Chapter IV

PROFILE OF AGRICULTURE MARKETS IN AHMEDNAGAR DISTRICT

4.1 MARKET REGULATION: PRE-INDEPENDENCE

Britain was dependent on the agricultural economy of India. Industries in Britain were using Indian raw materials. At the same time the pressure from the farming community in Britain, lead them to enact Acts relating to the agriculture.

The Acts enacted in Britain were as follows:

1. Agriculture Act – 1917
2. Agriculture Rates Act, 1923 and 1928.
3. Thithe Act, 1925.
4. Agricultural Credit Act, 1928.
5. Agriculture Produce (Grading and Marketing) Act, 1928
6. The Agriculture Wages (Regulation) Act 1928.
7. Agriculture Marketing Act, 1931 and 33.
10. Agriculture Marketing Act, 1957.

The time span between the Acts introduced is very short. It indicates that as and when the need felt to introduce a new law, it had been done in Britain.
Right from the beginning of agriculture legislation in 1917, these acts are amended and repealed from time to time until 1957. It shows that state responded positively to satisfy the demands of British farmers and shows the foreign communities become organized.

In India market regulation started too early as compared to Britain. In 1887 “Berar Cotton and Grains Market Law, 1887”, was the first Act passed in India to regulate the market. This Act became important reference and guideline to the future regulations enacted in India. The principles defined in this Act were reflected in the other Acts passed thereafter. The main features of the 1887 Act were as follows.

1. All the markets existed had come into its fold.
2. President or Commissioner had power to declare any market for the sale of agriculture produce.
3. The Commissioner was empowered to appoint a committee having five members from the eligible person’s panel to enforce the law. Market committee included two members from municipal authority and three members from the trading community.
4. Trade allowance was abolished.
5. Unauthorized markets banned within five miles of the notified area.
6. Licenses were made compulsory to the market functionaries.
7. Rules were framed for the levy and collection of the fees, the licensing of brokers and weighman and for the checking brokers and measures.
8. The penalties for the breach of certain provisions of the laws were laid down.
9. The Act was applicable not only to the grain market but also to the cotton market.
Thus, though the Act was not full proof enough to solve the problems of the farming community, it had a great impact on future attempts to regulate marketing of agriculture in India. The Act had following limitations.

1. The committees established were without farmer’s representative.
2. Though the Act provided regulation for marketing other commodities only cotton markets are in existence under the Act.
3. As the majority of committee members were from the trading community, the committee was not interested in taking steps for fair-trading in the market.
4. The absence of mechanism to settle dispute between the farmers and the purchasers.

This first Act is known as “Cotton Act” in the history of India. The second important Act came into existence in 1927 in Bombay state. The Indian Cotton committee was setup to review “Berar Cotton Act”. The Committee found that, the purpose of act to bring buyers and sellers together in the regulated market was not served fully. The traders were exploiting farmers. The committee recommended that market for Cotton and Berar system’ should be established, in other provinces. This could be done by the Municipal Acts or under the special legislations as in Berar. Thus, Bombay state introduced an Act known as “Bombay Cotton Marketing Act, 1927”. This act was framed on the basis of “Berar Cotton and Grains Market law, 1887”. It tried to remove limitations of the Berar Cotton Act. Its main features were as follows.

2. Both ginned and un-ginned cotton came under the purview of this Act.
3. Market committee was established under the Act with maximum representatives of the cotton growers. Dispute sub-committee became obligatory.
4. Ban on the trade allowances were not recognized under the rules or bye-laws framed under the Act.
5. The levy of the market fees as a source of income to the market.
6. The use of the authorized weight and measures and to maintain the quality of cotton, discouragement of damping of cotton and admixture of sand.
7. No other cotton market could be established within the prescribed distance of regulated market.

4.2 MARKET REGULATION: POST INDEPENDENCE

Prior to independence, in 1928, the defects in agriculture marketing recognized by Royal Commissions on agriculture on national scale were

- Unorganized primary and secondary markets.
- Existence of many malpractices such as
  - Short weights
  - Excessive market charges and trade allowance
  - Unauthorized deductions made by commission agents.
  - Adulteration of produce
- Absence of disputes settlement mechanism.

Most of these problems remain present after independence also. In the First Five Year Plan (1951-52 to 1955-56), the agriculture production increased to great extend due to good monsoon. Therefore, the need for orderly marketing also arose. However, during the First and Second plans, agriculture marketing did not receive much importance. The development
in agriculture marketing took place due to gradual progress towards commercialization of agriculture marketing, because of its own dynamic nature not because of any specific government efforts.

In India network of regulated markets is used to promote the organized marketing of agriculture commodities. Most state governments and Union Territories administrations have enacted legislations to provide for the regulation of agricultural produce markets. While by the end of 1950, there were 286 regulated markets in the country, their number as on 31 March 2006 stood at 7566. In addition, India has 21780 rural periodical markets, about 15 per cent of which function under the ambit of regulation. The advent of regulated markets has helped in mitigating the market handicaps of producers/sellers at the wholesale assembling level. However, the rural periodic markets in general, and the tribal markets in particular, remained out of its developmental ambit. The purpose of state regulation of agricultural markets was to protect farmers from the exploitation of intermediaries and traders and to ensure better prices and timely payment for their produce.

4.3 REGULATED MARKETS IN MAHARASHTRA

The developmental aspect of agricultural marketing is dealt by Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB), a Statutory Autonomous Board, established on 23rd March 1984. Its objectives are:

i) To coordinate functioning of market committees,

ii) To undertake state level planning of development of market committees,

iii) To supervise and guide market committees in their preparation of plans and estimates,
iv) To arrange seminars, workshops, exhibitions on subject related to agricultural marketing.

The state marketing board also undertakes various schemes of Post Harvest Management, Market Intelligence and Export Promotion.

The Regulatory aspect of agricultural marketing, is dealt by Directorate of Marketing, (DoM) established in the year 1971. It works for regulation and promotion of the following:

i) Agriculture Produce Market Committees,

ii) Agriculture Cooperative marketing societies,

iii) Agro processing co-operatives,

iv) Fruits and vegetables co-operative marketing societies,

v) Export promotion and post harvest management,

vi) Schemes of constructions of godowns in rural areas,

vii) Consumers’ cooperative societies.

Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) constituted under the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963 are the corporate statutory bodies established for managing the markets in their respective areas. APMCs play a dominant role in the field of agricultural marketing in the state. There are 294 APMCs functioning along with 294 main and 612 sub markets. Of these 39 APMCs have an annual income above Rs. 1 Crore and 68 APMCs have an annual income between Rs. 50 Lakh to 1 Crores. The regulated markets in the state have most of the basic marketing infrastructures such as Office Building, Internal Roads, Electrification, Auction Platform, Water Supply System, Weigh Bridge, Shetkari Niwas, Godown, Cattle Shed, Fencing etc. These markets ensure fair market practices, arrange for resolving disputes,
and build up a positive environment for carrying out working activities in particular and establishing itself as a local growth center in the areas concerned.

The APMCs were established by the State Government for regulating the marketing of different kinds of agriculture and pisciculture produce for the same market area or any part thereof. The Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act was passed in the year 1963, with a view to regulate the marketing of agricultural and pisciculture produces in market areas. After giving due consideration, to various committee's recommendations and study groups, some important changes have been made in this Act in the year 1987 and thereafter. Important provisions of the act are described in details in the following part.

The purpose of regulation of agricultural markets was to protect farmers from the exploitation of intermediaries and traders and to ensure better prices and timely payment for his produce. The state has already liberalized its agricultural marketing policies, to allow much greater private sector involvement in the marketing of farm produce, through amendment of the State Agricultural Marketing Act, which previously restricted farmers from selling farm produce through regulated markets controlled by the Agricultural Produce Market Committees only. The changes are broadly in line with the reforms, being promoted by Government of India throughout the country promoting contract farming, direct marketing, establishing private markets etc.
4.4 THE STATE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETING ACT, 1963

The main objectives of the Act are:

- Improved regulation in marketing of agricultural produce
- Development of efficient marketing system
- Promotion of agri-processing
- Agricultural export and
- The establishment and proper administration of markets for agricultural produce in the State.

The Act consists of ten chapters, which are further divided into different sections. The chapters describes following details. **Chapter I – Preliminary**, has six section, Section 1 has Short title, extent and commencement of the act, Section 2, consists of definitions of the terms related to market such as agriculture produce, agriculturist, broker, commission agents, director, local authority, Market, Market Area, Market Committee, Member, Panchayat Samiti prescribed, Processors, Retails sales, Secretary, Surveyor, Trader, Zilla Parishad. Along with definitions, it describes duties, power and functions of all the related authorities such as Market Committee

Section 3 to 5 of chapter 1 is about Market Areas and Markets. Section 3 about notification of intention of regulating marketing of agriculture produce in specified area. Section 4 is declaration of marketing of specified agriculture produce in market area. Section 5 is establishment of markets i.e how the markets and subsidiary markets can be established.
Chapter II- Marketing of Agriculture Produce has 5 sections. Section 6 gives rules for regulations of marketing of agriculture produce. Section 7 is about grant of license for use of any place in the market area or for operating therein as a trader, commission agent, broker, processor, weighman, measurer, surveyor, and warehouseman or any other capacity in relation to the marketing of agriculture produce. Section 8 describes power to cancel or suspend license. Appeal against refusal of license is possible under section 9. Section 10 is provision for settlement of disputes between buyers and sellers, or their agents.

Chapter III- Constitution of Market Committees has 18 sections from Section 11 to 28. Section 11 describes about establishment of Market Committee i.e about the members of Market Committee and their powers. Section 12 is about incorporation of Market Committees, perpetual succession, common seal, and power to enter into contracts, power to acquire, hold and dispose of property. Section 13 gives details of Constitution of Market Committee, 18 members among which ten agriculturists, three representatives of traders and commission agents, Chairman, Co-operatives Processing Society or Co-operative Marketing Society. It also describes about the functions the Chairman of Panchayat Samiti., President or Sarpanch of the local authority and shall be members of the Committee. Section 14 is about Election and term of office of members and Section 14A about Election Fund. Section 15 Commencement of term of office of members, 15A Provision for appointment of administrator after normal or extended term of office members expires. Section 16 directs about Resignation, Removal and Causal Vacancies of Members. Removal of member for misconduct, rules are given in Section 17. The guidelines to fill the casual vacancies are there in Section 18. Section 19 consist rules of Election of Chairman and Vice-
Chairman, and their powers and functions, Section 20, 21 about how long Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall hold office. Section 21A is about honorarium to Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Section 22 is procedure for election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman while Section 23 describes resignation of the same. Section 23A, provision for -Motion for non-confidence against Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Chairman who absents himself from three consecutive meeting of the Committee without leave of the Market Committee shall cease to be Chairman and Vice-Chairman under Section 24. Section 25 is, guidelines to fill up vacancies in office of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Section 26 describes rules and actions to be taken incase of refusal to handover charges to new Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Section 27 is about Meetings, quorum etc. of Market Committee. According to Section 28 during any vacancy in a Market Committee the continuing members may act as if no vacancy had occurred.

Chapter IV – Market Committees: Powers and Duties, has sections from Section 29 to 34. Section 29 describes about powers and duties of Market Committee related to regulate entry of persona and of vehicular traffic into the market, supervising and settling disputes etc. Section 30 is regarding Appointment of sub-committees: delegation of powers. Section 30A Power of Market Committees to open collection centers. Section 31 is Power of Market Committee to levy fees while section 32 is Power to borrow. Section 33 is how to do Execution of contracts. Section 34 is provision of certain disputes regarding construction of rules etc. about weights and measures to be decided by Market Committee.

Chapter IV A- Cost of Supervision has three subsection 34A Supervision over purchase of agriculture produce in any market or market area and
payment of cost of supervision by purchaser. 34B Supervision, a period within which cost of fees should be paid and 34C provision for Default of Market Committee in collecting or paying cost of supervision.

Chapter V – Officers and Servants of Market Committee has only one section, Section 35 which is about Power of Market Committee to employ staff. Chapter VI- The Market Fund has Section 36 to Section 38. Section 36 is about Market Fund: its custody and investment. Section 37 describes Purposes for which Market Fund may be expended. Section 38 is Manner of preparing budget etc.

Chapter VII- Trade Allowances Prohibited consists of Section 39, which is about strict prohibition of trade allowance.

Chapter VII-A-State Agriculture Marketing Board has fourteen subsections from 39A to 39O. Some of the important provisions are Establishment of State Agriculture Marketing Board (Section 39 A), Constitution of State Marketing Board (Section 39B), Function and powers of State Marketing Board (Section 39-J), Regulation (Section 39-K). It also has provisions such as Establishment and administration of Agriculture Marketing Development Fund (Section 39L), Utilization of the Development Fund (Section 39N) and Audit of Accounts (Section 39-O).

Chapter VIII –Control with 6 sections, Section 40 to Section 45. Section 40 is about Inspection, inquiry, submission of statements, etc.. Section 41 is Duty of officers and members to furnish information to Director, authorized officers and State Government. Section 42 is provision for Seizure of account books and other documents, Section 43, Power of State Government to call for proceedings of Market Committee and pass orders. Section 44 is guidelines for Amalgamation or division of Market
Committee and Section 45 provision for Supersession of Market Committee etc.

Chapter IX – Penalties – has section 46 to section 52 which describes about different types of penalties e.g. Penalties for contravention of section 6 (Section 46), not complying with direction under section 26(2) (Section 47), making or recovering trade allowance (Section 48), failure to obey order under sect. 40 (Section 49), contravening provisions of section 40 or 43, 42 (Section 50, 51). Section 52 General provisions for punishment of offences.

Chapter X- Miscellaneous- consist of 14 sections, Section 52 to 66. Some of the important provisions are Bar of suit in absence of notice (Section 55), Trail of offences (Section 56), Rules (Section 60), Bye-laws (Section 61), Power to transfer assets etc. (Section 65). Thus the Act is designed such that it will fulfill the objectives, which are mentioned above such as improved regulation in marketing of agricultural produce, development of efficient marketing system, the establishment and proper administration of markets for agricultural produce in the State. This ultimately fulfills the interest of farmers and the participants of market

4.5 THE STATE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETING DEVELOPMENT & REGULATION ACT, 2003

Salient Features

1. The Title of the Act is changed to highlight the objective of development of agricultural marketing in addition to its regulation under the Act. Accordingly, the Preamble of the Act is redrafted to provide for development of efficient marketing system, promotion of agri-processing
and agricultural exports and to lay down procedures and systems for putting in place an effective infrastructure for the marketing of agricultural produce. (Section-1)

2. Legal persons, growers and local authorities are permitted to apply for the establishment of new markets for agricultural produce in any area. Under the existing law, markets are setup at the initiative of State Governments alone. Consequently, in a market area, more than one market can be established by private persons, farmers and consumers. (Section-3)

3. There will be no compulsion on the growers to sell their produce through existing markets administered by the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC). However, agriculturist who does not bring his produce to the market area for sale will not be eligible for election to the APMC. (Section-14)

4. Separate provision is made for notification of ‘Special Markets’ or ‘Special Commodities Markets’ in any market area for specified agricultural commodities to be operated in addition to existing markets. (Section-20)

5. The APMC have been made specifically responsible for: ensuring complete transparency in pricing system and transactions taking place in market area; providing market-led extension services to farmers; ensuring payment for agricultural produce sold by farmers on the same day; promoting agricultural processing including activities for value addition in agricultural produce; and publicizing data on arrivals and rates of agricultural produce brought into the market area for sale. Setup and promote public private partnership in the management of agricultural markets. (Section -26 & 27)

6. Provision made for the appointment of Chief Executive Officer of the Market Committee from among the professionals drawn from open market. (Section-36)
7. A new Chapter on ‘Contract Farming’ is added to provide for compulsory registration of all contract farming sponsors, recording of contract farming agreements, resolution of disputes, if any, arising out of such agreement, exemption from levy of market fee on produce covered by contract farming agreements and to provide for indemnity to producers’ title/possession over his land from any claim arising out of the agreement. (Chapter-VII)

8. Model specification of contract farming agreements provided in the Addendum to the model law.

9. Provision made for direct sale of farm produce to contract farming sponsor from farmers’ field without the necessity of routing it through notified markets. (Chapter-VII)

10. Provision made for imposition of single point levy of market fee on the sale of notified agricultural commodities in any market area and discretion provided to the State Government to fix graded levy of market fee on different types of sales. (Section-42)

11. Licensing of market functionaries is dispensed with and a time bound procedure for registration is laid down. Registration for market functionaries provided to operate in one or more than one market areas. (Section-44)

12. Commission agency in any transaction relating to notified agricultural produce involving an agriculturist is prohibited and there will be no deduction towards commission from the sale proceeds payable to agriculturist seller. (Section-44(6))

13. Provision made for the purchase of agricultural produce through private yards or directly from agriculturists in one or more than one market area. (Section-45)

14. Provision made for the establishment of consumers/ farmers market to facilitate direct sale of agricultural produce to consumers. (Section-46)
15. Provision made for resolving of disputes, if any, arising between private market/consumer market and Market Committee. (Section-50)

16. State Governments conferred power to exempt any agricultural produce brought for sale in market area, from payment of market fee. (Section-56)

17. Market Committees permitted to use its funds among others to create facilities like grading, standardization and quality certification; to create infrastructure on its own or through public private partnership for post harvest handling of agricultural produce and development of modern marketing system. (Section-59)

18. For the Chairmanship of State Agricultural Marketing Board, two options provided namely Minister in-charge of Agricultural Marketing as ex-officio or alternatively to be elected by the Chairman/members of Market Committees. (Section-63)

19. The State Agricultural Marketing Board made specifically responsible for:

   (i) setting up of a separate marketing extension cell in the Board to provide market-led extension services to farmers;

   (ii) promoting grading, standardization and quality certification of notified agricultural produce and for the purpose to set up a separate Agricultural Produce Marketing Standards Bureau.(Section-73)

20. Funds of the State Agricultural Marketing Board permitted to be utilized for promoting either on its own or through public private partnership, for market survey, research, grading, standardization, quality certification, etc.; Development of quality testing and communication infrastructure. Development of media, cyber and long distance infrastructure relevant to marketing of agricultural and allied commodities. (Section-79)
Agricultural Produce Market Committee constituted as per APMC Act to manage the markets. Over the years, to achieve an efficient system of buying and selling of agricultural commodities, most of the State Governments and Union Territories enacted legislations, Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act to provide regulation of agricultural produce markets. Most of the wholesale markets and some of the rural primary markets have been brought under regulation. Many of the regulated wholesale markets have a principal market with large area and relatively better infrastructure and number of sub-yards attached to the principal market. The establishment of regulated markets has helped in creating orderly and transparent marketing conditions in primary assembling markets. Further, increase in the number of regulated market yards, from a meager 286 at the time of independence to 7557 in year 2005, has helped in increasing the access of farmers to such orderly market places. These regulated markets (7557) consist of 2428 principal markets and 5129 sub yards. Some wholesale markets are outside the purview of the regulation under APMC Acts.

**4.7 DIRECTORATE OF MARKETING**

**a. Profile**

The Directorate of Marketing (DoM) is established in the year 1971 to promote agricultural marketing in the State, through Agricultural Produce Market Committees, Co-operative Societies and Co-operation Department. The functions of the Directorate of Marketing relate to regulation & promotion of the following:

- Agricultural Produce Market Committees
• Cotton Monopoly Procurement Scheme
• Co-operative marketing societies
• Consumers co-operatives
• Agro processing co-operatives
• The federation of co-operative marketing societies, consumers co-operatives, agro processing co-operatives and APMCs
• Farmers co-operatives and their apex bodies organised for post harvest management of agriculture produce & export of the same
• Grading / Agmark
• Market survey, research and training
• Fruits and Vegetables marketing
• Export Promotion and Post Harvest Management through Co-operatives, farmers groups, etc.
• Schemes of construction of Godowns in Rural areas

To strengthen the activities of the Department, Director of Marketing has been designated as, head of the Department in 1979. He is vested with powers under Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1963 and under Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act, 1960. Directorate of Marketing is handling the issues related to agricultural marketing with the help of officers of Co-operation Department at Taluka, District and Divisional levels in whole State of Maharashtra.

b. Responsibilities

The Director of Marketing is responsible for the implementation of the following Statutes and Activities related thereto.

• Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act 1963 and Rules there under
• Maharashtra Cooperative Societies Act 1960 and Rules there under
• Maharashtra Raw Cotton Act. 1971
• Maharashtra Warehousing Act
• Grading and Marketing Act (AGMARK)
• Planning and development of the concerned Institutions
• Implementation and evaluation of the plan schemes of the State Government, Centrally sponsored schemes
• Implementation of the Vegetables Oil Projects sponsored by National Dairy Development Board
• Development of Cooperative Storage under National Grid of Rural Godowns and N.C.D.C. World bank programs
• Dissemination of Market Intelligence amongst cultivators and research & survey of commodity marketing and price trend etc
• Development of Agmark Commodity Grading
• To work as ex-officio Managing Director of the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board, Pune
• Training and education of cultivators and office bearers in Agricultural Marketing and allied subjects through conferences, seminars, workshops, publications etc.
• Export Promotion.

c. Present System

The Directorate has officers and staffs at head office. The field machinery of the Department of Co-operation i.e. Asstt. Registrar co-operative Societies at Taluka level, District Deputy Registrar at District level and Divisional Joint Registrar at Divisional level looks after the schemes and programmes of the Directorate of Marketing. Various powers of the Director under various acts vested in him are delegated to the field offices at various levels.
d. Organizational Structure

Director of Marketing (DoM) is head of the department for the activities at State level. Following staff is under the control of the DoM at head quarter in Pune.

**Joint Directors (3 posts):**
1. APMCs & Administration
2. Marketing & Consumers co-op
3. Agro Processing

**Deputy Directors (5 posts):**
1. APMCs & Administration
2. Consumer co-operatives
3. Marketing co-operatives
4. Agro. Processing
5. O & M Organisation & Method

**Assistant Directors (4 posts)**

**Deputy Engineers (2 posts)**
The Director of Marketing is also designated as ex-officio Managing Director of the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB), Pune. The MSAMB has been established as statutory body under the provisions of Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act 1963 in the year 1984.

Following 14 desks are in functioning at the Directorate head quarter.
Marketing -1 Monopoly Procurement of Cotton
Marketing -2 Agro Processing Cooperatives
Marketing -3 Co-operatives Marketing
Marketing -4 Establishment
Marketing -5 Agricultural Produce Marketing Committees (APMC's)
Marketing -6 Consumers Cooperatives
Marketing -7 Budget and Planning
The Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board (MSAMB), Pune was established on 23rd, March 1984, under section 39A of Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development & Regulation) Act, 1963. MSAMB has done pioneering work in the field of Agricultural Marketing in the State and achieved success in various areas. MSAMB is having an important role in developing and coordinating agricultural marketing system in the State of Maharashtra.

a. Board Of Directors

MSAMB is committed towards smooth and orderly development of agricultural marketing in the State. The Board of Directors take all policy decisions in respect of this sphere of activity and such other important issues. The Board of Directors of the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board consists of the following members:
Table 4.1 : Board of Directors of the Maharashtra State Agricultural Marketing Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hon. Minister for Marketing</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hon. Minister of State for Marketing</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Vice-Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Commissioner for Co-operation &amp; Registrar of Co-operative Societies</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Commissioner of Agriculture</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chairman, Maharashtra State Market Committee's Co-operative Federation, Pune</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Agricultural Marketing Advisor to Govt. of India or his representative</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Representative of National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to be nominated by the State Government.</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Members not exceeding six, to be nominated by the State Government from amongst the Chairman of the Market Committees, one each from the six Revenue Divisions.</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Director of Marketing, Maharashtra State, Pune</td>
<td>Ex-Officio Managing Director &amp; Member Secretary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [www.msamb.com](http://www.msamb.com)
4.9 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETING COMMITTEES IN MAHARASTRA STATE

The Act provides for establishment of Market Committees in the State. These Market Committees are engaged in development of market yards for the benefit of agriculturists and the buyers. Various agricultural produce commodities are regulated under the Act. At present, there are 285 APMCs
with main markets and 593 sub markets. As shown in Table 2.1 these are divided into seven main divisions Kokan, Nasik, Pune, Aurangabas, Latur, Amravati and Nagpur respectively. The Nasik division consist of seven district those are Nasik, Ahmednagar, Jalgaon, Dhule, Nandurbar, Thane, Mumbai. Pune division has Pune, Satara, Solapur, Sangli, Kolhapur five district under it. Amravati with Amaravati, Akola, Buldhana, Washim, Yavatmal again five district under it, Aurangabad division covers only four district which are Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani, Hingoli. Latur division has Latur, Osmanabad, Beed, Nanded district coming under while Nagpur Division covers Nagpur, Bhandara, Gondia, Wardha, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli district for regulation.

Table 4.2 : Division wise break-up of APMCs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Main Market</th>
<th>Sub Market</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Konkan</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Nasik</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pune</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Latur</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Amravati</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Nagpur</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>593</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.msamb.com

The MSAMB(Maharashtra Agriculture Marketing Board) has  7 Divisional offices at Pune, Nasik, Aurangabad, Latur, Amravati, Nagpur and Ratnagiri for proper co-ordination of the activities of all APMCs in the State. The map (MAP 2.1 ) given below shows districts covered under various divisions.
Depending upon the income APMC fall into the either class A (Above Rs. 1 Crore), class B (Above Rs. 50 Lac to Rs. 1 Crore), class C (Above Rs. 25 to Rs. 50 Lac) or Class D category (Less than Rs. 25 Lac). Out of 290 total main markets 39 of them are Class A, 57 Class B, 72 Class C and 122 Class D markets.

Figure 4.3: Divisions of APMC
Source: www.msamb.com

Table 4.3: APMC and Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>APMC Class</th>
<th>No. of APMCs</th>
<th>Total Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>&quot;A&quot; Class</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Above Rs. 1 Crore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>&quot;B&quot; Class</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Above Rs. 50 Lac to Rs. 1 Crore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>&quot;C&quot; Class</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>Above Rs. 25 to Rs. 50 Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>&quot;D&quot; Class</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>Less than Rs. 25 Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>290</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: www.msamb.com
After the enactment of the Bombay Agricultural Produce Markets Act of 1939 that a beginning was made towards safeguarding the interests of the agriculturist. This Act brought the sale and purchase of a number of commodities under the purview of the enactment. The principal objectives of this enactment were:

(1) to bring about equity in bargaining power among the agriculturists and traders,
(2) to promote mutual confidence,
(3) to prevent malpractices and
(4) to give a fair deal to the peasants.

This enactment led to the establishment of market committees at the following places of Ahmednagar district:

1. Ahmednagar (1954),
2. Rahuri (1950),
3. Sangamner (1959)
4. Shevgaon (1955),
5. Newasa (1975),
8. Kopargaon (1948),
9. Shrirampur (1958),
10. Pathardi (1955),
11. Jamkhed (1967)
4.10 APMC’s IN AHMEDNAGAR DISTRICT

4.10.1 Ahmednagar:

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee of Ahmednagar is by far the most important one in the district. It was established under the Bombay Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1939, in August 1954 and the actual working started from 13 January 1956. At present, the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Act, 1963, has been applied to the market committee. Since its establishment, the market committee has achieved remarkable progress in the field of agricultural marketing. Ahmednagar is situated conveniently as regards transport and communications and is served by the important arteries of trade like the Pune-Ahmednagar road, and Daund-Manmad railway line. It is connected to Pune, Sholapur, Nasik, Aurangabad, Beed and Osmanabad districts by highways. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Ahmednagar and Parner talukas. The market committee is composed of 18 elected representatives, of who seven are from agriculturists, four from traders, one local authority and three Government nominees.

Cotton is an important regulated commodity at this market followed by jowar and bajri. Besides, safflower, ground-nut (shelled and unshelled), sesamum, linseed, nigerseed, tur, gram, mug, udid, math, kulith, vari, cotton seed, chillis, wheat, gul, cattle, sheep and goats have also been brought under regulation. Since 30th September 1969, the market committee brought under its regulation many fruits such as mosambi, bananas, grapes, mangoes, lemons, melons, pods of tamarind, as also castor seed, rala, fodder, etc. The market committee has purchased a land
measuring about 27 acres and 19 gunthas for the market yard and has provided all the necessary amenities. 

Agricultural produce brought for sale in the market is sold by open auction or by open agreement. The daily arrival of produce is so heavy during brisk season that transactions continue from 9.30 a.m. up to 11 p.m. For the proper storage of agricultural produce, the market committee has built a large godown in the market yard, which has been rented to the Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation. There are two sheds for conducting auction of produce. Some traders have built their own godowns on the plots of the market yard. There is another large godown built by the Ahmednagar District Urban Co-operative Bank in the market yard which is in the possession of the Collector of Ahmednagar for storage of Government grains and a third one owned by the Ahmednagar Taluka Purchase and Sale Union, Ahmednagar, which has been given to the Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation on rental basis. Ahmednagar District Purchase and Sale Union Ahmednagar, has also built a new godown on the market yard. These godowns provide sufficient storage facilities on the market yard.

Grading system for selected food-grains is prevalent in the market yard at Ahmednagar. This is the only grading unit in the district. For this purpose Government has appointed a grader. This has a salutary effect upon the quality of the food-grains brought to the market yard by the agriculturists. The regulation of agricultural marketing at Ahmednagar is further facilitated by the progress of co-operative marketing societies. The co-operative societies function as general commission agents at the market. There are three such co-operative societies, viz.,

(1) Nagar Taluka Kharedi Vikri Sangh, Ahmednagar,
The Rahuri Market Committee was established on 18th March 1950, while the actual working of the market started from 1st September 1953. Situated in the fertile black alluvial track, Rahuri taluka enjoys the natural advantages of prosperous agriculture. The market has trade-link with the distant market centres in western Maharashtra. It is served by the Daund-Manmad railway line of the Central Railway and is connected with the important market centres on the Central, and South-Central Railway lines. The Rahuri market is also served by the Pune-Manmad state highway which connects the market with Pune, Shrirampur, Kopargaon and Manmad. The rail and road facilities afford an easy access to the principal markets in the State. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Rahuri taluka. The market committee is composed of 18 representatives of whom thirteen are elected by agriculturists, four by traders and two by local authorities whereas two are Government nominees.

The principal commodities regulated are *gur*, fruits and cattle. The other important commodities regulated are jowar, *bajri*, wheat, gram, *tur*, *math*, *mug*, safflower, ground-nut, linseed, sesamum, *kulthi*, cotton (ginned and unginned), cotton seed, and cattle such as bullocks, cows, she-buffaloes, he-buffaloes, horses, goats and sheep. The market committee has its own principal market yard at Rahuri and two sub-market yards at Wambori and
Songaon. The principal market yard at Rahuri is quite spacious admeasuring about 13 acres and 4 gunthas. It is furnished with all the necessary amenities. Wambori market has also sufficiently spacious yard admeasuring 10 acres and 3 gunthas where the necessary amenities are provided. The market committee spent Rs. 6,308.90 and Rs. 15,886.50 over office building and two auction-sheds, respectively. At Wambori sub-market yard a spacious office building has been built at the cost of Rs. 29,442.45. Sufficient banking facilities are available at Rahuri. The branches of the following banks are situated at Rahuri:

1. Ahmednagar District Central Co-operative Bank,
2. State Bank of India,
3. Bank of Maharashtra,

Co-operative marketing societies play an important part in purchase and sale of agricultural produce in this market. They are instrumental in safeguarding the interest of the agriculturists. There are 17 cooperative marketing societies doing adat business at the market. All these co-operative societies are licence-holders of the market committee. The co-operative societies at Rahuri are as under

1. Rahuri Taluka Sahakari Kharedi Vikri Sangh Limited,
2. Rahuri Vividh Karyakari Sahakari Seva Society Limited,
3. Sakhar Kamgar Sahakari Grahak Bhandar Limited,
4. Rahuri Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana,
5. Kanadgaon Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
6. Arangaon Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
7. Deolali Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
8. Guha Vividh Karyakari Seva Society Limited,
9. Kolhar Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
10. Takalimiya Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(11) Manjari Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(12) Chincholi Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(13) Manori Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(14) Musalwadi Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(15) Vambori Nutan Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(16) Satral Group Vividh Karyakari Seva Society,
(17) Dhanore Vividh Karyakari Seva Society.

Rahuri market is also known for the trade in cattle such as buffaloes, cows, bullocks, sheep and goats.

4.10.3 Sangamner

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Sangamner was established on 19th November 1959 while its actual working started from 1st September 1962. The market is connected to Pune and Nasik by a national highway and by other good roads with markets such as Ahmednagar, Shrirampur, Kopargaon, Rahuri, Thane and Manmad. Sangamner agricultural marketing produce is established on 19-11-1959, and actual working of committee started on date 17-8-1988. Initially its workings area was Sangamner as well as Akole taluka. From 17-6-1988 it started working independently and working area is restricted to Sangamner taluka only.

The market committee is composed of elected and nominated representatives and has twelve members of whom six are agriculturists' representatives, four traders' representatives and two Government nominees. The market committee has brought under its regulation various commodities, important among which are *jowar*, *bajri*, wheat, paddy
(husked and unhusked), gram, tur, mug, math, udid, safflower, groundnut (shelled and unshelled), gur, onion, potato, tomato, khurasani, chola, sesamum, cotton and cottonseed. Similarly sale and disposal of milk and other cattle like cows, bullocks, he-buffaloes, she-buffaloes, horses, sheep and goats is also brought under regulation. There is a proposal to regulate the sale and purchase of all kinds of fruits. The principal market yard at Sangamner has land admeasuring 15 acres and 27 gunthas where all the necessary facilities are available. Only storage facilities are available at this market yard.

Sufficient facilities for storing of agricultural produce are available at this market. There are 75 godowns in the principal market yard at Sangamner. Out of these godowns nearly thirty godowns are pacca godowns and the rest of them are just improvised for the purpose. These godowns are owned by the traders, commission agents and co-operative societies.

Sufficient banking facilities are available at Sangamner. The branch offices of the following banks provide bank credit at Sangamner: —

(1) Ahmednagar District Central Co-operative Bank Limited,
(2) Ahmednagar District Urban Central Co-operative Bank Limited,
(3) State Bank of India,
(4) Bank of Baroda,
(5) Sangamner Merchants' Co-operative Bank Limited.

The co-operative marketing movement has played a very important role in boosting up trade by giving assured prices to the agriculturist for his agricultural produce. There are four co-operative marketing societies which are doing the sale and purchase transactions on the market yard. These are:

(1) Sangamner Shetkari Sahakari Sangh Limited,
(2) Ganora Vividh Karyakari Seva Society Sangamner BK.,
4.10.4. Shevgaon

Shevgaon is also a big market in the southern region of the district. It was established on 1st June 1955 and the actual working of the market committee started from 1st November 1958. The market has direct trade link with Paithan in Aurangabad district. Besides, the market is connected to Ahmednagar, Bhir and Newasa markets. It is not served by railway and the whole merchandise is transported by road. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Shevgaon taluka. The committee is composed of 18 persons representing seven agriculturists, four traders, one local authority and three Government nominees. Bajri, wheat and cotton are the important commodities regulated by this market committee. The other regulated commodities are jowar, gram, tur, mug, safflower, ground-nut, linseed, rala, math, sesameum, kulthi, gur and cattle.

The market committee has a principal market yard at Shevgaon and sub-market at Bodhegaon. It proposes to start a second sub-market at Balam Takli. The principal market at Shevgaon has a yard admeasuring 16 acres and 12 gunthas where sufficient amenities and market facilities are provided. The market committee is housed in its own building and has built a rest-house for agriculturists and traders.

Agricultural produce from Shevgaon taluka as also a major portion of the agricultural produce from Pathardi taluka is brought to Shevgaon because this market assures better prices.
Sufficient banking facilities are available at the Shevgaon market, provided by the branches of the following banks:

(1) Ahmednagar District Central Co-operative Bank,
(2) Urban Central Co-operative Bank, and
(3) State Bank of India.

4.10.5 Newasa

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Newasa was established on 24th April 1957 but the actual functioning of the same was started from 29th March 1968. The prosperity of the agricultural economy around Newasa which has mainly been due to the availability of irrigation facilities during the last few years has contributed to the development of the market. Though the market is not served by railway it has been directly connected with Shrirampur, Aurangabad and Ahmednagar. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Newasa taluka. The market committee is composed of 18 representatives of whom thirteen are elected from agriculturists and traders and two are Government nominees. The market committee has regulated the following commodities: Jowar, bajri, wheat, gram, gur, safflower, cotton, math, mug, linseed, tur, ground-nut and hawari. The market committee has a separate market yard admeasuring about 13,000 square feet. A few facilities are provided on the market yard for the convenience of the agriculturists and traders. The market committee proposes to establish sub-markets at Sonai, Ghodegaon, Kukane and Pachegaon. Of these, Ghodegaon market has already started functioning.
4.10.6. Shrigonda

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Shrigonda was established in 1960, but its actual working started in 1966. This market is connected with the markets at Karmala, Sholapur, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad and Baramati. The area of operation of the market committee extends over Shrigonda and Karjat talukas. Besides the principal market yard at Shrigonda, the market committee has four sub-market yards, one each at Mirajgaon, Kashti, Rashin. The market committee is composed of 18 elected members, of whom seven are agriculturists, four traders and the rest are representatives of Government and local bodies.

The total number of regulated commodities is 54, while the important amongst them are: cotton, chillis, onion, bajri, kulith, mug, ground-nut, math, wheat, gur, castor seed, sesamum, linseed, udid, maize, rala, tur, gram, safflower and cattle. Storage facilities available on the market yard are adequate for agricultural produce. There are 29 godowns built by the various agencies such as co-operative societies, traders and purchase and sale unions.

The market yard is spacious and provides sufficient amenities to the farmers and traders. The committee has built two rest-houses at Shrigonda. Co-operative marketing societies play an important role in this market. A good number of agriculturists sell their produce through them. There are eleven co-operative societies within the jurisdiction of this market committee.
4.10.7. Parner

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Parner was established on 21\textsuperscript{st} 11 Nov. 1981 after separation from Ahmednagar APMC. This market is conveniently located in regard to transport and communications and is connected with Ahmednagar and Pune districts. It also has three sub-committees Takali Dholak, Nighoj, Bhalvani. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Parner taluka. The market committee is composed of the elected representatives of farmers as well as traders numbering. The important commodities regulated by this market are: Onion, Bajara, Jowar, Green Gram, Gram. The market committee does possess godown of its own.

4.10.8 Kopargaon

The agricultural produce market at Kopargaon was established on 16th March 1949, while the actual work of regulation of agricultural trade started from 1st February 1959. The market committee brought under its regulation cotton trade on 28th September 1968. Since then it has received a satisfactory response from agriculturists as well as from traders.

The transport and communication facilities are readily available at Kopargaon which pave the way for quick and easy disposal of agricultural commodities. The market has closer trade-links with Nasik and Aurangabad districts than with Ahmednagar. The Daund-Manmad railway line of the Central Railway helps to deliver the goods at the distant market centres in Maharashtra. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Kopargaon taluka. The market committee is composed of 18 representatives, of whom twelve are elected
representatives, seven agriculturists, four traders, one local authority, and three Government nominees.

*Gur* is the most important commodity regulated by this market. Besides *gur*, the committee has brought under its regulation the following commodities: wheat, *jowar*, *bajri*, gram, *math*, *mug*, *tur*, linseed, safflower, *mosambi*, ground-nut, cotton (ginned and unginned), onion, *met hi*, maize, grass, fodder and cattle. The market committee has its own market yard measuring 12 acres and 18 *gunthas* of land. The market yard is quite spacious and provides all the required facilities to the agriculturists as well as traders. The committee has built open sheds, spacious office building and rest-house. The committee spent Rs. 22,560 for purchasing land for the market yard, Rs. 7,465.16 for laying the water pipe line, Rs. 86,163.36 for construction of market yard and Rs. 15,424.25 for the supply of electricity.

Kopargaon is an assembling as well as a distributing centre of all the agricultural commodities and is a leading market in the district. The produce is exported to the distant commercial centres inside as well outside Maharashtra State. *Gur* is exported particularly to Bombay, Khandesh, Amravati, Maratwada and Gujarat State. Cotton is assembled from Ahmednagar, Shirirampur and Malegaon and is sent to Ahmadabad, Bombay, Sholapur and Khandesh. Agriculturists as well as traders from outside the market area bring the produce for sale in the market. The marketing seasons of the various agricultural commodities are *gur* October to May, wheat, *jowar*, gram March to June; *bajri*, *math*, *mug*, *tur* September to January and ground-nut, September to November. As it is a well-established market, agricultural produce from distant places is assembled at Kopargaon.
Storage facilities are sufficiently available at the market yard. There are five godowns on the market yard built by co-operative societies. Outside the market yard there are 36 godowns in the town built by the traders and general commission agents. There are six sugar factories within the jurisdiction of the market committee of which three are in the co-operative sector and the rest in the private sector. The total production of sugar by the six sugar factories was 15,38,729 bags in 1968-69, of which 8,66,338 bags were produced by co-operative sugar factories and 6,72,391 bags by private sugar factories. The speedy development of the market committee is also due to the important role played by the co-operative marketing societies in the trade transactions in the market. There are four co-operative marketing societies and one traders' association.

4.10.9 Shrirampur
The agricultural produce market committee at Shrirampur is one of the most important market committee in the district. It was established on 9th January 1950. The Shrirampur market is supposed to be one of the big market centres in the State of Maharashtra. The fertile agricultural tract in which it is situated is one of the most important factors responsible for its development. Irrigation facilities from the Pravara Canal have helped to cultivate cash-crops such as sugar-cane, cotton, ground-nut, fruits and other products. The Daund-Manmad railway line is the main artery of trade in this region. This line connects the market to the northern and southern parts of India and all other important commercial centres in Maharashtra. Besides railway, road transport is also convenient for immediate disposal of agricultural produce. The Sangamner-Aurangabad state highway and other major district roads bring the market into an easy access to the distant market centres. The sugar factories run under the fold of co-operative and
private sectors have brought the market its present position in the commercial field.

The area of operation of the market committee extends over the radius of entire Shrirampur taluka. The market committee is composed of 18 members of whom seven are elected representatives of agriculturists, four belong to the trading community, two are local representatives and two Government nominees. The market committee has a principal market yard at Shrirampur and two sub-yards at Belapur and Loni. The commodities regulated at the principal market are gur, mosambi, cotton, ground-nut (shelled and unshelled), safflower, cotton seed, linseed, sesamum, gram, jowar, bajri, wheat, math, mug, kulith, udid, etc. Besides the agricultural commodities, cattle is also regulated. At Belapur sub-yard commodities such as cotton, ground-nut, safflower, wheat, bajri, gram and tur are regulated, whereas Loni sub-yard regulates only cattle. As it is a well-established market necessary amenities have been provided at the yard. It has a sufficient area for its market yard admeasuring thirty acres of land.

The market committee has built a spacious building for its office as also market sheds, approach roads, two sale halls, water tank, water troughs, rest-house, staff quarters etc. At Belapur sub-yard it owns land admeasuring two acres for its market yard where an office building has been built and usual facilities are provided. Loni sub-yard has an area measuring 3 acres and 20 gunthas where a weekly cattle market is also held.

The market committee has spent a large amount of its income for providing the amenities on the market yard. It has also spent over ten lakhs of rupees over the development of its market yard, including the land. Shrirampur market is an assembling as well as a distributing market. The prices prevalent at this market give a lead to other markets all over the State. The
main agricultural produce to be exported from this market is *gur* and sugar, followed by cotton, groundnut, safflower and wheat. *Gur* is mainly exported to Bombay, Dhulia, Jalgaon, Gujarat and the rest of the States in India. The Shrirampur *gur* is highly in demand outside Maharashtra also. Agriculturists as well as traders bring their produce by bullock-carts or motor trucks.

The cattle trade is also regulated by this market committee. There are ample ware-housing facilities at the market yard. There are 58 godowns, the storage capacity of which is above 2,50,000 quintals. The market committee does not possess any of these godowns which are built by traders, co-operative societies and the Government. Co-operative societies have played an important role in developing agricultural marketing at Shrirampur. All the agricultural commodities are transacted through these co-operative societies. There are at present nine co-operative marketing societies which are the licence-holders of the market committee.

### 4.10.9 Pathardi

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Pathardi was established on 31st December 1955 while its actual functioning started from 11th October 1959. Pathardi is situated in the famine-stricken belt which is highly susceptible to recurring scarcity conditions. Hence the development of this market has been very slow. It is connected to Ahmednagar and Shevgaon by major district roads and is dependent upon the commercial activities of these two trade centres. The area of operation of this market committee extends over the entire Pathardi taluka. The market committee is composed of 18 elected and nominated representatives of whom seven represent agriculturists, four traders, one local authority and three are Government nominees.
The market committee has brought under its fold of regulation the following commodities, viz., jowar, bajri, wheat, cotton (ginned and unginned), sesame, tur, linseed, math, mug, kulith, vari, chola, udid, ground-nut (shelled and unshelled), gur and cattle such as goats and sheep.

The market committee has its own market yard admeasuring 14 acres. It has provided the usual facilities and a rest house for the farmers and traders. The number of market functionaries working at this market is very small, their number being 41 in the year 1968-69. Besides, there are weighmen, processors and hamals on the market yard. The arrivals on this market are brisk on Wednesday which is a bazar day. Being a scarcity area, a considerable quantity of consumer goods are imported to Pathardi from the adjoining areas in Beed district as well as from Ahmednagar. However, some of the surplus commodities such as mug, bajri, tur and gram are exported from this market to Bombay and Pune directly by motor trucks. The percentage of imports is greater than that of exports.

Storage facilities are available on the market yard for agricultural produce of the farmers. Eighteen godowns have been built by the traders and co-operative societies whose total storage capacity is 7,000 bags. The system of advancing loans against the standing crops is adopted by the co-operative banks at the prescribed rate of interest. The branches of the Ahmednagar Urban Co-operative Bank and the Bank of Maharashtra extend financial accommodation to traders at this market.

There are also co-operative marketing societies engaged in adat business at this market. The Pathardi Bhusar and Cotton Association also undertake purchase and sale of agricultural produce. Pathardi has also a big cattle market, which is brought under the purview of the Maharashtra
Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act of 1963. There were 300 intermediaries engaged in cattle market in 1968-69.

4.10.10 Karjat

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Karjat was established on 12/09/1984 after separation from Shrigonda APMC. It also has three sub-committees Mirajgaon, Rashin, Shinda. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Karjat taluka. The market committee is composed of the elected representatives of farmers as well as traders numbering. The important commodities regulated by this market are: Jowar, Bajar, Safflower, Groundnut Onion. The market committee does possess godown of its own.

4.10.11 Jamkhed

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Jamkhed was established on 28th July 1960 but its actual functioning started from 31st March 1967. This market is conveniently located in regard to transport and communications and is connected with Sholapur, Osmanabad and Bhir districts. The area of operation of the market committee extends over the entire Jamkhed taluka. The market committee is composed of the elected representatives of farmers as well as traders numbering. The important commodities regulated by this market are: jowar, bajri, wheat, gram, tur, mug, math, hulaga, groundnut, karadi and udid. The market committee does not possess godowns of its own. However there are godowns owned by private traders. The market committee runs six centres for monopoly procurement of jowar. The Jamkhed Taluka Sahakari Kharedi Vikri Sangh and its branch at Kharda
and the Vividh Karyakari Sahakari Societies at Arangaon, Rajuri, Nandnaj and Jawale are playing key-role in the market.

13. Akole

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Akole was established on 17-6-1988 after separation from Sangamner APMC. Located on Kolhar-Ghoti no.10 highway. It also has sub-committee at Kotul. The important commodities regulated by this market are: Wheat, Rice, Bajara, Onion, Tomato. The market committee does possess godown of its own.

14. Rahata

The Agricultural Produce Market Committee at Rahata is newly established on 10/6/2004. Located on Nasik highway. It also has two sub-committees at Kolar Bk. and Loni Khurd. The important commodities regulated by this market are: Wheat, Rice, Bajara, Onion, Tomato. The market committee does possess godown of its own. This is very popular market for fruits as well as one of the faster growing market.

References:
1. http://ahmednagar.nic.in/
2. www.msamb.com/english/apmc/profile.htm
3. Annual Report of respected APMC
5. “Marketing Infrastructure & Agricultural Marketing Reforms’ Salient Features of the Model Act on Agricultural Marketing”, National Conference of State Ministers organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, 27th September 2002.