
CHAPTER NO. II

PROFILE OF MALAVAN TALUKA

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CHAPTER IIPROFILE OF MALAVAN TALUKA2:0 INTRODUCTION :

Malavan taluka is one of the 7 talukas of the Sindhudurg district. Before 1-5-1981, Sindhudurg district was a part of the Ratnagiri district spread from Banda to Bankot, 288 Kms. long, consisting of 15 cities and 1519 villages, forming 15 tahashils. The population of the district was over 20 lakhs. (1971 Census) The Ratnagiri district was bifurcated on administrative grounds in 1981 into two districts namely Ratnagiri district and Sindhudurg district. Thus Sindhudurg district came into existence on 1st May 1981. It comprises 6 talukas viz. Sawantwadi, Vengurla, Kudal, Malavan, Kanakawali and Devgad of former Ratnagiri district and one Vaibhavwadi taluka, popularly known as Talkonkan of Kolhapur district.

2:1 LOCATION :

Sindhudurg district is located on western coast of India and lies between $15^{\circ}37'$ to $16^{\circ}40'$ north latitude and $73^{\circ}19'$ to $74^{\circ}15'$ east longitude. It has north south length of about 120 Kms. and the east west width is about 62 Kms. with coastal line of about 100 Kms. The district is bounded by Ratnagiri district in the north, Arabian Sea in the west, Goa State in the south and Kolhapur district in the east.¹

Source: Collector Office, Kudal.

2:2 AREA:

The area of the Sindhudurg district is 5,031.3 Sq. Kms, as against 3,07,776 Sq.kms. of Maharashtra State and 32,87,782 Sq.Kms. of India .This accounts for about 1.63 % of Maharashtra and about 0.15 % of India. The area of Malavan taluka is 663.3 Sq.Kms., which is 13.18 % of the area of the Sindhudurg district.

2:3 GEOGRAPHICAL ZONES:

The district can be divided in 3 geographical zones i.e. i) Coastal Belt ii) Middle Belt iii) Syhadrian Belt , each belt is of about 15 to 20 Kms.

2:3:1 COASTAL BELT :

The coastal belt is popularly known as ' Khalati ' meaning lower strip, from the sea coast of about 15 to 20 Kms. where agriculture, horticulture and fishing activities are main source of livelihood.

2:3:2 MIDDLE BELT :

Middle north-south belt of about 15 to 20 Kms. of width forms the ' Middle Belt'. The belt is popularly known as ' valati ' meaning upper strip and lies mostly along Bomaby-Goa Highway. The plateau surface of the belt is used for the cultivation of cereals, rice and rai etc.

2:3:3 SYHADRIAN BELT :

The third belt on the eastern side with mostly steep slopes of Sahyadries and its off shoots, is almost a forest area of the district.

2:4 HILLS AND RIVERS :

The Sahyadrian slopes on the east, sea-coast on the west and innumerable small hill-ranges running east-west and north-south are the salient features which govern the physiography and land scape of the district. All the seven rivers of the district originate from the Sahyadri ranges and merge with the Arabian Sea. In length they seldom exceed 30 Kms. and are of small size and volume. In the monsoon they bear rushing torrent of water but during the rest of the period they are only 'threaded' channels of sluggish water and they cannot even fulfil the local needs of drinking water. Normally 50 to 60 villages in Malavan taluka face water shortage. The problem becomes more severe when there is a shortfall in the rain and when next monsoon is delayed.

2:5 SOIL :

The soil of the district is laterite in nature varying in colour from bright red to brown-red . It is acidic and is fairly well supplied with nitrogen and organic substance. The texture is loamy and is not retentive of moisture. The depth varies from one foot to three feet. The soil is suitable for paddy cultivation, coconut, mangow plantation, cashew plantation etc.

2:6 CLIMATE AND RAINFALL :

The temperature of the air varies from 35°C to 40°C and the humidity varies between 50 % to 55 %. Average rainfall is 3,500 m.ms., maximum being 4,000 m.ms. at Amboli. Average rainfall in the Malavan taluka is 2380 m.ms..The rainy season of the taluka is from May to October, the rest of the period of year is almost no-rain period.

2:7 DEMOGRAPHY :

According to 1981 Census, population of Sindhudurg district was 7,79,299 .The relative population figures for Malavan, Maharashtra, India, Men-women classification, density of population etc have been shown in the table Nos. 2:7:1 to 2:7:3.

TABLE NO. 2:7:1DENSITY OF POPULATION

Sr.No.	Particulars	Density per Sq.K.M.
1	Malavan Taluka	178
2	Sindhudurg Dist.	155
3	Maharashtra	204
4	India	216

Source :

- 1) Census, Record, Collector Office
- 2) Memory Year Book 1986 p 448

TABLE NO. 2:7:2

MALE & FEMALE CLASSIFICATION OF THE POPULATION

Sr. No.	Particulars	Total Population	Male Population	Female Population	Sex Ratio
1	Malvan Tal.	1,17,842	52,008	65,834	1266
2	Sindhudurg Dist	7,79,299	3,53,384	4,25,915	1205
3	Maharashtra	6,27,84,171	3,24,15,126	3,03,69,045	937
4	India	68,51,84,692	34,39,30,423	32,13,57,476	933

Sources : 1) Census Record , Collector Office , Kudal

2) Manorama Year Book, 1986 pp 447,449

TABLE NO. 2:7:03

TALUKAMISE POPULATION OF THE SINDHUDURG DISTRICT

Sr. No.	Name of the Village	Total Pop.	Urban Pop.	Rural Pop.	No. of Villages	Average Village Pop.	Percent. of Rural Pop.
1	Sawantwadi	1,67,489	18,671	1,48,818	137	1078	88.85
2	Vengurla	85,557	12,339	73,218	78	939	85.57
3	Kudal	1,29,727	--	1,29,727	124	1046	100.00
4	Malven	1,17,842	17,328	1,00,514	135	744	85.29
5	Deogad	1,09,582	--	1,09,582	64	1712	100.00
6	Kanakawali	1,21,459	--	1,21,459	113	1074	100.00
7	Vaibhav-wadi	47,643	--	47,643	49	972	100.00
	Total	7,79,299	48,338	7,30,961	701	1117	93.79

Source :- Census Record , Collector Office ,Kudal

2:8 AGRICULTURE / HORTICULTURE:

Total land in Malavan taluka is 60,836.89 hectares as against 5,02,900 hectares in the Sindhudurg district. Out of 5,02,900 hectares, land suitable for cultivation is 1,71,876 hectares i.e. about 34 % of the total land only. Land under forest is about 7 %, and 19 % of the land is unsuitable for cultivation.

Out of total land of 60,836.89 hectares of Malavan taluka; land suitable for cultivation is only 42,200 hectares only (i.e. about 69 %) Land under actual cultivation in the year 1985-86 was 13,360 hectares i.e. about 36.65 % of arable land only. The cropping pattern and comparative productivity is shown in the Table No. 2:8:4. The percentage of land under actual cultivation to the total land of the taluka comes to 21.96 % only.

TABLE NO. 2:8:4: CROPPING PATTERN AND COMPARATIVE PRODUCTIVITY

Sr;No.	Major Crop	Land under cultivation (hectares)	Productivity per hector		
			Malavan Taluka	Maharashtra	India.
1	Paddy	11,000	1869 Kg.	1187 to 1343 Kg.	1230 Kg
2	Nagali (Maze)	1,250	1186 "	N.A.	1102 "
3	Other food crops	1,110	200 to 500 Kg.	N.A.	960 to 1568 Kg.

Source : 1) Statistical Outline of India 1984 pp 44,45

2) Panchayat Samiti Office, Malavan

During the year 1985-86 land under horticulture in Malavan taluka was 3,129 hectares i.e. only 5.14 % of total areable land was under horticulture. The details of the plantation pattern are shown in the table No.2:8:5

TABLE NO. 2:8:5
HORTICULTURE PATTERN IN MALVAN TALUKA
(1985-86)

Sr.No.	Particulars	Land under use in Hectors.
1	Mangow Plantation	607
2	Cashewnuts Plantation	1,115
3	Coconut-Plantation	1,356
4	Supari "	23
5	Banana "	28
	Total	3,129

Source: Panchayat Samiti Office, Malavan.

2:9 FISHING :

Maharashtra has 720 Kms. long sea-shore out of which 120 Kms. i.e. about 17 % falls in the Sindhudurg district. Out of 701 villages and 3 cities of Sindhudurg district, 74 villages and 2 cities are fishing villages. Out of ^{the} 74 villages, 26 villages are in Malavan taluka. Further, 22 villages of the district have

the potentials for inland fishing. Fishing activities which include fish-catching, sorting, transportation, selling and converting fish into animal food and manures etc. provide employment to about 10 % of people of Malavan taluka. The fish forms important part of food of about 80 % of population in the taluka, and fish is the only major item that provides proteins to the otherwise low calorie diet of the people. The details of the fishing villages are given in the table No. 2:9:6.

TABLE NO. 2:9:6

FISHING VILLAGES IN THE SINDHURG DISTRICT

Sr.No.	Taluka	No.of Fishing villages	No.of Boats	Inland fishing potentials;; villages..
1	Deogad	28	357	20
2	Malavan	26	992	22
3	Vengurla	15	395	--
4	Kudal	03	25	45
5	Sawantwadi	02	82	37
6	Kankawali	--	--	22
7	Vaibhavwadi	--	--	N.A.
	Total	74	1,851	168

Source: Office of the Asstt. Director of Fisheries
Ratnagiri (1981)

2:10: INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES :

Sindhudurg district is one of the industrially backward districts of Maharashtra State. There are ^a few small scale industries such as cashew industries, coir industries, ice factories, handloom industries, fish processing industries etc. But they are not as effective as they should be in providing employment and in generating income.

2:11 EDUCATION :

The rate of literacy in the Sindhudurg district is 47.55 % as against 36.26 % in India and 47.18 % in Maharashtra. (1981 Census) There were 224 primary schools in the taluka (85-86) with 673 teachers and 16,992 students. There was a primary school for every 2.96 Sq.Kms. and for every 526 of population.

2:12 BANKING FACILITIES :

There were 16 bank offices in Malavan taluka and 32 credit co-operatives as on 31-3-1987. Out of these 16 bank offices in the taluka, 7 bank offices were in Malavan city only. On an average, each bank office served 7,365 people in the urban areas. In the rural areas, there were 9 bank offices serving 1,00,514 people, the average population served by per bank office comes to 11,168.

2:13 TRANSPORTATION :

For transportation not only Malavan taluka but Sindhudurg district as a whole depends mainly on the road transport. Water transport is also used in the taluka to some extent . Table No.2:13:7 shows the position of roads in Sindhudurg district . There were 1,544 transport vehicles and 3,447 non-transport vehicles in the district as on 1-1-1986. (For the details about vehicles refer Appendix II)

TABLE NO. 2:13:7

TABLE SHOWING THE POSITION OF ROADS
IN SINDHUDURG DISTRICTS
(31-3-1986)

Particulars	Surfaced Road Kms.	Unsurfaced Road Kms.	Total Kms.
Malavan Tal.	234.40	20.97	255.37
Sindhudurg Dist.	1309.11	789.84	2,098.95

Source: P.W.D.Office ,Kudal , Kanakawli.

At present ^{the} nearest railway station for Sindhudurg district is Kolhapur. Kolhapur is more than 160 Kms. away from Malavan. In Maharashtra, there are only three districts without railways. The districts and their population is shown in the table No. 2:18:8.

TABLE NO. 2:13:8
THE DISTRICTS WITHOUT RAILWAY FACILITY
(IN MAHARASHTRA)

Sr.No.	District	Population(1981)
1	Sindhudurg	7,72,562
2	Ratnagiri	13,79,555
3	Gadchiroli	6,37,336

Source : Maharashtra 1986

2:14 COMMUNICATION :

In Sindhudurg district there were 344 post offices consisting of 2 H.Os., 74 Br.P.Os. and 268 Sub Post Offices as on 31-3-87. Of these 54 post offices including one H.O., 10 Br.P.Os., and 43 sub post offices were in Malavan taluka. There was a post office for every 2,265 people and for every 14.62 Sq. Kms. in Sindhudurg district and for every 2,182 people and for every 12.28 Sq. Kms. in Malavan taluka. (As per 1981 census, there was a post office for every 5,350 people and for every 26.76 Sq.Kms. in Maharashtra and for every 4,728 people and for every 22.68 Sq.Kms. in India.)

2:15 WAREHOUSING :

As per collector office Kudal's, record there were 11 permanent Govt. godowns and 26 seasonal godowns in Sindhudurg District .(March 1987) Out of these godowns, 2 permanent godowns at Malavan and Achare and 3 seasonal godowns at Devbag, Budhawale and Tondwali were in Malavan taluka. It was observed that there was not a single godown in the taluka available on 'rental basis'. Similarly there were no cold storage facilities available in Malavan taluka.

2:16 MARKETING OF CONSUMER GOODS :

The consumer goods of daily requirements are marketed in the taluka through a) Fair Price Shops
b) Co-operatives 3) Private retailers.

A) FAIR PRICE SHOPS :

In Sindhudurg district there were 312 fair price shops in March 1987. Out of these 50 shops were in Malavan taluka. Out of these 50 shops , 7 shops were in Malavan (Urban) and 43 shops were in rural areas. On an average each fair price shop was serving 2,337 people in the rural areas and about 2,475 people in the urban areas. These shops were found supplying mainly wheat rice, jawar, sugar, edible oil, ata and rawa. Sometimes they were found supplying vanspati oil also.

B) Co-operatives:

As reported by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Kudal, there were 17 consumer co-operatives in Sindhudurg district by the end of Feb. 1987. Out of these only 3 co-operative

societies were in Malavan taluka. Malavan Taluka Kharedi Vikri Sangh was serving as a link society. Malavan Taluka Kharedi Vikri Sangh was running 13 fair price shops in the taluka. The consumer co-operative societies were supplying 'Kirana' whereas the sangh was supplying mainly controlled commodities.

CO) RETAILERS (GROCERS)

The position of the retailers supplying 'Kirana' in Malavan taluka is shown in the table No. 2:16:8.A

TABLE NO. 2:16:8:A
RETAILERS SUPPLYING 'KIRANA' IN
MALAVAN TALUKA *

Particulars	Kirana Shops (Fixed)	Stalls
Malavan (U)	59	50
Selected 12 Villages...	35	16
Estimated* Other 113 Villages..	350	160
Total	444	226

* Estimate is based on the actual survey of selected 12 villages.

The retailers in Malavan taluka particularly in rural areas supply not only 'kirana' but also stationery, milk, some medicines, plastic foot-wares, electric goods, etc. Some times they served as money lenders.

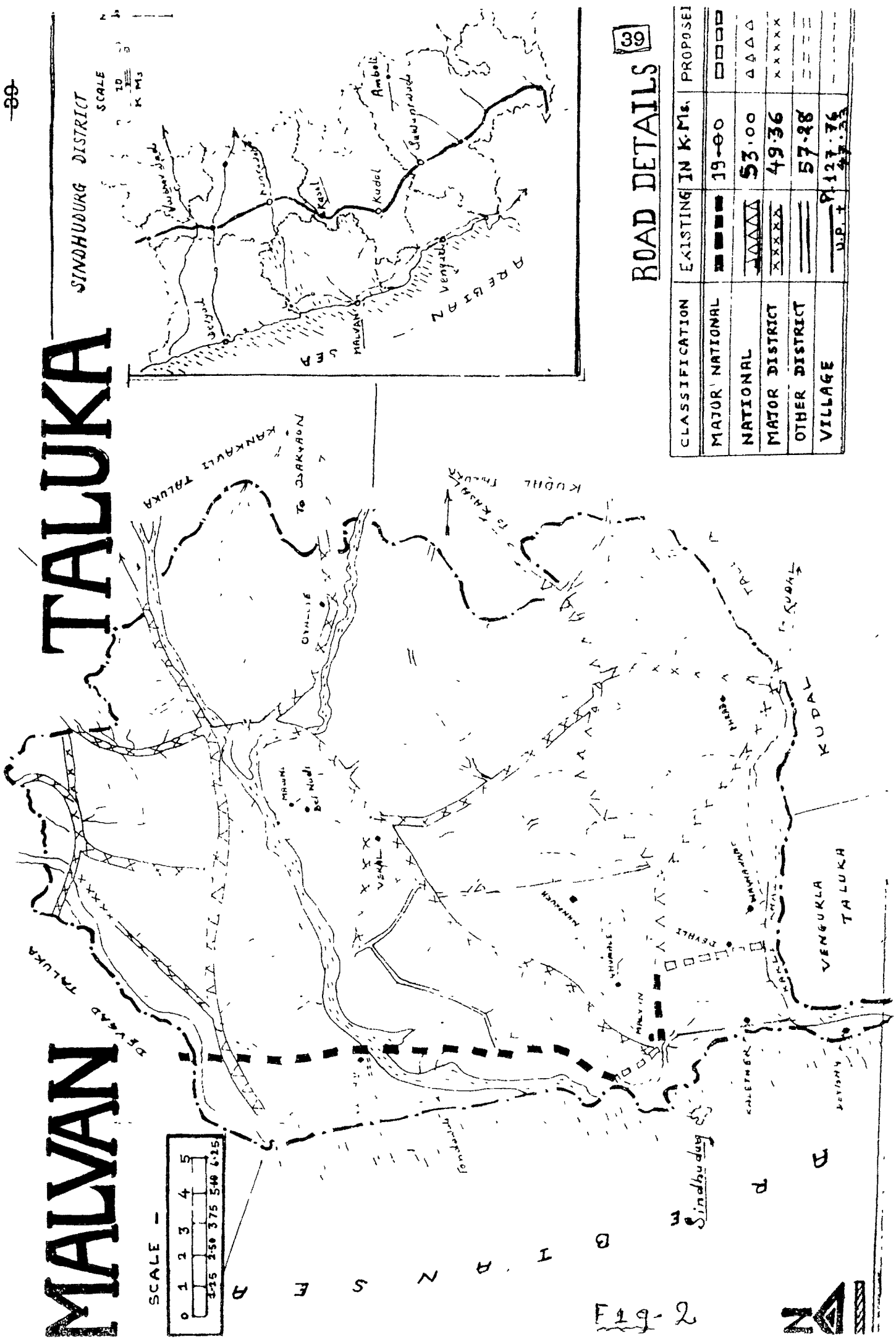
2:17 ELECTRIFICATION :

Electrification of Sindhudurg district is almost 100 %. Out of 701 villages and 3 cities in the district all villages have been electrified except^a very few villages which are likely to submerge under the water of Talamb Project (6 villages) in Kudal taluka, Karli Project (3-4 villages) and Tilari Project (8 villages) in Sawantwadi taluka. Technically speaking Malavan taluka is fully electrified . On the background of 51.33 % village-electrification in Maharashtra State and only 32.72 % village-electrification in India, Sindhudurg district appeared to be most advanced in this respect.

2:18 TOURISM :

Malavan taluka is economically backward but it is very rich in its heritage and scenery. It has beautiful sea-shore, small but attractive beaches, greenery and beautiful orchards of coconut trees, historical places of pride like Sindhudurg fort etc. that can attract not only Indian but also foreign tourists . However, necessary infrastructural facilities will have to be provided. If this is done , tourism can provide employment and will be^a very good source of income to the local people.

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ROAD DETAILS

CLASSIFICATION	EXISTING	IN K.Ms.	PROPOSED
MAJOR NATIONAL	▬▬▬▬	19.00	□□□□
NATIONAL	▬▬▬▬▬▬	53.00	△△△△
MAJOR DISTRICT	▬▬▬▬▬▬	49.36	XXXXXX
OTHER DISTRICT	▬▬▬▬	57.28	=====
VILLAGE	U.P. 1	127.76	-----
		47.53	

Fig-2



MALVAN

TALUKA



SCALE 1CM = 1.25 KM.

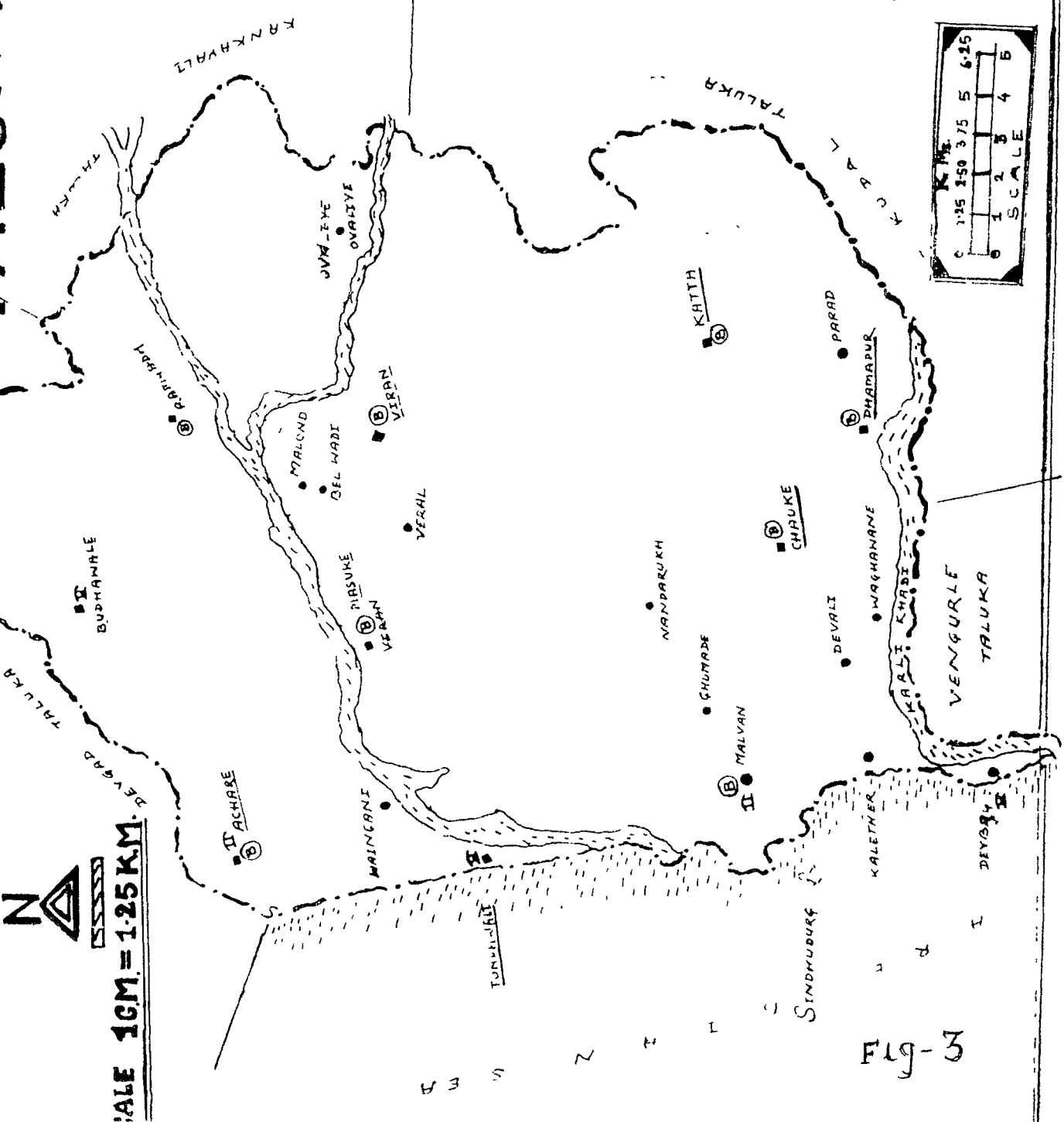
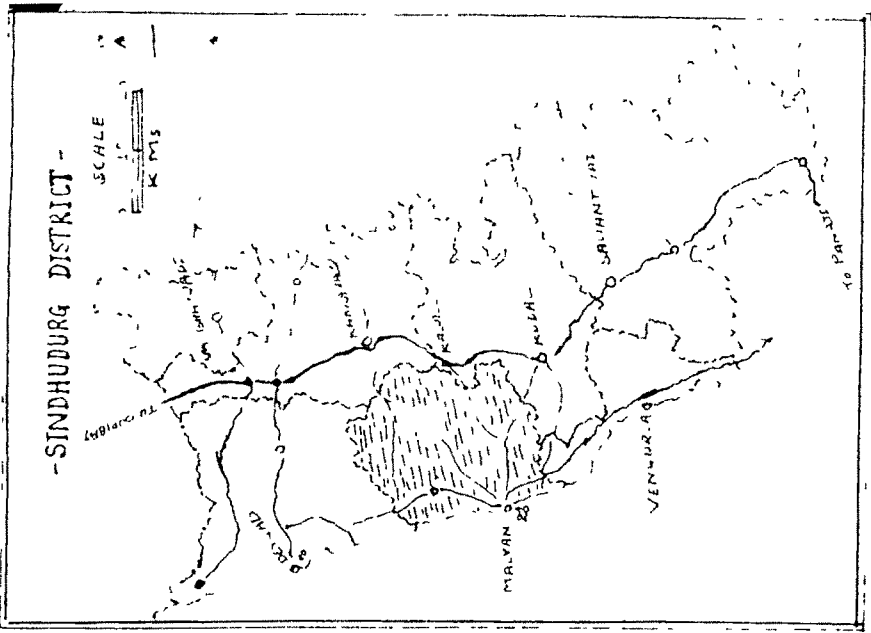


FIG-3



- VILLEGES SELECTED FOR STUDY
- Ⓟ VILLEGES WITH BANK OFFICES
- Ⓘ VILLEGES WITH GODOWNS (11140)

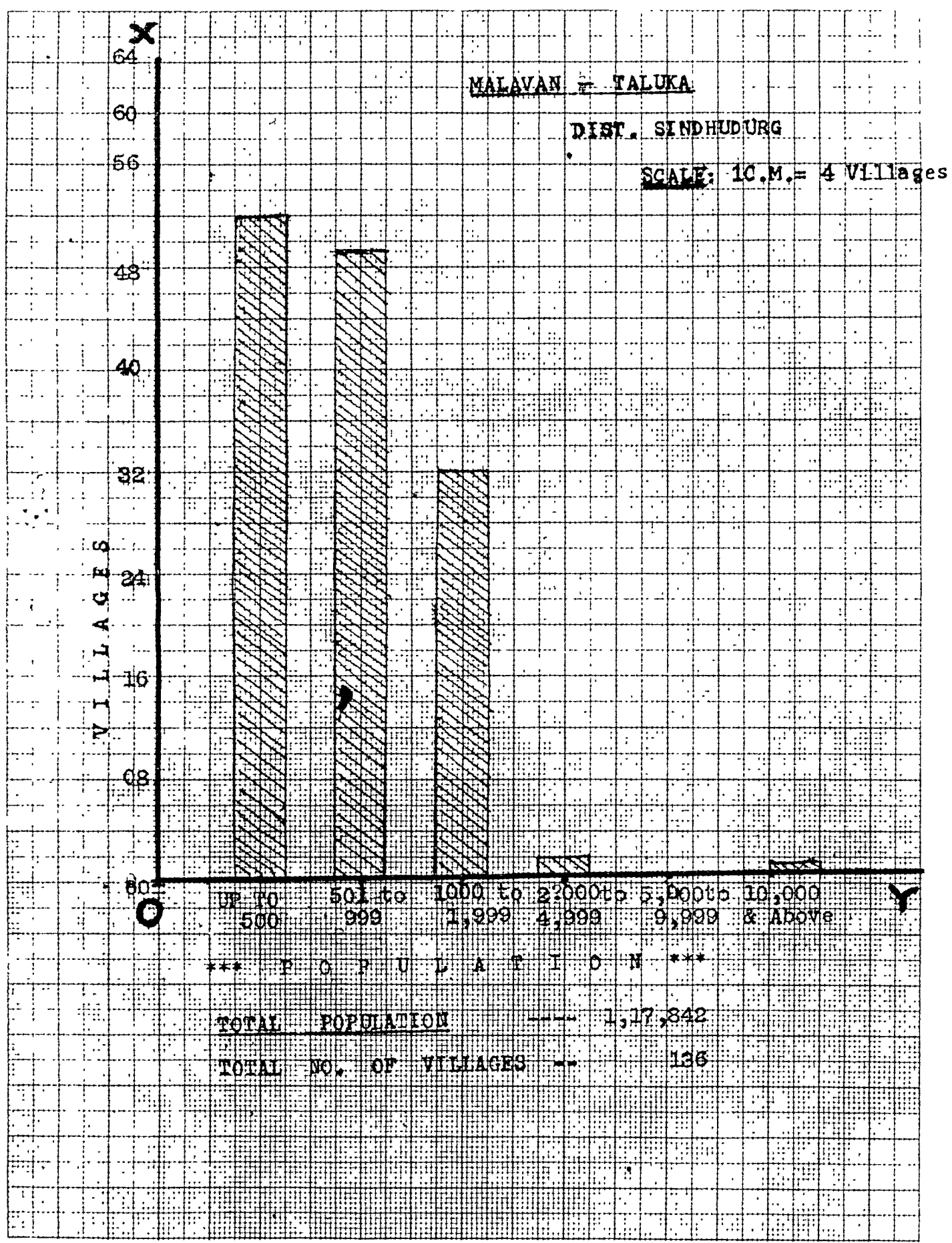


FIG-4