

CHAPTER SIXIMPACT OF URBANISATION ON DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-
ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS IN THE FRINGE AREA

In the previous chapter, an appraisal of the changes in the general landuse and cropping pattern in the fringe area was discussed. This chapter deals with the impact of urbanisation on demographic and socio-economic characteristics in the fringe area.

To identify the impact of urbanisation on fringe area, a comparative table has been prepared, in which the characteristics of rural population of Solapur district and the rural population in the fringe area have been given (Table 6.1).

For comparative analysis the following thirteen aspects have been considered:

- 1 Average size of the village,
- 2 Average population of village size,
- 3 Sex-ratio (per 1,000 male),
- 4 Percentage of literacy,
- 5 Housing density,

- 6 Percentage of population engaged in primary activities,
- 7 Percentage of population engaged in secondary activities,
- 8 Percentage of population engaged in tertiary activities,
- 9 Decadal growth rate of population (percentage),
- 10 Road density (per 100 Km.²)
- 11 Population density (per Sq. Km.)
- 12 Electrification (per cent),
- 13 Dependency ratio.

Urban Impact on Demographic Characteristics

In the fringe zone of Solapur city there are 14 villages whose demographic characteristics have been changed due to the urban impact. In the fringe zone the average population size of a village is 3,582 persons. On the other hand the average population size of village in the rural area of Solapur district is only 1,675 persons. The characteristics of sex-ratio have also been influenced in the fringe zone. Surprisingly, the sex-ratio in the fringe area is 908 (per 1,000 male) which is less than the sex ratio of Solapur city (912). This sex-ratio

when compared to rural areas, it is observed that the fringe area has a low sex-ratio as compared to the sex-ratio of rural areas (941). The above analysis clearly indicates that the most of the male population working in the factories of Solapur city lives in the fringe zone.

A comparative analysis of the percentage of literacy clearly indicates that in the fringe zone 33.5 per cent of population is literate, in the rural areas only 30.4 per cent population is literate. Considering the density of population, it is observed that fringe area has a higher density of population (per sq.Km. 149.5) as compared to rural areas (per sq. Km. 111.38).

It seems that with the increase in migration of the population in the fringe zone a very high growth rate of 54.20 per cent has been recorded. On the other hand in the rural areas of Solapur district the decadal growth is only 21.19 per cent. The analysis of dependency ratio in the fringe area indicates that it has a low dependency ratio as compared to urban and rural population of Solapur district (Table 6.1).

A careful examination of the above mentioned factors and their impact on the fringe zone reveals the fact that the urban impact of Solapur city has played an important

TABLE 6.1DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF FRINGE ZONE

Sr.No.	Item	Rural Area	Fringe Area	Urban Area
1	Average size of the village	346.27	2,260.00	-
2	Average population size of the village	1,675.28	3,582.22	-
3	Sex ratio (per 1,000 male)	941.40	908.78	912.75
4	Percentage of literacy	31.85	33.4	48.30
5	Housing density	17.85	65.09	2,262.72
6	Percentage of population engaged in primary activities	87.39	67.99	2.97
7	Percentage of population engaged in secondary activities	4.50	18.17	52.67
8	Percentage of population engaged in tertiary activities	8.12	13.84	44.36
9	Decadal growth rate of population (percentage)	21.19	54.20	-
10	Road density (per 100 Km ²)	54.33	67.89	-
11	Population density (per sq. Km.)	111.38	149.5	17,148.55
12	Electrification percentage	41.06	89.23	-
13	Dependency ratio	1/2.27	1/2.20	1/2.25

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role in changing the demographic and other characteristics of rural population in the fringe area.

Characteristics of Working Population

The detailed investigation of working population in the fringe zone indicates that though a very high percentage of population is engaged in primary activity (67.99), still this percentage is less when compared to the rural areas of Solapur district. In the fringe zone 18.17 per cent population is engaged in manufacturing activities. On the other hand, in the rural areas of the Solapur district it is only 4.50 per cent. In the fringe area, 13.84 per cent population is engaged in tertiary activities, in the rural areas only 8.12 per cent population is engaged in the tertiary activities.

Changes in Social and Economic Aspects

The impact of urbanisation in the fringe area not only changes the demographic characteristics of the fringe zone but it also influences the social and economic life of the people. Urban influence has increased the standard of living in the fringe area; it has also influenced on the occupational structure and food habits of the people in the fringe zone. The cultural, social

and religious activities of Solapur city dominate the life of people in the fringe zone.

Most of the villages in the fringe area are electrified. The percentage of rural electrification in the fringe zone is 89.23 per cent. On the other hand rural electrification of Solapur district is only 41.06 per cent. Most of the villages in the fringe zone are well connected with Solapur city. Similarly, road network has inter-connected them. The average density of roads per 100 Sq. Km. in the fringe area is 67.89. On the other hand the average density in the rural areas is 54.33. Most of the villages in the fringe zone have better educational and medical facilities. Many of them have banking and telephone facilities. There are ten villages, namely, Bale, Degaon, Naglur, Hattur, Kumta, Solapur rural, Hotgi, Boramani, Kumbhari, which have telephone facilities.

Proximity of urban centre and day-to-day contact with the urban way of life has influenced the diet, dress and living conditions of the people in the fringe area. Most of the people in the fringe area visit Solapur city for necessary services and facilities. Many industrial workers living in the fringe zone go to the city every day for work.

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