

Evolution of Land Use and Land Cover Change in Panjim, Goa: A Comparative Analysis from 1990 to 2024

Gogana Prasanna Raj¹ Asmita Deb² Dr. Venkateswarlu Gogana³ Amar Viplov Beera⁴

1. M-Tech Planning, School of Planning and Architecture, Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University (JNAFAU) Hyderabad, Telangana.
2. M-Tech Planning, School of Planning and Architecture, Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University (JNAFAU) Hyderabad, Telangana.
3. Professor of Civil Engineering, Chaitanya Demand to Be University Hyderabad, Telangana.
4. Lecturer, Department of Engineering, Architecture Engineering, University of Technology and Applied Sciences, PO Box – 327, Al Yahmadi, Ibra – 400, Al Sharqiah North, Oman.

Abstract

This research paper investigates the dynamics of land use and land cover (LU/LC) change in Panjim, Goa, India, from 1990 to 2024. Using satellite Data and GIS techniques, the study analyzes the spatial and temporal transformations of land cover categories, including forest, agriculture, urban areas, and water bodies. The primary objective is to understand the drivers of LU/LC change and assess their implications for sustainable urban development and environmental conservation. The findings reveal significant urban expansion, encroachment on agricultural lands, and reduction in forest cover. The study highlights the need for effective land use planning and management strategies to mitigate negative environmental impacts and ensure the city's long-term sustainability.

Keywords: Land Use, Land Cover, Supervised Classification, Change Detection, Accuracy Assessment

1. Introduction

Panjim, the capital city of Goa, India, has witnessed rapid urbanization and development over the past few decades. This transformation has led to significant changes in land use and land cover (LU/LC), with implications for the city's environment, economy, and quality of life. Understanding the patterns and drivers of LU/LC change is crucial for informed decision-making and sustainable urban planning.

This research paper aims to analyze the LU/LC dynamics in Panjim from 1990 to 2024, using satellite imagery and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) techniques. The study will investigate the spatial and temporal distribution of different land cover categories, identify the major drivers of LU/LC change, and assess the environmental and socio-economic implications of these transformations.

2. Study Area

The Corporation of Panaji City (CCP) had prepared a City Development Plan (CDP) in 2007 for an area of 8.12 km² with a population of about 59,066. The revision of CDP for the Panaji city has been prepared in keeping with the objectives of the CBUD project to address the major constraints of urban development and specifically focus on the capacity building requirements for successful urban management and poverty reduction across the selected ULBs in India. Panaji is Municipal Corporation which is located in Tiswadi taluk of North Goa district. It is the state capital of Goa and district head quarter of North Goa district. It was annexed by India with the rest of Goa and the former Portuguese territories in the invasion of 1961 and became a state-capital on Goa's elevation to statehood in 1987 and has been the administrative center from the time of Portuguese rule. It is presently the state capital of Goa and the only urban centre in the state with the status of Municipal Corporation. Panaji is the third largest city of the state after Margao and Vasco. In the recent years the city has emerged as a major tourist destination in the state due to its tourism resources, good connectivity and availability of good tourist infrastructure facilities. The growing importance of the city as tourist destination has increased the tourism based economic activities by many folds over the years. This has been supported by various trade and commerce establishments, hotels and restaurants, tours and travels and tourism based art and artefacts. The city is also a major trading center for agricultural products and other commodities coming from the neighboring smaller towns and rural areas. The city also serves as the medical and education hub for urban and rural areas within the district as well as state. Panaji population accounts to 2% of the total state's urban population and 16% of the North Goa district urban population. The city population growth has been fluctuating over the past five decades mostly due to the changes in the area under jurisdiction of CCP. The total population of Panaji is 40,017 as per Census 2011 which shows decline of population from Census 2001 population of 59,066. This is due to exclusion of Taleigao and Durgawado, which were part of Panaji Municipal Council in Census 2001 are made outgrowths in Census 2011. In 2002 when Panaji gained the status of Municipal Corporation by incorporation of the Corporation of City of Panaji Act 2002, these areas were excluded from the jurisdiction of Panaji resulting in to reduction of population. The city receives considerable amount of tourist population throughout the year. As per the tourist statistics for 2011, Tiswadi taluka received 1,13,6861 tourists which comprised of 6,90,926 domestic tourists and 4,45,935 foreign tourists. Given the fact that Panaji is one of the prime tourist destinations in the taluk, it can be assumed that the city receives maximum amount of Taluka level tourist's arrivals throughout the year.

Note: The boundaries and wards may have changed since the last official update.

Panaji, also known as Panjim, is the capital city of Goa, a state located on the western coast of India. Here's an introduction to the Panaji Municipality:

3. Methodology

1. **Satellite Imagery Acquisition:** Landsat satellite imagery for the years 1990, 2001, 2011, and 2024 was obtained from the United States Geological Survey (USGS).
2. **Preprocessing and Image Classification:** The satellite images were preprocessed to correct for atmospheric effects and radiometric distortions. Supervised classification techniques, such as maximum likelihood or support vector machine, were employed to classify the images into different land cover categories, including forest, agriculture, urban areas, water bodies, and others.
3. **Accuracy Assessment:** The accuracy of the classified images was assessed using ground truth data collected through field surveys and high-resolution imagery.
4. **Change Detection Analysis:** Change detection techniques were applied to identify areas of LULC change between different time periods.
5. **Spatial Analysis:** GIS tools were used to analyze the spatial distribution of LU/LC changes, identify hotspots of development, and assess the relationship between LU/LC changes and environmental factors.

Table 1: Summary of Datasets

Data	Criteria	LULC simulation	Year	Source	Data format
DEM	Slope	Explanatory map	2007	ASF Data Search Facility and NASA Earth Data	GeoTIFF
DEM	Distance from streams	Explanatory map	2016	strahler order algorithm in arcgis pro	Shp
Road map	Distance from roads	Explanatory map	2023	OpenStreetMap	Shp
Built-up areas	Distance from built-up areas	Explanatory map	2023	Thematic map prepared for the year 2023 using maximum likelihood classifier (MLC)	GeoTIFF
Commercial center of the region	Distance from the center of town	Explanatory map	2011	Town and country planning report of Panjim	Pdf
LULC map	LULC	Input Map	1990/2001/2011/2024	United States Geological Survey (USGS) (https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/)	GeoTIFF

Table 2: Description of satellite imageries used in the study (source: USGS Earth Explorer)

Satellite	Sensor	Path/row
Landsat 4	Landsat 4-5 TM C2 L2	146/049
Landsat 4	Landsat 4-5 TM C2 L2	146/049
Landsat 8	Landsat 8-9 OLI/TIRS C2 L2	146/049
Landsat 8	Landsat 8-9 OLI/TIRS C2 L2	146/049

Fig1.Methodological workflow and data analysis

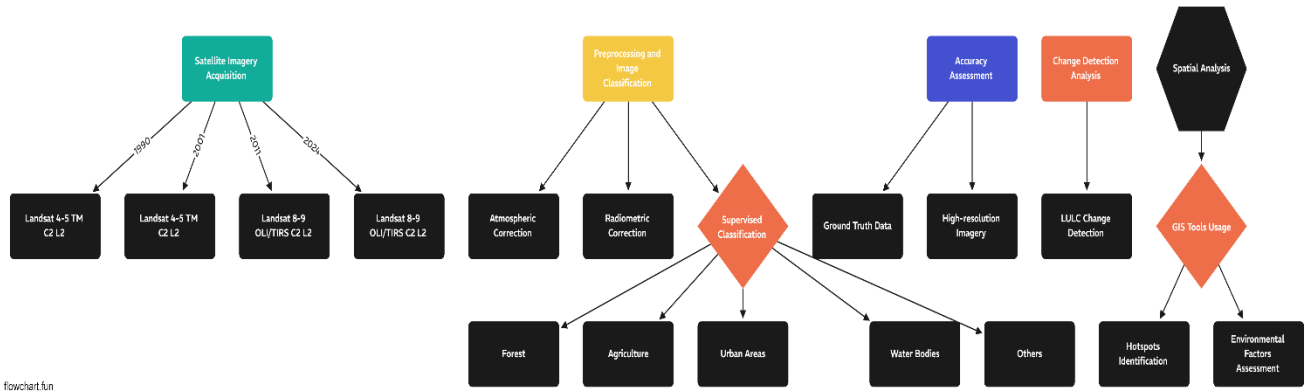


Table 3: Description of the different LULC categories

LULC class	General description
Protected areas (PA)	Includes forests and green spaces
Built-up areas (BA)	Settlements and roads
Barren land (BL)	Unvegetated and uncultivable area
Water bodies (WB)	Streams and lake

4.Results and Discussion

The analysis of LULC changes in Panjim from 1990 to 2024 revealed several key trends:

- i. **Urban Expansion:** Urban areas have significantly expanded over the study period, encroaching on agricultural lands and natural habitats.
- ii. **Loss of Forest Cover:** Forest cover has declined due to deforestation for urban development, infrastructure projects, and other human activities.
- iii. **Agricultural Land Conversion:** Agricultural lands have been converted to urban areas, leading to a reduction in agricultural production.
- iv. **Changes in Water Bodies:** The extent and quality of water bodies have been affected by urbanization, pollution, and climate change.

4.1 Image Processing and Data Analysis:

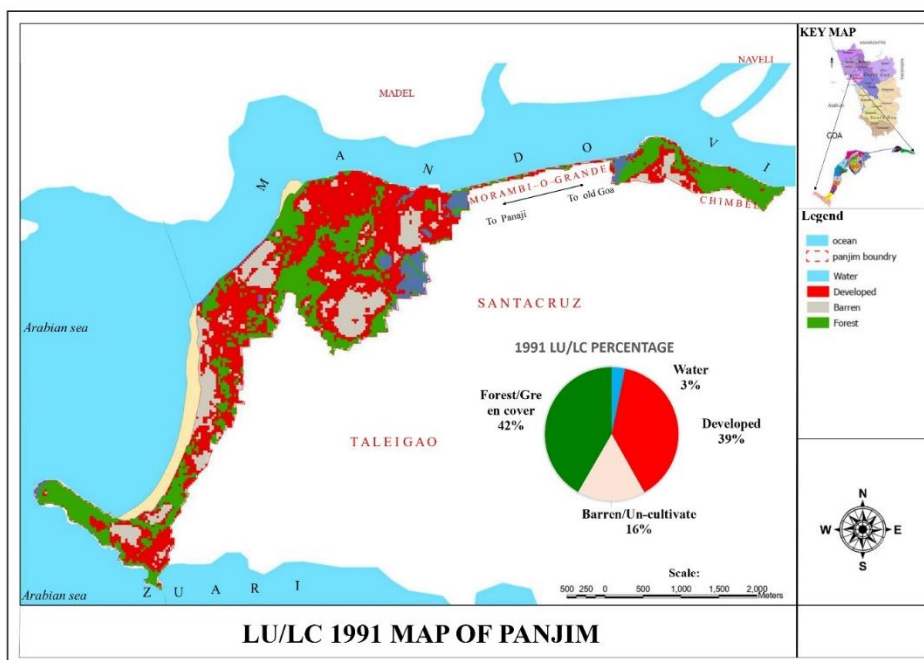
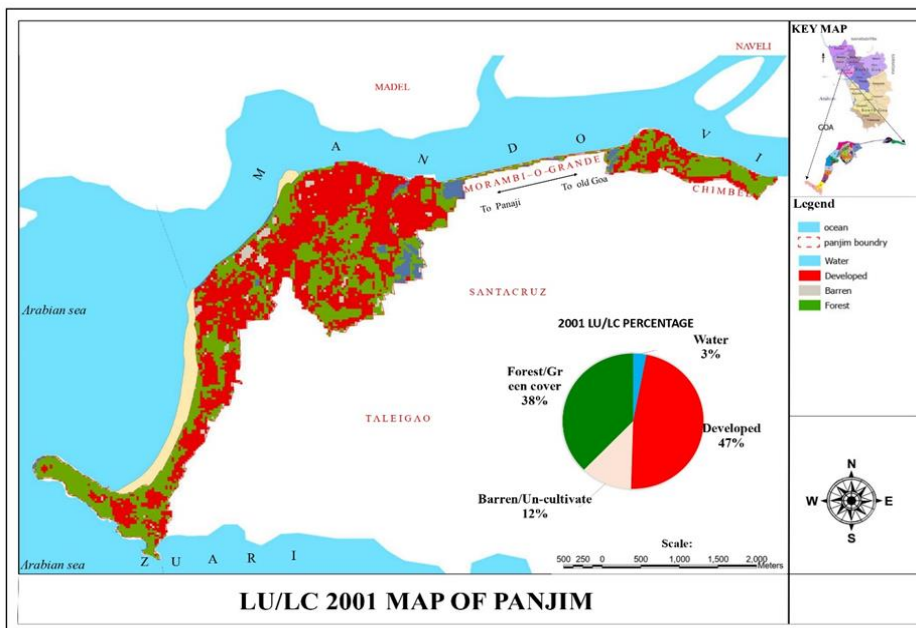
Steps to Perform Image Pre-Processing in ArcGIS Pro

- i. **Import Image:** Add the image to your ArcGIS Pro project.
- ii. **Examine Image Properties:** Check the image's metadata, spatial reference, and data type.
- iii. **Apply Necessary Corrections:** Use the appropriate tools in ArcGIS Pro's Image Analyst extension to perform radiometric, geometric, and other corrections.
- iv. **Enhance Image:** Apply enhancement techniques as needed to improve image quality.

- v. **Create Mosaics (if necessary):** Combine multiple images into a single mosaic.
- vi. **Save Processed Image:** Save the processed image in a suitable format for further analysis.

4.2 Tools in ArcGIS Pro for Image Pre-Processing:

- i. **Raster Dataset Properties:** Used to view and modify image properties.
- ii. **Raster Calculator:** Performs mathematical operations on raster data.
- iii. **Raster Functions:** Provides a variety of tools for image processing, including atmospheric correction, geometric correction, and enhancement.
- iv. **Mosaic Dataset:** Creates and manages mosaics of multiple images



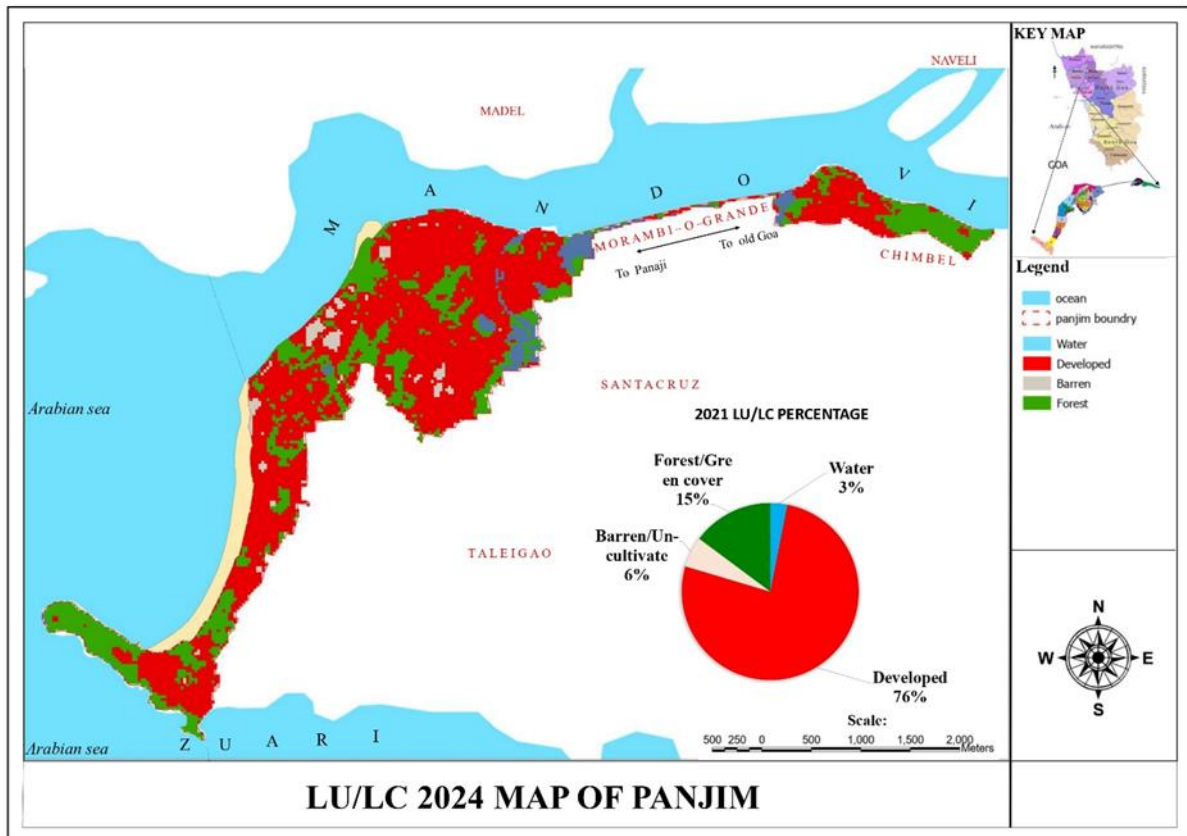
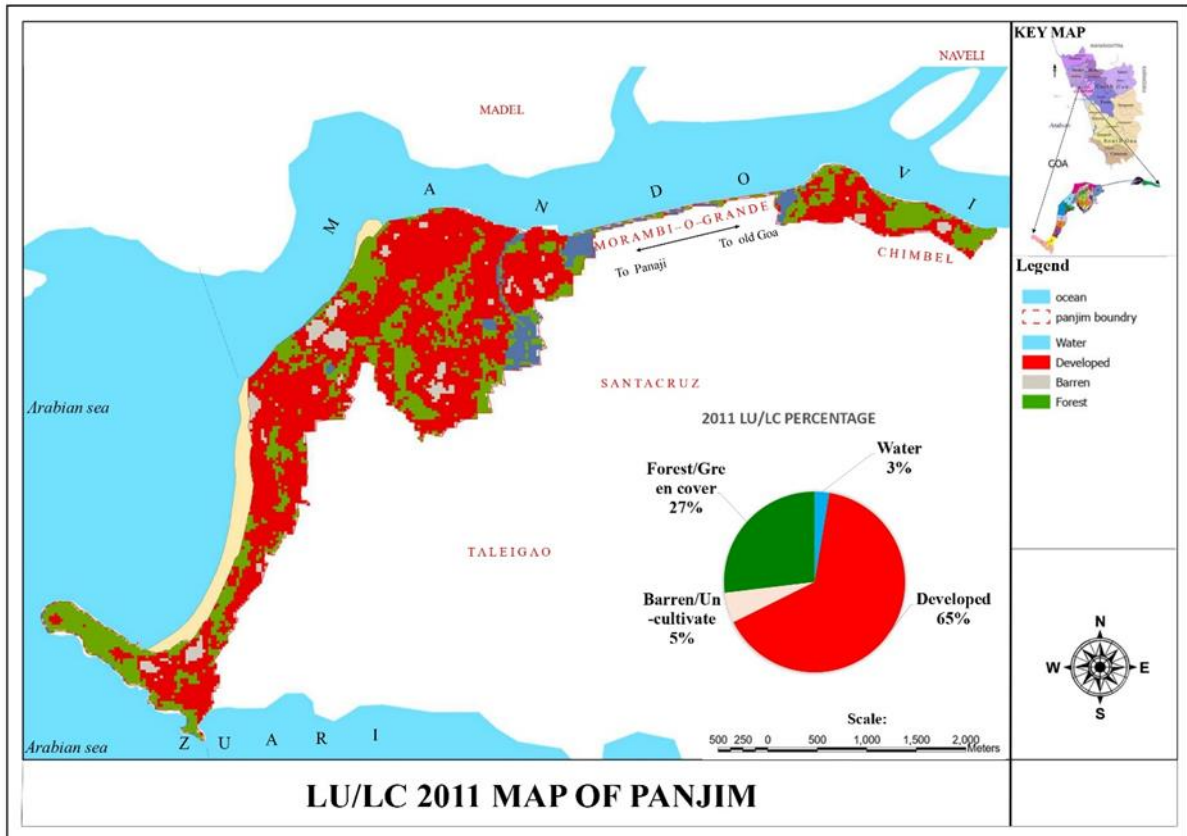
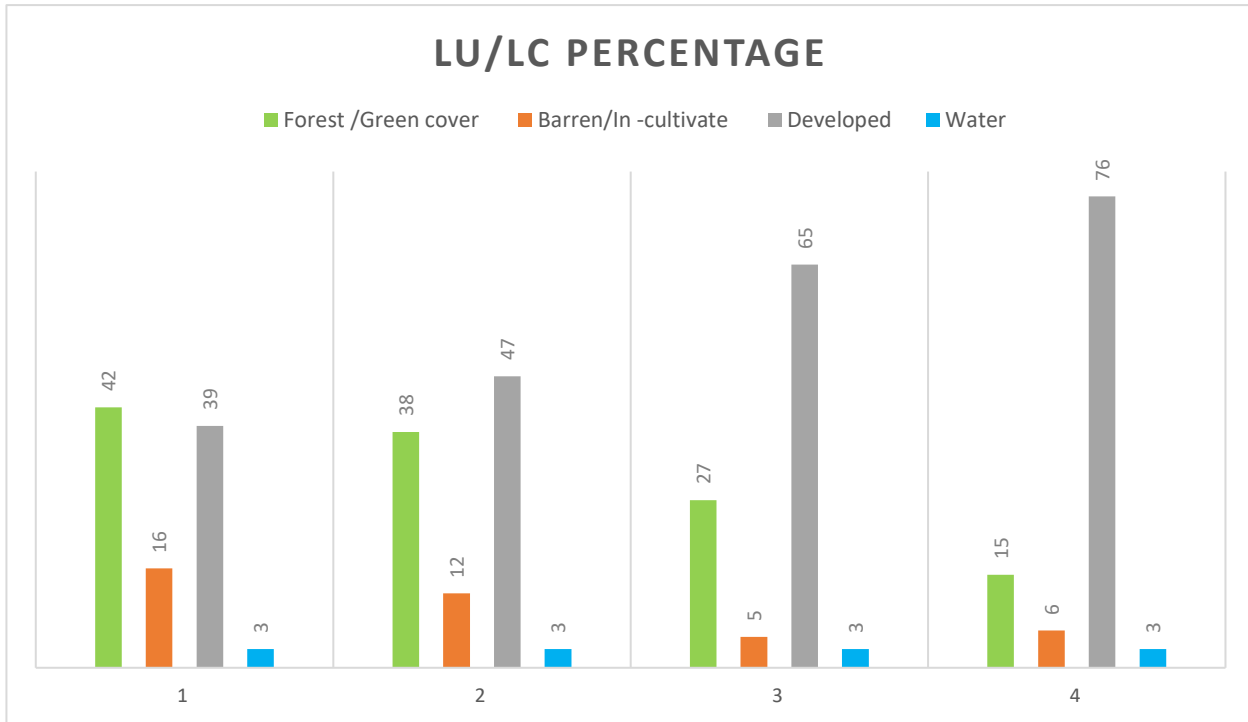


Table 4: Comparative Analysis of LU/LC Percentage 1990-2024



The drivers of LULC change in Panjim include:

- **Population Growth:** The increasing population has led to a higher demand for housing, infrastructure, and services.
- **Economic Development:** Economic activities, such as tourism and industry, have contributed to urbanization and land use changes.
- **Government Policies:** Urban planning policies and land use regulations have influenced the direction and pace of development.
- **Climate Change:** Climate change has affected land use patterns through sea level rise, coastal erosion, and changes in precipitation patterns.

The LULC changes in Panjim have significant environmental and socio-economic implications. The loss of forest cover has led to biodiversity loss, soil erosion, and climate change impacts.

Urbanization has increased pollution, congestion, and social problems. The reduction in agricultural land has affected food security and rural livelihoods.

5. Conclusion

This study provides valuable insights into the LULC dynamics in Panjim from 1990 to 2024. The findings highlight the significant changes that have occurred in the city's landscape, driven by population growth, economic development, and other factors. The results emphasize the need for sustainable land use planning and management strategies to mitigate negative environmental impacts and ensure the city's long-term sustainability. Future research could explore the specific impacts of LULC changes on ecosystem services, biodiversity, and human well-being in Panjim.

6. References

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