

C O N C L U S I O N

In the present study population characteristics and some aspects of agriculture in Nanded district are examined. The investigations made under study reveal that agriculture forms the base of economy of Nanded district. Majority of the people are engaged in agriculture and their main occupation is agriculture. In 1981 among the main workers in the region cultivators and agricultural labourers are 40.14 percent and 36.93 percent respectively.

The findings of the study reveal that during the decade 1971-81 the rate of growth of population in Nanded district is 25.15 percent. It is slightly higher than the state, 24.54 percent. Within the district, the highest rate of growth of population is observed in Nanded taluka 43.17 percent followed by Kinwat 27.56 percent, Hadgaon 22.35 percent. The findings of the study also throw the light on various types of densities. The crude density of population in Nanded district is 167 persons per sq.km, which is lower than the crude density of Maharashtra state 204. It varies from 379 persons per sq.km in Nanded taluka to 96 persons per sq.km in Kinwat taluka. The northern talukas of the district have the lowest density due to undulating topography and southern talukas of the region, the soil is fertile and hence capable of maintaining higher density of population.

In 1981 the rural density in Nanded district is 138. It is highest in Kandhar taluka 385, followed by Nanded 188. The

physiological density in Nanded district is 240 persons per sq.km. The highest physiological density is found in Nanded 499, Mukhed 231 and Deglur 221 talukas. Agricultural density in Nanded district is 75 person per sq.km. It varies from 63 in Bhokar taluka to 88 in Nanded taluka. Nutritional density in the region is 185 as against 217 in Maharashtra State. It varies from 166 in Deglur taluka 215 in Nanded taluka. Caloric density in Nanded district is 361. It is highest in Nanded taluka 633 followed by Kinwat 342 and Biloli 332. The study reveals that in most of the talukas with the increase in population from 1961 onwards. The per capita cultivated area has shown the decreasing trend. It varies from 0.22 hectare in Nanded taluka to 0.55 hectare in Kinwat and Bhokar taluka. It is observed that the relative co-efficient of over population has shown an increasing trend from 1961 onwards. In 1981 the relative co-efficient of over population in Nanded district is 0.78. It varies from 0.67 in Deglur taluka to 0.92 in Nanded taluka.

The sex ratio of the region is 961 females per 1000 males which is higher than sex ratio of state 937. In each taluka sex ratio has shown declining trend and varies from 930 in Nanded to 979 in Biloli taluka.

In the region 29.79 percent of total population is literate as against the state average literacy rate of 47.98 percent. Among the district in the state Nanded district ranks

26th i.e. lowest in terms of literacy rate which shows that the district is lagging very much behind the state average. Within the district the literacy rate is highest in Nanded taluka 40.12 percent and lowest in Bhokar taluka 24.73 percent.

Landuse and cropping pattern of the region are strongly influenced by physical and socio-economic and technological factors. More than 70 percent of the total geographical area of Nanded district is under cultivation. The remaining area is occupied by forest. Other uncultivated land, area not available for cultivation and fallow land. Out of the total area 70.54 percent is net sown area in the district. Deglur taluka has recorded highest net sown area 78.70 percent followed by Biloli 76.50 percent, Kandhar 75.00 percent and Bhokar 74.60 percent. The area under forest is 7.21 percent in Nanded district. More than 24 percent area under forest is found in Kinwat taluka whereas less than 6 percent area under forest is observed in Nanded, Kandhar, Biloli, Mukhed and Deglur taluka.

Except Nanded and Biloli taluka area sown more than once is lowest in almost all talukas of the region.

The cropping pattern in the region is dominated by foodgrains (cereals and pulses). Mukhed taluka has recorded highest area under foodgrains 78.56 percent followed by Deglur

71.20 percent, Bhokar 62.65 percent. Jowar is the main cereal of the region. Out of the total cultivated area 39.67 percent of area is under jowar 50.80 percent followed by Kandhar 45.98 percent, Bhokar 42.30 percent, Deglur 39.69 percent and Hadgaon 38.67 percent. Rice and wheat are other cereals which are not so significant.

Cotton is the leading cash crop of the region and occupies an important place in the economy of the region. 28.98 percent of the total cultivated area is under cotton in the region. Kinwat taluka has the highest area 50.29 percent under cotton followed by Bhokar 34.77 percent. Hadgaon 34.57 percent and Kandhar 31.59 percent. Lower area under cotton is in Deglur 15.06 percent. Groundnut and sugarcane are other non-food crops which are not significant in cropping pattern. Overall change has shown that the area under food crops has shown a decreasing trend and area under non-food crops has shown an increasing trend.

The study indicates that during 1984-85 the highest percentage of Gross Irrigated Area to Gross Cropped Area is 27.04 percent in Nanded taluka followed by Biloli 18.33 percent and Kinwat 6.30 percent. Lowest percentage of gross irrigated area to gross cropped area is found in Kandhar 1.99 percent and Bhokar 2.26 percent. Nanded district ranked 23rd in Maharashtra, so far as net irrigated area to net sown area is concerned. Only 5.12 percent of net irrigated area to net sown area is in the district and 8.47 percent of gross irrigated area to gross cropped

area is in the district. Irrigation plays a vital role in increasing agricultural production. As it enables the farmers to increase the use of modern inputs, such as fertilizers, HYV seeds and pesticides. Within the district, Biloli, Nanded and Kandhar taluka are leading in the use of these modern inputs whereas Deglur, Bhokar, Hadgaon and Kinwat talukas are lagging behind in the use of these modern inputs.

There is variations in the levels of agricultural productivity. Agricultural productivity of the region is the outcome of agricultural inputs and local physical conditions. The study reveals that the high productivity is seen in the Godawari basin endowed with fertile soil and high irrigation facilities. Nanded, Kandhar and Biloli are grouped into high productivity areas whereas northern talukas such as Kinwat, Hadgaon and Bhokar talukas are grouped into low productivity due to hilly areas, poor soil and less irrigation facilities. There is considerable scope to increase the agricultural productivity if the irrigation facilities and modern agricultural inputs are made available to the farmers.

The findings of the study show that there is relationship between population characteristics and some aspects of agriculture. Overall positive relation is found between growth of population, sex ratio, with landuse pattern, crop area, yield and agricultural inputs. Negative relationship is found between density of population and literacy with landuse pattern, cropping pattern.