



A Study of Weekly Market Centre Network in Aurangabad District (MS)

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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.

Periodicity of market centre is an important aspect of market centre. It is the periodicity of the market centres that makes them beneficial to producers, consumers and traders. The occurrence of periodic markets on some specific day is a special feature of many rural regions. Markets are held periodically on some specific day or days of the week at some fixed sites. Thus it provides goods and services to the rural masses. The periodicity of market centres has been disturbed somehow by transformation of the economy and rapid growth of urbanization and was replaced by permanent shops or markets in developed area.

Study Region:

Aurangabad district has been selected as study area. Aurangabad district is situated in the central part of the state, which has been incised by the Godavari River and its tributaries in the southern part. Aurangabad is considered as capital of Marathwada region. Aurangabad district is situated between 19°18' to 20°40' north

latitudes and $74^{\circ}40'$ and $75^{\circ}36'$ east longitudes. Total area of the district is 10,100 Sq.Kms which is 3.28% of Maharashtra. Out of total area 1.40% is Urban Area and remaining 98.60% is Rural Area. The district comprises of nine tehsils, i.e. 1. Aurangabad 2. Gangapur 3. Kannad 4. Khuldabad 5. Paithan 6. Phulambri 7. Sillod 8. Soegaon and 9. Vaijapur. According to the 2011 census Aurangabad district, Maharashtra has a population of 3,695,928. Aurangabad has a sex ratio of 917 females for every 1000 males, and a literacy rate of 80.4%.

Objectives:

The present study has specific objective, i.e. To study and analyze the network, distribution and periodicity of market centers in Aurangabad district.

Database and Methodology:

The present work is based on secondary data pertaining to market centers and population for the year 2015. All relevant published and unpublished records have been considered. The secondary data has been collected from district census handbook, Gazetteer, district statistical abstracts, socio-economic abstracts and records of villages.

Table 1
Periodicity of Market Centres in Aurangabad district

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Periodicity		Total
		Weekly	Daily	
1	Gangapur	6	1	7
2	Kannad	8	1	9
3	Khultabad	4	1	5
4	Paithan	8	2	10
5	Aurangabad	10	2	12
6	Phulambri	5	1	6
7	Sillod	7	2	9
8	Soegaon	3	1	4
9	Vaijapur	5	1	6
	District Total	56	12	68

Source: Calculated by researcher.

Table 1 reveals that there are total 68 market centres in the district. Out of total 68 market centre, there are 12 daily market centres whereas 56 weekly market centres. Highest number of market centres are observed in Aurangabad tahsil i.e. 12 on the contrary lowest number of market centres are observed in Soegaon tahsil i.e.4. In regard with daily market centres, all the tahsil places has daily market meetings. On the whole it is clear that, there are 82% weekly market centres whereas daily market centres are 18%.

A complete cycle is that where marketing activity is available continuously 6 to 7 days of week for trading and commercial communities. In the study region, both of complete and incomplete market cycles has been observed. Existing market cycle pattern in the study region is shown in table 2.

Table 2

Aurangabad District: Days & Cycle of Market Meeting

Tahsil	Days of Market Meetings	Rest day	No. of Cycles
Gangapur	Mon-Wed-Thu-Sat	Tue, Fri	1
Kannad	Sun-Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu	Fri, Sat	2
Khultabad	Sun-Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu-Fri-Sat	--	2
Aurangabad	Sun-Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu-Fri	Sat	1
Phulambri	Sun-Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu-Fri-Sat	--	1
Sillod	Sun-Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu-Fri-Sat	--	2
Paithan	Sun-Mon-Tue-Thu-Fri-Sat	Wed	3
Soegaon	Sun-Mon-Tue-Wed-Thu-Fri-Sat	--	2
Vaijapur	Sun-Tue-Wed-Thu-Fri-Sat	Mon	2

Source: Composed by researcher.

Table 2 reveals the days and cycle of market meeting. It indicates that, Market meeting days of market centres in Gangapur tahsil are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. It has only one cycle. The rest days are Tuesday and Friday. Market meeting days of market centres in Kannad tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. It has two cycles. The rest days are Saturday and Friday.



Market meeting days of market centres in Khultabad tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It has two market cycle. There are no rest days in the tahsil. Market meeting days of market centres in Aurangabad tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. It has only one rest day i.e. Saturday. There is only one market cycle in the tahsil. Market meeting days of market centres in Phulambri tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There is no rest day. There is only one market cycle. Market meeting days of market centres in Sillod tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It has two market cycle. There are no rest days in the tahsil. Market meeting days of market centres in Paithan tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. It has two market cycle. Wednesday is the rest days in the tahsil. Market meeting days of market centres in Soegaon tahsil are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There is no rest day. There is two market cycles in the tahsils. Above analysis clearly indicates that, market centres of the particular cycles do not function for six day, rather less than six days in a week where mix pattern of rest days for market meetings are observed.

Conclusion:

Overall analysis of the market centres in the district shows that, there is uneven distribution of market centres in the study region. No bi-weekly and tri-weekly market centres are found in the region. In the study region, market centres of the particular cycles do not function for six day, rather less than six days in a week where mix pattern of rest days for market meetings are observed.

References:

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