



FOREST RESOURCES IN SANGLI DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA

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ABSTRACT:

Forest is an important resource for human life. They also play an important role in natural ecosystem. Forest is important for commercial purpose. Forest is the natural habitat of animal. They play an important role in global environment in World. The objective of this paper is to study the forest resources in Sangli district of Maharashtra, to study the various schemes implemented for the forest conservation in Sangli district. The present study is carried out with secondary sources of data, like books, journals, magazine, internet etc. and analysis this data by various tools and techniques. In Sangli district the area under forest is very less comparative to Maharashtra and India. Zilla Parishad and Revenue department are trying to increase the forest area in the district through various schemes.

Key Words: MoEFCC, NRCP , GIM, NAP, NCMP.

INTRODUCTION:

Forest is an important resource for human life. They also play an important role in natural ecosystem. Forest is important for commercial purpose. Forest is the natural habitat of animal. They play an important role in global environment in India. There are rich biodiversity. The largest forest areas are found in Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Western Ghat. According to Forest Survey of India report, the area of India is 807296 Sq.Km. and it shows 24.56% of the country area in 2019. Most of the people in rural area use wood for their fuel needs by forest. The people burn the wood for their daily needs so Government of India provided the electricity to rural people. The people use electricity and consumption of fuel Woods. Forest give us various products like latex, gums, resin, essential oils, etc.

playgrounds, chemicals, essence sticks, hand crafts that teaching material and medical plants etc.

Forest is an important renewable resource all over the world. There are 30% area covered by forest is essential but today it is only 26%. Africa has covered 33% largest area of forest in world, followed by South America 25%, North America 11%. India has covered 21.67% area under forest in 2019. There are so many forest products useful for commercial purpose. The forest product is valuable for human being like furniture, Wagons, tools, paper industry and so on. Grasses, bamboos and cans oils are also important in human life. Fruits, flower, leaves and roots are provided various products to human life. The importance of forest resources government has implemented various schemes for conservation of forest. They are also organized program and launched various programs for preservation and conservation of forest. In Sangli district the programs has also runs.

OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this paper is to study the forest resources in Sangli district of Maharashtra, and to study the various scheme implement for the forest conservation in Sangli district.

STUDY AREA:

Sangli is situated in western part of Maharashtra. Sangli district was formed in 1949. Today there are 10 tehsils in Sangli district. Geographical location of the district is between 16⁰45' to 17⁰33' North Latitude and 73⁰42' to 75⁰40' East Longitude. It is bound by Satara, Solapur districts to the north, Vijapur district to the east, Kolhapur and Belgum districts to the south and Ratnagiri district to the west. The district headquarter is located at Sangli. Agriculture has been the main source of livelihood of the people in this district. The total area of the district is 8578 sq. kms. It is situated in the Krishna and Warna river basins. As per the census 2011 the total population of this district is 2,820,575. The literacy rate of the district is 82.41%.

METHODOLOGY AND DATABASE:

The present study is carried out with secondary sources of data, like books, journals, magazine, internet etc. and analysis this data by various tools and techniques.

FOREST RESOURCES:

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is the agency who control and implementing various programme for conservation of environment. Central Government was holding the MoEFCC. The main aim of Ministry is conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forest and wildlife, control the pollution. Central government has planned various programme for the sustainable development of Environment. Pollution and environmental degradation are rampant in India, because deforestation is a cause of poverty and unrealistically increased industrialization. Public awareness has been created on the subject of forest conservation. Government of India was formulated the plans and laws for this. Today Environmental education is essential in the world. Government has launched various programmes. The main objective of this programmes are to conserve today's nature for a brighter future of tomorrow. Government has been taken the steps with this view. The global warming crisis is one of the indications of this problem. We can tackle this crisis with the help of nature. Global warming is causing great damage to human health. We have to face many diseases. Corona 19 is the one of global crisis that is facing us today. For many such crises, the government has implemented various programs for conservation of the environment. Ecological conservation is essential for a healthy life. The aim of this programme is preservation, conservation and protection of environment.

Government has launched various programmes like National river conservation program (NRCP) 1995, Green India Mission (GIM) 2014, National Afforestation Program (NAP) 2002, National Coastal Management Program (NCMP) 2013, National Mission on Himalayan Studies under Climate Change Program (NMHS) etc. Indian government passed various acts and creates the policies to protect the natural forest and animal. The Wildlife Protection Act 1972, Forest Conservation Act 1980, Amended Forest Act 1992, Water

Prevention and Control of Pollution Act 1974, The Water Prevention and Control Act 1977, Air Prevention and Control of the Pollution Less Act 1981, Environment Protection Act 1986, National Forest Policy 1988, National Environment Policy 2006 etc. Indian Board of Wildlife (IBWL) was developed the parks and sanctuaries for protect the animals.

Table No. 1: The Area under Forest Cover

| Sr. No. | Content | Sangli | Maharashtra | India |
|---------|--------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------|
| 1 | % Under Forest | 2.20 | 21.08 | 24.00 |
| 2 | Per Capita Forest in acares | 0.09 | 0.52 | 0.54 |

Source – The Gazetteer Department, Sangli

According to this data there are so less area under forest cover in Sangli. The headquarter of Forest Department is at Kupawad MIDC Sangli. In Sangli district there are found four type of trees, evergreen, wet and dry deciduous, bushy tuned and grassy. There are no larger areas covered by forest in Sangli district. There are two forest area named Chandoli National Park and Sagreshwae Sanctuaries. Chandoli National Park reserved for tiger. The National Park covered the area was 3007.67 sq. km. It is situated in Northern Western Ghat. It is formed in 1985 and declared as National Park, Tiger reserve project in 2007. In this National Park has seen the mix of Malabar coastal moist forest, deciduous forest and evergreen forest. There are found various trees like Anjani ironwood tree, Jamun, Pisa, Fig, Olea, Spinous Kino tree, Nana, Kinjal, Kokum tree, Phanasi false kelat, Asan wood, Amla, Devil fig, Harra, Indian laurel, Gooeberryetc. And found some grasses, like Bangal, Dongari, Black spar grass, Kalikusli, Anjan grass, Grader grass, Saphet-kusli, Bluestem grass, Golden beard gras, Tangle grass, Buffalo grass, Kangaroo grass etc. The second forest area is Sagreshwar sanctuary is formed in 1985. It is located in three talukas of sangli district, Kadegaon, Palus and Walwa. It famous for dear, the sanctuary was covered the 10.87 sq. km. There are found near about 30 to 40 spaces of tree and also seen various animals like Sambar, Kalvite, Wolfs, Fox, rabbits, wild cats etc. It is the artificial forest, developed by Hon. D. M. Mohite. In this sanctuary the local trees are occurred like Neem, Nilgiri, Acacia, Khair, and Agave. Zilla Parishad Sangli was implementing various schemes for increase the forest cover area. The forest is important for the maintenance of environment.

Table No. 2: The Land Use Pattern of Sangli District

| Sr. No. | Content | Land use | |
|---------|--|--------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Area in (000 Ha.) | % of Total Geographical Area |
| 1 | Total Geographical Area | 861.06 | 100 |
| 2 | Area under Forest | 43.39 | 5.03 |
| 3 | Area under non agriculture use and barren land | 81.29 | 9.44 |
| 4 | Uncultivable land | 45.2 | 5.24 |
| 5 | Fallow land | 60.07 | 6.97 |
| 6 | Net Sown | 612.28 | 72.10 |

Source – District Survey Report 2020-21

According to total area the forest cover area is very less in Sangli district. Only 5% area was covered by forest. The programme of plantation is required on uncultivable and fallow land. The total area of forest was dividing in various types in last ten years.

Table No. 3: Types of Forest Cover in Sangli District

| Sr. No. | Year | Forest area | | | |
|---------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------|
| | | Reserved | Protected | Unclassified | Total |
| 1 | 2010-11 | 348.26 | 0.10 | 80.25 | 428.61 |
| 2 | 2011-12 | 328.43 | 0.09 | 92.26 | 420.80 |
| 3 | 2012-13 | 328.43 | 0.09 | 92.26 | 420.80 |
| 4 | 2013-14 | 336.45 | 0.10 | 84.24 | 420.79 |
| 5 | 2014-15 | 336.45 | 0.10 | 48.24 | 420.80 |
| 6 | 2015-16 | 332.29 | 0.10 | 84.24 | 416.63 |
| 7 | 2016-17 | 328.42 | 0.10 | 92.27 | 420.79 |
| 8 | 2017-18 | 321.61 | 0.10 | 84.93 | 416.64 |
| 9 | 2018-19 | 330.49 | 0.10 | 92.26 | 422.85 |
| 10 | 2019-20 | 338.41 | 0.10 | 84.24 | 422.75 |

Source – Socio Economic Survey of Sangli District 2010- 11 to 2019-20

Table No. 4: Types of Forest Area in Sangli District

| Sr. No. | Year | Forest area | | | |
|---------|---------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | Dense | Medium | Sparse | Total |
| 1 | 2010-11 | -- | 58.40 | 371.21 | 428.61 |
| 2 | 2011-12 | -- | 339.43 | 48.04 | 420.80 |
| 3 | 2012-13 | -- | 372.76 | 48.04 | 420.80 |
| 4 | 2013-14 | 31.07 | 25.09 | 364.63 | 420.79 |
| 5 | 2014-15 | 26.83 | 118.47 | 275.11 | 420.80 |
| 6 | 2015-16 | -- | 416.63 | -- | 416.63 |
| 7 | 2016-17 | -- | 4.67 | 416.12 | 420.79 |
| 8 | 2017-18 | -- | 95.00 | 321.64 | 416.64 |
| 9 | 2018-19 | -- | 92.36 | 330.49 | 422.85 |
| 10 | 2019-20 | 84.34 | -- | 338.41 | 422.75 |

Source – Socio Economic Survey of Sangli District 2010- 11 to 2019-20

In Sangli district the area under forest is very less comparative to Maharashtra and India. The forest area is declined year by year in last ten years. After 2018-19 the forest area was upgrading slowly. The majority area was covered by the sparse forest in Sangli district. The forest area is found in Tasgaon, Khanapur, Walwa, Jat and Shirala tehsil. Deforestation is the key to forest cover. In rural area large scale deforestation is done for firewood. Government provides various facilities to people. For the purpose of conservation the forests, Government of India has provided electricity and domestic gas to the people in rural areas. This has reduced the risk of deforestation to some extent. There are many products derived from forests along with fuel. The district has rich forest cover in Western portion of the district. Shirala range adjoining Chandoli National Park has a great biodiversity.

Tree planting enhances natural beauty and increases the number of tourists. Naturally enriches our biodiversity. Soil conservation is plentiful. Soil and water conservation helps inside. It is necessary to have tree planting on top. Zilla Parishad and Revenue department are trying to increase the forest area in the district through various schemes. They are regulated and planned cutting trees. Organizing awareness campaign about forest fire, Prepared prosper plan for reforestation and protection of forest and give information to public for proper utilization of forest products. Organizing the plantation programme throughout the year.

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