CHAPTER-III

INTRODUCTION TO THE
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The current chapter deals with the introduction to the study Region. It includes area and geography, Geographical Location, Irrigation, Historical background, soil, Rivers, Climate and Rainfall, Forest, Demography, Occupational structure, Agriculture, Horticulture, Development programmes in the district, Employment Status etc. Further, it is also made an attempt to know and understand the impact of the watershed development programme on Nanded district and its Strengths and Weakness.

The city of Nanded is one of the historical places in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra State. The city is situated on the north bank of Godavari River. It is the most famous for Sikh Gurudwaras in this region. Nanded once was a town with a great antiquity. It is said that during the Puranic days, Pandavas travelled through Nanded district. It is said that the Nandas ruled over Nanded through generations. The mention of Nanded is found in the Lilacharitra, a treatise that had written by Mahimbhatta. It gives the description of the idol of Narasimha in the town. Nanded town earlier was known as "Nanditat" which is confirmed by the copper plate found at Vasim. The Nanded District and the adjoining regions were ruled over by the Andhrabhrtyas or Satvahanas during the First Century A.D. During the fourth century A.D. Kandhar was the capital of the King Sogadev and at Nanded was ruled by the king Nanddeva of the Chalukya dynasty. Previously it is learnt that the Rashtrakutas were ruling at Kandhar had been established by the inscription at Krishnadev alias Khandardev found at Khandar. One more inscription at Ardhapur shows that some dynasty of the Rashtrakutas was also ruled over Degloor. Hottal, a place in Nanded District was the capital of the Chalukyas, Kakatiyas followed by the Yadavas of Devgiri were the last Hindu dynasties to have ruled of this part. During the very first invasion by Muhammedans this region subjugated to them and after a few years it became a part of the Malik kafur, the general of Alauddin Khilji.

It is in the year 1708, that the year following the death of Aurangzeb, his son accompanied by Guru Govind Singh, the tenth spiritual leader of the Sikhs came over to Nanded, for his permanent abode. It was this Guru Govind Singh who preached amongst the Sikhs that there need not be any spiritual leader for them and they should
take Granthsheb as their leader. During this period a monument has been constructed at the place where he breathed his last. Further, a Gurudwara had also been constructed there that is known as Shri Hazur Abchalnagar Sachkhand Gurudwara.

Further, it became the part of the Hyderabad Kingdom in the year 1725 when the Nizam permanently opted for the Deccan and continued to be so till 1947. With India attaining freedom and the consequent police action against the Hyderabad State, the district formed as a part of the Marathwada region of the Hyderabad state that became part of the bilingual Bombay State and consequent upon the creation of Maharashtra, the district continues to form part of the state of Maharashtra. The district of Nanded has a great cultural heritage. It is the place of birth of the Saint poets like Vishnupant Sesa and Raguhunath Sesa and Vaman Pandit besides being a Centre of learning Sanskrit.

The Nanded District lies between 18° 15’ to 19° 55’ North latitudes and 77° to 78° 25’ East longitudes. It covers the geographical area of 10,332 Sq. Kms. It is located in the south eastern part of the State. Nanded is one of the eight districts of Marathwada region in Maharashtra. It is located on the southeast boundary of the state having a north-south spread. The district has two States to its border viz. Karnataka and Andra Pradesh. It is bounded on the North by Yavatmal District, on the South West by Latur District, on the North West by Parbhani District of Maharashtra State, on the East and South East by Adilabad and Nizamabad Districts of Andhra Pradesh and on the South by Bidar District of Karnataka State. The area presents undulating topography with uneven hills, plateau, gentle slopes and valley planes. Geographically, the district can be divided in to 2 major parts, the hilly region on the North and North East and low lying area on the banks of the rivers Godavari, Manjra, Manyad, Penganga etc.

**Area and Geography:**

Nanded is the second largest city in Marathwada region in Maharashtra after Aurangabad with a geographical area of 63.22 km². Further, it is also known as the 8th largest city/urban agglomeration in the state of Maharashtra after Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Nasik, Aurangabad, Solapur and Amravati. Nanded district borders Latur and Parbhani districts to the west and Yavatmal to the north, the district is bounded by Nizamabad, Medak and Adilabad districts of Telangana on the east. The City of Nanded is divided in two parts: Old Nanded (20.62 km) on the north bank
of Godavari River, and New Nanded (31.14 km), comprising Waghala and six other newly merged villages which are situated on south of the Godavari river. The entire area is covered by the Deccan Traps lava flows of Upper Cretaceous to Lower Eocene age. The lava flows are overlain by thin alluvial deposits along the Kham and Sukhana River. The basaltic lava flows belonging to the Deccan Trap is the only major geological formation occurring in the district of Aurangabad. The lava flows horizontal and each flow has two distinct units. The highly weathered vesicular trap and underlying weathered jointed and fractured massive trap constitutes the main water-yielding zones. The soil is mostly formed from igneous rocks and are black, medium black, shallow and calcareous types having different depths and profiles. Generally black soil is found in the majority parts of the district. The proportion of Calcium, Magnesium and Nitrates are comparatively higher. The moisture holding capacity is generally found good in this type of soil. Especially, the soil from the area located in Godavari river valley and Biloli and Deglur talukas is considered superior in quality and that in the talukas located in hilly areas such as Bhokar, Hadgaon and Kinvat is of inferior quality. The temperature is dry and uneven causing extreme heat during summer and extreme cold during winter. The district generally receives more than 100 cm of annual rainfall in the months of June, July, August and September.

Among the major crops grown, Jawar is predominant followed by Cotton. Bajri is grown in Kinwat Block. Kinwat block is also known for the Sag (teak) wood. In addition to these things, the farmers grow crops like wheat, sugarcane and banana. Bamboo plantation is also evident in some places of this district.

**Irrigation:**

We find an encouraging situation of irrigation in this district. There are three major projects in this District. The Purna project irrigates 20,000 hectares, Manar project irrigates 23,310 hectares and Lower Godavari (Vishnupuri Project) irrigates 28,340 hectares of land across the district. In addition to these three major irrigation projects, there are also 10 Medium irrigation projects out of which eight projects have been completed and the work is in progress in case of remaining two projects. Around 394 minor irrigation projects have also been in operation. Furtherance to this, the tube wells are also used for irrigation purposes; in the district. There are around 134 tube wells used for irrigation in this region.
Historical Background:

The district of Nanded has its own rich and ancient history, which dates back to the time of the Puranas of the Hindu Mythology. It is understood that the district is derived its name from Nandi-tat, the place in the banks of river Godavari where Nandi, the vahan of Lord Shiva, is said to have performed penance. Further, it is also said that Nine Rishis known as Nand performed penance in the bank of river Godavari and hence the name Nanded Tat.

Further, it is also recorded that the district of Nanded has also gained importance as a pilgrim Centre due to the Hujursahet Gurudwara at Nanded that has been built in the memory of Shri Guru Gobind Singh. And further it is also recorded that the ancient temples of Lord Dattatreya and Renuka Devi at Mutur in Kinwat Taluka, the temple of Lord Kandhoba at Malegaon in Loha Taluka and a place named after Shri Chakradhar Swamy, the founder of Mahanubav cult as the important religious places in this region.

Area & Topography:

The district has a geographical area of around 10,528 Sq. Km., which forms 3.41 percent of the total geographical area of Maharashtra State. The district has been situated in the Deccan Plateau. It is recorded that the Southern part of the district has light and barren land. The North-Eastern part of Kinwat block is mountainous and largely barren. And the remaining geographical part of the district is mostly flat and has fertile black soil that is required for the cultivation.

Soil & Rivers:

The district of Nanded has been gifted with number of rivers and good quality of the soil that is required for the agriculture cultivation. The cropping pattern in this region is of high yielding. The black cotton soil in this region is rich in calcium, magnesium and carbonates, but poor in Nitrogen, Potassium and Phosphorous. It has a high moisture and humidity retention capacity. The river basin of Godavari, Mangurd, Mongia and Penganga has a deep and good quality soil along the banks. The soil near hilly areas is mixed with stone.

The major rivers in the district are Godavari, Penganga, Monjura and Mongad, all of which are perennial. Further, Asna, Sita, Saraswati & Lendi are the mixed rivers with seasonal flow. All these rivers are the natural gift to this region.
Climate & Rainfall:

The climate in this region is extreme with large variations in the temperature. During summer the district experiences extreme heat with the mercury touching 44°C while in the winter the temperature drops to 9°C. The district receives rain from the South-West monsoon during the months of June to December. The average rainfall in the district is 1150 mm. Kinwat Taluka receives the maximum rainfall while Kondhav receives the lowest rainfall in this region.

Forests:

Forests are the assets of the nation. If any part of the country possesses the large area of the forest it is going to benefit out of it in different situation through different sources. The total area under forest in the district is around 86,000 hectares which is about 8.30% of the district's geographical area. The major forest area in the district is found in Kinwat taluka which is about 57,800 hectares. The main forest produces are Timber & firewood Bamboo, Grass, Tendu leaves, Gum & Khenir Wood (used for manufacturing Kola) that are very much useful to the people of this region. The main forest areas are found in Kinwat, Hodgaon, Bhokur and Billoli Talukas. During the year 1997-98 the Revenue earned through the sale of forest produces in Nanded district was Rs. 191.65 lakhs out of which the revenue through sale of Major produces like Fire wood and other wood was Rs. 90.08 lakhs and through the sale Minor produces like Bamboo, Grass, Tendu leaves and Gum was Rs. 101.57 lakhs.

Demography:

As per the 2011 Census of India, the population of Nanded district was 30,42,000. Urban population is around 9,06,000 while the rural population constitutes 18,24,000. The decennial growth of population in the district during the period 1981-91 was about 33.21 percent. Out of the total urban population around 54.35% is in the Nanded City itself.

The density of population in the district is 222 per square kilo meters while in the State it is 256 per square kilo meters. The Taluka of Nanded is the most densely populated region while Kinwat is with a population of 117 per Sq. Km. that has the least density of population. The female - male ratio of population in the district is 946 per 1000 male.
The rate of literacy is one of the indicators of the development of the society. It is learnt and found that the rate of literacy is on the lower side when compared with the other part of the Maharashtra region. The literacy rate in the district as per 1991 Census was just 48.17 percent, which was far below the State's average of 64.97 percent. In the rural area the literacy rate was just 42.49 percent. The literacy rate among the women in the district is found only 30.95 percent while in the State of Maharashtra it is about 52.3 percent. The demographic factors existing in the district, in all, indicates the backwardness of the district.

**Occupational Structure:**

The occupational and its structure are the indicators of the economic growth of the particular region. The district of Nanded has low profile of occupation with more occupations in the agriculture sector. As per 2011 Census of India the district has 10.27 Lac workers i.e. around 1.53 lakhs marginal workers, Out of the this about 80 percent of the workers were engaged in agriculture and allied activities; 4 percent in cottage & household industries, 5.15 percent in Trade & Commerce. The growth in employment in the non-agriculture during the period 81-91 was just 3 percent. The district is still on agrarian century with very little industrial growth. As per village programme there are about 76,561 families living below poverty line in Nanded District.

As per the District Employment Exchange there were around 1, 15,824 in the live register as on 31.3.1998. During the year 2008-2009 about 224 persons above were provided employment by them.

**Agriculture:**

Agricultural activities are also one of the important indicators of the economic and employment growth of a particular region. Agriculture is the main activity of the Nanded District. It provides employment to about 85 percent of the total work force in the district. Predominantly *kharif* crops are grown. Rabi crops are also cultivated. The total cropping area is about 78, 1000 hectares with an area of 7,52,000 hectares under *kharif* and 29,000 hectares under Rabi crops. The main *kharif* crops are *jowar* and cotton. Other *kharif* crops being paddy, *Tur*, *Mung*, Udid, etc. The principal Rabi crops are Jowar & Wheat. As a part of irrigated crops the Sugarcane and Bananas are grown throughout the year in this region.
Development Programmes in the District:

The development of any region is based on the nature of its developmental activities that are implemented. Nanded being the agrarian region is full dependent on the agriculture. The allied activities and mainly the industrial activities are proportionately are less in this region. Following are the few activities that focus the developmental side of the region:

Agriculture & Allied Activities:

As it is mentioned earlier that agriculture is the main occupation of the Nanded District. The crops such as Jowar, Cotton, Pulses, Banana and Sugarcane are the main crops of the district. Agriculture Development Department of Nanded Zilla Parishad has been promoting cultivation of high yielding

Following schemes are implemented in the district with the help of training and orientation to the farmers:

Intensive Cotton Development Programme aims at increasing the yield per hectare of cotton by improved agricultural practices like supply of quality seed, increase in the area under irrigation projects, organize demonstration for adoption of plant protection measures and clean packing etc. The fifty percent Subsidy in plant protection measures and 25-50% subsidy or adoption of sprinkler's irrigation too have been provided to the farmers.

National Oilseed Production Programme is specially sponsored Scheme where Centre's share is 75 percent. The strategies adopted are increasing the area under summer groundnut, distribution of seed, mini kits on nominal rates, subsidy for high yielding variety seeds, subsidy for groundnut seed treatment, Sprinkler's irrigation, plant protection, use of Gypsum and by organizing information oriented sessions for the farmers; oilseed crops demonstrate important oil seed crops are groundnut, sunflower. Special food grain production programme through Integrated Paddy Development Programme.

Special Component plan for SC/SNB farmers is mainly meant for the SC/SNB farmer to adopt better agriculture practices like use of high breed seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, better equipments etc. The necessary inputs are supplied to them at subsidized rates. The largest number for the year 1998-99 under this plan is 250 beneficiaries.
Bio-gas Plants:

This is the scheme to develop and encourage the use of alternate source of energy that has been implemented by the Agriculture Department of Zilla Parishad. This department assists in the installation of the plants and also provide subsidy for cost. The largest plantation for the year was 600 plants.

Horticulture:

It is mentioned that Horticulture Department provides seeds and grafting to small and marginal farmers. Around 33 percent of subsidy for the bank loan is provided to these farmers.

Ground Water Condition:

The area comprises two main formations, the Peninsular granite complex and the Deccan trap. The granites are seen to have decomposed from a few metres to 15 metres from ground surface. Water table varies from 2 to 15 meters depending upon the extent of decomposition of the granites and underground solid rock barriers. The water table in Bhaisa area varies from 10 to 15 meters deep from surface. The Deccan Traps being massive and fine grained are unsuitable for groundwater storage. It is through joints and fissures in them that the rain water finds its way down and also the groundwater storage is small being limited to available spaces along these joints.

Hydrogeology:

There are two main aquifers in the district i.e. Basalt and Manjara river alluvium (weathered granite). The main aquifer in the Basalt rock, type, is jointed basalt and vesicular Zeolitic basalt. The Deccan traps forms the multilayered aquifer system. The dug wells tapping the single aquifer are more productive due to above conditions. But in parts of Biloli, Dharmabad, Degloor, and Kinwat where granite rocks occur, the degree of weathering varies from place to place. Usually Ground water occurs in joints, fractures and other forms of openings and weathered zones. Very often these joints and fractures inter communicate, thus facilitating ground water movement. Yield of dug wells in granites depends upon their intersecting of joints and weathered zone thickness.

Kinwat Block Special Sector Plan: This is another scheme implemented in this district. Tribal sub plan development project is being implemented in Kinwat Block. The plan aims to provide 50 percent subsidy to bank financed projects for minor irrigation, dairy development, improved farming, horticulture, fisheries and social
forestry. This plan has been implemented by the State with the involvement of agencies like DRDA, Dairy Development, ZP, Animal Husbandry, KVIB, DIC & Co-operative Banks.

**Impacts:**

The watershed development programmes involving the entire community and natural resources influence the following: Productivity and production of crops, changes in land use and cropping pattern, adoption of modern technologies, increase in milk production; Attitude of the community towards project activities and their participation at different stages of the project;

Socio-economic conditions of the people such as income, employment, assets, health, education and energy use;

**Impact on environment:**

Use of land, water, human and livestock resources; Development of institutions for implementation of watershed development activities; and Ensuring sustainability of improvements.

It is thus; clear that watershed development is a key to sustainable production of food, fodder, fuel wood and meaningfully addresses the social, economical and cultural status of the rural community. Recognizing the importance of watershed development programme in the state, a large number of studies have assessed the impact of watershed development over a period of time.

**Bio-physical Impacts:**

Bio-physical projects are found useful. The watershed development activities have significant positive impacts on various bio-physical aspects such as investment on soil and water conservation, soil fertility status, soil and water erosion, expansion in cropped area, changes in cropping pattern, cropping intensity, production and productivity of crops.

**Environmental Impacts:**

The watershed development activities mainly generate significant positive externalities which have a bearing on improving the agricultural production, productivity, socio-economic status of the people who directly or indirectly depend on the watershed for their livelihood. The environmental indicators include water level in the wells, changes in irrigated area, duration of water availability, water table of wells, surface water storage capacity, and differences in the number of wells.
Peoples Participation in Watershed Management:

People’s participation in any development activities will bring quality results. Like all other development programmes, watershed development also banks heavily on the participatory approach. Though, watershed development programme envisages an integrated and comprehensive plan of action for the rural areas, peoples’ participation at all levels of its implementation is of high importance. It is because the watershed management approach requires that every piece of land located in watershed be treated with appropriate soil and water conservation measures and used according to its physical capability.

Strengths:

The income structure of the Nanded locale has been rebuilt. The recent division of existing 8 talukas into 16 new talukas has made the talukas sensible in size. Looking for a career in the implementation of NREGA wages because the workers have been identified by now, this program will be most advantageous for ladies as the quantity of ladies in the class of negligible laborers is more noteworthy. All these talukas are honored with the nearness of dark soil of prevalent and high caliber. This nearness of dark soil has empowered the ranchers in the region to develop Kharif and Rabbi Crops in rural exercises. Just four out of 16 talukas are proclaimed as draft inclined talukas. For the most part the area gets guaranteed rainfall. A solid nearness of PRI’s at town level in type of Gram Panchayats is experienced while executing different formative plans of ZP. Late usage of Sector Reforms Project and Total Sanitation Campaign has helped in acquiring attitudinal changes country mind. Arrangement of self improvement gatherings under SGSY by DRDA and other intentional associations has helped in upgrading the mindfulness among ladies. Different NGOs are effectively taking part in the Development endeavors arranged by the Government, which is apparent in projects like DPAP, Total Sanitation Campaign etc. Literacy rate in urban region is practically equivalent to the state normal proficiency rate however not the same on account of rustic education rate. Weaknesses: The creation of new talukas has surfaced the issue of deficiency of foundation in recently made talukas. The Indian Census of 2001 delivers that the quantity of non-specialists is more than that of primary laborers. However, a noteworthy piece of this area falls under guaranteed precipitation locale the region has, ceaselessly for the late couple of years encountered the questionable
precipitation. Three talukas in the region are absolutely provincial and no urban region is set apart in these three talukas. Education rate for the locale all in all is not exactly the State normal. Number of BPL families and Landless families is very extensive and requirements extraordinary consideration. Number of crossbreed steers is not as it ought to be. Arrive circulation is uneven and a noteworthy partition of the land is possessed by a little number of ranchers. Network by well streets is accounted for in roughly 850 towns. Range of chances: In Nanded District the Land improvement and watershed advancement is a zone that requires fixation contemplated the quantity of little and peripheral ranchers. Nearby water protection exercises are likewise critical considering the degree of water system offices in this district. Propagating crossbreed steers rising may include auxiliary pay of little and minor agriculturists. Streets and provincial network develops as a serious issue and should be provided food. Formation of required base at recently made talukas is among needs of earnest nature. Viable execution of SGSY and advancement of self improvement gatherings will demonstrate productive in creating independent work. Union of work creating plans and thought of town as a unit while arranging the advancement endeavors combined with mindfulness era will prompt manageable improvement of this locale.

**Conclusions:**

The District of Nanded has an exceptionally base of farming exercises. The execution of the watershed advancement exercises are of incredible significance for the financial development of this district. The rebuilding of the income talukas has likewise focused on the smaller scale issues of the agriculturists and others. The presentation of locale profile in the pages exhibited above delivers certain patterns and qualities of this area. Some of these attributes rose as the solid focuses for the region while others as shortcomings. It is endeavored to give due thought to these qualities while proposing the point of view plan for a long time. This qualities and inadequacies of the area likewise help in characterizing the new open doors for job era. The investigation of quality, deficiencies and openings that are displayed in this section comprehends the circumstance of this area.
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