

CHAPTER - 3

THE PLACE AND THE PEOPLE

CHAPTER III

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3.1 LOCALE OF THE STUDY

The present study has been conducted in the city of Kolhapur. Which is the head-quarters of Kolhapur district in southern Maharashtra, bordering with Karnataka.

The Kolhapur district lies between 15° and 17° North latitude and 73° and 74° East latitude with an area of 3,188.4 Sq. miles. The district is bounded on the North by the district of Satara, on the West by the district of Ratnagiri and on the South and the East by the district of Belgaum of Karnataka State.

The climate of this district is generally temperate and with uniformity of seasons. The rainfall however, is not uniform all over the district. The average annual rainfall varies from about 600 mm. to 6000 m.m.

While the district of Kolhapur has a population of nearly 30 lakhs (29,74,352) according to 1991 Census).

POPULATION OF KOLHAPUR DISTRICT

	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	GROWTH	RATE
<u>Kolhapur Dist.</u>				1971-81	1981-91
Total	29,74,352	15,13,004	14,61,348	31.36	18.75
Rural	21,89,011	11,03,179	10,85,832		
Urban	7,85,341	4,09,825	3,75,516		

SEX AND ILLITERACY RATIO OF KOLHAPUR DISTRICT

RATIO	TOTAL		RURAL		URBAN	
	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981
Sex Ratio	966	962	984	986	916	895
Illiteracy Ratio	156	203	166	235	157	157

The district has of 12 tahsila or Talukas. Which are Karvir, Panhale, Hatkanghale, Shirol, Yagal, Badhinglaj, Chandgad, Ajra, Bhudargad, Radhanagari, Bawda, Shahuwadi

3.2 PROFILE OF KOLHAPUR CITY

Among all the tahsils of the Kolhapur district, Karvir or Kolhapur city is obviously the most developed one.

Kolhapur city or the Kolhapur Municipal Corporation area comes under Karvir tahsil of Kolhapur District. It's total area is 67.2 Sq. K.M. It is the head quarters of Kolhapur District in southern Maharashtra. It stands on rising ground about 1790 feet above the sea and about half mile from the right or south bank of the penchanga.

The city Kolhapur has a population according to 1991 Census is 4,05,118 out of which 2,11,147 (52.12%) are males and 1,93,971 (47.88 %) are females.

WARD-WISE POPULATION OF KOLHAPUR CITY

WARD	1981	1991	Growth Rate	
			1971-81	1981-91
A.	64982	77283	31.49	18.93
B.	50979	60429		
C.	39970	47536		
D.	37871	45039		
E	146823	174616		
	3,40,625	4,05,105		

LITERACY RATE OF KOLHAPUR CITY

The percentage of literacy in the city is 66.85. There is however a difference between the males and females in this respect.

KOLHAPUR CITY - GROWTH OF LITERACY

YEAR	POPULATION		NO.OF LITERATES	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
1981	1,79,332	1,61,293	1,35,434	92,284
1991	2,11,147	1,93,971	1,68,997	1,28,466

3.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF VEGETABLE MANDAIES

Generally vegetable market is established under, Municipal Corporation Act, 1949, Number of vegetable markets in Kolhapur is ten, as follows,

1. Kapilthirtha Market
2. Annasaheb Padalkar Market, Sangavesh.
3. Shukrawar Dharmashala
4. Narwaykar Market, Shahunagar.
5. Rajarampuri Market,
6. Tararani Market- Railway phatak.
7. Laxmipuri Market
8. Kasaha-Bawada Market.
9. Shivaji Market
10. Shahu Market

In the present study seven, out of ten markets have been chosen for the purpose of investigation and data collection. These are as follows -

1. Kapilthirtha Market
2. Annasaheb Padalkar Market, Sangavesh.
3. Shivaji Market
4. Laxmipuri Market
5. Rajarampuri Market,
6. Shahupuri Market
7. Shahu Market

1. KAPILTHIRTHA MARKET

This is the biggest and busy market in Kolhapur City. It was established in 1916. The area covered by this Market is 2856 Yards. As it is centrally located, not only consumers of city but consumers from nearby places are also seen in this Market.

New building of this market was constructed in 1968. But there are not enough facilities for sellers like, Warehouse/Storage, Seats arrangement (Katta) etc.

This is only market in Kolhapur in which there is organisation of sellers.

2. ANNASAHEB PADALKAR MARKET GANGAVESH

This market is established in 1978. In this market about 90 sellers are generally present, out of this about 36 are female sellers. As Gangavesh S.T. Stand is at a stone thrown distance from this market, the consumers from near by place are also seen in this market. Actually this market remains crowded in between 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. In the afternoon session sellers of this market shift to Tararani Market, near railway phatak because there is rush of consumers of vegetables in evening in this region.

In this market no adequate facilities for sellers such as toilet, Potable Water, Storage are available. Market is on the open ground. The net effect of this inadequate

facilities is the increased of the vegetables. One more speculating thing is that there is no watch-man, so there is every possibility of stealing.

Of course, some facilities are given regularly to this Market from Kolhapur Municipal corporation such as, spraying chemicals to prevent disease, cleaning the Market area twice a day. But still these facilities are inadequate and as the sellers of this market have no organisation, everybody has to put his problems before Market Inspector individually.

3. SHIVAJI MARKET

This Market is established in 1905 and is moderated now. This is the busiest Market in Kolhapur. The new building has been constructed in March 15, 1989. The height of this building is ninety feet and consists of two floors. The ground floor consist of the shops of tobacco, Pan-Shop and other goods. On the first floor there are vegetable and fruit Markets.

The area of this Market is 3677 Sq. yards. In this Market about 76 sellers are regularly present, out of that 42 are female sellers. The office of Market Inspector is located in this market so, it is easy for sellers to put their problems before the Market Inspector. Besides this, this is the only Market in Kolhapur where adequate facilities for sellers are available, Such as toilet, drinking water, storage. Night-Watchman is kept so there is security.

4. LAXMIPURI MARKET

This market is of middle level as to its size. It is the area having grain wholesale shops, tobacco, Pan-Shops, fruit and vegetable stalls, etc. This area is full of dust, noise and in the rainy season, it becomes muddy and dirty. It is open market. Sellers are working in this area in the same conditions. In this market about 54 sellers are regularly present out of which 22 are female sellers.

There are no adequate facilities for sellers such as toilet, potable water, storage, etc. In this market weekly bazar is held every Sunday. This weekly bazar is called as 'Kharala' Farmers from nearby villages come and actively in the transactions.

Although there are inadequate facilities, the turnover of seller is higher.

5. RAJARAMPURI MARKET

It is a new market of Kolhapur Municipal Corporation, located at a corner of the area of Rajampuri. It is established in 1981. In this market, about 86 sellers are regularly present out of that 25 female Sellers.

The area is composed of middle class customers. The number of customers are comparatively less, but majority of the customers are from middle and higher middle class and the turnover is therefore higher.

Like other markets in city, this market is also suffering from lack of facilities such as compound, night watchman, storage facility, etc.

6. SHAHUPURI MARKET

This is the oldest market in Kolhapur. In 1984 new building is constructed for vegetable market. About 76 sellers are present in which there are 38 female sellers.

This Market is overcrowded in between 8-11 a.m. In the evening the sellers of this market shifts to Railway Phatak market.

In this market, facility of potable water is available, but still suffering from other inadequacies such as compound, toilet, storage facility, etc.

Besides this, there is no organisation of sellers, So every seller has to put his own grievance in front of Market Inspector individually.

7. SHAHU MARKET

Shahu Market is located in the locality of Principal Market (Shahu Market). Actually this is established in 1989 according to Agriculture Produce Market Committee Act, 1968 Area of this Market is half an acre and new building is construction in 1993.

In this market 35 sellers (17 female sellers) are present regularly. This market has the following facilities. storage, seats arrangement (katta), potable water. Still like other market this market has following inadequacies such as toilet, compound, cleaning facilities, etc.

As this market is near Shahu Market there is a saving in expenditure of transport. Besides this, there is easy availability of fresh vegetables, So there is rush of consumers consequently, it pays good turnover to sellers.

PRINCIPAL MARKET - SHAHU MARKET YARD

Previously the principal market was in the thickly populated area named as 'Shahupuri' in the city. Later, it was shifted to the present site on the Poona-Bangalore National Highway, to the East of Kolhapur city, in the month of December, 1958 and named as 'SHRI SHAHU MARKET YARD'. The area of the present Market yard is about 120 acres. Since 25th May, 1967, the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act of 1963 and rules there under are made applicable to this market

As there is no enough place (area) for vegetable and fruit market in the city, So the vegetable and fruit market has been started in shahu market yard from 19th Aug. 1989

For the development of this market Central Govt. have sanctioned subsidy of Rs. fifty lakhs and A loan of Rs. Twenty lakhs is sanctioned by the Maharashtra State Land Development Bank Ltd, Bombay (Under the NABARD SCHEME)

TABLE NO. 1.1TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBERS OF FEMALE SEELLERS IN MARKETS

NO.	NAME OF VEG. MARKET	NO. OF TOTAL SELLERS & FEMALE		PERCENTAGE
		TOTAL	FEMALE	
1.	Kapilthirth Market	289	115	11.5
2.	Padalkar Market	90	36	3.6
3.	Shivaji Market	76	42	4.2
4.	Rajarampuri Market	86	25	2.5
5.	Shahupuri Market	76	38	3.8
6.	Laxmipuri Market	54	22	2.2
7.	Shahu Market	35	17	1.7
		617	295	29.5

NO OF TOTAL RESPONDENTS

30

Table 1.1 describes in detail vegetable Markets, total Female Sellers and the sample selected. Female vegetable sellers have been selected from 7 markets, 10 % of the total female sellers were decided to be included in the sample. Thus number of sellers came to 30

YEARLY COLLECTIONS OF CORPORATION
FROM VEGETABLE MARKET

YEAR	COLLECTION (IN Rs)	YEAR	COLLECTION IN RS.
1980-81	80,062	1987-88	4,72,522
1981-82	92,145	1988-89	5,85,354
1982-83	1,00,266	1989-90	5,52,376.
1983-84	1,42,784	1990-91	5,42,250
1984-85	1,81,512	1991-92	6,22,000
1985-86	1,91,331	1992-93	8,06,000
1986-87	1,61,640	1993-94	7,51,300

3.4 SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS

' Status is the key term in understanding the social differentiation and stratification of human society.

1. According to Ralph Linton (1936) - 'Status refers to positions in pattern of reciprocal behaviour and role is the dynamic aspect of status in relation to the total society ' #1

2. Lowie 1948 has conceived status in respect of 4 things the actual treatment obtained, legal status, opportunities for social participation and character #2

Social status and economic status are two important blades in a scissor, difficult to say which of these blades cuts the cloth. Both are inter-related. The social and economic status are largely determined by the social element, economic structure of the society and education. The term socio-economic pertains to social and economic factors.

Social factors focus on cultural and environmental factors like demographic characters, health, education, recreation, housing, etc. The social status of a person rises with rise in his economic status.

While economic aspects are related with material resources like income, expenditure, savings, investment, etc Economic structure is closely related to the economic status of people, which affects their behaviour and personality.

The status of person is not uniform among all the different castes and communities. It varies from community to community and some times within the same community. Factors like pattern of decent residence, orthodoxy, neighbourhood, laws governing inheritance, marriage and divorce, degree of acculturation and urbanization, levels of education and so on may have contributed to the variation.

The Socio-Economic status is defined in terms of the educational status, housing, social participation, income, expenditure etc.

3.5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF WOMEN

Women occupy an important place in the evolution of human society. The position of women in a society provides an exact measure of the development of society.

Jawahralal Nehru :- " To awaken the people it is the women who must be awakened; once she is on the move, the family moves, the village moves, the nation moves " & 3

Inferiority of women's status and their position is one of the characteristics of underdeveloped economy. Development is unimaginable without improving women's status and position in an underdeveloped economy. India is committed to a steady improvement status of women to bring them in the mainstream of national development. Under different five years plans, general as well as special programmes have been undertaken to cater to the special requirements of

the women. But it is sad in the Indian context that women's use of economic opportunity has not improved relative to that of men's

3.6 NATURE OF PRESENT STUDY

The present study presents the status of female vegetable sellers and it traces the structural barriers which force them to remain economically and socially backward. Highlighting some of the social factors which are referred to as the super-structural dimensions. The study stress the economic dimensions based on income-expenditure. Which form the base of life and economy of community. An attempt is being made to trace the reason behind poor economic status which has affected their social status.

The Present study has been divided mainly in following sections.

- A Social Condition.
- B Economic Condition.
- C Working Condition.

The social condition presenting tables which are converted into meaningful words related with housing pattern of housing education, awariness of family planning, etc. The economic condition related to their income, expenditure, etc and the working condition presents in terms of working hours, work cycles, length of working days, etc.

The information regarding the vegetable sellers is collected with frequent visits and observation of their activities in the Market. It was possible to take them in confidence only after few visits, as they are mostly from rural background.

The Socio-economic background of the respondents under study is analysed here to know the nature of social and economic background in which they have been put. And it's relation with their life conditions.

Social condition implies, housing, pattern of housing, education, training, awareness of adult education, health, awareness of family planning, trade union, . etc,

Economic condition involve position related to material sources like income, expenditure, indebtedness, etc.

I SOCIAL CONDITION :

1) HOUSING

Housing is closely related with the health of the sellers. It creates health, efficiency and the welfare of sellers. No attempt at raising the standard of living of sellers can be successful without an early solution of the housing problem. Our survey touched on the housing of sellers. The aspects touched are the ownership, number of rooms, facilities, etc.

a) OWNERSHIP

An Individual's standard of living is heavily influenced by the level of housing and the amount paid for it.

b) HOUSING CONDITIONS

Housing condition of sellers according to the number of rooms, the pattern of houses is unsatisfactory. They live in house which neither have kitchens, bathrooms, windows no ventilation. The floor is kuchha and dirty. The atmosphere inside such house is unhygienic. Residing in such houses is a great risk, particularly during rainy season, as there are not built with sound construction material. Since housing of good quality is an expensive, low income families may purchase or rent sound dwellings only at the expenses of other items. Since their income is low and inadequate for meeting all their wants, they tend to sacrifice the quality of the house.

c) HOUSE ACCORDING TO FACILITIES

Facilities in houses are a variable, which determine the standard of living. Our observations and the enquiry related with tap water do not bring favourable reply, the sources for drinking water were a common tap or a well.

Few sellers have electric light and houses which are not pakka construction had no light.

The study further revealed that respondents preferred to use the parks and roadside drains as their toilets, creating an unsanitary environment.

2) HEALTH

Housing and health are inter-connected and both influence the efficiency to examine the health, an enquiry was protected through a schedule regarding awareness about family planning.

3) EDUCATION

Education is a pre-requisite for progress and development of any community. The higher the education the better the chances to get non-manual jobs. It helps in understanding the rational use of resources and improving the productivity and profitability thereby, it improves the economic and social status too. Education paves the way for improving the knowledge, Skill and attitude of a person towards the job.

a) ADULT EDUCATION :-

It is true that the education of mother is a proxy for the socio-economic condition of the family. Adult education had an important role to play in the community development. The people have to provided skills so that they could keep their jobs intact and improve their quality of the life.

Trade Union is essential factor now a days. It gives security in business to a person. The plight of the female sellers can be attributed to the lack of organization, ignorance and illiteracy. They are not aware of the legislations, which trade union study and protect the interest of the members.

II. ECONOMIC CONDITION

The role of the Indian women in household economy can not be underestimated. She carries the multiple burdens of household work, child reproduction and contraception responsibilities and income generation. Thus the burden shared by women for socio-economic development is twofold, first on domestic front and another on economic front. Low economic status compels them to work outside. Women work if they are required to do so because of the economic condition of the family. Vegetable sellers are no exception to this general rule.

1. FINANCE

Finance is essential for marketing functionaries, vegetable sellers depend not on nationalised and other banks. They depend on money lenders. Generally sellers do not raise finance for their business. Commission agents give them credit facility.

2. REPAYMENT OF LOAN

Borrowings are liabilities to be dispensed with. It is therefore necessary to study the ways in which the sellers repay the amount borrowed by them.

3. INCOME

Poverty has various dimensions to measure it. It has been related with income, dependents and earners, and earners, Income and the standard of living are associated fairly with the number of dependents and earners in the family. Income is an important factor having bearing on per capita income and on the level of living.

4. PER CAPITA INCOME AND PER CAPITA EXPENDITURE :

Cross tabulation of the per capita income and per Capita expenditure is taken as proxy for standard of living. To ascertain living conditions, per capita income and per capita expenditure are estimated.

5. SAVING

Saving is the process of with holding current income for future use and results in the accumulation of tangible and financial assets. Vegetable sellers have not cultivated the habit of thrift, as their income is not sufficient to meet the expenditure.