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# A GIS Based Study of Urbanization Impact on Land Surface Temperature in Greater Noida, India

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**Abstract:** Urbanization has a dynamic relationship with the environment which involves large scale changes in the land use pattern of an area. Human induced land use land cover (LULC) changes have become major driver of the global climatic change. In general urbanization affects the interactions between the surface temperature and atmosphere at spatial and temporal scales. The objective of this study is to analyze whether the changes in the land use land pattern of Greater Noida is contributing to the change of its land surface temperature (LST). Geographic Information System (GIS) was used to extract information from satellite images of three years namely, 2000, 2011, and 2013. The biophysical parameter Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) was calculated from satellite images for examining the relationship between land surface temperature and vegetation. The results showed that there has been a 35.23% increase in the settlement and developed lands from 2000 to 2013 leading to a sharp decline of 91.14 % in the cultivation and others. Forest and urban vegetation was decreased by 4.06% from 2000 to 2010 but during 2013 the forest and urban vegetation was found to have increased by 7.45%. There has been a 1°C to 2°C rise in the surface temperature in Greater Noida since 2000 to 2013.

**Keywords:** Urbanization; LST; NDVI; LULC; GIS

## I. INTRODUCTION

Urbanization is a strong and complex phenomenon involving large scale changes in the land use of an area. An upsurge in the human population in urban areas and cities have been reportedly found to have increased from 29% in 1950 to 49% in 2005 and by 2030 urbanization is expected to increase even further to 60% [United Nations, 2005]. One significance observed due to increased urbanization is a greater attention is generated towards urban meteorology as this governs the quality of an environment (Steenefeld et al., 2011). In order to help improve urban planning to avoid the occurrence of meteorological conditions that are hostile to the human populace, an improved understanding of urban environmental meteorology is required (Dieleman et al., 2002; Dimoudi and Nikolopoulou, 2003; Svensson and Eliasson, 2002; Vonk et al., 2007; Coutts et al., 2008; Mills, 2009; Reid et al., 2009). It was witnessed that as compared to the rural areas, the urban areas experience a considerably diverse meteorological condition (Oke, 1982; Godowitch et al., 1985). The surface temperature variation is one of the most important effects caused by the process of urbanization. The open lands are getting replaced by buildings, roads, parking lots and pavements and these urban areas have a greater thermal conductivity and capacity which generally stores the heat absorbed during the day time and releasing heat slowly at night (Noyingbeni et al., 2016). This process usually leads to alteration of the climate that is warmer than the surrounding nearby rural areas and this is known as urban heat island (UHI) (Voogt & Oke, 2003). As the temperature increases, the pollution level in an urban area rises due to the increasing demand for air conditioning all these factors alters the precipitation patterns of an area. Former studies have discovered that the intensity of UHI increases with an increase in the size of the city, infrastructures and population (Oke 1973; Landsberg 1981; Atkinson 2003).

A study on UHI was carried out in Baltimore, Maryland to analyze the effect of upstream urbanization on along the Washington-Baltimore corridor. Results from a coupled ultrahigh-resolution mesoscale-urban canopy model with 2001 National Land Cover Data showed an active contribution from upstream urbanization to the UHI event (Zhang et al., 2011). Former studies also showed that the intensity of UHI in the Washington-Baltimore corridor has increased since the 1950's owing to the process of urbanization and changes in the land use pattern (Landsberg 1979; Viterito 1989; Brazel et al. 2000). A case for Noida was undertaken to assess the temporal changes in rising trends of urban heat island (UHI) using Landsat thermal data sets of year 2000 and 2013. Results indicated that the change in temperature was mainly due to increase in impervious areas and it was evident that one of the major land use category contributing to the formation of UHI was built-up (Noyingbeni et al., 2016). Urban Heat Island for the city of Chennai was carried out using Landsat 7 ETM imagery and for the analysis of Urban Heat Island (UHI), Normalized Difference

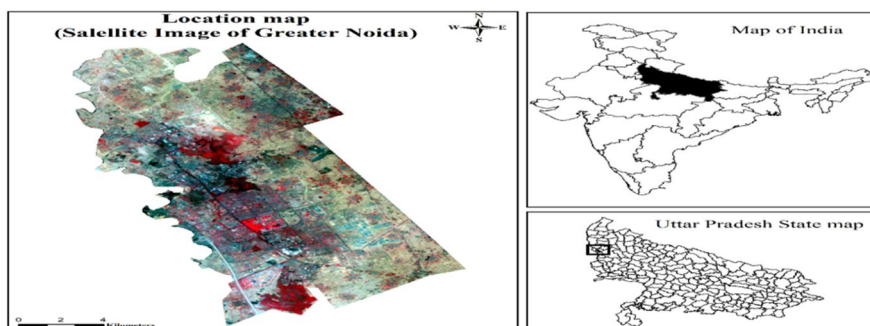
Vegetation Index (NDVI), Leaf Area Index (LAI), Surface Albedo, Surface Emissivity and Land Surface Temperature were prepared using ERDAS software spatial modelling. The results showed that maximum land surface temperature between urban and surrounding area is 12°C with the industrial and impervious surfaces having the highest temperature with a temperature of 32°C while the areas covered by vegetation and water bodies exhibited a minimum temperatures of 20°C. From the results obtained, it is well understood that the land surface temperature holds a positive correlation with the dense built up areas and negative correlation in the areas occupied by vegetation cover (Faris and Sudhakar, 2010).

With the advancement of remote sensing technology, it became possible to observe the changes in temperature of an area using thermal remote sensing and this has provided new platforms for the observation of urban heat island study. Rao (1972) was the first person to illustrate that the thermal infrared data acquired by a satellite could be used for analyzing the temperature of an urban area. The intensity of UHI is also related to changing patterns of land use/land cover i.e., their composition of vegetation, water, and built-up. The purpose of this study carried out is for examining the changes in the land use/land cover pattern in which built up is expanding rapidly due to urbanization taking place on a large scale. NDVI was also used to extract the land use information of the vegetation cover over different time periods and then the surface temperature retrieved from the thermal band of Landsat data's were used for analyzing the effect of UHI. The main aim of this paper are: (1) to perform Land use/ Land cover changes for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013; (2) to derive the land surface temperature from the thermal band of Landsat data's for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013; (3) to examine the spatial patterns of vegetation cover over the three years and; (4) to study the relationship between temperature with LULC and NDVI and observe the changes that has taken place over time.

## II. STUDY AREA

Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority is situated in the Gautam Buddha Nagar district of the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. It is one of the National Capital Region of New Delhi, the capital of India and is adjacent to Noida. Greater Noida was once a part of Noida during the 1990s but today it is known as Greater Noida. It is located at 29.496152°N latitude and 77.536011°E longitude with a total area of 238.64 sq.km and population census of over 100,000. This Greater Noida is becoming one of the commercial hubs and one of the smartest cities of India and as a consequence attracting a large number of populations. The climate of Greater Noida is known as local steppe climate. The climate is generally hot and humid for most of the year and summer months are extremely hot followed by foggy and cold weather during the winter season. It receives an average annual rainfall of 93.2 cm (36.7 inches) (<http://en.climate-data.org/location/50512/>). The Greater Noida expressway is also one of the most important highways which join the Yamuna expressway and it also connects to a lot of important places.

Figure 1: Location map of Study area



## III. METHODS

### A. Image pre-processing

Landsat imageries from three different years were acquired from <http://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/>. Landsat ETM image of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2000, Landsat TM image of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and Landsat 8 image of 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013 has been used for this study based on the obtainability of good quality images (acquired under clear sky conditions). The images downloaded have been layer stacked and their study region clipped. The original digital numbers of band 6 (thermal infrared band) of Landsat TM and ETM and band 10 (thermal infrared band) of Landsat 8 were then converted to at-satellite radiance to retrieve the brightness temperature. The bands within the solar reflectance range were then converted to at-satellite reflectance and were used for extracting the vegetation indexes. The bands have a spatial resolution of 30 m.



### B. Image Classification

For analyzing the impact of urbanization on a regional scale, a land use land cover classification is necessary to see the change of an area from 2000 to 2013. In this study the Landsat ETM data of 2000, Landsat TM data of 2010 and Landsat 8 DATA of 2013 were used. Supervised Classification was used for carrying out the image classification process in which the method of Maximum Likelihood Classifier has been used. Maximum Likelihood Classifier is a technique in which the pixels are allotted based on the class of highest probability. The categories include: (1) Settlement and Developed lands, (2) Forest and Urban Vegetation, (3) Cultivation and others (4) Water. Change detection of these classified images have been performed using the before and after images for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013 respectively.

### C. Derivation of LST and NDVI from the Landsat imageries

1) *Derivation of land surface temperature:* Land surface temperature (LST) is defined as the hotness or coldness of an area, which plays an important role in the wide variety of scientific studies such as in the process of energy and water exchanges within the atmosphere (Liang and Zhang et al., 2013). For obtaining the LST, the thermal infrared (TIR) remote sensing delivers a unique method at the global and regional scales as maximum of the energy recorded by the sensor in this spectral region is emitted straight from the surface region (Jimenez et al., 2008). For the derivation of LST from a satellite data, the thermal band 6 of Landsat TM and Landsat ETM with a spectral range from 10.40 to 12.50 and thermal band 10 of Landsat 8 with spectral range from 10.60 to 11.19 have been used in this paper. Three steps were proposed by Yuan and Bauer (2005) for deriving LST in which the first steps includes the conversion of the digital number's (DN's) of band 6 of Landsat TM and ETM and DN's of band 10 of Landsat 8 to top-of-atmospheric (TOA) radiance ( $L_\lambda$ ).

i) (Eq.[1]) has been used for the conversion of the DN's of band 6 of Landsat TM and Landsat ETM to radiance values:

$$CV_{R1} = \frac{((LMAX_\lambda - LMIN_\lambda))}{(QCALMAX - QCALMIN)) * (QCAL - QCALMIN) + LMIN_\lambda} \quad (1)$$

where,

$LMIN_\lambda$  = Spectral radiance scales to QCALMIN,

$LMAX_\lambda$  = Spectral radiance scales to QCALMAX

QCALMIN = the minimum quantized calibrated pixel value (typically 1)

QCALMAX = the maximum quantized calibrated pixel value (typically 255)

$CV_{R1}$  is the cell value as radiance

ii) (Eq.[2]) has been used for the conversion of the DN's of band 10 of Landsat 8 to radiance values:

$$L_\lambda = M_L Q_{Cal} + A_L \quad (2)$$

where,

$M_L$  = Band-specific multiplicative rescaling factor from the metadata (RADIANCE\_MULT\_BAND\_x, where x is the band number)

$A_L$  = Band-specific additive rescaling factor from the metadata (RADIANCE\_ADD\_BAND\_x, where x is the band number)

$Q_{Cal}$  = Quantized and calibrated standard product pixel values (DN)

$L_\lambda$  = TOA spectral radiance (Watts/ (m<sup>2</sup> × srad × μm))

Then, using the Planck curve (Eq. [3]), the radiance value has been converted to surface temperature (Chander and Markham, 2003):

$$T_K = \frac{K_2}{\ln\left(\frac{K_1}{L_\lambda} + 1\right)} \quad (3)$$

where,

$T_K$  = the temperature in Kelvin (K) and  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are as follows:

Table 1: Values of  $K_1$  and  $K_2$

	Landsat TM	Landsat ETM	Landsat 8
$K_1$	607.76	666.09	774.89
$K_2$	1260.56	1282.71	1321.08

The final surface temperature is then calculated to Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) using the following equation:

$$T_c = T_k - 273.15 \quad (4)$$

where,

$T_c$  = the temperature in Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

$T_k$  = the temperature in Kelvin (K)

2) *Derivation of Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)*: Normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) according to (Myneni et al., 2001; Chen and Brutsaert, 1998) may be used is used to measure and monitor plant growth, vegetation cover and biomass production. Values of NDVI ranges between -1 to +1 in which the values between 0.3 to 0.8 represents a dense vegetation canopy, soils between 0.1 to 0.2 reflects near infrared spectral and clear water is indicated by very low positive or even slightly negative values. NDVI were calculated as the ratio between the red and near infrared (NIR) portion of the spectrum from reflectance measurements images using the following formula:

$$NDVI = \frac{NIR - R}{NIR + R} \quad (5)$$

where,

NIR = Band 4 (For Landsat TM and ETM) and Band 5 (For Landsat 8)

R = Band 3 (For Landsat TM and ETM) and Band 4 (For Landsat 8).

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

##### A. *Change in the pattern of Land use/Land cover*

In Greater Noida, the growth in the urban land is identified by the unplanned urbanization which is taking place and is ineffectively regulated. A very fast growth in terms of population as well as urbanization has taken place which has caused degradation of the agricultural areas as these agricultural areas are converted to urban areas in which the barren lands are replaced by buildings, roads, pavements and other infrastructures causing an overall impact on the environment of an area. The dates of the fractions were classified into thematic maps. Figs. 2 show the classified maps.

The changes in the LULC of Greater Noida were further illustrated in Table 1. In Greater Noida area (238.64 sq.km), the settlement/developed lands has increased rapidly from 2000 to 2013, which grew from 2.39 % in 2000 to 30.27 % in 2010 and 37.62 % in 2013. This shows how quickly urbanization is taking place in this region over the period of years. Simultaneously, the areas under urban vegetation were found to be increasing over the years from 2000 to 2013.

Most of the cultivated and other open lands were found to have the maximum impact of urbanization in which these lands are now filled up by the various built up and other infrastructures.

The increase was also evident between 2000 and 2013 when the cultivation and other open land category was decreased by 78.33 % (186.94 sq.km area) in 2000 to 54.47 % (130 sq.km area) in 2010 which further shrunk to 40.14 % (95 sq.km) in 2013 of the total area 238.64 sq.km which was converted to other land use.

Vegetation/green cover was found to be 18.73 % in 2000 and a decline in the percentage of vegetation was observed in 2010 which shrunk to 14.67 % in 2010 and over the period of time along with the expansion in urbanization the vegetative area was also observed to have increased to 22.12 %. This is because with the increase in urbanization, the urban plantations are also found to be increasing and also the various government policies which are coming up like green Delhi organization, conservation of forest etc. are enforcing rules for plantation. Thus, most of the increase in the urban area resulted from the conversion of agricultural land, most of which included land rice cultivation. Urbanization has a negative impact in the environment mainly by the production of pollution and this changes the chemical as well as the physical property of the atmosphere.

The natural surfaces often consist of vegetation and moisture trapping soils so they use mainly a large proportion of the radiations absorbed and releases water vapor which contributes to cool the air during the process of evapotranspiration.

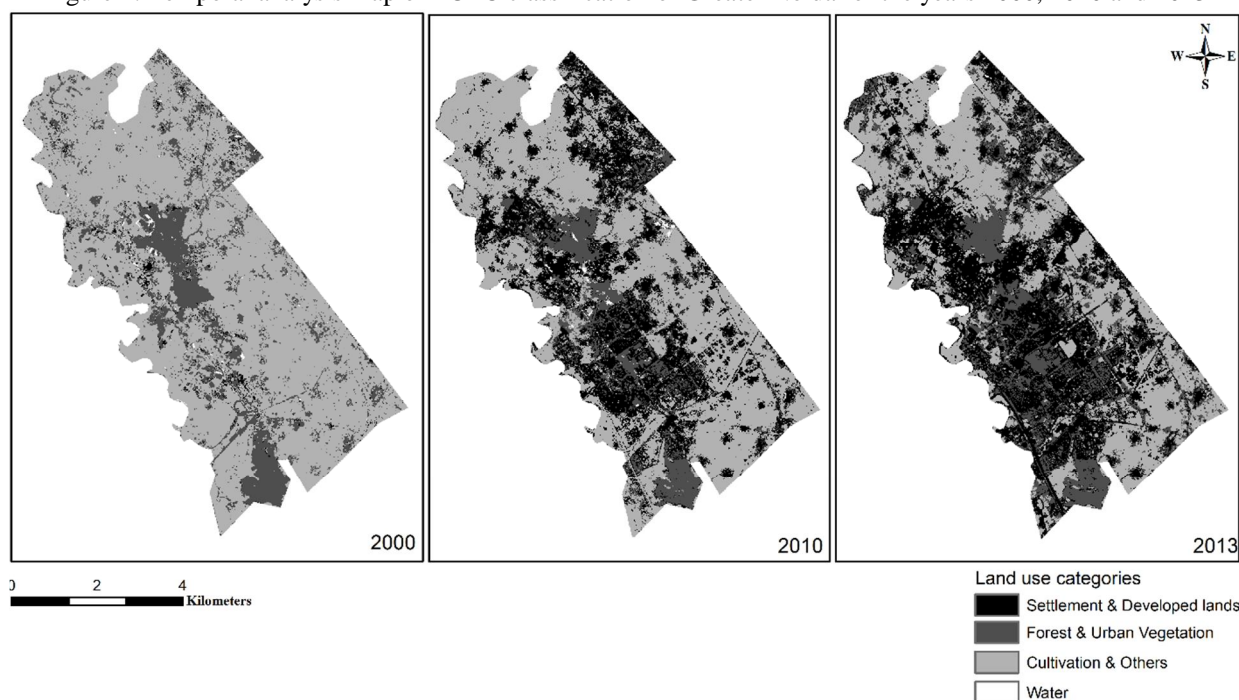
On the other hand, settlement/built up areas comprises of high percentages of water resistant construction materials and non-reflective substances.

As a result they absorb a large amount of the radiations, and are trapped in the building materials which is slowly released in the form of heat, and this leads to the rise in the temperature of a surface.

Table 2: Table showing the change in the LULC of Greater Noida between 2000, 2010 and 2013 (Area in sq.km and Percentage)

Change in the Land use/Land cover between 2000,2010 & 2013 for Greater Noida						
	Area (in Sq. km and Percentage)			Changes observed		
	May 2000	May 2010	May 2013	2000-2010	2010-2013	2000-2013
Settlement and Developed lands	5.71 (2.39%)	72.24 (30.27%)	89.8 (37.62%)	66.53 (27.88%)	17.56 (7.3%)	84.09 (35.23%)
Forest & Urban Vegetation	44.71 (18.73%)	35.01 (14.67%)	52.8 (22.12%)	-9.7 (-4.06%)	17.79 (7.45%)	8.09 (3.39%)
Water	1.28 (0.53%)	1.38 (0.57%)	0.2 (0.08%)	0.1 (0.04%)	-1.18 (-0.49%)	-1.08 (-0.45%)
Cultivation & others	186.94 (78.33%)	130 (54.47%)	95.8 (40.14%)	-56.94 (-23.86%)	-34.2 (-14.33%)	-91.14 (-38.19%)

Figure 2: Temporal analysis map of LULC classification of Greater Noida for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013



### B. Impact of Land use/Land cover on LST

Remote sensing technology provides not only a degree of the magnitude of temperature of a surface but also the spatial extent as to how the spatial distribution of the heat island effect is taking place. For this study, three Landsat images, i.e., the Landsat ETM images of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2000, Landsat TM images and 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and Landsat 8 image of 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013 have been used respectively. It was observed that during 2000, the overall spatial distribution of LST was spread all across Greater Noida. The temperature ranged from 32.46°C to 47.03°C and the mean overall LST was found to be 39.74 °C in 2000. This was because during 2000 most of the area was open land and the open land has a very low emissivity due to which the LST was high. The radiations fall and area not trapped and reflects back immediately so in open land the surface heating is not very harmful. As with urbanization taking place during 2010, the mean LST has decreased to 38.06 °C on an overall spatial distribution but the areas where the LST is increasing is found mostly in built up regions. And during 2013, the overall mean LST was found to be 40.41 °C. As compared to 2000 and 2010, the overall mean LST has increased. But in some regions during 2013, low LST is also reported. This is because of the increase in the green cover and the moisture trapping properties of the vegetation due to which the LST appears to be low. But as observed properly, it can be drawn to a conclusion that though the LST appears low during 2013, but the LST is more harmful because the radiations are absorbed by the building properties and these have a higher emissivity property. The trapped radiations are slowly released in the form of heat. The temporal pattern of LST is shown in the map below (Fig. 3). The surface temperature was highest

in cultivation and other open lands due to the emissivity property which was less harmful as the radiations are reflected back immediately without being stored and secondly it is followed by built up but the temperature in these area is more harmful as the temperatures are trapped which later slowly release the heat. And then followed by vegetation and water bodies which have a very high emissivity property which traps the incoming radiations

Table 3: Table showing the temporal analysis of LST of Greater Noida for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013

Temporal analysis of LST for Greater Noida (°C)			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
1 <sup>st</sup> May 2000	32.46	47.03	39.74
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2010	30.41	45.71	38.06
29 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	33.29	47.54	40.41

Figure 3: Temporal analysis map of LST of Greater Noida for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013

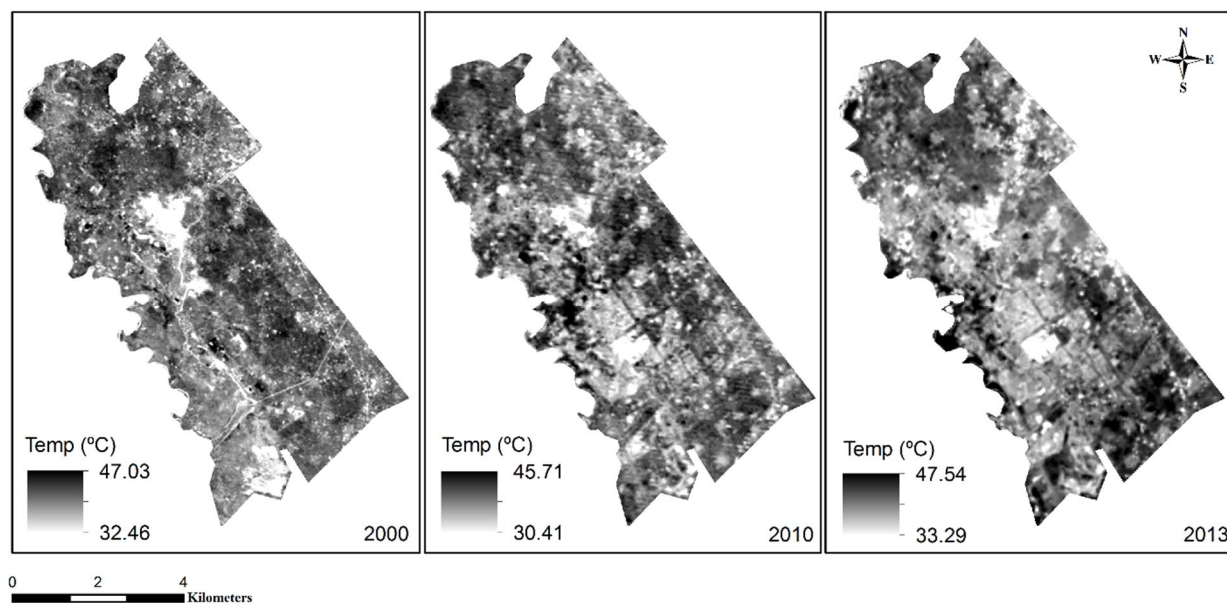
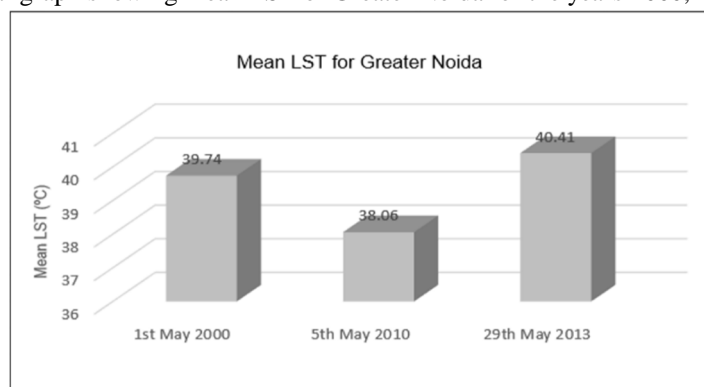


Figure 4: Bar graph showing mean LST of Greater Noida for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013

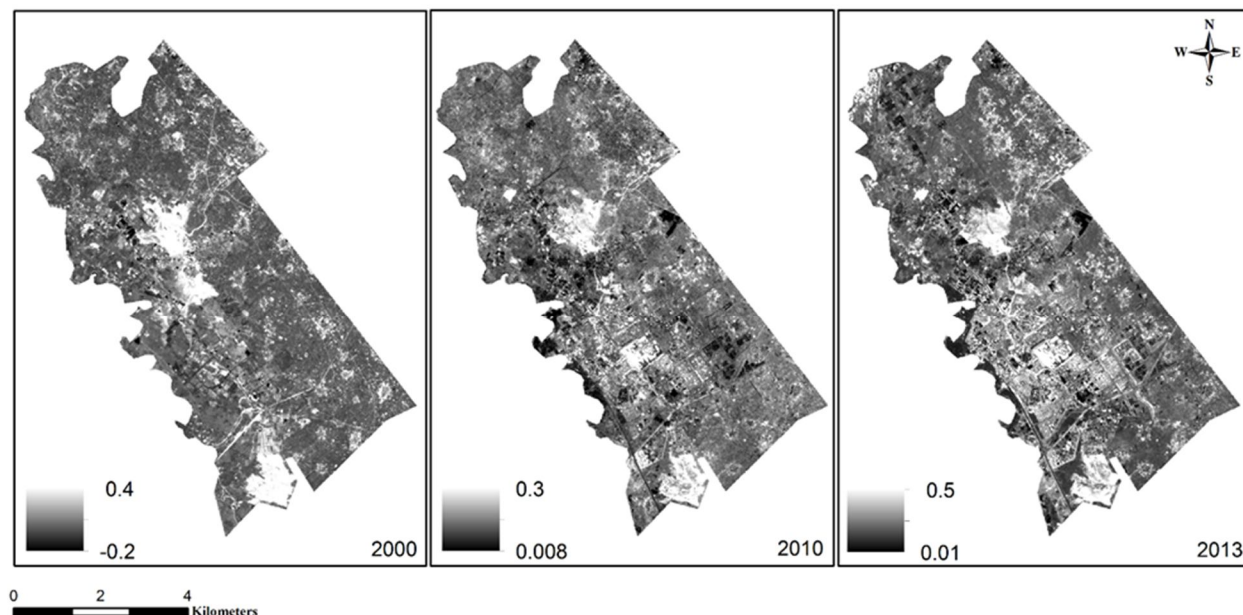


### C. Impact of Land use/Land cover on NDVI

NDVI plays an essential role in determination of the vegetation pixels and provides useful information as to understand the condition of the urban areas. Fig. 4 also shows the change in NDVI over the years with the values ranging in between -0.2 to 0.5. The NDVI estimation helps us understand the pattern in which the NDVI is increasing or decreasing over the years. The images showed a trend of increase in the amount of vegetative areas in 2013 as compared to 2000 and 2010. The areas having value more than zero represented green areas with increasing value of NDVI while the values below zero or near to zero represented the non-vegetated features such as barren lands, water etc.



Figure 5: Temporal analysis map of NDVI of Greater Noida for the years 2000, 2010 and 2013



## V. CONCLUSION

This study has analyzed the changes in the Land use/Land cover of the city of Greater Noida from the year 2000 to 2013. The results showed that the built up areas have increased rapidly which the cultivated and other open lands have shrunk. The change was evident between 2000 and 2010 when the cultivated and other land minimized by 23.86% and during 2013 it had further shrunk by 38.19% of the total area and was converted to other land use categories. The changes observed in the Land use/Land cover category were largely due to the population flocking into this part of the city and this resulted in the poor land use planning and inconsistency of the government policies. The changes in the Land use/Land cover were also accompanied by the change in the LST in which the overall trend of the mean temperature was found to have increased from 44°C in 2000 to 45.5 °C during 2013. Also the NDVI was analyzed and the trend showed that vegetation has increased from 2000 to 2013 which comprises mainly of urban plantation along the built up category. This study made it possible to examine the effects of human activities on environment.

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