

CHAPTER - IV

PROFILE OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT

CHAPTER IV
PROFILE OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT

4.1 Introduction -

In this chapter it is proposed to discuss social, economic features of the study area.

The main purpose of presenting the profile of the area is to give the reader the general idea about the district and city economy.

4.2 Profile of Solapur District -

1) Location -

Solapur district situated on the South, East fringe of Maharashtra state and lie $17^{\circ}=10$, $18^{\circ}=32$ North latitudes and $74^{\circ}-42$ and $76^{\circ}15$ East longitude to.

2) Boundaries -

The district is surrounded by Ahmednagar, Osmanabad districts in North and Andhra Pradesh in the East, Sangli district and Karnataka State to the South and Satara and Pune districts to the West.

3) Rainfall -

Climatically the every district falls in the rainshadow areas. The monsoon period in Solapur district, the covers the period of mid-June to the end of September. The annual average of rainfall is 577 mm.

4) Famine and Scarcity -

Agro climatically the entire district except Akalkot Tahsil falls in the rainfalls shadow zone.

5) Area -

Solapur district comprises of an area of 15201 Sq. Km. which is 4.88% of the total area of the State of this urban account for 414 Sq.Kms. and rural areas for 14607Sq.Kms.

6) Demography -

Population of this district was 26.07 lakhs according to 1981 census, consisting of 7.67 lakhs in urban and 18.40 lakhs in rural.

7) Occupational Pattern -

Occupational pattern, according to 1981 cellous out of the total population 26.07 lakhs in district, 9.84 lakhs were workers. The distribution pattern workers in different categories reveal that 35% of the workers were cultivator, 20% were agricultural labours and remaining 35% were other workers.

8) Agriculture -

Jawars, Groundnut and to little extent sugarcane - five main crops of the district are Jawar, Wheat, Gram, Tur, Bajari about 70% of the area under cultication is under Rabbi crops.

The area under sugarcane crop which is presently around 38,000 acres is likely to be increased to 80,000 acres by 1982, the farmers in the district could take crop like Grapes, Leman and Mosambi. On the basis of expected increase in area under irrigation from 11% to 20% and the availability of peremial irrigation resources.

9) Containts -

Solapur district containts 11 Tahsils namely as North Solapur, South Solapur, Malsiras, Mohol, Madha, Barshi, Sangola, Pandharpur, Akkalkot, Mangalwedha and Karmala.

Tropography -

1) Hill Range -

There is no important hill system in the district. There are scattered hills in Karmala, Madha, Malshiras Tahsil.

2) Soils -

The soil in the district is mainly of Deccan trap of the Volcanic origin. The soil is underlain by particularly decomposed basaltic rock, locally called murum. District has shallow soils with low water holding capacity. Crops in the area therefore suffer the most during the drought condition.

3) Rivers -

The rivers are fordable except for occasional pools of water found in the Bhima river, during summer. The length of Bhima river within the limits of the district is 284 KMs. The water course of the tributaries in the district may be recovered about 650 KMs.

4) Irrigation Projects -

There is one major irrigation project named Ujani Dam on Bhima river. Uptill now, it brought 124920 hectare cultivate area under irrigation. There are few medium size project and 100 minor irrigation projects.

5) Industrial -

There are eight sugar factories in the district and three important textile mills in Solapur city. Besides there are 800 power looms produce Jacquard chaddars, Dhoti and long cloth. There are about 1600 handlooms in the district. In case of small scale industry and other medium industries in this district are

mostly labour intensive. In addition to this the foundries and tex-tile chemical industries are also providing employment etc.

6) Electrification -

There is 100% electrification in the district. M.S.E.B. proposed to provide energy for 9250 pumpsets during 1983-85.

7) Banking and Institution -

There are 3080 co-operative societies of agriculture, industrial, financial and other allied activities. Banking facilities were provided in the district through out 294 banks branches in 1982. In all 24 commercial bank branches operating in the district of which 12 banks have only one branch in the district situated in Solapur city.

The strategy for development in the drought prone area of the district involves the various measures of the land development and moisture, conservation, water harvesting and minor irrigation, dryland, farming, live stock development forestry and pasture development etc.

As regard to allied activities, it is observed that dairy farming has been making steady progress due to special measures taken by Government to assist the weaker section of farming community. On the other hand the progress of poultry farming has so far been halting due to marketing arrangements or other allied activities goat rearing and sheep breeding provides employment to a very small proportion of the rural population.

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in the district has been launched since 1978-79 to provide subsidiary occupations to the people belonging to weaker sections of the society in the rural areas.

Such a change would provide gainful employment to number of educated/uneducated, skilled/unskilled workers. The trade in agricultural product and other consumer goods will also go up very fast.

The district credit plan is therefore being launched at a very better time, and shall definitely go a long way in bettering the economy of this district.

@@@@@@@@@@@

R E F E R E N C E S

1. Development Plan of Solapur City
District Town Planning Office.
2. District Action Plan - DIC, Solapur.

@@@@@@@@@@