CHAPTER II

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, AND DEMOGRAPHY OF AKOLA DISTRICT
CHAPTER II
HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY & DEMOGRAPHY OF AKOLA DISTRICT

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CHAPTER II

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND DEMOGRAPHY OF AKOLA DISTRICT

2.1 LOCATION

Akola District is one of the important districts of Maharashtra in Amravati Revenue Division. It is situated between the northern latitudes of 19-61° and 21-16° and between the eastern longitudes of 76-7° and 77-44°. It is centrally located among four districts of Berar.

Map No. 2.1

As far as boundaries are concerned, the district is surrounded by Nandgaon and Daryapur.
Taluqas of Amravati District and Darwha and Pusad Taluqas of Yeotmal District in the east, by Buldana District in the west, Parbhani District of Marathwada Region in the south and Gavilgarh mountains in the north.

2.2 AREA

2.2.1 Akola District covers an area of 10,575 square kilo meters -10,425.50 square kilo meters is rural area whereas the urban area is 149.50 square kilo meters. The total area covered by Akola District comes to 3.43% of the area of Maharashtra State.

Chart No. 2.1

2.2.2 It has 10 cities out of total 336 cities in Maharashtra. The number of villages in Akola District are 1,743 of which 1,546 are inhabited and 197 are deserted.
2.3 ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP

Akola district has 13 Tahasils for administrative purpose: Akola, Akot, Barsi Takli, Balapur, Karanja, Murtizapur, Mangrulpir, Manora, Malegaon, Patur, Risod, Telhara and Washim. As per Zilla Parishad Act, 1961, parallel set up of Zilla Parishad at district level and Panchayat Samitis at block level came into existence in 1962. This has been undertaken particularly for intensive development of area with greater participation of population in the affairs of the Government.

2.4 TOPOGRAPHY

On the north of the district is situated a part of the Satpuda range. The area on the south of these ranges cover a distance of 80 kilometers and is quite flat and plane. It is in this area that the basin of rivers Katepuma, Morna and Chandrabhaga are located. The southern boundary of this area is marked by elevation of Ajanta ranges. The rivers Katepuma, Morna and Chandrabhaga have their origin in these ranges. The area of the district is predominantly flat, barring the area situated close to hill range of Satpuda and Ajanta.

2.5 SOILS

2.5.1 The soil is basically derived from volcanic trap rock and is fertile. Northern part of the district, central part of Washim Tahasil and northern-western part of Mangrulpir Tahasil have
rich black soil. The southern part of Balapur and Akola blocks, border of Washim Tahasil, southern part of Mangrulpur and east and north parts of Murtizapur Tahasil are shallow, stony and less productive soils. On the eastern side of the road leading Akola to Akot, there is a saline track on both sides of the river Purna.

2.5.2 The soil of the district can be divided into 3 parts - medium black soil, black fertile soil and less fertile soil.

![Type of soils in Akola District](chart)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Soils</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medium Black Soil</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Fertile Soil</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Fertile Soil</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart No. 2.3

2.6 RIVERS

Purna is the principal river of the district. It rises in Betul district of M.P. and flows down west through northern parts of Akola District. The main tributaries of Purna are Lonar, Man, Uma, Katepurna, Nirguna and Morna. The Painganga which flows south east is an important river.
in the district. The Aran, the Arunavati and the Pus rise in Washim Tahasil and flow through Mangrulpur Tahasil and finally meet the Painganga.

2.7 AGRO-CLIMATE: TEMPERATURE

The climate of the district is extreme i.e. very hot summer and much cold winter. The hill track of Washim and Mangrulpur Tahasils have a cooler climate than others. The highest temperature recorded is 51.8 °C and lowest at 8 °C.

2.8 AGRO-CLIMATE: RAINFALL

Akola district falls in the medium rainfall zone of Maharashtra State. The annual normal rainfall is about 765.4 mm. The rainfall for three years was reported as under:

![Rainfall Chart](chart.png)

Chart No. 2.4

The incidence of rainfall is not uniform throughout the district. The northern area receives lower rainfall of 700 to 800 mm. and southern area receives higher rainfall up to 1000 mm.

---

1 Annual Credit Plan (Under Service Area Approach) 1998-1999, Akola District, Central Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai, p. 2
2.9 POPULATION

2.9.1 POPULATION: ABSOLUTE NUMBERS

The total population of Akola District according to 1991 census was 22.14 lakh, consisting of 2.81% of the total population of the State and ranking 13th in the State.

![Population Chart](chart2.5.png)

Chart No. 2.5

2.9.2 POPULATION GROWTH

The population of the district has increased from 9.50 lakh in 1950-51 to 22.14 lakh in 1991-92.

![Population Growth Chart](chart2.6.png)

Chart No. 2.6
2.9.3 POPULATION : LOCATION-WISE

The district is practically rural based as more than 71% of population of the district is in rural areas. In absolute terms, the rural population accounts for 15.80 lakh.

![Chart No. 2.7](image)

2.9.4 POPULATION : SEX-WISE

As against 11.42 lakh males, there are 10.72 lakh females, the percentage of female population coming to 48.42% of the total population.

![Chart No. 2.8](image)
2.9.5 POPULATION : CASTEWISE

2.9.5.1 The population of S.C. and S.T. in the district in 1991-92 was 2.64 lakh and 1.56 lakh respectively. The percentage of the S.C. and S.T. population in the total population comes to 11.97 and 7.05 respectively.

![Caste-wise Composition of Population](image1)

Chart No. 2.9

2.9.5.2 However, the percentages of S.C. and S.T. in rural population at 12.80 and 7.03 respectively were considerably higher than that in urban population at 9.83 and 2.78 respectively. In absolute numbers also, there were 2.02 lakh persons belonging to S.C. in rural area as against those in urban area were 0.62 lakh. Similarly as against 1.38 lakh persons belonging to S.T. in rural area, those in urban area numbered 0.18 lakh only.

![S.Cs. and S.Ts. Population in lakh](image2)

Chart No. 2.10
2.9.6 **DENSITY OF POPULATION**

The density of population has increased from 173 per square kilometer in 1981 to 209 per square kilometer in 1991. The State average in 1991 was 257 per square kilometer.

![Density of Population Chart](image)

Chart No. 2.11

2.9.7 **POPULATION LITERACY**

The district was 11th in the State in respect of the percentage of literacy at 65.83. The literacy percentage amongst males at 77.63 was higher as compared to that amongst females at 53.28.

![Population Literacy Chart](image)

Chart No. 2.12
2.9.8 **FAMILY WELFARE**

In order to arrest the increasing population, with 16,739 operations under family welfare in 1996-97\(^2\), the District surpassed the target for the year.

2.9.9 **HOUSES & THEIR USES**

There were 4,20,013 houses in the Akola District of which 4,14,797 (98.76%) were used as residential houses.

**NUMBER OF HOUSES : TOTAL & RESIDENTIAL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RURAL</th>
<th>URBAN</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Houses</td>
<td>3,09,913</td>
<td>1,10,100</td>
<td>4,20,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Occupied residential houses</td>
<td>3,05,297</td>
<td>1,09,500</td>
<td>4,14,797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.1

Thus the percentage of occupied residential houses comes to 98.5 for rural areas whereas that for the urban area comes to 99.5.

2.9.10 **WORKFORCE**

As per the Census of 1991, out of the total population of 22.14 lakh, the main workers are 9.23 lakh, the marginal workers are 0.46 lakh whereas the non-workers are 12.45 lakh. The main workers, marginal workers and non-workers in **urban area** numbered 1.82 lakh, 0.03 lakh and 4.49 lakh respectively. For **rural area**, the number of main workers, marginal workers and non-workers is 7.41 lakh, 0.43 lakh and 7.96 lakh respectively.

---

\(^2\) Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan: Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p.178
WORKERS IN AKOLA DISTRICT: MAIN, MARGINAL AND NON-WORKERS
RURAL & URBAN (1991 CENSUS)

(In Lakh)

Chart No. 2.13

2.9.11 OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION

2.9.11.1 Out of the total main workers of 9,23,191, those in rural area numbered 7,41,781 and those from urban area numbered 1,81,410.

OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF MAIN WORKERS : RURAL & URBAN

Chart No. 2.14

2.9.11.2 Out of the rural population of 15.80 lakh, the main workers were 7.41 lakh whereas the marginal workers were 0.43 lakh. The non-workers numbered 7.96 lakh.
2.9.11.3 The non-workers at 7.96 lakh exceeded the total of all the workers put together. The ratio of workers with non-workers in rural area comes to 1:1.02 whereas for the urban area, this ratio comes to 1:2.43. The percentage of female main workers in rural area comes to 73 as against that in urban area at 20. The gender-wise and occupation-wise composition of workers in rural area is as under:

**GENDER-WISE & OCCUPATION-WISE COMPOSITION OF RURAL WORKERS**

(Number of Persons)
GENDER-WISE & ACTIVITY-WISE COMPOSITION OF RURAL WORKERS

Chart No. 2.17
2.9.12 EMPLOYMENT

2.9.12.1 At the end of the financial year 1994-95, the number of workers/employees was 60,066 - 15,366 in Government establishments, 27,027 in Semi-Government establishments and 17,673 in private sector.3

[Chart No. 2.18]

2.9.12.2 During the year 1996-97, with 23,692 persons registering themselves with Employment Exchange in the district, the number of unemployed on the register of the Employment Exchange was 1,29,178. However, 235 persons registered with the employment exchange could get the employment during the year.4

---

3 Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1994-95, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p.96
4 Source : District Employment Officer, Akola
2.9.13 AGE-WISE CLASSIFICATION OF POPULATION

The age-wise classification of the population in Akola District according to the 1991 Census is presented in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-14</td>
<td>5548</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>7366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>497</td>
<td>1797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>1124</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>1539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>922</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>1252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-34</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>1051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>1021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>1359</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>1773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>1222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 &amp; above</td>
<td>977</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>1249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13723</td>
<td>4547</td>
<td>18270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.2

The percentage of those in the age group of 0-14 years comes to 40.32 whereas that in the age group of 60 and above comes to 6.84. The percentage of those between 15 years to 59 years comes to 52.84.

PERCENTAGE-WISE POPULATION ACCORDING TO AGE GROUP

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5 Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p.17
2.10 LAND USE PATTERN

The following table depicts the land use pattern in the district during 1992-93 to 1994-95:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAND USE PATTERN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992-93 TO 1994-95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Land in Hectares)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(OOs omitted)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAND USE PATTERN</th>
<th>1992-93</th>
<th>1993-94</th>
<th>1994-95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total reporting area</td>
<td>10,558</td>
<td>10,561</td>
<td>10,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barren and Uncultivable</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area under non-agricultural use</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultivable waste</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Pastures</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area under miscellaneous trees</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current fallows</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other fallows</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net area sown</td>
<td>8,528</td>
<td>8,575</td>
<td>8,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area under more than one crop</td>
<td>1,507</td>
<td>1,351</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total area under cultivation</td>
<td>10,035</td>
<td>9,926</td>
<td>9,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total cultivable area</td>
<td>9,144</td>
<td>9,090</td>
<td>9,268</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.3

2.11 FORESTRY & WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT

2.11.1 Afforestation is an indication of good rainfall. The area under forest in Akola district is 50,800 ha. which works out to 4.8% of the total geographical area of the district. About 38700 ha. forest area is situated in Malegaon, Barsi Takli and Patur blocks. Many cottage and village industries such as saw mills in the district depend upon forest produce such as teak wood for their survival and development. The forests in the district also provide livelihood to a large
number of work force during the slack seasons of agriculture in several forest operations like felling, logging, transport of timber, collection of minor forest produce etc.

2.11.2 The area under cultivable waste lands and fallow land is 30,500 ha. and 44,500 ha. respectively. The maximum area under waste land is in Manora, Risod, Patur and Murtizapur blocks. The Social Forestry Department is engaged in extension work for afforestation by private individuals. The Government of Maharashtra has also introduced the scheme of developing private waste lands with 100% subsidy under Employment Guarantee Scheme. Development of forestry on private waste lands needs encouragement in view of need for increasing rural income, restoring ecological balance and reducing pressure of rural population for fire wood, small timber and fodder on forest lands.

2.12 PATTERN OF LAND-HOLDINGS

2.12.1 Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is organising Agricultural Census in India on quinquennial basis since 1970-71 in collaboration with the States/UTs as a part of the World Agricultural Census Programme in pursuance of the recommendations of the Food & Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations (UN). So far, five agricultural censuses have been conducted successfully with reference years 1970-71, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1985-86 and 1991-92. Sixth Agricultural Census with reference year 1995-96 is in operation. Agricultural Census seeks to collect essential and reliable information on the distribution of holdings and area operated along with the related characteristics such as tenancy and terms of leasing, land use and cropping pattern, irrigation and source of irrigation etc. by different size classes and social groups. The data is utilised for formulation of poverty alleviation programmes in general and relief to small and marginal farmers in particular.

2.12.2 According to the Agricultural Census(1991-92), the total number of land holdings in the district were 2,55,928. However, presently, the number comes to 2,90,165. The detailed break up of size and distribution of land holdings is as under 6:

---

PATTERN OF LAND HOLDINGS: 1996-97

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Area in Hectares</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Less than 1 ha.</td>
<td>55,979</td>
<td>38,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii) Between 1 and 2 ha.</td>
<td>97,618</td>
<td>1,42,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii) Between 2 and 4 ha.</td>
<td>76,775</td>
<td>2,12,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv) Between 4 and 10 ha</td>
<td>50,802</td>
<td>3,04,353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v) 10 Hectares and above</td>
<td>8,991</td>
<td>1,23,711</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,90,165</td>
<td><strong>8,22,419</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.4

2.13 **IRRIGATION**

2.13.1 Of the total cropped area of 8.75 lakh hectares, the net irrigated area is 0.44 lakh hectares.

Chart No. 2.20
2.13.2 The sources of irrigation are wells and canals. The area under irrigation through wells is 26,626 hectares whereas that through canals (minor/medium irrigation project) is 17,137 hectares.

![IRRIGATED AREA IN HECTARES ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF IRRIGATION](chart)

Chart No. 2.21

2.13.3 As per the IV assessment made by the GSDA, all the 65 watersheds in the district fall under white category. As per GSDA, there are 23,186 wells in the district. The net ground water draft from dug wells in use is 17,007 ha. m. as against the estimated utilisable ground water potential at 1,17,701 ha. m. The balance potential of 1,00,694 ha. m. would sustain 67,130 additional dug wells. 83.80% wells have pump sets.

2.13.4 There is one major irrigation project - Katepurna - benefiting Akola and Murtizapur blocks with a potential to irrigate 10,566 ha. or 16.6% of the total potential created by all the projects taken together. There are seven medium irrigation projects functioning in the district viz. Ekburji, Motsawanga, Giroli, Sonal, Uma, Morna and Nirguna with a total irrigation potential of 22,107 ha. Two medium irrigation projects, namely Man and Adan in Patur and Karanja Tahasils respectively are under execution. Besides these projects, there are 75 minor irrigation projects which are under various stages of completion and stated to be complete to the extent of 95%. They have a total ultimate potential of 23,506 ha. of irrigation to the crops. The total irrigation potential created by the various irrigation projects in the district is 52,854 hectares of

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which only 22,921 hectares (43 per cent) is being utilised. There is a need to utilise the entire irrigation potential created by these projects.9

2.14 MAIN CROPS

2.14.1 KHARIF
The main Kharif crops of the district are cotton, jowar and groundnut. Tur is taken as a mixed crop with cotton.

2.14.2 RABI
In Rabi season, wheat, gram and oilseeds like sunflower, safflower etc. are grown. Sugarcane is also being cultivated on large scale due to establishment of two cooperative sugar factories at Maslapen (Tq. Risod) and Yeota (Tq. Akola). Soyabean is emerging as a chief oilseed crop.

2.15 AREAS UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS

2.15.1 The area under different crops in 1994-95 for Kharif, Rabi and Summer10 as also the principal crops under Kharif and Rabi is presented in the following chart:-

![Chart No. 2.22]

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152
2.15.2 The area under pulses and oil seeds is showing increasing trend due to good yield and better income. The area under sugarcane has also increased from 800 hectares in 1989-90 to 3700 hectares in 1994-95. One more sugar factory has been established at Yeota in Akola block with capacity of 2,500 Mt. During 1996-97, while the actual crushing amounted to 50,527 metric tones, the production of sugar was 3,694 metric tones. The sugar factory at Maslapen did not operate during 1996-97. The production of sugar cane is likely to increase further in near future due to these sugar factories. Soyabean is emerging as a chief oilseed crop. Unseasonable rains result in the black colour of hybrid jowar. Because of this, the area under cultivation of hybrid jowar has reduced during past several years.
2.15.3 The average consumption of fertilizers at 43.7 kg/Ha. is very low. The productivity of groundnut, wheat, gram, safflower and cotton in Akola district is below the State average.

2.16 AREA UNDER HIGH YIELD VARIETIES

The high-yielding varieties of Bajri, Jowar and Paddy are taken in almost all the blocks of the district. Hybrid crops of Cotton, Bajri, Jowar and Paddy is also raised. Improved variety of cotton is also raised. During 1996-97, the high yielding variety crops were raised in 14,710 hectares, the high-breed crops were taken in 2,99,759 hectares whereas improved variety of cotton was taken in 2,64,074 hectares.¹¹

2.17 SERICULTURE

Akola has been one of the two districts where Central Silk Board has been implementing National Sericulture Project (NSP) in coordination with the State Government. Government of Maharashtra has identified sericulture as a thrust area because of its high employment potential. At present, the area under mulberry cultivation is 356 ha. which is reportedly highest amongst all

the districts in Maharashtra. During the year 1995-96, NSP has supplied 67,500 saplings, 211 tones cuttings, 90,335 DFLs to farmers in Akola district. The total cocoon production in the district was 31,382.3 Kg. during 1994-95. The NSP has technical service centers at Risod, Washim, Balapur, Patur and Akola. Technical staff and field workers are engaged in identification of beneficiaries, training and extension support. NSP has trained 143 farmers during 1994-95. DCTC has trained 42 candidates for reeling activity during 1994-95. The NSP proposes to establish necessary infrastructural facilities like seed farm, grainage, technical service centres, chawki reeling centres, cocoon markets, cocoon testing centre, demonstration-cum-training school and sericulture training school in a phased manner.\footnote{Potential-Linked Credit Plan 1997-98 - 2001-02 Akola District, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Regional Office, Pune, October, 1996, p. 41 \[Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalkshan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 41\]}

\section*{2.18 PRODUCTIVITY IN AGRICULTURE}

The average yield (Productivity\footnote{Potential-Linked Credit Plan 1997-98 - 2001-02 Akola District, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Regional Office, Pune, October, 1996, p. 41 \[Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalkshan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 41\]}) of principal crops in Akola District is as under:

\begin{table}[h]
\centering
\begin{tabular}{|l|c|}
\hline
Name of the Crop & Productivity (Kilogram/hectare) \\
\hline
Jowar & 2160 \\
Wheat & 1654 \\
Rice & 686 \\
Bajri & 765 \\
Mung(Kidney bean) & 510 \\
Cotton & 203 \\
Sugarcane & 75050 \\
Harabharva/Chana (Horse Gram) & 800 \\
Tuwar & 867 \\
Turmeric & 1244 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\end{table}

\textit{Table No. 2.5}
2.19 **PRODUCTION**\(^{14}\) **OF PRINCIPAL CROPS**

The following table shows the production of principal crops in the District during the year 1996-97:

**PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS DURING 1996-97**

(In hundred metric tones)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Crop</th>
<th>Production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jowar</td>
<td>4564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bajri</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mung(Kidney bean)</td>
<td>632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>4332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
<td>1501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harabhara/Chana (Horse Gram)</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuwar</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turmeric</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.6

\(^{14}\) Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 41
2.20 PRICES OF PRINCIPAL CROPS

The average whole-sale prices of principal crops for the year 1994-95 (with the prices for the year 1993-94 in parenthesis) were as under:\(^5\):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural Produce</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Rates in rupees per quintal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1994-95 (1993-94)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jowar</td>
<td>C.H. 5</td>
<td>330 (185)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>Vijaya</td>
<td>541 (482)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Gram (Urid)</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>1,289 (628)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mung</td>
<td>Chamaki</td>
<td>1,232 (1,018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tur</td>
<td>Mahuri</td>
<td>1,335 (928)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbhara</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>1,247 (1,034)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bajra</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>354 (210)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jawas (Linseed)</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>1,180 (999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>835 (610)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.7

2.21 PLANTATION & HORTICULTURE

2.21.1 The area under horticultural crops is steadily increasing during last few years due to implementation of horticultural development programme by the Government of Maharashtra who has linked Employment Guarantee Scheme with Horticulture Development Programme from the year 1990-91. During the last three years, 2,284, 2,105 and 2,938 ha. have been brought under various horticultural crops. So far, 18,196 ha. area have been brought under various fruit crops which is only 2% of the net cropped area.\(^6\) The details are as follows:

\(^5\) Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1994-95, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 219

\(^6\) Annual Credit Plan (Under Service Area Approach) 1998-99 Akola District, Central Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai, p. 7
under:

2.21.2 The major fruits are Orange, Mango, Ber and Mosambi. Because of high productivity even in extreme stress conditions, the Ber crop has become a major source of income to dry land farmers. This fruit crop holds great promise to bring back degraded land to viable production. There is a potential to set up units which can make byproducts like candy, juice and concentrates etc. from Ber. A few farmers have taken up cultivation of grapes in Akot block. The requirement of planting material/seedlings is met by the Government through Government and private nurseries and by procurement from nearby districts. There are 4 Government nurseries, 10 private recognised nurseries and 2 nurseries of Dr. Punjbrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola.

2.22 FLORICULTURE

The area under floriculture involving crops like Marigold, Chrysanthemum, Galardia, Roses and Jasmine is 75 ha. and production of various flowers is 110 tones.
2.23 FARM MECHANISATION

There were 3,831 tractors as on 31-03-1997.17

2.24 LIVESTOCK

2.24.1 Live-stock is an important part of agriculture. Animal numbering is done after every five years. The last numbering was done in 1992. The break up of the livestock in the District is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIVESTOCK IN 199218</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bullocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffaloes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows : Local</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows : crossbreed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.8

The number of others(Horses, dogs, donkeys, ducks, pigs etc.) was 4,46,275 and number of poultry birds was 3,60,373.

2.24.2 DAIRY

There are 321 registered primary dairy societies with 19,627 members19. Out of these 321 societies, 71 societies are working, 166 are defunct and 84 societies are under liquidation. Government Milk Scheme has the capacity to process 1.50 lakh litres of milk per day. There are three cold storages with the capacity of 170 thousand litres. The coverage of milk routes is very

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17 Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 191
18 Annual Credit Plan (Under Service Area Approach) 1998-99 Akola District, Central Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai, p. 56
19 Information collected from District Dairy Development Officer, Akola
poor. There are no milk routes in Barsi Takli, Balapur and Patur blocks.

Map No. 2.2

The milk collected during 1996-97 was 4,699 thousand litres.
2.25 **FISHERIES**

Akola district is endowed with a good number of small water tanks, for development of inland fisheries. It has riverain length of 800 Kms. The total area suitable for fisheries is 7,933 ha. of which 7,844 ha. has been brought under fisheries. There are 277 tanks with 7,804 hectares water spread area. Out of these 277 tanks, 120 tanks with 1141 hectare area are seasonal and remaining 157 tanks with an area of 6,663 hectares are perennial. The fisheries department has 82 tanks with water spread area of 5539 hectares. There are 69 fishery cooperative societies with a total membership of 3,000. There is also a district federation of fishermen cooperative societies in the district. FFDA has been set up in the district with an objective of bringing 100 hectare area under productive fisheries every year.20

2.26 **MINING & MINERAL RESOURCES**

There are no major mining products in the district. Metal (Gitti) is excavated and used for road and house construction. In addition, from the basin of rivers, a good quality of sand is acquired which is used mainly for construction. Bricks are also prepared mainly in Akot and Balapur blocks by using mainly mud, coal ash and river water.

2.27 **INDUSTRIES**

In 1997, there were 515 registered industries under the Factories Act in the district.21 In 1996-97, 388 functioning factories provided employment to 9537 workers.22 Akola is an industrially backward district and majority of the industries are agro-based viz. ginning and pressing units, dal mills, oil mills, flour mills etc. There were 4,678 small scale industries as on 31-03-1997 - 1,443 with permanent registration and 3,235 with provisional registration.23

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22 Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan: Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyika Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 87
23 Annual Credit Plan (Under Service Area Approach) 1998-99 Akola District, Central Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai, p. 55
2.28 INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

The Akola M.I.D.C. is established on National Highway No. 6. Out of 401 plots, 386 plots have been made available for industries. As a part of industrial policy, the State Government has decided to establish Mini M.I.D.C. areas at each of the Talqua. Similarly, four cooperative industrial units are also proposed at Murtizapur, Karanja, Washim and Akot.

2.29 INSTITUTIONAL CREDIT AGENCIES

2.29.1 The banking infrastructure in the district is fairly well developed.

Map No. 2.3

The Akola District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. with 111 branches, Maharashtra State
Agriculture and Rural Development Bank with 13 branches, Akola Gramin Bank with 47 branches and 18 commercial banks with 108 branches serve 1743 villages in the district.
The block-wise and category-wise net work of branches is as under:

**BLOCKWISE AND CATEGORY-WISE BANK BRANCHES NETWORK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Semi-Urban</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Washim</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telhara</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risod</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patur</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murtizapur</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manora</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangulpur</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malegaon</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karanja</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barsitakli</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balapur</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akot</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akola</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart No. 2.28

**2.29.2 COMMERCIAL BANK BRANCHES NETWORK**

2.29.2.1 There are 18 commercial banks with a network of 108 branches. The banks having network of branches in the district are as under:

1. **STATE BANK OF INDIA** (SBI)
2. **CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA** (CBI)
3. **BANK OF MAHARASHTRA** (BOM)
4. UNION BANK OF INDIA (UBI)
5. BANK OF BARODA (BOB)
6. UNITED COMMERCIAL BANK (UCO)
7. UNITED WESTERN BANK (UWB)
8. ALLAHABAD BANK
9. DENA BANK
10. INDIAN BANK
11. PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK (PNB)
12. ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE (OBC)
13. BANK OF INDIA (BOI)
14. SYNDICATE BANK
15. CANARA BANK
16. SANGLI BANK
17. STATE BANK OF HYDERABAD (SBH)
18. STATE BANK OF INDORE (SBInd)

2.29.2.2 The area-wise classification of the commercial bank branches is as under:

AREA-WISE CLASSIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL BANK BRANCHES

![Chart No. 2.29](chart.png)
2.29.2.3 The **bank-wise** classification of the commercial bank branches is as under:

*AREA-WISE AND BANK-WISE COMMERCIAL BANK BRANCHES*

- **OTHERS**
- **UWB**
- **UCO**
- **INDIAN**
- **DENA**
- **ALLAHABAD**
- **BOB**
- **UBI**
- **BOM**
- **CBI**
- **SBI**

**Chart No. 2.30**

2.29.2.4 On an average, 16 villages are covered by a branch of the commercial bank. The average population per branch comes to 21 thousands. As on 31st March, 1998, the total deposits of commercial banks were Rs.330.6 crores and the advances were Rs. 213.0 crores. The credit-deposit (CD) ratio was 64%\(^2\). The disbursement of loans by commercial banks for priority sector under the District Credit Plan was Rs. 39.31 crores against the target of Rs. 40.42 crores, the achievement being 97.25%.\(^2\)

2.29.3 **DISTRICT CENTRAL COOPERATIVE BANK (DCCB)**

The Akola District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. (ADCC) has a net work 111 branches in Akola District - 82 in rural area, 17 in semi-urban area and 12 in urban area. The number of

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\(^2\) Annual Credit Plan under Service Area Approach, 1998-99, Central Bank of India, Akola, p. 40
primary agricultural cooperative societies attached to it is 835. It also has 2 farmers' service societies. The deposits and the advances of the Bank as on 31-03-1998 were Rs.225.2

Map No. 2.4

service societies. The deposits and the advances of the Bank as on 31-03-1998 were Rs.225.2
crores and Rs. 171.7 crores respectively. The C.D. ratio works out to 76%.26 With the
disbursement of Rs. 32.8 crores, the achievement of the bank in District Credit Plan, 1997-98
comes to 105.8%.27 As a measure to strengthen the financial position of the bank,
Development Action Plan (DAP) has been prepared by the Bank. A Memorandum of
Understanding (MOU) has been signed by the bank with NABARD to achieve the various targets
fixed thereunder.

2.29.4 LAND DEVELOPMENT BANK (MSCARDB)

The Maharashtra State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Ltd. has a network
of 13 branches - one each at taluqa head quarters. As on 31st March, 1998, the bank had total
deposits of 2.09 crores and advances of Rs. 2.61 crores.28 With the disbursement of Rs. 2.54
crores, the performance in achieving the credit plan was 43.7% for 1997-98.29

2.29.5 AKOLA GRAMIN BANK (AGB)

Akola Gramin Bank is a regional rural bank sponsored by Central Bank of India, the lead bank of
the district. It has 47 branches - 1 urban branch, 7 semi-urban branches and 39 rural branches.
As on 31st March, 1998, the total deposits of AGB were Rs. 32.6 crores whereas the total
advances as on that date were Rs. 20.4 crores.30 The C.D. ratio works out to 63%.31 With the
disbursement of Rs. 4.67 crores, the performance in achieving the credit plan was 63.2% for
1997-98 32.

2.29.6 SERVICE AREA APPROACH

2.29.6.1 Service Area Approach has been introduced from 1st April, 1988. Under this approach,
each semi-urban and rural branch of commercial bank is assigned a specific area comprising a

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26 Updated Potential-Linked Credit Plan 1999-2000 Akola District, National Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development, Regional Office, Pune, November, 1998, p. 10
27 Annual Credit Plan under Service Area Approach, 1998-99, Central Bank of India, Akola, p. 41
28 Updated Potential-Linked Credit Plan 1999-2000 Akola District, National Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development, Regional Office, Pune, November, 1998, p. 10
29 Annual Credit Plan under Service Area Approach, 1998-99, Central Bank of India, Akola, p. 41
30 Updated Potential-Linked Credit Plan 1999-2000 Akola District, National Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development, Regional Office, Pune, November, 1998, p. 10
31 Updated Potential-Linked Credit Plan 1999-2000 Akola District, National Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development, Regional Office, Pune, November, 1998, p. 10
32 Annual Credit Plan under Service Area Approach, 1998-99, Central Bank of India, Akola, p. 41
cluster of villages within which it will operate, adopting a planned approach for its economic growth. The rationale of this approach is to avoid duplication of efforts and scattered lending as also to ensure credit planning and the close monitoring of the end use of funds.

2.29.6.2 The number of villages served and the population per branch of these banks is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVICE AREA APPROACH: BRANCHES, POPULATION &amp; VILLAGES (As on 31-03-1998)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total number of branches</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population per branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of rural and semi-urban branches with service area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average No. of villages per Rural Branch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.9

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2.29.6.3 The block-wise details of service areas and the villages covered are as under:

**BLOCK-WISE SERVICE AREAS & NUMBER OF VILLAGES (As on 31-03-1994)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Number of Service Areas</th>
<th>Number of villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Akola</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akot</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balapur</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barsi Takli</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karanja</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murtizapur</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manora</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangrulpir</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malegaon</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patur</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risod</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telhara</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washim</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1,776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.10

---

34 Calculated from Annual Credit Plan under Service Area Approach, 1993-94, Central Bank of India, Akola
2.29.6.4 The following map shows the service area of various commercial bank branches from Akola District:

Map No. 2.5

No villages have been allotted to the ADCC, MSCRDB and AGB under Service Area Approach.
As such, their area of operation comprises the entire district.

2.29.7 The key indicators of bank performance for the year 1997-98 in the District are as under:

**PERFORMANCE OF BANKS UNDER DISTRICT CREDIT PLAN: 1997-98 (Rs. in lakh)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ADCC</th>
<th>MSCARDB</th>
<th>RRB</th>
<th>CBs</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Deposits</td>
<td>225.2</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>32.6</td>
<td>330.1</td>
<td>590.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Advances</td>
<td>171.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>213.0</td>
<td>407.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.D. Ratio (%)</td>
<td>76.2</td>
<td>123.8</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>64.5</td>
<td>69.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.11

2.30 ELECTRIFICATION

All of 1743 villages and 10 cities have been electrified and the entire rural population has been brought under the umbrella of electricity facility. As on 31-03-1997, there were 2,98,295 electric consumers with total electricity consumption of 248 million KW. The pattern of using electricity is as under:

![Pattern of use of electricity chart](image)
2.31 TRANSPORT

2.31.1 The district has a good network of railway lines and motorable roads. There is also an aerodrome at Akola.
2.31.2 RAILWAYS

With 83 kilo meters double broad gauge railway line, 161 kilo meters single meter gauge railway line and 57 kilo meter single narrow gauge line, it is well-connected with important cities of the country such as Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmedabad, Pune, Vasco-de-gama, Jaipur, Hyderabad etc. Akola, Akot, Murtizapur, Karanja and Washim cities of the District are connected by the railways. The broad gauge Bombay-Calcutta line, the Okha Puri line, the Ahmedabad-Madras line, the Pune-Nagpur line; the meter gauge Jaipur-Hyderabad line and the narrow gauge Achalpur-Yeotmal line travels through the district. There are 31 railway stations in the district.

2.31.3 ROADS

2.31.3.1 The length of roads is 8,806 kilo meters - 2,346 kilo meters under Public and Works Department, 5,376 kilo meters under Zilla Parishad (Z.P.) and 1,084 kilo meters under municipalities. The types of roads are as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Roads (In Kilo Meters)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main State Highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main District Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other District Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Roads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Roads</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart No. 2.32

35 Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1994-95, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 167
36 Central Railway Time Table
37 Compiled from Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 170
2.31.3.2 The National Highway No. 6 connecting Bombay with Calcutta passes through the District. The important state highways passing through the district are 17. The road kilometerage in the district constitutes 4.17% of the total length of roads in the State.\(^{38}\)

2.32 COMMUNICATION

As on 31-03-1997, there were 393 post offices, 30 telegraph offices and 1,588 red letter post boxes and 127 postmen on regular establishment. 376 villages had postal services. The number of telephones were 24,753. The Government had distributed 342 television sets up to 31-03-1997.\(^{39}\)

2.33 MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

There are 13 regulated main markets and 18 regulated sub-markets.\(^{40}\) Cotton is sold under Monopoly Cotton Procurement Scheme of the State Government and the prices are paid at the rates prescribed by the Government. Majority of the sugarcane producers sell their produce to the cooperative sugar factory - Akola Zilla Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana at Yeota in Akola Taluqa. As far as fruit crops are concerned, they are sold to the private traders.

2.34 EDUCATION

As at 1996-97, there were 811 pre-primary and 1838 primary schools, 316 secondary schools, 114 higher secondary schools and 22 general colleges. With 6,04,496 students, there were 16,084 teachers.

---

\(^{38}\) Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1994-95, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 6

\(^{39}\) Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 180

\(^{40}\) Annual Credit Plan (Under Service Area Approach) 1998-99 Akola District, Central Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai, p. 55

175
The position of educational institutes, students and teachers as on 30-09-1993 was as under:

**EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutes</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Primary</td>
<td>936</td>
<td>14,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>3,11,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>90,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Secondary</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>79,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plus 2 level Vocational Education</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Training Institute</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Colleges</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleges</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Technical Education:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Secondary</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.12

2.35 **ADULT EDUCATION**

In order to make the district fully literate, there were 135 adult literacy centres functioning as at 1994-95. Akola District has been declared for “Total Literacy Campaign” (TLC) under National Literacy Mission (NLM) in 1996-97.

2.36 **PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM**

As at 1996-97, there were 18 hospitals, 142 dispensaries and 55 Primary Health Centres in the district run by the Government/Municipalities. With 2,319 beds for inward patients, there were 459 doctors and 1,269 nurses.\(^{42}\)

2.37 **MEANS OF ENTERTAINMENT**

There are 23 permanent cinema theaters, 7 mobile theaters and 70 government recognised video centers. The per show seating capacity comes to 17,857, 2,399 and 3,210 respectively. The Government revenue in the form of the entertainment taxes amounts to Rs. 1.39 crores.\(^{43}\)

2.38 **POLICE**

With 3,029 police personnel, there are 29 Police Stations, 25 out-posts, 16 sub-posts and 27 lock-ups. The number of villages/towns with these facilities numbered 97.\(^{44}\)

2.39 **GRAM PANCHAYATS**

There are 960 Gram Panchayats in Akola District. 534 of them are independent Gram Panchayats (i.e. one Gram Panchayat for one village) and 426 are Gat Gram Panchayats, covering more than one village.\(^{45}\)

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\(^{42}\) Zilla Samajik va Arthik Samalochan : Akola Zilla 1996-97, Artha va Sankhyiki Sanchalanalya, Maharashtra Shasan, Mumbai, p. 144

\(^{43}\) Source : Collectorate, Entertainment Branch, Akola. The figures pertain to the year 1994-95.

\(^{44}\) Source : District Police Superintendent, Akola. The figures pertain to the year 1994-95.

2.40 VETERINARY SERVICES

There is one veterinary Poly Clinic, 31 veterinary dispensaries (Grade I), 74 veterinary dispensaries (Grade II) and 33 key village sub-centres in the district. The number of animals treated during 1996-97 was 6,69,203 and 21,619 animals were artificially inseminated.
2.41 AMENITIES

The number of villages and their percentage to total villages according to amenities\(^{46}\) is presented in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMENITIES</th>
<th>NUMBER OF INHABITED VILLAGES</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL VILLAGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1406</td>
<td>89.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>24.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking Water</td>
<td>1574</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posts &amp; Telegraphs</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>26.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market/Hat</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>20.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>59.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approach by Pucca Road</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>47.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Supply</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>26.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.13

2.42 WEAKER SECTION

2.42.1 A number of Government sponsored programmes are being implemented in the District for upliftment of economically poor, backward classes and unemployed educated youth. The aim of all these programmes is to make these targeted people self-dependent by giving them monetary assistance by way of subsidy/margin money by Government and loans by the banks for starting their own economic activities.

2.42.1.1 I.R.D.P.

Identified families who are economically below poverty line are assisted under this scheme through DRDA/BDO. Subsidy @ 25/33/50 per cent of the unit cost subject to maximum of Rs5,000/6,000 is provided along with bank loan for taking up the economic activity. The rate and the quantum of subsidy depends upon the status of the beneficiary such as small farmer, marginal farmer, landless labourer, Scheduled Caste/Scheduled tribe etc.

---

2.43.1.2 PMRY

The local unemployed youth with educational qualification up to matric/non-matric or having technical qualification with annual family income of less than Rs. 24,000/- are eligible for assistance under this activity. Commercial activity having project cost up to Rs. 2 lakh can be taken with maximum subsidy of Rs. 7,500/-.

2.42.1.3 MPBCDC

2.42.1.3.1 SPECIAL COMPONENT PLAN (SCP)

Mahatma Phule Backward Class Development Corporation is assisting Scheduled Caste beneficiaries whose annual income is up to Rs. 15,973/- in rural areas or Rs. 20,000/- in urban areas by way of subsidy @ 50 per cent of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 6,000/- along with bank loan for remaining amount. The projects involving cost up to Rs. 24,000 are eligible for the financial assistance under the Programme.

2.42.1.3.2 MARGIN MONEY (MM)

Under the Margin Money Scheme, the projects involving cost up to Rs. 2 lakh are eligible for financial assistance. MPBCDC contributes 20% of the project cost - up to first Rs. 6000 by way of subsidy and the balance by way of margin money loan bearing interest at the rate of 4% per annum. The balance 80% is given by way of loan by the banks.

2.42.1.4 LSAS

Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Development Corporation assists the beneficiaries from Matang, Mang Garodi, Madari etc. as per the criteria applicable to MPBCDC schemes.

2.42.1.5 ZILLA PARISHAD

Zilla Parishad implements Special Component Plan (Minor Irrigation) and Special Component Plan (Cows/She-goats) for the beneficiaries from the Scheduled Caste and neo-Buddhists. The rate of subsidy is 50%. The project cost should not exceed Rs. 19,000 for cows and Rs. 23,900 for minor irrigation. Cent per cent subsidy for land development with a maximum of Rs. 4,500 and that for fertilisers/seeds with a maximum of Rs. 2,150 per beneficiary is also given.
2.42.1.6 OTHER SCHEMES

Apart from the above mentioned major schemes, various other schemes are also being implemented in the district:

- Zilla Parishad (Z.P.)
- Khadi & Village Industries Board (K.V.I.B.)
- District Industries Centre (D.I.C.)
- Drip, Sprinkler, Animal Husbandry (Goats)
- Tiny, Industry, Differential Rate of Interest (DRI)
- Employment Promotion Programme
- Margin Money Scheme
- Scheme for Self-Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY)
- Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)

2.42.2 The physical achievements (in terms of number of beneficiaries) under major programmes for last four years are as under:

**GOVERNMENT SPONSORED SCHEMES: TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.R.D.P.</td>
<td>T 8800</td>
<td>11189</td>
<td>6900</td>
<td>6316</td>
<td>4859</td>
<td>6346</td>
<td>4646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A 8860</td>
<td>10679</td>
<td>7590</td>
<td>7757</td>
<td>4951</td>
<td>5251</td>
<td>8127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.M.R.Y.</td>
<td>T 300</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>1009</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>1853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A 317</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>1181</td>
<td>1209</td>
<td>1415</td>
<td>1627</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.P.B.C.D.C.(SCP)</td>
<td>T 1100</td>
<td>1335</td>
<td>1770</td>
<td>1165</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A 1375</td>
<td>1448</td>
<td>1338</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.P.B.C.D.C.(MM)</td>
<td>T 0</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A 0</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.J.N.T.</td>
<td>T 45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A 34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.14

T: Target, A: Achievement
2.43 JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA

2.43.1 Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is being implemented in Akola District since 1989-90. It covers three types of works - Works to be undertaken through Gram Panchayats, Million Wells Scheme and Indira Awas Yojana.

2.43.2 WORKS THROUGH GRAM PANCHAYATS

During the period 1989-90 to 1996-97, 14,085 works were taken into hands. 8,137 works were completed between 1991-92 to 1995-96. The progress since 1991-92 has been as under:

PROGRESS UNDER JAWAHAR ROZGAR YOJANA

(Rs. in lakh)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Financial Provision (Rs.)</th>
<th>Achievement (Rs.)</th>
<th>Works Undertaken</th>
<th>Works Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>688.89</td>
<td>549.61</td>
<td>1,802</td>
<td>1,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>831.98</td>
<td>794.76</td>
<td>1,672</td>
<td>1,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>834.78</td>
<td>773.90</td>
<td>1,704</td>
<td>1,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>889.21</td>
<td>737.38</td>
<td>1,609</td>
<td>1,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>785.27</td>
<td>803.61</td>
<td>1,729</td>
<td>1,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4030.13</td>
<td>3659.26</td>
<td>8,516</td>
<td>8,137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 2.15

2.43.3 MILLION WELLS SCHEME

2.43.3.1 The million wells scheme provides open irrigation wells, free of cost, to small and marginal farmers from 'Below Poverty Line'. During the period 1989-90 to 1996-97, 4,534 wells were sanctioned. The wells completed numbered 3,222 whereas 125 wells were cancelled. The work is in progress in respect of the remaining 1,187 wells47.

---

No. of wells under Million Wells Scheme

- Completed: 1187
- Cancelled: 125
- Work-in-Progress: 3222

Chart No. 2.34
2.43.3.2 The year-wise progress for the period 1989-90 to 1995-96 is as under:

Year-wise Progress under Million Wells Scheme

The year-wise progress for the period 1989-90 to 1995-96 is as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sanctioned</th>
<th>Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989-90</td>
<td>740</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>1040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991-92</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-93</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993-94</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>492</td>
<td>378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>153</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The target for 1996-97 was 996 wells. This scheme has been replaced by Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana with effect from April, 1999.

2.43.4 INDIRA AWAS YOJANA

2.43.4.1 As part of the efforts to meet the housing needs of the rural poor, Indira Awas Yojana is being implemented as part of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. Under this programme, dwelling units free of cost are constructed for the poorest of the poor, preference being given to SCs/STs and freed bonded labourers. From the year 1996-97, the permissible expenditure on a house has been increased to Rs. 30,000/- in which the share of the Government is Rs. 28,500/- and the beneficiary is to contribute Rs. 1,500/-. During the period 1985-86 to 1996-97, the total number of houses constructed comes to 9,869. The year-wise progress is as under:

---


184
2.43.4.2 The block-wise share in the total number of the houses constructed during the period 1985-86 to 1996-97 comes as under:

**BLOCK-WISE NUMBER OF HOUSES CONSTRUCTED UNDER INDIRA AWAS YOJANA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>85-86</th>
<th>86-87</th>
<th>87-88</th>
<th>88-89</th>
<th>89-90</th>
<th>90-91</th>
<th>91-92</th>
<th>92-93</th>
<th>93-94</th>
<th>94-95</th>
<th>95-96</th>
<th>96-97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manorafi</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>1399</td>
<td>2879</td>
<td>2489</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washim</td>
<td>1497</td>
<td>1494</td>
<td>1483</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>1570</td>
<td>1761</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malegaon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>814</td>
<td>731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akot</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balapur</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akola</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart No. 2.36

Chart No. 2.37
2.43.5 GANaA KALYAN YOJANA

The Central Government has launched a Ganga Kalyan Yojana in all the districts of the country with effect from 1st February, 1997. The objective of the scheme is to provide irrigation through exploitation of ground-water (bore-wells and tube-wells) to individuals and groups of small and marginal farmers living below poverty-line. The assistance is provided through a mix of subsidy by Government and term credit by financial institutions. Special safeguards by way of earmarking of 50 per cent of total funds as well as higher percentage of subsidies have been provided for the SCs/STs. The tentative financial allocation for Ganga Kalyan Yojana for 1997-98 for Akola District was Rs. 95.88 lakh - Rs. 76.70 as Central Government Share and Rs. 19.18 lakh as State Government share. Rs. 2.88 (3%) was reserved for physical handicapped. 50% of the funds are reserved for the beneficiaries from the SCs/STs category. The physical target was 500 wells out of which 15 were reserved for the physically handicapped. The million wells scheme has been merged into Ganga Kalyan Yojana. This scheme has been replaced by Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana with effect from April, 1999.