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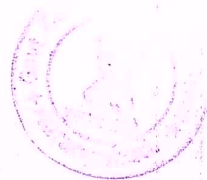
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A Geographical Analysis of Irrigation Projects in Latur District Maharashtra

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Research Paper - Geography

Introduction:

So far as the agricultural sector in Latur district of Maharashtra state is concerned it is an important sector. Generally speaking, it is largely depend upon rainfall which is infact, scanty. Here the average rainfall is recorded about 455 to 755 mm and there are no perennial rivers in this region various plans, are undertaken to develop the agricultural sector. Along with the development of major and medium projects, there is a good development of minor projects also. The irrigated area under 2000 hectares is generally considered as the area under minor project. The irrigated area from 0 to 100 hectares includes in local irrigation which is directed by Zilha Parishad. The irrigated in lift irrigation in which local minor irrigation and Kolhapuri dams are included. The project covers the area from 250 to 2000 hectares on the state level is called as minor project.

Study Area:

In the present work an attempt has been made to study the minor irrigation projects in Latur district. Latur district has been selected as the study area. The location of Latur district is considered it lies between 17°52' and 18°50' North latitudes, 76°12' and 77°18' East longitudes. It is surrounded by Beed and Parbhani in the North, Nanded district in the North east, Karnataka state in the south east and Osmanabad district in the northwest.

Objective of the Study:

To study the minor irrigation projects in Latur district and tahsilwise irrigated are



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under minor projects.

Database:

The entire data used for the present study have been obtained from secondary sources.

- i) Statistical abstract of Latur district.
- ii) Handbook of Latur district irrigation planning and development and its present condition.

All the analysis has been done for the ten tahsils of the district.

Recently two major, twelve medium and 270 minor projects (state level), 90 minor projects at local level, 11 lift irrigation projects at state local level, 06 Kolhapuri pattern dams at state level and 362 Kolhapuri dams at local level are in existence. In total 739 minor projects have completed and they are, in fact used for farming and for drinking water. It is also observed that there were minor irrigation projects as well as lift irrigation projects before five years planning and continued after the planning

Table-1
Irrigation capacity of minor and lift irrigation projects before and after the planning period

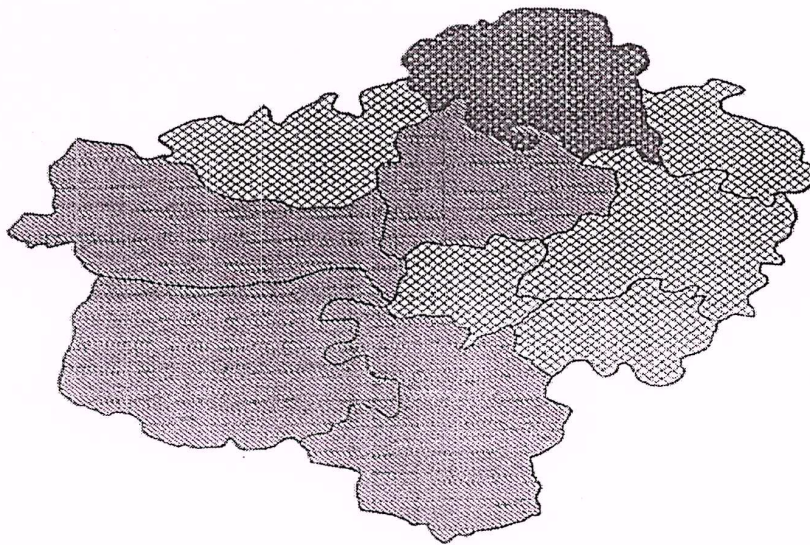
Sr. No	Period	Miner project		Lift Irrigation	
		Number	Irrigated Area (Hect.)	Number	Irrigated Area (Hect.)
1.	Before planning period	---	---	---	----
2.	First Plan (1951-56)	---	---	---	----
3.	Second Plan (1951-61)	---	---	---	----
4.	Third Plan (1961-66)	02	1154	---	----
5.	Three year Plan (1966-69)	09	5553	---	----
6.	Fourth Plan (1969-74)	16	9233	08	1710
7.	Fifth Plan (1974-78)	31	15382	08	1710
8.	Two year Plan (1978-79, 79-80)	31	15382	08	1710
9.	Sixth Plan (1980-85)	41	18934	08	1710
10.	Seventh Plan (1985-90)	44	19907	09	1876
11.	Two year Plan (1990-92)	51	24812	09	1876
12.	Eighth Plan (1992-97)	61	26912	09	18756
13.	Nineth Plan (1997-2002)	86	38920	10	8026
14.	Tenth Plan (2002-2007)	93	40480	10	8026

Sources: Hand Book of Latur District Irrigation and Development and its present condition
2003-04







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TAHSILWISE IRRIGATED AREA UNDER MINOR PROJECTS



INDEX
(Area in Hectares)

	Above 10,000
	5000 to 10000
	Below 5000



0 15 30 Km

The above table appropriately, shows the development of not only minor projects but also lift irrigation projects and consequently area under irrigation has also widened. The irrigated area as per tahsil-wise has been shown in the Table no. 4.7. Tahsil-wise irrigated area and its consequences in the development up to 2001 can be shown as follows.



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Table-2

Tahsil-wise Irrigated Area Under Minor Irrigation Projects
(2000-20001)

Sr. No.	Tashils	Minor project 0 to 101 Hector	Minor project 101 to 250 Hector	Area under Minor project above 250 Hector	Total
1.	Ahmedpur	1841	384	8928	11153
2.	Ausa	1210	926	5845	7981
3.	Chakur	1147	172	3780	5099
4.	Deoni	341	00	2566	2907
5.	Jalkot	1097	428	1638	3163
6.	Latur	1186	1154	2891	5231
7.	Renapur	392	214	2845	3451
8.	S.Anantpal	176	00	467	643
9.	Nilanga	1186	1299	4844	7329
10.	Udgir	588	351	2525	3464
	Total District	9165	4928	36329	50421

Sources: Socio-economic abstract of Latur District 1985-86 to 2000-2001

Conclusion:

- i) The study region consist of twelve medium irrigation projects out of these two projects in Latur, Renapur, Ausa, Nilanga, Shirur Anantpal each tahsil. Whereas one projects in constructed in Ahmedpur and Udgir tahsil each. There is no medium projects builtd in Chakur and Deoni tahsils. The area about 32909 hectares is irrigated because of these medium projects.
- ii) The major and medium projects are responsible for moistening the area of 63262 hectares in the study region.
- iii) It has been observed that, recently, there are 270 minor projects (state level), 90 minor projects at local level, 11 lift irrigation at state local level, 06 kolhapuri pattern dams at state level and 362 Kolhapuri pattern dams at local level are in existence.
- iv) The irrigation capacity of minor projects is 151498 hectares area in the study region and the area about 76034 hectares is under irrigation in present condition.




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Ashraf

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