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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND URBANIZATION

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CHAPTER - VI

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND URBANIZATION

6.1 INTRODUCTION:

The study of spatial distribution of urban centres has been attempted in the previous Chapter. The role of urban centres is pertinent enough in regulating the system of economic transaction and channelizing the resource mobility and socio-cultural transformation of society which leads to overall development of the region An increasing level of urbanization is an important index of economic development. Urbanization by itself is an effect of the economic, social and migrational pattern. The present Chapter highlights the relationship between the levels of urbanization and development. With this objective, an attempt has been made to identify the levels of development, focussing on the regional imbalances and disparities in the study region. In this context, an effort is also made to examine the relationship between the level of socio-economic development and the level of urbanization at tehsil level.

6.2 REGIONAL LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT:

The concept of development may be taken to imply an improvement in the material and cultural well being of the people in a region. Development is defined as growth plus structural change taking place simultaneously. The development of a region can be identified with the increase in the employment opportunities, availability of infrastructural facilities, amenities and services, proper distribution of resources, increased production, investment and consumption and so on. Thus, the development

refers to an improvement of all sectors of economy and social and cultural pursuits.

Most of the countries of the world are facing with the problem of regional imbalances and regional inequalities. Even in the most advanced nations, there are glaring regional disparities in the levels of development. In developing countries like India, regional imbalances and inequalities are present in substantial proportions. The identification of regional level of development is a multi-dimensional process which requires the investigation of various socio-economic indicators, i.e. agriculture, industry, transport, communication, education, health, banking and many other (Verma, 1989). One can measure the overall level of development for each region by combining all these indicators; responsible for the development. Moreover, the disparities of each region can be measured by projecting the above major groups and indicators.

6.3 METHODOLOGY:

In order to find the relationship between the level of development and the level of urbanization in the study region, levels of development are measured for each tehsil with the help of certain indices. A variety of socio-economic indicators have been used for identification of backward areas and measurement of regional disparities. Kundu (1980) draws a line of distinction between a variable and an indicator. An indicator viewed as a combination of matters of fact (data) and matters of relation (theory), on the other hand, can be constructed only through a "correct sequence between factual and logical order".

Many scholars from several disciplines have proposed various development indices in an attempt to create a more mean measure.

All agreed that a single variable, GNP/capita, is convenient to use, but it neglects too many important aspects of human welfare (Tata and Schultz, 1988).

In the present study, the following indicators of various sectors have been chosen to measure the levels of development in the Western Maharashtra Plateau:

1.   Population density,

2.   Percentage of land under cultivation,

3.   Percentage of land under irrigation,

4.   Percentage of urban population to total population,

5.   Percentage of population engaged in secondary and tertiary
      activities,

6.   Percentage of villages electrified,

7.   Percentage of literate and educated persons,

8.   Percentage of villages having post and telegraph offices,

9.   Percentage of villages having medical facilities,

10.   Numbers of banks.

To obtain an overall view of regional disparities, it becomes necessary to combine indicators and form a composite index of development. In this regard, a good deal of literature has come up in the last few decades on the indices measuring quantitatively the levels of development. Attempts of the scholars like Pathak (1973), Raza (1973), Mitra (1966), Yadav (1966), Nath (1970), Pal (1965) and Ganguli and Gupta (1976) are worth mentioning.

The method adopted for the present work to determine the levels of development involves two stages. First, the determination

of the level of each tehsil in terms of a discrete variable; and second, the integration of the values obtained for discrete variables which gives a composite index of development. The co-efficient of development of a tehsil in terms of a single variable is expressed as:

$$CDI = \frac{P_i}{P_I} \times 100 \qquad \ldots \qquad (I)$$

where,

CDI is the coefficient of development for variable i.

P_i is percentage of variable i, in the areal unit.

P_I is mean percentage of variable i, in the study region.

After summing up all the indices of selected variables, we get the composite index of development by following equation:

$$CID = \frac{CDi_1 + CDi_2 + CDi_3 + \ldots\ldots CDi_n}{N} \qquad \ldots \qquad (II)$$

where,

CID is composite index of development,

N is number of variables.

6.4 REGIONAL IMBALANCES AND DISPARITIES
IN DEVELOPMENT.

Levels of development are, thus, calculated for all 86 tehsils on the basis of above formula. The composite indices of development so obtained are given in Table 6.1.

TABLE 6.1

WESTERN MAHARASHTRA PLATEAU - COMPOSITE INDEX OF DEVELOPMENT

Sr. No.	Name of Tehsil	CDI	CID	Level of Development
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
1.	Nashik	3,962	396.2	H.
2.	Peint	396	39.6	V.L
3.	Dindori	442	44.2	V.L
4.	Surgana	565	56.5	V.L
5.	Kalwan	610	61.0	V.L
6.	Baglan	772	77.2	V.L
7.	Malegaon	2,664	266.4	M
8.	Chandvad	1,192	119.2	L
9.	Nandgaon	1,594	159.4	L
10.	Yevla	926	92.6	V.L
11.	Niphad	1,102	110.2	L
12.	Sinnar	786	78.6	V.L
13.	Igatpuri	662	66.2	V.L
14.	Dhule	2,588	258.8	M
15.	Sakri	720	72.0	V.L
16.	Chalisgaon	1,484	148.4	L
17.	Bhadgaon	696	69.6	V.L
18.	Ahmadnagar	3,102	310.2	H
19.	Rahuri	1,366	136.6	L
20.	Shrirampur	2,064	206.4	M
21.	Nevasa	895	89.5	V.L
22.	Shevgaon	721	72.1	V.L
23.	Pathardi	774	77.4	V.L
24.	Jamkhed	890	89.0	V.L
25.	Karjat	926	92.6	V.L
26.	Shrigonda	1,012	101.2	L
27.	Parner	980	98.0	V.L
28.	Akola	380	38.0	V.L
29.	Sangamner	1,284	128.4	L
30.	Kopargaon	2,032	203.2	M
31.	Pune City	7,901	790.1	V.H

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
32.	Haveli	5,103	510.3	V.H
33.	Khed	874	87.4	V.L
34.	Ambegaon	902	90.2	V.L
35.	Junnar	1,369	136.9	L
36.	Shirur	1,406	140.6	L
37.	Daund	1,510	151.0	L
38.	Indapur	1,064	106.4	L
39.	Baramati	2,052	205.2	M
40.	Purandhar	1,286	128.6	L
41.	Bhor	790	79.0	V.L
42.	Velhe	285	28.5	V.L
43.	Mulshi	406	40.6	V.L
44.	Mawal	1,204	120.4	L
45.	Satara	2,127	212.7	M
46.	Wai	1,034	103.4	L
47.	Khandala	546	54.6	V.L
48.	Koregaon	1,126	112.6	L
49.	Phaltan	2,004	200.4	M
50.	Man	740	74.0	V.L
51.	Khatav	796	79.6	V.L
52.	Karad	2,024	202.4	M
53.	Patan	765	76.5	V.L
54.	Jaoli	399	39.9	V.L
55.	Manabaleshwar	402	40.2	V.L
56.	Solapur (North)	3,674	367.4	H.
57.	Barshi	2,104	210.4	M
58.	Akkalkot	1,307	130.7	L
59.	Solapur (South)	856	85.6	V.L
60.	Mohol	982	98.2	V.L
61.	Mangalwedha	702	70.2	V.L
62.	Pandharpur	2,024	202.4	M
63.	Sangola	1,106	110.6	L
64.	Malshiras	2,008	200.8	M
65.	Karmala	792	79.2	V.L

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
66.	Madha	1,197	119.7	L
67.	Miraj	3,896	389.6	H
68.	Tasgaon	2,021	202.1	M
69.	Khanapur	944	94.4	V.L
70.	Atpadi	488	48.8	V.L
71.	Jath	886	88.6	V.L
72	Kavathe Mahankal	560	56.0	V.L
73.	Walva	2,256	225.6	M
74	Shirala	462	46.2	V.L
75.	Karvir	3,761	376.1	H
76.	Panhala	823	82.3	V.L
77.	Hatkanangale	2,805	280.5	M
78.	Shirol	1,600	160.0	L
79.	Kagal	1,031	103.1	L
80.	Gadhinglaj	831	83.1	V.L
81.	Chandgad	373	37.3	V.L
82.	Ajara	301	30.1	V.L
83.	Bhudargad	394	39.4	V.L
84.	Radhanagari	622	62.2	V.L
85.	Bavada	297	29.7	V.L
86.	Shahuwadi	272	27.2	V.L

Abbreviations : V.H. – Very High, H – High, M – Moderate, L – Low and
V.L. – Very Low.

After having the calculation of composite indices of development for all the tehsils of the region, they are grouped under very high, high, moderate, low and poor levels of development. The regional levels of development have been depicted in Fig.6.1.

The spatial analysis of the levels of development reveals that 45 tehsils (52.32 per cent), mostly from western hilly area, central dry plateau, northern plateau and eastern part of Bhima basin, have a

WESTERN MAHARASHTRA PLATEAU

LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT

1981

INDEX OF DEVELOPMENT

400 & Above (Very High)

300-400 (High)

200-300 (Moderate)

100-200 (Low)

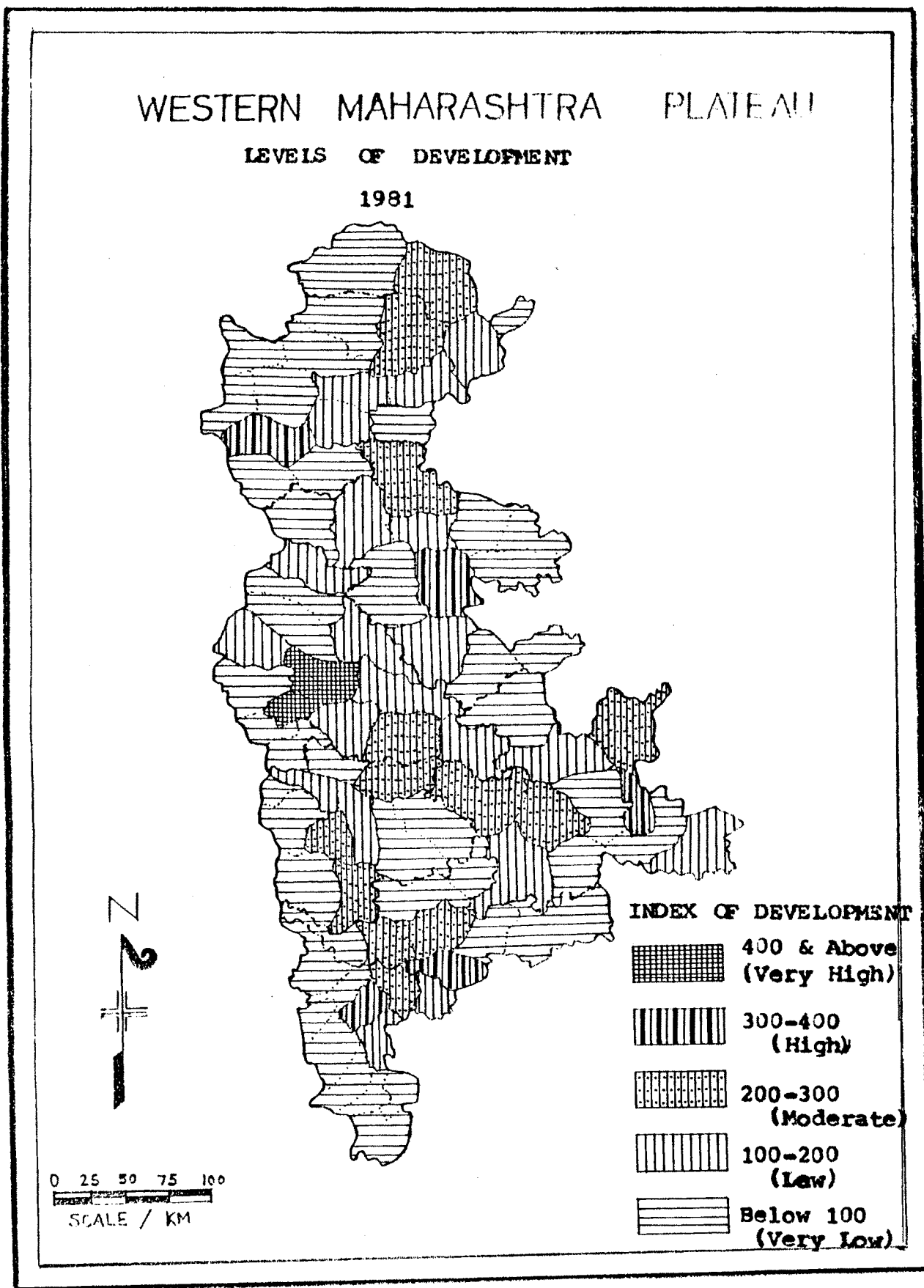Below 100 (Very Low)

0 25 50 75 100

SCALE / KM

FIG. 6.1

very low level of development, where out of the total, 15 towns are located. All these towns are small in size. All these tehsils are least developed or highly backward areas distributed in all parts of the region.

Twenty tehsils indicate low level of development (100-200) where 32 towns of the study region are located. They have mostly developed as market centres or administrative centres. Out of the twenty tehsils of this category, three each in Solapur, Ahmadnagar and Nashik districts, two in Satara district and one each in Sangli, Kolhapur and Jalgaon district are found. Pune district has the maximum number (6) of tehsils of low level development.

The area of moderate development includes Malegaon, Dhule, Shrirampur, Kopargaon, Satara, Karad, Barshi, Tasgaon, Walva, Hatkanangale, Baramati, Phaltan, Pandharpur and Malshiras tehsils. Nineteen urban centres are located in this area. Tehsils in the category moderate development are by and large concentrated in the major river vallues of the region.

Only five tehsils, namely, Nashik, Ahmadnagar, Solapur (North), Miraj and Karvir are high developed tehsils of the region. Tehsils under this category are characterized with the location of bigger urban centres, especially district headquarters. Sixteen urban centres are located in this area. This area is agriculturally prosperous and industrially develcped and culturally flourished.

The spatial analysis of the levels of development in the region clearly shows that only two tehsils of Pune district, i.e. Pune city and Haveli, are very highly developed. They have located along the major transport routes of the region. Many favourable factors promote their high level of development. Among the various factors, the process of

industrialization, the development of transport network and high degree of urbanization, etc., are responsible for placing these tehsils in the category of very high level of development. The area under this level of development, though comparatively small in areal extension, it consists of twelve towns. Out of which, two are class-I towns (Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad). These two Class-I towns with another two big towns (Pune Cantonement and Kirkee Cantonement) collectively share about 30 per cent of the total urban population of the study region.

6.5 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND URBANIZATION:

Urbanization means the proportion of total population concentra-ted in urban settlements. It is a result of contemporary economic, social cultural and political processes, prevailing in a region. It should function as an index of industrialization and modernization by offering opportunity for civic life. The process of urbanization removes the excess manpower from primary sector and sets them into production activities. Thus, the process of urbanization is found essential for generating economic growth and social change of a region.

Urbanization is an important aspect of the process of economic and social development. It is usually argued that urbanization and economic development reinforce each other. Structural changes in the economy are generally associated with urbanization. Structural changes in the economy foster urbanization and urbanization in its turn stimulates economic changes. It is a fact that rapid economic progress and urbanization go hand in hand and thus, economic development and urbanization are interwoven process.
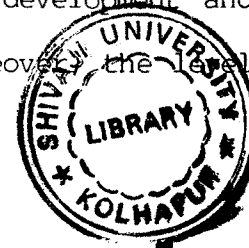
The problem of urbanization and regional development are basic issues of investigation. Urbanization is a component of regional economic development because urban centres provide a variety of services for the surrounding areas (Mandal, 1982). Urbanization provides new economic opportunities through providing employment in new industries and in several other infrastructural facilities. The process of urbanization includes the change of economy which may be from agriculture to manufacturing-oriented production centres and centres of exchange of goods, trade and commerce.

Urbanization is essentially a socio-economic phenomenon. It has a feed-back relationship with the socio-economic changes. The spatial variation in the socio-economic conditions generate different characteristics and patterns of urbanization in different areas. In the context of the new trends in the regional patterns of socio-economic development, the role played by the process of urbanization acquires additional significance. Urban centres in general and in economically backward regions in particular, function as centres of diffusion of innovations.

6.6   LEVELS OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND URBANIZATION:

Level of urbanization has been taken as an index of economic growth. The process of specialization of activities tends the development of new services, industries, trade, commerce and transportation, whose growth is correlated with the size of cities and level of urbanization. The accumulation of these activities in urban areas accelerates the process of urbanization. It is, therefore, logical to expect that cities can exercise a generative function of economic development if their impact on economic growth is favourable. The level of urbanization can precede determination of regional development. Socio-economic development and level of urbanization are complementary to each other. Moreover, the level

of urbanization has been viewed always as an explanatory phenomena of regional development.

The main objective of this Chapter is to correlate urbanization and socio-economic development of the region. Due to the limitation of data base, it is not possible to carry out a comprehensive analysis of the impact of urbanization on the regional development. Therefore, the discussion is constrained only to find out the degree of the relationship between the levels of urbanization and development in the study region.

Keeping in view the degree of regional development as an attribute of disparities in the level of urbanization, single indicator method of the percentage of urban population to total population has been employed for determining the level of urbanization.

Fig.6.2 reveals an overall relationship between the levels of urbanization and the levels of development. These two phenomena have a direct correlation. The regional development shows positive and significant correlation ($\gamma = 0.82$) with the urbanization. Thus, analysis establishes the generalization that higher the degree of urbanization, greater the level of regional development and vice versa. In this reference, it may be argued that urbanization and regional development are complementary to each other, and urbanization may be viewed as a strong infrastructure of regional development.

The spatial distribution of correlation between urbanization and regional development shows that the most urbanized tehsils like Pune city, Haveli, Solapur (North), Nashik, Karvir, Miraj and Ahmadnagar, have marked high level of development.

WESTERN MAHARASHTRA PLATEAU

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LEVELS OF

DEVELOPMENT AND URBANIZATION

r=0.82

Level of Urbanization
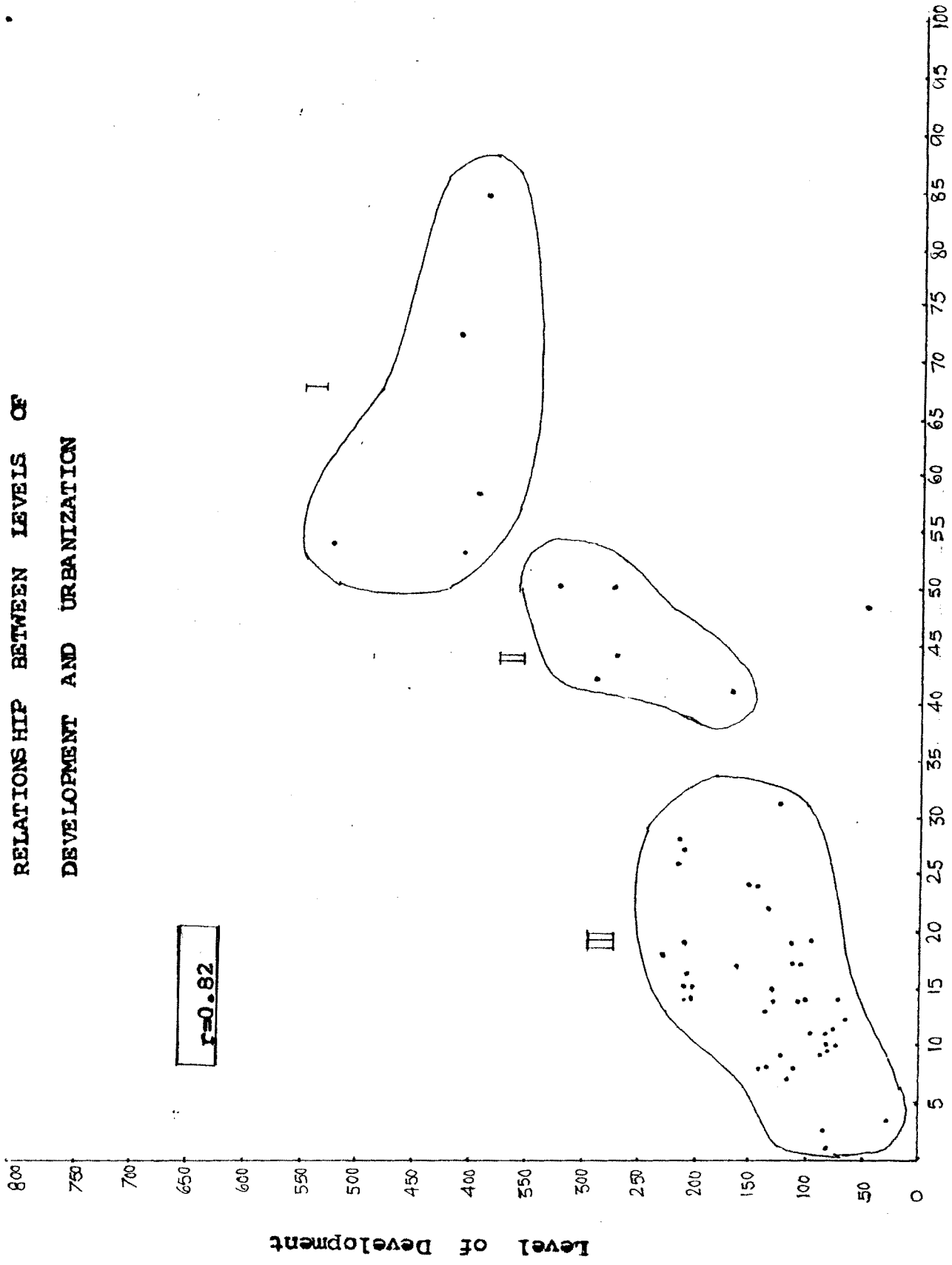
Level of Development

FIG.6.2

Nearly 43 per cent of the total tehsils have low and very low level of development where proportion of urban population is less than 25 per cent. These tehsils have smaller towns; and hence, they are dominated by rural economy.

The remaining tehsils are moderately developed areas of the region. Their level of urbanization ranges between 25 to 45 per cent. They are few in number.

The analysis of the correlation between the levels of urbanization and the levels of regional development displays three groups of tehsils (Fig.6.2).

Group-I shows that five tehsils in which higher levels of both the development and urbanization are observed.

Group-II includes five tehsils where moderate levels of both the development and urbanization are evidenced.

Group-III comprises fortyone tehsils in which both the levels are of lower magnitude.

The grouping of the tehsils has been made on the basis of similarities in characteristics and approximation of point pattern in the figure. However, in this generalization, two exceptions are worth mentioning, i.e. Pune City tehsil, which has the extreme levels of development and urbanization, and Mawal tehsil which has very low level of development and moderate level of urbanization. Hence, both are found in isolation with no association either of any group. The study of regional development and urbanization shows that both are complementary to one another and highly correlated.

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