

REGIONAL DISPARITIES IN URBANIZATION OF LATUR DISTRICT IN MAHARASHTRA STATE

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ABSTRACT:

Urbanization is a spatial transition process. It has to be expected as a way of life in which human behavior is linked with regional development. It seems that imbalance and inequality is based on natural and socio– economical index of development can be seen in different regions. When the development over the different regions occurs unequally, it becomes politically imperative to resort to corrective policy measures. Imbalanced growth leads to regional disparities and creates number of economic, social and cultural problems various indicators and methods have been employed in the study of regional patterns and structures. Latur District climactically falls in the drought prone region in Maharashtra state. The present study is based on secondary data, which have been collected from various published reports. Some appropriate statistical techniques have been employed. However the present paper attempts to identify regional disparities within the district, with the help of four indicators namely ratio of Urban population, Rural urban population ratio, urban growth rate and urban density. It is significant to note that, the composite index of Latur district revealed that four tahsil are low urbanized and only Latur is highly urbanized tahsil.

KEY WORDS- Regional disparity, urbanization, climatic condition, Agro based industries, Composite index.

INTRODUCTION:

Region is homogenous area in relation to selected criteria. There is disparity in physical as well as cultural region. Some regions are rich with compare to other poor and undeveloped regions. Disparity creates lots of problems, for equal regional development there is need to find out disparity and its causes. Enormous resource, suitable natural

condition, favorable social and political conditions, high literacy, high transport and communication facilities, utilization of technology and urbanization all these are indicators of economic growth and development of region.

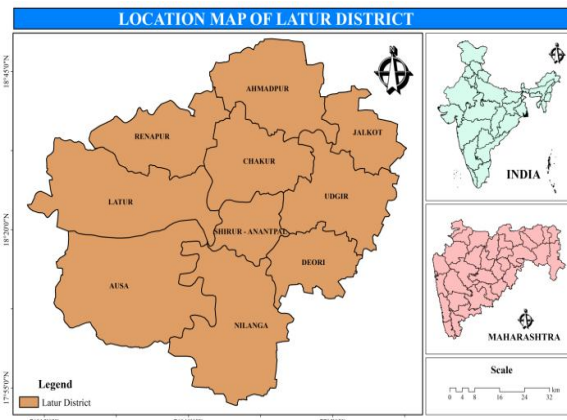
Urbanization is the process of becoming urban and transformation. The phenomenon involves complex process of change, population concentration, structural transformation and socio-psychological change affecting both people and place. Urbanization does not always take the same form, nor does it progress at the same rate everywhere. The research paper examined the issue of regional disparities in district from a spatio temporal perspective as an exercise in development Geography.

OBJECTIVE:

In the light of the above, the main objective of the study area is to analyze the trends and patterns of regional disparities in urbanization in Latur district.

STUDY AREA:

Latur district is situated entirely in Manjra river basin in southern Maharashtra. It lies between 17⁰ 52' and 18⁰ 50' north latitudes and 76⁰ 12' and 17⁰ 18' east longitudes. Latur district is surrounded by Bid and Parbhani Districts in the North, Nanded District in North-East, Karnataka state in South east and Osmanabad district in the North West and West. Latur district has an area of 7157 Km. The district consist 10 Tahsil. The average annual rainfall in the district is about 900 mm, minimum temperature is 15⁰C and maximum temperature is 40⁰C. Latur has 20,80,285 Population among that 15,90,024 population is rural and 4,90,261 live in urban area



Map 2

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The study is based on secondary data. Which has been collected from various published reports such as, District census Handbook and Socio Economic abstract of Latur district. The data generally pertaining to the period from 1981-2001. The data of these factors analyzed through computerized statistical techniques particularly mean and standard deviation. Based on these the composite index was calculated.

Table – 1.1

Tahsil wise Growth of urban population in Latur District (1981-2001)

Sr. No.	Name of Tahsil	1981	1991	2001
1	Latur	1,11,986	1,97,408	2,99,985
2	Ahmedpur	16,537	25,878	35,805
3	*Renapur	0	0	0
4	*Jalkot	0	0	0
5	*Chakur	0	0	0
6	Ausa	16,761	23,246	30,876
7	Nilanga	17,201	24,883	31,662
8	*Shirur Anantpal	0	0	0
9	Udgir	50,564	70,453	1,69,988
10	*Deoni	0	0	0
	Total	2,14,049	3,41,686	5,68,316

Source- District Census Handbook
 *Total absence of urban population

Tahsil wise growth of Urban Population in Latur district

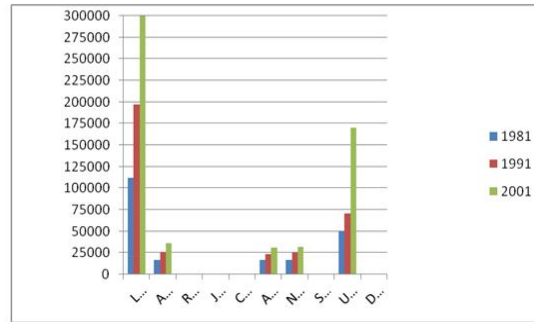


Fig No.1.1

LEVEL OF URBANIZATION

The level of urbanization is very uneven in India even during the post independence period. There are few urbanized areas which control almost the whole economy of a nation because urban centers being as a center of multi-activities of innovators, receivers, Containers and distributors their role is pertinent enough in regulating the system economic of transaction and channelizing the resources mobility. Thus the urban centers are acting against the process of decentralization. Concentration leading to the development of a dual economy in which a few urbanized areas manifest all these characteristics which are typical of a developed area while the major part of the country remains primitive in all respects, social, economic and cultural. The size and type of urban centers and degree of urbanization arises not only in the economic perspectives like location of industries and other productive activities but also in such issues like creation of infrastructural network for achieving balanced economic development and socio cultural transformation of rural society. Keeping this in view the degree of regional development as an attribute of disparities in the level of urbanization, an attempt has been made in this section to determine the level of urbanization of Solapur district for the year 2001. Various attempts have been made to find out an index of urbanization to know the regional disparity in urban process and pattern. The single indicator method is based on intensity of single indicator to determine the level of urbanization of a particular region. This is nothing but a method of calculating the intensity of particular indicator and higher the intensity of indicator greater is the level of urbanization and vice-versa. In this method simple percentage of urban population to total population or density of urban population have taken in to consideration as an index for urbanization. Many scholars have applied this mono-indicator method to

know the level of urbanization. Some of the Geographers viz ; Meuriot (1911), Lampard (1958), Worth (1938), Redifield (1941), Tisdal (1942), Hoyet (1962), Northan (1975), Kansky (1926), Jakobson and Jai Prakash (1976) and B.J.L. Berry(1963). In India also many geographers have used single indicator to measure the level of urbanization notably are: Singh R.B.(1975), Alam, M.Khan F.A., Gopi K.N.(1976) and R.N. sing and sahabdeen (1978). Urbanization is a product of various Socio-economic and demographic factors, economic Specialization, advancing technology and linkage between the centers etc. But picking up only one variable i.e., the share of urban population to total population is rather weak indicator to give clear and comparative picture of the level of urbanization.

Therefore in this paper four indicators have selected namely ratio of urban population, urban rural population ratio, urban growth rate and urban density. The Composite index has been calculated for entire district. In this article the methodology adopted by Verma, S.S. (1979) and Amitab Kundu (1980) applied to know the regional disparities in the district.

REGIONAL DISPARITY:

When development over different regions occurs unequally it becomes politically imperative to resort corrective policy measures. This is crucial from all angles i.e. political, economic, social and ethical. An unchecked and uncontrolled process of growth leading to regional disparities, results in numerous, economic, social and Cultural problems. The inequality leads to incomplete utilization of resources and to a growth of public costs involved in the functioning of its economy. Regional imbalances lead to under-utilization or even to non utilization of economic

URBAN ACCRETION:

Urban accretion means Increase the proportion of urban population to total population over a period to time, urban accretion helps to find out different level of urbanization through urban growth and other economic factors, urban accretion has been calculated on the basis of four indicators. Ratio of urban population, ration of urban rural population, growth rate of urban population and urban density.

RATIO OF URBAN POPULATION:

Ratio of urban population can be calculated by using following formula.

$$RUP = \frac{UP}{TP} \times 100$$

Where,

RUP is the ratio of urban population to total population.

UP is the urban population of X unit

TP is the total Population of same unit.

The average urban population of study region is 23.56%. North Latur tahsil have experienced high urban population ration more than the study region average. Nilanga, Ausa and Ahmedpur have medium urban population ratio.

In this study region Jalkot,Chakur, Shirur Anantpal and Deoni have total absence of urban population in all decades (1981-2001).Hence they are part of rural area.

RATIO OF URBAN TO RURAL POPULATION:

Impact of urbanization must consider on rural for calculation of different level of urbanization. Urban and rural population ratio can be calculated by following formula.

$$RUP = \frac{UP}{RP} \times 100$$

Where,

RUP is the ratio of urban to rural population

UP is the urban population of tahsil

RP is the rural population of the same tahsil

Higher ratio or urban to rural population shows grater level of urbanization. Latur has highest urbanization with high urban to rural population ratio remaining three tahsil recorded below than overage means low urban to rural population ratio.

URBAN GROWTH RATE:

Growth rate of urbanization is calculated by using this as given formula.

$$UGR = \frac{P_2 - P_1/t}{P_2 + P_1/t} \times 100$$

Where,

UGR is the urban growth rate

P_2 Is the urban population of X unit in the later decade

P_1 Is the urban population of the same unit of X initial decade

T is the period between P_2 and P_1

The average growth rate of study region is 17.83 %. Latur has experienced the growth rate more than study region average. Ahmedpur, Ausa and Nilanga Have medium growth rate of population. Low urban growth recorded by Udgir Tahsil.

URBAN DENSITY:

Ever since the emergence of the urban center, the urban population and density has been growing more rapidly. Urban areas have more immense opportunities so people concentrate more and more in urban areas. High urban density face some problems. Such housing, Water and power supply, health care, education and environmental problems.

Higher the density of urban population indicates grater level of urbanization. In this study region Latur and Udgir have high urban density. Ahmedpur, Ausa and Nilanga have medium urban density. Urban density is calculated by following formula.

$$UD = \frac{UP}{TUA}$$

Where,
UD is the urban density
UP is the urban population of tahsil
TUA is the total urban area.

COMPOSITE LEVEL OF URBANIZATION:

Composite level of urbanization development of Latur district has been constructed with the help of four urban accretion indicators. Rank score method used to show regional disparities of urbanization of Latur district. The result shows that lower index value, the higher level of urbanization and higher the index value lower the level of urbanization. Composite index level of urbanization presented in (Table No1.2) the level of urbanization in to three types high, medium and low.

Table – 2. Composite level of Urbanization (2001)

Name of Tahsil	Ratio of Urban population	Ratio of Rural Population	Urban Growth Rate	Urban density	Total Score of the Rank s
Latur	55.30	123.74	20.62	14285	05
Ahmedpur	17.98	21.93	16.09	1972.72	12
Ausa	11.01	10.31	14.09	5503.74	16
Nilanga	11.06	12.44	11.90	1877.93	18
Udgir	35.15	54.20	13.22	15850.51	9
Total					Mean=12 SD=4.69

(Source: Computed by Author)

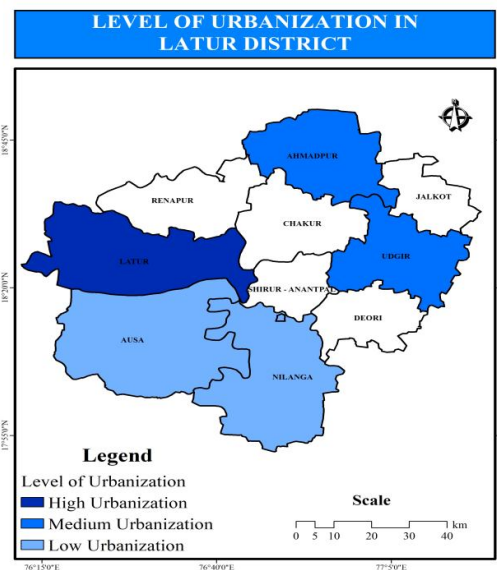
Table – 1.3. Levels of Urbanization in Latur District.

Sr.No.	Levels of Urbanization	Range Value of Tahsil	Number of Tahsil	Name of Tahsil
1	High	7.31 & below	1 (20%)	Latur
2	Medium	7.31 to 12	2 (40%)	Udgir, Ahmedpur
3	Low	12 & above	2 (40%)	Ausa, Nilanga

(Source: Computed by Author)

Lower the index value shows higher level of urbanization and higher the index value, lower the level of urbanization.

Level of urbanization in Latur District (2001):



Map.2

HIGH URBANIZED REGION:

In this district North Latur is high urbanized tahsil. Latur has leading market of agricultural produce in district, more banking institutions, sugar and other agro based industries, high transportation and communication network, educational institutes, growth of services and political will all these factor help to improve the urbanization level of latur. The tahsil have composite index value below 7.31 which is an indicator value of high urbanization.

MEDIUM URBANIZED REGION:

Composite index value ranging between 7.31 to 12 shows the medium urbanized tahsil. Udgir and Ahmedpur are medium urbanized tahsil. Udgir has important trade center, leading market, transportation facilities as well as tahsil has Hattibet

beautiful place for tourists and historical fort. Ahmedpur tahsil. Is having well known educational institute and agricultural development

LOW URBANIZED REGION:

Nilanga and Ausa have more than 12 index value and also have low urbanization level. Latur tahsil covers 20% of total tahsil of Latur. Medium urbanized areas in east and north east part of Latur district cover 40% of tahsil. The southern and western part of study region is less urbanized and covers 40% of the tahsil.

CONCLUSION:

The emerging picture of regional disparities in Latur district is very bleak. Out of ten tahsil only Five tahsils are urbanized other blong to rural area. Latur hahsil is the only highly urbanized (7.31 and above), followed by Udgir and Ahemdpur (7.31 – 12), Ausa and Nilanga ranks at lower level. The political will is playing vital role as for as Latur is Concerned.

SUGGESTIONS:

To remove the problem of regional disparities and backwardness of particular area the planning commission of India has to play a major role. The regional disparities can be removed by following three ways.

- 1) The reorganization of backwardness as a factor to be taken in to account in the transfer of financial resources from the Centre to the state.
- 2) Spatial area development programs directed at development of backward areas.
- 3) Measures to promote private investment in backward areas. We shall deal with these three policy measures in greater detail.

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