

Chapter-IV
A PROFILE OF SELECTED
VILLAGES IN SANGLI
DISTRICT

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4.1 Introduction

Sangli is one of the Districts in the state of Maharashtra. Sangli District was formed in 1949 by separating Talukas from old Satara District. Two more Talukas Miraj and Jath were formed out of the part erstwhile Indian state and merged into the District, after this merger it was named as south Satara District. However, since 1960 the District has been renamed as Sangli. In 1965, two Talukas viz. Miraj and Khanapur were splited and two new Talukas viz. Kavathe Mahankal and Atpadi respectively were added to the original set up of six Talukas Palus Taluka was established in the year, after this in 2003-04 the Kadepur Taluka was established. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 22)

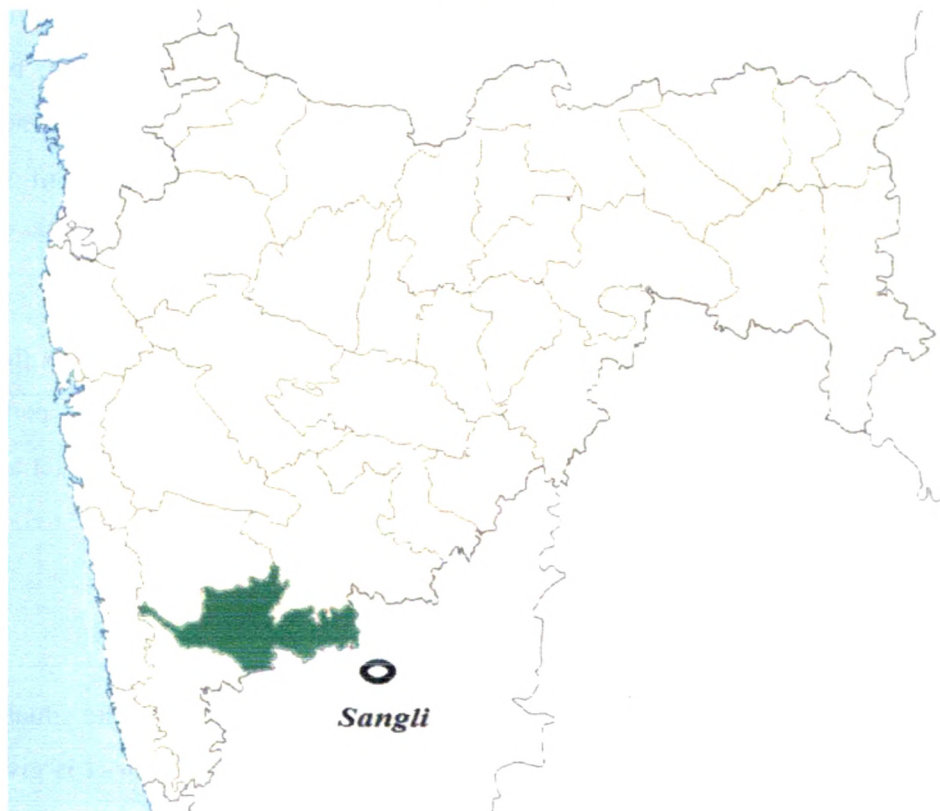
The District of Sangli is a recent creation made as late as in 1949. It was then known as south Satara and it has been renamed as Sangli in 1961. It is partly made up of a few Talukas which once formed part of the old Satara District and partly of the states and jogirs belonging to Patavardhans and Dafles which come to be merged during the post-independence period.

4.2 Location

It is one of the least developed Districts of the Maharashtra state situated in southern Maharashtra. The exact geographical location of the District is given as under. The farming part of the famous Deccan plateau District Sangli lies between 16°45 to 17°38 north latitude and 73°42 to 75°40 east longitude District Sangli covers an area of 8601.5 sq. kilometers. It is bound by Districts Solapur and Satara in north Bijapur in the east and Belgum in the south. A narrow toppering part of the District strengthening west is bounded by the coastal District of Ratnagiri. Sangli is one of the smallest Districts in the state in terms of both area and population. In terms of area the District ranks 21st in Maharashtra state. There are two main systems of hills in the District viz. Sahyadri range and its offshoots and the spur of mahadev range. The Sahyadri system includes the

main range of Sahyadri. This forms the western boundary of the District. Krishna is the principal river which flows southeast through Walwa, Tasgaon, and Miraj Taluka. The Warana which is one of the main tributaries of the Krishna River rises close to western crest of Sahyadri and runs from west to east along southern boundary of the District and Shirala and Walwa Talukas until it joins the Krishna at Sangli. Other important rivers are Yerla, Agrani, Nani, Manganga and Bor. (Patil V. A, 2009, p. 22)

Figure 4.1
LOCATION OF SANGLI DISTRICT



The District derives its name from its headquarters town Sangli which was at east. While princely state and now forms a part of the District. This is part of Deccan plateau. Its history is essentially linked with the southern Maratha territories also referred to as the Kuntala during the ancient period. After the death of the emperor Asoka in 236 BC, this witnessed the rise and fall of the dynasties of Satavahans, Raka-Taka Rashtrakuts, Chalukya as and Bahamani kings. After the invasion of Devgiri by Allaudin Khilji, the Deccan passed

under the over lordship of Delhi emperors. The first Mughal invasion in Deccan began in 1593 during the reign of Akbar (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 20)

The successive history of the region is marked by prolonged struggle for domination among the forces of the Mohol, Adkihtaits, Kingdom and the Marathas, Madutha, Chieftaits belonging to the Patwardhan family are said to have been the rulers of small principalities such as Sangli, Miraj and Tasgaon which came under the domination of British in 1818.19 and finally were merged with the state of Bombay during the post-independence period in 1948. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 24)

The physical settings of Sangli District shows a contrast of immense dimensions and reveals a variety of landscapes influenced by relief, climate and vegetation. The climate ranges from the rainiest in the Chandoli region, which has an average annual rainfall of over 4000 mm to the driest in Atpadi and Jath tehsils where the average annual rainfall is about 500 mm. The vegetal cover varies from the typically monsoon forest in the western part to scrub and poor grass in the eastern parts. The Sangli District comes under Deccan plateau geographic location. (Patil V.A., 2009 pp. 1&2)

Table 4.1
Geographical Location

Sr. No.	Items	Effect	District	Maharashtra
1	Longitude	Degree	16.45-17.22	16.4-22.1
2	Latitude	Degree	73.42-75.40	72.6-80.9
3	Area	Degree	8.6	308

Source: - Socio-Economic Survey Report of Sangli District.

4.3 History

There are no direct references to Sangli before 1801. Historical references since 1024 show areas called Mirinch i.e. presently Miraj and Karnataka i.e. Karad under the areas ruled by Gonk, a king of the Shilahara dynasty of Konkan and Sangli was included in these areas. The first clear and direct reference to Sangli can be found in the Sanskrit poem Shiv-Bharat. During the time of capture of Sangli Miraj and Brahmnal from Adil Shah in 1599. In the times of the

Peshwas, Indroji Kadam and later Sardar Patwardhan became the Jagirder of this region. There are several interesting stories as to how the name Sangli originated. One of them is that there was six Galies. i.e. lanes on the bank of the Krishna River hence the name Sangli . The second one is that the name of villages was Sangalki in the Kannada language so in the Marathi language it becomes Sangli. Till 1801 Sangli was included in the Miraj Jahagir. The first Chintamanranro Appasaheb Patwadhan established a different principality with Sangli as capital city. (<http://www.indiantezone.com/47/sanglidistrict> p.1)

Kundal the region around Sangli was the capital of the Chalukyas. Kundal was ancient village around 1600 years old. Koundanyapur was part of Karnataka. Pulakesi I chase vatapi as his capital. Kundal was home of freedom fighters like Krantisingh Lad, G. D. Lad, Shankar Jangam and Housabai Jangam. Marathi is main language spoken. Kannada is also widely spoken here. Narsinhpur an ancient village is also in Sangli District. Laxmi-Narsinh ancient temple is there from around A.D. 1100 – 1200 period. Sant Namdeo, Siddheshwar Maharaj, Tatyia Tope were used to stay in the village in ancient period. This village history is also found in “GURU CHARITRA”.(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/sanglidistrict> p.1)

4.4 Physiography

In Sangli District there are two main systems of hills, viz. Sahyadri range and its offshoots and the spur of Mahadev range. Sahyadri forms the western boundary of the District these range occupy large area of Shirala Taluka. The main Sahyadrian range is rise to over 1472 meters which forms the highest hill range in the District of Prachitgad is situated on this range. Shirala Taluka has southern slopes of Bhairavgad kandur hills. The slopes are covered with desire mixed forest with isolated patches of agricultural land which is used mainly for Ragi. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 24)

The Machhindragad, Kamal Bharay hills range extends in northwest southeast direction. This range offshoot of Mahadev range, which runs along the borders of Walwa, Tasgaon and Khanapur Taluka, the southern tip of this range is ended at Kundal. It rises fairly steep from the food plain of the Krishna River. North of Machhindragad these hills continue as mal Varadhungad range. This is

an offshoot of the Mahadev hills. Here also the range presents a steeper slope to the east. From this range few spurs extend eastward and produce several valleys between them. Dongrai Devi temple is situated on one of this spur. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 24)

There is another plateau which lies to west of Vita, Jath upland. This plateau is at lower level and it is at about 967 meters and comprises the western part of Jath Taluka. It is bounded on the north by a hill of about 1000 meters. This hill separates this plateau from the basin on the north. To the east this plateau descends up to east of Jath by a scarp face. Which still of lower level of about 666 meters. It comprises of western part of Jath Taluka. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 24)

4.4.1 Forest

Forest is one of the important manifestations of the climate of an area and the natural vegetation grown over the region. Temperature and rainfall both are important factors over the region. Temperature and rainfall both are important factors for the growth of forests. Out of total area of 860963.17 hectares area under forest was only 5.09% area of the District is under forest as against 21.08% for the state. In the Sangli District total forest area is 45314.59 kilometers Shirala Taluka is having the largest forest area. Hirada, Shikekai, Ladimodi grazing grass and Timber are important forest products in this District. (Patil V. A, 2009, p. 25, Bhosale S. M. 2007, p. 25)

4.4.2 Minerals

Modern progress is basically dependent upon the exploitation of minerals such as varieties of quartz family minerals namely cherts, Aquite chalcedony jasper and curnellan and different variety of zeolites on the Deccan traps. In Sangli District Basalt is the main stone quartz chalcedony calcite and zeolite are the minerals available but not of economical level. (Patil V.A., 2009 p. 25)

There are no major important mineral deposits except building stones, limestone's and clay. The limestone is associated with trap formation ununiformly distributed. Good clay for bricks and tiles is found on the banks of the rivers Krishna, Warana and Yerala. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 25)

4.4.3 Climate

The climate of the District is characterized by general dryness throughout the year except during the south West monsoon season. In general the climate becomes hotter as one proceeds from west to east. The cold season is from December to about the middle of February. The hot season which follows late till the end of May which the hottest month June to September is south west monsoon season and October and November constitute in winter is between 12°c to 2°c ranges and the maximum temperature of summer between 30° c to 46° c ranges. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 25)

Sangli has a semi aired climate with three seasons, a hot, dry summer from the middle of February to the middle of June a monsoon from the middle of June to late October and a mild cool season from early November to early February the total rainfall is about 22 inches, Sangli has a chill climate all around winter summers are dry but not so much dry like in the big metropolitan cities. Rain is within its limits. (<http://en.wikipedia.org> p. 16)

4.4.4 Rainfall

The average annual rainfall in the District is 692.4 mm. Generally rainfall decreases from west to east the western part of the District gets over 2000 mm. of rainfall. Whereas in the eastern part of the rainfall is received in south west monsoon but a considerable variations from years to year most of the annual rainfall is received in south west monsoon but a considerable amount of showering is received the post monsoon season same rainfall in the form of thunder showers occur in May.(Patil V.A. , 2009, p. 26)

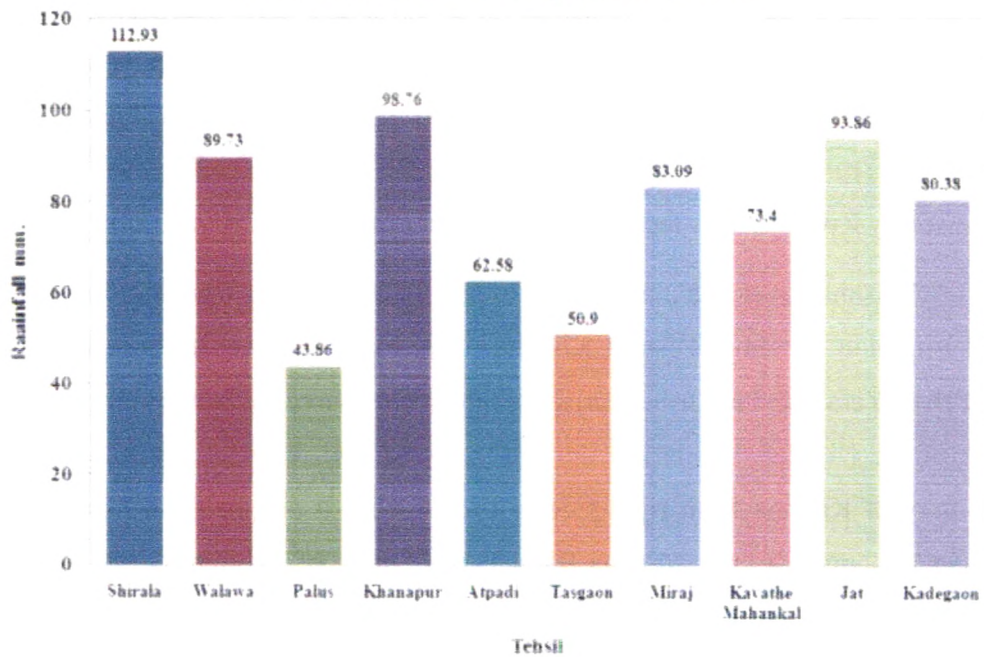
The rains starts sometimes in the middle of June and last till the end of September in the District. Rainfall in the District measured averaging 400-450 mm in a year.

Table No. 4.2
Annual Average Rainfall in Sangli District (2010-11)

Sr. No.	Tehsil	Rainfall (in mm.)
1	Shirala	112.93
2	Walwa	89.73
3	Palus	43.86
4	Khanapur	98.76
5	Atpadi	62.58
6	Tasgaon	50.90
7	Miraj	83.09
8	Kavathe Mahankal	73.40
9	Jath	93.86
10	Kadegaon	80.38

Source: - Socio-Economic Survey Report of Sangli District.

Graph No. 4.1
Annual Average Rainfall in Sangli District (2011-12)



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Table 4.2 and Graph No. 4.1 indicate Talukawise annual average rainfall during 2011. The average rainfall was highest in Shirala and lowest average rainfall was in Palus (43.86).

4.4.5 Soil

The soils of the District are essentially derived from the underlying Basalt and under different climatic conditions shows variation in texture and structure. They vary from deep black soils in the river valleys to shallow murum red or grey in the hilly areas laterite soils occur on up Ghats in the extreme western part of the District which received very heavy rainfall condition leaching has taken place. These soils are poor in fertility and are suitable for rice and hill millet. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 28)

4.5 Water Resources

The basic human needs are air, water; sunlight food clothing and shelter. Water is life. Water resources emerge from nature's gift of rain, well, river, lakes and streams. Irrigation water i.e. dams, canals, is important and assured source for agricultural availability potable drinking water is also equally important today. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 28)

In the Sangli District Krishna forms' the main river, Warana is another District its tributary Morana is also of much importance Krishna almost flows for 108 kms. And the valley is the most fertile. River Yerala and its tributaries also make the region fertile. Then there are Agrani, Nanni man, Yerala, Bor the noteworthy Rivers Rivers facilitate the District. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 28)

Krishna River is a main source of supply of water for drinking, industries and irrigation in Sangli District Krishna flows for a distance of about 108 km. The river Yerala and her tribute arises are the main sources of water in the eastern part of the District. Yerala has on has 16.46 Sq. km. Warana River is a main tributary of Krishna from right side in the District. It originates in Sahyadrian ranges at about 6.3 kms. Morana River is a tributary of Krishna River. It arises near Balwadi a Khanapur plateau and flows from about 3.29 kms. Bor River flows in the eastern part of the District. The Bor River rises on the northern slopes of the water divide at about 4.28 kms. Man River is an important river in

the eastern part of the District. The River flows for 16 kms. For the border of the man and its tributaries drain north eastern part of Khanapur, Miraj and Jath Taluka. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 29)

The main rivers of Sangli District are Krishna and Warana. The Krishna is one of the three largest sacred rivers of southern India, Approx 105 kms. Of the rivers of course fall inside the District Morana, Yerala, Manganga, Agrani, Nanni and Bor are small feeder rivers of Krishna, Warana is the largest tributary of the Krishna in the District.

4.6 Demography

An official census 2011 details of Sangli District of Maharashtra has been released by directorate of census operations in Maharashtra. Enumeration of key persons was also done by census officials in Sangli District of Maharashtra.

In 2011 Sangli had population of 28, 22,143 of which male and female were 14, 35,728 and 1386.415 respectively. In 2001 census Sangli has a population, at 2.67 % of Maharashtra population. The initial provisional data released by census India 2011 shows that density of Sangli District for 2011 is 329 people per sq. km. In 2001 Sangli District density was at 301 people per sq. km. Sangli District administers 8.572 Sq. km. of areas. There was change of 9.24% in the population compared to population as per 200%. In the previous census of India 2001, Sangli District recorded increase of 16.93% to its population compared to 1991. According to the 2011 census Sangli District has a population of 2820575 roughly equal to the nation of Jamaica or the US state of Kansas. This gives it a ranking of 137th in India. The District has a population density of 329 inhabitants per square kilometer. Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 9.18% Sangli has a sex ratio of 964 females for every 1000 males and a literacy rate of 82.62%. Marathi is the main language, Kannada is also spoken widely. (<http://en.wikipedia.org> p. 2)

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(www.sangli.8m.com p.1)

Table 4.3
Tehsilwise Population of Sangli District According to 2011 Census

Sr. No.	Tehsil	Population in 000' (Total)	% to Total Population
1	Shirala	162911	5.77
2	Walwa	456002	16.16
3	Palus	164909	5.84
4	Kadegaon	143019	5.07
5	Khanapur	170214	6.03
6	Atpadi	138455	4.91
7	Tasgaon	251401	8.91
8	Miraj	854581	30.28
9	K. Mahankal	152327	5.40
10	Jath	328324	11.63
	Total	2822143	100.00

Source: Census Report of Sangli District

Graph No. 4.2
Tehsilwise Population of Sangli District (2011)

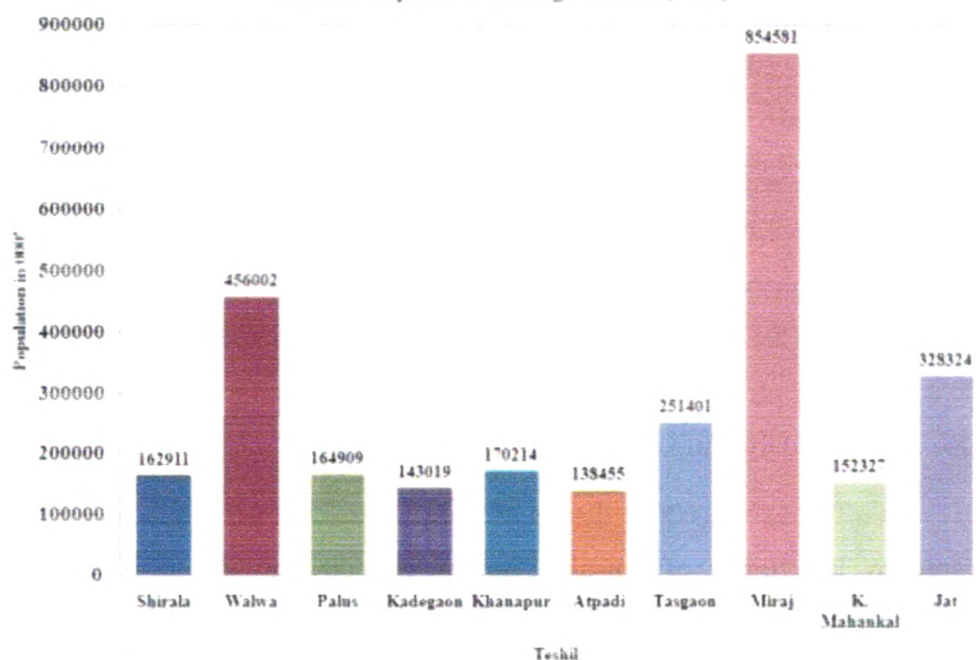


Table 4.3 and Graph No. 4.2 indicate that in the Sangli District as for as population is concerned the Miraj Taluka is the highest (30.28%) of the total population. The Atpadi Taluka is namely lowest share (4.84%) in total population.

4.6.1 Sex Ratio

Sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1000 males which is an important social indicator to measure extent of prevailing equity between males and females in a society at a given point of time. The sex ratio in almost all the Talukas in the District had always remained unfavourable to females. The exceptions are only of Khanapur and Shirala Talukas. The sex ratio reflects the socio economic and demographic characteristics so it is essential to study.(Patil V.A., 2009, p.32)

Table 4.4
Tehsilwise Sex Ratio of Sangli District 2011

Sr. No.	Tehsil	Sex Ratio
1	Shirala	1015
2	Walwa	939
3	Palus	933
4	Khanapur	1011
5	Atpadi	995
6	Tasgaon	962
7	Miraj	966
8	Kavathe Mahankal	963
9	Jath	951
10	Kadegaon	993
	Total	966

Source: - Census Report of Sangli District

Graph No. 4.3
Tehsilwise Sex Ratio of Sangli District 2011

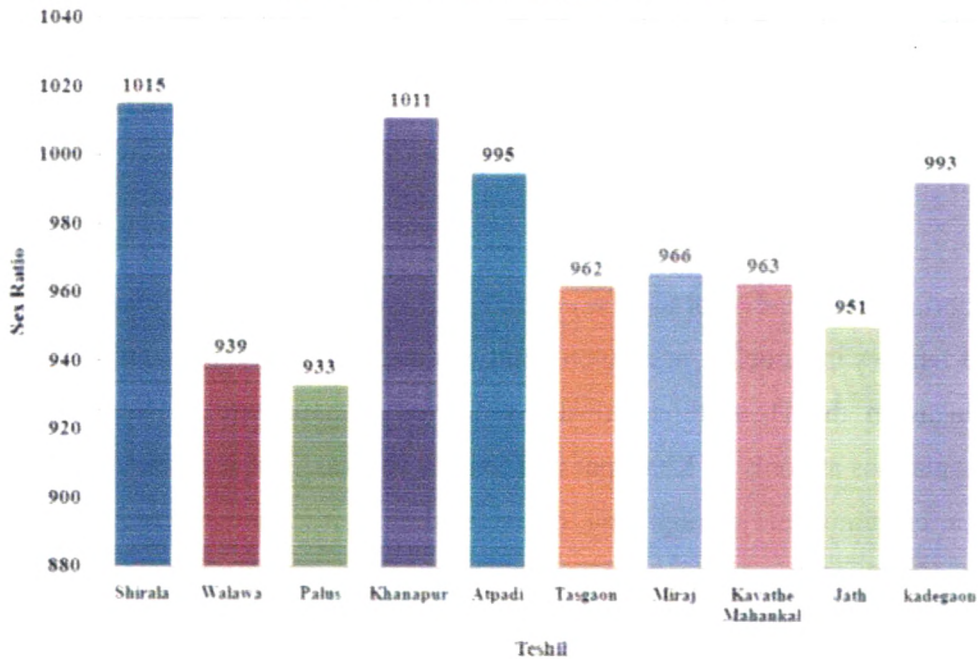


Table 4.5 and Graph No. 4.3 indicate that Tehsilwise sex ratio of Sangli District. From the above statement it is observed that sex ratio is more than 1000 in two Talukas of the District with the District highest sex ratio was observed 1015 in Shirala Taluka while the lowest in 933 in Palus.

4.6.2 Literacy Rate

For the purpose of census 2011 a person aged seven and above who can read and write with understanding in any language is treated as literate while a person who can only read but cannot write is not literate. In Sangli District the literacy rate is 72.62%. Average literacy rate of Sangli in 2011 was 81.48% compared to 76.62% of 2001. If things are looked out at gender wise male and female literacy were 88.22 and 74.59 respectively. For 2001 census, same figures stood at 88.26 and 66.73 in Sangli District. (Patil V.A., 2009, p.32)

Table 4.5
Literacy Rate in Sangli District

Sr. No.	Year	Literacy (in %)		
		Male	Female	Total
1	1960-61	41.8	13.6	28.07
2	1970-71	50.98	23.84	37.48
3	1980-81	59.68	33.65	46.86
4	1990-91	74.83	49.94	62.61
5	2000-01	86.25	66.88	76.69
6	2010-11	78.12	66.93	72.62

Source: - Record Of Statistical Office Sangli

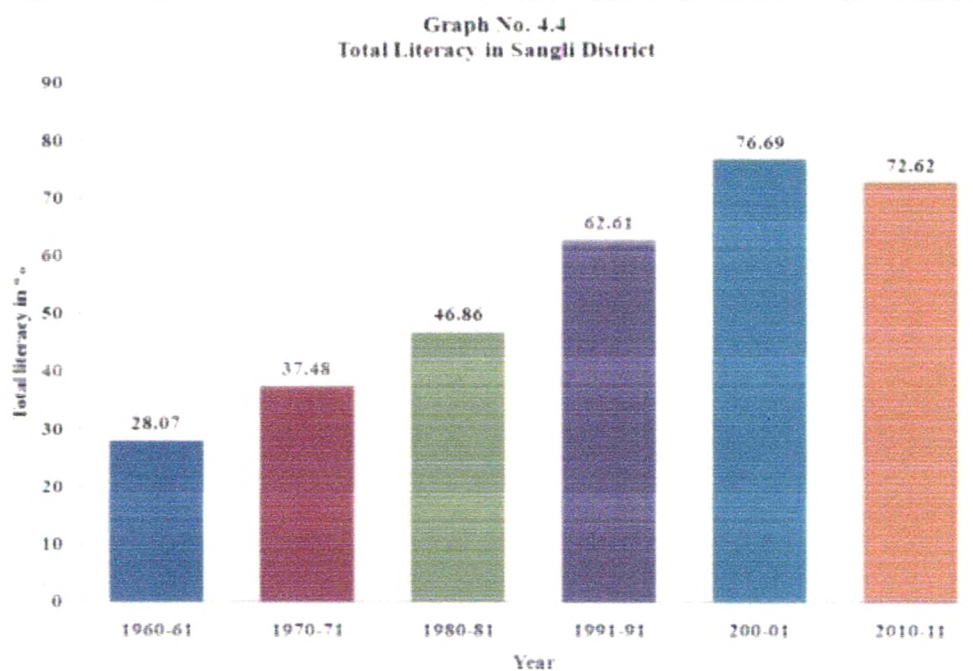


Table 4.5 and Graph No. 4.4 indicates that in year 1960-61 literacy rate was 28.07 and 2010-11 in year literacy rate was 72.62. Each years literacy rate is increased but in 2010-11 literacy rate was decreased.

4.6.3 Urban and Rural Population 2011

Out of the total Sangli population for 2011 census 25.49 percent lives in urban region of District. In total 719, 357 people lives in urban areas of which males are 364.604 and females are 354733. As per 2011 census 74.51 population of Sangli District lives in rural areas of villages. The total Sangli District population living in rural areas is 2.102786 of which male and females are 1.071124 and 1.031662 respectively.

Table 4.6
Urban and Rural Population

Sr. No.	Name	Population	% of population
1.	Rural	21,02,786	74.51
2.	Urban	7,19,357	25.49
	Total	28,25,143	100.00

Source: - Sangli District Census 2011 Data

Graph No. 4.5
% of Urban and Rural Population

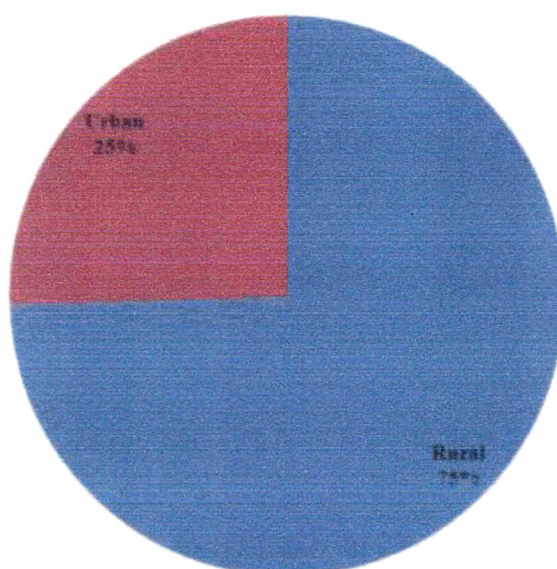


Table 4.6 and Graph No. 4.5 indicates that out of total Sangli District Rural population 74.51 percent lives in rural areas of village. And 25.49 percent lives in urban regions of the District.

4.7 Agriculture

Agriculture has an important role to play in the economic development. Agriculture has been the main source of livelihood of the people in this District. Irrigation policy for each District is almost similar except, it differs due to volume and length of rivers and natural reserves, small streams, wells etc. The policy is also decided on the basis of quantity of land need of crop i.e. cropping pattern total geographical area etc. The District has fortunately perennial source with great volume and length, with the help of irrigation facilities farmers have increased their agricultural production and improved economic condition. In low rainfall region irrigations most important canals, wells and pilot irrigation are the main sources of irrigation in Sangli District. In Sangli District Zillah Parishad, State and Private Co-operative Society play an important role in the working of irrigation schemes Warana irrigation project. Arfal storage, Krishna Koyana project, Mhaishal project are the major projects in Sangli District. There are some medium projects of irrigation in Sangli District, like Mhasawad tank, Yeralawadi, Krishna canal, Siddhewadi project, Morana project, Shalakh project and, medium and large lift irrigation schemes. Which are supplying water to the fields on both the banks of Krishna and Warana Rivers. (Patil V.A., 2009, pp. 34 & 35)

4.7.1 Turmeric Production and Trade

The country's sole turmeric exchange in Sangli city boasts secrets gained through a centuries old practice storing turmeric in pits. The pits stretch far out in the open fields of the village of Haripur and Sangliwadi. It is possibly the most unusual agricultural commodity storage system in the country after clearing the loose soil covering the pit. It is left open for about two to three hours. One cannot enter the pit until one finds out if there is any oxygen within to ascertain this; a lantern is lowered in to the pit. If the lantern does not go out it is safe to enter the pit. It was this ingenious storage system, devised over 200 years ago that turned Sangli into a major trading center for turmeric pits provide the best storage

facility for turmeric as the quantity of the commodity remains unchanged. The turmeric hardens and matures while in storage. Today more than 80% of the turmeric trade in India takes place in Sangli turmeric commodity exchange. Spices and oilseeds exchange Mahavirnagar Sangli. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p. 4)

4.7.2 Sugar Belt

The Sangli region known as the sugar belt of India the region houses over 13 large sugar factories Vasantdada Patil who served as chief minister of Maharashtra for four terms started the co-operative movement which helped Maharashtra become the most developed state in India. Most of the sugar factories of the Sangli Sugar belt work on the co-operative basis. Vasantdada Sugar Factory near Sangli city was the largest sugar plant in Asia till late 90. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p. 4)

4.7.3 Krishna Valley Wine Park

The Sangli District has recently entered into wine industry and has achieved a great success in producing classic vintage categories wine producers in Sangli make distinctive classic wines using imported wine stocks. The fertile soil of the Sahyadri hills region and the long sunny days and dry climate make for an excellent product. The government of Maharashtra has set up a special state of the art wine park at Palus, 30 km away from Sangli city. This 142 crore park is located at Palus which produces one of the best quality grapes in the world. Krishna valley Wine Park has an international quality wine Institute which has been set up in association with the Bharati Vidyapeeth a leading university of India. The institute carries out research in wine manufacturing. Krishna valley wine park of Sangli has been recognized as an agricultural export processing zone by the India Govt. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p. 4)

4.7.4 Sangli Food Park

The park is being planned on a 30 acre (1.2 sq. km.) plot at Manerajuri near Sangli city. Cabece (India) is the consultant for the project. The location is best suited for processing Grapes, Turmeric, Mangos, Pomegranates Citrus Fruits

and Custard Apple. Common facilities planned are cold storage effluent treatment and social infrastructure.

4.7.5 Crops

Sorghum is the main crop grown in Sangli District and the Maldandi variety of Sangli is well known. The sugarcane crop is also extensively grown here. In the recent past Sangli has carried out name for itself for its grapes production small units producing dried grapes are proliferating in the region. Some areas in the Miraj, Tasgaon and Walwa Talukas produce Tobacco, Bajara, Jowar, Wheat, Rice, Groundnut, Turmeric, Soya been, Pomegranates, Grapes etc. are the major crops in Sangli District 'sugar belt' of India. Sangli has emerged as the biggest traded market place for turmeric powder in the entire country.

Cropping pattern implies the proportion of area under different crops at a point of time. A change in the proportion of area under different crops and total non-food crops could be divided in to sub categories viz. food grains and other crops like fruits spices etc Area under the sub category food grains is divided into pulses and cereals among cereals, Jawar and Bajra cover majority area. (Mujumdar P. B. 1998, p. 35)

4.7.6 Land Use Pattern

There are 30 Districts in Maharashtra State, Sangli District is situated in southern state of Maharashtra. The availability of land, its proper use is important in agriculture for raising output. The land use pattern generally influenced by several factors such as the nature of the soil, topographic climatic condition and manmade factors like availability of irrigation facilities and high yield varieties of seeds. Table No. 4.6 gives the land use data of the Sangli District of three years average for 1980-81, 1990-91, and 2000-2001 indicates that the total geographical area of the Sangli District has decreased by 10000 hectares because of the attachment of the villages to another District of the total reported area of the District 8610 lakh hectares. The sown area is 5939 lakh hectores which accounted for 93%. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 34)

Table 4.7
Land Use Pattern in Sangli District

(Average for three years area in 00' hectares)

Sr. No.	Particulars	1980-81	1990-91	2000-01
1	Total geographical area	8611	8610	8610
2	Area under for cultivation	472(5.51)	473(5.59)	475(5.51)
3	Area no available for cultivation	679(7.88)	699(8.11)	777(9.02)
4	Total other uncultivated land	354(4.11)	690(8.11)	612(7.10)
5	Total follow land	9.53(11.06)	8.02(9.31)	811(9.41)
6	Net area sown	6152(71.44)	5944(69.05)	5939(68.97)
7	Area sown more than one	424(4.92)	597(6.93)	1652(19.18)
8	Gross cropped area	6576(76.36)	6543(75.91)	8029(93.25)
9	Cropping intensity	76.33	75.99	93.25

Source: - Socio-Economic Survey Report of Sangli District.

4.7.8 Irrigation

Agriculture will demand among other things improvement in inputs and methods, irrigation, better seeds. Better manures and fertilizers land reclamation and soil conservation plant protection use of mechanization etc. These are various aspects of agricultural inputs which have to be considered here. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 46)

Availability of irrigation facilities not only enables the farmers to make use of fertilizers and new varieties of seeds but also helps to a rise cropping intensity in agriculture there by raising the level of output and farm income. Both the level and quality of irrigation are important in determining the efficiency of agriculture, higher irrigation bare promotes growth prospects of agriculture. Moreover the quality of irrigation also assumes of special significance as the effect of irrigation to water from perennial source like canal which ensure timely and adequate supply of water, may promote growth along with stability in output. Irrigation through tank well and rain fed water resources which depends on

uncertainty rainfall leads to growth along with some magnitude of instability in output. (Patil V.A., 2009, p. 46)

Table 4.8
Sources of Irrigation

Sources of Irrigation	Number	Area (000'ha)	% of Total Irrigated Area
Canals	-	45.0	25.6
Tanks	100	0.2	0.1
Open wells	54065	63.6	36.5
Bore wells	133	34	2.0
Lift irrigation	680	40.0	22.9
Micro irrigation	-	10.0	5.7
Other sources	-	11.7	6.7
Total irrigated area	-	174	100.0
Pump sets	35000	-	-
No. of tractors	4000	-	-

Source: - District Agricultural Information, Sangli District 2009

4.8 Business

4.8.1 Emerging Wind Power Hub

Suzlon the largest wind power generation company in India has set up a number of electric power generation wind mills in Sangli. Now reliance India's largest private sector company is setting up 150 mw wind power project worth 90 billion Indian rupees in Sangli in Partnership with Suzlon. This wind power project will generate 380 million units of electricity per annum and generate employment for thousands of skilled/unskilled youth in Sangli with this mega power plant Sangli finds a place on the global map as a major power generation hub. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p. 5)

4.8.2 Sangli IT park:-

The city now has an InfoTech park with state of the art facilities waiting for companies to start operations Sangli InfoTech park state of the art modern facilities for software companies. The park is located in an attractive localities surrounded by greenery. In Islampur newly software hub is going to be

constructed by Jayant Patil the home minister of Maharashtra. Its companies like Infosys Patni, cap Gemini, cognizant and much more domestic small companies are ready to locate and some of them have started their construction in Islampur. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p. 5)

a) MIDC Industrial Areas in Sangli

1. Kupwad- Sangli Industrial area
2. Miraj Industrial area
3. Vasantddada Industrial Estate
4. Marathe Industrial Estate
5. Islampur Industrial area
6. Palus Industrial Area
7. Kadegaon Industrial Area
8. Vita Industrial Area
9. Kavathe Mahankal Industrial Area
10. Shirala(Battis Shirala) Industrial Area
11. Jath Industrial Area
12. Chitale Dairy Bhilawadi Station

b) Specialized Industrial Parks and Export Zones

1. Krishna Valley Wine Park
2. Palus Sangli Food Park
3. Manerajuri Sangli InfoTech Park Textile Park
4. Kadegaon Readymade Garments Park Vita.

c) Chamber of Commerce and Civic Associations

1. Krishna Valley Chamber of Commerce And Industries MIDC
Kupwad Sangli
2. Sangli Chamber of Commerce Mahavir Nagar Sangli

3. Sangli Miraj Manufactures Association MIDC Miraj
4. Deccan Manufacturers Association Madhavnagar Road Sangli
5. Sangli Engineers and Architects Association Gulmohar Sangli.

(<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> pp. 5 & 6)

4.9 Transport Communication

The District and city are well connected with the rail, highway, roads and state roads with remaining area of the state and the country. By rail it is connected with Pune, Bangalore rail by rail line. There is total 173.70 km. broad Guage railway track in the District. It includes the national highway of 30 km. state highway of 921 km, 1983 km. District roads and village roads of 2272 km. the telecommunication facilities are mainly provided by BSNL as well as some private leading operators like Airtel, Aircel, Docomo etc.

4.10 Medical Facilities

Sangli and Miraj are well known for availability of the best medical facilities. Well-equipped medical institutions including a medical college are located in and around these two cities. Miraj mission hospital is the biggest medical Centre where eminent medical Centre where eminent medical surgeons and expert consultants render medical services. People from other states in India, Arab countries also come for receiving medical treatment in this hospital.

4.11 Education Facilities

Primary education facilities at Mahapalika level are provided by themselves while at Gramspanchayat level such facilities are provided by Zillah Perished, also provides secondary and higher secondary educational facilities in the District. There are 1561 Zilla perished primary schools, 476 secondary schools, 117 junior and senior colleges, 2 engineering colleges, 2 polytechnic colleges and 2 pharmacy colleges in the Sangli District. The educational facilities are mainly concentrating at Sangli, Miraj, and Islampur and vita city of the District. Higher education, professional and technical education facilities are provided by private institutions too. Sangli has some of the best educational institutes in the state Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli is among the best

Engineering College in India. Sangli District has four other engineering colleges, five management institutes and two polytechnics. In all there are over ten engineering colleges in the region of 50 km. from Sangli city. Sangli's also has best English Medium School and large number of degree colleges Medical College, Dental College, Law Colleges and Architecture Colleges. In the last decade Sangli has emerged as major education city in Maharashtra. (<http://www.sangli.8m.com/san.html> p.1)

4.12 Sangli at Present

The twin cities Sangli and Miraj have merged to form the urban agglomeration. The cities have important education centers offering graduate and post graduate quality education in the areas of arts, science, management, medicine and engineering. The twin cities offers infrastructure that includes railway junction, affordable housing, public transport, telephone, high speed internet quality, hotels, a multiplex, Shopping mall and state of art sports complex.

Sangli is emerging as one of the largest power generation hubs of India. Reliance wind energy is setting up 150 mw. Wind power project worth Rs. 900 crore with Suzlon energy will set up the wind in Sangli one of the known wind zones in the state. Sangli has the largest trading center for turmeric in Asia. The green city is inside what is called sugar belt of Maharashtra. The District has more than thirteen sugar factories which make it among the highest sugar producing District of India. It also has oil seeds, commodities and fruit market. Sangli is also known for high quality grapes and houses many state and privately owned and storage facilities. A grape wine park spread over 1.42 km² has been established at Palus 30 km. from Sangli City. A brand new Sangli food park, spread across 1.2 km² is under construction at Alkud- Manerajuri. Sangli is also one of the largest grape growing regions in Maharashtra. Government has established Krishna valley Wine Park 30 km. away from Sangli to promote wine industry. Recently Sangli has come up a major wind power generation locations in India. Suzlon has set up large wind farms around Sangli city with a capacity to generate over 900 mw of power Sangli has number of education institutes. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p. 3)

4.13 Administration

For administrative purpose the District is divided into 10 Tehsils including Miraj, Tasgaon, Kavathe Mahankal, Jath, Khanapur (Vita), Palus, Atpadi, Walwa (Islampur), Kadegaon and Shirala. It includes one Mahanagarpalika viz. Sangli-Miraj-Kupwad corporation. It also includes 4 nagarpalikas viz. Vita, Ashta, Tasgaon and Islampur and 705 Grampanchayat and group Grampanchayats. The Grampanchayats Are Organized at Taluka Level in Taluka Panchayat at District level into Zillah Parishad. It also includes 20 police stations and 25 police outposts. (<http://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in> p.1)

Figure No 4.2

Tehsils in Sangli District:



Table 4.9

Administrative structure

Sr. No.	Item	District
1	Taluka	10
2	City	7
3	Total villages	728
4	Uninhabited	0

Source:- Census Report of Sangli District

4.13.1 Tasgaon Taluka

Sangli district is one of the part of famous 'Deccan Plateu' Tasgaon tehsil is one of the progressive tehsils in Sangli District. It lies between 16°45' and 75°31' north latitude and 74°32' and 75°35' east longitude Tasgaon tehsil is bounded on east by Kavathe Mahankal tehsil on the west by Walawa tehsil on the south by Miraj tehsil and on the north by Khanapur tehsil. (Patil. J. S., 2002, p.11)

Climate is one of the important elements of the physical environment affecting agriculture more so because they are difficult to be modified by man climate can affect the choice of farming system either indirectly through its influence and soil formation or directly through such factors as the length of growing, season, occurrences fast and due availability of water for plant growth. The climate in Sangli District gets hotter and drier towards the east and humidity goes increasing towards the west. (Patil. J. S., 2002, p. 112)

The rain starts sometimes in the middle of June and lasts till the end of September in the Tasgaon Tehsil. Major portion of the rainfall in the Tasgaon Tehsil is received between July and September During first half of the season most of the days are cloudy with drizzling rains whereas during the late half it rains more heavily. (Patil. J. S., 2002, p. 112)

The type and nature of soil is one of the important factors influencing the cropping pattern in the area. The fertility of land depends upon type of soil its depth. Slope its chemical composition texture and structure are observed in Tasgaon Taluka. The Taluka region comprises the part of Krishna and Yerala basin. Which have medium to deep black cotton soil? Three kilometers wide belt along the Yerala River and Kapur nala, have deep black soil capable of yielding bumper kharip crops. (Patil. J. S., 2002, p. 113)

The use of land constitutes a major item in national planning and this is especially in India. Where more than 6 percent of population depends directly upon the land for their livelihood land is necessary for human activities. It provides man with living space with food and with a number of raw materials. Land use pattern is invariably determined by physic-socio-economic and

organizational later. It represents of use of regions natural resources. It is a dynamic phenomenon as it changes with the introduction of new technology. This study may help in understanding the regional variations. Which correspond with the development of grapes cultivation. (Patil. J. S., 2002, p. 119)

This town is famous for its world class Grapes. Grapes are exported mainly to Asian countries like UAE, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shrilanka, Bangladesh etc. probably the best quality grapes are from Tasgaon as sometime the size of a grape is as long as 3.5 production rate of grapes two times more than Nasik. The Ganapati temple in Tasgaon which is older than 225 years is unique as the tank of lord Ganesha is bent towards right and this idol is considered as living lord, always there to bless communities. The lord Ganesha idol is in gold weighing 125 kg. The Gopur of Ganesha temple is the tallest in Maharashtra as these Gopurs are commonly seen in South India. Ganesha festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm. Very famous for Ganesha's Rath Utsav a day after Ganesh Chaturthi. Vitthal Sakharam Page former president of Vidhan Parishad and the founder of ROJGAR HAMI YOJANA started from a village called Visapur. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasgaon p. 2)

a) Jarandi Village

Jarandi village is the last end of Tasgaon Taluka towards Kharapur. It is situated at about 34 kilometers away from Tasgaon and very close to Karad-Vijapur state highway No. 78. Ancient name of this village was Matanapur. Later on name was changed to Jarandi. One famous person from this village was 'Mr. Kashirao Appa' in earlier centuries. There is a beautiful valley among the hills. People should visit place to worship of "Shukracharya" and for enjoying the mind-blowing scenery of nature. Famous temple called 'Shukracharya' about 4 kilometers away from Jarandi. The temple is located in a beautiful valley among the hills. People should visit this place to worship of 'Shukracharya' and for enjoying the mind-blowing scenery of nature. In this village there is one more temple of 'Venkatesh'. In famous Tirupati Ba aji in Andhrapradesh is also the god Venkatesh. Village is also famous for producing export quality grapes. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasgaon p. 2)

4.13.2 Walwa Taluka

Walwa is a Tehsil / Taluka in Walwa subdivision of Sangli District in the Indian state of Maharashtra. It is also known as Walwa-Islampur Taluka. There are ninety five Panchayat Villages in Walwa Taluka. It is 180 km. for Mumbai. Before, independence Walwa was known for its 'Patrisarkar' movement. There were plenty of freedom fighters like Krantisinh Nana, Vinayak Thorat, Naganath Naikawadi, Rajarambapu Patil and more whose native villages were in Walwa subdivision. The Krishna River passes through the Taluka. The major crops produced in the Taluka are sugarcane and grapes. In the 2011 census the population had increased to 455.138 inhabitants and a gender ratio of 939 females per thousand males. The Taluka was 77.0% rural in 2011. The literacy rate in 2011 was 86.03% overall in Walwa Taluka 9.66% of the population was 0 to 6 years of age. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walawa_p.1)

a) Yede Nipani Village

Yede Nipani is a village in Walva Islampur Taluka in Sangli District of Maharashtra State, India. It is located at 39 km towards west from district headquarters Sangli. In 2001 census Yede Nipani population of 6045 of which male and female were 2745 and 3300 respectively. In this village these are facilities such as Z. P. Schools, SHGS, Medical, Store, Hospitals, Temple, English Medium School, Private clinics etc. The primary occupation of the people is farming. In Yede Nipani the crops Soyabeen, Wheat, Groundnut, and Sugarcane are produced. Yede Nipani near by the village Vashi is 21 km by road south of city of Uran Islampur and 33 km by road west of city Ashta. Uran Islampur, Vedgaon Kasba, Uchgaon, Kolhapur are the nearby cities to Yedenipani.

4.13.3 Miraj Taluka

Miraj pronunciation is a town in southern Maharashtra, India that was founded in the early 10th century. It was an important Jagir of the Aadiilshahi court of Bijapur. Chhatrapati Shivaji stayed in Miraj for two months during his south India campaign. Because of its location, Miraj has been held as a strategic bastion. It was the capital of Miraj senior and an important junction on the central

railway network. The path ward has family were the hereditary rulers of Miraj until independence. Miraj city is part of the Sangli-Miraj-Kupwad municipal corporation formed in 1999. The town is recognized for performance of Hindustani classical music, its medical services and as a place of religious harmony. Marathi is the most widely spoken language, while Kannada is also widely understood. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miraj p.1)

The state of Miraj was founded in 1750. In 1761, Peshwa Madhavrao gave the Miraj fort Gopalrao Patawardhan. The Patawardhans of Miraj, who took the title, Roja were instrumental in the Peshwa military campaigns against Haider and Tipu Sultan. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miraj p. 3)

The Patawardhan dynasty ruled Miraj as the capital of a principality, overseen by British rule. Miraj was part of the southern division of Bombay presidency which in turn was part of the southern Maratha Jagirs and later the Deccan states agency. In 1820, the state of Miraj was divided into Miraj senior and Miraj junior. The territory of both regions was distributed among other native States and British Districts area of Miraj senior was 399 square miles (880 k.m.²). (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miraj pp. 3 & 4)

In the 19th century, Miraj was recognized for its Vaidyas, practitioners of traditional ayurvedic medicine. Within India, Miraj has the highest number of hospitals per capita. In the town there are two medical colleges. The Wanless hospital was set by Sir William James Wanless (1865-1933), a Canadian missionary physician. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miraj p. 5)

a) Belanki Village

Belanki is a village in Miraj Taluka in Sangli District of Maharashtra State. It is located 37 km towards East from District headquarters Sangli. Shree Siddheshwar Math, Kasling Temple is the ancient Temples in the Belnki. Miraj Sangli, Tasgaon, Terdal are the nearby cities to Belanki. This place is in the border of the Sangli District and Kolhapur District Shirol is located at west towards this place. (<http://www.wonefivenine.com/India/Village/Miraj/Belanki> p.1)

Belanki village is in Palus Teshil. As per census its 2001 population was 5453 of which male and female were 2785 and 2668 respectively. In this village there are facilities available such as Z. P School, 65 Bachat Gats, 1 Pathsantha, Medical Store, Hospital Temples etc. In this village many types of crops are produced like Jawar. Bajara, Maize, Wheat, Sugarcane, Grapes. In this village various Schemes are projected such as Indira Awaas Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Niradhar Yojana.

4.13.4 Palus Taluka

Palus is a Tehsil in Sangli District in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Palus has an industrial area called Palus MIDC and it is the biggest asset for Palus, 30 km. from Sangli city. This 142 acre park is located at Palus, which produces one of the best quality grapes in the world. Kirloskar Brothers Limited is located just 2 km. from Palus. Palus Tehsil have many famous temples, old and new Vitthal temple, famous Shivling temple, Nag temple and two Hanuman temples located at opposite sides of Palus. Palus Taluka is located on Bank of Krishna and this has one of the fertile Soils in Sangli District. Palus is also known for grapes. Sugar cane producing land. Here is famous school and Junior college namely Laxmanrao Kirloskar Vidyamandir. It is located at west of Palus. Also Bharati Vidapeeth's School is located at north of Palus. Besides the Palus, Bambavade is the village. Freedom fighters freedom fighter like Dhulappa B. Navale of Ankalkhop & his followers were of Mahatma Gandhi followers and G. D. Lad of Kundal was a member of Prati-Sarkar Palus is also famous for a great singer Pandit Dattatreya Vishnu Paluskar. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palus p. 2)

a) Radewadi Village

Radewadi is a small village in Palus Tehsil. It is situated at 3 km away from very famous village Ankalkhop the postal head office. In 2001 census Radewadi had a population of 836 of which males and females were 421 and 415 respectively. The famous and holy of 'God Datta' is very near at 6 km distance from Radewadi. The primary occupation of the people is farming. The availability of Irrigation water Scheme provides the water so the famous crop in the farm is Sugarcane. The other crops are Soyabeen and Wheat. The land and

atmosphere is very suitable for the crops. There are various facilities for the crops. There are various facilities such as shops, Primary School, Stores, Bachat Gat, Pathsantha, Cooperative Sanstha etc.

Radewadi is surrounded by Tasgaon Taluka East, Walva Islampur Taluka towards West, Kadegaon Taluka towards North, Sangli Taluka towards South, Tasgaon, Uran Islampur, Vita, Sangli, are the nearby cities to Radewadi Kirloskarwadi Railway Stations to Radewadi. (<http://www.onefivevie.com/India/Village/Sangli/Palus/Radevadi> p.1)

4.13.5 Khanapur Taluka

Khanapur town is situated about 20 km away on the eastern side of the Taluka headquarters Vita. Though Vita town is the Headquarters of the Taluka is known after Khanapur town because during the Mugal rule Khanapur and Bhalawani were to separate administrative blocks and were the grants made to Queen Toquarbai of Vita. After some time both this blocks were cancelled but the name Khanapur continued. The Taluka headquarters is situated at Vita because it is the central place in the Taluka. Because of the recent creation of a new Taluka Kadegaon the number of villages in Khanapur Taluka has decreased from 120 to 66, Khanapur Taluka is divided into 4 administrative circles, namely Vita, Bhalawani, Langre and Khanapur. (Bhosale S. M. 2007, pp. 31 & 32)

a) Hivare Village

Hivare is a famous village in Khanapur Vita Taluka in Sangli district of Maharashtra State India. It is located at 53 km towards North from District headquarters Sangli. Vita, Tasgaon, Mahuli, Sangole are the nearby cities to Hivare. Hivare nearby Shukachari is a hill place located in the hill range known as Mahadev Hill between Atpadi and Khanpur of Sangli District. As per puran this place is believed to be the place of the epic sage Shukamuni or Shuk, son of Vyas. This is very popular place in Taluka people come from all this places of Taluka as well as from other also. This is famous for Big Stones and Dark Forest as well as water source in between Mountains. The place where Shuka believed to be merged in to stone is a Cave Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva is built. The architecture of temple suggests it was built in the 14th and 15th the centuries

probably in the Chalukya period. (<http://www.onefivenine.com/India/Village/Sangli/khanapur/vita/Hivre> p.1)

Hivare village is in Khanpur Tehsil. In 2001 census Hivare had a population of 2136 of which male and females were 1042 and 1094 respectively. The primary occupation of the people is farming. In this village many types of crops are produced like Jawar, Bajara, Wheat, Grapes etc. In this village there are the facilities such as, Medical, Store, Shops, Dairy, Z. P. School, High school, Bachat Gat, Hospital, Temples etc. In this village many Schemes are being implemented such as Indira Awaas Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Niradhar Yojana.

4.13.6 Kavathe-Mahankal Taluka

Kavthe Mahankal is a Tehsil in Miraj subdivision of Sangli District in the Indian State of Maharashtra. This is famous for Mahankali Devi temple and Mallikarjun. There is also a sugar factory, named after the Goddess Mahankali Sugar Factory Kavathe Mahankal is peaceful town. Major festivals are Shivratri, in Shivratri 05 days, Yatra in town and Navrati in Mahankali Temple is organized. It is famous for its produce of grapes, Sugarcane, jawar, bajara, maize. Here industrial Training School, Primary School, Shree Mahankali High School, PVP Collage of Arts, Commerce, Science are there. As well as here 2 D. Ed. College are one is S. S. D. Ed. Colleges Kavathe Mahankal other is Ambika D. Ed. College as well Kanya Prashala and Jr. College for girls in Kavathe Mahankal Military Canteen for Pune sub area. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KavatheMahankal p.1)

The hill range have formed northern and southern boundaries, while River Agrani flows from west to east, which is almost dry excepting the rainy season. The establishment of Shri Mahankali Co-operate Sugar Factory, though there is an inadequate production of sugarcane is a matter of striking feature of this Taluka. The people of Sangli District Kavathe Mahankal are known as Bazar Kavathe. The Biroba temple at Arewadi Taluka is famous in eastern Maharashtra. (Kachare L. B., 1998 p. 35)

a) Ghatnandre Village

Ghatnandre is a small village in Kavathe Mahankal Taluka of Sangli District in Maharashtra State. It is located at 55 km towards North from District headquarters Sangli 22 km from Kavathe Mahankal. Sangole, Tasgaon, Vita, Mahuli are the nearby cities to Ghatnandre. Ghatnandre is nearby to Miraj town having road connectivity. In 2001 census Ghatnandre had population of 2624 of which male and female were 1315 and 1309 respectively. In this village these are facilities such as, Z. P. School, Bachat Gat, Medical, Store, Hospital, Temples, S. T. etc. The primary occupation of the people is farming. In Ghatnandre major crops takes are Jawar, Bajara, Wheat, Tur, Grapes. In this village there are many Schemes projected such as Indira Awaas Yojana, Mahatma Gandhi Rojgar Hami Yojana, Vasant Gharkul Yojana, Rajiv Gandhi Gharkul Yojana, Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana, Sharvan Bal Yojana.

4.13.7 Kadegaon Taluka

Kadegaon is a city and Taluka of Sangli District of Maharashtra in India. Kadegaon is famous for Moharam the Utsav of Muslim is celebrated by Hindus more than Muslims. The Tabuts made in Kadegaon are the tallest in Maharashtra. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kadegaon p.1)

Kadegaon Taluka head quarter is Kadegaon is a town. It belongs to Desh or Paschim Maharashtra region. It belongs to Pune Division. It is located at 58 km north form District headquarters Sangli, 258 km from State Capital Mumbai towards north. Kadegaon Taluka is bounded by Karad Taluka towards west Palus Taluka towards south. Walva Islampur Taluka towards South Khatav Taluka towards north vita city, Karad city, Mahuli city, Uran Islampur city is the nearby cities to Kadgaon. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kadegaon p.1)

a) Kadepur Village

Kadepur is very historical place well known for Goddess Dongrai Temple and for so many cultural activities. One of the most said story about history is that once upon a time there lived a demon called as Kadasur. He threatened the people by hurting and killing people prayed Goddess Dongrai for rescue. Dongrai Mata fought with him with many weapons and killed him. The place was then

called as 'Kadepur' Goddess Dongrai then lived here with her two sisters Vadili and Devtkiaai. These three Goddesses are part of life of all Yadavs family in Kadepur. Kadepur is village in Kadegaon Taluka in Sangli District of Maharashtra State India. It is located at 63 km towards North from District headquarters Sangli. Vita, Mahuli, Karad, Uran Islampur are the nearby cities to Kadepur. (<http://www.onefivenine.com/India/Village/Sangli/kadegaon/kadepurp.>)

Kadepur village is in Kadegaon Tehsil. In 2001 census Kadepur population was 5190 of which male and female were 2647 and 2543 respectively. The primary occupation of the people is farming. There are various facilities such as Shops, Z. P. School, Stores, Bachat Gat, Pathsanstha, Medical, High School, Hospital, S. T. etc. In village Kadepur the crops Jawar and Sugarcane are produced.

4.13.8 Atpadi Taluka

Atpadi is an administrative town of the Atpadi Taluka of Sangli District and in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Atpadi is located north east of Sangli District and Solapur District. The town has a Taluka administrative office, Panchayat Samiti Local Government, a Courthouse, Police Station, Schools and Collages. Atpadis economy is based on the cultivation and sale of agricultural products with pomegranates and cotton knitting the core of industry. The town is also of home the Manganga Sahakari factory a pomegranate auction center and various small scale industries in field such as manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs. The town can also claim to a literary connection, with four prominent Marathi authors originating from Atpadi. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atpadi p.1)

The history of Atpadi before the 15th and 16th century is not document some editions of the Stahala Parana mention the town Atpati but the art of the writing is undocumented. In historic times, Atpadi was part of the Manank Yadav kingdom of Mandesh, ruled from the nearby village of Dvapur. In the 6th century Atpadi was part of the Adilshahi Kingdom of Bijapur. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atpadi p. 2)

Atpadi is surrounded by small farming hamlets from all directions of town known as 'Waadi'. These places hold houses of farmers further grouped into communities the lack of commercial markets or higher education schools. The surrounding areas depend on the Atpadi town for trading agricultural produce and for education. Their proximity to the town area, the expansion of town with a growing population, infrastructural needs and well-connected roads are making surrounding areas become part of the town. The only source for drinking water in Atpadi is a lake which is located at 3 km away from town. The Shukra odha and Manganga River flow near during monsoon. Various water canals were projected into the Atpadi Taluka under Krishna Khore Vikas Mahamandal. Atpadi has a forest office near Swatantrapur. Dubai Kuran is a reserved forest area wild animals like wolves, jackals, foyers and wild hares can be seen here. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atpadi p. 3)

The Atpadi town has a Grampanchayat for the administration of the town, while the Panchayat Samiti is an administrative Centre of entire Taluka. Atpadi is part of Vidhan Sabha and Maharashtra state Sangli constituency of Loksabha. Atpadi's industry is based on agricultural and dairy products as well as secondary industry. Industries are located around the Atpadi town. Industries have created jobs and business for people living around Atpadi. The sugar factory is that largest of all industries in Atpadi. A program called Khadi Gram Udyog was started by the government of India to promote rural employment for woman. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atpadi p. 4)

a) Nelkaranji Village

Nelkarnji is very famous village in Atpadi Teshil. In 2001 Nelkaranji had population of 3824 of which male and female were 1942 and 1882 respectively. There are two high schools in village named as Shivaji High school and another is Nelkaranji High school. The Pomegranates crop is also extensively grown here and some areas the Jawar, Bajara etc. In this village there are facilities such as six Primary Schools, 12 Bachat Gats, Medical, Hospital, Temples, Pathsanstha, S. T. stand, Stores etc. In this village there are many Schemes such as Indira Awaas Yojana, Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana, Vasant Gharkul Yojana.

Nelkaranji nearby Kharsundi is famous village Kharsundi is well known for Lord Siddanath. Siddanath is believed to be incarnation of Lord Shiva and it is believed that he is protector of Kharsundi Siddanath is patron God of Atpadi and adjacent regions and one of among several regional protective gods Maharashtra. The village is well known in Southern India for its large cattle fair mainly for Khillari breed bulls. Vita, Mahuli, Tasgaon, Sangole are the nearby cities to Nelkaranji. (<http://www.onefivenine.com/India/Village/Sangli/kadegaon/kadepur.p.1>)

4.13.9 Jath Taluka

Jath is a town and Taluka headquarters in Miraj subdivision of Sangli District of Maharashtra in India. It is often spelled as Jath according to south India Lexical Nomenclatures, one of the largest talukas in Maharashtra State. It is situated in the vicinity of Karnataka in Southern Maharashtra, thus constitutes large number of Kannada speaking population. Jath is sort of infamous for its famine one geographical conditions and historically demographic part Man Desh. It was the former capital of Jath State, one of the non-salute Maratha princely State of British India, under the Bombay presidency, and later the Deccan State Agency. It was one of the Southern Maratha Jagirs. There is famous temple of Shri. Banshankari in Banali Village 10 km from Jath towards North. In Jath, there is village known as Umarani famous for Goddess Dhaneshwri. Umarani is 18 km from Jath and 88 km from District Sangli. In Jath Taluka 'Bilur' is one another important village which is famous for Bhairavnath temple. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jath p.1)

This place was ruled by the Daphale rulers before India's independence. Around 30-35 km from this place there is a famous temple of Goddess Dhanamma Devi is a place called Guddapur. In Jath, there is a sugar factory. There's a temple of Yallama Devi which is 1 km towards south. Every year around 100 thousand of people visit this place in its yearly fair. Towards the same road and a bit in side there's one more temple of Ambabai which is on the hill and a beautiful temple Shree Kal Bhairavnath mandir is there. Jath Taluka is border to Bijapur District and Belgaum District of Karnataka. Marathi and Kannada are the major languages people speak across Jath Taluka. Jath is one of

the biggest Taluka in Maharashtra and drought area in the entire Taluka. Jath is famous for education and healthcare facilities. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jath pp. 1 & 2)

a) Rampur Village

Rampur is a village in Jath Taluka of Sangli District in Maharashtra State, India. It is located at 79 km towards East from District headquarters Sangli. Sangole, Mangalvedhe, Bijapur, Teral are the nearby to Rampur. There is no Railway Station near to Rampur in less than 10 km. Rampur nearby Jath village known as Umarani famous for goddess Dhaneshwari, Umarani is 18 km from Jath and 88 km from Sangli. In Jath Taluka Bilur is one another important village which is famous for Bhairavnath temple. <http://www.onefiveine.com/India/Village/Sangli/kadegaon/kadepur> p.1)

Rampur village is in Jath taluka. In 2001 Rampur populations was 2108 of which male and female were 1005 and 1103 respectively. The primary occupation of the people is farming. There is one high school in Adarsh Vidyalaya Rampur. There are various facilities such as shops, Z. P. School, stores, Bachat Gat, medical stores, Hospital etc. In this village many type of crops are available takes like Jawar and Bajara.

4.13.10 Shirala Taluka

Shirala also called Battis Shirala is a small town in Maharashtra, 60 km west of the district headquarters Sangli and about 350 km from Mumbai capital of Maharashtra state. It is particularly known for its Hindu festival of the Snake god. Shirala is a small town located in Western Maharashtra, India's most prosperous State. During the Rashtrikuta period the region was ruled by Shilaharas. Shirala comes from word 'Shilahara' which is thirty eight km. The prefix Battis is a number thirty two. It is said that thirty two small village surrounded this larger town. Historically, Battis Shirala has been major market and shopping center for these villages. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirala p.1)

The major source of income for people in this town is from agriculture. Since this place is capital of Tehsil or Taluka, large numbers of people are employed in various government offices, schools, collages, banks, hospitals and

other service industry. A couple of agriculture based industries also contribute to the town's economy. Water supply for drinking and agriculture purposes is available from Morana Dam. Shirala is located at 5 kilometers from town. The Teshil has large area under thick forests due to heavy monsoon rains. It provides patronage to variety of wild life in 'Chandoli Abhay Aranya a national forest. Recently, a dozen of small-scale agro industries have been set in Maharashtra. Industrial Development Corporation area near Shirala with special area the MIDC has attracted number of such industries in the area is expected to prosper agricultural in the area is expected to proper agriculture industry and employment in this rural area. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirala p. 2)

Battis Shirala is famous for its annual Nag Panchami snake festival, which is attended by hundreds of thousands people. On Bendur, a day approximately two weeks before the festival, farmers clean their cows and bulls, decorate them and feed them with special food villages go Snake hunting, after getting kaul from Goddess Amba Bai by placing a flower on her head. If the flower falls, voluntarily on left side then that family is not allowed to each Snake that year. It is believed that only natives of Shirala are allowed to catch the Snakes. (www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirala p. 2)

a) Bilashi Village

Bilashi is a village in Shirala Taluka of Sangli District in Maharashtra state, India. It is located at 73 km towards west from District head quarter Sangli. Uran Islampur, Vadgaon Kaba, Karad, Kolhapur are the nearby cities to Bilashi. This place is on the border of the Sangli District and Kolhapur District Panhala is at south towards this place. Bilashi nearby Morna Dam is an earth fill dam on Morna River near Shirala: <http://www.onefivenine.com/India/Village/Sangli/kadegaon/kadepur> p.1)

Belashi village is in Shirala Taluka. In 2001 Belashi had population of 3719 of which male and female were 1819 and 1900 respectively. The primary occupation of the people is farming. The availability of irrigation and water Scheme and provides the water so the famous crop in the area is Sugarcane. The other crops are Rice and Groundnut. There are two schools in village named as Z. P School, and another is High School Warana Prasad Vidyalaya Belishi. In

this village there are facilities such as Bachat Gat, Medical, Hospital, Temples, Shops, Pathsanths, District Central Bank etc.

4.14 Concluding Remarks

The study area of the present study is rural areas of the Sangli District in the state of Maharashtra. Before dealing with the topic of the research, it is very much necessary to get familiar with the area of the study. It is therefore, the present topic provides the profile of the study area of the topic into consideration. This will be very much useful in the further the analysis of the research topic. Hence the present topic is very much necessary and of vital importance.

4.15 References

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