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PROVISION OF AVAILABILITY OF SOCIAL AMENITIES IN PHALTAN TAHSIL OF SATARA DISTRICT: A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

K.S.SURWASE*



*Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Mudhoji College, Phaltan (Maharashtra).

ABSTRACT:

Today man occupies a central position around which all activities – economic, social and political revolve. In spite of such an importance of man, the study of human being as a resource has been emphasized recently. Man is not only the creator of all forms of national wealth, but also ultimate goal of whole gamut of economic and social activities. The present study focused on social amenities in rural area of Phaltan tahsil as a whole and village level. The study is useful in understanding the importance of social amenities for rural development. The study based on primary and secondary data. The information on this aspect considered basic amenities like education, medical, drinking water, electricity, transportation, communication and housing. Medical facilities considered primary health center, dispensary, family planning center and hospital. Communication is important with post offices, telegraph office and telephone connections. Electricity supply is considered for agricultural, domestic and industrial purpose. For housing use of fuel, number of rooms, wall material, flooring, bathroom, and latrine are considered and analyses the situation of rural areas in Phaltan tahsil households. It is concluded that in future there are much requirement of various amenities to uplift the standard of living and for progress of rural areas in district.

KEY WORDS: Social Amenities, Educational Institutes, Medical Facility, Drinking water, Transportation and Communication.

INTRODUCTION:

The social amenities are one of the vital resources of a region. The qualitative and quantitative appraisal of human resource is thus necessary to understand the process of development in a region. The purpose of research work is to highlight social amenities in the subdivision of Phaltan, which needs to be developed and utilized in a planned manner so as to get the maximum productive benefit from the skills and talents. All the strength, the skill and the capacity of the human resource have to be fully utilized for integrated development of study area. All these traditional skills have to be identified and will have to be further developed through a number of short duration training courses in modern technology, educational tours of the farmers and agriculture extension and irrigation development. Resources are classified in to two types one includes natural and other human resource. Present paper attempts to investigate level of social amenities in the Phaltan tahsil.



STUDY AREA:

Phaltan Tahsil of Satara District is selected for purpose of study because the topic under investigation is influenced by many considerations. Firstly, the researcher belongs to Phaltan Tahsil and hence is familiar with study area. Secondly, the study area falls in drought prone region of Deccan trap of Maharashtra state, receiving annual average rainfall between 450-500 mm and it is distributed unevenly in study area. Thirdly, irrigation is a dominant factor in study area having considerable impact on social amenities of Phaltan Tahsil. The Banganga River and the Banganga canal, the Nira River and the Nira right bank canal, wells and tube wells are the main sources of irrigation in study area. Fourthly, this area has not been so far studied in depth from the land-use point of view. Phaltan Tahsil, covering the part of the Nira river basin, is one of the economically prosperous Tahsils of Satara district in southern Maharashtra. It lies between $17^{\circ}58'$ North to $18^{\circ}5'$ North latitude and $74^{\circ}20'$ East to $74^{\circ}40'$ East longitude. It has a total geographical area of 1190 square kilometres with 128 villages and one urban settlement (2011 Census). This area is bounded by the Nira River in the north side. The region attains 576 metres height (M.S.L.) with northward slopping land drained mainly by Banganga River, a right bank tributary of the Nira River.

According to 2011 Census, the area has total population of 3, 42,667 and out of these, 1, 76,250 are males and 1, 66,417 are females. The density of population is 287 persons per square kilometre. State highway, major district and other roads are major routes of transport besides broad-gauge railway route in Phaltan Tahsil. Phaltan is the administrative head quarter of this Tahsil (Fig.-1).

Location Map of Phaltan Tahsil

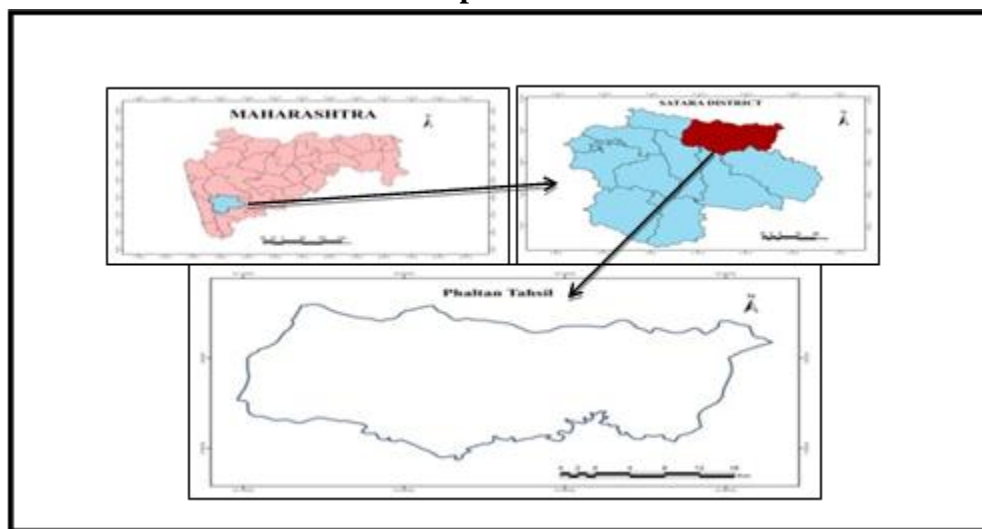


Figure – 1

OBJECTIVE:

The major objectives of this paper are as under:

- 1) To analyse levels of social amenities in Phaltan Tahsil.
- 2) To assess the status of process of countryside development in Phaltan Tahsil.
- 3) To calculate the change occurs in social amenities up to 2011.

DATABASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The present paper is primarily based on secondary data. The data on decadal year for the census year have been collected. Considering a village as a unit for the Phaltan tahsil in Satara district of Maharashtra, the data have been collected of village Panchyat Samiti, Tahsil office Phaltan, Department of irrigation, socio-economic review book, and statistical abstract of Satara district. The data preparing to the period from 1991 to 2011 Social Amenities. In the selection of sample villages (groups) great care has been taken because the selection of sample villages is considered an important factor determining the accuracy and usefulness of the results. Further all sorts of published and unpublished data were processed and then suitable maps and diagrams use the Statistical techniques, represented data, tables has been constructed and interpreted.

SOCIAL AMENITIES:

Government Social amenities are improving betterment of living. Many type social amenities are provided to villagers such as education, medical, communication, transportation, post and telegraph, drinking water supply etc. Distribution of social amenities is varying from place to place. Therefore distribution of social amenities in Phaltan tahsil is uneven. The distributions of social amenities in Z.P. groups are also different. Social amenities are created in devotion of human being. The development of any society is depending on availability of social amenities.

1. Education:

Education plays an important role to development of human being. The number of available educational institute in the tahsil is satisfactory. According to 2011 census data there are 292 primary schools, 69 high school, 17 junior colleges and 5 senior colleges industrial school (polytechnic etc.)

Table-1. Phaltan Tahsil: Educational Institutes

| S.No. | Years | Primary School | High School | Junior College | Senior College |
|-------|-------|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | 1991 | 142 | 21 | 06 | 01 |
| 2 | 2001 | 265 | 65 | 17 | 02 |
| 3 | 2011 | 292 | 69 | 17 | 05 |

Source: District Census Handbook, Satara (1991, 2001, 2011).

Table.1 shows the distribution of education facilities in Phaltantahsil according to 1991 to 2011 census. According to 1991 census 142 primary schools recorded in tahsil. According to 1991 and 2001 census the primary school was increase up to 265 in Phaltantahsil. This data shows the growth of primary school in tahsil. Then the high school was increasing from 21 to 69 in tahsil according to 1991 to 2011 census. Junior College of tahsil was increasing from 1991 to 2011, which was 6 and 17 respectively. Senior colleges record one in 1991 and five in 2011 census. According to 1991 census the primary school of tahsil was 142 and it recorded 292 on 2011. Table.1 shows that institutes are increasing in number and it's indication for development and progress of educational institute from primary to senior college level. It's supported to development of socio-economic condition in tahsil. Therefore their people aware the importance of education, this is good indication for the human resource development.

2. Medical facilities:

Medical facilities are important to human life expectancy. These facilities are influencing on human life. Medical facilities are classified as primary health, dispensary, family planning centre, hospital etc. For the human resources and socio-economic development. Present study has attempted to collect and analyse the data regarding to medical facilities and it is interpret to causes and effect on their human beings.

Table: 2. Phaltan Tahsil: Medical Facilities

| S.No. | Years | Hospital | Dispensary | RH | PHCs |
|-------|-------|----------|------------|----|------|
| 1 | 1991 | 10 | 11 | 18 | 07 |
| 2 | 2001 | 23 | 35 | 19 | 06 |
| 3 | 2011 | 32 | 35 | 19 | 06 |

Source: District Census Handbook, Satara (1991, 2001, 2011).

The Table-2 shows the progress of medical facilities in Phaltan tahsil from 1991 to 2011 census formally growth is increasing, that's why the day by day people are develop in accordance with that progress for all facilities. In 1991 the number of hospital was ten, dispensary was eleven. In 1991 census increasing for hospitals twelve, dispensary twenty-four and Rural Hospital one. Year 2011 the all-medical facilities are increasing and positive effect on health improvement. This is indicator for development in human resources. The number of hospital is 32, dispensary has 35, Rural Hospital 19 and primary health centre is six.

3. Drinking Water:

Water is life for human being. For the healthiness potable, clean water supply is essential. Human health is closely related to the availability of safe water.



Table: 3. Phaltan Tahsil: Drinking Water Facilities

| S.No. | Drinking water | No. of Villages-1991 | No. of Villages -2011 |
|-------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Tap Water | 94 (78.33 %) | 102 (79.68 %) |
| 2 | Well | 118 (98.33 %) | 87 (67.96 %) |
| 3 | Tank | 01 (0.83 %) | 12 (9.37%) |
| 4 | Hand pump | 01 (0.83 %) | 03 (2.34%) |
| 5 | River | 16 (11.11 %) | 16 (12.5%) |
| 6 | Canal | 08 (6.66 %) | 08 (6.25%) |

Source: District Census Handbook, Satara (1991, 2011).

Above table reveals that the drinking water facilities in Phaltan Tahsil. Drinking water is most important source of human resources and socio-economic development of any particular region. The diseases, while occur due to pollute water can be reduced by establishing public water supply schemes. In the rural area the sanitation system in the origin of polluted e.g. Bhadali. Therefore, drinking water scheme should be coupled with sanitation system for getting the safe drinking water. According to 1991 census people depend on well water 118(98.33 per cent). Then single village depend on drinking water from hand pump. Some people depend on river (12.50 percent), tap (79.68 percent), wells (67.96percent) and tank water (9.37 percent) it is three tank water facilities was available in village. The drinking water scenario is totally changed in 2011. The villages are improved for drinking water mostly villages (102) depends on Tap water (79.68 percent) and 87 villages (67.96 percent) depend on well water. The tap water is 79.68percent, river water 12.5percent and tank water increase in 79.68 percent in 2011. This shows that recently majority of the villages are facilitated with safe, potable and clean, drinking water. This is good indication of the health condition of the people in tahsil.

4. Communication:

Communication is the linkages of one person to another person or one settlement to other settlement. It is best way to progress of human being. It is co-related to various elements. i.e. post office, tar, post and tar office, telephone etc. This is communicating to one people two other people from his mother tongue or any language that is known as communication. In 21st century technology is very fast. Internet, email, is modern technique use for communication of people.

Table: 4. Communication Facilities in Villages for Phaltan Tahsil

| S.No. | Communication Facilities | 1991 | 2011 |
|-------|--------------------------|------|-------|
| 1 | Post Office | 116 | 125 |
| 2 | Tar Office | 01 | 01 |
| 3 | Post and Tar | 01 | 03 |
| 4 | Telephone | 450 | 10984 |

Source: District Census Handbook, Satara (1991 – 2011).



In 1991, post offices of recorded 116 and its increase up to 125 in the year 2011. Tar offices in the year 1991 were only two it is increase in 2011 up to five. Telephone connection in tahsil is rapidly increasing from 1991 (450) to 2011(10984). Telephone is best communication facilities to people because it is very fast connect and messaging to any region. Post office service served to all villages in tahsil was 96.60percent (1991) and 97.65percent (2011).

5. Transportation:

Table: 5. Phaltan Tahsil: Transport Facilities (percent)

| S.No | Transport facilities | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Metal Road | 204(16.24%) | 566(24.5%) | 541(22.92%) |
| 2 | Un-Metal Road | 220(17.51%) | 537(23.3%) | 563(23.85%) |
| 3 | Rural Road | 215(17.11%) | 582(25.2%) | 639(27.07%) |
| 4 | Other Dist. Road | 166(13.21%) | 166(7.21%) | 166(7.03%) |
| 5 | District Road | 360(28.66%) | 360(15.63%) | 360(15.25%) |
| 6 | State highway | 91(7.24%) | 91(3.95%) | 91(3.85%) |

Source: District Census Handbook, Satara (1991 to 2011).

Transportation is the linkages between villages to another village. A transportation facility is the best way to going from one place to another place. It is role to development of any region. Passenger and agricultural commodities in tahsil has required transportation facilities for socio-economic development. In Phaltan tahsil, the density and road quality is not satisfactory and require increasing road density and linkages. Transportation facilities are also depending on metal road and roads. According to 1991 census metal road was recorded 204 (16.24percent). It is increased in 2001 year reach up to 566 (24.50 percent) and increase in 2011 census it is 541 (22.92 percent). Table showing on the un-metal road density is increase in day by day it shows (17.51, 23.30 and 23.85 percent) respectively. It is indication for increase in un-metal road and metal road that means the progress of tahsil and development of human resources.

CONCLUSION:

Phaltan tahsil located eastern part of Satara district. In this tahsil observed wide variation in the social amenities. Phaltan tahsil come under rain shadow zone characterized by hot summer and general dryness. About education sector hundred percent served to population .It is some value maximum and minimum, the level of education depends up on the availability of educational institutions. Medical facilities are basic needs for people. Primary health, dispensaries, medical practitioners, hospital and family planning centres are considered for this study. Water is life for human being. To use different sources like as tap water, hand pump, river water, and wells and tank water. Communication is the linkages of one person to another person. Transportation is the linkages between different settlements. An electrification facility is hundred percent of villages served by amenities. Finally we have concluded, in this village development is increasing day-by-day. These amenities are in the form of education, medical, drinking water, communication, transportation, etc. Society for funding with minimum

interest for communication, education and agriculture are supported to improve village life. Hence, people in these Phaltan tahsil diverting from primary towards secondary and tertiary occupations.

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