

C H A P T E R [II]

GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

- 2.1 PHYSICAL BACKGROUND
- 2.2 ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP
- 2.3 PHYSIOGRAPHY
- 1.4 DRAINAGE
- 2.5 CLIMATE
- 2.6 SOILS
- 2.7 FORESTS
- 2.8 MINERALS
- 2.9 LAND USE PATTERN
- 2.10 AGRICULTURE
- 2.11 IRRIGATION
- 2.12 POPULATION CHARACTER
- 2.13 OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE
- 2.14 ROAD NETWORK
- 2.15 ECONOMIC LEVEL OF THE REGION
 - (I) INDUSTRIES
 - (II) FISHERIES



C H A P T E R [II]
GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

2.1 PHYSICAL BACKGROUND :

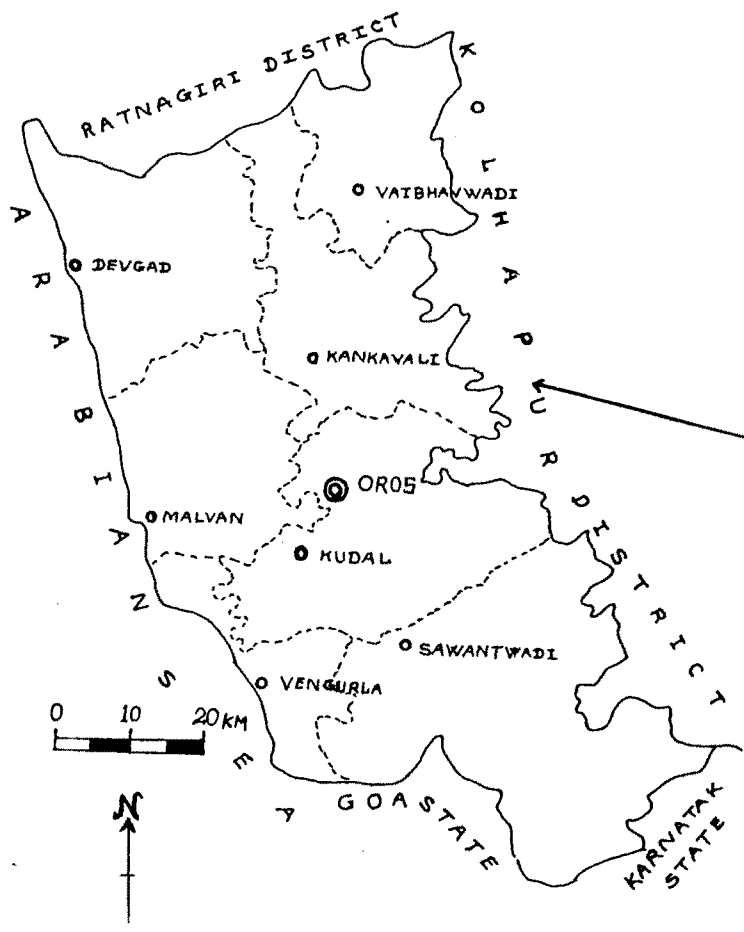
The Sindhudurg district lies along the west coast forming the main part of the Konkan. The ranges of Sahyadries in the east and the Arabian Sea on the west dominate the physical structure of this district. The north-south extension of District is about 121 km and has a coast line of about 121 km. The streams which flow from the Sahyadri towards the Sea have formed basins at many places between the hill ranges and on the coastal plains.

LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES :

The Sindhudurg district lies between 15°37' North to 16°40' North latitude and 73°19' East to 74°13' East longitude. The district is surrounded by Ratnagiri district on the north Sahyadri hills and beyond Sahyadri, Kolhapur district in east the State Goa in south and Arabian Sea towards the west. Physiographically this area is very rugged and complex one. The height of the region varies from sea level upto 1300 m. (Fig. No.2.1).

The area of the district is 5087.5 sq.km., having a total population of 8,30,726 persons according to 1991 Census. In terms of area and population it makes 1.65 percent and 1.05 percent of the State respectively.

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT THE STUDY REGION



LOCATION MAP

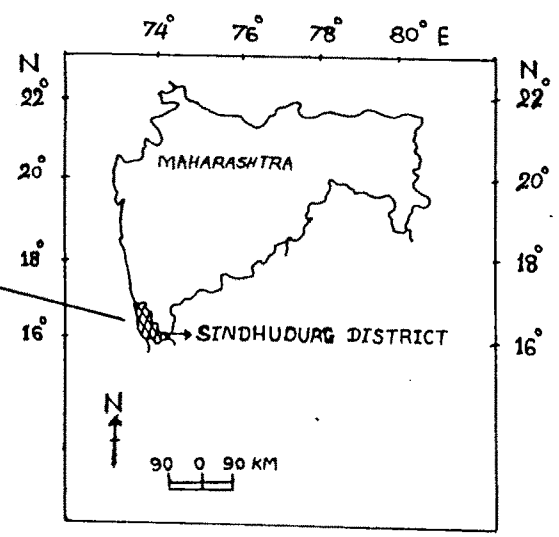


FIG:- 2.1

2.2

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP :**BRIEF HISTORY :**

South Konkan was formed into a separate district in 1819. Its headquarter was first at Bankot and later at Ratnagiri. Three northern sub-divisions were transferred to Thana district in 1830 and the district was reduced as a sub-collectorate under Thana. In 1833, it was again made a fulfilled district and named as Ratnagiri district.

In 1891 the district had the following sub-divisions: Devgad, Ratnagiri, Sangameshwar, Vengurla, Malvan, Rajapur, Chiplun, Khed and Dapoli talukas and Guhagar and Mandangad Petas.

There were no major changes between 1891 and 1931. Vengurla taluka was down graded as Peta in the year 1923. A new Kankavli Mahal was formed in the year 1945.

The former Indian State of Sawantwadi was emerged with the district and the taluka boundaries were re-organised in 1949. One new taluka of Sawantwadi and two new Mahals of Kudal and Lanja were formed in the year 1949. Two villages were added to this district from Kolhapur district and two villages from this district were transferred to Kolaba district.

With the reorganisation of States in 1956, the district was included in the Bombay State since 1960, it forms a part of Maharashtra.

Again the re-organisation of States in 1981 the Ratnagiri district is divided into two districts, one is Ratnagiri and other is Sindhudurg.

PRESENT SET-UP :

Now Sindhudurg includes six talukas out of old Ratnagiri district and one taluka from Kolhapur district. For administrative purpose, the Sindhudurg district is at present divided in 7 talukas namely Sawantwadi, Vengurla, Kudal, Malvan, Kankavli, Devgad and Vaibhavwadi (Fig.No.2.1). There are two sub-divisions, one is Sawantwadi division and another is Kankavli. In Sawantwadi division total three talukas are merged and four talukas are involved in Kankavli division.

2.3

PHYSIOGRAPHY :

The Sindhudurg district is generally divided into following three physiographic divisions.

- [I] The Sahyadri Region (height above 300 m)
- [II] The Middle Belt of the Hilly Region or Valati.
(height 100 m to 300 m)
- [III] Coastal Belt Region or Khalati (height below 100 m)

[I] THE SAHYADRI REGION (HEIGHT ABOVE 300 m):

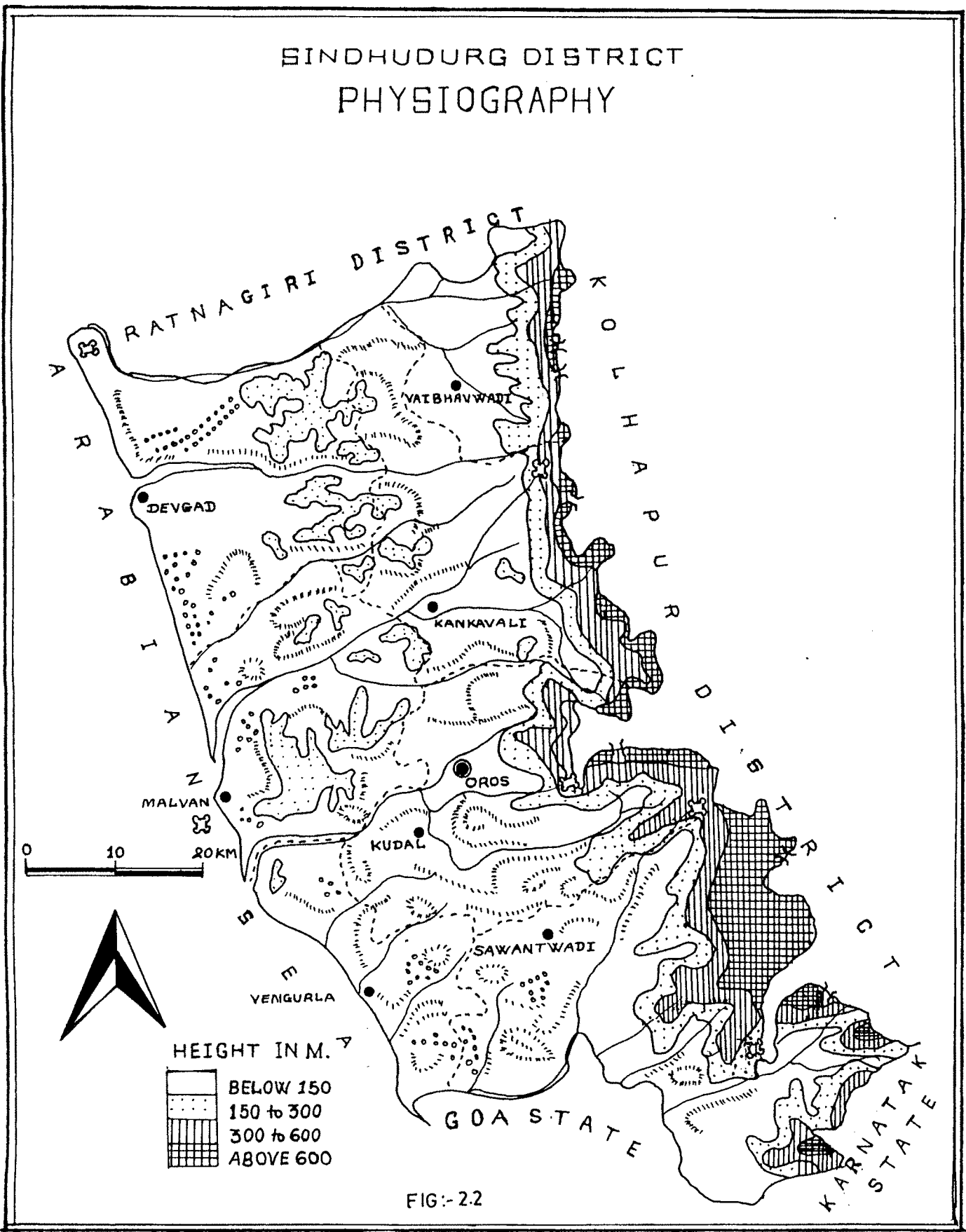
The eastern part of the study region which is covered by the Sahyadri hill ranges, consists of height above 300 m from Sea level. The Shivgad (Kankavli taluka), Manohargad and Ranganagad (Kudal taluka), and Pargad (Sawantwadi taluka) are the important Forts in the region. This region is extended into north-south direction having steep slopes, occupying by spurs and saddles. (Fig.No.2.2).

[II] THE MIDDLE BELT OF THE HILLY REGION OR VALATI

(HEIGHT 100 m to 300 m)

The central or middle part of the study region which

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT PHYSIOGRAPHY



is covered by many small hills and ridges having height above 100 m to 300 m from Sea level. This part of the study region is locally known as 'Valati'. This part of the study region is formed by denudation of the rocks.

[III] COASTAL BELT REGION OR KHALATI

(HEIGHT BELOW 100 m)

The western part of the study region is associated with coast of Arabian Sea. This part is formed by alluvial soil, which is more fertile, so it is locally called as 'Khalati'. The western part of the Devgad and Malvan talukas are formed by lateritic soil and rocks, which is not much fertile and useful for cultivation of rice but it is more useful for plantation of Mangoes and Cashewnuts.

2.4

D R A I N A G E :

There are eight important rivers namely Shuk river, Devgad river, Achara river, Kalaval river, Tarkarli river, Kalvi-Mochamad river, Terekhol river, and Tilari river. All the rivers in the district originate from the Sahyadri ranges & have reached their base level of erosion within a distance of nearly about 20 km. All the eight rivers in the district flow from east to west and drains in the Arabian Sea. Kalaval is the most important river of the district from the point of view of Basin area. Kalaval river basin area is near about 1068.5 sq.km., lowest basin area covered by Tilari river i.e. 340 sq.km. but its drainage density is very high i.e. 1.03 per sq.km.

Shuk (Vaghotan) river is the northern most important river in the district and forms a natural boundary between Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts. This river is useful for navigation. South of the Shuk river, Devgad and Achara rivers are flowing from the east to west. Achara river is the natural boundary in between Devgad taluka and Malvan taluka. Kalaval river is the most important river, which flows from middle part of the district. Terekhol and Tilari rivers are in the southern part of the district.

Nearest to Sea coast, some part of the Kalaval, Achara, Mochamad and Devgad rivers are tidal. These rivers are useful for navigation and fishing. Terekhol river is famous for water-transport in Goa State.

2.5

C L I M A T E

TEMPERATURE :

The climate of the district is monsoonal type. There are three seasons viz. Summer season from March to May, Rainy season from June to October and Winter season from November to February.

Being a coastal district the variation of temperature is not so much during a day and a year. In the hot season, temperature rises slowly from March to May and May is the hottest month. With the onset of the monsoon, the temperature drops by 3° to 4°C. Day temperatures during the monsoon are lower than the cold season. In the post-monsoon months of October and November, day temperature increases. Days in October are as hot as in May, night temperatures are the

lowest in January. The Sindhudurg district has a maximum temperature of 33.7°C and the minimum temperature of 16.7°C.

Within the district, the seasons show local variations also. Some of the coastal areas are the most pleasant. Particularly in hot months, sea breeze is enjoyable nearly throughout the day. Further inland, during the hot months both days and nights can be oppressive and more so in the tract at the foot of the Western Ghats. In Sawantwadi taluka, Amboli is the hill station of the Western Ghats. Many peoples are visiting to this place in the hot season. Owing to the proximity of the sea, the district has a humid climate.

During the monsoon, skies are heavily clouded, winds are very strong and are mainly westerly or south-westerly during the monsoon. Thunder storms are common in the post monsoon months and the later part of the hot season.

RAINFALL :

Rainfall is not uniform in all parts of the district. It increases rapidly from the coast towards the Western Ghats on the eastern border of the district. Along the Ghats rainfall is very heavy. The rainfall in this district is generally high as compared to other districts of Maharashtra State. Out of seven talukas of Sindhudurg district, the highest normal annual rainfall is in Kankavli taluka i.e. 4729.1 mm and the lowest normal annual rainfall is in Devgad taluka i.e. 1685 mm. Average rainfall is 3043.2 mm in Sindhudurg district. The coastal stations of Malvan and

Vengurla get annual rainfall of 1894.6 mm and 2617 mm respectively. Monsoon starts in this district generally by the beginning of June and the rains continue with little intermission till about the middle of October. Practically the entire annual rainfall occurs during the months from June to October. July is the month with highest rainfall when about one-third of the annual rainfall is received.

2.6

S O I L S :

Laterite soil is commonly found in the district. It is vary in colour from bright red to brownish red, it comes from hydrated iron oxides. It is rich with nitrogen and organic matter and its texture is loamy. They are porous and not retentive of moisture. Soils are found in various types which are as follows :

[1] RICE SOIL AND WARKAS SOIL :

This type of soil is available on the slopes of the hills. It is yellowish red in colour and poor in fertility. Ragi (Nagali) is the main food crop in this area. The Cashewnut is also an important cash crop in this area. The world renowned Alphonso mangoes are grown on this soil only.

[2] GARDEN SOIL :

These soils are located in the bottom of hill ranges and are fairly fertile. Coconut and arecanut gardens thrive well in these soils.

[3] COASTAL ALLUVIUM :

The coastal strips in Devgad, Malvan and Vengurla talukas are deep sandy loams. The coconut and arecanut

gardens are also fairly found in these areas.

[4] SALTY LANDS :

Due to the inundation of the sea, a part of coastal soils has become salty. They are locally known as 'Khar land' or 'Khajan'. In Devgad, Malvan and Vengurla talukas, the entire western strips are salty.

2.7

F O R E S T S :

The forests in the district cover an area about 409.06 sq.km. under the Forest Department, out of which 285.45 sq.km. in Sawantwadi and Kudal talukas and 12.61 sq.km in remaining talukas respectively. The lowest forest area is found in Devgad taluka i.e. 0.6 sq.km. The Malaki forest covers an area about 57.21 sq.km. The forest area is 10.37 percent of the total geographical area of the district.

The forests are not situated in one compact belt but are scattered and related to the poorer shallow soils on steep hill slopes which are generally unfit for cultivation. The most of the forest area is found in Kudal and Sawantwadi talukas.

Teak is the main product of the forest. Besides this, other important species like Ain, Kinjal, Nana, Siddum, Koshumb, Sawar, Shiras, Shisham are found fairly in the region. The Bamboo viz. Kalak or Velu is also found in some parts of the forests.

The major forest produce is transported to Kolhapur, Nipani, Belgaum, Gadhinglaj, Ajara and Bombay.

2.8

MINERALS :

Among all the districts in Bombay division, Sindhudurg district seems to be favourably placed in regard to the supply of some of the important minerals.

Manganese ore occurs almost side by side with the belts of iron ore in this district. Thick veins of Manganese ore in laterite were reported at Redi point in Vengurla taluka. Manganese ore is also reported to occur at Phondye, Sasoli, Dingne, Netarde and other places in Sawantwadi taluka. The ore exposed at surface is of low grade being either highly Ferruginous or Silicious having Manganese content of 25 to 40 percent.

Iron ore occurs round about Redi, Tak, Asoli, Ajagaon Shiroda, Nanos, Talaone, Gulduve, Kinale, Kavthani, Satarde, Sateli, Aros, Thakurwadi, Malewad, Matond, Dabholi, Tendoli, Khanoli and other places in southern part of the district. Iron ore occurs at Redi, Sateli, Aros, Tendoli and Khanoli appears most promising. Minor deposits of lime stone and dolomite are also occur at Tarle.

Bauxite is a another important mineral found in the study region. It occurs at a few places along the coast near Devgad. More deposits are found at Amboli in Sawantwadi taluka. There are large deposits of Chromite in Kankavli taluka which are located in the valley of Gad river near Kankavli. Extensive deposits of ilmenite are known to occur in this district along the western coast.

Certain minor minerals are also found in this

district. Workable deposits of feldspar and quartz are seen in this district in the Kadaval and Pangrad belt. The feldspar found in this district can be used in the manufacture of potteries. The feldspar found at Kumbharbhat in Malvan taluka. The minor minerals are also occur in this district like Mica, pigments such as clay, silica sand, asbestos, building stones, glass sand, copper, salt etc.

1.9

LAND USE PATTERN :

In the study region, it is observed that out of the total geographical area nearly, 24.96 percent land is under cultivation. Fallow land, non agricultural land and grazing land accounts nearly 43.66 percent of the total. Nearly 25.9 percent of the total land is used for various purposes, forest land accounts only 5.48 percent of the total.

The Table No.II-I & Fig. No.2.3 gives clear idea about land use pattern of the study region.

TABLE NO. II-I

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT

LAND USE PATTERN 1991

Sr No.	Land Use	Area in ha	Percentage to total area
1]	Forest	27900	5.48
2]	Net culturable area	127000	24.96
3]	Fallow Land	139300	27.38
4]	Non-agricultural & Grazing land.	82800	16.28
5]	Others	131750	25.90
	Total..	508750	100.00

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT CROPPING PATTERN

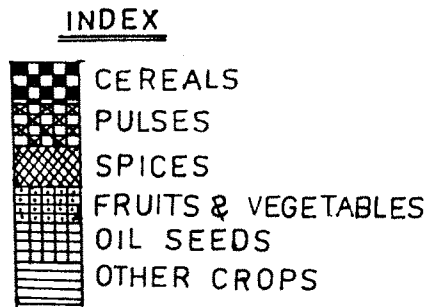
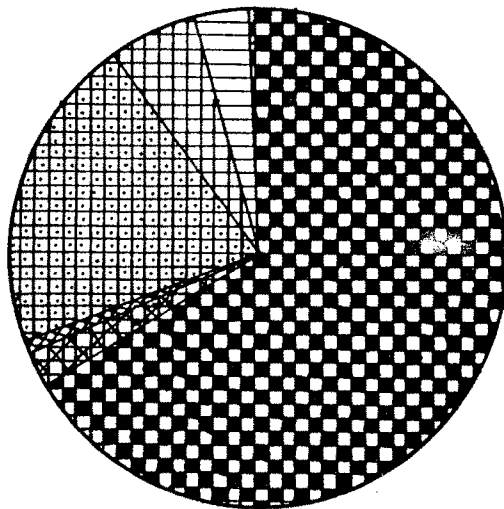


FIG-2.4

LAND USE PATTERN

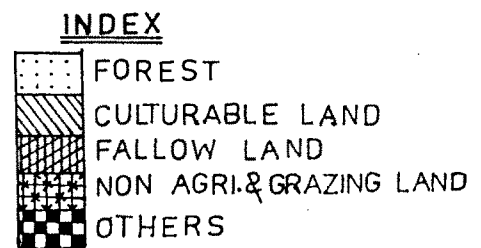
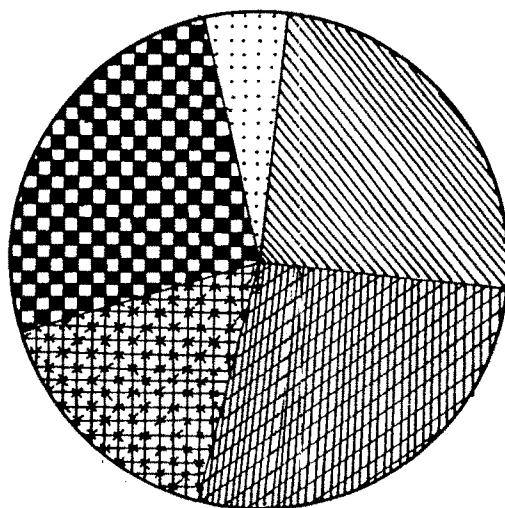


FIG-2.3

2.10

AGRICULTURE :

Agriculture is one of the most important occupation of the Sindhudurg district. Nearly 76 percent of the working population directly engaged in agricultural activities. The economy of the district is mainly depends on agriculture. The modern agricultural implements, improved seeds, use of different pesticides and irrigation facilities have increased the agricultural production. Now the farmers of Sindhudurg district have left the traditional agricultural system. They improve the economic position by using the new methods in the agriculture.

The crop pattern and agrarian economy of the district is changed, because the land under cash crops increased and the land under traditional food-crops decreased. Mango, Cashewnut, Coconut are the main cash crops, which occupies nearly 20.55 percent of the total cultivable land. Land under cereal crops is 67.32 percent in the year 1990-91.

Now a days in the Vengurla, Malvan, Devgad, Kudal, Sawantwadi, some part of the Kankavli, Vaibhavwadi talukas fruit plantation areas are rapidly increased with the help of Maharashtra Government's Rojagar Hami Yojana, Soil Conservation Policies and Social Forestry Policies. The Table No.II-II and Fig.No.2.4 gives details about the cropping pattern of the study region.

TABLE NO.II-II
SINDHUDURG DISTRICT
CROPPING PATTERN (1990-91)

Sr. No.	Crop	Area in ha.	Percentage to total area.
1]	Cereals	82772	67.32
2]	Pulses	3012	2.45
3]	Spices product	811	0.66
4]	Fruits & vegetables	25269	20.55
5]	Oil seeds	7049	5.73
6]	Other crops	4043	3.29
	Total ..	122956	100.00

2.11

IRRIGATION :

The land under irrigation in this district is only 16514 hectares in 1990-1991. It was only 3209.42 ha. in the year 1981. The irrigation facilities are not developed much because this region is very rugged & complex. The farmers are mainly depend on the monsoonal rainfall. This area is hilly so the Dams, canals are not economically profitable.

There are only surface and well irrigation found in the study region. Only 3.25 percent of the total area is under irrigation. Out of this irrigated area 3.01 percent (i.e. 15359 hectares) is irrigated by surface facilities and only 0.24 percent (i.e. 1155 hectares) area irrigated by the wells.

The land under irrigation is more in Sawantwadi taluka i.e. 3861 hectares, and lowest irrigated area in Vaibhavwadi taluka i.e. only 57 hectares. The table No. III-II-A, II-III-B and Figure No. 2.5-A, 2.5-B shows the clear picture of the irrigation facilities in the study region.

TABLE NO.II-III-A
SINDHUDURG DISTRICT
LAND UNDER IRRIGATION (1990-1991)

Sr.No.	Type of irrigation	Area in ha.	Percentage to total area
1.	Surface	15359	93.00
2.	Wells	1155	7.00
	Total	16514	100.00

TABLE NO.II-III-B
SINDHUDURG DISTRICT
TALUKAWISE LAND UNDER IRRIGATION - 1991

Sr, No,	Taluka	<Area in hactares>		Percentage to total area	
		Surface	Wells	Surface	Wells
1.	Sawantwadi	3465	396	22.56	34.28
2.	Vengurla	3783	46	24.63	3.98
3.	Kudal	1379	450	8.98	38.96
4.	Malvan	2692	88	17.53	7.63
5.	Kankavli	1111	24	7.23	2.07
6.	Devgad	2887	136	18.80	11.78
7.	Vaibhavwadi	42	15	0.27	1.30
	Total ..	15359	1155	100	100

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT LAND UNDER IRRIGATION

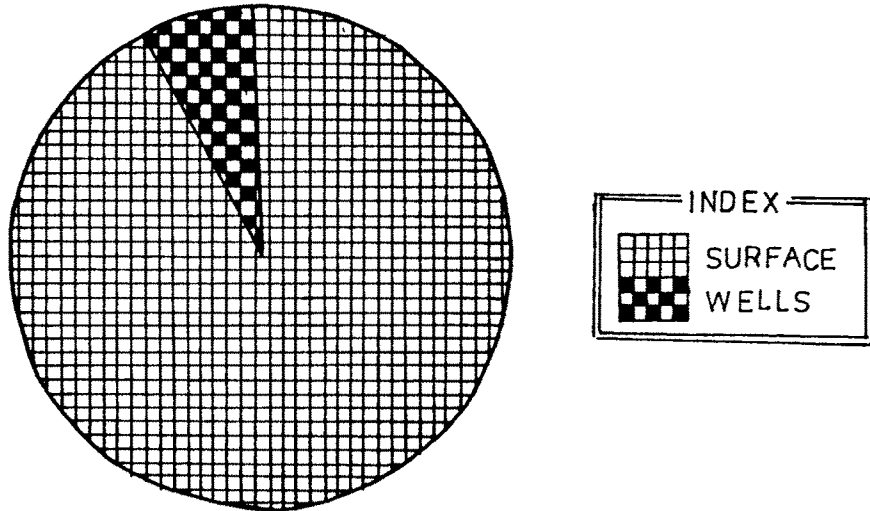


FIG.-2.5.A.

TALUKAWISE LAND UNDER IRRIGATION

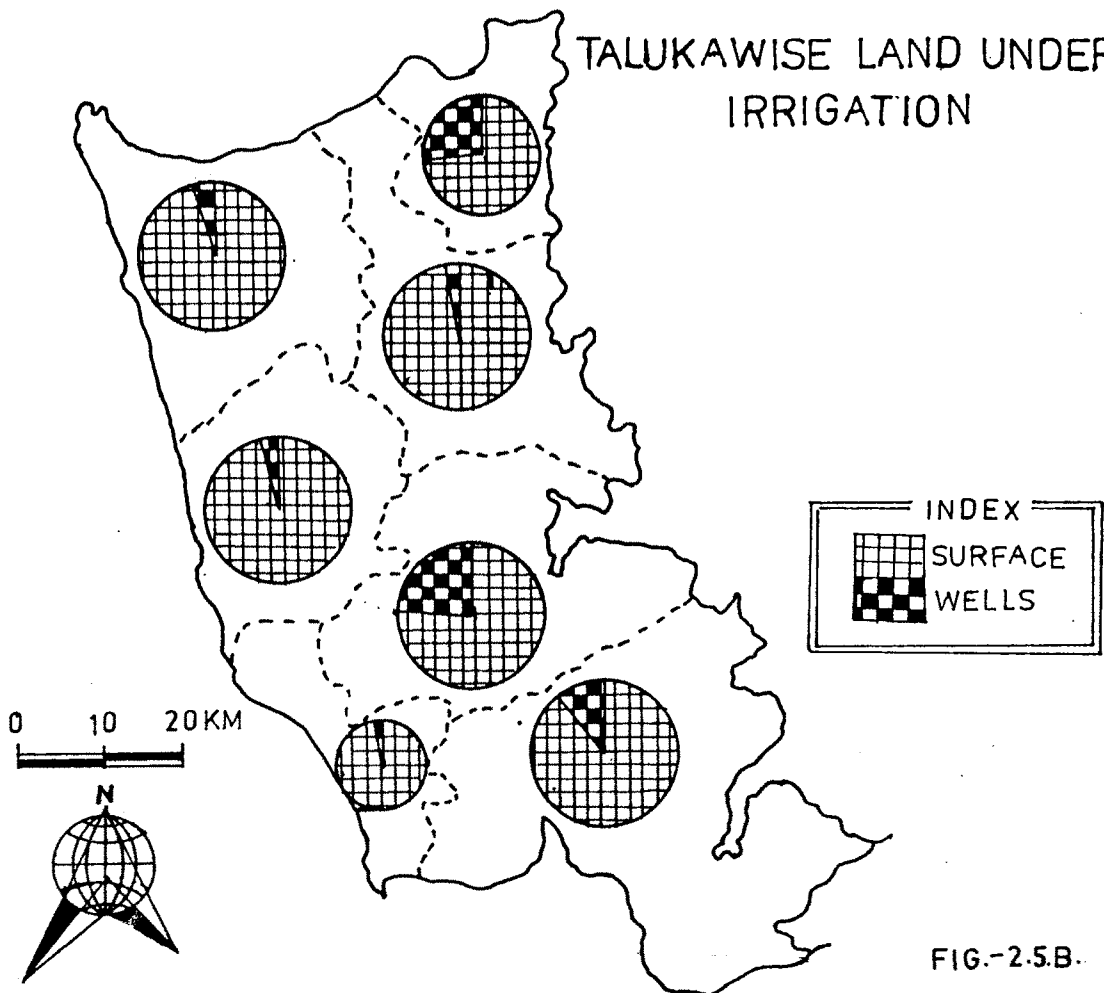


FIG.-2.5.B.

2.12

POPULATION CHARACTER :

It is very important to study the population character of any region for knowing the economic level of the people. Various factors affect on the income, production and efficiency of the people. The development of natural resources is mainly depend on the working population of the region.

According to 1991 Census, the total population of Sindhudurg district is 8,30,726 persons. In the year 1981 the total population of the district was 7,79,073 persons, which is increased by 6.63 percent in the decade 1991. The density of population according to 1991 census is 164 persons per sq.km. The table No.II-IV gives the detail of talukawise population, area and density per sq.km.

TABLE NO. II-IVSINDHUDURG DISTRICTTALUKAWISE TOTAL POPULATION, AREA IN SQ.KMAND DENSITY PER SQ.KM.

Sr. No.	Taluka	Area in sq.km (1991)	Total population		Density per sq.km	
			1981	1991	1981	1991
1.	Sawantwadi	1336.20	167489	185973	125.35	139.18
2.	Vengurla	327.90	85557	87379	261.00	266.48
3.	Kudal	822.59	129727	143353	157.70	174.27
4.	Malvan	633.30	117842	116333	177.66	175.39
5.	Kankavli	760.33	121459	129965	159.75	171.00
6.	Devgad	759.48	109582	119272	144.28	157.04
7.	Vaibhavwadi	417.70	47417	48451	113.52	116.00
	Total	5087.50	779073	830726	153.13	163.28

RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION :

It is observed that, out of the total population of the study region, nearly 92.4 percent population is rural and only 7.6 percent population is urban, according to 1991 census. The density of the rural population is 152 persons per sq.km and it is not evenly distributed in the study region. The Vengurla taluka accounts highest rural population density in the study region, while the Vaibhavwadi taluka accounts lowest population density i.e. 116 persons per sq.km. The table No.II-IV-A gives detail about talukawise rural population density according to 1991 census.

TABLE NO.II-IV-A**SINDHUDURG DISTRICT****RURAL POPULATION DENSITY (1991)**

Sr. No.	Taluka	Area in sq.km.	Population	Density per sq.km.
1.	Sawantwadi	1330.70	164689	123.76
2.	Vengurla	314.90	75125	238.57
3.	Kudal	819.05	131762	160.90
4.	Malvan	656.80	98341	149.72
5.	Kankavli	760.33	129965	171.00
6.	Devgad	759.48	119272	157.04
7.	Vaibhavwadi	417.70	48451	116.00
	Total	5058.96	767605	151.73

The urban population density of the Sindhudurg district is 2142 persons per sq.km. but it varies from each of the urban centre. There are four urban centres according to 1991 census. The Sawantwadi urban centre has highest population density i.e. 3870 persons per sq.km, while the Vengurla urban centre has lowest urban population density i.e. 943 persons per sq.km. The table II-V-B gives detail about the urban population density according to 1981 and 1991 census (Fig.No.2.6).

TABLE NO.II-V-B

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT

URBAN POPULATION DENSITY (1981-1991)

Sr. No.	Name of the Urban Centre	Area in sq.km	Urban Population		Density of Urban population	
			1981	1991	1981	1991
1.	Sawantwadi	5.50	18671	21284	3394.72	3869.82
2.	Vengurla	13.00	12339	12254	949.15	942.62
3.	Kudal	3.54	-	11,591	-	3274.29
4.	Kankavli	8.50	2203	-	259.17	-
5.	Malvan	6.50	17328	17992	2665.85	2768.00
	Sindhudurg District	37.04	50541	61121	1508.68	2141.59

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT TALUKAWISE RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION 1991

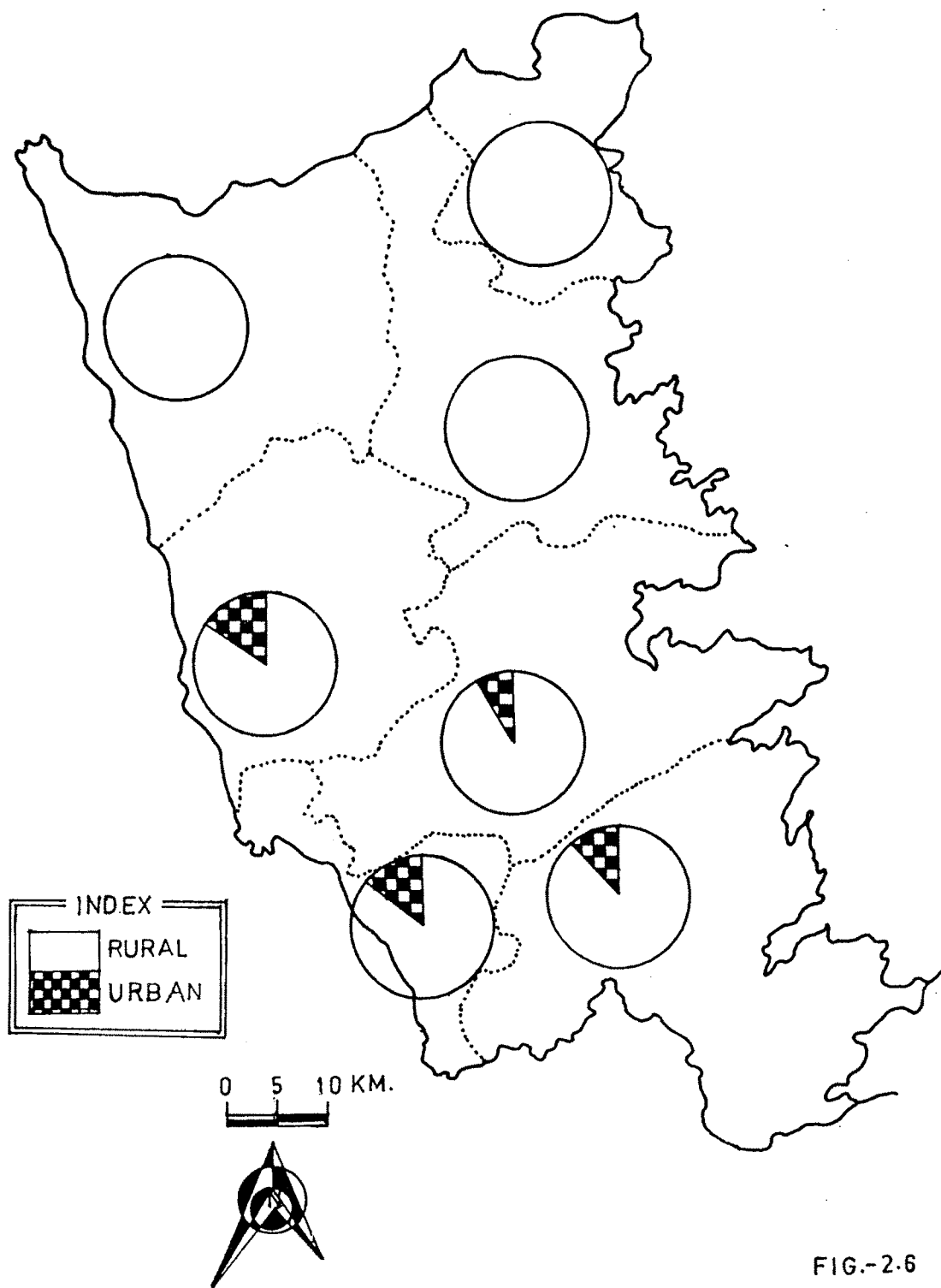


FIG.-2.6

DISTRIBUTION OF SETTLEMENTS :

There are 703 inhabited villages and one uninhabited village and four urban settlements according to 1981 census. In the year 1991 there are 736 rural settlements and four urban settlements. The table No.II-VI shows clear picture of talukawise distribution of rural and urban settlements in the year 1981 and 1991.

TABLE NO. II-VI
SINDHUDURG DISTRICT
TALUKAWISE DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL AND URBAN SETTLEMENTS
IN 1981 AND 1991

Sr. No.	Taluka	No.of settlements			
		1981		1991	
		Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1.	Sawantwadi	138	1	140	1
2.	Vengurla	78	1	78	1
3.	Kudal	124	-	123	1
4.	Malvan	135	1	135	1
5.	Kankavli	111	1	105	-
6.	Devgad	64	-	97	-
7.	Vaibhavwadi	53	-	58	-
	Sindhudurg Dist	703	4	736	4

2.13

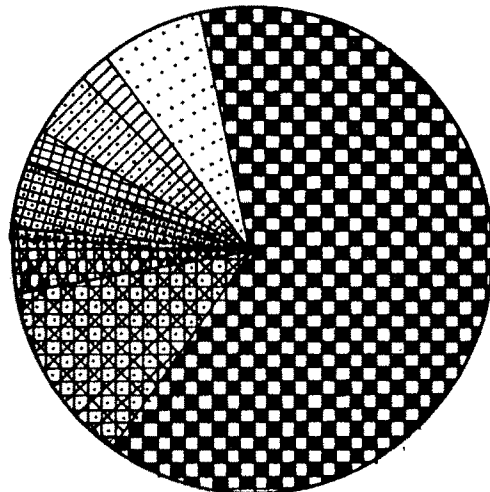
OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE

It is very essential to study the occupational structure of any region because working population plays an important role in the development of the region. In the study region, out of the total population nearly 36.59 percent population is engaged in various activities. Out of the total working population nearly 63.11 percent and 12.60 percent population engaged as cultivators and agricultural labourers respectively. The population engaged in manufacturing industries and trade and commerce accounts for 4.6 percent and 4.4 percent respectively. The table No.II-VII and Figure No.2.7 gives the details about occupational structure for the study region.

TABLE NO.II-VIISINDHUDURG DISTRICTOCCUPATIONAL PATTERN (1991)

Sr No.	Occupation type	No.of Persons	Percentage to total
1.	Cultivators	191851	63.11
2.	Agricultural Labourers	38297	12.60
3.	Live stock, Forestry, Fishing and other activities	8582	2.82
4.	Mining and Quarrying	4585	1.50
5.	Manufacturing Processing, Servicing and repairing	13815	4.60
6.	Construction	6751	2.22
7.	Trade and Commerce	13250	4.40
8.	Transport, storage and Communication.	5323	1.75
9.	Other Services	21504	7.00
	Total ...	303958	100.00

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT OCCUPATION STRUCTURE



INDEX

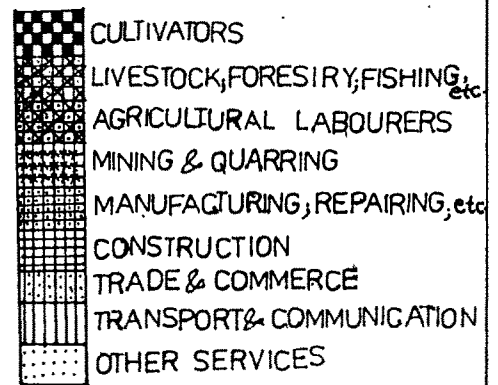
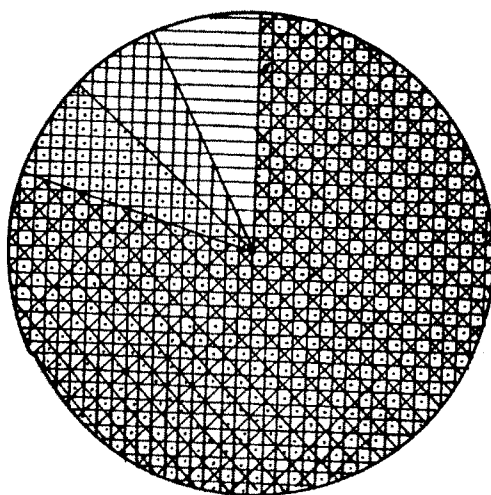


FIG.- 2.7

PERSONS ENGAGED IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES



INDEX

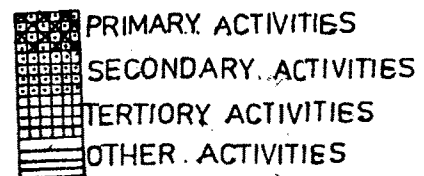


FIG.- 2.8

If the working population is grouped according to economic activities, then it is observed that, nearly 80.04 percent population is engaged in primary activities. Nearly 6.77 percent population is engaged in Secondary activities and 6.11 percent population is engaged in tertiary activities. The table No.II-VIII & Figure No.2.8 shows the clear picture of the persons engaged in various activities.

TABLE NO. II-VIII

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT

PERSONS ENGAGED IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES (1991)

Sr. No.	Type of Activity	Persons	Percentage
1.	Primary Activities	243315	80.04
2.	Secondary Activities	20566	6.77
3.	Tertiary Activities	18573	6.11
4.	Other Activities	21504	7.08
	Total ..	303958	100.00

2.14

ROAD NETWORK

There is no railway line in the district. The traffic of passengers as well as goods is carried by road or by coastal shipping.

Sindhudurg is well connected by roads with other commercial centres like Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Bombay, Nipani, Belgaum and Panjim. Most of the traffic runs through roads. The district headquarter is well connected by roads with the taluka-headquarters. Interruptions to through traffic are

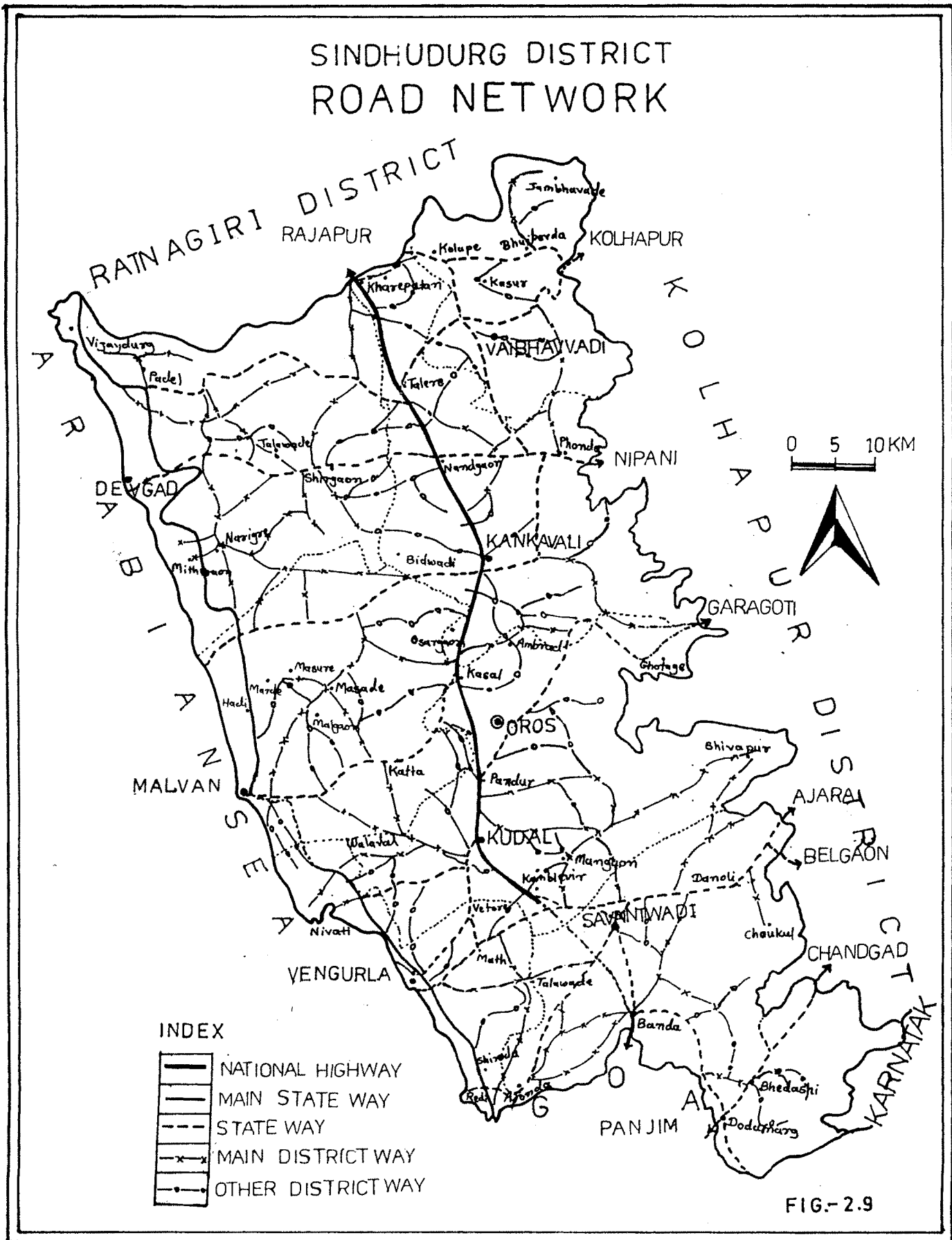
numerous due to a network of rivers and rivulets in the district.

The eastern part is a hill terrain and the roads leading to 'Desh' pass through the Ghats. The important Ghats are Amboli and Phonda, National Highway No.17 (Bombay-Konkan Goa Road) is passing through the district. Its total length in this district is 107.91 kms. This National Highway enters from Ratnagiri district to Sindhudurg district at Kharepatan and leaves the district at Dodamarg, where there is end of the Maharashtra State boundary and starts the Goa State. The table No.II-IX and Figure No.2.9 gives the categorywise road lengths of the study region.

TABLE NO. II-IX
SINDHUDURG DISTRICT
CATEGORYWISE ROAD LENGTH

Sr. No.	Category ..	Length in km.
1.	National Highway ..	107.91
2.	Main State Highway ..	139.92
3.	Other State Highways ..	539.48
4.	Major District Roads ..	671.93
5.	Other District Roads ..	672.67
6.	Village Roads ..	1123.57
7.	Municipal Roads ..	91.49
8.	Other Roads ..	100.10

SINDHUDURG DISTRICT ROAD NETWORK



COMMUNICATION :

There are 345 Post Offices in the year 1991-92 and the number of telegraph offices are 34 and the number of telephones are 2691. The post facilities are available in the 336 villages.

2.15

ECONOMIC LEVEL OF THE REGION[I] INDUSTRIES :

As far as industries are concerned, Sindhudurg is one of the most under-developed district in the State. There is practically no major manufacturing industry in the district. The existing industrial establishments are mostly very small in size and are more or less of processing type. The employment in the non-agricultural sector leans heavily upon the village and cottage industries i.e. the village artisans working on traditional lines, producing articles required by local population and with the locally available raw materials only.

LARGE - SCALE INDUSTRIES :

There are no more large-scale industries in the district. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (M.I.D.C.) acquired 127 hectares area for the development of large-scale and small scale industries in Kudal taluka before 15 years. The W.G.Forge and Allied Industries, Sunder Industries, Power Metal, Paper Mills, Konkan Gas etc. are the important large-scale industries. But at present many industries are not in working conditions.

There is only one large-scale industry in the

district. It established at Redi in Vengurla taluka i.e. 'Pig Iron and Steel Industry' or 'Usha Eapat'. This project is the largest project in whole Maharashtra State. Its budget (expenditure) is nearly about Rs. 120 crores and yearly production is nearly about 1.74 lakhs tonne pig iron. In this project 4000 persons are directly engaged for employment and it also provides work 15 to 20 thousand persons indirectly.

SMALL - SCALE INDUSTRIES :

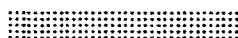
The more important of the small scale industries in the district are cashewnut processing, Fruit preservation and Silica processing. Other registered units are Oil mills, Saw mills, Cement products, Construction and repair workshops, automobile repair workshops, sodium silicate, laundry soap, electricity generation, printing, book-binding bidi-making etc. are the important small scale factories.

There are 12 cashewnut factories in the district and cashewnut is exported to Bombay and Foreign Countries. The factories utilise cashewnuts grown locally and those imported from Africa. 'Kokam' is mostly exported to Bombay.

Kudal, Malvan and Sawantwadi are the important bidi-making centres. Kankavli, Kudal, Math, Vajarath, Sawantwadi are known for handloom weaving. Shiroda is the important centre for the Salt production. The important 'Kat' production centres are found in Sawantwadi taluka. 'Wooden toies' and decorative articles of fine quality are prepared at Sawantwadi.

[II] F I S H E R I E S :

Sindhudurg district is one of the most important maritime district of Maharashtra. Marine fishery is an important economic activity of the Coastal belt of the district, which stretches nearly 121 km. Devgad, Malvan and Vengurla are the important fishing centres of the study region. There are 79 fishing villages along the Sea coast, where various types of fishes are caught. The commercially important varieties of fish available in large quantities are Bangada, Promfret, Halwa, Surmai, Zinga etc. There are 22 fishermen's co-operative credit societies. Most of the fish production consumed locally and remaining exported to Bombay, Goa, Kolhapur, Pune, Belgaum etc.



R E F E R E N C E S

- [1] Gazetteer of the Sindhudurg District
- [2] District Census Handbooks of Sindhudurg District
1971, 1981, 1991.
- [3] Socio-Economic Reviews and Statistical Abstracts of
the Sindhudurg District 1991-92.
- [4] Sindhudurg District Zilla Parishad Office Records.

