Chapter IV

Profile of Pune District

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Chapter IV
Profile of Pune District

4.1. Introduction

Pune is the second largest city in the state of Maharashtra in Western India, around 160 kilometers south East of the state capital, Mumbai. Situated 560 meters above sea level on the Deccan plateau at the confluence of Mula and Mutha Rivers, it is the administrative capital of Pune District.1

Pune has existed as a town since at least 937 AD. Chatrapati Shivaji spent his early years in this city.2 Pune has been known for its cultural and political heritage. After Indian Independence, Pune has developed into an industrial city with an effective road, rail and air communication system with Mumbai and other parts of India and the rest of the world by satellite telecommunication. Pune is emerging as a flourishing information technology city, with C-DAC and several software parks. Maratha Chamber of Commerce and a flourishing Stock Exchange operate effectively in the city.

It is regarded as a centre of learning with large number schools, colleges, universities and research institutions of national stature. As a result, it is urbanizing at a rapid pace. Pune’s own industrialists Kirloskar, Garware and Bajaj have spread their industrial empires throughout the world from this city. The people, institutions and industries in Pune have contributed towards the development of the country and hence Pune has achieved an important place in the economic development of India.3

4.2 Name

The oldest reference to Pune is found on a Rashtrakuta copper plate dating back to 758 AD in which the town is referred to as 'Punya Vishay' (Pune vibhag, Pune Region).

In a second copper plate dating back to 768 AD of the Krushana Raj 1 period, it is named as 'Punak Vishay' (Pune Vishay means Pune Region).

Another copper plate belonging to the Rashtrakuta reign (960AD) has been found on which Pune is referred to as "Panakwadi". Here wadi means a cluster of houses. Later in some other copper plates, Pune has also been referred to as "Punak
desh". A copper plate, belonging to the period of Shilaher Aparajit Deo in 993AD, was found in Murud and Janjira region. This plate also mentions Pune as "Punak Desh".4

There is a theory that the original name may have been Punyapur because it stood near the confluence of the Mutha and Mula rivers, since such places were regarded as holy. Writing in 16th Century, Govind Das, a disciple of the Bangali Sant Chaitanya, refers to it as Purhanagur. It is generally now agreed that the modern variant Pune came into use as early as the 13th Century when the small settlement was named "Kasba Pune" by its Arab commandant.5

Chatrapati Shivaji and his associates initiated a lot of development activities, as a result Pune became one of richest, culturally developed cities in the 'Maharashtra Deccan plateau' and this status is unchanged even today. After 1730, Pune rose in prominence to the national level as a power center due to Peshwe, the prime ministers of Maratha Empire reporting to their master, the Chatrapati of Satara. After the town was brought under the control of the British rule in 1817, it served as a cantonment town and as the "monsoon capital" of the Bombay Presidency until the independence of India in 1947. In independent India, Pune is known for its educational facilities, having more than a hundred educational institutes and nine universities. It also boasts of a growing industrial hinterland, with many technical and automotive companies setting up factories and offices in Pune district.

4.3 History

4.3.1. Early and Medieval Period

Copper plates dating from 758 and 768 AD show that, by the 8th Century, an agricultural settlement known as Punnaka existed where Pune is today. These plates indicate that the Rashtrakutas ruled this region. The Pataleshwar rock-cut temple complex was also built during this era.

Pune was a part of Yadava Empire of Deogiri from the 9th Century to the 14th Century. The Nizamshahi sultans later ruled it, until the Mughal Empire annexed it in the 17th century. In 1595, Maloji Bhosale was appointed the Jahagirdar of Pune and Supe by the Mughals.
4.3.2 Maratha and Peshwa Rule

In 1625, Shahaji Bhonsle appointed Rango Bapuji Dhadphale as the administrator of Pune. He was one of the first major developers of the town, overseeing the construction of the Kasba, Somwar, Ravivar and Shaniwar Peths. Construction also began on the Lal Mahal palace, as Shahaji’s son, Shivaji Bhonsle (later Chattrapati Shivaji) was to reside there with his mother Jijabai. The Lal Mahal was completed in 1640. Jijabai is said to have commissioned the building of the Kasba Ganapati temple herself. The Ganapati idol located at this temple is regarded as the presiding deity of the city.

From 1630 to 1647, Dadoji Kondev, Shivaji’s childhood mentor and teacher, oversaw the development and construction of the area. As a child, Shivaji is said to have commemorated agricultural activities personally by using specially made golden ploughs. After Shivaji was crowned Chhatrapati (King) in 1649, he oversaw further development in Pune, including the construction of the Guruwar, Somwar, Ganesh and Ghorpade Peths.

Baji Rao I became Peshwa of the Maratha Empire, ruled by Chattrapati Shahuji, in 1720. By 1732, the palace of Shaniwarwada had been constructed on the banks of the Mutha River, ushering in the era of Peshwa control of the city. The patronage of the Peshwas resulted in the construction of many temples and bridges in the city, including the Parvati Temple and the Sadashiv, Narayan, Rasta and Nana Peths. The Peshwas fell into decline after their loss in the Third Battle of Panipat in 1761. In 1802, Yashwantrao Holkar in the Battle of Poona, directly preceding the Second Anglo-Maratha War of 1803-05, captured Pune from the Peshwa.

4.3.3 The British Raj

The Third Anglo-Maratha War broke out between the Marathas and the British in 1817. The Peshwas were defeated at the Battle of Khadki near Pune, and the city was seized. It was placed under the administration of the Bombay Presidency, and the British built a large military cantonment to the East of the city. The Pune Municipality was established in 1857. Pune was at one time the "monsoon capital" of the Bombay Presidency.
During the struggle for Indian independence, Pune was an important center for the social and religious reform movements that were sweeping the country. Many prominent reformers lived here, including Mahadev Govind Ranade, Ramakrishna Gopal Bhandarkar, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Maharshi Vitthal Ramji Shinde and Jyotirao Phule. The most important political reformer of this era was Bal Gangadhar Tilak, who dominated the Indian political scene for six decades.9

4.4 Location and Size

Pune district lies in the Bhima and Nira River Basin. It is located between 73°19’ and 75°10’ East longitude. The district is surrounded by Ahmadnagar district to the North and North East. Sholapur district is to the East-South East direction. Satara district is to the South. Raigad district is to the West and Thane district to the Northwest.

The headquarters of the district is located at Pune. Pune is known as the “Queen of the Deccan” on account of its importance as a great cultural, social and political center in the Deccan. It is an important administrative and educational center. Among the 35 districts of the state, Pune ranks 2nd in terms of area, 3rd in terms of population and 4th in terms of density.10

The total geographical area of Pune district is 15,642 sq. kms. This is around 5% of the total area of the Maharashtra State.11

4.5 Climate

Pune experiences three distinct seasons in a year: summer, monsoon and winter. Typical summer months are from March to May, with the maximum temperature ranging between 27.7°C to 37.5°C. The warmest month is April. Although summer doesn’t end until May, the city often receives locally developed heavy thunder showers in May. Even during the hottest months, the nights are usually cool due to the high attitude.12 The highest temperature ever recorded was 43.3°C on April 30, 1897.13

4.6 Municipal Corporations and Talukas of Pune

Pune district has two municipal corporations, namely Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) and Pimpri-Chinchawad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) under which there are 14 talukas and 13 Panchayat Samitis.

4.7. Demography

According to the 2001 Census, which includes the towns of Khadki, Pimpri-Chinchwad, and Dehuroad, the district’s total population is 72.33 lakh of which 37.69 lakh are men and 34.64 lakh are women. The population of Pune city has been increasing steadily over the years. Growth in the software and educational sectors has led to a further influx of skilled labor from other states. Table 4.1 shows the growth of the population in Pune city over the years from 1901 to 2001.14

Table 4.1

Population of the District at Each Census: 1901 to 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>5,53,661</td>
<td>5,42,197</td>
<td>10,95,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>5,95,481</td>
<td>5,81,757</td>
<td>11,77,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>5,64,751</td>
<td>5,40,263</td>
<td>11,05,014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>6,53,480</td>
<td>6,22,402</td>
<td>12,75,882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>7,55,979</td>
<td>7,16,993</td>
<td>14,72,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>10,06,201</td>
<td>9,44,775</td>
<td>19,50,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>12,68,710</td>
<td>11,98,170</td>
<td>24,66,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>16,43,864</td>
<td>15,34,165</td>
<td>31,78,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>21,50,088</td>
<td>20,14,382</td>
<td>41,64,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>28,61,460</td>
<td>26,71,072</td>
<td>55,32,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>37,69,128</td>
<td>34,63,427</td>
<td>72,32,555</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source:-Census-Pune-District-2001
It can be seen from Table 4.1 that the population of the district has increased from 10.95 lakh in 1901 to 72.33 lakh in 2001. It can also be seen that the district has a higher population of males as compared to females.

As per the taluka wise distribution of the total population 37% people reside in Pune city, 19% in Haveli taluka, 25% in the talukas of Baramati, Indapur, Junnar, Daund and Khed, 8% in Mawal and Shirur, 6% in Ambegaon and Purandar, 4% in Bhor and Mulshi, 1% in Velhe.\textsuperscript{15}

The taluka-wise the percentage distribution of the total population is given in Table 4.2.

\textbf{Table 4.2}

\begin{center}
\textbf{Taluka-wise Distribution of Total Population}
\end{center}

\begin{tabular}{|l|c|}
\hline
\textbf{Taluka} & \textbf{\% of Total Population} \\
\hline
Pune City & 37 \\
Haveli & 19 \\
Baramati, Indapur, Junnar & 25 \\
Mawal and Shirur & 8 \\
Ambegaon and Purandhar & 6 \\
Bhor and Mulshi & 4 \\
Velhe & 1 \\
\hline
Total & 100 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\textit{Source: Socio-economic Survey : 2005.}

The data in Table 4.2 shows that the majority (56\%) of the population resides in the Pune city and Haveli areas. The talukas of Bhor Mulshi and Velhe have a comparatively lower share in the total population.

\textbf{4.8. Population Density}

According to the 2001 Census, the population density for Pune is 462. In the city it is 6765 persons per sq. km while for the rural areas it is 202 persons per sq.km.
Pune city is the densest having a population density of 14,652 persons while Velhe taluka has the lowest density of 112.

4.9 Rural and Urban Population

42% of the total population is rural while the rest 58% is urban. 89% of the urban population resides in the twin cities of Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad.

4.10 Sex Ratio

The district as a whole has a sex ratio of 919 females per 1000 males. And the ratios for the rural and urban areas are 946 and 899 respectively.

4.11 Literacy

According to the 2001 Census, 50.39 lakh, i.e. 80% of the population is literate. For rural and urban areas it is 72% and 86% respectively. While the figures for female and male literacy stand at 72% and 88% respectively.\(^{16}\)

4.12 Industries

There were 3,730 factories registered till December 2004, of these 2,659 were in operation and provided employment to 2,03,415 workers.\(^{17}\)

Pune is one of the industrially developed districts in the state of Maharashtra. Availability of adequate transport facilities has contributed to the development of industries. In the district there are some sugar industries. Besides there are auto parts manufacturers, cloth manufacturing and medicine manufacturing units. In the district there are co-operative industrial estates at Hadapsar, Gultekdi, Parvati, Baramati, Bhor, Lonawala, Kirkee and Dehu Road. There is an ammunition factory and fireworks manufacturing unit set up by the Central Government. Pimpri is known for manufacture of penicillin and Mundhwa for paper, Pimpri-Chinchwad for manufacturing two- three- and four-wheeler vehicles, trucks, scooters and motorcycles, Junnar is known for handmade paper manufacturing. Other registered units in the district are: oil mills in Junnar and Khed, bidi manufacturing, rope making, poultry farming, and ancillary industries. The increase of factories in the district has been impressive.\(^{18}\) Table 4.3 gives the growth in the number of industrial units and their turnover in Pune district over the period from 1972 to 2007.\(^{19}\)
Table 4.3
Growth in Number of Units and Turnover 1972-2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Industrial Units</th>
<th>Turnover (crore)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>1473</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>2575</td>
<td>687.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>4529</td>
<td>2749.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>6736</td>
<td>5445.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>5838</td>
<td>15655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>6670</td>
<td>28026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>9500</td>
<td>52000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


From the above table we can get a fair picture of Pune’s industrial growth, which has increased steadily from 1,473 in 1972 to 9,500 units in 2007. The phenomenal growth in manufacturing units in Pune has been especially rapid during the last 5 years.

Table 4.3 gives also the turnover, which has recorded a tremendous increase in sales by the industrial units in Pune district from Rs 200 crore in 1972 to 52,000 crore in 2007.

Table 4.4
Percentage of Units in Various Industry Hubs in Pune

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Broad Areas</th>
<th>Percentage of units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PCMC</td>
<td>38.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune Talegaon Lonavala</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune Alandi Markal Moshi Chakan</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune Nagar Road Ranjangaon</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pune-Katraj-Khed Shivapur-Satara</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hadapsar-Fursungi-Saswad</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pirangut-Urawada</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jejuri</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baramati</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurkumbh</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junnar</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Industrial Areas</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Profile and Analysis of Pune Mfg. Inc. February, 2008, MCCIA
Table 4.4 shows that the PCMC has a major percentage of industrial units (38.4%). The areas of Pune, Alandi, Markal, Moshi, Chakan also have a significant number of units. However, Junnar and Kurkumbh have a very low (i.e. 0.5% of the total) number of units.

Table 4.5 shows that the majorities (i.e. 48%) of the organizations are of the proprietorship type while the least number (i.e. 4%) are of the public limited type.

Pune’s industry and economy are integrated with global the economy. A number of industries have fruitful collaborations with foreign companies; some of them even contribute technical inputs. Among the first 7 companies to obtain ISO 900 certification, two are from Pune.

Table 4.5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Organization</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proprietorship</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Ltd.</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Ltd.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Profile and Analysis of Pune Mfg. Inc February 2008, MCCIA.

Pune is emerging as a fast flourishing information technology city having C-DAC and Software Parks. Pune has a Maratha Chamber of Commerce and a very active Stock Exchange.  

4.13 Roadways

Pune is well connected to other cities by national and state highways.

- National Highway 4 (NH4) connects it to Mumbai and Bengaluru.
- NH 9 to Sholapur and Hyderabad
- NH 50 to Nasik
- State Highways connect it to Ahmednagar, Aurangabad and Alandi.
- Since 2002, Pune has been connected to Mumbai via the Express Highway – India’s first six-lane high speed expresses way.
4.14 Water Resources

The river plays a very important role in molding the economy of Pune district. Many rivers originate from the Sahyadri ranges and flow from West to South. Bhima, the major river, flows along the eastern boarder of Pune district for over 160 kms. Its tributaries are Vel and Ghod on the left and Indrayani, Mula, Mutha and Nira on the right. During the rainy season all these rivers swell, but shrink to almost a dry stream after the monsoon. The Nira flows along the southern boundary of the district for a considerable distance.

The Ghod rises near Ahupe on the crest of the Sahyadris, about 14 kms north of the source of the Bhima. It has a winding course and meets the Bhima north of Daund on the eastern border of the district. The water of the Ghod is famed for its wholesomeness.

The Indrayani has its origin near Kurvande village at the head of the Kurvande pass on the crest of the Sahyadris about 5 kms west of Lonwala. The river flows in a general East-Southeasterly direction and joins the Bhima near Tulapur after a course of about 95 kms.

The Mula or Mula-Mutha is formed of seven streams, which arise at various points along the crest of the Sahyadris between 13 and 35 kms south of the Bhor pass. The streams flow in a generally eastward direction and join the Mutha River at Pune. Then taking the name “Mula-Mutha” it winds eastwards and joins the Bhima at Rangangaon.22

4.15 Pune : The City of Gennext

Pune is a city of the young and celebrates youth like no other. Pune the ‘Oxford of the East’ is home to around 5,00,000 students from all over the world. One can find state of the art recreational centers shopping malls, interesting multiplexes and a number of film societies and libraries.23 The famous Film Training Institute of India is also situated in Pune.
4.16 Religion

There are numerous places of worship of different religions and caste groups in Pune. Many people visit these on various occasions for religious purposes.

The earliest communities that settled in Pune were the Hindus and the Muslims. Later on Christians and Jews also settled here. All these communities find solace in their places of worship such as Muslim dargahs, the Hindus temple. With the arrival of Christians, churches were built. Sikhs later on constructed Gurudwaras. Jains built temples in their own architectural style.

The earliest Muslim dargahs in Pune were called Shsikhasallas (1242-1244). Later on we find Kasaba Ganapatni and Jogeshwri, the Gram Devat of Pune city (1159). During the Peshewa period various temples of Shri Ganesh, Parvati, Rama Krishna, Hanuman were built. Some idols are Swayambhu.

The various sects of Hindus have their own temples for their gods and goddesses. The Immaculate Conception – “City Church” – is the oldest Christian church and contains a picture of Shaniwarwada and a saffron flag. Savai Madhavrao Peshwa donated the piece of land as an act of gratitude for building the church.24

4.17 Education

In 2002-03, in the 4,440 primary schools, and 1,099 higher secondary institutes, a total of 6.70 lakh students attended classes. There were 73 junior colleges with 0.95 lakh students in 2003-2004. There are 4 Medical, 4 Ayurveda, 3 Homeopathy, 5 Law and 12 B. Ed colleges; 15 post/graduate colleges and several ITI institutes are also functioning in Pune.

4.18 Income of Pune District

The net incomes of Pune District at current prices in the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 in were Rs 27,783 and Rs 31,152 crore respectively, and, the per capita income was Rs 36,325 and Rs 39,882 respectively. In the same years, the per capita income in Maharashtra state were Rs.28,848 and Rs. 32,170 respectively, and the percentages of income of Pune district were 9.57 and 9.48 respectively.25
References