



A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF GROWTH OF MARKET CENTRES IN SATARA DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT:

An attempt has been made in this paper to study the growth rate and its characteristics of market centres in the Satara district. Market centres are the basic and root level centre of the economic and commercial activities. The observation reveals that, many factors have influenced the growth of market centres in the region. Market Centres are economically most important and represent the region pattern of development. They provide trade and commerce to the region and also help in increasing social contact, serve as centres of diffusion and become focus for political and other activities. Hence the market centres have predominant economic important in any region. For the convenience of study, based on duration, market centres are divided in two daily and weekly market centres. In the rural economy weekly market centres plays an important role in exchanging the local produce through certain norms where “system of rural markets serve as the nodal points for the collection and distribution of large range of goods and services of both local and external origin”.

KEYWORDS: Market centres, Growth Rate, Growth Characteristics.

INTRODUCTION:

Geographical studies are mainly concerned with the special distribution of geographical phenomena. In case of market centres, origin, growth, development, and spatial distribution are the result of combined effect of various factors. It means the growth of market centres are influenced by physical, cultural, historical and many other unique qualities prevailing in the region. In recent years, rural markets have acquired significance in countries like China and India, as the overall growth of the economy has resulted into substantial increase in the purchasing power of the rural communities.

THE STUDY AREA:

Satara district lies in the southern Maharashtra, particularly at the western limit of Deccan table land. From the view point of physiographic Sahyadri and Mahadeo these are the two important ranges within the Satara district. The district is situated in the river basin of two rivers that are the Bhima and the Krishna River. But most probably, from the view point of peninsular drainage the entire land of Satara district belongs to the larger drainage system of the Krishna River. The latitudinal and longitudinal extent of Satara district is 17°05' to 18°11' north latitudes and 73°33' to 74°54' east longitudes. The district is bordered by Pune district and Sangli district in the north and the south respectively and by Solapur district and Ratnagiri district in the east and the west respectively. It also shares small boundary of about 24k.m. in the north-west with Raigarh district (Census 2001). The district administers 10480.00sq.km of area. The total population of district is 3003922 including 1512524 male population and 1491398 female population. The total population of district constitutes 2.67 percent of the total Maharashtra's population. The population density of district is 287 people per. Sq. km. whereas the sex ratio of district is 986. (Census2011).



Fig-1

OBJECTIVES:

The prime objective of the present research paper is:

1. To know the spatial distribution of markets and their relationship with physical and cultural factors.
2. To analyse to evaluate the growth rate of market centres in Satara district in last three decades.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The present work is based on primary and secondary data pertaining to number of market centres. All relevant published and unpublished data has been considered. Primary data is collected through intensive field work. The secondary data has been collected from district census hand book, Gazetteer, district statistical abstracts of the district.

ANALYSIS:

For the comparative analysis of growth trend in number of market centres in Satara district, collected data for 1991 to 2011 has been depicted in table-1.

Table-1: Census-wise Number of Market Centres in Satara District

Sr. No.	Name of the Tahsil	Census wise Numbers		
		1991	2001	2011
1	Mahabaleshwar	02	02	02
2	Wai	04	04	05
3	Khandala	03	03	03
4	Phaltan	17	16	14
5	Man	13	13	11
6	Khatav	17	14	12
7	Koregaon	09	11	12
8	Satara	13	12	09
9	Jawali	06	06	04
10	Patan	21	12	09
11	Karad	21	16	14
12	Satara District	126	109	95

Source: Census Handbook of Satara District, 1991, 2001 and 2011.

Figure-2: Census-wise Number of Market Centres

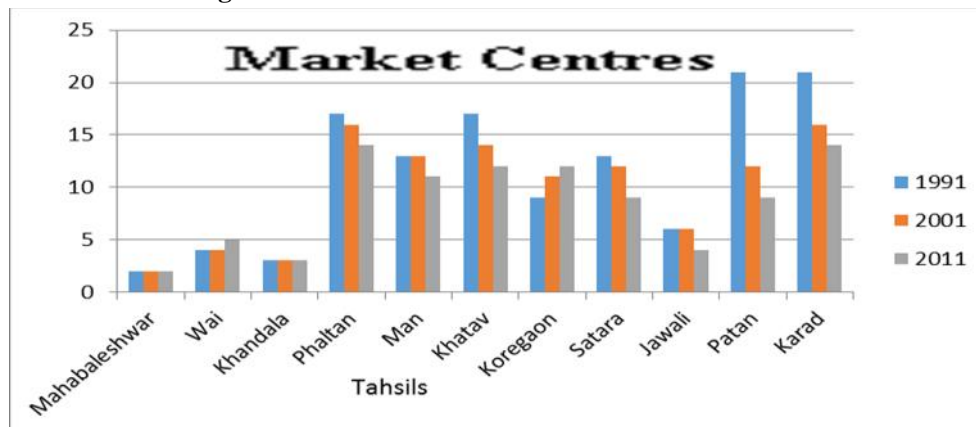


Table-1 and Figure-2 reveals that there were total 95 market centres in the district in the year 2011. In the year of 1991, there were 126 market centres in the Satara district which decreased up to 31. In 1991, number of market centres again decreased up to 109 in 2001 and last 95 in 2011. In the year 1991, it is observed that, highest number of market centres were observed in Patan and Karad (21) tahsil whereas lowest number of market centres were observed in Mahabaleshwar (02). In the year 2001, the highest numbers of market centres were observed in Karad (16) and Phaltan (16) tahsil whereas lowest numbers of market centres were observed in Mahabaleshwar (02) and Khandala (03). In 2011, highest number of market centres was observed Karad (14) and Phaltan (14) tahsil whereas lowest numbers of market centres were observed in Mahabaleshwar tahsil (02). The effect of modernization can be seen on the number of market centres in the region. Day by day the number of market centres in the rural area is decreasing. Because peoples are directly attached to sub-district and district places in order to fulfil the needs. Many of the services like education, administration are easily available with sub-district and district place, so peoples prefer to avail the services from sub-district and district places instead of rural area. Transportation, communication facilities and some other civic facilities is also some of the prime determinants of the market centres. The places which are getting these facilities easily are growing and the market centres which are not getting these facilities are fighting for their existence.

CONCLUSION:

Overall analysis regarding growth trend of the market centres in the district reveals uneven tendency in the study region. The sub-district and district place has captured the rural market and they are decreasing. Mainly the effect of modernization is clearly seen on the market centres. The market centres having modern facilities are still and sound but in rural area the market centres are decreasing in lack of facilities. In future, it is necessary to provide all the basic and modern facilities to rural market centres in order to improve their service and finally for their existence.

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