

C H A P T E R III

SOLAPUR URBAN DIVISION

The Board, the apex body of M.S.E.B., as discussed in the previous chapter, is located at Bombay. The Board has carved out various territorial administrative units from the above are zones, circles, divisions, sub-divisions and so on.

The Solapur Urban Division, the area selected for this study, comes under the Solapur Circle and this circle is included in Pune Zone. The Solapur circle is divided into 5 divisions and they are given just alphabetical names viz. A, B, C, D & E. Just to cover the whole area of city of Solapur, there is a special division which is named as Solapur (Urban) Division.

An Executive Engineer is the head of the Solapur Urban Division. He runs the administration of this division with the help of three main officers in-charge of three different sections; viz. (a) administrative, (b) technical, and (c) accounts. These officers are known as the establishment superintendent, Deputy Executive Engineer and Divisional Accountant respectively. Their designations are sufficient to know about their branch of specialisation (Vide. Chart 3.1)

Administration

The superintendent of this unit is assisted by a Head Clerk and a number of upper division clerks belonging to the general administration.

Technical Wing

The technical wing is supervised over by an officer of the rank of a Deputy Executive Engineer. He is assisted by assisting engineers, Junior engineers and Sub-engineers. At the lower rungs these persons such as foreman, lineman and helpers.

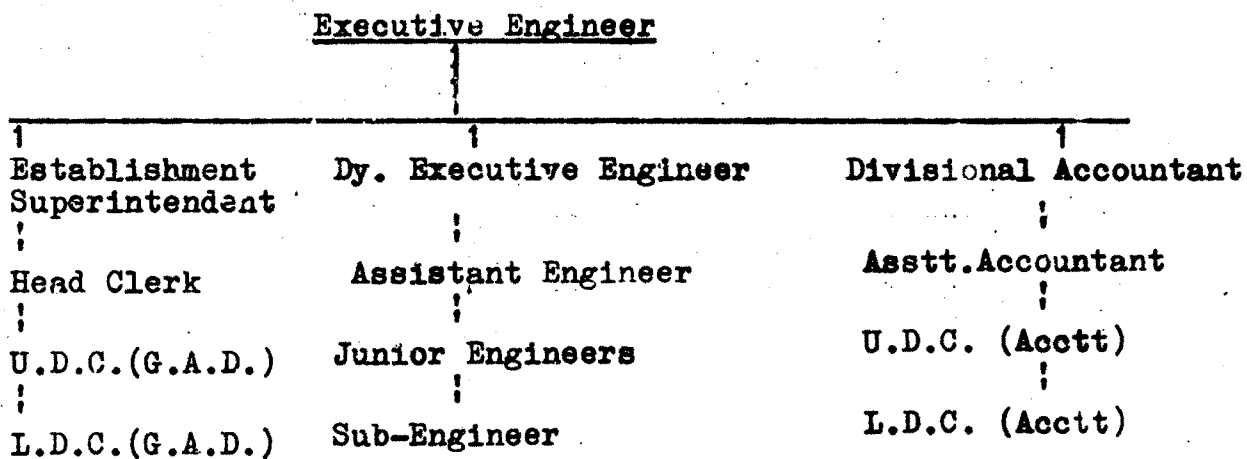
Accounts Wing

The divisional accountant runs this wing. His subordinates are assistant accountants, a number of upper division and lower division clerks belonging to accounts cadre.

A statement given in Chapter One will be able to give us a clear picture of the personnel set up of the Solapur Urban Division. (Vide : The Statement 1.1 : Distribution of employees of Solapur Urban Division as per their classes)

Chart No. 3.1

Personnel Set-up of Solapur Urban Division



In this way structure of personnel set-up of Solapur Urban Division.

Position Classification

The statement referred above gives a detailed picture of the total number of employees working in the Solapur Urban Division and their classification according to their status denoted by various classes, such as Class I, Class II and Class III and Class IV. It is based on ranks. This point is discussed in the next chapter. The classification is also based on the nature of their work viz. technical, administrative and pertaining to accounts. Thus, the M.S.E.B. has followed position classification mainly on the basis of ranks. This is a general practice found in India in all public personnel set-up.

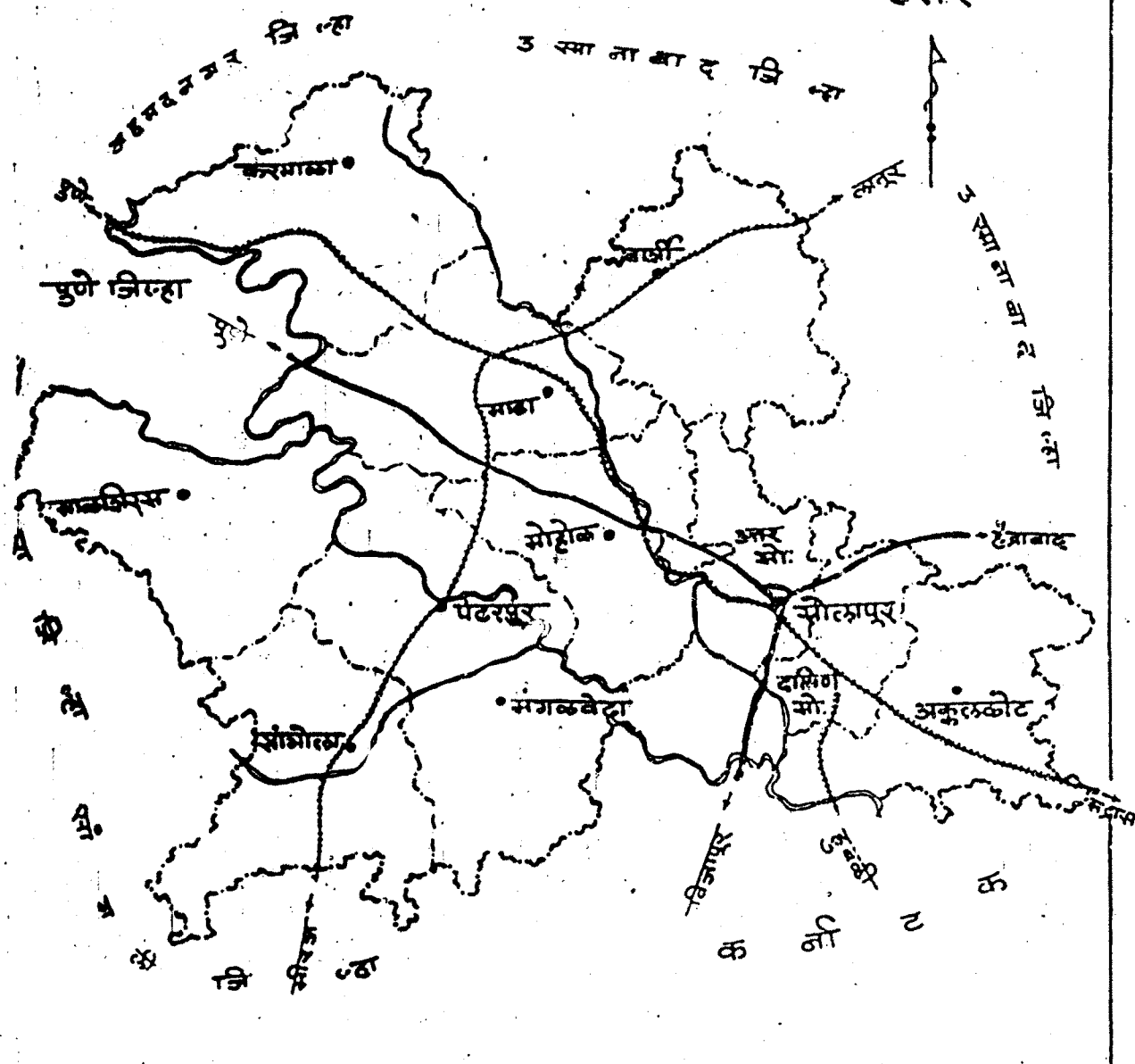
Territorial Jurisdiction of SUD

The territorial jurisdiction of the Solapur Urban division, as noted above, is considered with the territorial limits of the city of Solapur. It is quite natural that the territorial jurisdiction of this division varies with the territorial changes of the city of Solapur. It will be quite pertinent to know some thing more about it.

Solapur city is the Headquarter of Solapur district (See map of Maharashtra State). Thus it occupies an important

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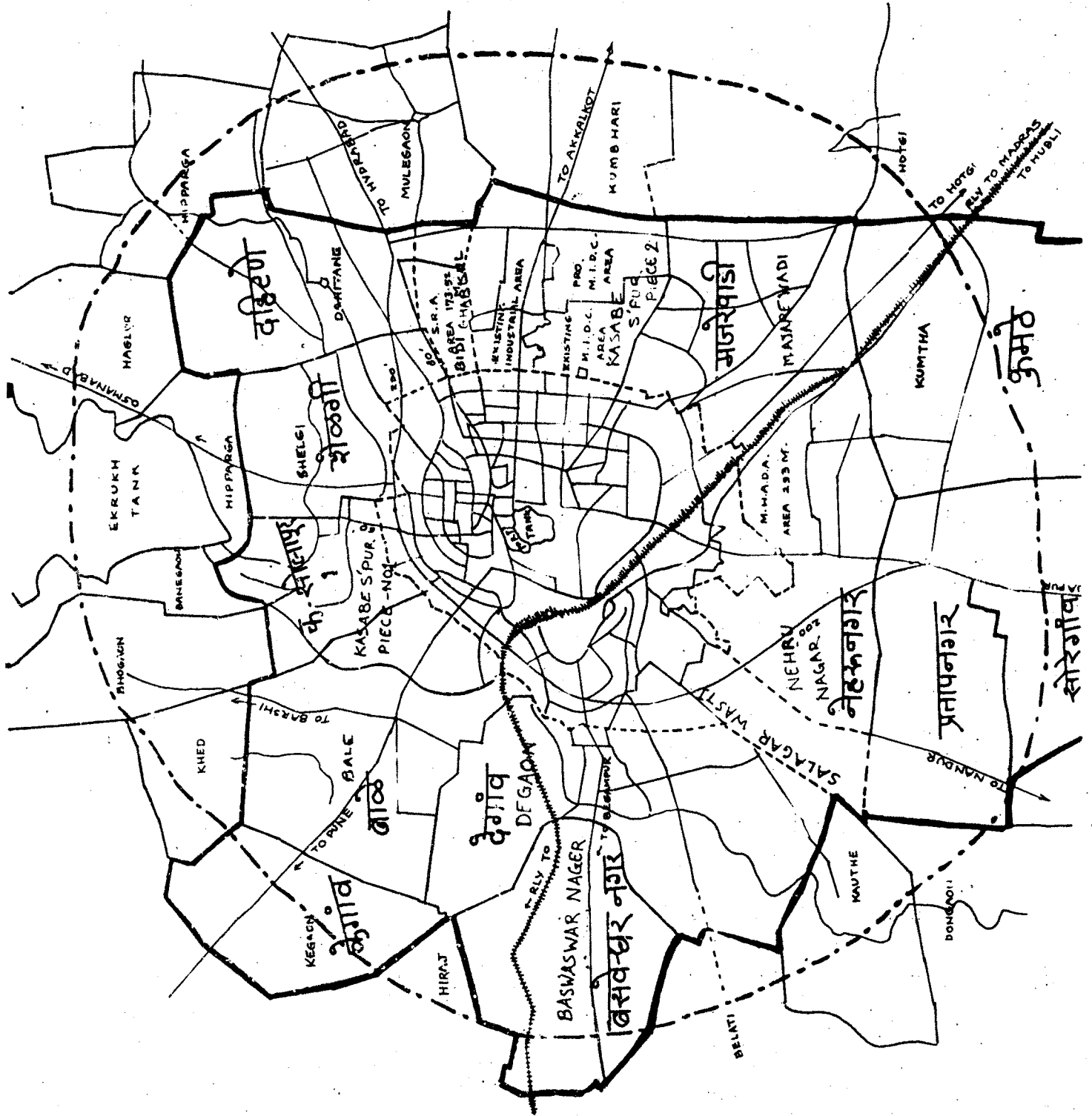
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PLAN SHOWING THE PRO-
EXTENSION TO
MUNICIPAL LIMITS OF
SOLAPUR.

● REFERENCES

- EXISTING M.I.D.C. AREA
- PROPOSED M.I.D.C. AREA
- EXISTING INDUSTRIAL AREA
- LANDS PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT BY M.H.A.D.A.
- EXISTING MUNICIPAL LIMITS.
- PROPOSED MUNICIPAL LIMITS (19)



SCALE - 1" = 1 MILE

place for various points of view besides administrative and political activities.

Solapur district is located at the South-East corner of the Maharashtra state. Its boundaries on the Eastern and Southern sides are connected with Karnataka State. It is a very old district and it enjoys an important position in history also.

Solapur district is comprised of 11 talukas; namely (1) Akkalkot, (2) South Solapur, (3) North Solapur, (4) Barshi (5) Mohol, (6) Mangalwedha, (7) Pandharpur, (8) Malshiras, (9) Sangola, (10) Karmala; and (11) Madha. The Solapur is not only the Head Quarter of the district, it is also the Head Quarter of two talukas namely South Solapur and North Solapur. (See map of Solapur district) Thus it enhances its administrative and political importance. This district covers an area of 15017 Sq. K.M.⁽¹⁾ It's population as per 1991 census is 32,24,034.⁽²⁾

The Solapur city is situated between 17°40' North latitude and 75°46' East longitude. The city is not located at the centre of this district, but at the South-East corner of the district.⁽³⁾ (See Map - City of Solapur). The border

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1. Dastane and Hardikar, Maharashtra, 1991; Page 294
 2. Maharashtra Shasan, Maharashtratil Zille - Solapur; P. 2
 3. Solapur Nagarpalika - Shatsanvatsarik Granth 1953, P. 28

of Karnataka State, as noted above, are connected with boundaries of this district. The Andhra Pradesh is not far off from this district. This proximity of these two states is one of the reasons because of which a large number of people from these states migrated to this city and enriched its culture and made it multi-dimensional.

The city of Solapur is a historical city. Shri Sidheshwar, a famous Saint belonging to 12th Century was instrumental in giving momentum to the growth of this place. He got dug a tank, which is now situated in the heart of the city and known after the name of Saint Sidheshwar, by free and voluntary labour (Shramdan). He is worshipped as diety of the place (The Gramdaivat).

A Municipal council of Solapur dates back to 1852. It is one of the oldest municipalities in the erstwhile Bombay Presidency and in the present Maharashtra State. The early setting up of the municipal council helped in providing various civic amenities such as water supply, sanitation, underground drainage, roads, street lights, town planning, gardens, underground drainage, roads, streets lights, town planning, gardens, municipal primary school and so on. In 1964, the municipal council was elevated to a Municipal Corporation. It has enhanced the status of the city and has expedited promotion of civic amenities with quality and speed.

A number of major offices are located at Solapur. Besides, the district Collector's office, there are offices of Solapur Zilla Parishad, those of South and North Solapur tahsils. Recently, the police establishment has been upgraded and it is headed by a Police Commissioner. This has added to a few more administrative and allied units. The Sales-tax, Excise, Central and State Offices are located at Solapur.

Solapur is an important railway station on the Central Railway. In addition to this, it has a railway station coming under South Central Railway. It is well connected with Hyderabad, Cuttak, Madras, Bangalore, Hubli, Trivendram, Mangalore, Bombay, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Nagpur, New Delhi, Jammu and so on. There is a divisional office of the Central Railway in this city.

The National Highway No. 9 passes through Solapur city. This city is well connected by road also with Bombay, Pune, Hyderabad, Kolhapur, Nagpur, Aurangabad, Bangalore, Bijapur and a number of places. The divisional Office of the Maharashtra Road Transport Corporation is located here. The great pilgrimate centre like Pandharpur is not far off from Solapur, it is one of the tahsils in this district. This city has good communication facilities by way post, telegraph, telephone, national, inter-national,

fax, telex etc. The offices concerned with these activities are located here.

Area of Solapur city

The area of Solapur city was very limited for a long period of time. It if compared to other cities like Pune, Kolhapur, Nagpur etc. In 1869 the area of this city was just 0.6159 Sq.K.M. or 150 acres only. It increased by 13% in 1940. Upto 1971 it remained stagnant at 22.35 Sq. K.M. In the next 10 years it was extended upto 32.83 Sq.K.M. It's area was even smaller than a number of taluka places, eventhough its population was much bigger. But recently, after a long battle for enlarging the boundaries of this city a notable increase has been made. It was given effect to on 5th May, 1992 i.e. a few months ago. Now the area of this city has been increased six times and it has provided with a decent size of area. The present area of this city is 180.69 KM (See Table No. 3.1) with such a big increase in area of the city of Solapur, the territorial jurisdiction of the Solapur Urban division of M.S.E.B. is bound to increase.

TABLE NO. 3.1

Changes in Area of City of Solapur

No.	Year	Area in Sq. K.M.	Increase Percentage
1.	1869	0.69	-
2.	1940	22.39	13.45
3.	1971	22.35	8.52
4.	1981	32.83	10.48
5.	1992	180.69	445.45

The Solapur Urban division supplies electricity to domestic consumers, commercial centres, industrial centres, railways and other transport undertaking, theatres schools and colleges. All these influences the size, nature, complexity of the technical, administrative and accounting work load of the Solapur Urban Division. It is, therefore, will be worthwhile to note a few important points about these matters.

Population of Solapur City

Population growth of Solapur city is not smooth. (See Table No. 3.2) In 1901, population of this city was 75,288. In 1911 its fell down to 61,345. Then it went on increasing. At present, with extended limits, it stands at 7,08,471. Thus, this city is on the way of becoming a metropolitan city.

TABLE NO. 3.2

Population of Solapur City from 1901 to 1992

Sr. No.	Year	Population	Variation	Percentage
1.	1901	75,288	-	-
2.	1911	61,345	- 13943	- 18.52
3.	1921	1,19,581	+ 58236	+ 19.13
4.	1931	1,44,654	+ 25073	+ 20.97
5.	1941	2,12,620	+ 67966	+ 46.99
6.	1951	2,77,087	+ 64467	+ 30.32
7.	1961	3,37,583	+ 60496	+ 21.83
8.	1971	3,94,361	+ 60778	+ 18.00
9.	1981	5,14,860	+ 116499	+ 22.63
10.	1991	6,20,499	+ 105639	+ 17.02
11.	1992	7,08,471	+ 88471	+ 1.36

The city of Solapur is a cosmopolitan city. The people belong to different religions such as Hindus (70%) Muslims (16%), Buddhists (3%), Jains (2%) and Christians (1%). The city is cosmopolitan not only religionwise but it is languagewise also. This city, as noted above, is well connected with Karnataka State and Andhra Pradesh. It has brought about migration of people from these states on a large scale. Thus this city has a sizeable population of Telugu and Kannada speaking people. The languagewise break-up

of population may be summarised as : Marathi (49.1%), Telugu (17.12%), Kannada (12.81%), Hindi (3.8%), Urdu (16.30%) and other languages (2.22%).

= Industrially, the city is fairly advanced. It has three spinning and weaving mills in the organised sectors, ⁱⁿ 3 cotton spinning mills/the cooperative sector, Solapur is famous for Chaddars. They are produced with the help of power looms. The handloom industry in the city is also quite big. In the M.I.D.C. area, there are a variety of industrial units of a small size. The Birlas have started big cotton spinning mill. New big industrial units are expected to be set up in the M.I.D.C. area in near future. All these activities are going to increase the task of the Solapur urban division.

Solapur city is advanced from education point of view also. It has good arts, science and commerce colleges, a medical college, an engineering college. Besides these, it has a Law college, college of education, a pharmacy college, a good number of secondary and primary schools, polytechnics, There is an industrial training institute run by Govt. in addition to these, there are number of private, technical and commercial institutes. All these serve as a good infra-structural basis of this place.

Consumption of Electricity in SUD

Against the above background, it will be worth noting the consumption pattern in the Solapur Urban division. This division supply 65 MW every day. It is supplied to 85,448 consumers belonging to various categories (See statement No. 3.1) Naturally the number of domestic and commercial consumers is 78,912 out of total number of 85,448 consumers. However, the industrial units, though small in number consumes a sizeable chunk of energy.

Statement No. 3.1

Distribution of Consumers according to various categories

No. Category of Consumer	No
1. Domestic	62184
2. Commercial	16728
3. Industrial	6012
4. Public Lighting	52
5. Agricultural	399
6. Public Water Works	11
7. Railway (Non-traction)	2
8. High Tension Industrial	60
	<u>85448</u>

1. More, Jr. Engineer - Report on the impact of extension of Solapur city on the Administration of SUD, 1992
(Unpublished)



The Solapur urban division has adopted modernisation by computerising its billing system. From September, 1990 bi-monthly computerised billing system has introduced in respect of low tension (L.T.) and high tension (H.T.) consumers within the Solapur urban division.

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