Trends of Urbanization in Latur District: A Geographical Study

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Abstract:

In this paper deals with trends of urbanization in latur district in Maharashtra. This study is based on secondary data have been collected from various published reports, District Statistical offices of the division and census office, Bombay. It occupies an area of 7157 sq.km. and supports 24.54 lack of population in 2011 census with 05 towns. Administrative the district is divided in to ten tahsils. Latur City' is currently emerging as the largest educational center of certain industrial activities, goods and services. In the recent decades, various offices have become the principal source of employment. The result of the studies are brought out through maps and diagrams.

Key words: Urbanization, Towns, Cities, Growth, Population

Introduction

Urbanization is a process of population concentration which occurs by increase in the number of concentration or agglomeration and by increase in the size of individual population concentrations or agglomerations. According to Stamp (1961), "Urbanization is characterized by movement of people from small communities concerned chiefly or solely with agriculture to other communities, generally larger, where activities are primarily centred in management, manufacturing, trade and allied interest."

It has been projected that 21 st century will be urban century with almost 60 percent of the world population living in urban areas, the highest share of population that ever lived in urban area (UN, 2008). This is mainly because, unlike previous centuries, current and future centuries are likely to experience a rapid shift in the nature of human activities from primary to non-primary, mainly due to changing resources base and environmental conditions and rapid progress in human endeavors in science, technology, management and development. Such a shift obviously enhances human affordability and capabilities to achieve an improved standard of living through better access to infrastructure and services. However, all these achievements are possible , provided rapid urbanization is managed in a sustainable way.

The phenomenon of ubanization has its roots in the resource base of a region. In 1947 there were only 1 million population in India i.e. Calcutta, Mumbai and Chennai. During the last 62 years Indian has developed as the largest urban system in the world. Massive urban population of 4,90261 in 2001 census is spread the district with 15 towns. The distribution of the total district of population in the urban and rural areas is 6,24,980 and 18,29,216 respectively. It will try to trace pattern of Urbanization of latur district.

Objectives:

The present study has been undertaken with the following specific objectives.
1.To study the trends and degree of urbanization in Latur district.
2. To study the urban centers in the study region.

Study Area:

Location plays a important role in the origin and development of urban centres in the study region. The study region i.e. Latur district is situated in the south-east part of the Maharashtra and it lies between 17^0

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52 north latitude to $18^0 50$ north latitudes and $76^0 12$ east longitudes to $77^0 18$ east longitudes. It is bounded on the north by Beed and Parbhani districts, on the north-east by Nanded district, on the south-east and south by the Karnataka state and on the north-west, west and south by Osmanabad district. The total geographical area of Latur district is 7157 sq.km. and it covers 2.39 per cent of the total geographical area of Maharashtra.

Data Base And Methodology:

Present paper is based on the secondary sources data mainly collected from District Census Handbooks, Socio-Economic Abstract etc. varies statistical techniques are used in the present paper.The percentage of urban population to total population has been calculated and index of urbanization. The simple growth of urban centers has been complied to study the decadal growth of urban population. The period from 1901 to 2011 is selected for the observation of trend and degree of urbanization changes. The result have been shown with the help of different graphs, tables and maps. Decadal growth rate of the towns in the study area is also calculated by using Gibb's formula.

Gibb's Formula :

$$y = \frac{(p_{2-}p_1)/t}{(p_{2-}p_1)/2} \times 100$$

Where : Y = Rate of change.

P_1 = The population size of the town at a initial period of time.
P_2 = The population size of the town at a later period of time.
t   =   The number of years in decade.

Trend of urbanization of Latur District

In the study of population, the phenomenon of population growth has special significance. It is a vital index of a region's economic development, social awakening, cultural background and political ideology. Population growth is pivotal to the regions demographic dynamism. The understanding of population growth holds the key to the understanding of the entire demographic structure of the area.

Population growth is the fundamental process with which all other demographic attributes are directly or indirectly associated. Population growth refers to the growth of the human population in a particular area during a specific period of time. A trend in birth rate, death rate and migration patterns reflects overall growth of population in any region. Change in those aspects decides the stage of demographic transition. The growth in urban population reflects in the socio-economic development of the region.

In the beginning, in 1901 urban population of the study area was only 22489 people. Highest urban population growth rate is observed in 1931 with 81.15 percent. After independence, highest urban growth rate was observed in 1991 with 60.46 percent. Table no. 1.1 is showing the decadal growth rate of urban population in the study area.

**Table no 1.1 Decadal Growth Rate of Urban Population
(1901-2011)**

Year	Urban Population	Growth rate in %
1901	22489	-----
1911	20233	-10.04
1921	29165	44.15
1931	52833	81.15
1941	55293	4.6
1951	74206	34.2
1961	86628	16.73

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1971	138539	59.92
1981	213049	53.78
1991	341868	60.46
2001	490261	43.40
2011	624980	27.47

Source:District census handbook-2011

Town wise Growth of Population :

The growth rate of towns in the study region gives an idea of the trend of growth of different towns. Physical, social, economic and political factors affect the growth of individual towns. The natural increases due to the difference in birth and death rates cause to growth of town. Beside that rural to urban and urban to urban migration also affect on the growth of towns.

Table No.1.2 shows the decadal variation in the population of towns in percentage.

1.2 Latur District : Decadal Variation in Urban Population in Percentage

Sr.No	Town	Period										
		1901 to 1911	1911 to 1921	1921 to 1931	1931 to 1941	1941 to 1951	1951 to 1961	1961 to 1971	1971 to 1981	1981 to 1991	1991 to 2001	2001 To 2011
1	Latur	-28	+114	+89	-19	+42	+16	+72	+60	+76	+52	+28
2	Udgir	+21	-0.5	+16	+35	+47	+14	+63	+65	+39	+31	+13
3	Nilanga	--	--	--	+26	+39	+23	+40	+37	+45	+27	+14
4	Ahmadpur	--	--	--	+93	+13	+12	+47	+41	+56	+38	+23
5	Ausa	-9	+6	+10	+18	+4	+28	+35	+24	+39	+33	+17
6	**Total**	-10	+44	+81	+4	+34	+17	+60	+54	+60	+44	+27

Source: Census of India, 1991 and 2001.

During the period 1991 to 2011 the growth rate of urban population of the study region as a whole was noticed 44 percent. Higher decadal variation than the average for the region is recorded in Latur town whereas lower decadal variation below district average was found in Udgir, Nilanga, Ahemadpur and Ausa towns.

Conclusion:

In order to plan for balanced and integrated development of the district and to control the growth of Latur, Udgir and Ahmedpur are potential cities and towns should be developed to their optimum capacity. These growth centers should be developed not only to direct some of the population but there is a significant role of rural-urban and urban-urban migration. Those urban areas are the centers of education, Industrial and commercial activities.Role of infrastructure and connectivity also important. So there is a need of proper micro level planning to these urban centers.

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