ECONOMY OF THE DISTRICT

In the light of the low resource potential of the District Sindhudurg, the relative contribution comes from agriculture, manufacturing (industry) and service sector. Of these, the contribution from service sector is greater than the other two components.

Despite this, the per capita expenditure is about Rs.718 which is higher than the per capita income because both Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg are major exporters of man power (to greater Bombay). The inflow of income was about 4-13% in the seventies and increased to 40% in the eighties. This inflow is excluding the money transferred through messengers. Taking into account the inflow, there appears to be 23% excess expenditure over the per capita income earned in the district.

The medium level input comes from mining, fishing, metals, engineering and non-metallic mineral products and power. The output of the sectors like forestry, textiles, chemicals, food, paper and miscellaneous industries is quite negligible.

There are about 1100 industrial units, both small and medium in this region of which 435 are not functional for various reasons but the production can be registered as Zero. The number of industries in Sindhudurg are 290 out of which 127 are servicing and the remaining being job work units like processing and
assembling. In fact, the industrial units are of recent origin having a total fixed assets in the working units to the tune of Rs. 4 crores and about Rs 5.5 crores - the working capital.

As for Sindhudurg is concerned with reference to workers, the taluqa wise industrial position is: Kankavli (635), Kudal (1140), Sawantwadi (827), Vengurla (575), Devgad (186), Malwan (529) and Vaibhavvadi (Nil.).

It is pertinent to point out that the unskilled workers constitute 56% of the total population of workers with a salary range of Rs.150-400 p.m. (average yearly wage bill, Rs 3.5 - 4 crores).

Information from post offices reveal that about Rs.25 crores are received annually in the form of Money orders which on an average works out to Rs.120 per capita (p.a). This appears to be deceptive as all the persons are not receiving such a support. Information from Banks about receipts and transfers of foreign exchange is not available. It is a fact that Banks are active and are willing to open branches both in the rural and urban sector only reflects the potential of deposits. The small savings target is often exceeded which is known from the cash incentives received by the Bank concerned.

The savings are coming from middle and higher income groups. In this context the comparative savings figures clearly show that Ratnagiri district receives more deposits (Rs.2.5 crores) and
Income Disparity Among Indian States

Per capita income in rupees

While Delhi leads with its per capita income more than twice the National average. Bihar is at the bottom of the ladder with its per capita income barely half the all India average.

All India Current Rupees Average

= 6249
Sindhudurg (1.25 crores).

Deposits to advance ratio of the banks is around 100:30. As such it is apparent that majority of the savings are being pumped back into national economy and hardly any direct investment is made for the development of productive or agricultural sector.