CHAPTER - V

PROFILE OF DAUND TALUKA

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The present chapter contains the information about the historical importance, geographical region, physical structure, water resources, educational and population information along with the other about Daund Taluka. This helps to get more information about Daund.

5.2 HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF DAUND TALUKA

Daund in Mythological period – Daund is situated towards the east in Pune District and it is one of the main Taluka places. The length of the taluka is 75 Kms. east-west and the width is 45 kms. The area acquired is 1288.04 Sq. Kms. According to the census of 2001, population of this Taluka is 341385. Daund is situated along the bank of Bhima, the biggest river in Pune District. It is the main market place. The rivers Mula, Mutha and Bhima meets each other at the village called Walki – Purgaon, where there is an ancient temple of Mahadeo. The researchers of Deccan College have found some historical evidences in the village Walki. Daund has got an importance in mythological era. During this period, there was living a rishi called Dhanmya. So the village then got the name as Dhaumya. After that Dhaumya changed into Dhond and Dhond into Daund. It has a legend that the wife of Lord Shrikrishna, called Rukmini lived in the forest of Dindor after her quarrel with the Lord. He came there in search of Rukhmini and after meeting her traveled
Pandharpur via Malthan to meet his disciple Pundlik. The stream of river Bhima at Daund has become like half circle and has the statue of Vitthal and his temple in Daund. So it is also known as the second Pandharpur. The western side of Daund has the place of Mudraleshwar while west have Bhuleshwar, South has Gareshwar and North has Firangai Gods or goddesses.

5.3 DAUND IN SHIVAJI’S PERIOD

The Nizamshah of Nagar had the power over Daund in the period of King Shivaji. The grandfather of Shivaji, Malojiraje was serving as the Sardar of Nizamshah. The villages on the bank of Bhima like Pande, Pedgaon were given to him as the gift villages. Shivaji’s father Shahaji was given Daund and its surrounding area as gifts, when he was serving as the Chief Sardar of Nijamshah. After that Shivaji got Indapur, Chakan, Pune and Supe pargana. It included present Indapur, Daund in the Bhimthadi area. Purandhar, Haveli talukas and only eastern part of Khed taluka towards the north side of river Bhima. Shivaji’s officer Dadoji Konddeo and Shahaji’s son, Shivaji has been allowed to collect revenue from this area. The fort of Pedgaon is situated 13 kms. away from Daund in a broken state. It is on the south bank of Bhima river. It is four times bigger than Shaniwarwada of Pune. The water from Bhima River was being collected in the fort with the help of big leather bags. The fort of Pedgaon has got importance, as it was vital for army. Shahaji used to live there for most of times. On the southern bank of Bhima river there is a village called Khanwate. There are ancestors of Shahaji in the village today itself. After that the Bhosales migrated in the Kolhapur, Satara and Nagpur
etc. Devi and Lord Mahadeo are the gods of Shahajiraje. So they often visited Bhudraleshwar of Aarawi for Darshan.

After this period, Aurangzeb gave Daund to the King Amaranath Gosavi of Pedtgao to rule over it. He appointed Venkoji Krushna Gatane as the priest of Hindu temples and gods. The ancestors of Gatane family still have the inheritance of Puja of Vitthal temple. King Amaranath built a famous Alamgir mosque in Daund and also worked for the Vitthal temple.

5.4 DAUND DURING THE REIGN OF PESHWE

During the reign of Thorale Madhavrao Peshwa, Mahadji Shinde got Supa Paragana as Watan. From this Paragana Daund was known as the main village of Petha. It is informed that Mahadji Shinde was engaged in the building work of Vitthal temple and Bhairawnath temple in Daund. Bhairavnath temple which Mahadji Shinde built is considered as the holy place village God of the people. Towards the end of Peshwai, Daund is divided into two regions. The Shetfale was appointed as the Police Patil. After Shetfale the work went to Wighne then to Jadhav and then to Jagdale.

5.5 DAUND DURING ENGLISH POWER

It is said that Vasudeo Balwant Phadke has celebrated three Parayanas of Gurucharitra in underworld state. During the British period, there was a wireless centre at Nanwij five Kms. away from Daund. Till 1935, the news from abroad were broadcasted from this wireless centre. There wire only two
to three wireless countries like Daund in entire country so it has got almost importance. After the invention of Satelite, this wireless center was closed down. Today Daund city is known for Police Training Centre. Many freedom fighters from Daund have participated in Indian freedom struggle. Jagannath Pataskar, Ramachandra Ahire, Laxman Kulkarni, Sadashiv Phadake (Kangaon), Namdeo Phadake, Vyankatesh Awchat (yaawat), Vishnupant Kulkarni, Ganpatrao Hambir (Patas), Gulabrao Thakar etc. have participated in Quit India Movement of 1942. Fro these freedom fighters some of them personally participated in Satyagraphe. Sudam Shankar Mhaske and Narayan Ganpat Fadtare, the freedom fighters were arrested because they have worked in Azad Hing Sena. Pune – Solapur railway was started during this period. There is railway junction at Daund. So it got the place on the country map. Various jobs were created due to railway junction. The competitions of coal railway engines were conducted during this period. It prospered during the British power. Till 1935, Daund have Grampanchayat. Bajirao Khanderao Jagdale was Sirpanch of Daund. In 1935, Daund Municipality was founded and Ramachandra Nanasaheb Jagdale became the first president of this municipality.

Thus it is the short summary of historical inheritance or importance of Daund Taluka.
5.6 GEOGRAPHICAL PLACE OF DAUND TALUKA

Following is the map of Daund taluka showing the location of Maharashtra state, Pune District and Daund Taluka amongst other Talukas of the Pune District.

Map 5.1 : Map of Daund Taluka
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Daund is the main Taluka in Pune District situated in the eastern part. The length of this taluka is 75 Kms. east to west while its width is 45 Kms. The total area acquired is 1290 sq. Kms. Bhima, Mula and Mutha Rivers flow in this taluka. It has total 103 villages. According to the census of 2001 the total population of Daund taluka is 341,388. The average rainfall of takuka is 500 to 600 mm.

5.7 PHYSIOGRAPHY

The study region lies in Pune District. This part is associated with Deccan plateau and also belongs to river Bhima. The height of this area is 554 meters from sea level. The direction of slope is eastwards. The region is made
up of sedimentary deposition. The entire area is almost flat without having too many variations in it. The amount of rainfall which declines towards the eastwards has affected the agricultural growth.

5.8 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Daund taluka has been divided into six parts for administration. They are: 1) Daund 2) Rahu, 3) Yawat, 4) Kedgaon, 5) Kurkumb and 6) Ravangaon.

5.9 SOIL CONDITIONS

In the study region, we found light brown and deep black soil. The black soil is generally found with layers of one to five feet and it has covered large portion of cultivated area. Black soil is found in the villages which are located on the bank of Mula and Mutha rivers. This kind of soil has the capacity to hold moisture for long period and contains calcium carbonate which is useful for the cultivation.

5.10 CLIMATE

Climate plays a vital role in climatic conditions in Daund taluka and experiences semi-arid climate. May and June are considered the hottest months of the year having maximum temperature upto 40\(^0\) C. It decreases upto 12\(^0\) C in the months of December and January. The winter season starts from November and lasts still February while rainy season starts from June to October and summer from March to May.
The Southwest monsoon produces the rainfall to this region. It starts generally from the month of June. The average rainfall of Daund taluka is about 500 to 600 mms of which 60 percent of rainfall is received during the month of June, July August and September. June receives the highest rainfall while it reduces comparatively in the months of July, August and September. The climate found dry in January to April. In March, April and May the evaporation rate is high. Winds are found comparatively of high force during the period of summer.

5.11 WATER RESOURCES

If we think about water resources, in the study region river Bhima flows towards the east with its sub-rivers Mula and Mutha. These three rivers are very helpful for the people of Daund Taluka. The source of Bhima is in Bhimashankar, Mula and Mutha meets Bhima at the village called Belwadi which is towards the northern part of Daund. In the study region, the length of Bhima river is 123 Km. while Mula and Mutha contributes the length of 29 Kms. During rainy season, these rivers flow with full of water.

5.12 POPULATION

Population or human resource is regarded the important factor in economic development. According to the census 2001, the population of Daund Taluka is 3,41,388. Of this 1,77,144 are men while 1,64,244 are women. The population has occupied the area of about 1284.65 sq. km.
87.64% population is seen in the rural area while 12.36% population resides in the urban area. The population of Daund city in the Taluka is 42,204 that is 12.36%. The distribution of population is attributed to agricultural status, urbanization and industrial development.

5.13 DENSITY OF POPULATION AND LITERACY

A) Density

In 1951 the density of the population was 67 per square Km.m. while it is 265 in 2001. This shows an increase in the density of population in Daund Taluka. The main reason of this lies in the increasing rate of population.

In the study area it has been observed that there is a decrease in the proportion of men and women. It was 989 in 1951 while in 2001 it has been reduced to 927.

B) Literacy Rate

According census 2001, the total degree of literacy of Daund taluka is 73.76%. Among this 83.38% are men while 63.45% are women literates. The literacy rate of rural area is 72% and urban area is 84.68. Men have the percentage of about 61.36% in rural area while in urban area it is 91.4%

5.14 AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is predominant in Daund taluka and it provides livelihood to 66.93% population. Sugarcane is one of the most important crops in the
taluka. The area under sugarcane cultivation in the study region is increased with increasing irrigation facilities. It requires more care and capital. Among the other important corps, are Jawar, bajajra and onion etc. But the area under these crops under cultivation is declined with corresponding increase of area under sugarcane crop. The farmers are generally reluctant in cultivation of pulses, gram and vegetables. Therefore, the acreage under above crops is declined largely in Daund Taluka. The agriculture of Daund taluka is entirely dependent on the rainfall received in Kharif and rabbi seasons. Total area under cultivation is 103844.94 hectares in Daund Taluka.

5.15 VEGETATION

The natural vegetation include materials for shelter, fire wood, agricultural implements, cattle feed medicines of common use. etc. There is less variation in the vegetables in the study region. It occupies 138 hectares that is 0.09% of the total geographical area of Daund taluka. It falls under tropical dry deciduous forests, exceptionally along river Bhima has mixed deciduous vegetation with growth and low density is dominant. The vegetation are associated with the physiographic units of the study region. The trees in the forest are scattered and distribute. The main trees in the forest are specially, mango, seetaphal and other small and low density trees.

5.16 IRRIGATION

The main source of irrigation in Daund Taluka is canal irrigation besides wells, tanks and ponds. Victoria is the major tank which supplies
water to villages like Warvand and Patas. Lift irrigation is available along south bank of Bhima river. The villages on the river side irrigate land with help of pump sets which is used for drinking and cultivating land. Irrigation through exploitation of ground water in the region is high. Some irrigated areas lie along the river side. The irrigated land in the study region is 37968.65 hectares having percentage of 35.55%.

5.17 EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Education plays the significant role in the overall development of Daund taluka. It has primary, high schools, junior and senior colleges and technical institutions which help for the economic, social and cultural development of the human resources in the taluka.

Besides Marathi medium primary and secondary schools, the facility of taking education in English medium schools are also available inmost regions of the taluka.

5.18 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Transport and communication is the main factor of development of the region. Because of this factor economic growth increases. The overall development is possible due to the facilities of transport and communication mediums.
A) Road Transportation

The road transport plays an important role in the origin and development of market centres in Daund taluka. The study region has following routes such as:

a) National and State High ways.

b) Major District Road

c) Other district road and

d) Village roads

a) State and National Highways: Pune Solapur national highway (NH 9) runs through Daund taluka having length of 72 Kms and it connects the villages like Yawat, Varvand and Patas which are the main market places. State highway is main roads and are connected to the national highway. They also connect district head quarter and important cities. The total length of the state highway in the study region is 88 kms. Four state highways, namely Saswad- Shirur (SH 64) and Daund- Patas (SH 67) come under this region. The market centres, namely Daund, Kedgaon, Varvand, Patas and Yawat are located on the route of the state highway.

b) Major District Roads and Other district roads and village roads: The length of major district roads in Daund taluka is 137 kms. which connects the areas of agricultural produces and market centres with high way and railways. These roads provide good services in rural areas. Rahu market place
is situated on around Pargaon - Shirur major district road. The other district roads are connected with major district roads, national highway and state highway in the taluka. The total length of other district road is 156.4 Kms. in the study region. These roads are helpful for bringing agricultural goods to market centres and distributing them to required people.

c) Railway Transport: Train transport in Daund taluka has got an utmost importance. Total length of broad gauge and meter gauge railway line is 87.6 kms. Pune Solapur broad gauge has 73.6 kms and Daund –Baramati broad gauge railway has 40 Kms in the study region. Daund is a major railway junction having Kedgaon and Daund market centres located on this route. The other three market centres, namely, Patas, Varvand and Yawat are located within the range of 5 to 10 Kms. from railway route. Rahu is the only market centre which is not directly linked with railway transport. It has been observed that in Daund Taluka production of jaggery (Gul) is taken up on a big way. On Pune Daund railway track Kedgaon is a station and is a well known market place for jaggery (Gul) and grains. Similarly Yavat is also a station on the same route and the village is also spread across the Pune Solapur National high way. This village has a specialty of holding a weekly bovine (Gurancha bajar) bazaar.

5.19 COMMUNICATION

1) Tele-Communication: Tele communication plays a significant role in economic development of the region. Telephone facilities are well-equipped in
the study region. B.S.N.L. has started various telephone exchanges in almost every part of Daund taluka. It has increased the telephone facilities in the region. The private companies like Airtel, Reliance, Idea also have constructed its towers which became important for the development of all sorts.

2) Post Offices: Post offices are located in almost every village. Due to this facility, the development of every village has taken place or it becomes possible.

3) Social Institutions: Social institutions have brought a drastic change in the economic development of rural areas. Various cooperative institutions are founded in Daund Taluka. These institutions have played a significant role in the economic and social progress in the region.

4) Industry: Bhima Patas Sahakari Sugar factory is founded in 1976 in Daund taluka. This sugar factory has brought the change in economic social areas of the people residing in the taluka. Apart from this, some private industries also have set up in the region which included Anuraj near Yawat, Shrinath Mhaskoba Sugar factory at Palethan, Bora Agro industry at Jawaji Buwashchiwadi and Mahavir Steel Industry at Bhandgaon. etc. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation’s Kurkumbh industrial estate which is specialized in chemical industries is located in this study area. Lots of renowned chemical industries like CIPLA, S M Dichem, Shogen, Alkali Amins, Parakh Foods, Kargil chemicals, Perls. etc. are housed in the said MIDC
industrial area. These industries have provided job opportunities to the localities and have boosted the economic development of the region.

In the study area there are four sugar factories located which provide the agriculturist cultivating sugar cane crop to harvest it with them:

2. Anuraj Sugars, Yavat, Taluka: Daund
3. Daund Sugars Ltd. Daund
4. Shrinath Maskoba Sahakari Karkhana Ltd. Pate than.

One peculiar aspect is worth noting here is that these four sugar factories are located in all the directions i.e. East, West, South and North of Daund Taluka. It has been the experience all over Maharashtra where a sugar factory is located it takes the lead for area development and all the developmental activities take place keeping the sugarcane cultivators in mind. The sugar factories are poised to take up to establish distilleries also.

5.20 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Various financial institutions are available in Daund taluka which provide financial assistance for agriculture, industry, trade and business. Pune District Cooperative Bank, Urban banks, Non urban cooperative banks and nationalized banks like Bank of Maharashtra, State Bank of India, Canara Bank etc. Daund Urban Coop. Bank Ltd. and Pune District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. have their presence in the Daund taluka.