CHAPTER - I
APPR AIS AL OF THE PR OBLEM
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1.1 INTRODUCTION.
1.2 REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE.
1.3 CHOICE OF THE TOPIC.
1.4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.
1.5 DATA COLLECTION.
1.6 METHODOLOGY EMPLOYED.
1.7 THE DESIGN OF THE RESEARCH WORK.
city, umland of towns, hierarchy of shopping centres, functional morphology have been worked out by government agencies as well as an individual levels.


The smaller places have started receiving greater attention, while the bigger ones seem to have been exhausted. Malshe, P. T. (1968) has described growth and morphology, public utility services, demographic features, functional areas and immediate umland of Kolhapur City, Rao, R. R. M. (1981) has described the growth, structure and religion relationship of Warangal City\textsuperscript{8}. Dixit, K. R. (1970) has studied Bombay City\textsuperscript{9}. The work of Dwivedi, O. S. (1959)\textsuperscript{10} on Allahabad city, Mathur, S. D. (1968) on Indore City,\textsuperscript{11} Joshi R. P. (1972) on Kota City,\textsuperscript{12} Khan Z. T. (1983) on Bilaspur City,\textsuperscript{13} Singh Pushpa (1987) on Ghaziabad, Singh, M. B. (1981) on Imphal City\textsuperscript{15}. These several studies deals with the origin, growth, demographic and functional structure and the service area of the respective urban centre.
Mulik, A. D. (1989) has studied the urbanization of South Maharashtra. Sita, K. (1972) has highlighted the low level of urbanization in South Konkan, which needs adequate industrial incentives to raise its level of urbanization. Zodage, S. B. (2001), has studied the impact of urban growth on environment of Kolhapur City.

1.3 CHOICE OF THE TOPIC:

Town and cities have acted as focal points in the cultural landscape of India and they continue to play a major role in India’s emergence as a premier industrial and political power in the world. The landscape of urban settlements in India provides a veritable laboratory for the study of the complex inter-relationships among the people and between the people and the physical and cultural environments in which they live. The study of urbanization in India by its very nature several dimensions of analysis. Fundamentaly, these include a spatio-temporal, socio-cultural and politico-economic dimensions.

A geographer’s primary interest is in the study of the inter-relationship between people and their habitats. In an urban setting, the habitat comprises not merely the territory of the city and its hinterland but also the spatial linkages between a large number of urban and rural settlements within the region.

The city is heterogenous in terms of its population composition and has a variegated and complex land-use structure. The city comes to life with the spatial mobility of its people engaged in their day-to-day activities to satisfy their economic, social and cultural need. Land, roads, building and people, all form part of the city structure. Each
component unit performs a significant role, so that the city may function harmoniously and perform its wider role as a focal centre of the region and the nation. They may focus on the intricate patterns of land-uses in commercial, industrial and residential areas.

Taking into consideration of the above aspects, Satara City has been selected and studied in urban geography, because the researcher is belonging to the study region and knows the various functions and service activities in detail. The researcher also knows the problems of the study region.

1.4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

The present work intends to study the historical growth, demographic characteristics, functional structure or various service facilities, such as education, health, transport, marketing, the CBD of city, the main urban problems and suggestions for future development. However the specific objectives of the present study are as follows:

i) To review the growth pattern of Satara City.

ii) To highlight the demographic characteristics of Satara City.

iii) To study the functional structure of Satara City.

iv) To describe the educational facilities of the Satara City.

v) To examine the spatial organization of health care facilities of the Satara City.

vi) To study the transportaion system of Satara City.

vii) To analyse the intra-urban market centres of the Satara City.

viii) To delimit Central Business District and discuss its salient characteristics.

ix) To highlight the urban problems and their suggestions.
1.5 DATA COLLECTION:

The secondary data for the present study has been collected from the following sources:

i) District Census Hand Book of Satara District, 1991 and 2001


iii) The Gazetteer of Satara District.

iv) The reports of Municipality Office, Satara.

v) Reports of Town Planning Development Office, Satara.

vi) Various departments of Zilla Parishad, Satara.

vii) Various journals and News-papers.

Primary data regarding service facilities, intra-urban markets, shopping centres, transportation and health care facilities have been collected at the time of field work conducted during January and June 2005 in the study region.

1.6 METHODOLOGY EMPLOYED:

As the study region consists of 13 sectors, sector is selected as basic unit of investigation. In the present study the information and data regarding the aspects of urban geography up to 2006 has been considered. In the present study, the primary data has been collected with the help of field work. For this purpose a thoughtful and thoroughly questionnaires were prepared for particular aspect. The field work as well as empirical method has been used to depict the various functions and service facilities. After collecting the primary and secondary data, it has been tabulated and represented with the help of various statistical techniques. Several maps and diagrams have been prepared to show
the different types of information and distribution. The analysis and interpretation of data has been done from the geographical point of view. The detailed methodology is illustrated in the respective chapters. The CBD has been delimited on the basis of new criteria.

1.7 THE DESIGN OF THE RESEARCH WORK:

The present research work is organised into ten chapters. The first chapter is dealt with the appraisal of the problem. This chapter is also devoted to the review of the relevant literature, aims and objectives, data collection and methodology that have been employed in the present work.

The second chapter is devoted to the geographical setting and historical growth of Satara City. The location, extent, physiography, climate, drainage, transportation, water supply, and other service facilities have been studied. The evolution of Satara City through different phases (i.e. 5 phases) has been studied in this chapter.

In the third chapter sectorwise demographic characteristics especially the growth, distribution and density of population, age and sex structure, dependancy ratio, literacy structure and occupational structure of the study region are highlighted.

The fourth chapter is devoted to the study of functional structure, in which the administrative functions, shopping centres and recreation facilities have been studied. The fifth chapter is dealt with the study of educational facilities in Satara City. In this chapter the growth and distribution of primary, secondary, higher and other educational institutes have been studied. The sectorwise distribution of students and teachers as well as hostels have also been studied in this chapter.
The sixth chapter includes the study of the spatial organization of health care facilities in which the sectorwise distribution of dispensaries, hospitals and doctors with their specialization has been studied. The number of medical shops and health care centres have been studied. The health care centres, No. of hospitals and No. of doctors and their relationships have been studied.

The seventh chapter is devoted to the study of urban transportation system, in which the growth of transport vehicles, the growth of buses and autorickshaws, and sector-wise distribution of their stops, frequency of rickshaws, frequency of buses, the structural analysis of transportation network, the connectivity and accessibility have been studied.

The chapter eight is dealt with the study of Intra-urban market centres of Satara city. In this chapter the commercial structure or morphology, commodity structure and No. of stalls, and consumer behaviour pattern has been studied.

The ninth chapter includes the study of delimitation of CBD of Satara City. In this chapter, the assessed land values, market land values and rent values have been studied. The CBD of Satara city has been delimited on the basis new criteria / indices viz. STD booths, local telephones, coin boxes, fax and mobile shoppy centres, computer training centres, internet centres, xerox centres, banks, insurance offices, bus and rickshaw stops.

The tenth chapter is dealt with the urban problems of Satara City, their suggestions and concluding remarks.
REFERENCES:


7. Malshe, P.T. (1968), 'Kolhapur: A study in Urban Geography'.


---x---