



APPRAISAL OF POPULATION RESOURCES IN AHEMDNAGAR DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA

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Introduction:

Natural and Population resource plays an important role in the regional development. Quality & quantity of population resources has its own vital role in this development because population is consumer and as well as producer of resources. Technological, Social, Cultural and Economic elements developed by population resources is basis of regional development. Effective population resource development is the key for overall development of any region.

Study area:

Ahmednagar district has been selected for the present study. Ahmednagar district is situated partly in the upper Godavari basin and partly in the Bhīma basin occupying a somewhat central position in Maharashtra state. It extends between 1802' to 1909' North latitudes and 7309' to 7505' East longitudes. The district comprises of fourteen-tehsil spread over a total geographical area of 17048 sq. km. While the area of the district accounts for 5.66 percent of the total area of the state. The district is biggest district of Maharashtra in terms of area. Out of the total geographical area of the district 466.57 sq.km. area is occupies by urban centers and remaining 16581.43 sq.k.m.is rural area. The population of the Ahmadnagar district according to the 2011 census is 4543159 with about 51.57% as male and 48.43 % as female population. Ahmadnagar district lies in rain shadow zone of the Maharashtra; About 12.00 percent of the net shown area is under irrigation, which provides the base for major source of income.

Objectives:-

1. To assess the tehsil-wise quality of population resource.
2. To study the regional distribution of population resource. Data base and Methodology:

The present Study based on secondary data sources from 2001 to 2011. For present study following indicators have been selected. Population density, Growth rate, Literacy, Education, Health facility, Sex ratio etc. for above mentioned indicators and the tehsil has been taken as a unit of regional measurement.

Density of Population:

The average density of population has been about 266 per sq. km. according to 2011 census. The tehsil wise density of population has been also quantified according to the data of census. Table I reveals that the density of population in Ahmednagar district is less than the population density of Maharashtra state. Typical physiographical condition mainly, western hilly region, eastern and southern dry region are responsible for the less population density. Within the district, the density varies from 527 persons per square kilometer in Rahta tehsil to 142 persons per square kilometer in Parner tehsil. The highest density in Rahta (527) and Shirampur (506) tehsil is due to the expansion in the fertile soil, water resources, and transportation facilities, education facilities, government offices, industrialization, religious center. Low density of population observed in Parner and Jamkhed tehsil mainly due to scarcity of rainfall while in Parner and Jamkhed tehsils hilly region lack of transportation facility, less availability of agricultural land and lack of industrialization are responsible for low density of population.

Table-I
Population Resource Development Indicators (2011)

Sr. No	Tahsil	Population Density	Population Growth	Literacy %	Education Facility	Sex Ratio	Health Facility %
1	Akola	193	5.04	74.85	8	974	66.32
2	Sangamner	285	9.25	79.96	17	943	84.71
3	Kopargaon	423	5.03	79.84	13	942	90.00
4	Rahata	527	6.41	82.08	17	940	93.10
5	Shrirampur	506	6.48	82.12	8	962	90.91
6	Nevasa	291	6.20	78.51	11	934	81.40
7	Shevgaon	239	8.37	73.94	10	953	74.11
8	Pathardi	218	8.60	74.74	9	926	61.94
9	Nagar	466	15.39	86.34	28	931	88.68
10	Rahuri	345	5.55	79.74	8	934	86.46
11	Parner	142	5.50	75.64	12	955	74.81
12	Shrigonda	207	7.69	76.25	9	923	82.46
13	Karjat	155	5.99	74.11	5	914	76.67
14	Jamkhed	180	4.81	72.62	5	920	58.14
	District Total	266	12.44	79.05		939	77.67
	M. H.	365	15.99	82.34		929	

Source – District Census Handbook of Ahmednagar District 2011.

Population Growth:

Table No. I. shows the tahsil wise population growth in Ahmadnagar district during the decadal of 2001-2011. Decadal growth rate of population is 12.44 percent for study area which is less than Maharashtra state (15.99%). The decadal growth found to be very high (15.39 percent) in Nagar tahsil. Highest population growth rate is recorded in Nagar tahsil because of development of industrial area of MIDC, Nagar city is also located in tahsil and increased standard of living of locals. The lowest population decadal growth (4.81 percent) is noted in the Jamkhed tahsil. An interesting fact from the

table states that among all tahsil, Akola tahsil having highest number of villages but their decadal growth was very low as compare to other tahsil. The total decadal growth in Ahmadnagar district is 12.44 percent from 2001 to 2011. In this decade year population growth decreasing because the population birth rate is low, increasing marriage age, medical facilities are available compulsion of family planning in the society. Minimum growth has been observed in the middle, eastern and northern part of the district. The factors affecting high growth of population in these tehsils are worth noticing. These are mainly associated with the socio-economic development.

Literacy:

According to the census, literacy means proportion of persons who can both read and write understanding in any language. Literacy is the base of development of any nation. Growth of knowledge, new ideas and technology, growth in research etc. are necessary to improve the population resource development. The literacy rate of Ahmednagar district in 2011 is 79.05 percent which is more than Maharashtra (82.34 %). High Literacy observed in Nagar, Shirampur and Rahata as compare to other tahsils. In Nagar tahsil there are many educational institutes are present. Villages in this tahsil are very close to district place with remarkable connectivity. Villages in Shirampur tahsil are also have good connectivity with their tahsil and district places. In Rahata development of tourism is responsible for the high literacy rate. Low Literacy observed in Jamkhed and Karjat tahsil because of adverse physiographic and climatic condition etc.

Education Institution:

Education plays a very important role in the all round development of population beings. It also helps in acquiring the population qualities which in turn determine the high level of population development. Thus, role of education is directly proportionate to the level and quality of population development in an area. A minimum level of education is an essential condition for the all round development of the population resource in any region. In other words, it may be stated that the backwardness of any area is directly proportionate to the illiteracy level of the people. According to the recent data the primary, secondary, higher secondary educational institutes and senior colleges, Physical education, Low College, technical and vocational college, engineering and medical are observed in the district. These facilities at district level can be termed as adequate, though there may be some regional imbalance within the district. Highest numbers of Education Institutions are observed in Nagar tahsil followed by Sangamner and Rahata tahsils. In Nagar and Sangamner and Rahata tahsils agricultural and industrial development is high so density of population is also high. In order to fulfill the educational need of these populations large numbers of educational institutions are located in these tahsils.

Sex ratio:

Sex ratio is an important social indicator to measure the large space of prevailing equity between males and females in the society. It is also a sensitive indicator and also a very important factor for the development of the state as well as the country. The sex ratio is varied in the different tehsils in the district. The physical and socio-economic condition of every tahsil is different; which affects the nature of migration. According to 2011 census data in Ahmadnagar district the sex ratio is different from 974 to 914. The highest sex ratio in Akole tahsil that is 974 and lowest in Karjat tahsil it is 914. Below the district average sex ratios in seven tahsils, these tahsils are Nagar, Rahuri, Karjat, Pathardi, Shrigonda, Jamkhed and Rahata. Above the district average sex ratios in seven tahsils, these tahsils are namely Shrirampur, Nevasa, Shevgaon, Parner, Akole, Kopargaon and Sangamner. Ahmadnagar district, only Akole and Parner tahsils female population was more than the male population. Because Akole tahsil is tribal area and Parner tahsil is drought prone area that why male population migrated in other cities of Maharashtra.

Medical facility:

Medical aid is extremely important for the health of the people and for the population resource development in particular. Population productivity is directly linked with the level of health. Hence, it is of paramount importance to have access to an adequate medical facility to all the people at all the time. For Population resource development the medical facilities play an important role. High Government medical facility observed in Rahta, Kopargaon and Shirampur tahsil. Due to demographic condition and infrastructural facility numbers of govt. There are three tahsil where more than 90 percent of medical facilities these are Kopargaon, Rahata and Shirampur. In the district six tahsils are medical facilities below the district average (77.67%), namely Akole, Shevgaon, Pathardi, Parner, Karjat, and Jamkhed.

Population Resources Development Region:

To study of Population resource development Population density, Population Growth rate, Literacy rate, Education facilities, Health facilities and Sex ratio are calculated and analyzed. Then these indicators are ranked according to quality.

Table No. 2

Population Resource Development Indicator Rank

Tehsil	Population Density	Population Growth	Literacy %	Education Facility	Sex Ratio	Health Facility	Mean
Akola	11	12	10	8	01	12	9
Sangamner	7	2	04	2	05	6	4.33
Kopargaon	4	13	05	3	06	3	5.67
Rahta	1	6	02	2	07	1	3.12
Shrirampur	2	7	03	8	02	2	4
Nevasa	6	8	07	5	09	8	7.11
Shevgaon	8	4	13	6	04	11	7.67
Pathardi	9	3	11	7	11	13	9
Nagar	3	1	01	1	10	4	3.33
Rahuri	5	10	06	8	08	5	7
Parner	14	11	08	4	03	10	8.33
Shrigonda	10	5	09	7	12	7	8.33
Karjat	13	9	12	9	14	9	11
Jamkhed	12	14	14	9	13	14	12.97
Total					-		

Source: Computed by Authors

1. High Developed region:

In the study region three tahsils is high developed region that is Nagar, Rahata and Shirampur. As compare to other tahsils this tahsils has good health care facilities, education facilities, sex ratio, literacy rate, agriculture development and urbanization.

2. Medium development regions:

Sangamner, Kopargaon, Nevasa, Rahuri and Shevgaon these tahsils are in medium development region. In this region agriculture development is moderate.

3. Low development regions:

In this region Akole, Parner, Shrigonda, Karjat, Pathardi and Jamkhed tahsils are located. This region has low human resource development due to adverse physiographic and climatic condition.

Concluding Remarks:

Present study reveals that the rate of population resource development is not even all over the district. The hilly western, dry eastern and southern part of the district has low development of population resource. The present study fixes place of tahsils in population resource development. For the lower population resources development region following measures can be suggested.

1. Locating agro-based industries and irrigation facilities developed in to the low population resource development region.
2. Improvement of education, health and transport facilities in to the lower quality regions.
3. Allotting government policy to the low development regions.

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