Chapter – 3
Profile of Latur District

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Latur District:

3.1 A brief history:

Latur is a head quarter of Latur District as well as Latur Taluka in Maharashtra state of India. It is part of Aurangabad division. The place has an ancient historical background. This district came into existence by separating it from Osmanabad District on 16/8/1982. Initially Latur district comprises five tehsils which were prior part of Osmanabad district namely Ausa, Ahmedpur, Latur, Udgir and Nilanga. Tehsil headquarters of Renapur and Chakur on 15/08/1992 and on 23/06/1999 three new tehsils Shirur Anantpal, Devni and Jalkot come into force. At present the district has 10 tehesil.

During 19th century the area was a part of the Hyderabad princely state which continued up till independence. The chief of Nizam's Razakar army, Qasim Rizwi, was from Latur.

After Indian independence and the merger of Hyderabad with the Indian Union, Osmanabad became part of Bombay Province. In 1960, with the creation of Maharashtra, Latur became one of its districts. On August 16, 1982, a separate Latur district was carved out of Osmanabad district.

3.2 Geography and Atmosphere of district:

The Latur District is in the south-eastern part of the Maharashtra state and latur town is situated on the 18.7° latitude and 73.25° longitude. The geographical location of the district is on the Maharashtra Karnataka boundary. The Bidar district of Karnataka is on the eastern side and Nanded district is on the northeast side. Parbhani district is on the northern side, where as Beed district is on the Northwest and Osmanabad on the western and southern side. The entire Latur district is situated on 636 meters above mean sea level, on the Balaghat plateau, on the Maharashtra–Karnataka state boundary.

Temperature: Annual temperatures in Latur has a variation from 13 to 41 °C (55 to 106 °F), The highest temperature had been recorded as 45.8 °C (114.4 °F). The lowest recorded temperature was 6.9 °C (44.4 °F). In the winter
season the district is sometimes affected by cold currents when the minimum temperature get drop down to about 2 to 4 °C (36 to 39 °F). A sever hail stones has destroyed the standing crops on a large scale last year. Due to its geographical location the district has been a victim of less than average rainfall making bold socioeconomic impact.

**Rainfall:** Most of the rainfall occurs in the monsoon season from June to September. Rainfall varies from 9.0 to 693 mm/month. Average annual rainfall is 725 mm.

### 3.3 Tourist attractions:

1. Astavinayak Temple
2. Ganj Golai
3. Hattibet-Devarjan
4. Kasarshirshi:
5. Kharosa Caves
6. Siddheshwar & Ratneshwar Temple
7. Surat Shahvali Darga
8. Udgir fort:
9. Wadwal Nagnath Bet (Hill)

Latur has been known as district of prominent politicians former chief ministers Shri. Shivajirao patil Nilangekar and late shri. Vilasraoji Deshmukh. Former union Home minister and speaker of Parliament shri. Shivraj Patil Chakurkar, and Diliprao Deshmukh, Rising bollywood actor Ritesh Deshmukh are from Latur district.

### 3.4 Education and research:

Latur has developed as a strong educational hub for secondary, higher secondary, and university education. The famous ‘Latur pattern’ has given unique identity to the district throughout Maharashtra due to its consistent success. Attractive and remarkable results in Engineering and Medical competitive Entrance Exams by Junior colleges in Latur district have added
the glory of district. Most colleges in Latur are affiliated with the Nanded University.

The Border Security Force Training Center at Chakur was established in the year 2005 acted as a unique identity of the district. The devastating earthquake of 30th September 1993 has a dark side of history and memorable geographical incident have long lasting impact on the overall ecology on the district. It resulted into heavy biological and property loss. More than 30,000 people were estimated to have died.

THE Oxford city of Marathwada is the fastest growing economy. There are historical evidences stating the commercial contribution of Latur nine decades ago. It had contributed as a major trade route which connects north-west India's sea and land ports to the Deccan region.

3.5 Commerce and Industrial Prospectus of Latur:

The district is known as a production centre of sugarcane and edible oils, soyabean, grapes and mango.

Till 1990, Latur district was considered as a weak on economic and industrial front and remain industrially backward district. It was a victim of regional imbalance. In 1960, region of Marathwada was merged with Maharashtra when the industrial development of the Marathwada region was in its initial stage. Actual industrialization has started taking roots when the MIDC (Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation) began acquiring land and setting up industrial estates. But still considerable segment of small and medium scale industries are agro based industries.

The district has gain industrial identity due to some famous product brands manufactured here. Some famous edible oil brands like Tinna Oils, Kirti Gold, Kalantry Group's Agro Processing units has contributed remarkably in industrial growth of the district. The district has made noticeable progress in the sectors of Agro Processing and Edible Oils and consumer durables, plastic processing, aluminum processing, agriculture and biotech.
Banking and financial services:

The district has flourished in financial activities, as almost all public sector and private banks have opened up their branches including the State Bank of India, State Bank of Hyderabad, Axis Bank, Latur Urban Co-op Bank, Latur ICICI Bank, Bank of India, HDFC Bank, IDBI Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, Bank of Baroda, and Oriental Bank of Commerce, Allahabad Bank etc. Latur District Central Co-Operative Bank Ltd has incorporated on 15 August 1984. Also other Urban Banks viz. Latur Urban Bank was established in 1990, Vikas Co-Operative Bank Ltd was established in 2001. Bank of Maharashtra is having their Regional Office in Latur. Also Maharashtra Gramin Bank with their 3 branches and a regional office is at Latur.

Trade and industries:

Latur district is the largest centre for edible oil seeds specifically soybean in India. The district comprises between the 'Sugar Belt' of Maharashtra. With more eleven sugar factories, which make it among the highest sugar-producing districts of India. It also has oil seeds, commodities and fruit market. Latur is also known for high quality grapes and houses many state and privately owned cold storage facilities.

3.6 MIDC industrial areas in Latur:

Being the industrially backward region following industrial corridors has prime role in the overall industrial development of the district. Though the district is blessed with remarkable industrial centers, they are affected with major industrial weakness and overall performance remains negligible in totality.

1. Additional Latur Industrial Area
2. Ahmedpur Industrial Area
3. Ausa Industrial Area
4. Chakur Co-Operative Industrial Estate
5. Latur Industrial Area
6. Latur Co-Operative Industrial Estate
7. Murud Co-Operative Industrial Estate
8. Nilanga Industrial Area
9. Udgir Industrial Area
10. Udaygiri Co-Operative Industrial Estate

**Specialised industrial parks and export zones in Latur**

- Latur Food Park
- Latur Infotech Park
- Latur Integrated Textile Park, Latur
- Bombay Rayon Fashions, Latur
- Grape Yards, Ausa

**3.7 Chamber of Commerce and industry associations:**

Being a district headquarters and progressive trade centre some remarkable commercial and trading activities take place which are initiated by following trade association.

- Latur Chamber of Commerce, Latur
- Latur Manufacturers Association, MIDC, 21
- Engineers and Architects Association, Latur
- Latur Builders Association, Latur
- Computers and Media Dealers Association (CMDA), Latur
- Latur Branch of the Western India Regional Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

**3.8 Local administration:**

Latur Municipal Corporation (LMC) is the local civil body. It is divided into five zones. The Municipal Council was established in 1952, the Municipal Corporation area is about 96.5 km²s. It was elevated to the status of Municipal Corporation by the State Government in 2011.
The Urban Development Dept., Govt. of Maharashtra expressed its desire vide letter dated 30/10/2006 to notify fringe area of Latur and appoint CIDCO as its Special Planning Authority. CIDCO has submitted its proposal to notify the fringe area measuring approx. 26541.00 ha. inclusive of urbanizable zone of about 16696 ha. Govt. has appointed CIDCO as Special Planning Authority. The notified area covers 40 villages on the fringe of Latur Municipal Corporation. It is envisaged in the project not to acquire 100% land but to adopt minimum land acquisition model for development of infrastructure and growth corridors.

The city is divided in 67 electoral wards called as Prabhag and each ward is represented by a Corporator (called as Nagarsevak) elected by the people from each ward. LMC is responsible for providing basic amenities like drinking water, drainage facility, road, street lights, healthcare facilities, primary schools, etc. LMC collects its revenue from the urban taxes which are imposed on citizens. The administration is headed by the Commissioner of Municipal Corporation; a I.A.S. Officer, assisted by the other officers of different departments.(1)

3.9 Strategic importance of Latur in Higher Education:

Following districts are affiliated to Swami Raman and Teerth Marathwada University Nanded.


Table 3.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>No. of affiliated colleges</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nanded</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Parbhani</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hingoli</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
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</table>

(Source: [http://www.srtmun.ac.in/](http://www.srtmun.ac.in/))
Graph No.3.1

District wise college numbers Affiliated to SRTMU, Nanded

District wise affiliated colleges to SRTM University Nanded

- Latur: 36%
- Parbhani: 21%
- Hingoli: 9%
- Nanded: 34%
With the above chart it become very clear that Latur district has the maximum numbers of colleges than any other district. Being the prime educational hub for higher education in this region, it has a great potential to impart the financial education to its students. Therefore the study of investment awareness has become important and the study of investment awareness of college teachers is a call of hour as they are only the resources to contribute effectively for it.

Table 3.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name of Taluka</th>
<th>No. of colleges</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Ahemadpur</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Ausa</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Chakur</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Devni</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Jalkot</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Nilanga</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Renapur</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Shiruranantpal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Udgir</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>137</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graph No.3.2

Taluka wise No of colleges in Latur District

Taluka wise No. of colleges in Latur District

- Latur: 39%
- Udgir: 13%
- Ahemadpur: 15%
- Ausa: 6%
- Chakur: 6%
- Devni: 7%
- Jalkot: 5%
- Nilanga: 7%
- Renapur: 1%
- Shiruranantpal: 1%
- Chakur: 6%
- Jalkot: 5%
References

2] http://www.srtmun.ac.in/