Chapter 3

Geographical Personality of Vidarbha

Region

Physical features – An Overview
Topography
Weather Phenomenon
Forest and Mineral Resources.
GEOGRAPHIC PERSONALITY OF VIDARBHA

Vidarbha is located right at the heart of the Indian Union occupying 45,868 Sq. Km. area between 19° 05' to 21° 47' North latitude and 75° 59' to 79° 11' East Longitude. Vidarbha shares its boundary with the state of Madhya Pradesh towards the north, Chattisgarh in the east, Andhra Pradesh in the south and Nasik and Aurangabad administrative division of Maharashtra state in the west. Geographically, Vidarbha lies in the fertile plateau between Melghat in the Satpura Range in the north and Balaghat in the Ajanta Range in the south. This area is also known as Payanghat. Rich with bounties of nature Vidarbha consists of the Amravati and Nagpur administrative division of Maharashtra. Amravati division comprises of five districts – Buldanana, Akola, Washim, Yavatmal besides Amravati district. The Nagpur division comprises of six districts – Wardha, Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli besides Nagpur district. In all, Vidarbha represents eleven districts.

Topography

Barring some hilly parts of Satpura range in the north and Ajanta Range in the south the Vidarbha region is largely a fertile plateau, where the average altitude from sea level varies between 200 to 400 meters. This fertile plateau consists of Akola, Amravati, Washim, Yavamal, Nagpur, Wardha districts. The south-eastern part at the confluence of River Wardha and River Wainganga has elevation between 50 to 100 meters. The districts of Gadchiroli and some part of Chandrapur lies in this region. In the north lies the mighty Satpura range having average elevation between 400 to 550 meters. This is home to rich biodiversity, the only hill station of Vidarbha, Chikhadara and the highest peak of Satpura Range is Vairat, which stands at 553 meters above sea level. Politically Vairatis in Amravati district.
Based on the local topography, the state can be identified into following three distinct zones:

1. Northern Satpura Hilly region
2. Central fertile plateau
3. South-Eastern Wardha-Wainganga doab

**Northern Satpura Hilly region**
Satpura range runs parallel to River Narmada, which originates in central India and falls into Arabian Sea. Thus, almost whole of northern Vidarbha comprising Narnala, Akot, Gavilgargh, Chikhaldara, Melghat, Salbardi, Ramtek, Salikasha, Darekasha has hilly slopes. The major southern flowing rivers of Vidarbha namely, Wardha and Wainganga have their origin in Satpura Range. The soil of this region is mixed type and supports several rich and luxuriant species of flora and fauna. The exotic variety of furniture logs viz. Teak, Ain, Dhawda, Haldu, Sesum etc are found here in abundant. Besides animals like tiger, tendua, deer, bear, bison, nilgai, black buck, flying squirrel and rare bird species have their habitat in this region.

**Central Fertile Plateau**
The soil of central fertile plateau is typically black in colour due to the presence of a mineral named Motmorelonite. This mineral swells a lot while it is wet. But when it dries it contracts and forms deep crack even up to a depth of two meters. Further due to the presence of alkine limestone layer below it, the black soil becomes very fertile. Buldhana, Akola, Washim, Yavatmal, Amravati, Wardha, Nagpur, Gondia and Bhandara forms part of central fertile plateau. This region has a long list of agriculture products. Cotton, Jawar, Wheat, Pulses, Rice are to name a few. In fact, this region was the largest cotton producing belt in the past. Today, many plantation crops like orange, mango and betelnut are grown in plenty here.
South-Eastern Wardha-Wainganga Doab

Both Wardha and Wainganga river have their origin in Satpura Range in Madhya Pradesh. But they make a doab in Chandpur and Gadchiroli district and finally flow still south in the name of Pranhita to sub merge in River Godavari. Thus, one can find dense forest in this region that houses many tribal people. Many caves made by the early man is found here as a mute witness of the early civilization that flourished in this region. This plain is also dotted with small hillocks adding beauty to this region. Highly contrasting weather phenomena is a part of this region. It also has a number of mining towns that extracts iron, manganese, and coal. It is thus very ideal for stainless steel plants.

Geologically speaking, most parts of Maharashtra is made up of igneous rocks formed by the molten magma from volcanic eruption. Indian geologists term it as ‘Deccan Trap’. Basalt is most abundantly found along with other igneous rocks. In the context of Vidarbha we find rocks little different from the basaltic ones, at Nagpur and to its east, towards north of Amravati and Chandrapur area. In the Nagpur region, which includes Wardha, we find pre-‘Deccan Trap’ rocks like granite, cyst, grice, sandstone quarrztite, lime rocks etc. But it is black soil which found almost everywhere in Vidarbha. Mountains, Rivers and Plains decide the geographic personality of any region and make it noticed. Thus, we can say that the geographical personality of Vidarbha centers around Hilly regions of Bhandara and Chandrapur district, the great Nagpur plateau, the basins of River Wainganga, Wardha, Purna, Painganga, Kanhan.

METEOROLOGY

Temperature

The temperature does not remain the same throughout the year in Vidarbha. February to May is the summer season and the temperature rises up to 42° C to 43° C. At times, it might reach a high of 45° C to 47° C. October to January are
considered as winter season and the temperature hovers between 12$^0$ C to 14$^0$ C. This is considered as an ideal time to visit Vidarbha. As we go higher from the sea level, the temperature decreases and the air becomes cooler. The weather in the high ranges of the Satpura is cool even in summer. One can get a feel of chilly hill station at Chikhaldara in winter when the mercury might drop to sub-zero levels. Being very far from the coast there is very less humidity in the air and the weather is generally dry.

**Rainfall**

The average rainfall in Vidarbha region is 108 cm. It receives almost 87% of the rainfall from the South-west monsoon between June to September. However, it varies as we go from west to east. Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Bhandara and Gondia districts receive about 150 cm of rainfall. This becomes an ideal climate to cultivate rice. But the plateau area of Amravati, Buldana, Akola, Yavatmal, Nagpur and Wardha receives little less – about 100 cm of rainfall. It is very ideal for cultivation of food crops like Jawar, wheat, pulses an fruits like orange.

**Drainage and Water Resources**

Drainage system plays a pivotal role in shaping the socio-economic, ecological and even the cultural personality of any region. Two chief river systems that flows in Vidarbha region are Wardha and Wainganga. Some other major river systems that flow partially in Vidarbha are Godavari, Indravati and Tapi. Other main rivers of the region are Penganga, Wunna, Pranhita, Dina, Nibra, Kotri, Bandia, Jam, Kar, Pench, Kanhan, Kolar, Nag, Dham, Pothra, Asoda, Purna, Nalganga, Katepurna, Vishwaganga, Gyanganga, Banganga, Pendhi, Uma, Nirguna, Man, Bagh, Chulband, Pangoli, Chandan, Bawanthari, Morna and Sur. During the summer when temperature is very high most of these river get dried and there are more rivulets with deep pools here and there. However, during the monsoons some of them become very formidable, especially, Wardha, Wainganga, Penganga and Purna.
Both Wardha and Wainganga originate in Satpura region and run almost parallel before they meet at Sironcha tehsil in Gadchiroli district. From here, they flow together by the name Pranhita before they finally meet Godavari. Another chief river Purna rises in Betul district of Madhya Pradesh and flows due west across Akola district into Buldhana district. Its chief tributaries are Pendhi, Uma, Nirguna, Man and Katepurna. Towards the southwest of the region the Penganga flows along with its tributaries. It maintains its current throughout the year and drains Yavatmal and Washim districts. Down further south it finally meets River Wardha.

In the Wainganga basin of the eastern part of Vidarbha are the districts of Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli. They are well known as ‘lake districts’. Bhandara itself has as many as 15,000 lakes. The tanks and lakes in this region are very useful for irrigation. Besides the Upper Wardha Project Amravati district and Pench Project in Nagpur division have big reservoirs that feeds the canals for irrigation.

The major irrigation projects in Amravati Division are Upper Wardha, Arunawati, Wan, Jigaon, Khadakpurna, Lower Painganga, Bembla. Similarly, the major irrigation projects in Nagpur division are Gosikhurd Project, Tultuli Project, Dhapewada Lift Irrigation Scheme, Lower Wardha Project, Human Project, Bawanthadi Project, Lower Wunna Project

**Natural Vegetation**

It is the rich biodiversity of Vidarbha that makes it a vacationer’s paradise. The soil formation, configuration of the ground drainage and the influence of man mainly govern the type of vegetation. The varying geographical conditions have been ideal for growth of variety of plants and animals.
Broadly the vegetation can be divided into the following types:

1. Evergreen Forests
2. Deciduous Forests
3. Thorny scrub Forests

**Evergreen Forests**

Found in the regions receiving heavy rainfall these forests are green throughout the year. The hilly areas of eastern Vidarbha namely Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Gondia, Bhandara have thick evergreen forests with tall trees and creepers. The trees found in this region are mango (Mangifera Indica), Beheda (Terminalia Belerica), Sisum (Dalbergia Latifolia), Jackfruit, jambul (Eugenia Jambolana), Hirada, Bamboo (Dendrocalamus Strictus) etc.

**Deciduous Forest**

The trees of these forests shed their leaves at the beginning of summer and get new foliage at the beginning of monsoon. Deciduous forests are found in areas receiving moderate rainfall and are in their full bloom in rainy season. The trees found in these forest are Teak (Tectona Grandis), Khair (Acacia Catchu), Banyan, Peepal, Neem, Ain (Terminalia Tomontosa), Sal, Palas (Butea Frondosa), Tamarind, Amla (Emblica Officinilas), Char (Buchanania Lanzan), Tendu (Diospyros Melamoxylon), Mahua (Madhuca Latifolia), Anjan (Hardwickia Binata), Bel (Aegle Marmelos) etc. Deciduous forests cover large tract of hilly tract of Satpura and Melghat and found mixed with evergreen forests of Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, Gondia and Bhandara district.

**Thorny Scrub Forests**

Thorny scrub forest covers the trees and scrubs that grow even on infertile land receiving less rainfall. These are found in whole of western Vidarbha, especially the Amravati administrative division. Plants of these forests include Aloe, Tarvad, Agave, Bor (Zizyphus Jujuba), Babul (Acacia Arabica), Stunted Grass etc.
Wildlife

A haven for nature lovers - Vidarbha is a home to a large number of animal and bird species including the tiger, crocodile, bison, neelgai, wild deer, sambars and rare migratory birds. The government is trying to take adequate steps towards setting up many wildlife parks and sanctuaries to protect these regions. These parks offer splendid opportunities to see a wide variety of wildlife in the spectacular natural setting. Modern amenities such as jeep rides, night safaris, library and audio-visual facilities, comfortable accommodation and efficient transport are also tried to be made available at these parks at a nominal charge. Nature has bestowed its best in wildlife in Vidarbha. Of a total of 5 National Parks, 2 Tiger Projects, 31 Wildlife Sanctuaries in Maharashtra Vidarbha boasts of 4 National Parks, Both the Tiger Projects and 14 Sanctuaries.

The four National Parks in Vidarbha region are Gugamal (Amravati Dist.), Navegaon (Gondia District), Pench (Nagpur District) and Tadoba (Chandrapur District).

The fourteen Wildlife Sanctuaries in Vidarbha are:
1. Amba-barva Wildlife Sanctuary, Buldana District
2. Andhari Sanctuary, Chandrapur District
3. Bhamragarh wildlife sanctuary, Chandrapur District
4. Bor Wildlife Sanctuary, Wardha District
5. Chaprala Wildlife Sanctuary, Chandrapur District
6. Dnyanganga Sanctuary, Buldana District
7. Katepurna Sanctuary, Akola District
8. Lonar Wildlife Sanctuary, Buldana District – Info to be given
9. Melghat wildlife sanctuary, Amravati District
10. Nagzira wildlife sanctuary, Bhandara District
11. Narmala Wildlife Sanctuary, Akola District
12. Painganga Sanctuary, Yavatmal District
13. Tipeshwar Wildlife Sanctuary Yavatmal District
14. Wan Wildlife Sanctuary, Amravati District

A detail information about each national park and wild life sanctuary is given in the Natural attraction section (see chapter 4).

Mineral Wealth

The Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Bhandara and Nagpur Districts form the main mineral belt, with coal and manganese as the major minerals and iron ore and limestone as potential wealth. Given below is a list of minerals and the places in Vidarbha where they are found in abundant:

**Iron Ore**: Iron Ore is found on a very large scale in Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Nagpur and Gondia districts. Iron and steel are obtained from this mineral.

**Manganese**: Manganese is found on a large scale in Bhandara and Nagpur districts. This mineral is used in the production of steel.

**Limestone**: Limestone is found in Yavatmal, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts. Limestone is used in the production of cement.

**Chromite**: Chromite mineral is found in Bhandara. It is used in the production of stainless steel.

**Coal**: Coal is the most important mineral in Vidarbha region. There are coal mines in Nagpur, Yavatmal and Chandrapur districts. This coal is used in fuel in thermal power plants industries. Other minerals like mica, china clay, copper, etc. are found on a small scale in the eastern parts of Vidarbha.

Agriculture

**Jowar**: Jowar occupies more area than any other crop in Vidarbha. This crop needs warm weather, black fertile soil and moderate rainfall. We see fields of Jowar stretching far in the basins of the rivers Purna, Wardha, Wainganga Morna. It is produce on larger scale in Akola, Yavatmal, Washim, Wardha, Nagpur, Amravati.
Wheat: Wheat is grown in the rabi season. Wheat is grown in the areas which receives moderate rainfall and on fertile land capable of retaining moisture. The cool winter weather is suitable for wheat. It is cultivated in almost whole of Vidarbha but on a larger scale in Nagpur, Amravati and Wardha.

Rice: Rice needs plenty of rain, hot and humid climate and alluvial soil. In Vidarbha region it grown on a large scale in the Waiganga basin in the districts of Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur and Gadchiroli.

Bajra: This crop is grown in the kharif season. It needs warm weather, moderate rainfall and less fertile soil. It is cultivated in Washim districts.

Pulses: Major pulses grown in Vidarbha region are Tur, Moong and gram. The centers of cultivation are Amravati, Buldhana, Akola and Washim.

Fruits: Oranges from Nagpur are famous all over the country and thus gets the sobriquet of “Orange City of India”. The plant bears fruit twice a year – in summer and in winter. Oranges grown in summer are bigger and sweeter than oranges grown in winter. There are large orange orchards in Amravati, Yavatmal and Wardha too.

Other fruits that are grown in small scale are mango, banana, grapes, pomegranate, custard apple, guava, sweet lime, watermelon, smashmelon and different varieties of berries.

Vegetables and spices: Most vegetables used in Indian household are grown in Vidarbha. Prominent among them are Onions, beans, brinjals, cabbage and leafy vegetable. Vidarbha is one of the largest producers of chilies and coriander seeds in Maharashtra. Nagpur, Amravati, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur are famous for chillies.
Cash Crops

Cotton: Maharashtra is the largest producer of cotton in India and Vidarbha contribute about 80% of it. Cotton is grown in kharif season and picked when it comes out of the balls. The major producing areas are Yavatmal, Akola, Washim, Amravati, Buldhana, Wardha and Nagpur.

Sugarcane: Jaggery, Sugar and treacle are prepared from sugarcane. It is planted in areas where irrigation facilities are available. The major sugarcane growing area in Vidarbha are Amravati, Buldhana, Yavatmal and Wardha.

Oilseeds
Main oilseed varieties grown in Vidarbha are groundnuts, sesame, safflower, jayas and sunflower. Javas is grown on a large scale in the Vidarbha region. Sesame is grown in Chandrapur and Wardha districts. The main cooking medium of Vidarbha in particular and Maharashtra in general is groundnut oil. The major groundnut growing areaa are Amravati, Buldhana and Yavatmal. Apart from these we can find a large area under sunflower cultivation.

POWER RESOURCES

Thermal Electricity
A large amount of steam is needed to produce thermal electricity. Coal is used as fuel for producing steam from water and thus thermal electricity power plants are situated near coalfields. Since the eastern part of Vidarbha is full of coalfields, a number of thermal power plants have been established there. Chief among them are Durgapur near Chandrapur, Khaparkheda and Koradi near Nagpur, and Paras near Akola.

Hydro-electricity
Generally Hydro Electricity is generated from the multipurpose projects. Here water is accumulated in large reservoirs and then let out from a height in order to rotate large turbines. This on the other hand produces electricity. In
Vidarbha, we have such multipurpose projects at Navegaon Bandh, Borldhan, sillari (pench), Khindsi, Khekranala etc.

On the other hand, Reliance Energy has more aggressive plans. Its management is waiting for the state government’s nod to begin its 3,000 MW gas power project in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra.

**ECONOMY**

**Industries – Small Scale**

Nagpur is famous center of handlooms and powerlooms. Besides, Yevale produces *pitambari* and raw silk called *kosha* is produced at Savali, Nagbhid, Andhalgaon and Ekodi in Vidarbha. Bhandara and Gondia are well-known for manufacture of utensils of brass, copper and stainless steel. Due to abundance of tendu leaves there are a number of beedi making industries in Gondia, Bhandara and Nagpur. Many poor families make their living by rolling beedi in these units. Since quantitatively Vidarbha produces a good deal of rice one can find many mills for pounding rice. Nagpur has become a hub of fruit processing industries making canned juice, jam, pickle etc. Now days these units use modern equipment producing with greater efficiency and economy.

**Industries – Large Scale**

*Textile Industry:* Cotton is carded to remove the seeds, and the carded cotton is pressed into bales. This is called ginning and pressing. The bales of carded cotton are sent to spinning mills. The carded cotton is spun into yarn on spindles. Cloth is made from this yarn or thread. Since cotton is grown in large quantity in Vidarbha we can find textile mills dotted across the region. Some of the important centers are Nagpur, Badnera, Akola, Wardha, Pulgaon etc.

*Sugar Industry:* These are concentrated on the basins of river Godavari, Pravara, Mula, Bhima, Nira, Krishna, Panchganga etc. We can find many
cooperative sugar factories in Nagpur, Amravati, Akola, Yavatmal, Wardha, and Bhandara districts.

Oil seeds: Vidarbha carries a special place in edible oil map of India. Here oil is extracted mainly from groundnut, safflower, jayas, cottonseed and sunflower. There are oil-extracting plants at Akola, Washim districts. In Akola vanaspati ghee is made from groundnut oil.

Defence equipment: There are big ordnance factories at Ambazari near Nagpur, Jawahar nagar near Bhandara and Bhadravati in Chandrapur district.

Wood and paper: The sprawling forests of Vdarbh have invited many forest-based industry such as wood and paper. There are sawmills at Amravati, Yavatmal and Chandrapur for cutting trees into logs, planks etc. Bamboo, wood and bagasse is used as raw material for paper industry. Such industries are at Ballarpur, Kanhan near Nagpur and Ashti in Gadchirroli.

Other Industries: Factories manufacturing machines and their spare parts, glass and glass articles are found at the industrial estates of at Nagpur. There are factories for purifying manganese at Tumsar and Kamathi in Nagpur region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Profile of Vidarbha</th>
<th>Vidarbha</th>
<th>Maharashtra</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Area</td>
<td>97,404 sq.km</td>
<td>3,07,713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Population(1991) 2003 estimated</td>
<td>17.4 million 20.6 million</td>
<td>708.9 million 97.7 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.Urban Population (%)</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>38.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.SC &amp; Buddha(%)</td>
<td>15.02</td>
<td>11.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.ST(%)</td>
<td>14.95</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.Literacy(%)</td>
<td>64.93</td>
<td>64.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy(%) Male</td>
<td>76.19</td>
<td>76.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literacy(%) Female</td>
<td>53.03</td>
<td>52.32</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.Sex ratio (per 1000 males)</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>934</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of Districts (including Vidarbha)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Villages Total Inhabited</td>
<td>15,830</td>
<td>43,027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13,622</td>
<td>22,158</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of MLAs</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of MPs</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Culturable Area (hectares)</td>
<td>5672</td>
<td>20,077</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gross Area Sown</td>
<td>6070</td>
<td>22,158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Area Sown</td>
<td>5027</td>
<td>17,738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Cereals ('000 tones)</td>
<td>1830</td>
<td>8473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Pulses</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>1196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>1753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agr. Pumps Energized</td>
<td>4,43,849</td>
<td>22,09,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Factories(1998)</td>
<td>3876</td>
<td>28,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Av. daily workers</td>
<td>1,27,006</td>
<td>12,51,759</td>
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<tr>
<td>Towns &amp; Villages electrified 1998</td>
<td>13,540</td>
<td>39,413</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricity Installed</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,704 mw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generation</td>
<td></td>
<td>57,927 million kwh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td></td>
<td>51,695</td>
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Table 3.2


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Rs. Crore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Own Revenue (excluding center transfer And central grants)</td>
<td>Rs. 6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Share of Central Taxes (Rs. 6000 Crore for 2000-05)</td>
<td>Rs. 1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Grants from Central</td>
<td>Rs. 800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4) Total to 3</td>
<td>Rs. 8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5) Sell of electricity</td>
<td>Rs. 3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) Income from mineral processing</td>
<td>Rs. 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) Forest income</td>
<td>Rs.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8) Other income</td>
<td>Rs. 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9) Total 5 to 8</td>
<td>Rs. 4700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10) Grand Total 4+9</td>
<td>Rs. 12,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenditure**

11) Expenditure on Rs. 4000

77
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Surface Transport

Transport and communication play a pivotal role in the development of any region, more so, in contemporary era of industrialization, modernization and technological advancement. Through speedy movement of men and material, the effective transport system not only ensures economic prosperity but also provides opportunities for much needed inter and intra-community exchanges. Vidarbha incidentally in among those few Indian regions where road and rail transport is fairly developed. It is well connected with the important administrative, commercial and industrial centres and tourist destinations of the country by surface transport.

Road

Vidarbh can boast of one of the finest road links in the country. Located right at the heart of India it has got road connection to the four corners of the country. The Dhule – Kolkata National Highway No.6 connects Vidarbha to Mumbai in the west and Kolkata in the east. Similarly, the ambitious North-South corridor project connects Vidarbha to Jammu in the north and
Kanyakumari in the south. The same corridor also connects Vidarbha to cities like Chhindwara, Delhi, Agra, Gwalior, Jhansi, Bhopal in the north and Hyderabad, Bangalore, Salem in the south.

**Railways**

Two main broad gauge lines Delhi – Chennai and Mumbai – Kolkata intersect at Nagpur making it the super railway hub of the country. Being *equidistant from and well connected by super fast trains to all the four metropolitan* is the biggest advantage of Nagpur. Given below is the distance of Nagpur from four metros –

New Delhi – 1091 RKM  
Howrah – 1139 RKM  
Chennai – 1099 RKM  
Mumbai – 830 RKM  

* (RKM: Railway Kilometre)

**Airways**

Nagpur is the sole domestic airport of Vidarbha. Besides state owned Indian Airlines private carriers like Jet Airways, Sahara Airlines also operate their flight to and from Nagpur. The arrival and departure schedule of the flights at Nagpur airport is given in detail in Chapter-VI.

**Population and Settlement**

The distribution of population in the state reflects interplay of physical, economic and the other obvious factors. According to 2001 census, the total population of the Vidarbha has been 20.6 million with the sex ratio 947 females per thousand males. Among the districts, Nagpur has the largest population (22.25% approx) closely followed by Amravati (15% approx) while Washim has the lowest population (7.8% approx). Vidarbha is truly secular in its population mix. Almost all religions, castes and provinces of India are represented in the population of Vidarbha. Not prone to communal violence, unlike rest of Maharashtra.
### Table 3.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Area (Sq.Km.)</th>
<th>Population (Census 2001)</th>
<th>Male population (Census 2001)</th>
<th>Female Population (Census 2001)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akola</td>
<td>5,429</td>
<td>1,629,305</td>
<td>840,883</td>
<td>788,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amravati</td>
<td>12,210</td>
<td>2,606,063</td>
<td>1,343,572</td>
<td>1,262,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhandara</td>
<td>3,890</td>
<td>1,135,835</td>
<td>573,481</td>
<td>562,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buldhana</td>
<td>9,611</td>
<td>2,226,328</td>
<td>1,144,314</td>
<td>1,082,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandrapur</td>
<td>11,443</td>
<td>2,077,909</td>
<td>1,059,875</td>
<td>1,018,034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadchiroli</td>
<td>14,412</td>
<td>969,960</td>
<td>490,809</td>
<td>479,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gondia</td>
<td>5,431</td>
<td>1,200,151</td>
<td>598,447</td>
<td>601,704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>9,892</td>
<td>4,051,444</td>
<td>2,095,489</td>
<td>1,955,955</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wardha</td>
<td>6,309</td>
<td>1,230,640</td>
<td>635,751</td>
<td>591,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washim</td>
<td>5,155</td>
<td>1,019,725</td>
<td>525,806</td>
<td>493,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yavatmal</td>
<td>13,582</td>
<td>2,460,482</td>
<td>1,267,117</td>
<td>1,193,365</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graph 3.1

**Population of Vidarbha (Census 2001)**
### Table 3.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Total literacy rate (In percent)</th>
<th>Male literacy rate (In percent)</th>
<th>Female literacy rate (In percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akola</td>
<td>81.77</td>
<td>89.22</td>
<td>73.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amravati</td>
<td>82.96</td>
<td>89.28</td>
<td>76.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhandara</td>
<td>78.69</td>
<td>89.11</td>
<td>68.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buldhana</td>
<td>76.14</td>
<td>87.17</td>
<td>64.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandrapur</td>
<td>73.07</td>
<td>83.19</td>
<td>62.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gadchiroli</td>
<td>60.29</td>
<td>69.72</td>
<td>50.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gondia</td>
<td>78.65</td>
<td>89.54</td>
<td>67.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>84.18</td>
<td>90.25</td>
<td>77.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wardha</td>
<td>80.50</td>
<td>87.70</td>
<td>72.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washim</td>
<td>74.03</td>
<td>86.01</td>
<td>61.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yavatmal</td>
<td>74.06</td>
<td>84.47</td>
<td>63.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graph 3.4

**Total literacy rate in Vidarbha Region (In percent)**

![Bar graph showing literacy rates for different districts in Vidarbha Region.](image)
Graph 3.5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Districts</th>
<th>Sex Ratio (No. of females per 1000 Male)</th>
<th>Density of Population (per sq km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akola</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amravati</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>213</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhandara</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buldhana</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandrapur</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadchiroli</td>
<td>976</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gondia</td>
<td>1005</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>933</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wardha</td>
<td>936</td>
<td>195</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washim</td>
<td>939</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yavatmal</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.Vidarbhawani.org

Languages

Amongst modern languages English, Marathi and Hindi are spoken in Vidarbha. There are many other tribal languages of the many tribes. The famous Varhadi and Koshti languages spoken in rural Vidarbha and the weaver community respectively are but they are only dialects of Marathi.
AKOLA DISTRICT

Location
The district Akola lies between 19° 51' North to 21° 16' North latitude and 76° 38' to 77° 44' East longitude in the western parts of the Nagpur division of Maharashtra state and is surrounded by Amravati district in the north, Amravati and yavatmal district in the east, Parbhani and parts of Yavatmal districts in the south and Buldhana district in the west. Total area of the district is 10574 sq.kms. and the district headquarter is located at Akola.

About The District
Akola was named as a district for the first time in 1857. With the reorganization of states in 1956, the district was transferred from Madhya
Pradesh to Bombay state. The district forms a part of Maharashtra since 1st May 1960.

The Purna is the chief river of the district. The principal crops grown in the district are cotton, jowar, groundnut, tur, urad, mung, wheat, gram, and sugarcane. There are some large scale manufacturing factories producing textiles and hydrogenated oil. The cotton spinning and weaving mill of Akola town produces both cotton yarn and cloth. Number of small scale establishments like dal-mills, oil presses, confectionary, bidi making, saw – mills, soap-making, metal plating and engineering, shoe-making, carpentry, brick-making, pottery, oil-mills etc. There are some important historical forts at Akola, Balapur, Karanja town. Shirpur is a well-known Jain pilgrim center. Main Languages spoken in the district are Marathi, Hindi, Gujarati, Sindhi and Urdu.

The district at present comprises of 13 tehsils with equal number of community development blocks. It has 10 towns and 1776 villages. While Akola itself is a parliamentary constituency it has six assembly constituencies namely, Khamgaon, Akot, Borgaon manju, Akola, Balapur and Murtijapur.

**Climate, Temperature And Rainfall**

The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-west monsoon season which extends up to the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

During the summers the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 42.4 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 27.5 degree
Celsius. During the winters the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 29.3 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 11.9 degree Celsius. The average annual rainfall of the district is 846.5 mm.

People And Culture
Akola city is a commercial center and thus the life style there is cosmopolitan in nature. Elsewhere in the district the main occupation of the people is agriculture and their lifestyle is influenced by it. Sakharam Maharaj fair of Loni Budsuk is the important fair of the district.

AMRAVATI DISTRICT
Location
The district is located between 21°46' to 20°32' North latitude and 78°027' to 76°37' East longitude, which essentially indicates that Amravati District is located in the Deccan plateau. Amravati district covers an area of 12626 sq.kms and is situated right in the center of the northern border of the Maharashtra state. It is bounded on the north by Madhya Pradesh, on the east by Nagpur and Wardha district, on the south and south-west by the district of Yavatmal, Akola and Buldhana. The district is divided into 14 Talukas and six sub-divisions.

The District Head-quarter is situated at Amravati, which is 150 Kms away from Nagpur, 140 Kms away from Akola and 90 Km from Wardha. Rivers Wardha, Tapi and Puna drain the district.

About The District
The present Amravati district got its existence in the year 1805. During the reorganization of the states in 1956 Amravati district was handed over to Bombay province from Central Province. Later, the district became a part of Maharashtra on 1st May 1960.
Amravati district is well known for Melghat tiger project. It also has the distinction of being the district with largest number of blood donors in Maharashtra. The oranges grown in Amravati have high export value and are sought after in both India and abroad. The other Agriculture Produce in the district are Jawar, Linseed, Tur, Wheat. The Main profession of the people is farming.

Amravati was known as one of the biggest cotton center of India during British rule. It still enjoys the same supremacy though the production of cotton has declined marginally. A train ‘Amravati Passenger’ that connects Amravati through a narrow guage line with Badnera junction on the Mumbai-Howrah main line find its mention in The Guinness Book of World Record for being a full fledged passenger train running for shortest distance i.e. 10 Kms.

The district is divided into six Sub-Divisions i.e. Amravati, Chandur (railway), Morshi, Achalpur, Dharni and Daryapur. These six sub divisions are further divided into 14 talukas, 834 Gram Panchayats and 1996 Revenue Villages. The district has three Legislative Assembly Constituencies namely Gadchiroli, Armori and Sironcha. Basically, the district is distributed into 12 talukas and 12 Panchayat Samitis. There are ten Municipalities and one Municipal corporation in the district.

**Climate, Temperature And Rainfall**

The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-west monsoon season which extends upto the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.
During the summers the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 42.1 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 27.2 degree Celsius. During the winters the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 28.4 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 14.7 degree Celsius. The average annual rainfall of the district is 877.4 mm.

**People And Culture**

The culture of Amravati along with that of Nagpur said to be the true representation of Vidarbha’s culture. Apart from regular Hindu festivals of Holi, diwali, Dussehra, Ganesh Puja the regional festivals like Gudi Padwa, Pola are celebrated with equal fervor. Though in the city people have adopted to modern dress, in the rural areas one can still find men wearing white kurta and cap whereas women wear navari (the nine-yard saree). The food of this region is essentially very hot and spicy.

**BHANDARA DISTRICT**

**Location**

Bhandara district is encircled by Balaghat district (M.P.) in north, Gondia in east, Chandrapur, in South, and Nagpur in the West. Hilly region of the northern side consists of Satpuda range, Bhivsen Koka are small hillocks in this range. Gaymukh, Ambagad, these are the prominent hills in northern hilly region. The District of Bhandara has an area of 3965 sq. m. The district is bounded on the N., NE. and E. by lofty hills, inhabited by Gonds and other aboriginal tribes, while the W. and N.W. are comparatively open. Small branches of the Satpura range make their way into the interior of the district.

**About The District**

More than one-third of the district lies under jungle, which yields gum, medicinal fruit and nuts, edible fruits, lac, honey and the blossoms of the ma/hat tree (Bassia latifolia), which area eaten by the poorer classes, and used
for the manufacture of a kind of spirit. Tigers, panthers, deer wild hogs and other wild animals abound in the forests, and during the rainy season many deaths occur from snake-bites.

Native cloth, brass wares, pot-stone wares, cartwheels, straw and reed baskets, and a small quantity of silk, are manufactured in small quantity. There are 3648 small lakes and tanks in Bhandara district, whence it is called the *Lake District*. They afford ample means of irrigation. The principal crops are rice, wheat, millet, other food-grains, pulse, linseed, and a little super-cane.

Bhandara is the rice bowl of Maharashtra state Chinnor, Dubhraj, Kalikammod, these scented rice varieties from Bhandara district are famous in the State. Natural flora & fauna have enhanced natural beauty and grandeur of the dist.

**Climate, Temperature And Rainfall**

The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-west monsoon season which extends upto the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

**People And Culture**

The total population of district is 1200151 that include 598447 males and 601704 females (as per census 2001). Density of Population is 247 per Sq.Km.

The population of schedule tribes is 309822 i.e. 14.70%. The population of schedule caste is 355484 i.e. 16.87%.
The tribals in the district have their own culture. They worship God "Persa Pen" and others. They do the dance "Rela" on auspicious occasions and when new crops come. Rela dance is a popular dance among the tribals. The other dance is "Dhol" dance. Holi, Dashehra and Deewali are the main festivals of tribals. The tribal community is resides in the dense forest of District.

The other community peoples are having their own Festival such as Ganpati, Dashera, Diwali and Holi. In some area of the district, peoples are interested in playing a role in "Natak" or arranges the culture programes "Natak" after Diwali or on Festival days.

NAGPUR DISTRICT

Location
The district lies between 20° 35' and 21° 44' north latitude and 78° 15' and 79° 40' east longitude at the southern base of Satpura hills. Chhindwara and Seoni districts of Madhya Pradesh fall in its north. Bhandara district flanks it in the east and Chandrapur in the south. Wardha and Amravati districts are contiguous with boundaries in the west. Total area of the district is 9862 sq. kms. The district headquarters is located at Nagpur.

About The District
Nagpur was named as a district for the first time in 1861. With the reorganization of states in 1956, the district was transferred from Madhya Pradesh to Bombay state. The district forms a part of Maharashtra since 1st May 1960.

Wardha and Wainganga are the two main rivers of the district which flow along a part of western and the eastern borders respectively and the drainage of the district is divided between them. Among the chief agricultural produce are jowar, cotton, groundnut, tur, gram, wheat and paddy. But it is the Oranges of Nagpur which makes it famous all over India. Nagpur district is
well developed from the view point of commerce and industry with Nagpur city being its hub. Among the large scale industries are cotton textile, saw milling, paper and straw board, ceramics, ferro-manganese, steel re-reeling etc. A unit in Kamptee manufactures safety fuses for blasting gun powder. Small pox and cholera vaccines are manufactures in Vaccine Institute, Nagpur. Apart from that a number important offices of both central and state government are situated here. Some of them are Reserve Bank of India and the Ordnance factory.

Traditional crafts are conducted on household and cottage industries scale and include handloom weaving, oil ghanies, tanning and leather goods manufacture, pottery and bricks, cane and bamboo works, dyeing and printing etc. Nagpur handloom sarees are famous and the silk bordered cloth is exported to various parts of the country. In the recent past the snacks brand name ‘Haldiram’ of Nagpur has made waves round the country. There are a number of places of tourist interest in and around Nagpur. Chief among them are Adasa, Khapa, Sitabuldi, Ramtek etc. Besides many modern tourist resorts have come up around Nagpur city. Nagpur city plays host to Kalidas Mahotsav every year.

Main Languages spoken in the district are Marathi, Hindi, Gujarati, Punjabi, Sindhi, Telugu and Urdu.

The district at present comprises of 14 tehsils and 13 community development blocks. It has 23 towns and 1878 villages. Nagpur has two parliamentary constituencies. They are Nagpur and Ramtek. It also has 12 assembly constituencies namely, Morshi, Umrer, Katol, Kalmeshwar, Saoner, Ramtek, Kamptee, Nagpur north, Nagpur east, Nagpur south, Nagpur central and Nagpur west. It noteworthy that Nagpur is regarded as the second capital of Maharashtra and the winter session of Maharashtra assembly is held at Nagpur every year.
Climate, Temperature And Rainfall
The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-west monsoon season which extends up to the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

During the summers the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 42.7 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 27 degree Celsius. During the winters the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 27.7 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 14 degree Celsius. The average annual rainfall of the district is 1161.54 mm.

People And Culture
Nagpur is regarded as mini Mumbai both in terms of its extend and its culture. One can find all modern amenities in the city at hand’s reach. People are educated and thus all important fairs and festivals are observed in the district without any discrimination of caste and creed.

WARDHA DISTRICT
Location
The district lies between $20^\circ 18'$ and $21^\circ 21'$ north latitude and $70^\circ 30'$ and $79^\circ 15'$ east longitude. It is bounded in the west and north by Amravati district, in the east by Nagpur district, in the south by Yavatmal district and in the southeast by Chandrapur district. The name Wardha according to local interpretation is a corruption of ‘Varaha’ or the boar incarnation of Lord Vishnu. The district lies at the foot of the Satpura hills in the Wardha valley.
Total area of the district is 6309 sq. kms. The district headquarter is located at Wardha.

**About The District**

Chandrapur was named as a district for the first time in 1862. With the reorganization of states in 1956, the district was transferred from Madhya Pradesh to Bombay state. The district forms a part of Maharashtra since 1st May 1960.

Important rivers of the district are Wardha and its tributary Wunna. Main crops grown in the district are wheat and jowar. Industries pertaining to general engineering, repairs, fabrication, printing, tanning, manufacture of soap, saw milling, furniture, charhka handlooms, oilcake and agarbatti making are found I the district. The district has an important place in the history because of its association with great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Vinobha Bhave. Apart from the ashrams set up by these two leaders Wardha has several pilgrim centers for different faiths. Main Languages spoken in the district are Marathi, Hindi and Urdu.

The district at present comprises of 8 tehsils and equal number of community development blocks. It has 6 towns and 1379 villages. While Wardha itself is a parliamentary constituency it has six assembly constituencies namely, Teosa, Chandur, Arvi, Pulgaon, Wardha and Hinganghat.

**Climate, Temperature And Rainfall**

The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-
west monsoon season which extends upto the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

During the summers the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 43 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 27 degree Celsius. During the winters the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 29 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 13 degree Celsius. The average annual rainfall of the district is 1090.3 mm.

**People And Culture**
Due to its association with Gandhiji Wardha city is regarded as a dry city. Hindu festivals like Dussehra, shivratri, Holi are dominating in this region. Till date Khadi cloth is spinned by charkha as taught by Gandhiji. There are a number of stupas constructed in the region with the help of Japanese collaboration.

**WASHIM DISTRICT**
Washim district is surrounded by Buldhana district in the west, Akola district in the north, Yavatmal district in the east and Andhra Pradesh in the south. Total are of the district is 5155 sq. kms. The district headquarter is located at Washim and is about 80 kms from Akola.

**About The District**
Washim district was carved out on the 1st July 1998 by the division of erstwhile Akola district. There are six talukas in the district namely, Karanja, Manora, Malegaon, Mangarul Pir, Risod and Washim. According to a belief the astronomers of ancient India drew an imaginary line across the earth and it passed through Washim city. Thus there is a temple named Madhyameshwar dedicated to this Lord Shiva that lies exactly on that imaginary line.
Katepurna, Painganga, Arunavati are the major rivers that drain Washim district. The main crops are Jowar, Mung, Bajra, Wheat, Tur, Orange, Cotton, Gram, and Chilies etc. There are industries pertaining to Cotton-ginning, pressing, oil mill, handloom cloth etc.

**Climate, Temperature And Rainfall**

The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-west monsoon season which extends up to the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

During the summers the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 42.4 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 27.5 degree Celsius. During the winters the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 29.3 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 11.9 degree Celsius. The average annual rainfall of the district is 850 mm.

**People And Culture**

Being a part of the erstwhile Akola district the culture of Washim is not much different from it. Being a new district it is fast running into development. But the people are simple and religious in nature. The fairs and festivals outside the religion are virtually unknown.

**YAVATMAL DISTRICT**

**Location**

Yavatmal district lies in the South-Western part of the Wardha Penganga-Wainganga plain. The district lies between 19° 26' and 20° 42' north latitudes and 77° 18' and 79° 9' east longitudes. It is surrounded by Amravati and
Wardha district to the north. Chandrapur district to the east. Andhra Pradesh State and Nanded district to the south and Parbhani and Akola district.

The district has an area of 13582 sq. km (4.41 percent of the state) and a population of 2077144 (2.63 percent of the State). The density of population is 153 persons per km2 with is less than 257 persons per km2 for the state as whole.

The district headquarters are located at Yavatmal a town with a population of 108578 as per the 1991 census. It is well connected by roads to the different tahsil headquarters and is also connected to Achalpur by a narrow gauge railway line.

**About The District**

Yavatmal was named as a district for the first time in 1864. With the reorganization of states in 1956, the district was transferred from Madhya Pradesh to Bombay state. The district forms a part of Maharashtra since 1st May 1960.

The main rivers of the district are the Wardha and Penganga both of which flow skirting the district and forming the district boundaries. Main agriculture produce of the district is Jowar, groundnut, wheat, cotton, oilseeds and tur. Though coal and limestone are found in the district no large scale industries have developed. However small scale industries like handloom, handicrafts, cane and bamboo works, oil ghanis, pottery, leather and tanning, carpentry and smithy etc are the important industries in the district. Main Languages spoken in the district are Marathi, Hindi, Telegu and Urdu.

The district at present comprises of 12 tehsils and equal number of community development blocks. It has 10 towns and 2108 villages. While Yavatmal itself is a parliamentary constituency it has six assembly constituencies namely, Wani, Ralegaon, Kelapur, Yeotmal, Darwha and Digras.
Climate, Temperature And Rainfall

The climate of the district is characterized by a hot summer and general dryness throughout the year except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The period from about the middle of November to the end of February constitutes the winter season. The summer season extends from March to June. This is followed by the south-west monsoon season which extends upto the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season.

During the summers the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 41.8 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 28.3 degree Celsius. During the winters the mean daily maximum temperature of the district is 28.4 degree Celsius while the mean daily minimum temperature is 15.1 degree Celsius. The average annual rainfall of the district is 991.6 mm.

People And Culture

The district is dominated by forest area and thus the culture is essentially tribal in nature. The major tribes found in this region are Gond and Korku. They have very simple agrarian lifestyle and also resort to cattle farming. Small mining township have developed in the area which is a source of employment for the people. Tribal fair and festivals are celebrated all over the district.
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