

CHAPTER - 3

PROFILES OF THE SHOLAPUR DISTRICT

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PROFILES OF THE SHOLAPUR DISTRICT

The objective for the establishment of the Maharashtra State Co-operative Agricultural and Rural Development Bank Ltd is to provide an agency for development of agriculture hence, a review of the agricultural situations prevailing in the state viz, location, climate, types of soil, soil fertility in the district, structure of land holding, incidence of draught, population, cropping pattern and productivity, water resources and irrigation etc., is essential to understand and appraise the working of this Bank.

3.1 LOCATION :

The district of Sholapur is bounded by 17 10 north and 18 32' north latitudes and 74 42' east and 76 15' east longtides. The district lies entirely in the Bhima - Sina - Man river basin. The adjoining districts are Sangli to it's south-west, Satara to it's west, Pune to it's north west, Ahmadnagar to it's north, Bhir and Osmanabad to it's east and Bijapur district in Karnataka State to it's south.

The total geographical area of the district amounts to 15017 sq. kms. It forms 4.88 percent of the total geographical area of Maharashtra, out of the total geographi-

cal area of the district 2.26 percent (338.8 sq. kms) is classified as urban area and 97.74 percent (14678.2) sq. kms. as a rural area. The whole district has been divided into three divisions namely solapur, Madha and Pandharpur. There are 1104 villages and 6 are deserted villages in the district.

3.2 CLIMATE

Sholapur district comes under the dry tropical climatic area. On the whole, there is an adequate warmth and bright sunshine through the year to provide ripening conditions of crops. The mean daily maximum temperature in Solapur city is 40.7 C and the mean daily minimum is 17.1 C . The daily range of temperature seems to be wide. The climate on the whole is characterised by general dryness in the major portion of the year. The change from warm season to cold season is important feature of the climate and the agricultural operations are closely associated with the different season of the year. There are three seasons in the district 1) Hot season 2) Rainly season and 3) Cold season.

3.3 TYPES OF SOIL

On the whole, soil constitutes the physical basis of our agricultural enterprise. Farming is a business and good soil is a part of the farmers stock in trade spatial

distribution of soil types and fertility are presented in District abstract of Sholapur. The present information of soils is mainly based on the district Gazetteer, the district census hand book and under ground water survey agency report only. The part of Sholapur district occupies mainly the basins of Nira, Bhima, Man and Sina rivers and consequently it consists of undulating planes intercepted with a few scattered hills in Malsiras, Karmala and Barshi talukas. Most of the areas consists of low uplands separated by valleys. The soil in the district is mainly derived by deccan trap. The soils are practically under lain by decomposed basaltic rocks, locally known as murum. On the whole the soils of the district can be divided broadly in to three major groupa based up on the physical characteristics. The are 1) Shallow soil 2) Medium black 3) Deep black soil.

3.4 SOIL FERTILITY IN THE DISTRICT

Soil fertility refers to the nutrients present in the soil. The crops in fact require a number of nutrients for their usual growth and yields, out of them, Nitrogen phosphrous and potash are of much important and their quantities in soils normally determine fertility. The black soil of the district are poor in nitrogen content and as such the response to the nitrogenous chemical fertilizers is good. On the other hand laterite soils are relatively rich in

nitrogen content. In case of phosphorous most of the soils are fairly rich but the shallow soils are relatively poor in the phosphorous content. Hence their response to phosphorous fertilizers is always good. All the black soils are rich in potash content, particularly in the brown soils. In laterite soil potash content is relatively very low. The western part of the district has shallow soil cover which is generally infertile and poor in potash content but fair in nitrogen and phosphorous content medium and deep black soils mainly found in the level ground and along the river valleys, are fertile in phosphorous and potash content but poor in nitrogen. These soils have considerable potentials for the agricultural production. Lastly the soils of district are clayey, moderately alkline in reaction and contain moderate amounts of calcium carbonate. They are well supplied with nitrogen but are low in phosphorous and potash.

3.5 LAND UTILISATION PATTERN OF THE DISTRICT

Of the total geographical area of the district - 1503700 hectares, 2.17 percent is under forest, 4.05 percent is under grazing land and pastures 5.55 percent under uncultivable land and 12.22 percent under waste land of which 6.08 percent area is under current fallows. In the year 1984-85 the net cultivated area in the district worked out to be 1131800 hectares out of which 93800 hectares under

cultivation more than one in a year. The gross cropped area of the district in the same year amounts to 1225600 hectares.

3.6 STRUCTURE OF LAND HOLDING

According to the agricultural census of 1977 there are 243947 agricultural holdings having an area of 1305000 hectares of these 97 percent holding are individual holdings (present farms) having 96 percent of the total cultivated area. The rest of the holdings are either jointly owned or owned by other institutions.

Details regarding the distribution of holdings by size can briefly be outlined. Table No. 3.1 reveals that the large number of holdings having less than 5 hectares or up to 5 hectares amount to 62 percent of the total number of holdings. Whereas the area possessed by them amount to just 8 percent of the total cultivated area. As against this 38 percent of holdings above 10 hectares possess 92 percent of the total cultivated area of the district. The point to be noted is that in drought prone area 62 percent of agricultural families share among themselves, just 8 percent of the cultivated area, only one can imagine the average size of the holding of this class of the farmers, whose size of holdings could be considered as totally un-economic for cultivation.

TABLE NO. 3.1

The Distribution of Holding by Size

Sr.No.	Size of the Holdings	% of Holdings to the total number	% area of Holdings the total
1.	Less than 2 hect.	30	6
2.	2 to 5 hect.	32	2
3.	5 to 10 hect.	23	30
4.	10 to 20 hect.	12	33
5.	More than 30 hect.	03	29
Total		100	100

Source : District Stastical Office, Sholapur.

3.7 POPULATION

By the census of 1981 the population of this district is totally 2610144. In it there are 1344147 males (gents) and 1265997 females (ladies) comparing to the census of 1971 it is found that the population is increasing rapidly by the proportion of 15.80%. The thickly populated area in this district was in north Sholapur taluka and less populated was in Mangalweda taluka.

Comparing to the all Maharashtra state the field area of the district is 4.88% and the proportion of the population is 4.12%. The density of the populations was 204 in this district. The high density (837) in this district was in north Sholapur taluka and the most less density of the population was in Mangalweda and Karmala taluka.

By the census of 1981 rural population in this district was 70.38% and the urban population was 29.62%. The high density of urban population was in north Sholapur and less density urban population was in Sangola taluka. There is 100% rural population in south Sholapur, Mohol and Malshiras in this district.

3.8 CROPPING PATTERN AND PRODUCTIVITY

Cropping pattern has significant bearing on the crop loan requirements. Farmers are reported to have become

conscious about the aims of multiple cropping. Agricultural is the most important sector in this district. Jawar is the main and important crop of this district. There was 59.28% field under Jawar crop in 1980-81 in this district and 6.05 % field is used for Bajara crop and 4.86% field is used for toor crop, 4.18 % field is used for wheat and 4.50% field is used for oil seeds.

When we compare the production of 1982-83 to the production of 1981-82 it is found that the grain is decreased by the 37.71% and Kad-grain by the percentage of 31.69 and the production of sugacane is increased in 1982-83 then the production of 1981-82 and it is increased by the tonage of 2841. But the production of the sugarcane is decreased in 1983-84 than 1982-83 by the percentage of 14.15% and in 1984-85 by the percentage of 11.93.

As compared to the 1983-84 to the 1982-83 it is found that there is decrease of the grain by the percentage of 80.75 and Kad-grain by the percentage of 114.60. In the year 1984-85 there is no change in the production of grains but the production of Kad-grain is decreased by the percentage of 30.05%.

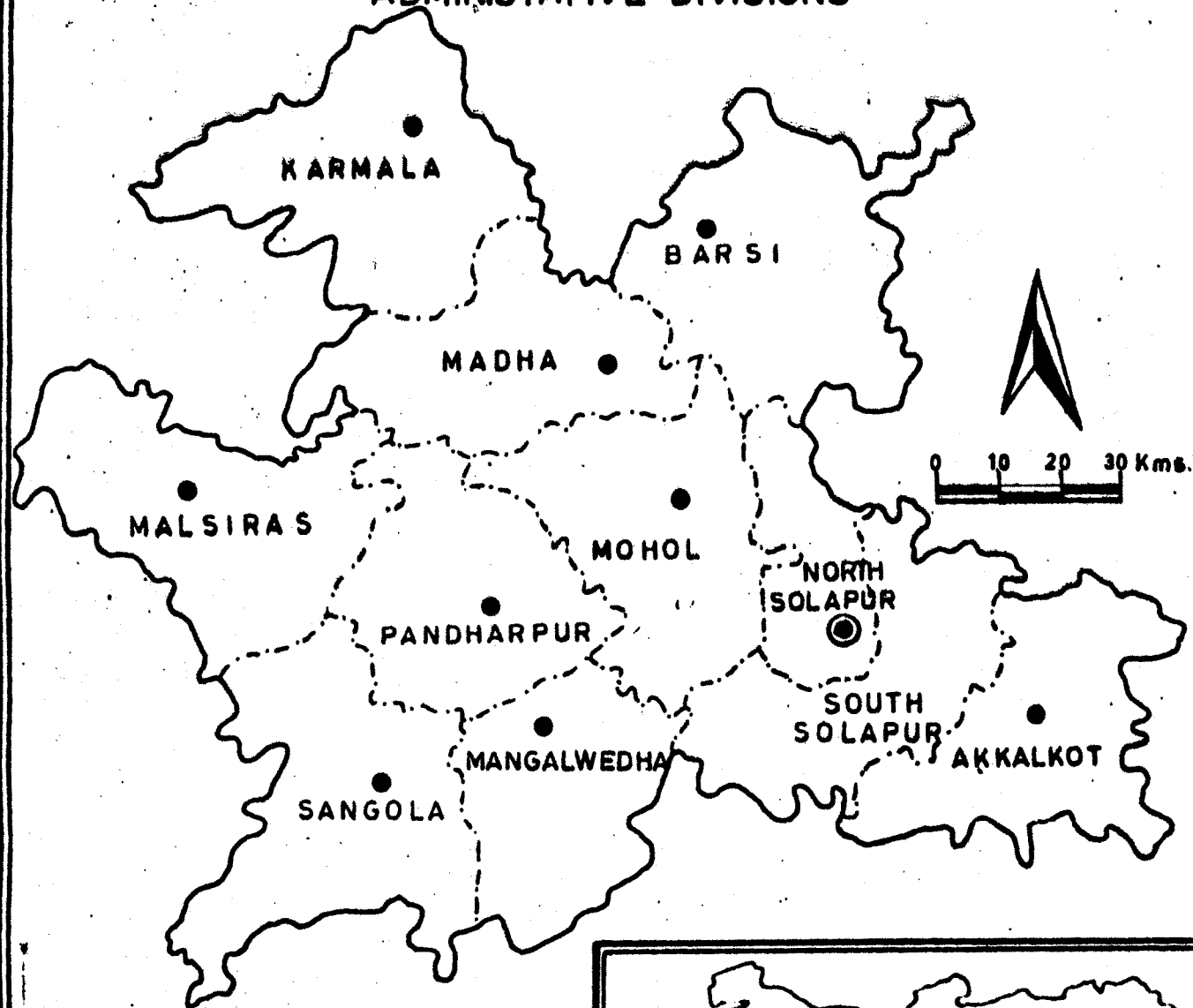
3.9 WATER RESOURCES AND IRRIGATION

In the year 1980-81 there was 182131 hectares field under irrigated area. That is 12.21% of the net

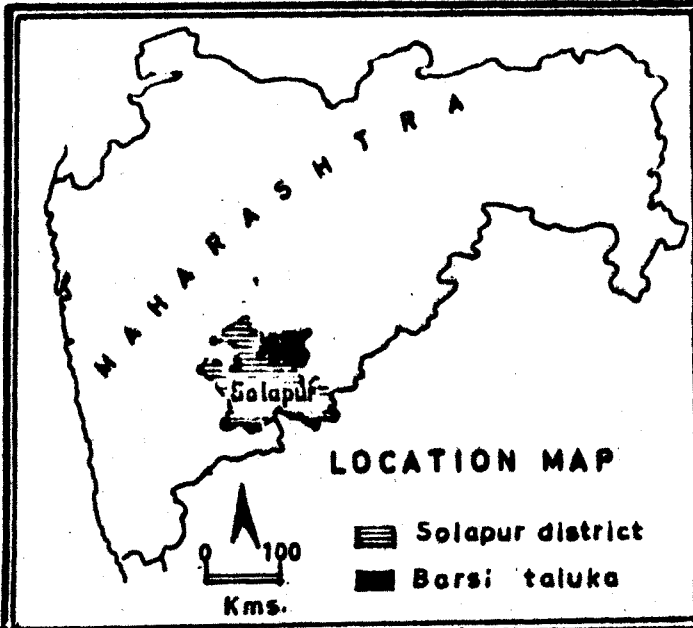
cropped field. In the year 1980-81 there was 11.01% increase than 1979-80. Through total irrigated area 35.53% is used for Jawar, 15.32% is used for wheat, 11.44% for sugarcane, 4.42% is used for groundnuts and 4.66% is used for cotton. Through total irrigated area 87.60% is used for food-grains or crops and 12.40% for non food grains.

Bhima irrigation project is only one big project in the Sholapur district. The first plan of the construction of this project was completed in 1980. In 1984-85, 47% of the construction of the canal was completed, the beneficial field of this project is 153530 hectares and after the completion of the project there will be additional 112940 hectares irrigated area. In 1983-84, 130 medium projects were completed and from that medium projects 13119 hectares area was irrigated.

SOLAPUR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS



- DISTRICT BOUNDARY
- - - TALUKA BOUNDARY
- ⊙ DISTRICT H. Q.
- TALUKA H. Q.



- LOCATION MAP
- ▨ Solapur district
 - Barsi taluka