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PATTERNS OF POPULATION COMPOSITION IN KONKAN REGION OF MAHARASHTRA

Miss. Priti MohanKharade¹ and Dr. Dhanashree Suresh Shinde²

¹Research Student, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India.

²Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India.

ABSTRACT

The main objective of this paper is to analyze the regional patterns of the population composition in Konkan region of Maharashtra. This is provided with analysis of the tehsil wise total population of 1981 and 2011, population growth, gender wise population distribution, rural-urban population, sex ratio, literacy rate and working population distribution among the total 47 tehsils located in six districts of Konkan region. Thus the population distribution varies according to physiography, climate, transportation facilities, etc. The increasing population rate influences the economy of the region. So to study various aspects such as socio-cultural development, status of economy, occupation, industrial development, etc., the study of population pattern is much significant.

KEYWORDS: Population distribution, Population Growth Rate, Working Population.

INTRODUCTION

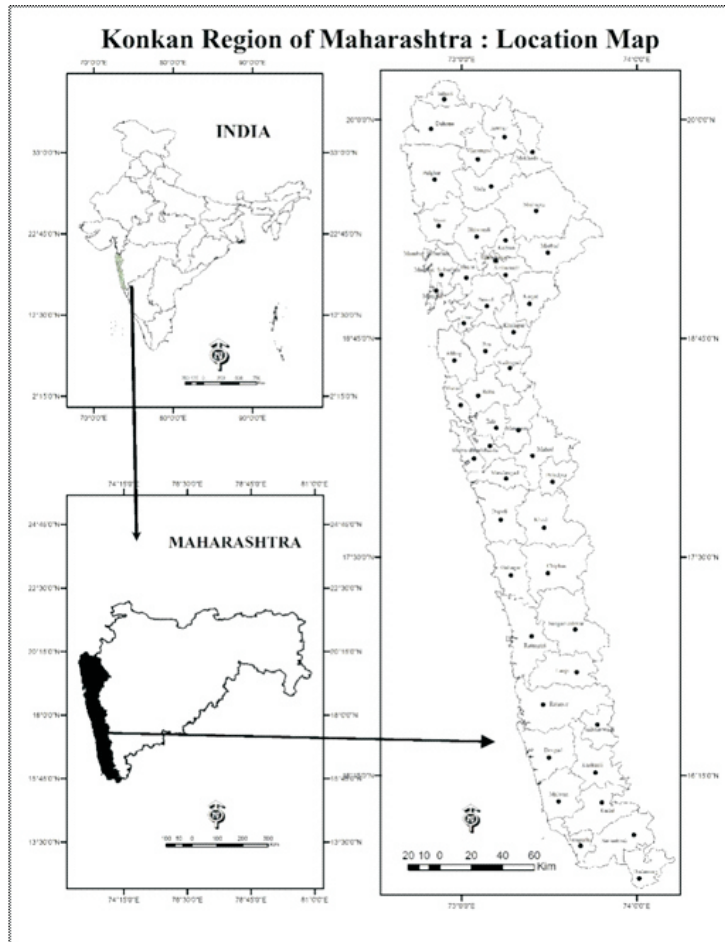
Due to variations in physiography, climate, water resources, soil, agriculture, transport network, industries, trade, communication, political, social and other economic conditions populations are distributed unevenly throughout the world. The description about the observed distribution of population can be done with many tools available. The most common representation of a population is the population size for a given geographic area. Population distribution refers to the geographic pattern of the location of a population, including its density and where it lives Newbold K. B. (2014). The prosperity and wealth of the region depend on the industrial and economic development. The increasing population contributes towards development but badly affects the economic sources, availability and accessibility of essential and required commodities.

The tehsil wise analysis of population growth during 1981 to 2011 is provided in this paper with gender wise, rural-urban population distribution, sex ratio, literacy rate and working population to analyze the variation of population distribution in the tehsils of Konkan region of Maharashtra.

STUDY REGION

The Konkan region of Maharashtra is selected as a study area. The Maharashtra state in India is comprised of six Administrative divisions. The Konkan region is one of them. It consists of six districts (2011) as Mumbai, Mumbai suburban, Thane, Raigarh, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg. All are situated at the entire west coast of Maharashtra state. The Konkan region is located between North 15°5' to 20°2' latitudes and East 72°8' to 74°2' longitudes as illustrated in Map no.1.





Map No. 1

It has an area about 30,746 sq. Km. with 720 Km. coastline of Arabian Sea. It has total 47 tehsils. The fishing and farming is the major occupation of the Konkan population.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the research is to analyze the regional pattern of population distribution in Konkan region of Maharashtra.

METHODOLOGY

The collected data is systematically tabulated in frequency distribution and critically analyzed by Statistical Techniques. The population growth rate and its percentage values have been calculated to study the distributional pattern.

POPULATION

The Konkan region of the Maharashtra has a population of about 28601441 according to the Census of India, 2011. This covers over 25.45 percent of the total population of Maharashtra state. About 6303466 (22.03 percent) population lives in rural areas whereas 22297975 (77.96 percent) population in urban areas during 2011.

Growth of Population in Konkan:

Increase in the proportion of population from the previous year to the present time is referred to as

population growth. The growth of the population has experienced by the Konkan region during last four-five decades. According to census of 1961, the total population of the Konkan was 8690792 (21.99 percent) and it rose to about 24546406 during 2001 (25.33 percent) and 28601441 (25.45 percent) in 2011 as illustrated in fig.1. Thus the region has about 5.72 percent population growth between 1961-2001. The proportion of population growth decreased from 1981- 2011, it is only about 2.94 percent and it declined again to 1.49 percent due to the educational development, medical facilities and which ultimately controls the population of the state with family planning. There is about 16.51 percent of change in population from 2001- 2011.

The male population of the Konkan region during 1981 was about 8102198 i.e. 53 percent of the total population of the study area out of which about 30 percent male population lives in rural areas and 69.68 percent in urban areas.

According to census 2001, the male population was 13150958 and it rose to 15103807 (52.80 percent) in 2011. The male population in Konkan is high in Thane (13.39 percent), Mumbai (11.15 percent). The percentage change in male population during the last decade is about 14.84 percent and the male growth rate is about 1.48 percent.

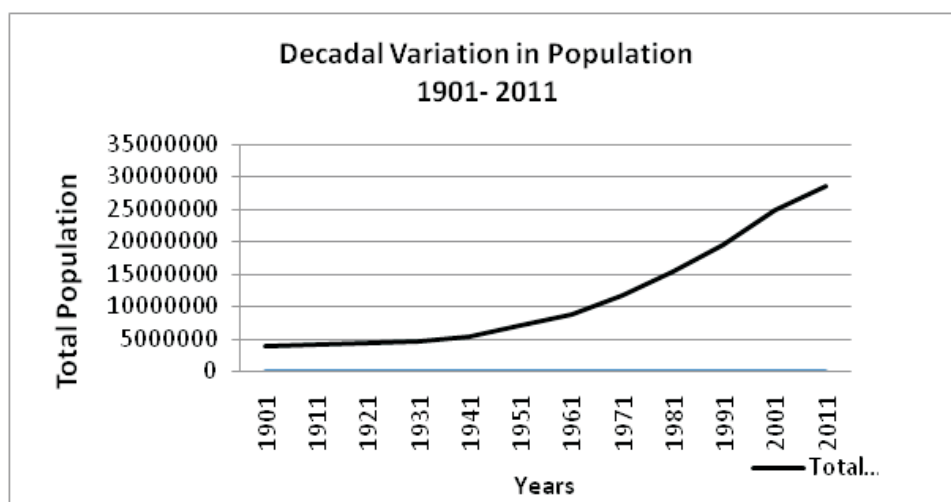


Fig. 1 Konkan Region: Decadal Variation of Population, 1901 – 2011

The female population of the Konkan region during 1981 was about 7089812 i.e. 46.6 percent of the total population of Konkan, of which about 37.27 percent female population occupies rural areas and 62.73 percent live in urban areas. As per census 2001, the female population was 11386447 and during 2011 it reached to 13497634 (47.19 percent). The percentage change in female population during the last decade is about 18.54 percent and the female population growth rate is about 1.85 percent. The highest male population found in Mumbai Suburban (32.05 percent), Thane (13.07 percent), Mumbai (10.38 percent) districts.

Growth of population can be measured by different methods including the absolute amount of population growth, inter-censal growth, annual growth rate, and the exponential growth rate method. Here, exponential growth rate has been used to analyze the Tehsilwise growth of population in the study region from 1981-2011. About 0.17 percent exponential growth rate is seen for total rural population during 2001- 2011 and 1.95 percent for total urban population. The exponential growth rate of the male population was about 2.42 percent during 1981- 2001 and it reached 1.38 percent during 2001- 2011. During the period of 1981- 2001 the exponential growth rate of the female population was 2.36 percent and it decreased to 1.70 percent up to 2001-2011. The exponential growth rate of the whole Konkan region is 2.39 percent during the years between 1981-2001 and is decreased to 1.52 percent during 2001- 2011.

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION:

The proportion of population in the entire study region according to the Census of India 2011 is 28601441, of which 15103807 are males and 13497634 are females; while in 1981 it was about 7089812 i.e. 46.6

Percent of total population of Konkan region. Variations in the population are found within the Konkan region. The proportion of population during 1981 is the highest in the Mumbai 8243405 (54.26 percent), Thane 638651 (4.20 percent), Kalyan 474708 (3.12 percent). At the other end proportion of population is lowest in Sudhagad 46427 (0.31 percent), Poladpur 50340 (0.33 percent), Mhasla 52343 (0.34 percent), Murud 55895 (0.37 percent). The high in Mumbai, Thane and Kalyan Tehsils can be attributed to industrialization, urbanization, employment opportunities present in these tehsils; while the low in Sudhagad, Poladpur, Mhasla and Murud is due to undulating topography, high slope and unirrigated tract. During 2011, the total population is highest in Mumbai Suburban 9356962 (32.72 percent) followed by Thane 3787036 (13.24 percent), Mumbai 3085411 (10.79 percent), Kalyan 1565417 (5.47 percent) and lowest in Tala 40619 (0.14 percent), Vaibhavwadi 43845 (0.15 percent), Poladpur 45464 (0.16 percent), Dodamarg 48904 (0.17 percent).

The pattern of high proportion of males and females is similar to the total population distribution. Mumbai Suburban, Mumbai and Ulhasnagar are urban tehsils and hence rural population are absent in these tehsils. Dodamarg, Vaibhavwadi and Devgad tehsils are fully rural in nature and hence lack urban population.

a) Rural Population:

During 1981 the rural population found highest in Palghar 247968 (4.88 percent), Bhiwandi 225856 (4.44 percent), Dahanu 206575 (4.06 percent), Vasai 198593 (3.91 percent) tehsils whereas lowest in Murud 44660 (0.88 percent), Sudhagad 46427 (0.91 percent), Poladpur 50340 (0.99 percent), Mhasla 52343 (1.03 percent) tehsils. Dahanu 338162 (5.36 percent), Palghar 324786 (5.15 percent), Kalyan 283192 (4.49 percent), Bhiwandi 277646 (4.40 percent) tehsils shows highest rural population and lowest in Thane 15623 (0.25 percent), Poladpur 39520 (0.63 percent), Tala 40619 (0.64 percent), Vaibhavwadi 43845 (0.70 percent) tehsils during 2011.

b) Urban Population:

The urban population is greater in Mumbai 8243405 (81.53 percent), Thane 465375 (4.60 percent), Ulhasnagar 383312 (3.79 percent), Kalyan 329870 (3.26 percent) tehsils and lowest in Kankavli 2203 (0.02 percent), Mangaon 5813 (0.06 percent), Jawhar 7055 (0.07 percent), Shahapur 8824 (0.09 percent) tehsils during 1981 whereas Mumbai Suburban 9356962 (41.96 percent), Thane 3771413 (16.91 percent), Mumbai 3085411 (13.84 percent), Kalyan 1282225 (5.75 percent), Vasai 1230140 (5.52 percent) tehsils shows greater urban population and Guhagar 1621 (0.01 percent), Poladpur 5944 (0.03 percent), Vikramgad 5991 (0.03 percent), Sudhagad 9176 (0.04 percent) tehsils shows lowest urban population during 2011.

c) Male Population:

During 1981 the male population found highest in Mumbai 4652646 (57.42 percent), Thane 350765 (4.33 percent), Kalyan 254903 (3.15 percent), Ulhasnagar 239629 (2.96 percent) tehsils whereas lowest in Mhasla 22440 (0.28 percent), Poladpur 22649 (0.28 percent), Sudhagad 22740 (0.28 percent), Murud 26247 (0.32 percent) tehsils. Mumbai Suburban 5031323 (33.31 percent), Thane 2022949 (13.39 percent), Mumbai 1684608 (11.15 percent), Kalyan 820492 (5.43 percent), Vasai 709771 (4.70 percent) tehsils shows highest male population and lowest in Tala 19244 (0.13 percent), Vaibhavwadi 20563 (0.14 percent), Dodamarg 24242 (0.16 percent), Mhasla 27655 (0.18 percent) during 2011.

d) Female Population:

The female population is greater in Mumbai 3590759 (50.65 percent), Thane 287886 (4.06 percent), Kalyan 219805 (3.10 percent), Ulhasnagar 212580 (3.00 percent) tehsils and lowest in Sudhagad 23687 (0.33 percent), Poladpur 27691 (0.39 percent), Murud 29648 (0.42 percent), Mhasla 29903 (0.42 percent), Mokhada 31799 (0.45 percent) tehsils during 1981 whereas Mumbai Suburban 4325639 (32.05 percent), Thane 1764087 (13.07 percent), Mumbai 1400803 (10.38 percent), Kalyan 744925 (5.52 percent), Vasai 633631 (4.69 percent) tehsils shows greater female population and Tala 21375 (0.16 percent), Vaibhavwadi 23282 (0.17 percent), Poladpur 23843 (0.18 percent), Sudhagad 30827 (0.23 percent) tehsils shows lowest female population during 2011.

SEX RATIO:

According to census 2011, the Sindhudurg district has the second ranking has about 1037 females per 1000 males in Maharashtra whereas Mumbai has the lowest sex ratio of only 838 females per 1000 males and very low in Mumbai suburban as 857 females per 1000 males. It is about 880 females per 1000 males in Thane district as compared to Maharashtra state. The total child population of 0-6 years' age is about 10.69 Percent in the Konkan region.

LITERACY

Sindhudurg district has 100 per cent literacy, which is the second district in the country. Out of total population, about 69.36 percent population is literate. The male crude literacy is more than the female crude literacy i.e., about 55.39 percent males are literate while 44.60 percent females are literate in the overall Konkan region.

STRUCTURE OF WORKING POPULATION:

This has been studied under primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. According to census 2011, the Konkan region has about 40.71 percent as overall working population. The total working population is about 11646407 workers which include all types of working population such as primary, secondary and tertiary working populations. In entire Konkan region the total primary working population is highest in Thane, Ratnagiri districts with 1313417 total primary workers in Konkan region. These secondary and tertiary working population is found highest in Mumbai suburban and Thane district with 285514 and 8697172 total secondary and tertiary working populations respectively in entire Konkan region. The total rural working population is about 2821474 workers whereas total urban working population is about 8824933 workers.

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the general characteristics of population, population distribution, growth of population and specifically the decadal growth of population of the Konkan region since 1981-2011, it is observed that the highest concentration of population in Mumbai district, Mumbai Suburban, Thane, Kalyan etc. due to industrialization, urbanization, employment opportunities in these tehsils on the other hand lowest in Tala, Vaibhavwadi, Poladpure etc. tehsils due to undulating topography, high slope and unirrigated tract. The study of population patterns is important to study various aspects of the region such as analysis of growth rate, migration, availability and accessibility of food, socio-economic development etc. So the rural population is also seen highest in Dahanu, Palghar, Kalyan, Bhiwandi etc. tehsils. Thus the population pattern especially in Konkan region depends upon the physiography, climatic conditions favorable for agriculture, transportation and income sources.

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