



Characteristics of Market Centres in Buldhana District (MS)

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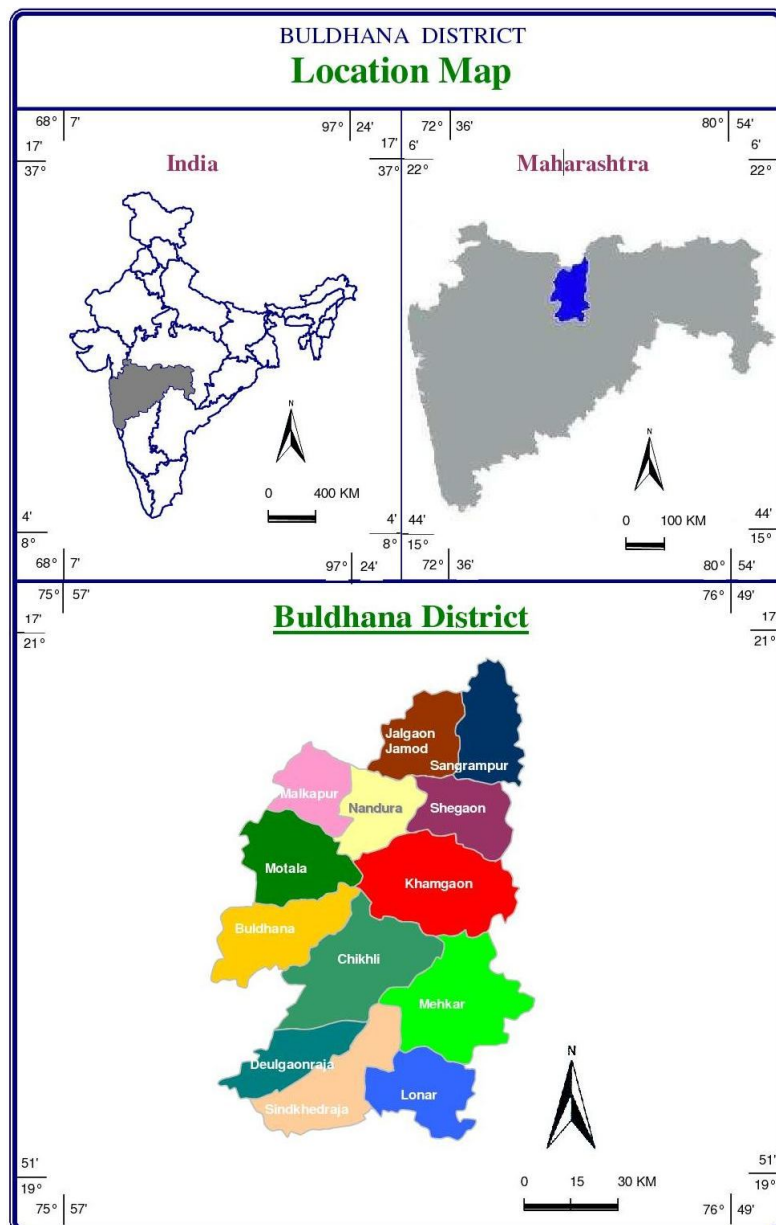
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Introduction:

Geographical studies are mainly concerned with the special distribution of geographical phenomena. In case of market centres, origin, growth, development, and spatial distribution are the result of combined effect of various factors. It means the distribution of market centres are influenced by physical, cultural, historical and many other unique qualities prevailing in the region. In recent years, rural markets have acquired significance in countries like China and India, as the overall growth of the economy has resulted into substantial increase in the purchasing power of the rural communities.

Study Region:

Buldhana is a district in the Amravati division of Maharashtra state in western India at the westernmost border of Vidarbha region and is 500 km from the state capital, Mumbai. Buldhana district is located in the central part of the state of Maharashtra. Akola, Jalgaon, Jalna, and Parbhani districts are the adjoining districts to the East, West, and South respectively. The Nemad district of Madhya Pradesh is in the North. The Buldhana district lies between 19°51' to 21°17' North Latitude and 75°57' to 76°49' East Longitude. The district consists of five subdivisions and thirteen blocks. The district Head Quarters is at Buldhana. Buldhana district has an area of around 9,680 square kilometers. The distances of the other major towns from Buldhana is Aurangabad (180 KM), Pune (425 KM), Amravati (200 KM), Nagpur (350 KM).



Objectives:

The present study has specific objective, i.e. To study and analyze the distribution and periodicity of market centers in Buldhana district. These are daily, weekly, bi-weekly and tri-weekly market centers.

**Database and Methodology:**

The present work is based on primary and secondary data pertaining to market centers and population. All relevant published and unpublished records have been considered. Primary data is collected through intensive field work. The secondary data has been collected from district census hand book, Gazetteer, district statistical abstracts, socio-economic abstracts and records of villages.

Discussion:

The details of distribution of periodicity of market centres is given in table 1
Table 1

Distribution of Periodicity of Market Centres in Buldhana district

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Number of Market Centres				
		Weekly	Bi-weekly	Tri-weekly	Daily	Total
1	Jalgaon (Jamod)	6	-	-	1	7
2	Sangrampur	7	-	-	1	8
3	Shegaon	4	1	-	1	6
4	Nandura	4	-	-	1	5
5	Malkapur	4	-	-	1	5
6	Motala	6	-	-	1	7
7	Khamgaon	6	1	-	1	8
8	Mehkar	5	1	-	1	7
9	Chikhli	5	-	-	1	6
10	Buldhana	4	-	-	1	5
11	Deulgaonraja	5	-	-	1	6
12	Sindkhedraja	5	-	-	1	6
13	Lonar	3	-	-	1	4
	District Total	64	3	-	13	80

Source: - Compiled by Researcher.

In the study region, 64 markets are the weekly market as they meet only once in a week. Only 3 bi-weekly markets are observed in the study region. These are Shegaon, Khamgaon and Mehkar. Daily markets are held at 13 places i.e. tahsil places in the study region. It is also noticed that at tahsil level largest number of market centres have been observed in Khamgaon and Sangrampur tahsil (8). In all tahsils, highest numbers of weekly market are observed in Sangrampur whereas least market centres are observed in Lonar tahsil. It has been noticeable thing that, daily market is observed at all the tahsil places.

Day-wise Distribution of Market Meetings:

Periodicity is the essential element of market centre. Periodic markets in a region are interlinked in a system which controls the movement of traders as well as consumers in some cases and is called as 'market cycle'. Generally market meetings are not held daily. Markets are not open on all days but their marketing function is limited to specific days only.

During the early period of marketing development only periodic markets were present to perform the marketing function, but in course of time the situation has changed. Permanent shops / markets have been developed at many centres and they are present in both permanent and weekly markets.

Table 2

Day-wise Distribution of Market Meetings in Buldhana District

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Week Days							Total market meetings
		Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	Jalgaon (Jamod)	1	1	-	1	1	2	1	7
2	Sangrampur	1	1	1	2	2	-	1	8
3	Shegaon	1	-	1	-	1	2	1	6
4	Nandura	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	5
5	Malkapur	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	5
6	Motala	2	1	1	1	1	1	-	7
7	Khamgaon	1	1	-	2	2	2	-	8
8	Mehkar	1	1	-	1	2	1	1	7
9	Chikhli	1	1	-	2	1	1	-	6
10	Buldhana	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	5
11	Deulgaonraja	1	-	2	1	1	-	1	6
12	Sindkhedraja	1	1	1	1	-	2	-	6
13	Lonar	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	4
	District Total	14	10	8	14	13	12	9	80

Source: - Compiled by Researcher.

On the whole about 80 market meeting are held in the study region per week. Only four market meetings are held in Lonar tahsil which is economically backward tahsil in the district. The maximum number i.e. 8 market meetings are held in Sangrampur and Khamgaon tahsil. There is no much variation in the number of meeting held on various days in Buldhana district. Sunday and Wednesday stands first



with 14 meetings. Then Thursday stand for 13 meetings and Friday stand 12 meetings. The number of market meeting held on Saturday is 9, Monday - 10 and Tuesday -8.

Conclusion:

Overall analysis of the market centres in the district shows that, there is uneven distribution of market centres in the study region. There are 64 weekly, bi-weekly and 13 daily market centres are observed. There is no tri-weekly market centre in the region. Highest number of market meetings is held on Sunday and Wednesday (14) whereas lowest market meetings are observed on Tuesday (8).

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