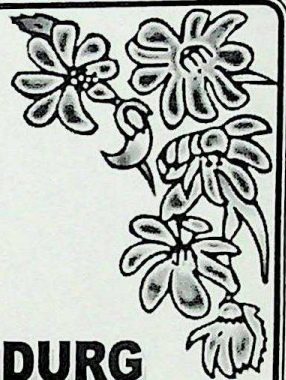
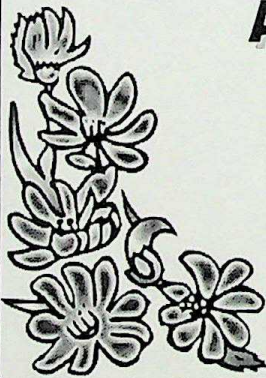


CHAPTER - II



PROFILE OF RATNAGIRI, SINDHUDURG AND RAIGAD DISTRICTS



CHAPTER – II

PROFILE OF RATNAGIRI, SINDHUDURG AND RAIGAD DISTRICTS

1. INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of the research is to study 'Socio-Economic Conditions Fishing Communist in Ratnagiri, Sindhudurga and Raigad Districts' of Maharashtra State. Therefore, it is necessary to examine the profile of these three districts. The present chapter deals with the economic; social; physical and other features of the three districts in a detailed manner.

2 SALIENT FEATURES OF RATNAGIRI AND SINDHUDURG DISTRICT

There are various features of these two districts. The profile of Raigad districts has been given separately. In the view point of research purpose some of features have been discussed as below.

2.1 Fishing Industry – An Important Activity

Ratnagiri, Sindhudurga and Raigad districts are one of the most important and famous maritime districts of Maharashtra state. The coastal length of Ratnagiri District is 167 kms. while it is 121 kms. of Sindhudurga District and 240 kms of Raigad district. Fishing industry in these three districts is mainly dependent on the exploitation of the available marine resources. These districts are very rich for a good number of variety of fish viz. prawns, sharks, skates, rays, mackerels, sardines, tuna, surmai, pomfret, karel, dagol, catfish, etc. Besides this

fishing can be held in a number of creeks, backwaters, rivers, estuaries along the coast. Generally fishing season starts from the month of September and lasts till the month of May. During the monsoon season (from June to August.) fishing activity is closed down. In this season fishing activity takes place in only creeks on a very small scale. Processing of fish is carried out on a large scale in Ratnagiri (District place) which has tremendous demand in abroad.

2.2 Tourism Centres

Ratnagiri district is famous for Ganapatipule's Ganesh Temple and Sindhudurga district is famous for Sindhudurga Fort which is in the Arabian Sea and is built by "The Great Shivaji" in 17th century. These two places of the two districts are the tourism centers of Maharashtra. Raigad district has also many places such as Murud, Janjir ford for tourism. Alphanso mango of Ratnagiri District and Cashew of Sindhudurga District are the very best varieties of fruits in the view point of testes and other things. The foreign earnings from these two fruits is increasing every year.

2.3 Economically Backward Region

Ratnagiri, Sindhudurga and Raigad districts are very important districts of Konkan region in various respects. Konkan is a rough terrain with interspersed hills off-shooting from the Western Ghats [Sahyadri hill ranges]. This region is economically backward and least urbanized in the state. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people but it is also backward and is at subsistence level. There is lack of enough irrigation facilities and other inputs in agriculture. There is existence of rare mineral resources like Manganese and Bauxite, etc. but industrial development is negligible. Due to all these reasons working population of this region has

been constantly migrating to metropolitan cities like Mumbai, Pune, and Kolhapur etc. Though this region is rich in natural resources in the view point of developing the economy of this region, yet there is need for providing enough and proper infrastructural facilities for exploitation of the available resources.

2.4 Great Personalities

Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga districts are not only famous for fishing and various types of fruits but they are also famous for large number of intellectuals, artists, leaders and social workers. Following are the names of such personalities. Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Freedom Fighter G. K. Gokhale, Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve, Konkan Gandhi Appasaheb Patwardhan, Social reformer Agarkar, soft hearted poet Sane Guruji, Poet Keshavsut, Chief minister of erstwhile Bombay state Shri Balasaheb Kher, Br. Nath Pai, famous cricketers, Sunil Gavaskar, Eknath Solkar, Chandrakant Pandit and Ghulam Parkar and Actors like Shankarrao Ghanekar, Kashinath Ghanekar, etc. All these great personalities have contributed their might to the cause of the people of these districts as well as the state and nation. The Ex-Governor of RBI. Dr. C.D. Deshmukh and founder of trade union movement Shri. N.M. Lokhande also comes from the Raigad district-Konkan Region. The former Chief Ministers of Maharashtra i.e. Barr. Antule and Manohar Joshi also born in this soil.

3 BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF RESOURCE REGION - RATNAGIRI AND SINDHUDURG DISTRICTS

Arabian and European traders and visitors had visited many of these coastal parts such as Dabhol, Rajapur of Ratnagiri District, Devgad, Malvan and Vengurla of the Sindhudurga District. Portugese, French and

Dutch were the major European traders to visit resource region. But there was a struggle for supremacy among these European powers who tried to establish their factories and godowns on the coastal strip between Surat and Goa. In their struggle they looted and plundered some of the existing towns as part of their wars. This region was also under the rule of the Vijapur Nobles in the seventeenth century. Chhatrapati Shivaji established his kingdom in this area after attacking Rajapur. In fact between 1600-1670, the Dutch and the French extended their co-operation to Chhatrapati Shivaji for checking the entry of the British in the area. The Dutch had their fortified factories at Rajapur and Vengurla. Shivaji and the later rulers had a good naval base near Malvan and Ratnagiri. They showed their strength against Aurangzeb, the British, the Portuguese and the Siddies. The resource region continued to be attacked and suffered because of the invasion of Mughals, British, Portuguese, Dutch etc. and gained little in terms of developments because of this unstable situation.

The economy of the resource region had remained poor by the end of the seventeenth century when the Britishers took over this region. They not only started taking away the available natural resources but also found the resource region as a good resource base for labour required for their rule in terms of army, police, factory workers, clerks, etc. for the growing needs of Bombay (Mumbai) city. This initiated the process of migration, which has been continued for almost over two centuries and the proportion of migrants from Ratnagiri-Sindhudurga Resource region to Mumbai was very high.

3.1 Geographical Location

The Ratnagiri, Sindhudurga and Raigad Districts are located on the western coast of India. Before 1981 there was only one district i.e.

Ratnagiri. But for the effective administration and some other points of view, this district was subsequently divided into two separate districts namely Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga, with the effect of 1st May 1981. While carving out the new district from Ratnagiri District, a small area from Kolhapur district comprising 37 villages were added to Sindhudurga District and a new tahsil i.e. Vaibhawadi was created. The name of the region was also changed from Ratnagiri region to Ratnagiri-Sindhudurga resource region, vide Government order No.TPS-1582/740/IUD-5 dated 14th November, 1982.

There are 9-Talukas and 1539 villages in Ratnagiri District and 8 Talukas and 743 villages in Sindhudurga District. In Sindhudurga District, there were 7-talukas at the time of separation from Ratnagiri district. But recently i.e. in 1999 one new taluka has been created i.e. Dodamarg. River Savitri flows on northern boundry of Ratnagiri District. The Sahyadrian range of hills runs on the east of both districts. Goa state is situated on the southern side of Sindhudurg District and the Arabian sea is to the west of both districts. These two districts are coastal strip running north to south along the western cost of Maharashtra and Sahyadrin range of hills and lies between 15⁰ -36" and 18⁰ to 50" north latitude and 73⁰-50" to 74⁰-36" east longitude.

3.2 Boundaries Of The Research Region

These two districts have a north-south length of about 280 kms. and an average width of 64 kms. Raigad, Satara, Sangli and Kolhapur districts from Maharashtra state are situated at the north and east, Kolhapur District is also situated at the east of Sindhudurga District, similarly Belgaum district from Karnataka state and Goa state are situated at the south of Sindhudurga District.

3.3 Geographical Area

The geographical area of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga Districts are 8,208 and 5,207 sq. kms. [It is 4.3% of the total area of Maharashtra State.] The coastal area of Ratnagiri District is 167 kms. and for Sindhudurga it is 121 kms. The total coastal area of both districts is 288 kms. [it is 41.11 % of the total cost line of Maharashtra.]

4. TOPOGRAPHY

Topography of this region is very different from other regions of Maharashtra State. Sahyadri Mountain sloping on the east coast on the west and the large number of small hills ranges running the east-west and north south. There are some plateaus nearer the coast line are the various features which affects the physiographic and landscape of the region. The Sahyadrian scalp ending abruptly at some places and have created spectacular scenery. There are some scenically pitiful ports along the cost. The rocky basaltic slopes and sandy beaches mostly governed by open landscape.

The region of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga Districts can be subdivided into three parts on the basis of physical features viz.

4.1 Rivers and Creeks

All the rivers in both the districts originate form the Sahyadri ranges and flow from east to west and merge in the Arabian Sea. The river Savitri in Ratnagiri District flows on the northern periphery forming a natural boundary between Ratnagiri and Raigad District. This river is also navigable for about 35 kms. in the district. Similarly Vashishthi is the most important river of this district from the view point of length as well as navigational facilities. Some other important rivers in this district are Shastri; Bav; Ratnagiri [Kajili]; Muchkundi; Jaitapur and Jagbudi.

In Sindhudurg District Waghotan; Deogad; Karli; Tilari; Terekhol are the important and the main rivers. Most of the rivers are non-perennial although they are flooded during the monsoon. However the rivers in Ratnagiri District are of great value from the view point of navigation and fisheries. Ratnagiri District has numerous small creeks like Kelshi; Kalabadevi; Palshet; Borya etc. and back waters all along the coastline which can be utilised for tourism.

In Sindhudurg District there are also small creeks like Vijaydurg; Deogad; Achare; Walaval; Karli etc. These creeks are also important from view point of tourism, and fishing

4.2 Climate

The climate of the resource region though moist, is generally healthy and the year is divided into 4 seasons. The summer season is from March to May, the rainy season due to South-West monsoon starting from June to September, The post monsoon season from October to November, and the winter season from December to February. For agricultural purposes, the summer season or hot weather season is useful for kharif period and the winter is the Rabbi season.

4.3 Temperature

There are fewer variations in temperature because of the nearness of the sea-coast. The maximum temperature seldom exceeds 35°C on the sea coast and 40°C into the interior parts of the resource region. The minimum and maximum temperature ranges between 19°C and 40°C. The month of May is the hottest month and night temperature is the lowest in the month of January.

Some places in the resource region are regarded as hill stations namely Amboli, Pachal, Parchitgad, Dajipur etc. which are located on the hill-tops of Sahyadri and are little different climatically .

4.4 Rainfall

Monsoon bursts over the region generally by the beginning of June and the rain continues with little intermissions till about the middle of October. The rainfall increases fast from the sea-coast towards the Western Ghats on the eastern border of the resource region. The rainfall is very heavy near Ghats. The average annual rainfall in the resource region as a whole is 3,000 m. m. and generally there are variations from year to year. Due to proximity of sea, the resource region has humid climate and relative humidity normally ranges between 63% in December- January and 88% in July- August. During the winter afternoons humidity is around 55%.

Winds are also very strong and mainly flow west or South West during the monsoon. In the rest of the year winds blow from the directions between North and East in the morning and between West and North-West in the afternoon. During the pre and post-monsoon months, the resource region experiences strong winds, sometimes reaching the velocity of gale particularly near the coast and heavy rains are received along with cyclonic storm.

5. NATURAL RESOURCES

Various types of natural resources are available in the district yet a the region is underdeveloped with high out-migration trends and imbalanced demographic structure. Resources of various types exist as related to its land forms (agriculture, horticulture, poultry, dairy and

minerals) its heavy rainfall and the oceanic resources, abundance of tourist potential sites, its man-power etc.

5.1 Forest Area

The total area under forest in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga Districts is about 6700 hectares and 38643 respectively. The proportion of forest in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga District is 82 % and 76 % respectively of their geographical area.

The forest areas are mainly in talukas like Khed; Lanja; Dapoli and Rajapur from Ratnagiri District and talukas like Kankavli; Kudal; Sawantwadi; Vengurla; Malvan; Deogad; Vaibhavwadi and Dodamarg from Sindhudurg District. Khed taluka from Ratnagiri District and Kudal taluka from Sindhudurg District has largest forest area. There are about 225 species of trees; 4 types of Bamboos and 16 types of grasses recorded in these districts. Ain; Anjani; Apta; Bel; Chinch; Hirda; Jambhul; Khair; Amba; Kinjal; Moha; Palas, Phanas, Pimpal, Sag, Shiras, etc. are the main trees in the districts. There are number of trees and shrubs which have medicinal value.

5.2 Fisheries

The total length of coast acquired by Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, Raigad Districts is 167 Kms, 121 and 240 Kms respectively. It is nearabout 42% of the length of Maharashtra's coast. Fisheries is an old activity of these two districts but from last few years the living conditions of fishing community is not satisfactory. The following table No.1 shows the fishing industry at a glance in these districts.

Table No. 1: Fishing Industry at a Glance (Year 2005)

Sr. No.	Particulars	Ratnagiri District	Sindhudurga District	Total
1) About Marine Fishing				
1	Coast Line	167 kms	121 kms	288 kms
2	Continental Fishing Area Upto 40 Fathoms (Sq Kms)	25,600	16,000	41,600
3	Main Fishing Centers	09	08	17
4	Fishing Villages	90	76	166
5	Population Of Fishermen	51,500	24,829	76,329
6	Active Fishermen	11,500	4,278	15778
7	Mechanized Boats/ Trawlers	2,286	1,129	3,415
8	Non Mechanized Boats	2146	1734	3880
9	Total (7+8)	4432	2863	7295
10	Fish Production (M. T.)	71578	51674	123252
11	Landing Centers	38	38	76
12	Fisheries Co-Op Societies	73	27	100
13	Member Of Fisheries Societies	21495	10063	31558
14	Ice Factories	16	12	28
15	Per Day Ice Production (M. T.)	286	155	441
2) About Brackish Water Fishing				
1.	Brackish Water Area (Hectare)	2201	1268	3469
2.	(A) Government Owned (Hectare)	1071	529	1600
3.	(B) Private Owned (Hectare)	1130	739	1869
4.	Prawn Project	10	35	45
5.	Fish Production (M.T.)	11	35.10	46.10
3) About Inland Fishing				
1.	Small Scale Dams	27	23	50
2.	Useful Water Area For Fishing (Hectare)	666.46	486	1152.46
3.	Length Of Rivers (Kms)	595	248	843
4.	Fish Production (M. T.)	7.5	18	25.25
5.	Fishery Co-Op. Societies	5	5	10
6.	Members Of Fisheries Societies	240	246	486

Source : Fishery Department of Maharashtra – Directorate of Fishery Department, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, 2005

From the above table it is clear that this industry is divided into two sectors i.e. marine and inland fishing. It was found that there were 166 fishing villages. 76,329 fishermen, 15,778 active fishermen, 78 landing centers in these districts. There were total 7295 mechanized and non mechanized boats, 100 fisheries co-operative societies were related to marine fishing and 10 societies related to inland fishing, the membership of these co-operative societies was 31,558 and 486 respectively (i.e. marine and inland), there were total 28 ice factories and production of ice per day was 441 metric tons. The marine fish production was 123252 metric tons while it was 60.35 metric tons in inland fishing and the total fish production in both sectors was 123312.35 metric tons. If we consider the sector wise production then we come to know that it was 99.95 % from marine sector and 0.05% from inland fishing sector respectively. It means near about 100% fish production was from marine sector. This shows the importance of marine fishing sector in the development of fishing community and ultimately economic development of these two districts

6 AGRICULTURE

In these two districts agriculture is the main occupation of the majority of the people, though productivity of agriculture is very low. Therefore there is need to give more attention to it, because it has been the means of livelihood for generations, therefore, development of agriculture can help to promote economic development and creation of agro-based industries and employment opportunities to some extent in these districts.

6.1 Pattern of Land Utilization

Pattern of land utilization is depend upon the various factors like topography, types of soil, proportion of rainfall, irrigation facilities,

policy of the government etc. The table No. 2 shows land utilization pattern in these two districts.

Table No. 2: Pattern of Land Utilization

Sr. No.	Category of Land Use	Area (000 Hq.)	% To Total Geographical Area
1	Total Geographical Area	1322.00	100.00
2	Area Under Forest	44.80	3.39
3	Land Put To Non-Agricultural Use	14.00	1.06
4	Barren Land And Land Utilization For Cultivation	310.00	23.45
5	Permanent Pastures And Other Grazing Land	49.00	3.71
6	Land Under Miscellaneous Tree Crops And Grooves	117.00	8.85
7	Cultivable Waste Land	185.00	13.99
8	Current Fallow	40.00	3.02
9	Other Fallow	177.20	13.40
10	Net Area Sown	385.00	29.13
11	Area Sown More Than One	35.00	9.09*
12	Gross Cropped Area	390.00	101.29*

*Figures are percentages to net area sown.

Source : *Socio-economic Review and District-Statistical Abstract of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, 2000-2001*

It is observed from the above table that the total area of this region is 1322 thousand hectares, out of which only 3.39 percent is under forest. The area under forests at state level is 17.46 percent. The area under forests at this region needs to be increased. Because of barren land, grazing land, cultivable waste land, current fallows, (57.57%) the proportion of net area sown to total geographical area is very low (29.13%). Form the above figures, it can be concluded that there is a good scope for increasing the area under cultivation. On this area plantation of mango, cashew and other fruit crops should be taken up with the help of 100 percent subsidy scheme of Horticultural Development; under Employment Guarantee Programme, which is in

force from June 1990. Extensive tree cover through horticultural estates, can to some extent make up for the deficit in forests and improvement of the ecology of the area. Most of the cultivable land used for single paddy crop.

6.2 Fragmented Agricultural Holdings

Division and fragmentation of land is one of the major cause of low productivity of agriculture in these districts. The number of cultivators and agricultural laborers in these districts are 5,77,263 and actual land under cultivation is about 2161 sq. Kms. The main difficulty in agricultural activities is the problem of fragmented holdings.

6.3 Cropping Pattern

Crops taken in the resource region are Paddy, Nagali, Kulith, Wal, Coconut, Mango and Cashew. Three major physiographic conditions indicate separate agricultural crops and practices as shown in the table No. 3.

Table No. 3 : Cropping Pattern of Ratnagiri -Sindhudurga Resource Region

Sr. No.	Crops	Area (hq.)	Percentage to total area
1	Rice	1,59,878	43.62
2	Other Cereals	39,165	10.69
3	Total Cereals	1,99,043	54.31
4	Total Pulses	4,392	1.20
5	Total Food Grains (Cereals+ Pulses)	2,03,435	55.51
6	Fruits And Vegetables	51,572	14.07
7	Spices And Condiments	1,118	0.30
8	Sugarcane	175	0.05
9	Total Food Crops	2,56,300	69.93
10	Total Oilseeds Crops	14,421	3.93
11	Total Fodder Crops	80,941	22.09
12	Total Non Food Crops	92,362	26.02
13	Area Cropped More Than Once	6,600	1.80
	Total Area Under Crops	3,66,480	100

Source : *Socio-economic Review and Statistical Abstract of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga Districts 2005-2006, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai*

It is clear from the above table that the cropping pattern of these two districts is dominated by cereal crops. Among the cereal crops, rice is the predominant crop during Kharip accounting for 1, 59,878 hq. (43.62%) on a limited area, where water is available. The rice is grown in Rabi/ summer season also. The proportion of pulses in the total area is only 1.2 percent. The spices are grown on 1118 hq (0.30%). Fruits and vegetables are grown on 51,572 hq. (14.07%). Fruit crops mainly consist of mango and cashew.

It is necessary that cropping pattern of this region should be directed towards cash crops like mango, cashewnut, spices, and condiments, which will result into the higher returns per hectare to the cultivators.

7 CULTURE

The culture of these two districts is mostly similar to the konkan region. The society of these two districts is composed of people from different religions, like Hindu; Muslim; Christian; Jain etc. Among them Hindus are more in number. Some Muslims have converted to Hindus. From 16th century this region had contacts with Arab world and they had established some settlements and relation with the people of this region. Therefore there is impact and influence of Arab World on this region.

Especially people of these two districts are traditional; therefore, they are more conservative, slow to respond to the modernization and more adherent of traditional culture. But in reality we may find a good continuation of traditional and modern approaches.

As it is clear that the entire Konkan region is economically backward and it is very poor. At present also some domestic things are coming by transport from Mumbai and Desh area. The productivity of land is very low. Fish and some fruits like mango; jackfruits, cashew etc.

are to be sold in the outside market. Major portion of land was in the possession of the landlords which can be called as a 'khot' in local. People of these districts till are engaged in various sports, dance, singing, drams, fashion show, etc.

The food habits of the people of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts have their regional peculiarities pertaining to Konkan distinguishing them from the general pattern of Maharashtra . Rice is the staple food of the districts. The dress of all these people is almost common. In the districts Ramnavami, Hanuman Jayanti, Bhavani Utsav, Shrikrishna Janmotsav, Shiv Jayanti, Diwali, Ganeshotsav, Simga (Holi) Muharram, Christmas etc. are the religious festivals of the people. Shimga and Gauri Ganapati are celebrated in a grand scale. People staying in Mumbai, Pune, Kolhapur etc .visit their native places to participate in these festivals. As is known, poverty has forced the Konkani people to find jobs outside areas and Mumbai is the most preferred place. Among the Hindus besides the usual Gods and Goddesses, Gramdevatas are more popular and reverd on many of the occasions. Pandhar, Vetar, Ghosts and Spirits of different names are much popular as these people have blind faith in such worship. Lack of education is one of the reasons but it is not enough. Marathi is the main language. Few of the people talk in Konkani language. In general social and cultural life of the people has been quite placid during the decade in the process of formation of new district the boundaries of Ratnagiri and Kolhapur Districts have changed.

8. DEMOGRAPHY

According to the 2001 census the total population of the Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts was 16,96,777 and 868,825 respectively. Among this 7,944,98 were males and 9,02,279 were females in Ratnagiri District while in Sindhudurg District there were 4,17,890 males and

4,50,935 were females. Taluka wise population and its % have been shown in the table No.4.

Table No. 4 : Taluka-wise Population (in %)

Sr. No	District And Taluka	Population	% To Total
A. RATNAGIRI		16,96,777	100
1	Mandangad	70,593	4.16
2	Dapoli	1,93,430	11.40
3	Guhagar	142259	8.38
4	Ratnagiri	302261	17.81
5	Rajapur	184666	10.38
6	Sangameshwar	214819	12.66
7	Khed	194515	11.46
8	Chiplun	281081	16.57
9	Lanja	113153	6.67
B. SINDHUDURGA		8,68,825	100
1	Deogad	1,25,288	14.42
2	Malvan	1,16,682	13.42
3	Vengurla	88,387	10.17
4	Sawantwadi	1,48,980	17.14
5	Dodamarg	50,032	5.75
6	Kudal	1,52,939	17.60
7	Kankavli	1,38,167	15.90
8	Vaibhawadi	48,350	5.56

Source : *Census of India -2001*

It is clear from the table that in Ratnagiri District population was double than that of Sindhudurg District. If we consider taluka wise and district wise population then we come to know that in Ratnagiri District, Ratnagiri taluka was most populas (17.81%) and Mandangad taluka was the lest populas (4.16%). In Sindhudurg District Kudal taluka was most populas (17.60%) and Vaibhwadi taluka was least populas (5.56%).

8.1 Population

According to 1991 census the total population of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts was 15,44,057 and 832152 respectively. In the year 2001 total population of Ratnagiri District was 16,96,777 and of Sindhudurg District it was 8,68,825. The growth rate of population in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts is shown in the following table No.5.

Table No. 5 : Population Growth Rate

Sr. No.	District	Year	Total Population	Growth Rate
1.	Ratnagiri	1981	1375,110	7.89
		1991	1544057	12.28
		2001	16,96,777	9.89
2.	Sindhudurg	1981	7,89891	3.03
		1991	8,32152	6.56
		2001	8,68825	4.40

It is obvious from the above table that during last three decades the population growth rate in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga Districts was positive. But in every decade the population growth rate was more in Ratnagiri District than in Sindhudurg District. It means family planning programme was not so successful in Ratnagiri District but it was more successful in Sindhudurg District.

8.2 Density of Population

According to 2001 Census the density of population in Ratnagiri District was 207 while it was 165 in Sindhudurg District. These figures were much below than the state average of 315. In 1991 the density of population in Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts was 188 and 164 respectively. It means the density of population in Ratnagiri District has increased by 19 and in Sindhudurg District it is increased by only one.

8.3 Sex Ratio

According to 2001 census there were 1136 females for every thousand males in Ratnagiri District while there were 1079 females for every thousand males in Sindhudurg District. The Sex ratio is increasing in both the districts and it has remained higher than that of the Maharashtra state since 1901. The main reason behind this is that this region is economically backward hence people are poor. Therefore, they are migrating to big cities like Mumbai, Pune, Kolhapur etc. If we consider talukawise sex ratio in these districts then we come to know that it is higher in Mandangad taluka (1247) and lower in Ratnagiri taluka (1042) of Ratnagiri District while it is higher in Vaibhavwadi taluka (1191) and lower in Dodamarg taluka (1054) of Sindhudurg District.

Generally Sex ratio is higher in rural area than in urban area in both the districts. The sex ratio in rural and urban areas of Ratnagiri District was 1163 and 944 respectively while it was 1090 and 978 respectively in Sindhudurg District. Comparative taluka wise sex ration is given in the following table No. 6.

Table No. 6 : Sex Ratio – (Census-2001)

Sr. No.	District and Taluka	No of females per 1000 males		
		Total	Rural	Urban
1	Mandangad	1,247	1,247	Nil
2	Dapoli	1,196	1,220	953
3	Khed	1,121	1,128	1,029
4	Chiplun	1,081	1,113	963
5	Guhagar	1,132	1,137	948
6	Ratnagiri	1042	1095	906
7	Sangameshwar	1,190	1,190	Nil

Source : Census - 2001

8.4 Literacy

The rate of literacy in both the districts is near about the same. This is shown in the following table No. 7.

Table No . 7 : Rate of Literacy

Sr. No	District	Particulars	Total	Rural	Urban
1)	Ratnagiri	-	75.85	73.32	88.26
		Males	85.9	85.04	91.67
		Females	65.8	63.56	84.66
2)	Sindhudurg	-	80.3	79.3	89.7
		Males	90.3	89.8	94.1
		Females	71.2	69.8	85.3

Source- Census-2001

It is clear from the above table that proportion of literacy is more in Sindhudurg District than in Ratnagiri District. It was found that the proportion of literacy in rural and urban area was more in Sindhudurg District (80.3%) than in Ratnagiri District (75.85%). The literacy rate was more than Maharashtra's literacy rate (77.27%) in Sindhudurg District and it was less in Ratnagiri District.

8.5 Distribution of Population According to Occupation

The classification of population is very important in the view point of economic development of various sectors and of a region itself. Table No. 8 shows the classification of population by an occupation and nature of work.

Table No. 8 : Classification of Population According to An Occupation

Sr. No.	District	Nature of Work	Population Engaged	%
1.	Ratnagiri	1. Cultivators	4,02,305	57.7
		2. Agricultural Labours	1,02,294	13.4
		3. Household Industries	15,268	2.0
		4. Others	2,43,520	31.9
	Total		7,63,387	100
2.	Sindhudurg	1. Cultivators	1,06,440	45.52
		2. Agricultural Laborers	23,963	10.24
		3. Household Industries	7,380	3.15
		4. Others	96,044	41.07
	Total		2,33,827	100

It is obvious from the above table that in Ratnagiri District the proportion of cultivators is more (57.77) than in Sindhudurg District (45.52%). It means in Ratnagiri District, more people are engaged in agricultural sector than that of Sindhudurg District. Similarly the proportion of agricultural laborer was also more in Ratnagiri District than in Sindhudurg District. But the proportion of population working other than agriculture and household industries is more in Sindhudurg District than in Ratnagiri District.

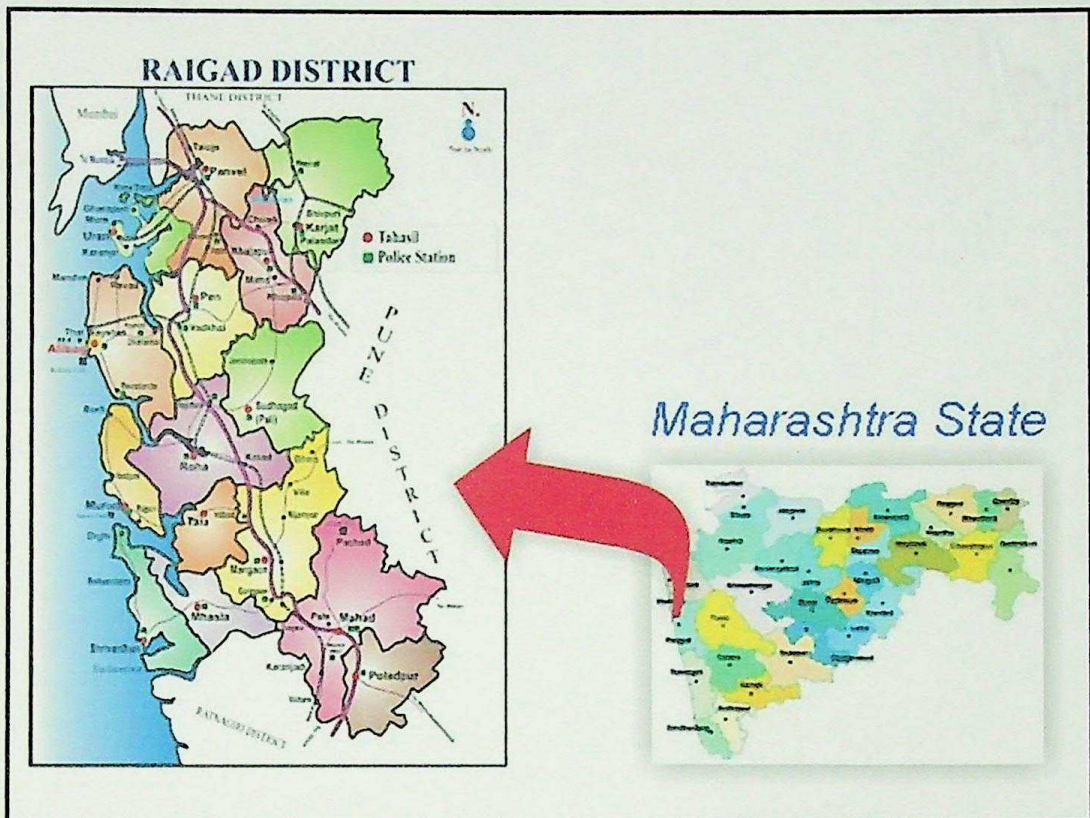
If we consider the population engaged in agricultural sector then we come to know that near about more than 60% population was engaged in agricultural sector which shows the less development of industrial and service sector in these districts.

9 INDUSTRY

Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg Districts are the part of Konkan region. Therefore these two districts have been declared as industrially and economically backward districts in Maharashtra .After the creation of Maharashtra state, central and state government are trying to develop these two districts with the help of industrial development. For this state government as well as central government has provided infrastructural facilities to industries in these districts. There have been five industrial estates in Ratnagiri District and two industrial estates in Sindhudurg District developed by MIDC and DCKL. (Development Corporation of Konkan Limited). DCKL also have developed some Mini Industrial Estates in these districts. There are some agro based, metal, chemical, wooden industries. Konkan railway and other transport facilities have helped to industrial development in these districts.

At present there are 90 large and small scale industries in Ratnagiri District and 107 in Sindhudurg District.

10. PROFILE OF RAIGAD DISTRICT



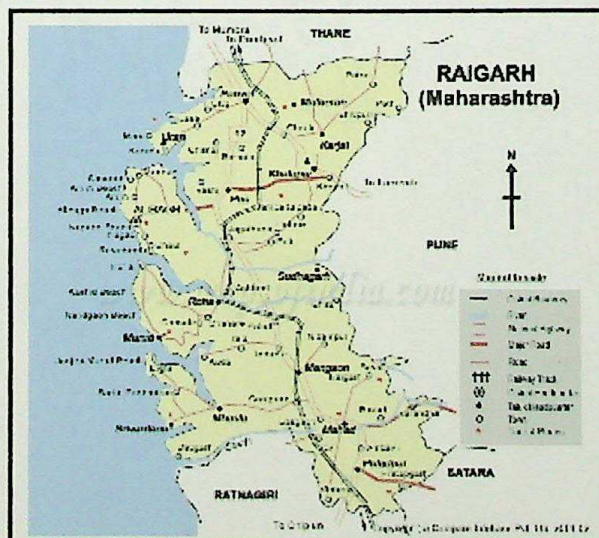
District Details

Raigad is located in south western side of Maharashtra State. The District Head Quarter of Raigad District is **Alibag**. Alibag is situated on western coast of India and on shore of Arabian Sea.

The Latitude of Alibag : 18.39 N

The Longitude of Alibag : 72.55 E

RAIGAD DISTRICT (ROADS & RAILWAY)



10.1 Profile of Raigad District

Raigad district is a part of Konkan region of Western Maharashtra, spread over 7,100 sq. km. area, adjacent to Mumbai. Strive to make Raigad district more environmental friendly, safe and pollution free. To achieve this goal, all Raigadite should jointly venture to make this dream come true. This is a open forum for all like minded people to voice their opinions and views concerning Raigad's current and upcoming events. Upsurge of commercial sex worker, HIV/AIDS, water and air pollution, malnutrition, etc. are emerging every day to grab fishing society. Flood and landslide during rainy season has become a common scenario in the district. Poor health infrastructure is another challenge, River water pollution has become a chronic menace, leading to multiple health hazards.

A Recent upcoming issue is SEZ, millions acre of agricultural land would get engulfed by SEZ project; this may put our poor farmers in miserable plight, if not protested timely. This fishing area will also affect badly. The initiative taken by some political parties in favor of farmers against SEZ project has made the state government to rethink over their former decision. Raigad district when compared with other districts of the state, has lagged behind because of several key issues in the district that have not been addressed by our political peers. A large number of industrial zones in the district could not bring the considerable social and economical reforms for the past two decades, rather it has proved that due to industrial zones, district has become a dumping ground of chemicals and other industrial wastage, The industrial zones of Raigad is eventually unsafe and created bigger threat to the villagers and the workers existence alike.

Other side of the story, witness more complex problems, these chemical factories are well organized for their clannish and smart

excuses, other negative effects of this, is the effluents from the factories that have been drained into river, Savitry, hundreds of poor fishing families of this area, depend on fishing, but owing to the pollution of river water, their livelihood has been affected permanently. The river pollution is a major threat in the district. Almost all major rivers have eventually been polluted leading to several hazardous upshot. Even aquatic creatures, specially fish, have also been destroyed due to deadly chemical effluents (reference: Dainik Loksata, dated 12th sept. 2006) This chemical wastage have leaked out of the pipes, at various places, leading hundreds of acre fertile, paddy fields grossly spoiled. At worse, no adequate compensations was paid to the affected farmers by the factory managements. This chemical effluents has almost polluted all the drinking water sources (the wells, bore-wells, and other reservoirs) of the villages falling along the pipelines which carries the chemical effluents. People have also rose up and took to the streets in protests, but all efforts proved to be failed. Even, some local news papers have also raised the issues, several time, but either it is hushed up or detained by the political intervention. Concerned authority are extremely lackadaisical to redress or sort out people's grievances. On the other hand, most of the villagers of this area are poor farmers and they do not get enough time to visit the offices, therefore, the problem remains unsolved. Chemical factories in Mahad are causing a big threat to the people, specially the poor farmers and factory workers. Chemical effluents of the factory are being drained into the Savitry River, at Owale village, just 15 km. away from Mahad.

10.2 Some Basic Details Of Raigad District

Table No. 9. Details of Raigad District

Geographical Area:	
Total Area	7,148 Thousand Hectare
Climate & Rainfall:	
Average Rainfall in District	3884.3 M.M.
Minimum Temperature	16.1 Degree Celsius
Maximum Temperature	40.4 Degree Celsius
Geographical Location:	
North Latitudes	17.51 to 19.80
East Longitudes	72.51 to 73.40
Population (2001 Census):	
Total	22.07 lacs
Male	11.17 lacs
Female	10.90 lacs
Rural	16.73 lacs
Male	8.34 lacs
Female	8.39 lacs
Urban	5.34 lacs
Male	2.83 lacs
Female	2.51 lacs
0-6 Population:	
Persons	3.1 lacs
Males	1.6 lacs
Females	1.5 lacs
Literacy Rates (%):	
Total	77
Male	86.1
Female	67.7
Illiteracy Rates (%):	
Total	39.6
Male	30.9
Female	48.5
Scheduled Castes-Proportion (%):	
Total	2.4
Male	2.4
Female	2.4
Scheduled Tribes-Proportion (%):	
Total	12.2
Male	12.2
Female	12.2
Work Participation Rate (%):	
Total	41.4
Male	52.7
Female	29.8
Proportion of Main Workers (%):	
Total	30.9

Male	43.3
Female	16.5
Proportion of Marginal Workers (%):	
Total	11.3
Male	9.4
Female	13.3
Proportion of Non Workers (%):	
Total	58.6
Male	47.3
Female	70.2
Cultivators-Proportion of Total Workers (%):	
Total	28.6
Male	21.8
Female	40.9
Agricultural Labourers-Proportion of Total Workers (%):	
Total	20.4
Male	13.9
Female	32.1
Workers in Household Industry -Proportion of Total Workers (%):	
Total	2.7
Male	2.3
Female	3.2
Workers in other then Household Industry -Proportion of Total Workers (%):	
Total	48.4
Male	62.0
Female	23.8
Sex Ratio:	
Female per 1000 Males	976
Household size	5.0
Administrative Divisions:	
Revenue Subdivisons	Alibag, Panvel, Mangaon, Mahad
Tahasil Offices	Alibag, Pen, Murud, Panvel, Uran, Karjat, Khalapur, Mangaon, Roha, Sudhagadh, Tala, Mahad, Mhasala, Shrivardhan, Poladpur
Municipal Councils	11
Panchayat Samities	Alibag, Pen, Murud, Panvel, Uran, Karjat, Khalapur, Mangaon, Roha, Sudhagadh, Tala, Mahad, Mhasala, Shrivardhan, Poladpur
Gram Panchayats	818 Nos.
Villages	1919 Nos.

Details of Sub-Divisions, Talukas, Villages, Circles and Sazzas					
Sr. No	Name of Sub-Division	Name of Taluka	No. of Villages	No. of Circles	No. of Sazzas
1.	<i>Alibag</i>	1. Alibag	214	5	43
		2. Pen	171	4	30
		3. Murud	74	3	14
	Total Talukas in Subdivision	3	459	12	87
2.	<i>Panvel</i>	1. Panvel	177	5	35
		2. Uran	62	2	17
		3. Karjat	184	3	28
		4. Khalapur	141	3	20
	Total Talukas in Subdivision	4	564	14	100
3.	<i>Mangaon</i>	1. Mangaon	186	3	31
		2. Sudhagad	98	3	16
		3. Roha	162	4	26
		4. Tala	60	1	8
	Total Talukas in Subdivision	4	506	11	81
4.	<i>Mahad</i>	1. Mahad	183	4	36
		2. Poladpur	87	2	14
		3. Mhasla	83	2	14
		4. Shrivardhan	78	3	18
	Total Talukas in Subdivision	4	431	11	82
	Total	15	1960	48	351

Table No. 10: Population and No. of Villages & Towns in Raigad District

<i>District - Raigad-Alibag</i>											
Sr. No.	Tahasil	Rural/ Urban	House holds (in thousand)	Population			Literacy Rate	No. of Villages		Towns	No. of Village Panchyats
				Persons	Male	Female		inhabited	uninhabited		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Uran	T	31004	140351	73028	67323	82.69	53	9	2	33
		R	23998	109177	56442	52735	80.63	53	9	0	33
		U	7006	31174	16586	14588	89.75	0	0	2	--
2	Panvel	T	90008	422522	224560	197962	80.50	160	2	4	88
		R	44138	218186	113545	104641	74.74	160	2	0	88
		U	45870	204336	111015	93321	86.56	0	0	4	--
3	Karjat	T	36467	184420	94724	89696	71.97	175	1	3	49
		R	26800	139011	70988	68023	68.19	175	1	0	49
		U	9667	45409	23736	21673	83.13	0	0	3	--
4	Khalapur	T	39187	183604	98220	85384	77.99	119	1	3	42
		R	22775	109407	58423	50984	72.84	119	1	0	42
		U	16412	74197	39797	34400	85.50	0	0	3	--
5	Pen	T	39028	176681	90853	85828	72.79	153	17	1	64
		R	32165	146480	75009	71471	69.14	153	17	0	64
		U	6863	30201	15844	14357	90.06	0	0	1	--
6	Alibag	T	50455	221661	112327	109334	81.52	189	26	1	62
		R	46110	202165	102190	99975	80.91	189	26	0	62
		U	4345	19496	10137	9359	87.80	0	0	1	--
7	Murud	T	15262	72046	34958	37088	78.36	72	1	1	24
		R	12662	59494	28895	30599	76.06	72	1	0	24
		U	2600	12552	6063	6489	88.95	0	0	1	--
8	Roha	T	35696	161750	82535	79215	77.26	168	0	3	62
		R	28133	127405	64466	62939	73.80	168	0	0	62
		U	7563	34345	18069	16276	89.88	0	0	3	--
9	Sudhagad	T	13909	62852	31634	31218	65.59	97	1	1	34
		R	12061	54680	27459	27221	62.09	97	1	0	34
		U	1848	8172	4175	3997	88.37	0	0	1	--
10	Mangaon	T	32743	152270	73563	78707	74.29	184	0	2	74
		R	29657	138111	66362	71749	72.87	184	0	0	74
		U	3086	14159	7201	6958	88.01	0	0	2	--
11	Tala	T	9963	42869	18851	24018	67.89	62	0	0	26
		R	9963	42869	18851	24018	67.89	62	0	0	26
		U	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	--

12	Shriwardhan	T	18537	85071	38924	46147	76.81	79	0	1	43
		R	15332	69885	31524	38361	75.35	79	0	0	43
		U	3205	15186	7400	7786	83.34	0	0	1	--
13	Mhasla	T	13880	61010	26585	34425	74.99	80	2	1	40
		R	12067	52247	22320	29927	73.22	80	2	0	40
		U	1813	8763	4265	4498	85.44	0	0	1	--
14	Mahad	T	40508	186521	91642	94879	78.13	182	0	2	134
		R	33473	154973	74924	80049	75.40	182	0	0	134
		U	7035	31548	16718	14830	91.31	0	0	2	--
15	Poladpur	T	12286	54301	25224	29077	68.51	86	0	1	43
		R	11064	49004	22567	26437	66.62	86	0	0	43
		U	1222	5297	2657	2640	85.69	0	0	1	--
Total Raigad District		T	478933	2207929	1117628	1090301	77.03	1859	60	26	818
		R	360398	1673094	833965	839129	73.78	1859	60	0	818
		U	118535	534835	283663	251172	87.06	0	0	26	0
Source - Population Census 2001(Provisional)											

11. CONCLUSION

The profile of three districts shows that all districts are not developed in agriculture. The most of the male population has gone out of district. Hence, in these three districts there is a need of development of co-operatives in horticulture, floriculture, service sector, fisheries, etc. Also the need based co-operative societies can be formed on selfless bases, so that there would be desired economic development in these districts. The discussion on Raigad district shows that this district is now not suitable for fishing due to industrialization. The rich people had purchased the land for their industries, which affects badly on farming and fishing. The SEZ seems a big blow to fisheries in coastal region.