CHAPTER - VII

C O N C L U S I O N

CHAPTER-VII

CONCLUSION

Towns have always been considered as the focal points of economic, cultural administrative and other activities of society. They promote the socio-economic devlopment of a region. An increase in the number and size of towns, forming the urban growth is the most important indicator of the development of a country and its region. Therefore, the study of urban areas is an essential element of a scientific motivation for regional planning.

The Western Maharashtra Plateau is one of the progressive regions of the most urbanized State of Maharashtra. It has its own identity and typical set of characteristics. The physical and economic characteristics of the study region have a great bearing on the distribution and characteristics of the rural as well as urban settlements. The economic organization of the region has brought about significant changes in the growth and development of urban settlements.

The growth of urban settlements is largely influenced by physical, social, economic, cultural and political conditions of the region. Physical factors play an important role in developing and shaping of urban places, while the socio-economic factors encourage not only the rural settlements to promote as urban centres but also accelerate the growth and development of the urban settlements.

The process of urbanization and its growth dynamics is mostly taking place with rural to urban migration and the emergence of new towns. The real change in urban growth is thus, due to net in-migration of rural population which is the major component of urbanization. The process of urbanization in the study region is much faster during the post independence period. This region is next to Bombay Metropolitan region in urbanization.The latest pace and scale of urbanization of the region is deeply rooted in the process of industrialization. A profile of urbanization in the Western Maharashtra Plateau region gives certain general findings.

The total urban population of the region grew to 5.57 million in 1981 from 0.89 million in 1901, registering a growth rate of 520.04 per cent during the last eight decades. The growth rate of urban population has been steadily accelerated during the post independence period.

The study region is relatively less urbanized as compared to the State. The share of urban population to total population increased from 14.26 per cent in 1901 to 27.89 per cent in 1981. The decenial progress of urbanization during the last eight decades remained less than the state average. There is a remarkable variation in spatial pattern of urban growth and urbanization. A higher degree of urbanization is confined to plains and fertile areas of the Krishna, Bhima and Godavari valleys and it reaches to maximum in the industrial areas of

the region.The Pune city tehsil, Solapur North, Haveli, Nashik, Karvir and Miraj tehsils are the most urbanized areas of the region. On the other hand, nearly 33 tehsils (34.74 per cent of the total) are entirely rural areas.

The number of towns in the study region was static till 1951, but it sharply decreased in 1961. Afterwards it is increasing rapidly. Thirteen new towns are included in the list of the urban centres during 1971-81. Some another new towns are likely to emerge on the urban scene in the next decade. Growth in the number of large and medium size of towns is increasing continuously but the number of small towns has decreasing trend. At least, three towns will definitely upgrade to Class I in 1991, provided, they mentain their present faster growth rate.

The first hypothesis of the study is that the small and medium size towns are losing their proportional share in the total urban population gradually. Although the number of largest size of towns is very less (11.58 per cent) yet they have maximum share (63.45 per cent) of urban population which was 17.07 per cent in 1901. The rate of growth of population in the cities is still increasing. Towns of lower classes though have a high number (49.47 per cent), but the share of their population is very low, (10.03 per cent) and the rate of grwoth of their population is also not worth mentioning. The percent share of medium class towns has also decreased from 32.76 per cent in 1901 to 26.52 per cent in 1981. Thus, the concentration

of high per cent share of urban population in small number of urban centres of Class I cities and a decresing trend of the share of the smaller and medium towns proves the hypothesis.

The largest towns (Class I) are growing at a much faster rate than the others. In this regard the second hypothesis is tested and found no significant reltion between the size and growth rate of a town. The analysis of growth rates of individual towns and their population size in the study region shows that no significant association is visible between the size and growth rate. Most of the rapidly growing towns are located in the lower part of upper Krishna Valley, the upper Bhima Valley, and the upper Godavari Valley, of the region. Towns in agriculturally productive areas and suburban centres show a higher rate of population growth. The industrial centres and a few new towns have exhibited the highest growth in the region. There seems to be no direct relationship between the size of a town and its growth rate.

There is a wide disparity in the spatial distribution of the number of urban centres, density of urban population, and degree of urbanization. In 1981, the highest number (26) of urban centres remained in Pune district and the lowest (1 each) number in Dhule and Jalgaon district. Satara district do not have any city with a population of 100,000 and more. the highest number (9) towns is found in Haveli tehsil, followed by Nashik tehsil with 8 towns. The location of important urban centres on a map of the region indicates that these are mostly

located along major railway routes and highways. A high density of urban population corresponds to economically developed areas while a high degree of urban concentration is found in the tehsils which are more industrially developed.

The study of urban settlements in the study region reveals that the physical, social, economic and political factors play an important role in the districution and growth of urban centres. The study region presents a wide contrast in the size and spacing of the urban centres. The rank size distribution of urban settlements in the region indicates that the expected population of the lower ranks of the towns deviates more from their actual population. So it may be concluded that the urban centres in the study region do not follow the'rank size rule' which appears to have some correlation with the socio-economic development stages.

The spatial pattern of urban centres is characterised by their uneven distribution. An application of the quantitative technique of the nearest neighbour index in studying the distributional pattern of urban centres in the region shows that the western hilly zone has developed a clustered pattern of urban settlements. The upper Krishna valley has developed a linear clustered pattern of urban settlements. On the other hand, random distribution is observed in the central dry plateau zone. The Bhima valley shows the clustered grouping of urban settlements. The nearest neighbour index for the entire region is R = 0.89 which indicates proximity to random pattern.

The region under study is marked with noticeable imbalances and disparities in the development. The overall level of the development of each tehsil is measured in terms of ten selected indicators. The proportion of urban population is obviously, related to the levels of development in the region. The western hilly zone of the region has a rugged topography, where the land available for cultivation is limited, the development of irrigation and road network' is poor. As a result, this zone is under developed where the degree of urbanization is too low. The central part of the region is characterised by drought prone area where economy of the region has not developed above the subsistance level. A very few small towns have developed in this area.

The areas covered by the Krishna Bhima and Godavari rivers have comparatively a better levelled land with high percentage of land under cultivation and irrigation. These river valley areas have a rich agricultural infrastructure with better development of transport network of industries. The reflection of all these favourable factors is seen in the growth of urbanization in those areas. Nearly 70 per cent of urban centres of the study region are located in these river valleys.

It is also observed that urban centres are widely spaced and relatively small in size in the areas with poor level of development. In contrast, in highly developed areas they are closely spared and their size is relatively large.

The overall development is concentrated around a few bigger urban centres in urbanized tehsils of the region. Most of the tehsils are lagging behind in respect of the levels of development in the region. Thus more imblances and disparities in development is clearlydistinguishable in the study region. In this context, the hypothesis relating to the imbalances and disparities in the levels of socio-economic development are expected to be related with the levels of urbanization in the study region has been proved.

The correlation of regional development with urbanization is most significant because the correlation between the levels of development and degrees of urbanization is + 0.82.

The origin, growth and development of urban centres and level of urbanization are the products of various socio-economic factors. The socio-economic conditions are uneven in the region. Thus, the process of development of the level of urbanization is also not uniform. The socio-economic development of the region is also uneven and they have a constant correlation with the level of urbanization in the region. So the urbanization is an explanatory variable for the structure and existing pattern of regional development in the study region.

For minimizing the regional disparity in urbanization and development some new centres should be located with secondary and teritary activities as per the principle of grwoth pole theory to make available the services and infrastructures to enhance the primary and secondary production and socio-economic development of the region.

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APPENDIX - I

WESTERN MAHARASHTRA PLATEAU - POPULATION OF URBAN CENTRES.

Sr No	Town/City	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1981
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
1.	Pune	1,53,320	1,58,856	1,98,543	1,98,078	2,57,554	4,88,419	6,06,777	8,56,105	1,20,351
2.	Solapur	75,288	61,345	1,19,581	1,44,654	2,12,620	2,77,087	3,37,583	3,39,836	5,11,103
3.	Kolhapur	54,373	42,018	52,399	66,728	93,032	1,36,835	1,87,442	2,59,050	3,40,625
4.	Nashik	21,490	30,098	38,230	45,744	52,836	97,042	1,31,103	1,76,091	2,62,428
5.	Malegaon	19,054	19,060	23,505	29,442	36,780	55,022	1,21,408	1,91,847	2,45,883
6.	Pimpri-Chinchwad	-	-	-	-	-	9,522	27,975	83,542	2,20,966
7.	Dhule	24,726	30,341	29,497	39,656	53,308	76,880	98,893	1,37,129	2,10,759
8.	Sangli	16,829	16,141	20,366	27,373	34,781	50,287	73,838	1,15,138	1,52,389
9.	Ahmadnagar	35,784	33,878	49,878	41,890	54,193	80,873	1,19,020	1,18,236	1,43,937
10.	Ichalkaranji	12,920	10,239	10,211	11,904	18,573	27,423	50,978	87,731	1,33,751
11.	Miraj	18,425	21,168	21,426	26,465	82,455	40,224	53,345	77,606	1,05,455
12.	Pune Cantonment	-	-	-	35,807	40,447	59,011	65,838	77,774	85,986
13.	Satara	26,022	19,145	22,454	26,379	36,405	41,070	48,709	66,433	83,336
14.	Kirke Cantonment	10,797	14,028	-	16,302	26,285	48,552	58,496	65,497	80,835
15.	Nasik Road	-	-	-	-	-	26,885	40,013	55,436	77,666
16.	Barshi	24,242	16,704	20,449	27,610	34,839	41,849	50,389	62,374	72,537
17.	Pandharpur	32,405	28,550	25,210	29,460	33,329	40,514	45,421	53,638	64,380
18.	Chalisgaon	10,243	8,956	10,622	16,320	22,122	30,345	34,280	41,720	59,342
19.	Deolali Cantt.	2,894	1,834	18,789	7,805	16,292	27,075	37,264	30,618	57,745

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
20.	Shrirampur	-	-	-	-	-	16,311	22,802	39,492	55,491
21.	Karad	11,499	11,228	11,255	14,479	17,996	25,721	33,772	42,329	54,364
22.	Manmad	7,113	6,947	11,929	12,263	16,838	18,350	31,551	40,061	51,439
23.	Sangamner	11,011	11,446	9,761	11,776	13,841	16,756	21,729	28,594	40,088
24.	Ozar	-	-	-	-	-	6,812	-	21,260	39,905
25.	Ahmadnagar Cantt.	-	-	-	15,639	16,225	24,402	-	30,169	37,273
26.	Baramati	9,407	7,831	8,711	10,477	13,064	17,064	21,118	27,912	37,121
27.	Kopargaon	-	-	-	7,128	8,753	11,616	16,869	25,829	36,886
28.	Lonawala	6,686	12,295	9,563	9,430	10,876	16,771	21,713	27,501	36,260
29.	Phaltan	9,512	4,987	8,929	9,596	13,523	12,142	19,003	26,774	33,859
30.	Dehu Road Cantt.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,709	33,267
31.	Islampur	11,553	8,574	7,916	10,737	12,359	16,113	20,817	27,160	33,016
32.	Kabnur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,275
33.	Akkalkot	8,348	9,303	9,189	10,857	13,810	18,112	21,278	26,485	28,371
34.	Yevla	16,559	16,275	13,911	16,432	17,817	21,378	21,039	24,533	28,343
35.	Tasgaon	10,975	6,825	9,014	11,011	11,587	12,915	16,649	21,583	26,159
36.	Daunol (N.M.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,256	19,387	25,575
37.	Wai	13,989	5,333	10,211	11,760	14,893	16,099	17,826	21,040	24,661
38.	Vita	-	4,992	4,271	6,024	7,399	9,292	13,391	18,726	24,081
39.	Jaysingpur	-	-	-	-	-	8,048	10,985	17,135	24,012
40.	Rahuri	-	-	-	-	-	9,833	-	-	23,721
41.	Kalamb	-	-	-	-	-	13,084	19,390	22,834	23,129

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
42.	Talegaon (D)	5,238	3,247	3,273	3,992	3,996	6,399	11,753	16,514	22,520
43.	Sinnar	7,230	3,125	7,211	9,287	10,672	13,063	17,092	20,218	21,926
44.	Ashta	12,409	9,351	9,021	11,251	9,973	12,374	14,390	17,832	21,333
45.	Satana	-	-	-	-	-	10,069	12,506	16,720	20,821
46.	Hadapsar	-	-	-	-	-	3,130	-	-	20,563
47.	Kirloskarwadi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,512
48.	Igatpuri	6,921	7,596	9,925	9,627	8,173	14,100	15,003	17,415	20,461
49.	Satpur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,952
50.	Kurduwadi	-	-	7,616	9,207	10,513	10,802	13,816	17,862	19,554
51.	Daund	-	-	-	-	12,828	18,849	12,912	16,583	19,318
52.	Gadhinglaj	6,373	5,906	6,050	7,962	9,017	8,546	10,681	14,663	18,535
53.	Junnar	9,675	8,820	7,381	8,421	9,951	11,632	12,141	14,952	18,811
54.	Nandgaon	6,271	6,961	7,941	6,253	7,238	9,269	13,026	15,885	17,768
55.	Kurundwad	10,451	7,133	7,066	6,688	9,026	9,744	10,900	14,610	17,084
56.	Lohgaon	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,115	12,501	16,918
57.	Mangalvedha	8,397	10,347	8,456	10,559	9,611	9,265	13,188	15,141	16,802
58.	Karmala	7,301	6,803	4,974	6,836	7,310	8,206	11,246	14,051	16,729
59.	Khadakwasla	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,355	9,270	16,654
60.	Kagal	7,688	5,839	6,844	7,989	8,031	9,821	10,421	13,428	16,545
61.	Sangola	4,763	5,449	4,406	5,468	5,818	7,697	9,564	11,189	14,854
62.	Mhaswad	7,014	5,001	6,633	7,278	8,138	9,145	10,405	12,667	14,749
63.	Koregaon	-	-	-	-	-	7,230	-	-	14,594

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
64.	Vadgaon (K)	5,168	3,179	4,160	3,938	5,003	6,173	8,638	10,925	14,430
65.	Ravalgaon	-	-	-	-	-	7,495	10,398	11,780	13,253
66.	Shirur	7,212	4,246	3,095	3,076	3,591	3,482	6,234	8,894	13,181
67.	Vadgaon Sheri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,050
68.	Bhor	4,170	4,168	4,088	5,185	6,335	7,393	8,627	10,708	12,834
69.	Sasvad	6,294	2,163	4,583	5,407	5,745	6,354	8,498	10,702	12,526
70.	Sangvi-Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,969
71.	Rahimatpur	-	5,896	5,244	5,902	6,543	8,055	9,160	10,332	11,666
72.	Bhagur	-	-	-	3,798	5,489	5,886	7,196	9,536	11,243
73.	Madhavnagar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,853	11,144
74.	Maindargi	6,153	6,285	6,191	7,171	7,905	10,137	10,964	10,725	11,079
75.	Kalas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,058
76.	Satara Road	-	-	-	-	-	6,447	7,798	10,333	10,867
77.	Gandhinagar	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,744	8,463	10,767
78.	Eklahare	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,318
79.	Wari	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,895	9,180	10,259
80.	Chandvad	5,714	3,700	-	-	-	5,573	7,197	8,789	9,946
81.	Indapur	5,533	4,336	3,772	3,978	4,394	4,981	5,756	6,896	9,418
82.	Mahabaleshwar	5,299	4,068	5,000	4,543	5,090	4,972	6,029	7,318	9,061
83.	Lasalgaon	-	--	-	-	-	-	5,372	6,855	8,638
84.	Panchagani	-	1,042	2,454	2,943	3,691	4,538	5,725	6,906	8,635
85.	Murgud	-	-	-	-	4,524	5,637	6,067	7,488	8,613

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
86.	Dudhani	3,313	3507	3,462	3,924	4,682	6,103	6,423	6,726	8,300
87.	Dehu	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,242	5,636	7,569
88.	Alandi	2,019	1,624	1,568	1,666	2,170	2,432	3,187	4,788	7,523
89.	Shivathar (Nira)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,054
90.	Trimbak	3,321	3,889	4,422	4,195	4,261	4,135	4,814	5,495	6,759
91.	Jejuri	-	2,657	2,013	2,503	2,929	3,036	3,523	4,171	5,126
92.	Malakapur	3,307	620	2,656	2,737	2,840	3,299	3,971	4,533	4,845
93.	Warwandi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,713
94.	Vadner	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,651
95.	Panhala	-	-	-	-	-		1,948	2,219	2,540

Source : Census of India (1981), Series-12, Maharashtra, Part-II-A, "General Population Tables".