C H A P T E R [VI]

U R B A N I S A T I O N

6.1.0 INTRODUCTION

6.2.0 DECENNIAL GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION (1901 - 91)

6.3.0 GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION DURING 1981-91

6.4.0 LEVEL OF URBANISATION (1991)

6.5.0 CONCLUDING REMARK

C H A P T E R [VI]

U R B A N I S A T I O N

6.1.0 INTRODUCTION :

6.1.1 The urban population is studied separately from the rural population, as rural life and urban life present sharp contrast all the world and the contrast is perhaps sharpest in India. Urbanisation, a process of population concentration and occupational changes, is regarded as the yardstick of measuring the economic prosperity of a region. However, there is no universally accepted defination of urbanisation. Different countries adopt different criteria for defining urbanisation or urban settlement. In India, the places which satisfy the following criteria are considered as urban settlement[1].

[i] a minimum population of 5,000

[ii] at least 75 percent of male working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits, and

[iii] a density of population of at least 400 persons per sq.km.

Besides, all places with a municipality, corporation, contonment board or notified town area committee are also considered as urban settlement.

6.1.2 In this chapter an attempt has been made to highlight the decennial growth of urban population during 1901-91 by considering study region as a whole. It is also attempted to analyse the growth of urban population during 1981-91 by

taking district as a study unit. Further an attempt has also been made to analyse the level of urbanisation for the data of 1991.

6.2.0 **DECENNIAL GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION (1901-91)** :

6.2.1 The growth of urban population, in the State, indicates the process of industrial and economic development in recent years. The urban population of Maharashtra has gone up from 32.17 lakhs in 1901 to 304.96 lakhs in 1991. During this period urban population was increased by 847.96 percent.

It is seen from Table No.6.1 that the growth of urban population was the lowest (0.99 percent) during the decade 1901-91, while, it was the highest (62.42 percent) during 1941-51.

6.2.2 It is obvious from Table No.6.1 that the urban population was increased gradually upto 1931, after that it was increased rapidly except in the decade 1951-61.(Fig.6.1A)

TABLE NO. 6.1

THE MAHARASHTRA

DECENNIAL GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION (1901-91)

Decade	Growth of urban population in %
1901 - 11	+ 00.99
1911 - 21	+ 18.72
1921 - 31	+ 15.54
1931 - 41	+ 27.11
1941 - 51	+ 62.42
1951 - 61	+ 21.32
1961 - 71	+ 40.75
1971 - 81	+ 39.99
1981 - 91	+ 38.66

SOURCE Census of India (1991), Provisional Population of Maharashtra, Paper 2, Statement - 4.

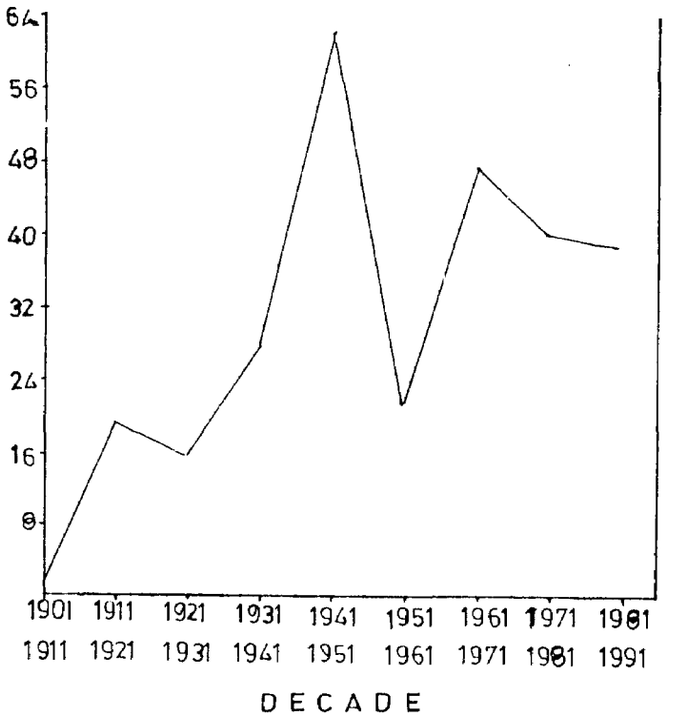
THE MAHARASHTRA

GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION

A

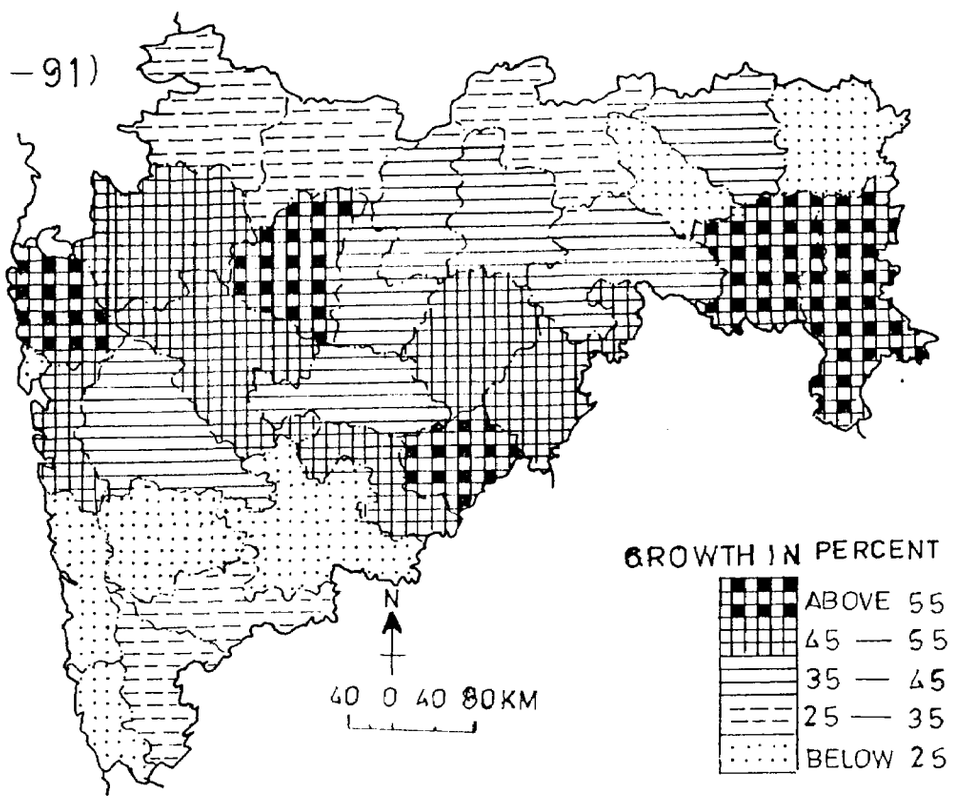
(1901–91)

GROWTH OF POPULATION (%)



B

(1981–91)



FIG·6·1

The growth of urban population in Maharashtra during the decades 1961-71, 1971-81 and 1981-91 was 40.75 percent, 39.99 percent and 38.36 percent respectively. This statistics shows that during the last two decades the growth rate of urban population has been declining because of declassifica--tion of many towns due to rigid application of more regorous definition for 'urban' in 1961 census.

6.3.0 **GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION DURING 1981-91** :

As per 1981's Census the urban population of Maharashtra was 35.03 percent and it was increased upto 38.73 percent in 1991.

District level growth of urban population during 1981-91 varies from 341.31 percent in Gadchiroli district to 14.68 percent in Sindhudurg district (Table No.6.2)(Fig.6.1.B)

Very high (Above 55 percent) growth of urban population is found in Thane, Aurangabad, Latur, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts. Inmigration from economically backward areas plays vital role for very high growth of urban population in above districts.

In Raigarh, Nashik, Ahmednagar, Parbhani, Nanded and Osmanabad districts growth of urban population during 1981-91 was high (45 - 55 percent). While, growth of urban population during the same decade was low (25 - 35 percent) in Dhule, Jalgaon, Kolhapur and Amravati districts. Due to the agriculturally prosperous there was check on the outmigration of rural population towards the urban areas.

TABLE NO.6.2

THE MAHARASHTRA

GROWTH OF URBAN POPULATION IN PERCENT (1981-91)

Sr No	District	Growth of urban population	Sr No	District	Growth of urban popula--tion.
1	Gr.Bombay	+ 20.21	15	Aurangabad	+ 83.67
2	Thane	+ 127.67	16	Jalna	+ 44.44
3	Raigarh	+ 54.24	17	Parbhani	+ 45.80
4	Ratnagiri	+ 14.68	18	Beed	+ 42.15
5	Sindhudurg	+ 24.89	19	Nanded	+ 54.06
6	Nashik	+ 47.13	20	Osmanabad	+ 48.67
7	Dhule	+ 29.77	21	Latur	+ 60.32
8	Jalgaon	+ 32.65	22	Buldhana	+ 39.10
9	Ahmednagar	+ 51.57	23	Akola	+ 39.48
10	Pune	+ 41.92	24	Amravati	+ 33.88
11	Satara	+ 18.74	25	Yawatmal	+ 36.15
12	Sangli	+ 27.39	26	Wardha	+ 22.46
13	Solapur	+ 21.03	27	Nagpur	+ 38.04
14	Kolhapur	+ 26.26	28	Bhandara	+ 14.85
			29	Chandrapur	+ 101.47
			30	Gadchiroli	+ 341.31
				Maharashtra State.	+ 38.56

SOURCE

Census of India, Population of Maharashtra Paper 2 of 1991, Table-2.

In six districts, namely Gr.Bombay, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Solapur, Wardha and Bhandara, growth of urban population was very low (Below 25 percent). In Greater Bombay growth of urban population was very low due to comparatively high death rate (7.5 per 1000) and due to decline in the immigration resulted from the restrictions on further industrial expansion. While in other districts growth of urban population was very low due to low birth rate and least industrial development.

6.4.0 **LEVEL OF URBANISATION** :

6.4.1 The trend of an urban centre is an index to the degree of human success in modifying physical environment. The process of urbanisation depends upon a number of physical, cultural and economic factors, so that the level of urbanisation varies from region to region[2].

6.4.2 Many geographers have been found out an index of urbanisation to know the regional disparity in urban process and pattern by using single or multi indicators. Datta[3], Ahmed[4], Krishna and Gupta[5], Sdasyuk[6], Singh[7], Alam Khan and Gopi[8], Sahabdeen and Singh[9], Shahi[10], Rai[11], Chanda[12], Verma[13] have used single criteria for delineating the level of urbanisation. While Childe[14], Schnore[15], Pathak, Aziz and Chatterjee[16], Sharma[17], Dutta[18], Mukharjee[19], Raj Bala[20] have used multi indicators. However, in the present study an attempt has been made to study the level of urbanisation in Maharashtra by using four indicators viz. (i) percentage of urban population to total population (ii) density of urban

population over the entire area, (iii) density of towns per 1,000 sq.km. and (iv) percentage of urban population residing in the towns with a population of 20000+.

Density and percentage values for the districts of Maharashtra are calculated for the data procured from Census of Maharashtra 1991. Then these values on each of the four criteria in every district are referred to the corresponding State values. Composite index for each district is computed by using the following equation :

$$\text{Composite index of urbanisation} = \frac{A1}{B1} + \frac{A2}{B2} + \frac{A3}{B3} + \frac{A4}{B3}$$

Where,

A1 is percentage of urban population to total population of a district.

B1 is percentage of urban population to total population of the State,

A2 is density of urban population of a district,

B2 is density of urban population of the State,

A3 is density of towns per 1000 km^2 in a district,

B3 is density of towns per 1,000 km^2 in the State,

A4 is percentage of urban population residing in towns with population of 20,000+ in a district, &

B4 is percentage of urban population residing in towns with population of 20,000+ in the State.

For the purpose of understanding the areal variation in level of urbanisation all the districts are grouped into the following four groups on the basis of composite index values (C.I.V.).

1] High Urbanisation (C.I.V. Above 4.5)

2] Moderate urbanisation (C.I.V. 3.5 - 4.5)

3] Low Urbanisation (C.I.V. 2.5 - 3.5)

4] Very Low Urbanisation (C.I.V. Less than 2.5).

6.4.3 It is apparent from the Table No.6.3 that out of thirty districts only six districts have composite index values more than four. This table also shows that only 20 percent of the total districts are more urbansied and 27 percent of the total districts are leastly urbanised. It reveals that district level there is a wide variation in the level of urbanisation ranging from 100 percent in Gr.Bombay to 7.6 percent in Sindhudurg. The analysis of level of urbanisation according to groupwise based on composite index values is as following :

[1] HIGH URBANISATION (C.I.V. Above 4.5):

Districts which have composite index values above 4.5 are included in this group. It is clear from Fig. 6.2 that, four districts viz. Gr.Bombay, Thane, Pune and Nagpur are included in this category. Among them Gr.Bombay district is highly urbanised. High urbanisation in this district is associated with industrialization, accumulation of trade and port activities and other tertiary services and expanding administrative activities. Industrialization in this district got a stimulus form its coastal location, highly developed network of transport and communication, availability of hydro electric power from the adjoining Western Ghats and agriculturally rich hinterland famous for production of

TABLE NO.6.3

DETERMINANTS OF DEGREE OF URBANISATION IN MAHARASHTRA (1991)

Sr No	District/ State	% of urban popula-tion to total popula tion	Density of urban popula-tion over entire area	Density of Towns per 1000 sq.km	% of urban population residing in towns with population 20000+	Composite Index value
1	Gr.Bombay	100.00	16433.74	1.66	100.00	171.23
2	Thane	64.74	354.01	1.57	97.41	7.96
3	Nagpur	61.84	205.03	1.62	92.90	6.38
4	Pune	50.76	178.83	1.08	95.93	5.29
5	Raigarh	17.84	45.26	2.65	51.92	4.29
6	Kolhapur	26.40	102.19	1.30	95.60	4.12
7	Jalgaon	27.42	74.22	1.36	96.46	3.95
8	Nashik	35.52	87.93	0.90	95.54	3.80
9	Amravati	33.01	59.70	0.90	93.00	3.41
10	Akola	28.68	59.97	0.94	95.07	3.36
11	Aurangabad	32.78	71.67	0.69	93.61	3.30
12	Wardha	26.61	44.94	0.63	91.10	3.29
13	Buldhana	20.63	40.17	1.14	88.03	3.09
14	Solapur	28.81	62.36	0.67	93.30	3.08
15	Nanded	21.71	47.97	1.14	77.50	3.08
16	Parbhani	22.50	43.10	0.99	94.45	3.08
17	Chandrapur	28.04	43.35	0.96	83.35	3.08
18	Sangli	22.84	58.56	0.70	98.52	2.98

Sr No	District/ State	% of urban population to total population	Density of urban population over entire area	Density of Towns per 1000 sq.km	% of urban population residing in towns with population 20000+	Composite Index value
19	Latur	20.42	47.72	0.69	100.00	2.82
20	Dhule	20.53	39.49	0.61	98.51	2.64
21	Satara	12.91	30.11	1.05	70.78	2.57
22	Bhandara	13.15	29.67	0.86	94.43	2.57
23	Beed	17.96	30.54	0.65	91.92	2.45
24	Osmanabad	15.22	25.57	1.05	59.99	2.42
25	Yavatmal	17.21	26.28	0.66	92.52	2.40
26	Ahmednagar	15.84	31.24	0.64	88.68	2.35
27	Jalna	16.92	29.87	0.52	86.16	2.22
28	Ratnagiri	8.97	16.82	0.97	65.78	2.14
29	Sindhudurg	7.60	12.12	0.77	33.72	1.54
30	Gadchiroli	8.71	4.75	0.28	43.08	1.03
	Maharashtra	38.73	99.11	0.94	92.80	4.00

SOURCE : Authors (1993)

THE MAHARASHTRA

LEVEL OF URBANISATION

(1991)

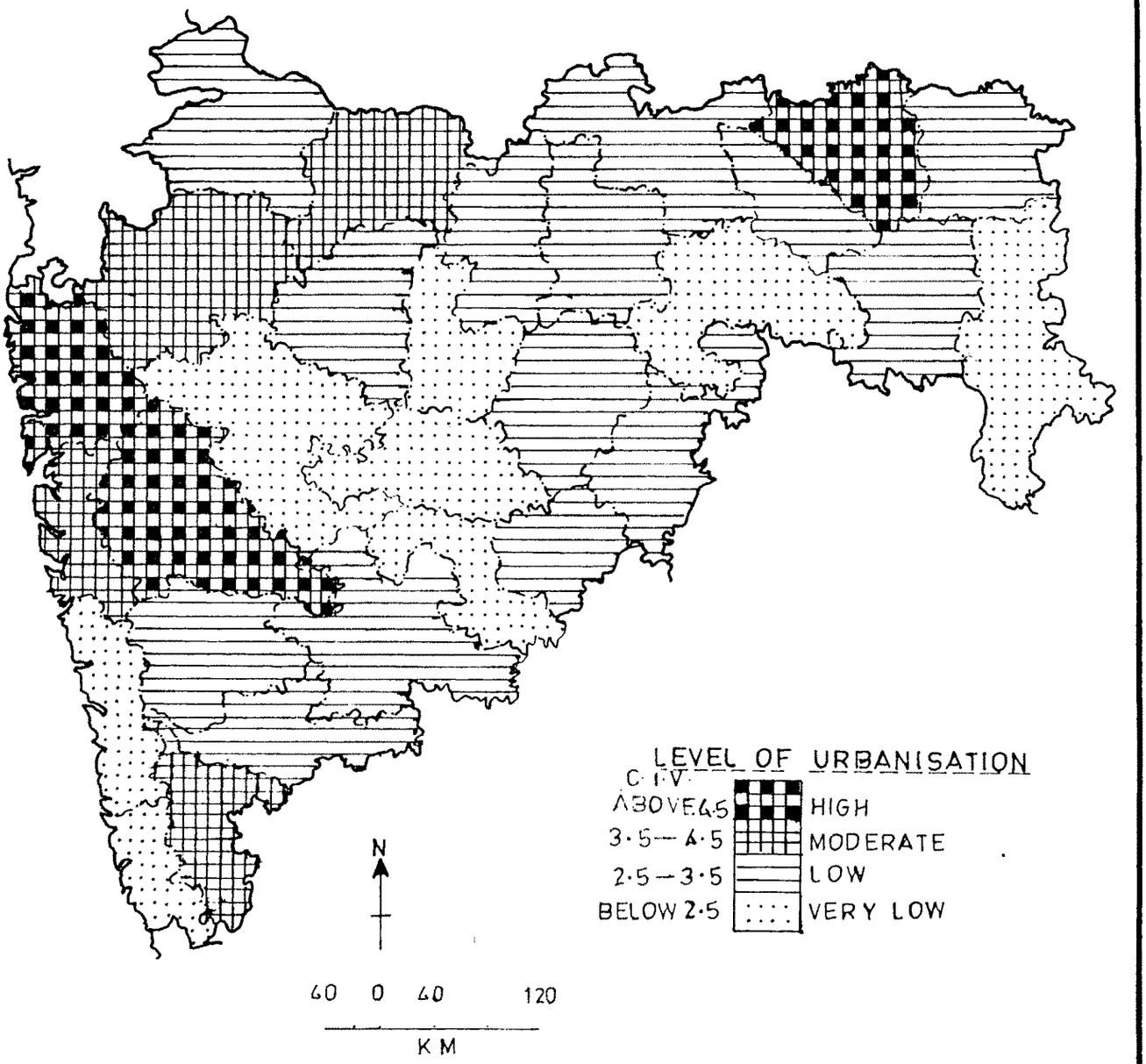


FIG. 6.2

cotton. Cotton textiles with other several industries like chemicals, automobiles, pharmaceuticals, petro-chemicals, fertilizers and food processing are highly developed and concentrated in Gr.Bombay district. The process of industrialization has started here since the independance. This industrial centre has been attracted migrants not only from neighbouring districts but also from other States of the country. All these factors are responsible for high urbanisation in Gr.Bombay district.

Since Bombay could not accommodate the entire industrial development, several industries are being developing into the districts of Thane and Pune. Industrialization is the main cause for high urbanisation in these districts.

The hinterland of Nagpur, which is known as Vidarbha, is rich for cotton production, coal is available for running the machinery. Nagpur is a main railway junction locating between Bombay - Calcutta and Delhi - Madras railway lines. It is also a big market place and handloom centre. All these infrastructures lead to development and concentration of cotton textile and other several industries in this district. People from surrounding economically backward rural areas migrates towards it for getting job. These causes are responsible for high urbanisation in Nagpur district.

[2] MODERATE URBANISATION (C.I.V. 3.5 - 4.5)

Moderate urbanisation is found in Raigarh, Nashik, Kolhapur and Jalgaon districts.

As Gr.Bombay district could not accommodate the continuous increase in industries, further industrial development was in the form of overspil from Bombay to adjoining Raigarh and Nashik districts. The nearness of Bombay and transportation facilities help these districts for more urbanisation. There are 19 and 14 towns in Raigarh and Nashik districts respectively. It reveals that the process and level of urbanisation is comparatively high in both the districts. While, Kolhapur and Jalgaon districts are agriculturally prosperous due to the availability of fertile soil and extension of irrigated areas. Both the districts have many agricultural markets with few agro-based industries. Especially in Kolhapur district handloom and sugarcane industries are well developed, which pull the people from surrounding areas towards the industrial centres.

[3] LOW URBANISATION (C.I.V. 2.5 - 3.5)

It is obvious from the Fig. No. 6.2 that the low urbanisation is found in fourteen districts viz. Nanded, Parbhani, Amravati, Akola, Aurangabad, Wardha, Buldhana, Solapur, Chandrapur, Sangli, Satara, Dhule, Latur and Bhandara. The composite index values of urbanisation in these districts are in between 2.5 and 3.5. These districts are primarily agricultural ones. Besides they could not pull migrants from the surrounding areas due to the lack of employment opportunities. In few districts like Dhule, Latur, Chandrapur, Amravati and Bhandara share of tribal population is large. All the tribal population is engaged in primitive

agriculture. Therefore, the level of urbanisation is low in above districts. Major parts of above districts are lying in rainshadow area which remain economically and industrially backward. No doubt there are few prosperous areas within these districts but they are in the form of patches. But district as a whole level of urbanisation is low in above mentioned districts.

[4] VERY LOW URBANISATION (C.I.V. Below 2.5)

It is seen from the Fig.No.6.2 that Beed, Osmanabad, Yawatmal, Ahmednagar, Jalna, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg and Gadchiroli districts have very low level of urbanisation (C.I.V. less than 2.5). Beed, Osmanabad, Yawatmal, Jalna and Ahmednagar districts are lying in semi-arid region of Maharashtra. Therefore, agriculture in above districts is not in a happy state. These districts are also industrially backward. While Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts are suffered from physical handicaps of difficult terrain and poor soils, also lack of sufficient transport facilities. Gadchiroli district is inhabited largely by tribals which are engaged in primary occupations. Consequently the above districts have hardly one or two town each with population of 20000+, (e.g. Gadchiroli - 1, Sindhudurg - 1, Ratnagiri - 2, Jalna - 2, and Osmanabad - 3).

6.5.0 CONCLUDING REMARK :

The regional structure identified by composite index method reveals considerable differences in the level of urbanisation in Maharashtra from highly urbanised to least urbanised. Gr.Bombay, Thane, Pune and Nagpur districts are

highly urbanised. Availability of socio-economic services, civic facilities and modern outlook of society in above districts pull the population from the surrounding areas. While, low to very low urbanisation is found in those districts where the economy is neither developed nor did any chances of an early change for the better progress in near future. It is also obvious that Western Maharashtra, except Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts, is more urbanised than other parts of the State. Semi-arid districts with low transportation facilities and industrially backward record least urbanisation. Agriculturally prosperous districts with some agro-based industries are moderately urbanised. The level of urbanisation is gradually decreasing from highly industrialised to least industrialised districts. Thus, an effort must be given to decentralization of industrialization for minimizing the regional disparity in industrial and economic development and that of level of urbanisation.

REFERENCES

1. Census of India (1991), 'Paper - 2, Maharashtra Provisional Population Tables, Census Operation, Maharashtra, Bombay, P.11.
2. Singh, V.N. (1986), 'Spatial Urban Pattern and Growth of Urbanisation', Inter-India Publications New Delhi, P.VII.
3. Datta, K.L. (1967), 'Urban Zones in India', National Geographical Journal of India,8,PP.97-107.
4. Ahmed, Q, (1965), 'India Cities', Characteristics and Correlates', Chicago University, Chicago.
5. Krishna, G. and Gupta, S.L.,(1975), 'The regionalization of India on the basis of Population Potential of Cities', Area, 7,PP.115-119.
6. Sdasyuk, G.V. (1972),'Urbanisation and the spatial structure of Indian economy', PP.287-327 in Census of India, 1971, Economic and Social-cultural Dimensions of Regionalisation, New Delhi.
7. Singh, R.B.(1975), 'Characteristics of Urbanisation in India', Uttar Bharat Bhoogol Patrica, Vol.XI, PP. 83-98.
8. Khan, A.M. and Gopi, K.N.,(1976),'Patterns and Trends of Urbanisation in Middle Africa', in Manzoor Alam and Gopi K.N.(Ed) Urbanisation in Africa, Oxford and IBH Publishing Co., New Delhi, PP. 3-18.

9. Sahabdeen and Singh, R.N.(1978),'Urbanisation in Eastern U.P.', Uttar Bharat Bhoogol Patrika, Vol.XIV, PP.80-92.

10. Shahi, U.P. (1981), 'Urbanisation in Gujrat, A Geographical Analysis', Ph.D.Thesis (unpublished) Deptt.of Geography, University of Gorakhpur.

11. Rai, S.(1982),'Urbanisation in Haryana', Ph.D.Thesis (unpublished), Deptt.of Geography, University of Gorakhpur.

12. Chanda, R.P. (1983),'Urbanisation in Awadh Plain', Ph.D. Thesis (unpublished), Deptt.of Geography, University of Gorakhpur.

13. Verma, S.S.(1985),'Urbanisation and Economic Development in U.P.,Himalaya Region', Vol.VII.

14. Childe, V.G.(1950),'The Urban Revolution', Town Planning Review, Vol.XXI, P.3.

15. Schnore, L.E. (1961), 'The Statistical Measures in Land Economics', Vol.XXXVII, P.229.

16. Pathak, C.R. Aziz A. and Chatterjee, R.N. (1970), 'Identification of Planning Areas in the Three State Region - Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal', Indian Journal of Regional Science, Vol.II, PP.64-91.

17. Sharma, N. (1972),'Degree of Urbanisation and Level of Economic Development in Chhotanagapur, A study in Nature of Relation', Indian Journal of Regional Science, Vol.IV, PP. 143-154.

18. Dutta, T.N. and Chattopadhya, R.N.(1983), 'A Note on Economic Development and Urbanisation in India, An Inter-State Analysis', Indian Journal of Regional Science, Vol.XV, PP 96-102.

19. Mukherjee, A.B. (1973), 'Level of Urbanisation in Uttar Pradesh', Geographical Review of India, Vol. XXXV, PP. 31-43.

20. Raj Bala (1986), 'Trends in Urbanisation in India', Rawat Publication - Jaipur, PP. 141-142.