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CHAPTER I

: INTRODUCTION :

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## C H A P T E R I

### : INTRODUCTION :

#### 1.1 IMPORTANCE OF PROBLEM:

The importance of agro-based industries in the socio-economic development of rural areas needs no emphasis. These centres manufacture a variety of economic products, as well as provide gainful employment to thousands of people in the countryside. India is a developing country. Agriculture is the important activity of the majority people in the country. Agriculture is the chief source of food, livestock and raw material for catering agro-based industries. Day by day, there is increasing the pressure of population on agriculture. The population pressure has been progressively indicating the necessity for the vertical development of the agricultural sector. If the agro-based industries are encouraged, this sector of economy can generate more income and offer more employment to the people. Thus from the view point of resource utilization and employment generation, the development of agro-based industries in the rural landscape is very significant.

#### 1.2 CHOICE OF REGION AND TOPIC:

Many considerations have influenced the choice of the area and topic under consideration. Firstly, this region is a part of the southern Maharashtra and regarded as one of the most fertile and relatively well watered and an emerging

# SATARA DISTRICT

## STUDY REGION

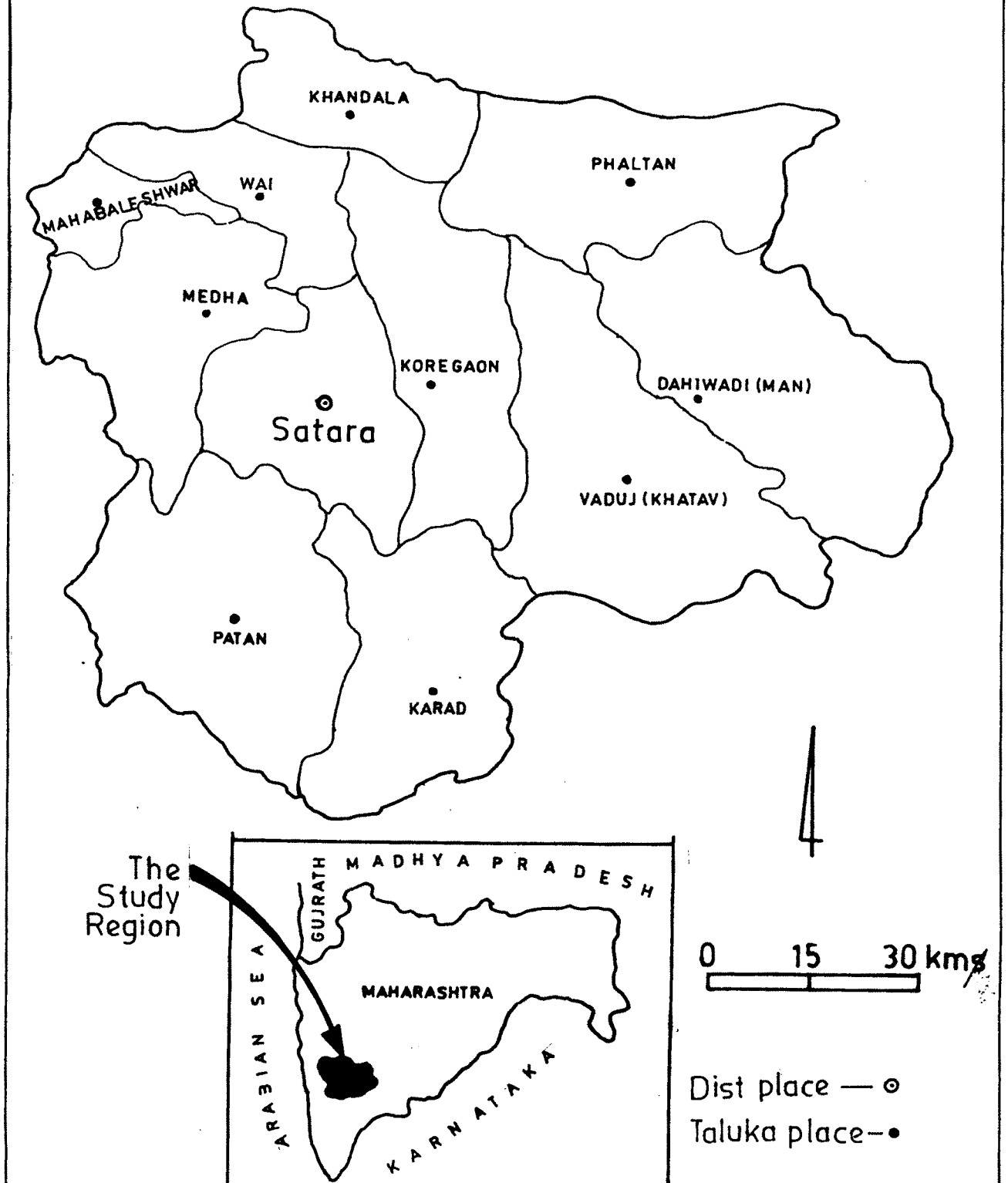


Fig.1.1

prosperous agricultural region of the state (Dixit,1971). Secondly, it has a transitional location Konkani characteristics in the west and the central and Desh characteristics in the eastern parts are observed. Thirdly, the region lies in the Krishna basin, its economy is essentially oriented to this river.

In the last decade, with the growth of sugar factories, some changes have been occurred in the landuse, cropping pattern and economy of the people as the area previously under food-grains is being devoted to sugarcane. Therefore, in the study of agro-based industries, we can assess the impact of agro-based industries in the cropping pattern of the district.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT STUDY:

Primarily the study is concerned with the changes in the agricultural landuse, cropping pattern and agro-based industries Satara district. This study requires a set of maps in order to explain and analysis.

Specific objectives of the present study are oriented towards:

- i) A spatial analysis of the changing landuse cropping pattern in the district as a result of the agro industrial development trends.

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- ii) A temporal analysis of the growth of agro-industries in the region on the background of the physico-socio-economic conditions.
  - iii) The study of the patterns of agro-industries to make out the emphases and the sub-regional bases of the industrial growth.

#### 1.4 APPROPRIATENESS OF AGRO-PROCESSING INDUSTRIES:

The agro-processing industries ranging from food manufacturing to leather tanning, provide an essential link between production and marketing, between rural and urban areas. The dependence of one on the other and the backward and forward linkages between the agriculture and industry are perhaps far more intense and stronger in agro-processing industries than in others. The chilling, pasturisation and bottling of milk has offered and opened vast and expanding opportunities for milk production to be modernised and raised to an every increasing level.

The agro-processing industries such as rice-hulling, wheat flour, dal milling, processing of chillies and pickles unlike certain other industries, need a lot of unskilled and semi skilled labour. This divisibility or the absence of any particularly marked economics or diseconomics of size in the agro-processing industries make them amply suitable for decentralised dispersal.

: HEALTHY IMPACT :

Agro-processing industries being labour-intensive and capital saving are in many cases power saving as well. These can, therefore, be located in villages and owned and established by the villagers. By increasing the value added within the villages, these industries tend to exercise a more healthy impact on the economic well being of the vast multitude of village population rather than the other types of industries which add value in the distant cities and urban conglomerations. Because of their shorter gestation period the benefits from agro-processing industries often start flowing early and directly.

A modernising and industrialising society has to depend more and more on semi-processed and processed farm products. The income elasticity of demand for processed and semi-processed agricultural products such as tinned fruits, vegetables, cream, butter, oils and fats and nuts is higher than for cereals and pulses in their raw form. The burden of meeting this increasing demand has to fall on a vibrant agro-processing industrial sector. In India, therefore, the agro-processing industries have a vast role and responsibility to foster an integrated and interlinked development of agriculture and industry.

Besides in population-pressurised countries like India, land is a scarce and limiting factor of farm production.

No practical programme of land reform can satisfy the land hunger of an ever-growing population. The growth and development of non-land using economic activities on decentralised basis hold the key to accetate rural development. The agro-processing industries thus offer a wide and viable field to promote occupational diversification in the villages and to expand and broaden the base of economic activity. The decentralised 'gur' and Khandsari industry, not to speak of sugar industry, provide an illuminating example of how both land-<sup>holders</sup> owing and landless rural population can benefit from agro-processing industries nearer home. The formal coupling between production and marketing that the agro-processing industries ensure is not a mean achievement by itself. And, what is more, the decentralised location of such industries interacts with the whole range of belief and value system of the rural population and gives birth to an inter-active agro-industrial culture so essential to feed the self-sustained growth for a time to come.

#### : STRONG LINKAGES :

The agro-processing industries thus provide a bridge between agriculture and industry, rural and urban cultures for each others benefit and happiness. It helps open up the village economy to the exploitation of its vast potential of growth and development. The linkages, are strong and lasting. The divisibility of these industries fits very well

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in to the countries like India. The agro-processing industries should thus move faster and farther to play the role that is destined for it.

#### 1.5 HYPOTHESIS:

The physical environmental factors as relief, geology, climate, soil have set the broad limits to use of land to grow the crops and to domesticate the agro-industries. All or any one of them may have played a dominant role in making the changes in these aspects of the agriculture. The changes in cropping pattern depends upon the agro-processing industries.

Any type of development has definite "Linkage process" and the initial stage of this process provides<sup>s</sup> ground to the next products. Similarly in the region under study irrigation has provided the base for the production<sup>of</sup> cash crops like sugarcane, cotton etc., and the last stage of process i.e. the development of agro-industries in this region is the production of these cash crops. It reveals that the development according to the "linkage process", in which the introduction of the first factor prepares the necessary ground for the next. In the region there is strong linkage between irrigation, cropping pattern and agrobased industries.

#### 1.6 METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES OF DATA:

Major agro-industries in Satara district - A special reference to sugar industry and cotton ginning and spinning

mills and changes therein during the period under investigation i.e. 1951 to 1981, is proposed to be studied in different environmental settings. In the study of agro-industries a sugar industry is selected for study, its impace on landuse and cropping pattern. Where the agricultural activities particularly landuse, cropping pattern and agro-industries are variable in different parts of the region.

The statistical information of various sugar factories is collected by different methods of data collection and observation. Each factory has been visited by the author many times to collect data regarding the various types. Besides major data regarding the region is collected from Zilla Parishad, Satara and District Statistical Obstract Office.

Data collection, field studies and observation made during the field work are the bases to the analysis. Information is collected from the Annual Reports of the factories. The essential data is presented in the form of tables, graphs and maps. These in themselves will provide essential explanations. Most of the maps are choropleths to reveal the aeral differntiation in the specific importance of element.

Detailed statistical information of agriculture, population, rainfall, is available at the Tahsil office and district head quarters. The main body of the data used in this study is collected from primary and secondary sources.

### Primary Source:

The statistical data are collected personally from different sources. The talukawise landuse, and a under different crops such data are collected from ' Panchayat Samitee ' and 'Zilla Parishad '.

### Secondary Source:

It includes published reports, annual reports, abstracts mainly Census handbooks, gazetteer of the Satara district and the socio-economic review and district statistical abstracts. They have provided information about climate, crops, crop productions, cane crusing capacity, raw material used and production of sugar of various factories. These source of data have provided an integrated and mappable information using the Tahsils as a units of reference.

In certain cases the crude data collection method is used.

### Proposed Outline of Work:

The work is divided in three parts and arranged into five chapters. The first is confined to the major elements of physical and socio-economic setting of the region. The first part dealswith location, relief, climate, soil, drainage and Agricultural landuse in the region.

The present situation of Agro-industries are the subject of second section through second part of the work. An account of the present spatio temporal distribution of the agro-industries is expected to facilitate spatial evaluation.

The third part is related to future trends of agro-industries and deals with the potentiality of the region to faster growth of various agro based industries. Conclusions and suggestions have been presented in the last chapter from the view point of regional development.