
Research Papers



Regional Distribution of Market Centres in Parbhani District

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ABSTRACT

In broad sense, many geographers are mainly concerned with the spatial distribution of geographical phenomena. The distribution of market centres is influenced by different physical and cultural factors. In the study region market centres are unevenly distributed. At the tahsil level also there is great variation in the distribution of market centres. Each factor has its own influence and affects directly or indirectly on the distribution of market centres (Pawar and Lokhande 2000).

INTRODUCTION

Nevertheless merely numerical distribution of market centres in percent do not give correct picture as it ranges from 22 in Parbhani Tahsil to only One (01) in Palam tahsil. The co-relation between number of such phenomena with area, inhabited villages and population etc. may give a more realistic picture (Gharpure & Pawar 1991) such co-relations are analysed as below.

STUDY AREA

In the location point of view it is very essential to think about all the geographical factors. For the present study the eastern district of Maharashtra i.e Parbhani is chosen as a study region. Parbhani district lies between 18°58' North to 19°50' North latitude and 76°13' East to 77°12' East longitude. The area of study region is 6511 km², which is 2.11 percent of the total area of the state. The population of the study region is 1491109 (2001 Census) which is 2.76 Percent of the total population in Maharashtra. The region includes 830 inhabited villages and eight urban centres. The study region is administratively subdivided into nine tahsils namely Parbhani, Gangakhed, Palam, Sonpeth, Purna, Pathri, Manwat, Sailu and Jintur. The boundaries attached to the neighboring districts on north by Buldhana and Akola, on east by Hingoli and Nanded, on south Latur and Beed and on west Jalna district. The river Purna runs on the boundaries of Hingoli and Parbhani district and work as to attach these two regions. The other river Godavari which runs on the boundaries of Beed and Parbhani which forms a part of study region. It runs through Pathri, Sonpeth, Manwat, Gangakhed, Palam and Purna tahsils.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present research paper aims to deal and analyses various aspects of market centres in Parbhani district with the main objective. To analyze the spatial distribution of market centres and their relationship with physical and social factors.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present work is based on primary and secondary data pertaining to the market centres and population. All the relevant published and unpublished records have been considered. Primary data is collected through intensive fieldwork. The period of investigation is of 30 years, from 1971 to 2001. Secondary data has been collected from the District Census Handbook, Parbhani District Gazetteer, Municipal year book, District Statistical Abstracts and Socio-Economic Abstracts and Records of Villages, Tahsils, and Panchayat offices. Some recent data is also collected from the website, Census of India and from various websites like www.msamb.com, <http://www.cencusindia.net>. The primary data collected through questionnaires and schedule have been used to study from time to time in the study region. The researcher has visited 77 market centres and data has been collected. Interview technique has been also employed to collect the data and information regarding the consumer's behavior for making other empirical observation.

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF MARKET CENTRES

The general spatial distribution of market centres in Parbhani district, is analysed for nine tahsils of the district. Parbhani has the highest number of market centres. It exceeds the mean by more than two standard deviation and is followed by Jintur which is grouped in the class of

Table No. 1
Distributional Relationships of Market Centres

Tahsil	Number of Market Centres	General Statistics			Statistical Values of Number of Market Centres		
		Area Km ²	Inhabited Villages	Population	Per 100 Km ²	Per 100 Inhabited Villages	Per 10000 Population
Parbhani	22	1113	128	458551	01.98	17.19	00.48
Gangakhed	03	635	105	164045	00.47	03.81	00.24
Palam	01	561	81	92793	00.18	01.23	00.11
Sonpeth	06	383	57	66750	01.57	10.53	00.90
Purna	07	730	92	162282	00.96	07.61	00.43
Pathri	11	592	56	110255	01.59	19.64	01.00
Manwat	04	487	54	97017	00.82	07.41	00.41
Sailu	06	753	93	139346	00.80	06.45	00.43
Jintur	17	1257	164	200068	01.35	10.37	00.85
Region	77	6511	830	1491109	01.78	09.28	00.52
Source : Compiled by the Researcher					$\bar{X} = 1.08$ S.D=0.55	$\bar{X} =9.36$ S.D= 5.59	$\bar{X} =0.54$ S.D=0.29

AREA AND MARKET CENTRES RATIO

As the number of market centre per 100 km² of area are 1.78 for the whole study region. Notwithstanding, this spatial variation at tahsil level is remarkable. In Parbhani tahsil the ratio is 1.98 which considerably decreased to 0.47 in Gangakhed tahsil and 0.18 in Palam. It is also seemed that the four tahsils fall in the classes above \bar{X} (mean). Out of which Sonpeth, Pathri and Jintur fall in the class $\bar{X} +1$ S.D. and Parbhani falls in the class $\bar{X} +2$ S.D. And the remaining five tahsils are below \bar{X} . Out of which Purna, Manwat and Sailu fall in the class $\bar{X} -1$ S.D.. And rest of tahsils are in the class $\bar{X} -2$ S.D.

Inhabited Villages and Market Centres Ratio

In the study region the number of market centre per 100 inhabited village is 09.28 ratio. But it is also observed that there is spatial ratio variation at tahsil level. And this relationship ranges from 19.64 in Pathri tahsil to 3.81 in Gangakhed tahsil. The relationship also shows that four tahsils fall in the classes above the mean (9.36). Out of which Sonpeth and Jintur fall in the class $\bar{X} + 1$ S.D.. Pathri and Parbhani fall in the class $\bar{X} + 2$ S.D.. Remaining five tahsils are below \bar{X} . Out of which Purna, Manwat, Sailu and Gangakhed fall in the $\bar{X} - 1$ S.D.. And the tahsil Palam falls in the class $\bar{X} - 2$ S.D.

Population and Market Centres Ratio:-

For the whole district the number of market centres per 10,000 population is 0.52. Notwithstanding, these spatial variations at tahsil level are remarkable. This ratio comes to 1.00 in the case of Pathri tahsil which decreases to 0.11 in case of Palam tahsil. The three tahsils have their value above the mean. Out of which Pathri, Sonpeth and Jintur fall in the class $\bar{X} + 2$ S.D. and there is no market centre falling in the class $\bar{X} + 1$ S.D. The remaining tahsils are below \bar{X} . Out of which Parbhani, Purna, Sailu, Manwat and Gangakhed fall in the class $\bar{X} - 1$ S.D. and only one i.e Palam tahsil falls in the class $\bar{X} - 2$ S.D.

CONCLUSION

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