CHAPTER - 2

ORGANISATION

2 Profile of the Region :

Khandesh region comprises Dhule, Nandurbar and Jalgaon district. The profile of the three district is as under –

2.1 Dhule District :

The region of Dhule district was part of Khnadesh which was later divided into West and East Khandesh, the town of Dhule being headquarter of West Khandesh. In 1960 the nomenclature was changed to Dhule district.

Dhule is one of the educationally backward districts in Maharashtra state. However, the gradual increase in the number of literates due to the past conscious efforts was made by the government and some voluntary organizations. The Gram Shikshan Mandal launched by the state has been a very great help. Prior to formation of Zilla parishad primary and secondary education was under District Education Inspector but after 1962 the divisions were made as happened in other districts of the Maharashtra.

The region of Dhule district is socially composed of people belonging to Hindu, Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Sikh, Jain regions. Hindu religious group consists of various castes people who can be classified as Brahmans, Marathas, Tradesman, artisans, scheduled casts and tribes. The people of different religions follow their traditions and customs. There is no difference in the religions and social life of the people of this region from the other people of Maharashtra.

The main language is Marathi whereas the Ahirani is the main local language with certain variations. Hindi is spoken by only those who have migrated into the region, especially from western and northern region. Gujarathis speak Gujarati. The Gujar patils have their own language which is a mixture of Marathi, Hindi, Ahirani and Gujarathi languages. The Bhills,
Ravas have their own languages. All these groups having their own languages spoken in home or within their community speak Marathi when they are out.

The festivals are celebrated with equal zeal and colour. Most of the holidays and festivals in honour of deities and saints observed by Hindus are similar to that of other regions of Maharashtra. Holi is the festival celebrated on greater zeal.

Though historically Khandesh was famous for crafts and traditional industries but it was local consequences. The chief were the mineral substances and gold – silver – brass – iron – stone, clay and line. The wood cutting and carpentry was also famous. It was famous for milk and milk products, weaving silk and wool as also leather. These were traditional aspects now not seen much. Prior to 1960 it was Khandesh. The present region of Dhule district minus area of District Nandurbar which is formulated recently fall on ancient trade routes connecting Gujarat on the north – north west and Madhya Pradesh on the north. Culturally the bordering area is much influenced by Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. This phenomena is also witnessed in the matter of language called Ahirant. The industrial development has also somewhat inclination towards Gujarat as seen from the local population found in southern Gujarat in majority. Surat is the hub for the people from old Khandesh region.

The principal economic resources available in the district are agricultural land, forests, agro industrial raw material, abundant map power and live stock. The cultivable land is of 5 types differentiated on the basis of quality of soil. As regards the forest resources are exploited commercially on large proportion. History tells us that wood from this area along with Dang and Nasik district area was taken to the posts of Gujarat from where it was exported to various western countries. But in the mineral resources are not commercially useful.

The industrial growth in the district is very slow. The state government is extending numerous facilities and granting concessions to start new industries. The loan distribution is also done through Zilla parishads besides several other agencies. Since 1960 the government has concentrated more on small scale industries and the district has small scale factories of agricultural implements, making of straw boards, hard boards, cardboards, extraction of cotton
seed oil, preparation of manure from groundnut cake, saw mills, furniture, wood seasoning, flaying of leather, making of foot wears.

Textile industry from the district was much growing. Besides a textile mill, there are large number of handlooms and power looms and large number of people subsists on it. The products are taken to Mumbai and few other market places of Maharashtra and also in the neighbouring states. The Gujarat though famous for its textile receives products from Dhule region. Dhoti, Saree, Cloth are the main items to be exported. In the oil industries groundnut, sesamum and castor are the main products. Rosha oil is also produced in north – western part but day by day the proportion is reducing. The oil has medicinal properties and exported outside India. The eatable oil i.e. groundnut and seasamum and in quite less proportion oil extracted from Kardai is also exported. But the major export is in groundnut which has markets in the state and also in neighbouring states.

The region of Dhule district was part of Khandesh which was later divided into West and East Khandesh, the town of Dhule being the headquarter of West Khandesh. In 1960 the nomenclature was changed to Dhule district. Since British period, year 1860 onwards the administrative set up of each district was basically changed from what was under Rulership.

2.2 Jalgaon District:

This district is composed of people belonging to Hindu, Baudha, Christian, Jain, Islam, Sikh religions and follow their own traditions. They all speak Marathi. The local language is Ahirani. Besides there are Arai, Bhilli or Bhilodi, English, Gondi, Gorkhali or Nepali, Khandeshi, Halabi, Kokani, Kinnori, Korku, Lahanda, Munda and Tulu languages spoken by different people.

In 19th century there were revolts by the local people of Yaval, Chopada, Faijpur area against the British in 1849. After 1857 Khandesh was much active in nationalist movement. Abhinav Bharat, the revolutionary organization founded by Veer Savarkar had several branches in this district. There were several personalities who were active till 1948.
Though East Khandesh i.e. present district of Jalgaon came into existence in 1906, prior to that there were schools in Erandol, Jammer, Sadva, etc. The school of Ernadol, opened in 1843 is the first school of the district. Besides there were schools in Chopda, Dharangaon, Parola and schools for girls only at Savada. Yaval had the special schools for the scheduled castes students. After 1906 there came famous organizations which are still working in the field of education.

The district population is mainly consists of agriculturists. In 1911 it was 75.45%, in 1981 it was 75.91%. In 1991, 384211 were cultivations and 567295 were agricultural labourers. It means 1/3 population is directly related to agricultural activities. The area between Amalner to Chalisgaon talukas fall under less rainfall, whereas remaining area has considerably good rainfall. The central population has two different types of soil viz. Black cotton soil and light soil. Some of the pockets in this area are rocky. In the southern part of the district the band is composed fo reddish – yellowish soil with few pockets of black cotton soil. The modernization and increasing irrigation facilities as compared to before a decade, the cultivation and production is comparatively better. The research in the field has taught the people what kind of soil and environment is to be exploited for what crop. That has help the farmers and comparatively the farmer of this district is richer than its neighbouring district of Dhule.

Government Department in this district is much active because of conscious population and their leaders. That has helped the agriculture. Soil Conservation Department was founded in the district in 1973 since then large numbers of schemes were carried out. Till 1991-92 total 97518 hectares land was worked out for contour bunding 5782 Nala bunding works were completed. Banana covers greater part of the district and major among the fruits. In 1991-92 about 19200 hectares were utilized for banana and 10676 thousands metric tones were produced. Besides onion, sweet potato, potato, bringal, other vegetables and common fruits are grown.

The district has 221 food producing industries among them is industry for banana powder which was first in the State. Oil industry of the district is famous. There are several factors engaged in this business. In 1991-92 there were 1000 workers engaged in production of oil and other products like vanspati ghee. Besides that there are industries of animal food which have trade all over Maharashtra.
Cooperation has no limitations. Maharashtra has seen cooperative movement since 19th century. The district Jalgaon is witnessing the movement since beginning of 20th century A.D. There are different fields in which cooperation movement gradually developed. Agriculture, diary and other fields have developed due to this movement. The farming is done on cooperative basis in the district since 1904. This aspect received momentum and till 1980-81 there were 77 societies doing farming on cooperative basis. But till date only 3 such societies are functioning.

Entire Khandesh has experienced the famine situation for many times. These experiences have also taught the people to subsist on the available and develop. True boosting to the development of Jalgaon district began after independence. Cotton is the main product of the district since a century or so. Later on oil seeds and oil as also Vanaspati ghee became prominent. Gradually the local industry grew along with major industrial development in the district with the help of different schemes brought out by government in center and state.

Cotton ginning and pressing industry is the oldest industry in the district. Mr. Grant was permitted to open ginning and pressing industry in 1840 by the then British Government. That was the beginning. In 1906 Seth Pratap founded spinning-wearing and manufacturing company which began the production in 1908. The district also has factories in the field of different chemical and its allied products, pesticides, medicines, petroleum products like rubber, plastics, heavy and light machineries and their parts and food products etc.

### 2.3 Nandurbar District:

Nandurbar district comprises 7 talukas namely Akkalkuva, Dhadgaon, Talode, Shahada, Nandurbar, Navapur and Akrami. The entire district forms the part of Tapi valley bordered by Satpudas on the north, boundary and Gujrat state on the west, District of Dhule on the south and district of Dhule on the east.

The district of Nandurbar came into existence on July 1st 1998 by dividing the erstwhile district of Dhule. Except Nandurbar all the talukas which were already in existence are tribal areas. Nandurbar has less proportion of tribals as compare to other talukas. The history of Nandurbar district goes back to Stone Age when man was solely dependent on tools made on stones of different types but basically of basalt or trap, used long bones of wild animals and
wood, hard enough or fossilized for various purposes. He mainly lived in open, in group and in the early stage he probably did not have a concept of family as we understand today.

Nandurbar district falls in the region of Tapi valley and larger portion of the total geographical area is composed of black cotton soil. There are such areas in the district, especially of Nandurbar taluka that we do not find a small stone in the soil. This had explored the areas of this district and has experienced his aspect.

Though the district is newly formed it was the part of erstwhile district Dhule. Dhule district was never famous for its industry and the regions economy was and is the agriculture and related aspects especially diary business. Nandurbar did have its share. Traditionally the region was also not known for its product except the forest products which is still, in a way, disorganized. Hence whatever industry is present in Nandurbar region is on a medium scale. The district has only one industrial area developed by MIDC and other financial institutes are not much active as there are in some of the districts of Maharashtra.
REFERENCES


