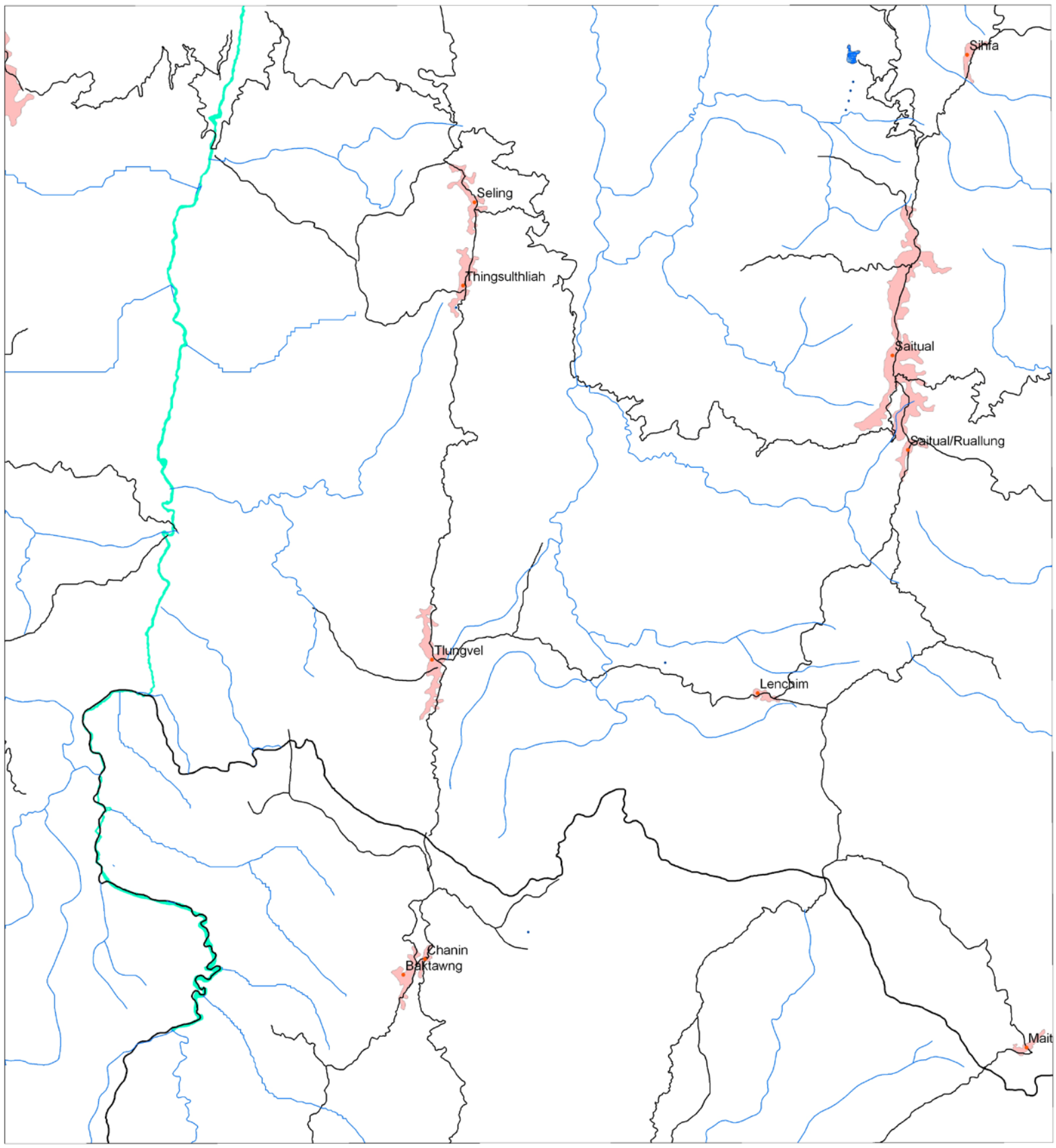
Government of India

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

Map No. :84A/14



Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
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			Man-made	
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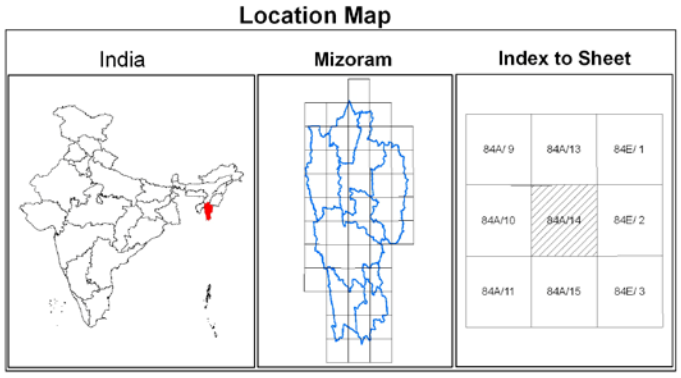
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

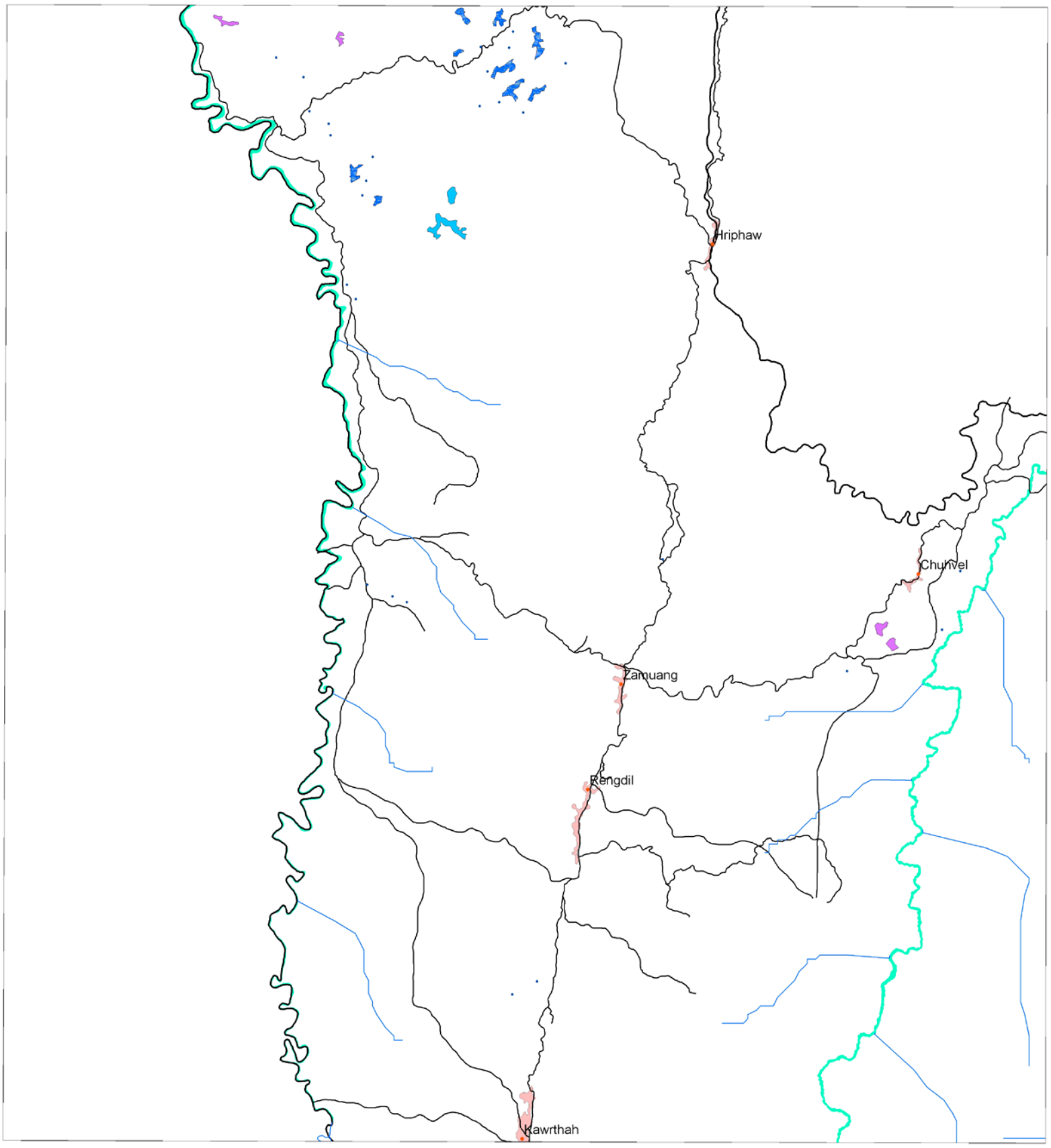
Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

State : Mizoram

WETLAND MAP

Map No. :83D/8

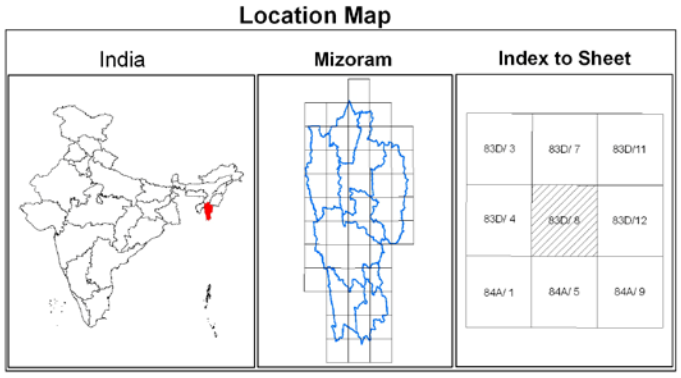


Symbol	Typecode	Level I	Level II	Level III
		Inland Wetlands		
			Natural	
	1101			Lakes/Ponds
	1102			Ox-bow lakes/ Cut-off meanders
	1103			High altitude wetlands
	1104			Reverine wetlands
	1105			Waterlogged
	1106			River/Stream
			Man-made	
	1201			Reservoirs/Barrages
	1202			Tanks/Ponds
	1203			Waterlogged
	1204			Salt pans
		Coastal Wetlands		
			Natural	
	2101			Lagoons
	2102			Creeks
	2103			Sand/Beach
	2104			Intertidal mud flats
	2105			Salt marsh
	2106			Mangroves
	2107			Coral reefs
			Man-made	
	2201			Salt pans
	2202			Aquaculture ponds

Legend

- Wetlands (<2.25 ha)
- Settlements
- Canal
- Drainage(line)
- Railway
- Roads
- District Boundary
- Towns/Settlements

Location Map



0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 Kilometers

Data Source:

IRS P6 LISS III data (Pre-monsoon and Post-monsoon Season 2006-07)

Prepared By:

Space Applications Centre (ISRO), Ahmedabad
and
Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre (MIRSAC)

Sponsored By:

Ministry of Environment and Forests
Government of India

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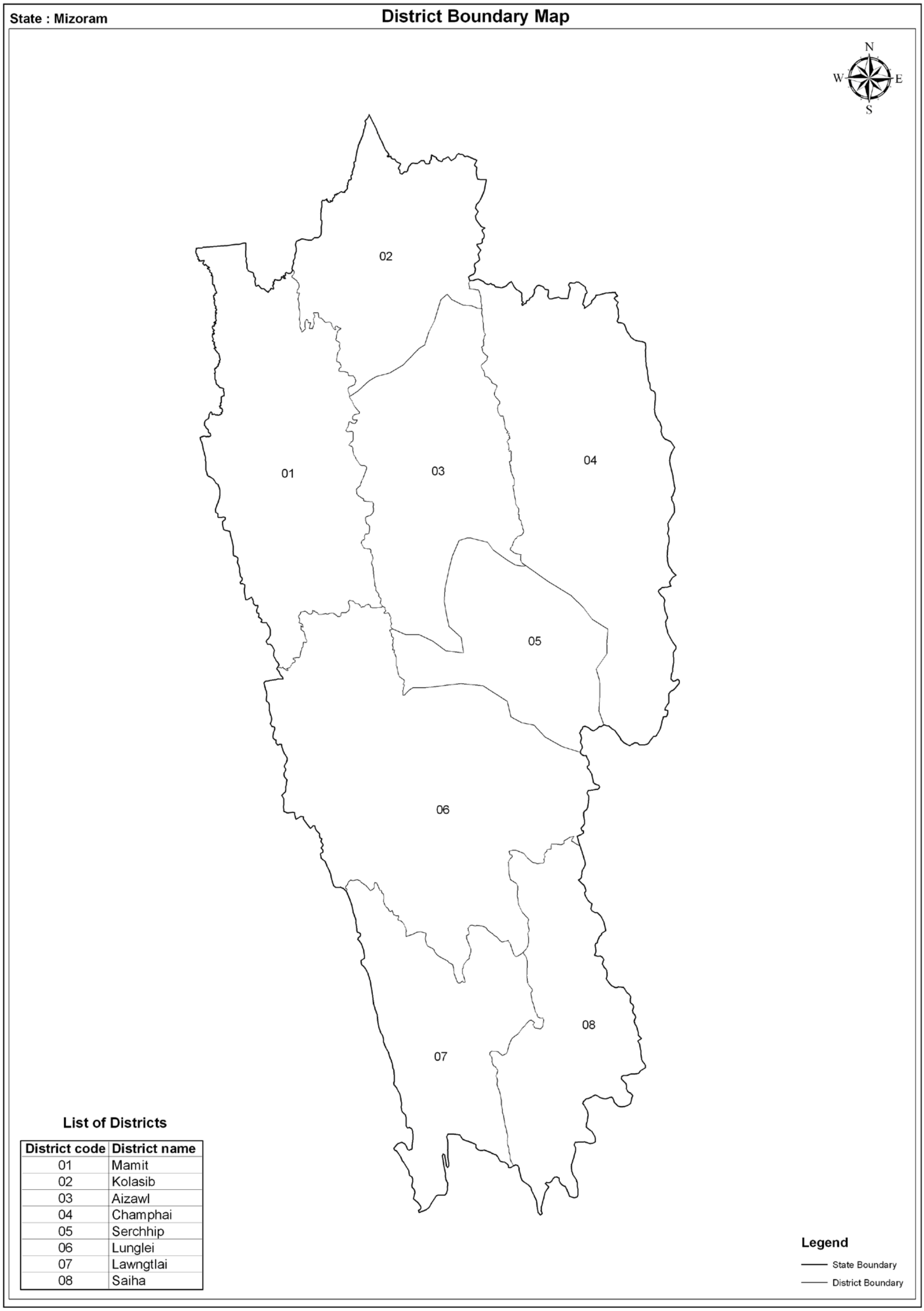
Annexure I
Definitions of wetland categories used in the project

For ease of understanding, definitions of wetland categories and their typical appearance on satellite imagery is given below:

Wetland type code	Definition and description
1000	**Inland Wetlands**
1100	**Natural**
1101	**Lakes**: Larger bodies of standing water occupying distinct basins (Reid *et al*, 1976). These wetlands occur in natural depressions and normally fed by streams/rivers. On satellite images lakes appear in different hues of blue interspersed with pink (aquatic vegetation), islands (white if unvegetated, red in case of terrestrial vegetation). Vegetation if scattered make texture rough.
1102	**Ox-bow lakes/ Cut off meanders**: A meandering stream may erode the outside shores of its broad bends, and in time the loops may become cut-off, leaving basins. The resulting shallow crescent-shaped lakes are called oxbow lakes (Reid *et al*, 1976). On the satellite image Ox-bow lakes occur near the rivers in plain areas. Some part of the lake normally has aquatic vegetation (red/pink in colour) during pre-monsoon season.
1103	**High Altitude lakes:** These lakes occur in the Himalayan region. Landscapes around high lakes are characterized by hilly topography. Otherwise they resemble lakes in the plain areas. For keeping uniformity in the delineation of these lakes contour line of 3000 m above msl will be taken as reference and all lakes above this contour line will be classified as high altitude lakes.
1104	**Riverine Wetlands**: Along the major rivers, especially in plains water accumulates leading to formation of marshes and swamp. **Swamps** are 'Wetland dominated by trees or shrubs' (U.S. Definition). In Europe, a forested fen (a peat accumulating wetland that has no significant inflows or outflows and supports acidophilic mosses, particularly *Sphagnum*) could be called a swamp. In some areas reed grass - dominated wetlands are also called swamps). (Mitsch and Gosselink, 1986). **Marsh**: A frequently or continually inundated wetland characterised by emergent herbaceous vegetation adapted to saturated soil conditions. In European terminology a marsh has a mineral soil substrate and does not accumulate peat (Mitsch and Gosselink, 1986). Tone is grey blue and texture is smooth. **Comment**: Using satellite data it is difficult to differentiate between swamp and marsh. Hence, both have been clubbed together.
1105	**Waterlogged:** Said of an area in which water stands near, at, or above the land surface, so that the roots of all plants except hydrophytes are drowned and the plants die (Margarate *et al*, 1974). Floods or unlined canal seepage and other irrigation network may cause waterlogging. Spectrally, during the period when surface water exists, waterlogged areas appear more or less similar to lakes/ponds. However, during dry season large or all parts of such areas dry up and give the appearance of mud/salt flats (grey bluish).
1106	**River/stream:** Rivers are linear water features of the landscape. Rivers that are wider than the mapping unit will be mapped as polygons. Its importance arises from the fact that many stretches of the rivers in Indo-Gangetic Plains and peninsular India are declared important national and international wetlands (Ex. The river Ganga between Brajghat and Garh Mukteshwar, is a Ramsar site, Ranganthattu on the Cavery river is a bird sanctuary etc.). Wherever, rivers are wide and features like sand bars etc. are visible, they will be mapped.
1200	**Man-made**
1201	***Reservoir****: A pond or lake built for the storage of water, usually by the construction of a dam across a river (Margarate et al, 1974). On RS images, reservoirs have irregular boundary behind a prominent dyke. Wetland boundary in case of reservoir incorporates water, aquatic vegetation and footprint of water as well. In the accompanying images aquatic vegetation in the reservoir is seen in bright pink tone. Tone is dark blue in deep reservoirs while it is ink blue in case of shallow reservoirs or reservoirs with high silt load. These will be annotated as Reservoirs/Dam.* **Barrage:** Dykes are constructed in the plain areas over rivers for creating Irrigation/water facilities. Such water storage areas develop into wetlands (Harike Barrage on Satluj – a Ramsar site, Okhla barrage on the Yamuna etc. – a bird sanctuary). Water appears in dark blue tone with a smooth texture. Aquatic vegetation appears in pink colour, which is scattered, or contiguous depending on the density. Reservoirs formed by barrages will be annotated as reservoir/barrage.

1202	**Tanks/Ponds:** A term used in Ceylon and the drier parts of Peninsular India for an artificial pond, pool or lake formed by building a mud wall across the valley of a small stream to retain the monsoon (Margarate *et al*, 1974). **Ponds** Generally, suggest a small, quiet body of standing water, usually shallow enough to permit the growth of rooted plants from one shore to another (Reid *et al*, 1976). Tanks appear in light blue colour showing bottom reflectance. In this category **Industrial ponds/mining pools mainly comprising Abandoned Quarries are also included (**Quarry is defined as "An open or surface working or excavation for the extraction of stone, ore, coal, gravel or minerals." In such pits water accumulate (McGraw Hill Encyclopaedia of Environmental Sciences, 1974), **Ash pond/Cooling pond** (The water body created for discharging effluents in industry, especially in thermal power plants (Encyclopaedic Directory of Environment, 1988) and **Cooling pond**: An artificial lake used for the natural cooling of condenser-cooling water serving a conventional power station (Encyclopaedic Directory of Environment, 1988). These ponds can be of any shape and size. Texture is rough and tonal appearance light (quarry) to blue shade (cooling pond).
1203	**Waterlogged :** Man-made activities like canals cause waterlogging in adjacent areas due to seepage especially when canals are unlined. Such areas can be identified on the images along canal network. Tonal appearance is in various hues of blue. Sometimes, such waterlogged areas dry up and leave white scars on the land. Texture is smooth.
1204	**Salt pans:** Inland salt pans in India occur in Rajasthan (Sambhar lake). These are shallow rectangular man-made depressions in which saline water is accumulated for drying in the sun for making salt.
2000	**Coastal Wetlands**
2100	**Natural**
2101	**Lagoons/Backwaters:** Such coastal bodies of water, partly separated from the sea by barrier beaches or bass of marine origin, are more properly termed lagoons. As a rule, lagoons are elongate and lie parallel to the shoreline. They are usually characteristic of, but not restricted to, shores of emergence. Lagoons are generally shallower and more saline than typical estuaries (Reid *et al*, 1976). **Backwater**: A creek, arm of the sea or series of connected lagoons, usually parallel to the coast, separated from the sea by a narrow strip of land but communicating with it through barred outlets (Margarate *et al*, 1974).
2102	**Creek:** A notable physiographic feature of salt marshes, especially low marshes. These creeks develop as do rivers "with minor irregularities sooner or later causing the water to be deflected into definite channels" (Mitsch and Gosselink, 1986). Creeks will be delineated, however, their area will not be estimated.
2103	**Sand/Beach:** Beach is an unvegetated part of the shoreline formed of loose material, usually sand that extends from the upper berm (a ridge or ridges on the backshore of the beach, formed by the deposit of material by wave action, that marks the upper limit of ordinary high tides and wave wash to low water mark(Clark,1977).Beach comprising rocky material is called rocky beach.
2104	**Intertidal mudflats**: Most unvegetated areas that are alternately exposed and inundated by the falling and rising of the tide. They may be mudflats or sand flats depending on the coarseness of the material of which they are made (Clark, 1977).
2105	**Salt Marsh**: Natural or semi-natural halophytic grassland and dwarf brushwood on the alluvial sediments bordering saline water bodies whose water level fluctuates either tidally or non- tidally (Mitsch and Gosselink, 1986). Salt marshes look in grey blue shade when wet.
2106	**Mangroves**: The mangrove swamp is an association of halophytic trees, shrubs, and other plants growing in brackish to saline tidal waters of tropical and sub-tropical coastlines (Mitsch and Gosselink, 1986). On the satellite images mangroves occur in red colour if in contiguous patch. When mangrove associations are scattered or are degraded then instead of red colour, brick red colour may be seen.
2107	**Coral reefs:** Consolidated living colonies of microscopic organisms found in warm tropical waters. The term coral reef, or organic reef is applied to the rock- like reefs built-up of living things, principally corals. They consist of accumulations of calcareous deposits of corals and corraline algae with the intervening space connected with sand, which consists largely of shells of foraminefera. Present reefs are living associations growing on this accumulation of past (Clark, 1977). Reefs appear in light blue shade.
2200	**Man-made**
2201	**Salt pans**: An undrained usually small and shallow rectangular, man-made depression or hollow in which saline water accumulates and evaporates leaving a salt deposit (Margarate *et al*, 1974). Salt pans are square or rectangular in shape. When water is there appearance is blue while salt is formed tone is white.
2202	**Aquaculture ponds**: Aquaculture is defined as "The breeding and rearing of fresh-water or marine fish in captivity. Fish farming or ranching". The water bodies used for the above are called aquaculture ponds (Encyclopaedic Directory of Environment, 1988). Aquaculture ponds are geometrical in shape usually square or rectangular. Tone is blue.

Annexure I
Definitions of wetland categories used in the project



Source : Survey of India (Surveyed in 2004 and published in 2005)

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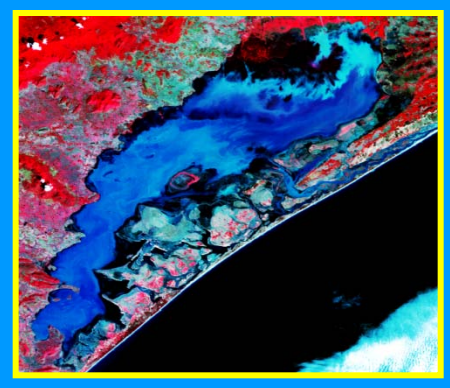

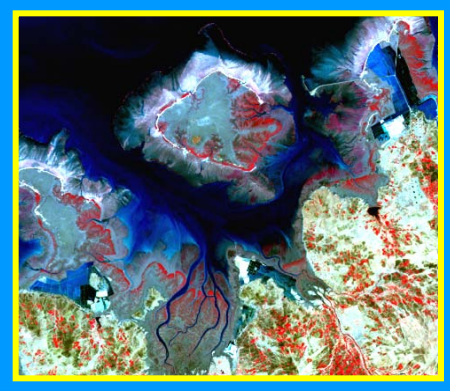

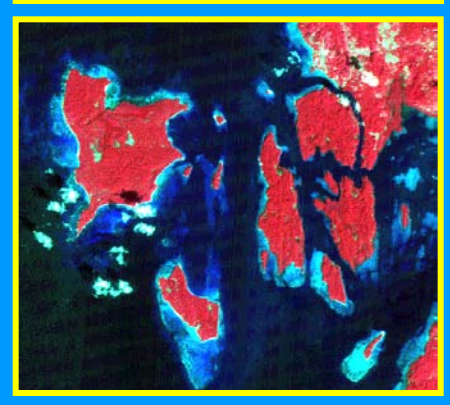

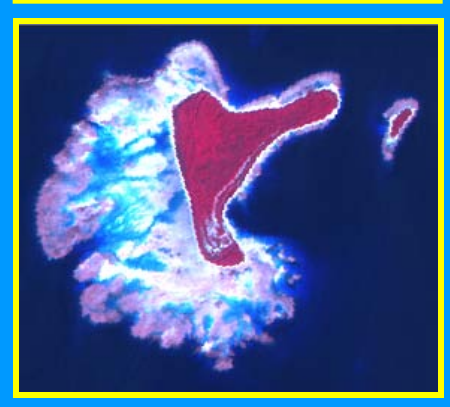

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