

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSIONS

Chapter 3 to 5 have outlined in details the kind of changes in the area of cereals, pulses and non-food crops that have taken place in Kolhapur district during the long span of 27 years falling between 1960 and 1987. In those chapters the crop groups/crops were considered in isolation. In order to get a total picture of trends in cropping pattern it is necessary to go through the cross-section of groups. Hence, this chapter will consolidate all those results and attempt to establish some meaningful conclusions.

6.1 DISTRICT SCENARIO :

District area of the crop groups/crops has been considered as percentage of GCA of the district. Trends regarding these percentages as observed gave results as presented in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1

Trends of crop groups for Kolhapur district

Foodgrains		Non-food crops
Cereals	Pulses	
Downtrend	Uptrend	Downtrend

The group of non-food crops showed a long-term tendency of falling percentage area in the GCA of the district. Therefore, the land area thus released from the crops under this sub-group must have gone for cultivation of foodgrains.

But within the sub-group of foodgrains, the components had mixed tendencies. Cereals exhibited downtrend and pulses uptrend. This means that land under some of the cereals must have been transferred either to pulses or even to the crop under non-food crops.

More light on the transfer of land from crop to crop can be thrown by considering commoditywise trend behaviour. Observed situation regarding individual crops studied here is summarised in Table 6.2.

Table 6.2

Trends of selected crops from Kolhapur district

Commodity	Trend characteristic
I. FOODGRAINS	
(A) CEREALS	
(1) Paddy	Uptrend
(2) Jowar	Downtrend
(B) PULSES	
(1) Tur	Downtrend
(2) Gram	Uptrend
II. NON-FOOD CROPS	
(1) Sugarcane	Uptrend
(2) Groundnut	Downtrend

By the principal crops in the district, it is noticed that paddy cultivation was favoured on the one hand and jowar cultivation was gradually discontinued. Since tur happened to be a mixed crop with jowar, its area fell for the reason that jowar area slashed. At the same time, groundnut area also was withdrawn substantially. When thus on the one hand these three principal crops were being disfavoured by the cultivators, on the other hand they were going in for more area under paddy, gram and sugarcane. Among pulses, it was noticed from break up figures cropwise that in eighties area under moong was receiving a fillip. This might be a substitute for tur.

6.2 TALUKA PROFILE :

If the analysis is shifted from macro (district) level to micro (taluka) level, more light on the district scenario can be thrown. For the purpose, the two-dimensional presentation used will be as follows : (a) taluka trends with reference to the district total area of the crop group/ crop and (b) taluka trends with reference to the GCA of each taluka.

6.2.1 TALUKA VIS-A-VIS DISTRICT AREA :

Trend behaviour of the talukas for all the crops groups/ crops with reference to the district area are put in concise form in Table 6.3

Table 6.3

Taluka trends with reference to district total

Taluka	Food-grains						Non-food crops		
	Total cereals	Paddy	Jowar	Pulses	Tur	Gram	Total Non-food crops	Sugar-cane	Groundnut
Karvir	DT	DT	UT	DT	DT	UT	DT	DT	UT
Panhala	UT	UT	UT	DT	UT	DT	UT	DT	UT
Hatkanagale	UT	UT	DT	UT	UT	UT	DT	UT	DT
Shirol	DT	UT	UT	UT	DT	DT	DT	UT	DT
Kagal	DT	DT	DT	UT	UT	DT	DT	DT	UT
Gadhinglaj	DT	DT	UT	DT	UT	DT	DT	UT	UT
Chandgad	UT	UT	DT	DT	DT	DT	UT	UT	UT
Ajara	DT	DT	UT	UT	DT	UT	UT	UT	UT
Bhudargad	UT	UT	UT	DT	UT	UT	UT	DT	UT
Radhanagari	UT	UT	UT	DT	UT	UT	UT	DT	UT
GaganBawada	DT	DT	UT	DT	UT	-	DT	DT	DT
Shahuwadi	UT	UT	DT	DT	UT	DT	UT	DT	UT

The following inferences would emerge from the trend scenario of the district shown in Table 6.3.

- (1) In Karvir taluka, as percentage of taluka area to the district area, paddy, tur, and sugarcane were going down whereas jowar, gram and groundnut were rising.
- (2) In Panhala taluka, gram and sugarcane were receding against rising tendency of paddy, jowar, tur and groundnut.
- (3) In Hatkanagale taluka, paddy, tur, gram and sugarcane were progressing at the cost of jowar and groundnut.
- (4) Shirol taluka was advancing in paddy, jowar, sugarcane and pulses other than tur and gram and receding in tur, gram and

groundnut.

- (5) Kagal taluka was withdrawing from paddy, jowar, gram and sugarcane and pushing ahead with tur and groundnut.
- (6) In Gadhinglaj taluka jowar, tur, sugarcane and groundnut was preferred to paddy and gram.
- (7) In Chandgad taluka, paddy, sugarcane and groundnut were replacing jowar, tur and gram.
- (8) Ajara taluka was favouring jowar, gram, sugarcane and groundnut in place of paddy and tur.
- (9) Bhudargad taluka showed preference for paddy, jowar, tur, gram and groundnut over sugarcane and pulses other than gram and tur.
- 10) Radhanagari taluka was progressing in paddy, jowar, tur, gram and groundnut and receding in sugarcane.
- 11) Gagan Bawada taluka had a forward march in jowar and tur and declining trend in paddy, pulses other than gram and tur, sugarcane and groundnut.
- 12) In Shahuwadi taluka, paddy, tur and groundnut were leading at the cost of jowar, gram sugarcane and groundnut.

6.2.1 TALUKA VIS-A-VIS ITS GCA :

Normally, the taluka picture in district setting is likely to change often because of a relative change in the position of some other taluka or talukas in the district. Therefore, this approach may, at times, not provide infallible results regarding trends in cropping pattern. Alternative approach is to consider taluka position with reference to its own GCA. Results in this context are consolidated in Table 6.4.

Table 6.4

Taluka trends with reference to their GCA :

Taluka	Food-grains					Non-food crops			
	Total cereals	Paddy	Jowar	Pulses	Tur Gram	Total Non-food crops	Sugar-cane	Ground-nut	
Karvir	DT	DT	DT	UT	DT UT	DT	UT	DT	
Panhala	UT	UT	DT	UT	DT UT	DT	UT	DT	
Hatkanagale	UT	UT	DT	UT	DT UT	DT	UT	DT	
Shirol	DT	UT	DT	UT	DT UT	DT	UT	DT	
Kagal	DT	UT	DT	UT	DT UT	DT	DT	DT	
Gadhinglaj	DT	DT	UT	UT	DT UT	DT	UT	DT	
Chandgad	DT	DT	DT	DT	DT DT	UT	UT	UT	
Ajara	DT	DT	UT	UT	DT UT	UT	UT	UT	
Bhudargad	DT	DT	UT	UT	DT UT	UT	UT	DT	UT
Radhanagari	DT	DT	UT	DT	DT UT	UT	UT	UT	DT
GaganBawada	DT	DT	UT	DT	DT -	UT	UT	DT	
Shahuwadi	DT	DT	DT	DTQ	DT DT	UT	DT	DT	

Observations on taluka trends are as follows.

- (1) Karvir taluka exhibited uptrend in gram and sugarcane and downtrend in paddy, jowar, tur and groundnut.
- (2) Panhala taluka was progressing in paddy, gram and sugarcane and falling in jowar, tur and groundnut.
- (3) In Hatkanagale taluka, preference was given to paddy, gram/ and sugarcane as against jowar, tur and groundnut.
- (4) Shirol taluka advanced in paddy, gram and Sugarcane and receded in jowar, tur and groundnut.
- (5) Kagal taluka spared more land for paddy and gram at the cost of jowar, tur, sugarcane and groundnut.
- (6) In Gadhinglaj taluka farmers favoured jowar, gram and sugarcane to paddy, tur and groundnut.
- (7) In Chandgad taluka sugarcane and groundnut were leading over

paddy, jowar, tur and gram.

- (8) Ajara was marching ahead in jowar, pulses, gram, sugarcane and groundnut as against paddy and tur.
- (9) In Bhudargad taluka, paddy, tur and sugarcane were receding while jowar, gram and groundnut were advancing.
- 10) Radhanagari taluka, had more of jowar, gram and sugarcane and less of paddy, tur and groundnut.
- 11) Gagan Bawada taluka was rising in jowar and sugarcane and falling in paddy, tur and groundnut. It did not grow gram.
- 12) Shahuwadi taluka declined in respect of all the crops.

These details, very well bring out more attention paid by the talukas to transferring some land from other crops to sugarcane cultivation, especially the areas in the proximity of sugar factories. However, Kagal, Bhudargad and Shahuwadi talukas, surprisingly, were found to be decelerating in this respect. The matter needs further exploration, particularly the case of Kagal taluka which has two sugar factories. But this fact does not all the way disprove the hypothesis. For other talukas, where remaining 8 cooperative sugar factories are located, the advancement of sugarcane appeared to be rapid at the cost of groundnut, tur and jowar. Talukas of eastern plains manifested this tendency pronouncedly. At the same time, they were substituting paddy for the receding crops.

In sum, in all the talukas of Kolhapur district, the farmers were changing their cropping pattern towards better-value crops whether from the sub-groups of cereals, pulses or non-food crops. This is certainly in the fitness of the dynamic developments taking place in the economy of the district.