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Research Journal

*Indian Streams
Research Journal*

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BRIEF INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROFILE OF SOLAPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Solapur District is one amongst the leading and progressive districts in geographic area. Today's Solapur District has been inscribed out of the territories of the near Ahmednagar, Pune and Satara districts of geographic area State. Solapur region had been necessary since the time of the Satavahanas however it ne'er reached the position of a capital throughout the periods of Satavahanas, Rastrakutas, Chalukyas, Yadavas, Bahamanshahi and Adilshahi. throughout Adilshahi in addition as Indian and British periods, this district was a very important military center. Solapur town and also the district have compete a very important role within the freedom struggle of Bharat. Since precedent days, Solapur town has remained a very important mercantilism centre, because it is connects geographic area with the States of Karanataka and Andra Pradesh. This necessary trade position of town has compete an important role within the development of town and also the district. The history of Solapur region is wonderful in geographic area.

KEYWORDS: Solapur District, Rastrakutas, Chalukyas, Yadavas,

Bahamanshahi.

INTRODUCTION

Solapur is the fifth biggest urban agglomeration in Maharashtra state. It lies completely in the bowls of waterways the Bhima, the Seena, the Nira, and the Maan. The Bhima differentiates the outskirt amongst Maharashtra and Karnataka States in Solapur District. The state of the area looks like a flying falcon. The extent of the territory of the Solapur region when contrasted with Maharashtra State is around 5% and in the Pune regulatory division is 20%.

ESTABLISHMENT

Solapur region has been made in 1869. Before it was a piece of Pune, Ahmednagar and Satara locale. In the year 1956 when the states were rebuilt, solapur area had turned into a piece of Bombay Provision. At the point when Maharashtra state turned into a different state on first May 1960, Solapur locale turned into a piece of Maharashtra express, a different area with 11 talukas. Solapur locale set apart on Maharashtra and Karnataka state fringe. The aggregate range of Solapur region is 14844.6 sq.kms. out of which 338.80 sq.kms. is urban territory and 14505.80 sq.kms. is provincial. Solapur locale frames 4.82 % territory of Maharashtra's aggregate region with three income divisions i.e. Solapur,



Pandharpur and Kurduwadi. Area comprises of 11 talukas to be specific, Akkalkot, North Solapur, South Solapur, Mangalwedha, Sangola, Pandharpur, Malashiras, Karmala, Madha, Mohol and Barshi. North Solapur taluka is littlest and Malshiras taluka is greatest in region.

HISTORIC BACKGROUND

The region which today frames Solapur locale prior shaped the parts of Ahmadnagar, Pune and Satara areas. The area was framed in 1838 and comprised of eight sub-divisions. With the reorganisation of the States in 1956, the region was incorporated into the Bombay State and since 1960, it shapes some portion of Maharashtra. At the season of 1961 Census, the locale involved 11 talukas and 10 towns.

The historical backdrop of Solapur region can be followed back to the pre-Christian period hundreds of years (B.C. 90). Solapur most likely framed some portion of the domains of the Shatakarani or Andhrabharitya Dynasty, whose capital was at Paithan on the waterway Godavari. A Sanskrit engraving dated Shaka 1238, after the ruin of the Yadavas, notices the name of the town as Sonalipur, later called as Sonalpur or Sonalapur.

In Solapur City itself, there is a sanctuary committed to Siddheshwara, a twelfth century enthusiast of the Lord Shiva. It is a hallowed journey focal point of the Lingyata confidence and furthermore of Hindus. There is a yearly journey known as "Gadda" on the Makar Sankranti day, when a parade known as Procession of Kathis (sticks) is held. Actually, this entire range is a meeting ground for Bhagwats from all over Maharashtra and Lingayats from Karnaataka. Over the span of time, the syllable "na" was dropped from the city's unique name "Sonalpur" and it came to be known by its present name 'Solapur'.

Weather and Rainfall

Solapur district is at the height 550 meter from sea level. The district is wholly situated in plateau region. Agro-climatically entire district comes under rain shadow area. In the district temperature is much hot in summer season. The maximum temperature in district is 46 degree and minimum is 90 degree celcius. The rainfall is uncertain, scanty untimely in period of June to September. The average rainfall in the district is 560mm. from South west monsoon. So solapur district declared as a drought prone district. Malashiras taluka is only irrigated taluka in this district. After completion of Ujani project. Pandharpur taluka is another taluka became irrigated. Paradasani (1957). Second central irrigation committee (1962) and Sukthankar committee (1973) has declared solapur district is drought prone. Really solapur district is known as historically drought prone district in Maharashtra state.

Population and literacy

According to census 2001 the total population of district was 38.50 lakhs, growth rate of population was 19.14% and rural population was 68.17% to the total district population. The sex ratio of district was 934 and literacy ratio was 71.25%, there was variation in the taluka's literacy ratio. Density of population in solapur district was 258 per sq.km. population density for urban was 15541 and rural area accounts 716 per sq.km. Working population accounts 17.43 lakh and percentage to total population was 45.27% In working population there was 34.13% farmers, 28.74 Agricultural labours, 4.82% local workers to 32.27% other type of workers, i.e. processors, Services, production etc.

Industry

In the solapur district industry of chadder is popular in India and abroad. Solapur is famous for Handloom, Powerloom and Bidi industry, oil mills, and sugar factory. After the completion of Ujani dam land under sugarcane increased faster rate and the sugar factories also increased. Solapur district is having more sugar factories, about 25 sugar factories in force now. There are 5659 registered factories in district. There are 1122 working factories with 19925 workforce. There are 30189 non registered factories with 21704 workers in solapur district.

Agriculture and Irrigation

In solapur 70 percent population engaged in agriculture and their main source of income is only agriculture. Agriculture in district mainly depends upon monsoon (rainfall) but rainfall in district is very low & uncertain so total agri-business is dry farming in district.

The area under irrigation in solapur district is 250416 hectare out of it 75.28% by well irrigation and remaining by surface irrigation

Ujani project on Bhima river is only one big irrigation project in this district. 3.38 lakh hectares land is under the irrigation by this project. Madha, Mangalwedha, Pandharpur, Mohol, Malashiras and South & North Solapur taluka's are benefited by the Ujani project. Apart from this project NRBC canals are also useful for irrigation to western part of district i.e. Malashiras taluka. The total percolation tanks & small irrigation projects are about 1729 and the land under this is 39079 hectares.

Other features of Solapur district

Solapur district is connected to other districts and states by National Highways (NH-9) and state highway. Total length of roads in district is 14000 km. The rail track is passing to south part of India & other states namely Andhra and Tamilnadu states. The total rail track is about 380 km. in solapur district. Total vehicles in district are 417882, post offices in district are 533 and 962550 are telephone connections. The health side there are 77 PHC, 18 Hospitals 3 Special Hospitals 480 dispensaries. The per capita income of district in 2008-09 was about Rs.- 48050.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Solapur City is a well-known and convenient trading centre for the neighbouring States, as it is located on two national highways - Pune to Hyderabad and Solapur to Bijapur. The City is also situated on the trans-State broad-gauge railway lines - Mumbai to Hyderabad, Mumbai to Chennai, Kanyakumari to Kashmir, Bangalore to New Delhi, Rajkot to Bhubaneswar.

The City is reputed for its cotton and synthetic textiles industry. Before 1960's, the Solapur Spinning and Weaving Mills (Juni Girani) was one of the biggest textile mills not only in India but in Asia. The textile mills like Laxmi-Vishnu Mills, Jam Mills, Narsingh-Girji Mills were also quite big ones, employing more than 5000 workers until 1980's. Solapur City is also known by another name 'Girangaon' (village of Mills). In 1960's, after the closure of the Solapur Spinning and Weaving Mills, other mills in the cooperative sector, as a backward integration, began converting cotton into yarn. The skilled workers who had lost their jobs due to the closure of the large mills took up the production of textiles on powerlooms in the small scale sector. Their products like Solapur Chaddar, towels, hand-napkins, wall-hangings and Kotta and organza-type Saris are famous in both the Indian and the export markets.

Imports and Exports

The chief commodities of trade in the district in the past were cotton, Jowar, Bajra, pulses and other food grains, as well as cloth, medicines and hardware. The chief items of exports out of the district are : vegetables, cotton, grains, oilseeds including groundnuts, forest products like honey, wax and lac, and the animal products like hides and horns, indigo and clarified butter.

The Chamber of Commerce in Solapur City renders valuable services towards the development of trading activities in the district. The Chamber was established in 1901. The chief purposes of this body includes fostering and developing friendly and mutual relations in the business community and industrialists, promoting the interests of the business community in the matters of inland and foreign trade, shipping and transport industry, banking and insurance. It strives for the settlement of disputes among traders as also between the traders and the market communities and to redress grievances of traders in respect of sales-tax, income-tax and other related problems.

The chief imports into the district are hardware items, provisions, cutlery items, machinery, medicines, electrical goods, watches, etc. Apart from the weekly markets in towns and villages, Barshi and Solapur are the

major trading centres in the district.

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