

A STUDY OF REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY MARKET CENTERS IN SOLAPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Weekly market centers which represent mini agriculture market, influence regional population policy, transportation, storage and sorting of goods, their pricing and distribution etc. In the absence of such markets the farmers of the area take the help of brokers who usually visit their villages and purchase agriculture produce. Markets not only serve as outlets for the daily needs of the peoples but also function as suitable basis for social and cultural contact (R.K.Shrivastav.1992). The distribution of weekly market centers is influenced by different physical and cultural factors. In the study region weekly market centers are irregularly distributed. At the tahsil level also there is great variation in the distribution of weekly market centers. Each factor has its own control and affects directly or indirectly on the distribution of weekly market centers (Pawar, C.T. and Lokhande, T.N. 1999).

Key words: Weekly market, distribution, regional, populations, inhabited villages

INTRODUCTION

The market center is the region not only serve as basic trading institution for surplus local agriculture produce and shopping places for consumers, but also enable rural people to have social and cultural contacts among themselves.(Mishra B.N., 1989). Rural markets are generally of two types. Some of them perform central function on each day of the week; such markets are called daily or permanent markets. On the other hand, some rural markets are held on one or more fixed days in a week. They may provide central goods and services once, twice or thrice times in a week. The co-relation between number of such phenomena with area, inhabited villages and population etc. may give a more rational picture (Gharpure and Pawar 1991) such co-relations are analyzed as below.

OBJECTIVES

In view of the above, following are specific objectives of the present investigation.

1. To study the spatial distribution of weekly market centers in Solapur district
2. To analyze the regional distribution of weekly market centers and their relationship with physical and social factors.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY

The present work is based on secondary data. The secondary data has been collected from the district gazetteers, district census hand books, socio-economic reviews, APMC and GP office of the study region. All the relevant published and unpublished records have been considered. The analysis and interpretation of data has been done from the geographical point of view. The data has been processed by Standard Deviation method. Standard Deviation is only used in measuring dispersion or spread around the mean value of the data set. GIS and Remote Sensing technique are used for map presentation.

STUDY REGION:

Solapur District is selected as a study region for the present investigation geographically Solapur is located between 17° 10' to 18° 32' North latitude and 74° 42' to 76° 15' east longitude. The district is situated on the south east fringe of Maharashtra state and lies entirely in the Bhima and sina basins and its tributaries. The district is surrounded by Ahmednager district to the north, Osmanabad district is the North – East, Karnataka state to the South - East, Sangli district to the South - West, Satara district to the West and Pune district to the North -West. The district covers Geographical area of 14895.40 sq.kms. This is 4.82 percent of the total area of Maharashtra state and a population of 4315527 (2011 census), which is 3.84 % of total population of the state. It ranks 8th in population in the state. Out of the total area of the district 348.80 sq.kms. (2.28 %) is urban area where as remaining 14546.60 sq.kms. (97.72 %) is rural area.

The district is having 11 tahsils. (Fig.No.1). Area wise Karmala tahsil is biggest covering an area of 1609.70 sq.kms. and North Solapur is smallest covering an area of 746.30sq.kms. Weekly market centers are the identity of rural cultural. 142 places having weekly market centers all over the solapur district. Weekly markets plays key role in economic development of rural areas.

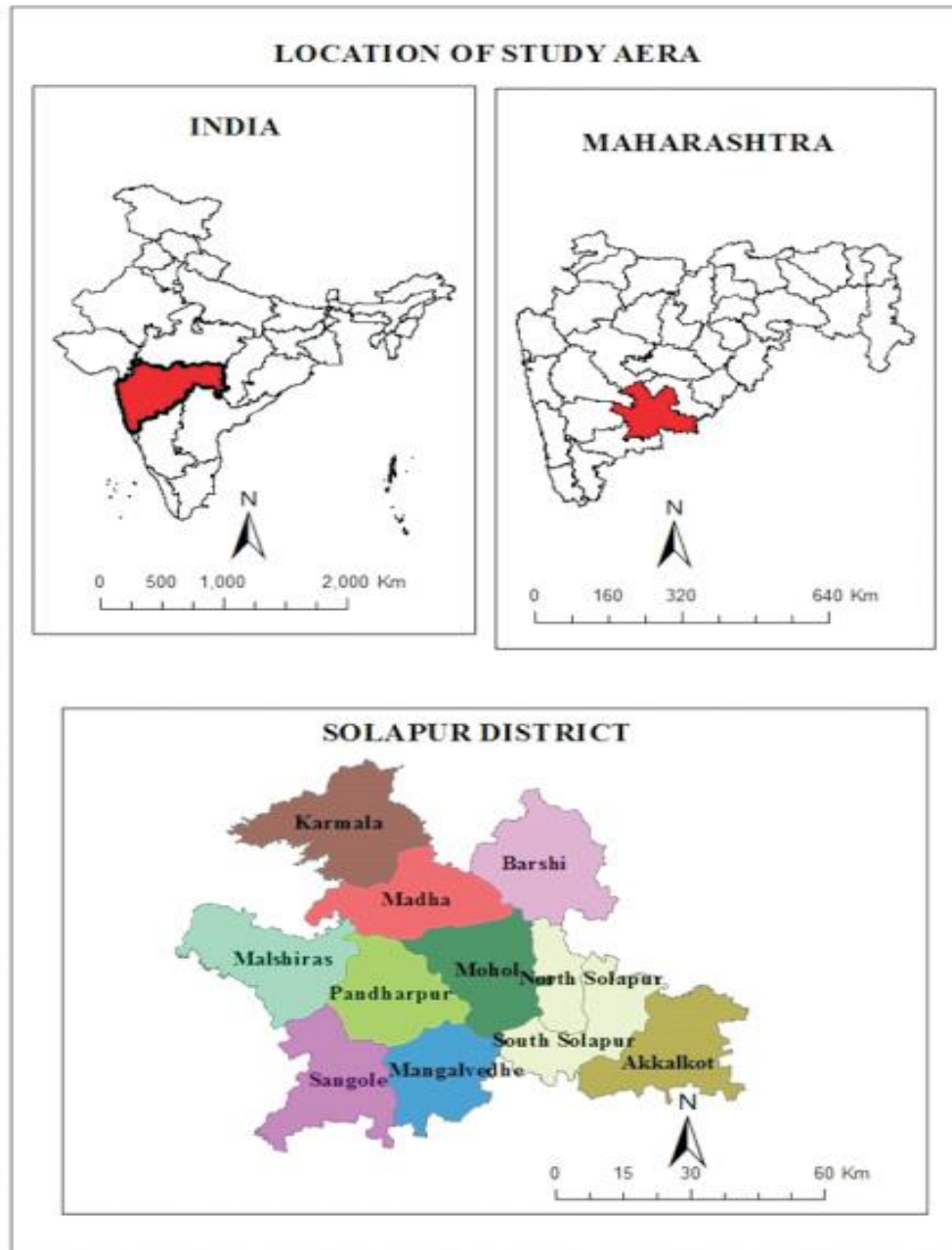


Fig. No. 1

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY MARKET CENTERS

The general spatial distribution of weekly market centers in Solapur district is analyzed for 11 tahsils of the district. Sangola has the highest number of weekly market centers. It exceeds the mean by more than two standard deviation.

Sr. No.	Tahsil	No. Of Weekly Market Centers	General Statistics			Statically Values Of Number Of Weekly Market Centers		
			Area km2	Inhabited village	population	Per 100 km2	Per 100 Inhabited village	Per 10000 population
1	Akkalkot	15	1390	135	314570	1.07	11.11	0.47
2	Barshi	16	1483	138	372711	1.07	11.59	0.42
3	Karmala	10	1609	118	254489	0.62	8.47	0.39
4	Madha	13	1544	117	324027	0.84	11.11	0.40
5	Malshiras	14	1552	112	485645	0.90	12.50	0.28
6	Mangalwedha	18	1140	81	205932	1.57	22.22	0.87
7	Mohol	09	1408	104	276920	0.63	08.65	0.32
8	Pandharpur	13	1303	95	442368	0.99	13.68	0.29
9	Sangola	19	1549	103	322845	1.22	18.44	0.58
10	N. Solapur	06	736	54	1057352	0.81	11.11	0.05
11	S. Solapur	09	1195	90	260897	0.75	01.00	0.34

	Total Region	142	14895	1147	4317756	0.95	12.38	0.32
<i>Source: Socio-economic review of Solapur district 2011</i>						$\bar{X} = 0.95$ S.D=0.26	$\bar{X} = 11.80$ S.D=5.18	$\bar{X} = 0.40$ S.D = 0.19

AREA AND WEEKLY MARKET CENTERS RATIO

As the number of weekly market center per 100 km² of area are 0.95 for the whole study region. Not with standing, this spatial variation at tahsil level is remarkable. In Mangalwedha tahsil the ratio is 1.57 which considerably decreased to 0.62 in Karmala tahsil and 0.63 in Mohol. It is seemed that the four tahsils fall in the classes above mean. Out of which Akkalkot, Barshi, Mangalwedha and Sangola fall in the class $\bar{X}+1$ S.D. and reaming seven tahsils are below \bar{X} . Out of Which Karmala, Madha, Malshiras, Mohol, N. Solapur and S.Solapur fall in class $\bar{X}-1$ S.D.

INHABITED VILLAGES AND WEEKLY MARKET CENTERS RATIO

In the study region the number of weekly market centers per 100 inhabited villages is 12.38 ratios. But it is also observed that there is spatial ratio variation at tahsil level. This relationship ranges from the classes above the mean (11.80). Out of which Akkalkot, Barshi, Malshiras, Madha, Pandharpur and N. Solapur fall in the class $\bar{X}+1$ S.D. Mangalwedha and Sangola fall in the class $\bar{X}+2$ S.D. remaining four tahsils are below \bar{X} . Out of which Karmala, and Mohol fall in the $\bar{X}-1$ S.D. and the tahsil S. Solapur fall in the class $\bar{X}-2$ S.D.

POPULATION AND WEEKLY MARKET CENTERS RATIO

For the whole district the number of weekly market centers per 10000 populations is 0.40. These spatial variations at tahsil level remarkable. This ratio comes to 1.00 in the case of Mangalwedha which decreases to 0.05 in case of N. Solapur tahsil. There is no market center falling in the class $\bar{X}+1$ S.D. the remaining tahsils are below \bar{X} . out of which Akkalkot, Barshi, Malshiras, Madha, Pandharpur Karmala, Malshiras, Mohol and S. Solapur fall in class $\bar{X}-1$ S.D. and only one i.e N. Solapur tahsil falls in the class $\bar{X}-2$ S.D.

CONCLUSION

As the number of weekly market center per 100 km² of area are 0.95 for the whole study region. Not with standing this spatial variation at tahsil is remarkeable. In Mangalwedha tahsil the ratio is 1.57 which considerably decreased to 0.62 in Karmala and 0.62 in Mohol tahsil.

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For the whole district the weekly market centers per 10000 populations is 0.40. Not with standing, these spatial variations at tahsil level are remarkable. This ratio comes to 0.87 in the case of Mangalwedha tahsil which decreases to 0.05 in case of N. Solapur.

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