CHAPTER V

A PROFILE OF LATUR DISTRICT
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5.1 INTRODUCTION

The basic object of this chapter is to study the profile of Latur district. This chapter highlights historical importance of Latur district. An attempt is made in this chapter to study the geographical area of the district, population, literacy level, infrastructural and educational facilities, etc. As the researcher has selected this district because of his convenience it is better to understand the profile of Latur district.

5.2 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT

Latur district lies to the South-east of Maharashtra on the border of Maharashtra and Karnataka. It was a part of Osmanabad district till 15th August 1982. Latur is the headquarter of the district is Latur. It is an ancient town and home of Ratta or Rastrakutas. The Rastrakuta King Amonghvarsha I is described as the Lord of Lattalura i.e. the best town. The Rattes of Saudatti declared in their records that they had emigrated from the town of Lattalura. The Rastrukuta seen to have originally belonged to this place.¹

Reference to this district since Puranas, Epics, Ramayana and Mahabharata suggest that it was situated in the Deccan, known as Dandakarannya. In the historical times, this territory was included in the empire of Ashoka. After the death of Ashoka Satvhana, rose to power and his capital was at Prastistana (Paithan in Aurangabad district). During the age of Satvahanas, the district had become very prosperous. Contemporary with the Vakataka of Vidharbaha, an early Rastrakuta of Kuntala, there was a Saka family ruling over the territory in which Latur
The district was comprised. The Chalukya and then Yadvas of Deogiri ruled over the territory.

In the beginning of the 14th century in 1317 the kingdom of Yadvas passed into the hands of Sultan of Delhi. The territory of Latur district thus for the first time passed, to Mahammedans. From 1351 to 1518 the dynasty of Bahamanis ruled the territory, after which, it came under Adilshaha. In 1724 A. D. after a century of direct rule of Mughals, Latur district passed under the Nizam of Hyderabad sovereignty.²

The district was temporarily conceded to the British Government in 1853 and it was reverted to Hyderabad State in 1860, with it's headquarters at Naldurga. The district was known as Naldurga district. In 1904 Naldurga district was abolished and a new district of Osmanabad was craved out with headquarter at Osmanabad. In 1905 two tahsils with their headquarters at Washi and Naldurga were abolished. Washi was merged with Kalamb and Naldurga in Tuljapur. Headquarter of Ausa Taluka were shifted to Latur and the taluka was named as Latur taluka.

Among the Marathwada region, Osmanabad had the biggest area under the Nizam's rule, it was merged with government area under 'Sarf-e-khas' (merger) regulation in the year 1949. In the same year all the jagirs were abolished and put under direct government administration. Consequent upon the abolition of 'sarf-e-khas' and jagirs, the boundries of all the tahsils were reconstituted in 1950. Two new tehsils with headquarters at Ausa and Umerga and a new Mahal with headquarter at Bhum were created. In 1950, again II enclave villages were transferred.
from Solapur to the district in return of 52 villages from the district to Solapur.

With the reorganization of states the district became a part of Bombay State in 1956. Three tahsils viz. Ahmadpur, Nilanga, and Udgir were transferred from the neighbouring Bidar district (in Karnataka State) to Osmanabad district.

In 1960 Bombay state was bifurcated into Maharashtra and Gujrat and Osmanabad became an integral part of Maharashtra state. Since then the district had 11 tahsils and 13 towns up to 1981. Due to administrative reasons Osmanabad district was bifurcated into two districts on 16th August 1982. The newly formed Latur district has 5 tahsils and 5 towns and 850 villages including 53 villages transferred from Ambejogai tahsil, at Beed district.

5.3 GEOGRAPHICAL SET UP

Latur district came into existence on 16th August 1982 mainly because of partition of Osmanabad district. For administrative purposes, the district is divided into sub-divisions of Latur, Udigr, and five tahsils. The district Collector along with the District Judge, Superintendent of Police, Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishad and other senior officers of all the State Government look after the development and regulatory functions in the district. At the tahsil level, the tahsildar, Block Development Officer, Judicial Magistrate, Deputy Engineers and other officers look after their respective departments for development and regulatory functions.
5.3.1 Location

Latur district is situated between 17°52' and 18°50' North latitudes and 76°12' and 77°18' East longitudes. It is supported by Beed and Parbhani districts in the north, Nanded district in the northeast, Karnataka state in southeast and Osmanabad district in the north-west and west.3

5.3.2 Area and Topography of the district

The district has total area of 7371.9 sq. km which forms 2.40 per cent of the total geographical area of Maharashtra State. The major portion of the district is laterite plateau with an average height about 609.6 M. above sea level. The district is partly in upper Godavari Basin and partly in Bhima Basin. The district is situated at the plateau of Balaghat and lies in the Manjara River Valley.4

5.3.3 Soil

The soil of the district can be divided into two Zones:

a) Ahmedpur, Udgir, Chakur, Jalkot, Deoni and Shirur Anantai and some part of Ausa Tahsil. The block has light to medium type of soil suitable for kharif.

b) Latur, Renapur and some part of Ausa Tahsil. This zone consists of soils ranging from deep black cotton soil to shallow light soil. Owing to peculiarity of the soil, both Kharif and Rabi crops are grown in these areas.

5.3.4 Forest

The forest area in the district is negligible i.e. 0.16 per cent and it is in Udgir Tahsil. In the absence of required forest the soil gets eroded.5
5.3.5 Rivers in the District

In Latur district there are seven rivers Manjra is the most important river in the district. The rivers origin is in Patoda Tahsil or Beed district. It flows through Northern part of Osmandabd district and also through middle of Latur district and enters the adjoining Karnataka State. Tiru, Manayad, Lendi, Gharrani, Tawarja and Terna are the other rivers in the district.

5.3.6 Climate

Except during mansoon season the climate of the district is dry. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season is from December to about middle of February and is followed by the hot season which lasts up to the end of May. The south-west mansoon season is from June to September and October and November constitute the post mansoon or retreating mansoon season.

The average annual rainfall in the district is about 900 mm which is unevenly distributed. About 84 percent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the south-west mansoon season, the rainiest month being July. In the district the average minimum and maximum temperature is 14.5° C and 39.3° C respectively.

5.4 DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE

Table 5.1 reveals that the total geographical area of the Latur district is 7157.00 sq kms and has as per 2001 provisional population of the district, 20,78,237 persons comprising 10,74,321 males and 10,03,916 females. Out of the total population of the district 76.42 percent lives in the rural areas while 23.58 percent lives in urban areas. The
corresponding proportion of rural and urban population in the state is 57.60 percent and 42.40 percent respectively. As per 1991 census, the density of the population in the district was 234 per sq. kms which is less in compare to state density of population i.e. 934 per sq. kms.

Table 5.1
Population area, density, literacy rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Maharashtra State</th>
<th>Latur District</th>
<th>% of state</th>
<th>% of district</th>
<th>% of state</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geographical Area</td>
<td>Sq. Kms</td>
<td>3,07,713</td>
<td>7,157</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Lakhs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>-&quot;-</td>
<td>9,67,52,247</td>
<td>20,78,237</td>
<td>57.60</td>
<td>76.42</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,03,34,270</td>
<td>10,74,324</td>
<td>42.40</td>
<td>23.58</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,64,17,977</td>
<td>10,03,916</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,57,32,513</td>
<td>15,88,192</td>
<td>57.60</td>
<td>76.42</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,84,43,238</td>
<td>8,18,994</td>
<td>42.40</td>
<td>23.58</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,72,89,275</td>
<td>7,69,698</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decadal Growth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Ratio</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>77.27</td>
<td>72.34</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td>86.27</td>
<td>83.63</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td>67.51</td>
<td>60.28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.4.1 Sex Ratio

Table 5.1 also shows that, according to 2001 census, there are 934 females for every thousand males, corresponding to state average of 922. It is observed that the sex-ratio in rural area is higher (942) than the urban
As far as Tahsil wise sex ratio is concerned Deoni tahsil stands highest (954) and Latur tahsil (926) lowest.

5.4.2 Literacy Rate

As per 2001 census (provisional) literacy rate for the whole Latur district is 72.34 percent. It is lower than the state average, 77.27 per cent. In the district male/female and rural/urban literacy rate was 83.63 per cent, 60.28 per cent, 69.54 per and 81.33 per cent respectively. These rates were also lower in compare to state averages.

5.4.3 Tahsil Wise/Town Wise Distribution of Population

The growth of population and distribution among tahsil and town is presented in table 5.2. According to 2001 census in Latur district there are ten tahsils. Renapur and Chakur tahsils were newly formed in 1992 and Jalkot, Shirur-Anantpal and Deoni tahsils were newly formed in 1999.

It may be seen from table 5.2 that the population of Latur district as per provisional population totals of 2001 is spread over among ten tehsil of the district.

Latur tahsil 5,42,224 is most populous while Jalkot tahsil (newly formed) 69,196 the least. Of the tahsil in order of population size are Nilanga tahsil, 2,86,034, Ausa Tahsil 2,78,582, Udgir tahsil 1,99,022, Chakur tahsil 1,57,096, Renapur tahsil 1,22,161, Deoni tahsil, 88375 and Shirur Anantpal tahsil 74,067.
Table 5.2
Tahsilwise and Town Wise Distribution of Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Tahsil/Municipal Town</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1991 census</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Latur District</td>
<td>16,76,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Latur Tahsil</td>
<td>4,79,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MCL (T)</td>
<td>1,97,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ahmadpur Tahsil</td>
<td>3,22,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MCI (T)</td>
<td>25,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Renapur Tahsil (New)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jalkot Tahsil (New)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Cahkur Tahsil (New)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Shirur Anatpal Tahsil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ausa Tahsil</td>
<td>2,25,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MCI (T)</td>
<td>23,246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Nilanga Tahsil</td>
<td>2,99,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MCI (T)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Deoni Tahsil (New)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Udgir Tahsil</td>
<td>3,49,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MCI (T)</td>
<td>70,473</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The urban population of the district is distributed among 5 urban units, which are all municipal towns. They are Latur, Ahmadpur, Ausa, Nilanga and Udgir. Out of that, Latur is the most populous town with 2,99,828 persons while Ausa is least populated with a population of 30,863.

5.4.4 Decadal Growth of Population

It is also observed from the table 5.2 that in 1991 the population of Latur District was 16,76,641 and according to 2001 provisional population tables census is 20,78,237 There is a addition of 4,01,596 persons during 1991-2001. Therefore provisional decade growth rate of 23.95 is higher compare to the state average of 22.57 per cent. Due to formation of new
tahsil from existed five tahsils, namely Renapur, Chakur, Jalkot, Shirur-Anantpal and Deoni the exact growth rate of tahsil could not observed.

5.5 DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF SCHEDULED CASTE AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Census provides the necessary data about the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes for evolving the suitable plans for their socio-economic upliftment and both the planners and administrators heavily depend on this data. The highlights of 1991 census as that of the previous census, is the collection of detailed information on the socio-economic characteristics of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

As there is no standard definition of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, the President of India by Gazette notification under article 341 (i) and article 342 (i) of the Indian Constitution, had declared some castes, races, tribes etc. as known as scheduled caste and tribes such castes are treated as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

5.5.1 Population of Scheduled Castes

The table 5.3 indicates that, the population of scheduled castes at the time of 1991 census in Latur district was 3,19,568 comprising 1,64,752 males and 1,54,816 females. They constituted 19.06 percent of the total district population. Out of the total scheduled caste population in the district 2,62,683 (82.20 percent) live in rural areas while 56,885 (17.80 percent) live in urban areas. It has highest in the state.
Table 5.3
Total Rural, Urban, Male/Female Population of SC/ST in the district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural Percentage</th>
<th>Urban Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled Caste</td>
<td>3,19,568</td>
<td>19.06</td>
<td>1,64,752</td>
<td>1,54,816</td>
<td>2,82,683</td>
<td>56,885</td>
<td>82.20</td>
<td>17.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled Tribes</td>
<td>37,527</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>19419</td>
<td>18108</td>
<td>33282</td>
<td>4225</td>
<td>86.69</td>
<td>11.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District Census Handbook of Latur District p. 99

5.5.2 Population of Scheduled Tribes

Table 5.3 indicates that the scheduled tribes population at the time of 1991 census in Latur district was 37,527 comprising of 19419 males and 18108 females. They constituted 2.24 per cent of the total district population. Out of total scheduled tribes population in the district 33282 (88.69 per cent) live in the rural areas while 2225 resides in urban areas.

5.5.3 Tahsil Wise Distribution and Decadal Variations of Scheduled Castes Population in the District

From the table 5.4 it is observed that, as per 1991 census the population of scheduled castes in Latur district is spread over among the five tahsils. Latur Tahsil 85,516 is most populous while Ausa tahsil 36,888 least. Other tahsils in order of population are Udgir (79,976), Ahamadpur (59,465), and Nilanga (57,723). It is also observed by the table 5.4 the overall growth rate of scheduled caste population in the district, during the 1981-91 is 50.54 per cent corresponding to 29.68 per cent for the district. Thus growth rate of scheduled caste population is substantially higher than the general growth rate of the district during 1981-91.
Table 5.4
Decadal Variation in Scheduled Caste Population in the district
(as per 1991 Census)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Tahsil</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>49,001</td>
<td>37,975</td>
<td>11,026</td>
<td>85,516</td>
<td>52,848</td>
<td>32,668</td>
<td>74.52</td>
<td>39.17</td>
<td>196.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmadpur</td>
<td>42,666</td>
<td>40,326</td>
<td>2,340</td>
<td>59,465</td>
<td>55,919</td>
<td>3,546</td>
<td>39.37</td>
<td>38.67</td>
<td>51.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udgir</td>
<td>56,379</td>
<td>48,061</td>
<td>8,318</td>
<td>79,976</td>
<td>66,968</td>
<td>13,008</td>
<td>41.65</td>
<td>41.94</td>
<td>53.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilanga</td>
<td>39,214</td>
<td>37,219</td>
<td>1,995</td>
<td>57,323</td>
<td>52,828</td>
<td>4,495</td>
<td>47.20</td>
<td>41.94</td>
<td>55.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ausa</td>
<td>25,025</td>
<td>23,520</td>
<td>1,505</td>
<td>36,888</td>
<td>34,120</td>
<td>2,768</td>
<td>47.40</td>
<td>45.07</td>
<td>53.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,12,285</td>
<td>1,87,101</td>
<td>25,184</td>
<td>3,19,568</td>
<td>2,62,683</td>
<td>56,885</td>
<td>+0.54</td>
<td>+0.40</td>
<td>+125.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991, Series 14, Maharashtra, Part XII, A & B, District Census Handbook, Latur District, Village and Town Directory, Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract, Published by Director of Census of Maharashtra,

So far as tahsilwise growth rate is concerned, scheduled caste population has increased in all tahsils of the district. But the highest growth rate observed in Latur tahsil i.e. 74.52 per cent and lowest growth rate found in Ahmadpur tahsil i.e. 39.37 per cent.

5.5.4 Tahsil Wise Distribution and Decadal Variation of Scheduled Tribes Population in the District

Table 5.5 indicates that, as per 1991 census the population of scheduled tribes population in Latur district is spread over among the five tahsils. Nilanga tahsil (10,495), is the most populous while Ausa (3,038) tahsil least. Other tahsils Udgir (9420), Latur (7593), and Ahmadpur (6983). The growth rate of scheduled tribes in Latur district during 1981-91 is + 80.15 per cent corresponding to 29.68 per cent for the district. Thus growth rate of scheduled tribes population is less than the general growth rate in the district.
Table 5.5
Decadal Variation in Scheduled Tribes Population in the district (as per 1991 Census)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Tahsil</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>7722</td>
<td>6137</td>
<td>1585</td>
<td>7963</td>
<td>5092</td>
<td>2871</td>
<td>-1.67</td>
<td>-17.03</td>
<td>+53.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmadpur</td>
<td>6495</td>
<td>6370</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>6996</td>
<td>6709</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>+7.51</td>
<td>+5.32</td>
<td>+119.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udgir</td>
<td>7576</td>
<td>6664</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>9420</td>
<td>8410</td>
<td>1010</td>
<td>+24.34</td>
<td>+10.75</td>
<td>+10.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilanga</td>
<td>9775</td>
<td>9550</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>10495</td>
<td>10184</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>+7.35</td>
<td>+6.64</td>
<td>+37.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ausa</td>
<td>3150</td>
<td>0375</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3038</td>
<td>2887</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>-2.94</td>
<td>-6.11</td>
<td>+174.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>34718</td>
<td>31796</td>
<td>2902</td>
<td>37527</td>
<td>33282</td>
<td>4245</td>
<td>+8.15</td>
<td>+4.67</td>
<td>+46.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991, Series 14, Maharashtra, Part XII, A & B, District Census Handbook, Latur District, Village and Town Directory, Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract, Published by Director of Census of Maharashtra,

So far as tahsil wise growth rate is concerned scheduled tribe population has increased in Ahmadpur, Udgir and Nilanga tahsils but in Latur and Ausa tahsils the population of ST has decreased.

Table 5.6
Percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Population in Towns, 1991

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Tahsil</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Total Scheduled Caste</th>
<th>Total Scheduled Tribes</th>
<th>Percentage of Scheduled castes</th>
<th>Percentage of Scheduled castes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>197408</td>
<td>32668</td>
<td>2501</td>
<td>16.55</td>
<td>1.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmadpur</td>
<td>70453</td>
<td>13008</td>
<td>1010</td>
<td>18.46</td>
<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udgir</td>
<td>25878</td>
<td>3546</td>
<td>1274</td>
<td>13.70</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilanga</td>
<td>24883</td>
<td>4895</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>19.67</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ausa</td>
<td>23246</td>
<td>2768</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>11.91</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>341868</td>
<td>56885</td>
<td>4245</td>
<td>16.64</td>
<td>1.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991, Series 14, Maharashtra, Part XII, A & B, District Census Handbook, Latur District, Village and Town Directory, Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract, Published by Director of Census of Maharashtra,

As Table 5.6 indicates that, in Municipal towns scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population constitutes 16.64 and 1.24 percent of the total population respectively. The population of scheduled caste is higher in Nilanga and Udgir town. In compare to district urban average of
scheduled castes (17.80) and scheduled tribes population (11.31) in Udgir and Nilanga tahsil have higher in percentage and Latur, Ahmadpur and Ausa, taluka have lower percentages.

5.5.5 Sex Ratio of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes by Tahsil

Table 5.7 shows that, as per 1991 census in Latur district, sex ratio for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes population is 940 and 932 respectively. As far as rural and urban sex ratio is concerned, it is also seen that, in rural area sex ratio is higher that the urban areas. In compare to district, general sex ratio (942), the sex ratio among SCs 940 and STs is 932 is lower within the district sex ratio of scheduled caste population varies from 921 in Latur tashsil to 953 in Udgir tahsil. Likewise, sex ratio of scheduled tribes population varies from 926 in Udgir tashsil to 940 in Ahmadpur tahsil.

Table 5.7
Comparative Sex Ratio in the District As per 1991 Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Tahsil</th>
<th>Number of Females per 1000 males</th>
<th>General Sex Ratio in the District</th>
<th>Sex Ratio among SCs</th>
<th>Sex Ratio among STs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latur district</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>898</td>
<td></td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmadpur</td>
<td>951</td>
<td>946</td>
<td>920</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udgir</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilanga</td>
<td>949</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ausa</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>946</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991, Series 14, Maharashtra, Part XII, A & B, District Census Handbook, Latur District, Village and Town Directory, Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract, Published by Director of Census of Maharashtra,
5.5.6 Literacy Rate Among Scheduled Castes Literacy in the District

As indicated in table 5.8 as per 1991 census, in Latur district it is observed that literacy rate among scheduled caste community is 43.88, which is below the district general literacy rate (55.57 per cent). Rural and urban literacy rate among SC community in the district is 40.78 per cent and 58.18 per cent respectively. This is also low in compare to district rural (51.63 per cent) and urban (70.87 per cent) literacy rate. Among the males it accounts 59.31 per cent while, for females the literacy rate is 27.37 per cent. It is also low in comparison to district male (70.47 per cent) and female (39.74 per cent) literacy rate in the district.

5.5.7 Literacy Rate Among Scheduled Tribes Literacy in the District

As shown in the table 3.8 the literacy rate among scheduled tribe community is 43.09 per cent compare to general literacy rate in the district (55.57 per cent) is low. In rural and urban areas, the literacy rate among scheduled tribes community is 63.73 and 40.41 per cent respectively. As far as male and female literacy rate is concerned, it is 58.75 and 26.18 per cent among ST community. It reveals that overall literacy among tribes community is less in compare to district overall literacy in the district.
### Table 5.8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Literacy in the district</th>
<th>Literacy rate among Scheduled Caste</th>
<th>Literacy rate among Scheduled Tribes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Male literacy in the district</td>
<td>% of Female literacy</td>
<td>% of rural literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of General Literacy in the district</td>
<td>Literacy rate</td>
<td>Municipality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.57</td>
<td>70.47</td>
<td>39.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.6 INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES AND OTHER RESOURCES

Economic growth of a region depends upon the extent of availability of infrastructure facilities. Rapid industrialization requires adequate facilities to spread the growth impulses through the region as well as to utilize the local skill and resources.

In Latur district the following infrastructural facilities have been contributing for industrial progress and entrepreneurial development.

1. Human Resource
2. General and technical education
3. Industrial Training Institute
4. Transport
5. Facilities of post and telegraph
6. Financial Intermediaries and Promotional institutes
7. Banks
8. Industrial estates
9. Power supply
10. Irrigation
11. Favourable business climate
12. Agriculture Produce Market Committees
13. Natural resources

5.6.1 Human Resource

Human Resource plays a dominant role in the development of any region or area. Human resources and regional development are closely interrelated and in interdependent. As per 1991 census, the human
resources has been divided into three main categories viz. main workers, Marginal workers and non-workers.

**Main workers**: Those who worked at least 6 months or 183 days in the preceding year are called as Main workers.

**Marginal Workers**: Marginal Workers are those, worked sometime during preceding year but not for the major part have been treated as marginal workers.

**Non-workers**: Non-workers are those, who had not worked at all during the last year.

Table 5.9 reveals that, according to 1991 census in the district the percentage of main workers to total population is 39.14 per cent. The percentage of marginal workers is 4.72 per cent and the percentage of non-workers to total population is 56.14 percentage. The corresponding figure for the state is 39.28 per cent, 3.68 percent and 57.04 per cent. It is seen that the proportion of persons engaged in economically productive activity to total population for the district is nearly the same after the state in 1991.

### Table 5.9
**Human Resources in the District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Human Resources</th>
<th>Human Resources in SCs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of Worker</strong></td>
<td><strong>District</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Workers</td>
<td>39.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marginal Worker</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Workers</td>
<td>56.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991, Series 14, Maharashtra, Part XII, A & B, District Census Handbook, Latur District, Village and Town Directory, Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract, Published by Director of Census of Maharashtra,
Table 5.9 it is also seen that in the district, human resource among SC category is divided into three categories namely main worker, marginal workers and non-workers. Their percentages are 41.46 per cent, 3.53 per cent and 72.72 per cent respectively. In compare to district main workers percentage SCs main workers percentage is higher on the other hand the marginal workers percentage is lower that the district marginal workers. As far as percentage of non-workers is concerned, among SCs, the percentage is higher than district non-workers. It shows that unemployment among SC is higher.

According to 1991 census, the main workers in the district are distributed into nine categories of economic activities. Table 5.10 reveals that the economy of the district is primarily agricultural which is supported by the fact that the cultivators 39.38 per cent and agricultural labourers 39.11 percent together constitute 78.49 per cent of the total workers of the district as against the state average of 59.62 per cent. The agricultural sector has thus absorbed more than three fourth of the main workers. This is mainly because there are no alternative employment opportunities available in the district. Only 21.51 percent main workers are engaged in other categories, namely, allied agricultural activities, cottage and household industries, mining and quarrying, trade and commerce, construction, transport, storage and communication, and other services.
## Table 5.10
Distribution of Human Resources in Different Economic Activities in Latur District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Persons</th>
<th>Percentage to total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cultivation</td>
<td>258428</td>
<td>39.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Agricultural Labourers</td>
<td>256672</td>
<td>39.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Allied Agricultural activities</td>
<td>5057</td>
<td>0.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mining and Quarrying</td>
<td>1601</td>
<td>0.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cottage and Household Industries</td>
<td>29189</td>
<td>4.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Trade and Commerce</td>
<td>36207</td>
<td>5.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Constructions</td>
<td>11100</td>
<td>1.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transport, Storage and Communication</td>
<td>10114</td>
<td>1.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>47875</td>
<td>7.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991, Series 14, Maharashtra, Part XII, A & B, District Census Handbook, Latur District, Village and Town Directory, Village and Townwise Primary Census Abstract, Published by Director of Census of Maharashtra,

Comparative distribution of human resources in different economic activities in the district is given in Table 5.11. From that, it is observed that, out of total main workers among scheduled castes, about 83.54 per cent workers are engaged in agricultural activities as against the state average 62.47 per cent. Out of 82.54 per cent, 75.77 per cent scheduled caste workers were agricultural labourers and only 7.10 per cent were only cultivators. The rest of the main workers i.e. 16.46 per cent were in cottage and household industries. (4.21 per cent), the mining and quarrying (0.07 per cent), trade and commerce (2.56 per cent), construction (2.12 per cent), Transport, storage, communication (1.55 per cent) and in other services (5.94 percent).
### Table 5.11

**Comparative Distribution Of Human Resources In Different Economic Activities In Latur District**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Persons</th>
<th>Percentage to total Population</th>
<th>Main Workers</th>
<th>Percentage to total population of SC</th>
<th>Percentage to district total main workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cultivation</td>
<td>258428</td>
<td>39.38</td>
<td>9421</td>
<td>7.10</td>
<td>3.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Agricultural Labourers</td>
<td>256672</td>
<td>39.11</td>
<td>100405</td>
<td>75.77</td>
<td>39.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Allied Agricultural activities</td>
<td>5057</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>17.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mining and Quarrying</td>
<td>1601</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>5577</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>19.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cottage and Household Industries</td>
<td>29189</td>
<td>4.45</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Trade and Commerce</td>
<td>36207</td>
<td>5.72</td>
<td>3389</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>9.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>11100</td>
<td>1.69</td>
<td>2806</td>
<td>2.12</td>
<td>25.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transport, Storage and Communication</td>
<td>10114</td>
<td>1.54</td>
<td>2057</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>20.338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>47875</td>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>7877</td>
<td>5.94</td>
<td>16.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>656243</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>132508</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India, 1991 Latur District Hand Book

It is also witnessed from table 5.10, that the proportion of scheduled castes main workers in the district total main workers were, in agricultural labour 39.19 per cent, and cultivators 3.65 percent. As well as the proportion in trade and commerce activities were only 9.36 percent. It means that the maximum scheduled castes main workers were agricultural labor and in only little proportion they have engaged in cultivation of land, trade and commerce activities, cottage and household industries, mining
and quarrying, transport, storage and communication and other services. It indicates that in Latur district, the participation of scheduled castes peoples in different economic activities is very little. Therefore, the scheduled castes peoples have ample scope in different economic activities, such as trade and commerce, cottage and household industries, transport, storage and communication and other services.

5.6.2 General and Technical Education

In Marathwada region, there is concentration of education facilities at Latur district next to Aurangabad and Nanded district. In the year 1998-99 there were 33 colleges, three engineering colleges, five polytechniques, ten Industrial Training Institutes, one Medical College and number of higher secondary, secondary and primary schools in Latur district.

In recent years Latur has become a famous as an education center. Better results of educational institutions have attracted students from various districts of Maharashtra towards Latur district in general and at Latur from particular. Latur pattern has made a tremendous change in the educational field. In nutshell, Latur is quite well placed in the state so far as educational facilities are concerned.

5.6.3 Industrial Training Institutes

Industrial sector needs skilled and semi-skilled manpower. In Latur district, there are 7 Government and 3 private training institutions. They offer trades like Turner, Fitter, Welder, Sheet Metal Working, Auto
Electrician, Motor Mechanic, Diesel mechanic, Steno-typist, Marathi, Hindi, English, Computer operator etc.

5.6.4 Transports

For the speedy industrialization, transportation plays an important role in any region. Latur is connected by roads, and railways. All the taluka places are also interconnected with the major towns and cities in the district, region as well as state. In the Latur district there are 148 kms railways on which 83 km is broad-gauge and 65 kms is narrow gauge. Roads whether 'pacca or kachca' are the nerves system of an area. They act as a pull factor for the development and upliftment of the areas. At present the length of state highways in the district is 785 kms, the length of district roads is 3574 kms and length of village and other roads is 1243 kms. Some important state highways passes through this district are Nagpur-Bori-Ardhapur, Daund-Barshi-Osmanabad, Bantul-Ausa, Miraj-Pandharpur-Barshi-Latur-Manjarumbha-Kej-Pimpla Ahmadnagar and Latur- Lokhandi Savargaon. No national highway passes through this district.

5.6.5 Facilities of Post And Telegraph

The facility of post and telegraph is available to 250 villages out of 914 villages, serving 52.27 per cent of rural population of the district. The approximate number of post offices is 19 for 1 lakh rural population of the district. At present, there are 1579 post offices, 104 telegraph offices, 64 telephone exchange and similarly telephone facilities, fax facilities are
available in the towns and some villages also. But yet now, in Latur district there is no air service.

5.6.6 Financial Intermediaries and Promotional Institutions

Financial intermediaries and promotional industries have a vital role to play in the growth and development of industrialization of any region. Financial resources to the industrial sector are provided by commercial banks, Maharashtra State Financial Corporation, Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation, Lok Shahir Annabhau Sathe Development Corporation, Vasantrao Naik Vimukta Jati and Nomadic Tribes development Corporation, SICOM, etc. Besides this there are district offices of special corporations such as Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation, Lok Shahir Annabhau Sathe Development Corporation, Vasantrao Naik Vimukta Jati and Nomadic Tribes development Corporation, etc. These corporations provide finance to backward classes i.e. SCs/STs/NTs for starting entrepreneurial activities.

5.6.7 Banks

The network of branches of Commercial Banks, Co-operative Banks and Regional Rural Banks in the district as on 31st March 2001 is as under:
Table 5.12
Classification of Banks in Latur District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>Banks</th>
<th>Semi-Urban/Urban Branches</th>
<th>Rural Branches</th>
<th>Total No. of Branches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Commercial Banks</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Regional Rural Banks</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Co-operative Banks</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MSCARDB</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Financial Institutions</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>59</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


5.6.8 Industrial Estates

For the rapid industrialization and to create a favourable environment for industrial development the government has established industrial estates. In Latur district there are three industrial estates, viz, Industrial Estate Latur, (11.30 hectors area), Udayagiri Industrial Estate, Udgir, (16.98 hectors area), and Chakur Industrial Estate (12.27 hectors area).

5.6.9 Power Supply

It is one of the basic requirements for industrial development. Adequate and steady supply of power is very essential for vibrant industrial economy. Electricity Consumption in Latur district as follows:

(Thousand /kw/per hour)

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>7050</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>1329</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>2847</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td>4664</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>0106</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.6.10 Irrigation

In industrial development of Latur district agriculture has been also playing an important role, as Latur district economy is predominantly agro-based. Large quantities of agricultural crops are produced in the district. Thus lot of raw material is also available in the district for agro-based industries. In industrial development, industry and agriculture should develop side by side. Without development of agricultural, the development of industries especially agro-based industries is impossible. The development of agricultural depends on irrigation facilities available. In Latur, district, there are 2 major irrigation projects, 11 medium irrigation projects and 12 minor irrigation projects. They covered 29211, 26,655 and 50,683 hectares of land under cultivation respectively.

5.6.11 Favourable Business Climate

In Latur district there is favourable business climate. Because of availability of credit facilities, general and technical education, infrastructure facilities, like roads, railways, warehousing, dynamic political leadership, etc., there is a optimism among businessman and entrepreneur. Even the, backward classes entrepreneurs are also ample scope to entered in the area of entrepreneurship and prove their entrepreneurial potential in the development of district and region and nation.
5.6.12 Agricultural Produce Market Committees

The district has 7 market Committees one at each block headquarters. The major market Committees are at Latur, Udgir, and Nilanga.

5.6.13 NATURAL RESOURCES

1. Minerals
2. Fisheries
3. Agriculture
4. Forests

5.6.13.1 Minerals

The geology of the entire district consists of dark coloured volcanic lava flows spread out in the form of horizontal sheets or beds. Because of their dominantly basaltic composition and the tendency to form flat-topped plateau, the lavas are termed plateau basalts. Since these basaltic lava flows over an extensive region in the Deccan and frequently present stop like appearance hills and rivers they are commonly terms as "Deccan Traps" the word tramp meaning 'step like' Trap route being hard, dense and luable are most suitable for building purpose but generally lack any economically useful and important minerals.

5.7.13.2 Fisheries

Latur district is not rich in fisheries. Fresh water fishing is carried out mainly in the rivers, tanks, ponds and reservoirs built for irrigation purposes. There are few fisherman who are scattered about in the district.
and they mainly belong to the Dheemer, Kahan, Bohi, and Koli communities.

5.6.13.3 Agriculture

The economy of Maharashtra region is dominated by agriculture. Latur district is also an agrarian district. In this district 78.49 per cent population depends on agricultural as a source of livelihood. Farmers in this district grow both commercial as well as non-commercial crops. The principal non-cash crops in Latur district are Jawar, Wheat, Bajra, Tur, etc. Similarly, production of pulses like Tur, Udid, Mung, etc. is also taken in this district. Cash crops like sugarcane, cotton, groundnut etc. are produced. In recent years in the district the crop of sugarcane is increasing because the rewarding price has been offered by the sugar factories in this district. Besides this factories are providing high yielding varieties of sugarcane at concessional rates, providing guidance on sugar cultivation, etc.

In this way agriculture in Latur district is providing cash crops as well as non-cash crops and raw material to agro-based industries like sugar factories, oil mills, ginning and pressing mills, etc.

5.6.13.4 Forests

This includes all land classified as forest under any legal enactment dealing with forest or administered as forest whether state owned or private and whether wooded or simply maintained as forest land. The forest area in the district is distributed among 86 villages accounting for 9.41 per cent of the village in the district. Total area under forest in the
The area under forest is just 0.21 per cent of the total land area of the district. The common forest produce are Khair, Hiwar, Aroni, Apta, Babur, Bar and Neam. Sale of Tandur leaves and grass in plantation area are the items of income to forest department.

5.7 SUMMING UP

The profile of Latur district is studied in this chapter. This study concentrates on the backward classes and their participation in entrepreneurial development in Latur district as per 1991 census SCs and STs population in the district it was 21.30 per cent. Therefore the researcher has decided to select Latur district for the study. Hence, its profile has been studied.
References:

2. ibid, p. 12
3. ibid, p. 14
5. ibid, p. 2