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CHAPTER - 2.

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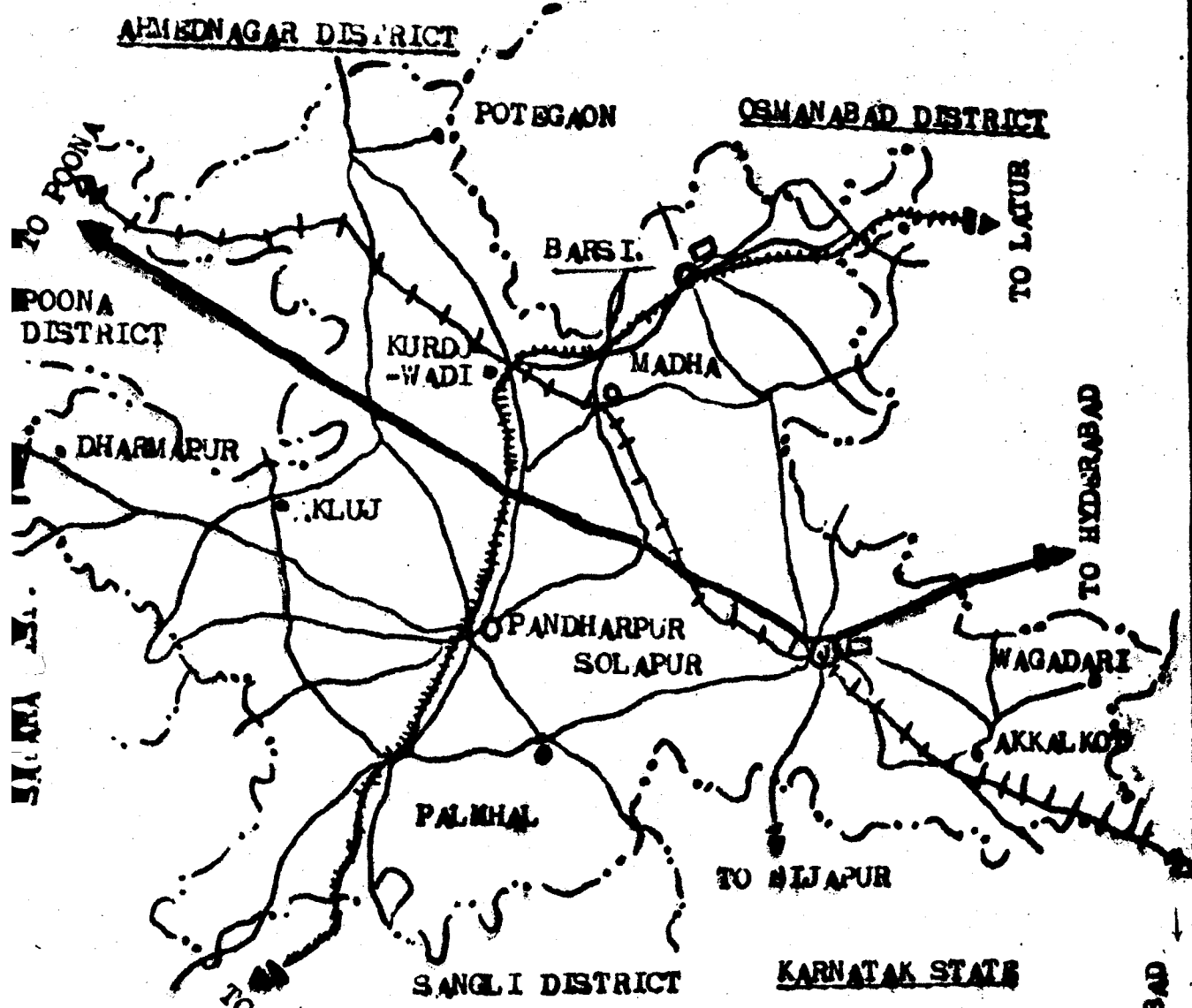
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A BIRD'S EYE-VIEW OF BARSİ TOWN

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DISTRICT : SOLAPUR.



LEGEND

- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
- DISTRICT MAJOR ROADS
- BROAD GAUGE RAILWAYS
- OTHER RAILWAYS
- DISTRICT TOWN
- OTHER MAJOR TOWNS
- M.I.D.C. INDUSTRIAL ESTATE PROPOSED.





**PROJECT AND CITY - BOMBAY.**



- CHAPTER 2 -

- : A BIRD'S EYE-VIEW OF BARSII TOWN : -

(A) GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION.

Solapur district situated on the south east fringe of Maharashtra State, lies on the ridge in the Bhima and Sina basins and almost the whole of it is drained by either Bhima river or its tributaries. The district has an area of 15,057 Sq.Kms. The area of Solapur district lies between latitudes 17° to 19° and longitudes 75° to 77° on the Southern border of Maharashtra. It lies in the centre of a large plain 1,800 feet above mean sea level. It is surrounded by Gulbarga and Bijpur districts of the Karnatak State to the south and from Maharashtra State Sangli district to the South-West, Satara district to the west, Poona district to the north-west, Ahmednagar district to the north and Osmanabad district to the east. Solapur city, the district headquarters, is situated at a distance of about 265 Kms. from Pune city, the Divisional Headquarters.

Solapur district was first formed in the year 1838, abolished in 1864 and was again formed in 1875. Barsi became a part of the district as a separate tehsil from 1920. Presently, Barsi taluka is one of the 11 talukas of Solapur district with Barsi town as its headquarters. The taluka is situated to the north-east side of the district bordering

Osmanabad district on the north. The area of the Barsi Municipal Council is 36.27 Sq.Kms. and the population of the town is 73,537 according to 1981 census. The town population recorded an increase of nearly 85 percent during the decade 1971-81.

(B) INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY.

There are two industrial estates in Solapur district, one in Solapur city and the other in Barsi. An engineering unit is coming up in Khandavi near Barsi town to produce nutbolts and agricultural implements. The Bhogavati Co-operative Sugar factory started production from 1979. Groundnut oil extraction, bidi-making, jaggery-making, printing process, textile processing, etc., are the other activities of Barsi town in addition to dal-making.

In brief, the industrial activity in Barsi town is prominently linked intimately with agricultural produce and hence agri-business predominates the industrial scene. Table 2.1 throws light on this.

Table 2.1

Agricultural raw material processing units in Barsi town.

<u>Industry</u>	<u>No. of units</u>
1. Spinning mill.	2
2. Textile mill.	1
3. Oil mill.	7
4. Turmeric polishing	2

Industry	No.of units
5. Chaff cutting units.	15
6. Dal mills.	22
7. Oil Ghani (Rotary).	6
8. Sugar factory	1

Source :- Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Barsi,  
Annual Report, 1983-84, p. 9.

It can be seen from Table 2.1 that of all the industrial activities of the town, dal-making is conspicuous by the number of mills. This industry has made its name throughout Maharashtra and even outside.

Details of other economic activities in the town are given in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2

Other establishments in Barsi town.

Kind of the unit	Year	No.of establishments registered.	No.of Workers.
1. Shops.	1976-77	1,757	1,771
	1983-84	2,192	3,268
2. Commercial Establishments.	1976-77	504	1,440
	1983-84	615	1,905
3. Factories	1976-77	N.A.	N.A.
	1983-84	235	N.A.



Kind of the unit	Year	No. of establishments registered.	No. of workers
4. Hotels.	1976-77	173	552
	1983-84	271	759
5. Other establishments.	1976-77	34	66
	1983-84	42	102

Source :- 1) The Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Barsi, Annual Reports for 1976-77 and 1983-84.

2) Barsi Municipal Council, Year Books for 1976-77 and 83-84.

(C) TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES.

The town is linked with important places within and without Solapur district by both roads and rail along with necessary communication facilities. Road transportation takes lead in goods and passenger transportation, Barsi is well connected by road with Osmanabad, Aurangabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Amaravati, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Pune, Hombay, etc. in Maharashtra State. The Pune-Hyderabad National Highway passes through Solapur district for a distance of about 125 Kms; it passes almost tangent to the outskirts of Barsi town. The earstwhile narrow guage Barsi Light Railway plying between Miraj and Latur passes through Barsi town. The Bombay-Madras broad guage railway line passes through Kurduwadi, 36 Kms. away from Barsi. On the side of communication, the All India Radio broadcasts the commercial news of agricultural products transacted in ~~Barsi market.~~<sup>X</sup>

Barsi market.<sup>1</sup>

(D) DAL-MAKING, A SPECIALISED ACTIVITY.

Dal-making activity in Barsi town is as old as about half a century. Availability of necessary raw material, skilled labour and adequate capital made the industry to find strong roots and make a name of itself. As, among the pulses, tur happened to be the principal commodity produced in Solapur district, the dal-making activity has banked largely on the tur dal activity. Gram dal production also is done by the dal mills. Other types of dal, viz., moong, udid, kulthi, math, etc., are also produced when tur dal production is suspended in the lean season. In all 22 mills are presently engaged in dal-making activity.

(E) BANKING FACILITIES.

Barsi is a commercial centre in Solapur district next to Solapur city, the district headquarters. Naturally, banking institutions are bound to get attracted to it. The town is served by 18 commercial bank offices, of which 5 are of nationalized banks and the rest of the private banks. In addition, there are 11 offices of the cooperative banks.

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1. Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Maharashtra, Socio-economic Review and District Statistical Abstract of Solapur District, 1976-77, p.33.

(F) APMC, BARSII.

1. ESTABLISHMENT.

APMC, Barsi was established on 1 January 1948 vide Government Notification No. 9422/39 dated 9 July 1947. The first Market Committee was nominated by the government on 17th January 1948 and the Committee enjoyed the term upto 14th May 1951. The first elected Committee started the functions from 15-5-1951. The marketing practices are conducted under the supervision of Market Committee from 19th November, 1949.

2. COMMODITIES REGULATED.

The APMC, Barsi brought 40 agricultural commodities under its fold by 1941. Since 1st July, 1981 the list was extended to include dals of all kinds. The details of regulated commodities are shown in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3

Commodities regulated by the APMC, Barsi.

S.No.	Commodities Regulated.	Government Notification No. and date.	Date of implementation.
1	2	3	4
1.	Groundnut (shelled & unshelled), cotton.	9422/39 dated 9-7-1947	7-11-1949.
2.	Tur, Moong, Udid and Sunflower.	PMA/3951 dt. 1-9-1951.	1-11-1951.
3.	Jowar, Bajra, Wheat, Gram, Sesame and chilli(dry).	PMA/3954 dt. 25-9-1954.	27-5-1955.
4.	Jaggery and Fodder.	PMA/148/Barsi dt. 26-6-1956.	24-4-1957.

1	2	3	4
5. Sesamum, Ambadi, Corriander, Karale, Yerandi, Sali, Cattle, Sheep, goat, etc.		APM/148/Barsi dt. 15-7-1956.	24-4-1957.
6. Maize, Hugga and onion.		CMR/R-12-69 dt. 5-5-1969.	20-10-1969.
7. Potato, Matki, Mohari, Garlic.		CMR/R-12 Barsi/ 76 dt. 3-5-1976.	1-3-1977.
8. Turdal, Moong dal, udid dal, Gram dal, Waldal, chawalidal, lang dal, peas dal, kulthi dal, massor dal and math dal.		APM/R-10 Barsi dt. 29-1-1980.	1-7-1981.

Source :- The Agricultural Produce Market Committee Barsi, Annual Reports for respective years.

### 3. COMMODITIES GRADES.

The APMC, introduced gradation system since 1962. The scheme is applicable to moong, udid, gram, tur, Jowar and turmeric. For this operation two experts have been appointed. Table 2.4 details the quantities and values of the graded commodities for the years 1974-75 and 1982-83.

Table 2.4

#### Commodities graded on the APMC, Barsi.

(Quantities in Quintals)

(in Rupees)

S.No.	Items	1975-76		1982-83	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Turmeric	4,844	16,04,765	14,154	31,34,230
2.	Groundnut	14,721	28,27,776	50,115	1,72,01,065

1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Tur	44,852	92,32,930	90,694	4,95,01,139	
4. Moong	10,852	20,97,890	6,223	20,43,597	
5. Udid	3,618	3,82,681	1,815	4,38,975	
6. Jowar	1,00,150	1,90,78,424	1,75,046	2,90,05,455	

Source :- The Agricultural Produce Market Committee, Barsi, Annual Reports for the respective years.

#### 4. MARKET YARD AND AMENITIES.

Upto November 1969, the trade was conducted in the old place (Adat Bazar) in the heart of the town. The Market Committee thereafter shifted its activity to the new site named as Jawaharlal Nehru Market in 1969. As per the Indian Standards Institute, New Delhi, the Market Committee must have atleast 5 hectares of land for its yards. The Committee possessed 17 hectares of land. The Barsi Market Yard was planned on the lines of Gulbarga Market Yard in Karnatak and provided maximum possible facilities. Importantly, 120 plots of the size 40' x 12' were allotted to the traders free of cost for construction of their sheds. The Market Yard provides other infrastructural amenities like public toilets, water trough for animals, canteen, sheds for the visiting farmers, cattle sheds, approach roads, lights, three auction platforms, separate sheds for women visitors and a library. The Market Yard is one of the well-developed market yards not only in Solapur district but also in Maharashtra.

To conclude, Barsi town is a small industrial and commercial place with potentialities of development of industries based particularly on agricultural production side by side the prospects for humming commercial activity.

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