
CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

The present chapter is designed to outline the industrial development of Kolhapur and to trace the origin and development of sugar industry in Kolhapur

1. Location of Kolhapur :

Kolhapur is situated in South-West part of Maharashtra, on latitude $16^{\circ}42'$ N, $74^{\circ}-14'$ E and stands on rising ground on the south bank of the river Panchaganga. Kolhapur derives its importance from its past political associations and its position as a great commercial, religious and educational centre. It was capital of the former Kolhapur State, a premier state in the Deccan, and was also the seat of the Residency for Deccan States (Gazetter of India, 1960; 848).

Kolhapur district is surrounded by Ratnagiri district in the west by Sangli district in the north-east and by the Karnataka state in the south-east. Road transport vehicles use to ply usually between Kolhapur, Pune, Belgaum, Ratnagiri and Bangalore. The distance between Kolhapur and Bombay, the Head Quarters of Maharashtra State, is about 425 kms. Kolhapur is also connected with important cities in Maharashtra like Bombay, Nagpur by Railway.

2. History of Kolhapur in Brief :

Regarding the history of Kolhapur it is noted that the city "dates back to 150 A.D. It was under the great Shivaji's rule from 1659. Tarabai established the Gadi of Kolhapur in 1710. Later in succession in 1894 the visionary, social minded ruler Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj strove for socio-economic development not only of the capital city but also of the entire

kingdom. The erstwhile state of Karveer under the rule of Chhatrapatis of Kolhapur was merged with the Indian union in March, 1949" (Bhanushali, 1984 : 56).

Regarding the population of Kolhapur it "has been noted that the city population has increased phenomenally over the years in the 20th century on account of the natural increase in the number through influx of people from outside places. It increased from 48,122 in 1911 to 3,40,625 in 1981" (Census of India, Kolhapur, 1981). As per the 1991 census the population of Kolhapur is 4,17,286 (Census of India, 1991.Paper -2 : 264).

3. Industrial Development of Kolhapur :

The socio-cultural milieu in Kolhapur district is rural. This district had some traditional rural industries like smithy, leather, handloom etc. in the past, industries on modern lines came to be set-up in the district mainly through the initiation of the Great king Chh. Shahu Maharaj (Patil, 1985 : 77).

The king made concerted efforts to develop small scale industries in private sector, large projects in joint sector and co-operative industries by inviting prominent traders and businessmen from far and near places to establish in Kolhapur city and elsewhere in the state. At times financial assistance too was extended to them. Consequently Shahupuri (in Kolhapur city) and Jayasingpur and Gadhinglaj (in Kolhapur State) emerged sooner as the new trading centers (Kolhapur State General Administration Reports; 1899-1900, P.50 and 1918-1919, P.3).

Agro-based industries like textile, sugar mills and engineering industries etc. came up in different parts of the city mostly through co-operative and private enterprise. However, upto the end of 19th century, Kolhapur was industrially underdeveloped (Patil, 1985 : 77).

Besides this in Kolhapur city the local artisans, located their production units in the heart of the city. In due course of time, they were shifted to outer parts of the city. But the units were no longer small. Apart from the big units in textile, sugar and engineering industries in Kolhapur city, in Shivaji Udyamnagar many small engineering units have sprung up after its establishment in 1945-46. Now as it could not expand to the west or north, the engineering units have been established at the M.I.D.C. Shirol (317.29 hectares). The M.I.D.C. has acquired land at Gokulshirgaon (202.43 hectare) on Pune-Bangalore highway (Patil, 1985 : 78).

Leather industry is also one of the important industries in Kolhapur. According to survey of leather industries, there are in all 59 tanners' establishments in Kolhapur and out of 1025 persons, female workers are 325 and male workers are 700. These establishments are situated in Jawahar Nagar area of Kolhapur (Kadam, 1982 : 46).

As per one survey, there are 2018 small, cottage and household footwear manufacturing units in the city and nearly 5500 persons are engaged in them. Out of 5500 persons, female workers are 300 and male workers are 5200. These establishments are situated in all parts of Kolhapur city, but maximum number of units found in B Ward (Kadam, 1982 : 58).

4. Origin and Development of Sugar Industry in Kolhapur :

A muslim from Gujarat came to Yalgud of Kolhapur district in 1856 and produced sugar from sugarcane for the first time. This sugar was famous by the name 'Yalgud Sugar' at that time. Handmade process was used for the production of sugar and, therefore, sugar produced was less in sweetness than the sugar produced today. At that time, sugar was produced in few villages of Alte, Kagal, Karveer and Shirol tahsils and people particularly of Jain, Lingayat and Mohammedan communities were adept in this art. By 1886, as there was important in the art of sugar manufacturing, the product was whiter and sweeter than before. As per the details given in the Kolhapur Sansthan's Gazetter of 1886, from one acre of sugarcane, 1125 seers of sugar was produced.

Upto 1930, area under sugarcane in Kolhapur district was limited and sugarcane was used mainly for production of jaggery and handmade sugar. After tariff protection by Government of India in 1932, Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj of the erstwhile Kolhapur started factory in the State. Thus, the first ever sugar factory in the district, by name The Kolhapur Cane Sugar Works Ltd., was established at Kolhapur in the private sector in 1934 with an initial share capital of Rs.10,25,000/-. To begin with, the Sugar Mill invested Rs.5,40,000/- in construction of buildings, for raising a plant of crushing capacity of 500 tons a day. In 1947-48, 412 persons were regularly employed in the factory besides 1,700 temporary workers, 500 cane-cutters and 500 bullock cart divers. The factory had its own sugar farm in Kasba-Bavda area of Kolhapur district. In 1951-52, 46,700 acres of land was under sugarcane cultivation in Kolhapur district,

which produced 1,40,800 tons of sugarcane. Establishment of the sugar mill at Kolhapur created an assured market for sugarcane and hence, boosted sugarcane production, particularly in the eastern part of Kolhapur district (Joshi, 1991 : 66,67).

The large scale movement of the co-operative sugar factories was launched in 1954. It had its origin in the decision of the planning commission to increase the output of the sugar industry in order to cater to the increasing consumption of sugar in the country (Awate, 1987:23).

The year 1955 marked the beginning of the growth of co-operative sugar factories in the district.

In the year 1955, following three cooperative sugar factories were registered :

- 1) Shri Warna Shetkari Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Warnanagar.
- 2) Shri Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Ganganagar, Ichalkaranji.
- 3) Bhogawati Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Ghotawade.

(Awate, 1987 : 28).

The following table (Table-1) shows the basic information about the sugar factories in Kolhapur district. The location of sugar co-operatives in Kolhapur district is shown in a map of Kolhapur district.

LOCATION OF SUGAR CO-OPERATIVES IN KOLHAPUR DISTRICT

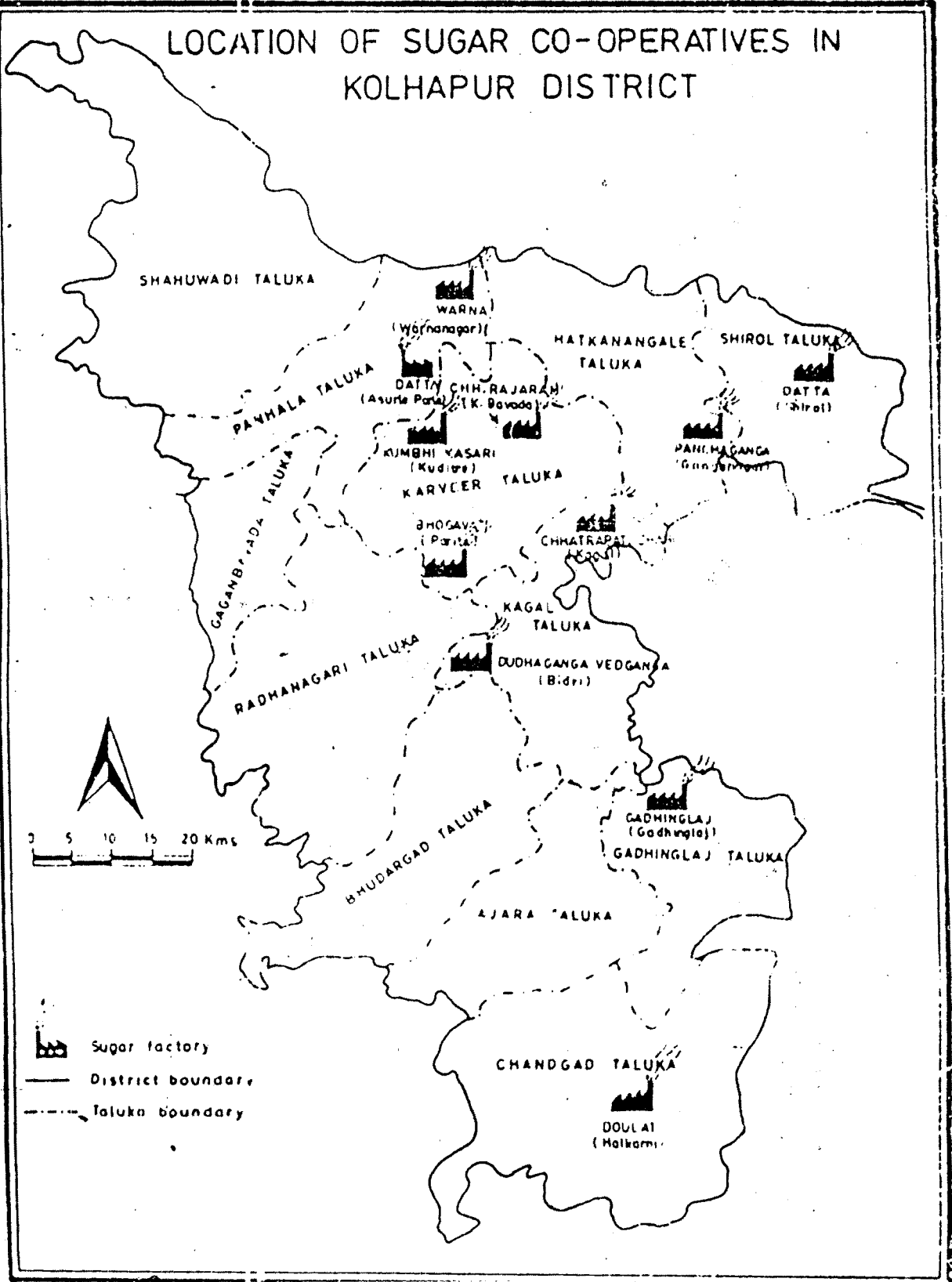


Table - 1 : Basic Information about Sugar Factories in Kolhapur District.

Name of the co-operative factory	Location Place/ Taluka	Date of registration	Date of commencement of trial season	Date of Commencement of regular production	Crushing year	Crushing capacity (TCD)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Pancha-ganga	Ichalkaranji (Hatkanangale)	1-10-1955	20-3-1959	1-11-1959	1958-59 1971-72 1977-78	1,250 3,500 5,000
2. Bhogawati	Parite (Karveer)	18-10-1955	16-2-59	4-11-59	1958-59 1966-67 1971-72	1,000 1,250 2,000
3. Warna	Warnanagar (Panhala)	27-9-55	1-11-59	6-11-59	1959-60 1968-69 1981-82	1,000 2,000 3,000
4. Dudhaganga Vedganga	Mouni-nagar (Karveer)	10-10-56	15-2-63	15-2-63	1962-63 1972-73 1977-78	1,000 1,750 3,500
5. Kumbhi Kasari	Kuditre (Karveer)	20-6-60	24-11-63	3-12-63	1963-64 1971-72 1982-83	1,000 1,750 3,000
6. Datta Shttkari	Shirol (Shirol)	5-6-69	18-3-72	9-10-72	1972-73 1980-81 1986-87 1990-91	1,250 2,000 2,500 5,000
7. Daulat Shetkari	Halkarni (Chandgad)	30-1-70	3-11-77	3-11-77	1977-78 1987-88	1,250 2,000
8. Gadhinglaj	Harali (Gadhinglaj)	27-2-74	3-6-79	23-11-79	1979-80 1986-87	1,250 2,000
9. Chh. Shahu	Kagal (Kagal)	21-7-77	17-10-80	30-11-80	1980-81 1990-91	1,250 2,000
10. Chh. Rajaram	Kasba Bavda (Karveer)	11-4-84	8-11-85	8-11-85	1985-86	2,200
11. Datta	Asurle-Porle (Panhale)	23-5-68	1-11-85	5-11-86	1985-86	1,250

* Annual Reports of the Cooperative Sugar Factories (Joshi, 1991; 108).

5. Trade Unions Working in Sugar Industry in Kolhapur District :

Along with the development of sugar co-operative in Kolhapur district, a number of trade unions have also emerged. The table-2 below shows the number of workers in different sugar factories and table-3 indicates the names of trade unions working in these sugar cooperatives.

Table - 2 : Number of workers working in Sugar Factories in Kolhapur District

Name of Sugar Factory	Permanent workers	Temporary workers	Total
1. Chh. Rajaram Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Kasba-Bavda.	532	362	895
2. Kumbhi Kasari Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Kuditre.	539	413	952
3. Bhogawati Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Parite.	509	711	1220
4. Dudhaganga Vedganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Mouninagar.	753	445	1198
5. Chh. Shahu Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Kagal.	370	485	855
6. Warna Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Warnanagar.	496	578	1074
7. Datta Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Asurle Porle.	323	333	656
8. Gadhinglaj Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Harli.	232	338	570
9. Daulat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Halkarni.	389	401	790
10. Datta Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Shirol.	763	298	1061
11. Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana, Ichalkaranji.	1300	700	2000

(The data shown in the table were personally collected by the researcher)

Table - 3 : Trade Unions Working in Sugar Co-operatives in Kolhapur District

Name of the Sugar Factory	Name of the Union
1. Chh. Rajaram Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Kasba Bavda.	Sakhar Kamgar Union
2. Kumbhi Kasari Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Kuditre	Sakhar Kamgar Union
3. Bhogawati Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Parite.	Sakhar Kamgar Union
4. Dudhaganga Vedganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Mouninagar.	Chh. Shahu Sakhar Kamgar Sangh, Kagal.
5. Chh. Shahu Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Kagal.	Chh. Shahu Sakhar Kamgar Sangh, Kagal.
6. Warna Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Warnanagar.	Shri Warna Sakhar Kamgar Sangh, Warnanagar.
7. Datta Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Asurle-Porle.	Shri Warna Sakhar Kamgar Sangh, Warnanagar.
8. Gadhinglaj Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Harli.	Sakhar Kamgar Sangh (INTUC)
9. Daulat Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Halkarni	Daulat Sakhar Kamgar Sangh (INTUC)
10. Shri Datta Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Shirol.	Sharkara Audyogic Shramik Sangh, Shirol.
11. Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Ichalkaranji.	Panchaganga Sakhar Kamgar Sangh (INTUC)

(The data shown in the table were personally collected by the researcher)

Thus, the present chapter has dealt with the industrial development of Kolhapur. Against this background the next chapter deals with studies on trade unionism and methodological aspects of the present study.

REFERENCES

- Awate, M.M. (1987) : "Sugar Co-operative and Social Change -
A Sociological Case Study in Maharashtra" Unpublished
Ph.D. Thesis, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
- Bhanushali, S.G. (1984) - "Enterpreneurial Development of Engg.
industry in Kolhapur" unpublished Ph.D. thesis,
Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
- Census of India - 1991 - Paper-2, P. 264.
- Gazetter of India - Kolhapur district, Revised edition of Vol.XXIV of
the original Gazetter of Bombay Presidency relating
to Kolhapur, 1960, P. 848.
- Joshi C.J. (1991) - "Analysis of the Finances of Sugar Factories in
Kolhapur district" unpublished Ph.D. Thesis,
Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
- Kadam D.D. (1982) - "Study of Leather and Footwear industries in
Kolhapur city, unpublished M.Phil. Dissertation,
Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
- Kolhapur State General Administration Reports : 1899-1900 P.50 and
1918-1919 P.3.
- Patil S.A. (1985) - " Industrial Dispersal in Kolhapur District" Unpublished
M.Phil. Dissertation, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
