Socio-Economic Development of Former Princely States: Assessing Contemporary Progress under Local Governance.

Mohit Maroti Gaikwad, Suhas Vilas Kamble, Ramchandra N. Gohad.
[1]Masters Student, College of Engineering Pune; [2]Masters Student, College of Engineering Pune;
[3]Faculty & Research Guide, College of Engineering, Pune.
[1]*gaikwadmm20.plan@coeptech.ac.in* , [2]*kamblesv20.plan@coeptech.ac.in* , , [3]*rng.civil@coeptech.ac.in*

Abstract:

The study of the historical significance of Princely states during British India, where local Indian rulers governed their regions with substantial contributions to development. After Independence, these states transformed into sovereign territories and are currently under local governance. The study aims to assess the present socio-economic development of these former princely states through comprehensive socio-economic and planning techniques. By analyzing their progress under local administration, the research sheds light on the overall impact of administrative integration on the developmental trajectories of these regions

Keywords: Princely States, Local government, Infrastructure, Socio-economic Development.

Introduction:

Princely states were the sovereign states which had local Indian rulers and Kings ruling their parts under theirjurisdiction. It was during British India, where Britishers had indirect rule over these princely statesand autonomy was given to Indian local rulers of that region. There were 565 Princely states during British India with 48% area and 28% population, before Independence in both India and Pakistan. These princely states were given an honor of Salute states and non-salute states, After India became independent, these princely stateswere merged as Indian Sovereign Territories.

When these Princely states were active, most of the significant developments were observed in that region. From the water supply to other institutions like educational institutes, transportation facilitieslike railway lines, small scale industries, healthcare facilities and much more. The ruler of Miraj, Kolhapur set up a bright example by introducing railway lines, building dams for water supply andirrigation, adopt latest technologies and built new high educational facilities.

There are 22 princely states found in Maharashtra. People living in princely states during British Raj never left their cities, since these princely states had autonomy and were away from influence of British. Migration was arrested due to presence of princely states. There was no forced recruitmentby the British for World War for the citizens living in these princely states. The job of the rulers ofprincely states were to collect and pay the taxes and provide public services.

There are 22 princely states of Maharashtra. Now most of these princely states have becomeCensus towns, municipalities, some became industrial towns and some large princely states like Nagpur, Sangli-Miraj and Ichalkaranji have become Municipal Corporations.

The Maharashtra Region is divided into 3 Sub-regions viz Sub-Region I, II, and III by Counter-Magnet study method. There are 13 old princely states in Sub-region I in which three of them are rural areas after the princely states were perished, 8 in Sub-Region II in which one is rural area and 1 in Sub-regionIII which is Nagpur. Now there are 10 talukas which were princely states earlier. The 22 princely states transformed to 4 Gram Panchayats, one Nagar Panchayat, four Municipal Corporations and 13 Municipalities.

Sr. No.	Princely State Name	Last or present ruler with ruler	Now	Infrastructure and policies developed by rulers
1	Akkalkot	Shrimant Malojiraje Bhosle	Municipality	Wells with water supply, education facilities.
2	Miraj Junior	Raja Meherban Shrimant Sir Madhavrao Hariharrao Patwardhan	Municipal Corporation	Wells with water supply, education, Railway Junction
3	Miraj Senior	Narayan Rao Jatya Sahib Patwardhan	Municipal Corporation	Wells with water supply, education, Railway Junction, Medical college, engineering college
4	Bhor	Raja Shrimant Sir Raghunathrao Shankarrao Pandit Pant Sachiv, Raja of Bhor	Municipality	Wells with water supply, education, abolition of untouchability, freedom of association
5	Sangli	Capt. Shrimant Raja Saheb Sir Chintamanrao II Dhundirajrao Appasaheb Patwardhan	Municipal Corporation	Sugar factories, wells with water supply, educational facilities like schools and engineering college
6	Satara	Raja Shahaji of Satara	Municipality	Wells with water supply facilities, educational facilities
7	Nimsod	Rajadhiraj Shrimant Janmejayraje Gharge-Desai (Deshmukh)	Gram Panchayat	Water supply facilities like Wells and Water course, markets. There was a trade centre before independence but not it has Gram Panchayat. Nimsod was identified as Market Town during British era.
8	Surgana	Dhairyashil Rao	Nagar Panchayat	North of Peinth, wells with water supply facility.
9	Sawantwadi	Raja Khem Sawant-Bhosle Bahadur	Municipality	Water supply network along with Reservoir (moti talav), promotion of art and culture like Ganjifa and lacquer, education, small scale industries for handicrafts and wooden toys.
10	Ichalkaranji	Shrimant Govindrao (Abasaheb)Ghorpade	Municipal Corporation	Wells with water supply network, education, textile industry and power looms
11	Aundh	Meherban Shrimant Bhawanrao Shriniwasrao Pant Pratinidhi	Gram Panchayat	Step well for regular water supply, old market, ghats on banks of Krishna River
12	Kapashi		Gram Panchayat	Kolhapuri Chappals and leather products manufacturing, water supply facilities like wells etc.
13	Kagal	Ghadge	Municipality	Textile industries, Kolhapuri Chappals and leather products manufacturing, water supply facilities like wells etc.

14	Murud-Janjira Fort	Nawab Sidi Muhammed Khan II Sidi Ahmad Khan, Nawab of Janjira	Municipality	Two large reservoirs with fresh water for active water supply
15	Kurundvad Senior	Raja Shrimant Bhalchandrarao Chintamanrao Patwardhan, Raja of Kurundwad Sr.	Municipality	Wells with water supply, ghats on the banks of Krishna River, schools, and Polo ground
16	Kurundvad Junior	Raja Shrimant Hariharrao Raghunathrao [Bapusaheb] Patwardhan, Raja of Kurundwad Jr.	Municipality	Sugar and jaggery industries. Schools, water supply facilities.
17	Jath	Lt. Shrimant Raja Vijaysinghrao Ramrao Babasaheb Dafle	Municipality	Educational facilities like primary and middle schools and Healthcare facilities and museum, water supply facilities, promotion of culture like organising cattle fairs and other festivals.
18	Jawhar	H.H.Shrimanta Raja Patangshah V (Yashvantaroa Mukne)	Municipality	Improvement of agricultural sector, construction of wells for effective water supply, establishment of primary and middle schools along with a special school. Development of chemical, paper, textile, dyeing, printing, liquor, and starch industries. Healthcare and medical facilities like hospitals and maternity homes and Central Library along with a museum.
19	Nagpur	Raghuji Bhonsle III	Municipal Corporation	Railways and development of Trade Centre, Textile mills by Tata and Empress Mills, Non-cooperation movement led by M.K. Gandhi, Education and water supply facilities, Education facilities along with a university.
20	Phaltan	Shrimant Ramraje Prataosinha Naik-Nimbalkar,	Municipality	Irrigation by NRBC Technique, education by constructing 2 schools, water supply by wells.
21	Peinth	Dhairyashil Rao	Gram Panchayat	Wells with water supply and irrigation
22	Kolhapur	Rajadhiraj Chhatrapati Shahu II Bhosle	Municipal Corporation	Wells with water supply, education, abolition of casteism, social improvement, Radhanagari dam and small-scale industries

Background and Purpose of Study

As per the study of census data from 1971 to 2011, it was found that in Maharashtra state population share decreased in rural areas and increased in the urban area. If we consider district-wise urban population ranking within the range of 285 km from Mumbai, a good ranking is observed, and away from Mumbai ranking get decreased. As per the World Bank, more than half the world's population now lives in cities and this proportion will continue to increase rapidly to reach 70% by 2050.

❖ *Study Area:* In this study review of the whole Maharashtra state is carried out, for this purpose Maharashtra state is divided into three sub-regions based on 285 km distance from Maharashtra state capital Mumbai shown in Fig 2. The classification of the study area is given below.

- **Sub-region one** is the Study area (Districts), which lies between 0 km to 285 km (Buffer) from Maharashtra State Capital Mumbai. Depicted in Green Colour
- **Sub-region two** is the study area (Districts), which lies between 285 km to 570 km from Maharashtra State Capital Mumbai. Depicted in Yellow Colour.
- **Sub-region three** is the study area (Districts) lies between 570 km to the State border from Maharashtra State Capital Mumbai. Depicted in Cream Orange Colour.

Sub-Region I

Sub-Region I consists of 11 districts in which most of the districts are economically very rich and highly populous it has large metropolitan cities with rich municipal councils. There are 9 out of 10 cities in Maharashtra that have more than 10 lakh populations. Mumbai and Mumbai Suburban are the 2 districts that have no rural population

Sub-Region II

Sub-Region II consists of 18 districts in which most of the districts are economically weak and the population is around moderate. The sub-region consists of the Khandesh and Marathwada Regions.

Sub-Region III

Sub-Region III consists of 6 districts in which most of the districts are economically low and the population is very low. Sub-Region III consists of the Vidarbha Region. This sub-region has forests and mines that are rich in minerals. This region also has Nagpur Metropolitan Region and Nagpur Municipal Corporation is a very rich council with more than 10 lakh population.
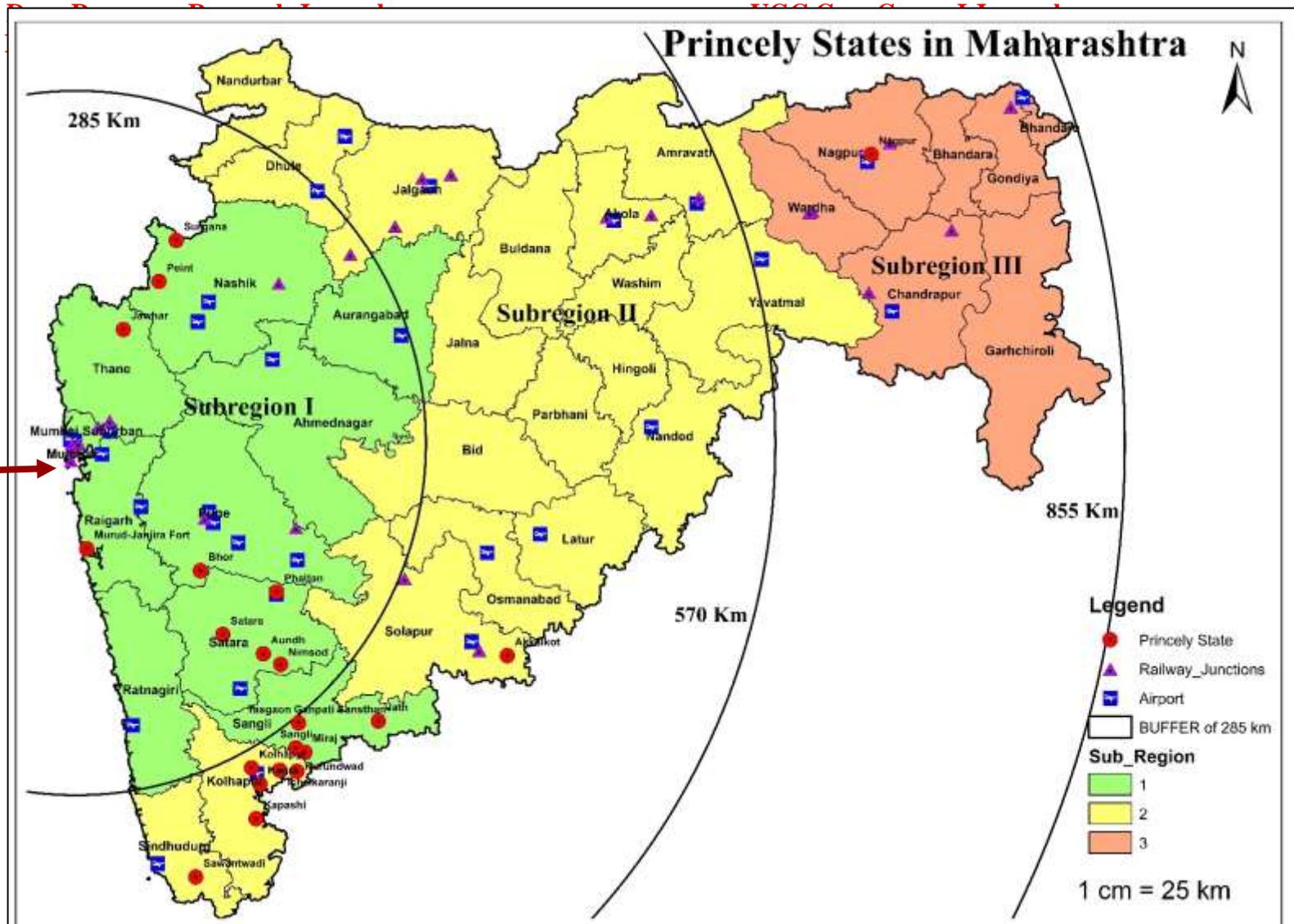
Figure 1 Map of India

Figure 2 Map of Study Area (Sub Regions of Maharashtra State)

Methodology :

Delineation of the study area boundary

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Identification of problem &need for study

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Literature study

↓

Data Collection

↓

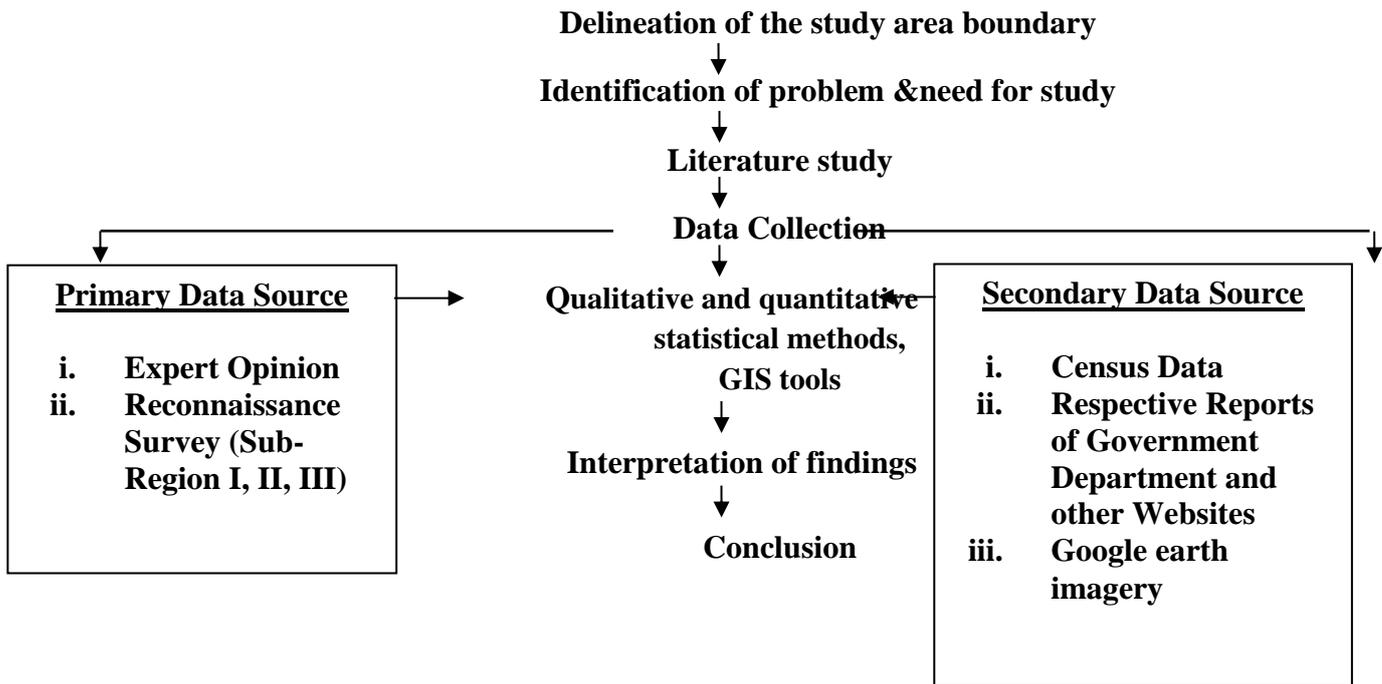| Primary Data Source	Qualitative and quantitative statistical methods, GIS tools	Secondary Data Source
i. **Expert Opinion** ii. **Reconnaissance Survey (Sub-Region I, II, III)**	↓ **Interpretation of findings** ↓ **Conclusion**	i. **Census Data** ii. **Respective Reports of Government Department and other Websites** iii. **Google earth imagery**

Figure 3 Flowchart of Methodology

The methodology for this study is carried out based on the above flow-chart Fig. 3. The analysis is carried out based on the following parameters based on the literature review. A thematic map is prepared for each parameter based on the data analysis.

❖ *Parameters of study:*

1. Population Distribution.
2. Variation in Population (Population Growth).
3. Sex ratio.
4. Literacy rate.
5. Main and Marginal Workers Distribution.
6. Workers' Distribution based on work activity.
7. Infrastructure availability in rural and urban areas
8. Urban Local Bodies or Civic Status

Analysis purpose data is collected from Census of India Data of the year 2011 and different State government and Central Government report, Government resolutions and online portals are used for data collection which is mentioned in references.

Result and Discussion :

❖   *Analysis of all parameters in Summary (Rural and Urban Areas):*

The following table on next page explains the summary of all the parameters included in both the study of rural and urban areas of Sub-Region I, II and III.

Collection of data from Secondary Data sources like Census of India, Analysis purpose data is collected from Census of India Data of the year 2011 and different State government and Central Government report, Government resolutions and online portals are used for data collection which are mentioned in references.

The Excel sheets were used for analyzing the data by entering the data in tabular, pictorial and graphical formats and the Software like ArcGIS, QGIS, Google Earth were used for the Map generation.

1.   Here there are 3 parameters, the first is Demography, the second is Distribution of workforce and the third is availability of Infrastructures.

2.   The **Green color** indicates that the following parameter indicates a very good condition though it comes in percentage or availability of sufficient number of infrastructures.

3.   The **Orange color** indicates the high imbalance, for parameters like infrastructures it denotes less amount of distribution but for socio-economic parameters, the orange color denotes whether the condition (percentage distribution) is too high or too low.

4.   In short, in the socio-economic parameters, **Green color** denotes perfect balance or less imbalance, **Orange color** denotes very high imbalance whether the percentage distribution is too low or too high.

Figure 4 Index for Summary Table

Princely State	Civic Status	Taluka	2011 population	Growth Rate (2011)	No. of households	Sex Ratio	Literacy Rate	Literacy Rate Male	Literacy Rate Female
Surgana (CT)	Nagar Palika	Surgana	6263	1.9	1218	960	81.64	90.9	86.35
Kagal (M Cl)	M Cl	Kagal	34106	43.4	7390	934	75.73	80.7	70.42
Ichalkaranji (M Corp.)	M.Corp	Hatkanangle	287353	11.5	61421	926	85.98	90.53	81.08
Sangli Miraj Kupwad (M Corp.)	M Corp.	Miraj	502793	15.1	110062	982	85.91	90.02	81.77
Bhor (M Cl)	M Cl	Bhor	18453	3.2	4059	994	91.17	94.91	82.34
Nagpur (M Corp.)	M Corp.	Nagpur (Urban)	2405665	17.2	527634	963	91.92	94.44	89.31
Sawantwadi (M Cl)	M Cl	Sawantwadi	23851	4.1	5941	1004	93.85	95.52	92.21
Kurundvad (M Cl)	M Cl	Shirol	22372	4.9	4572	975	86.9	92.81	80.97
Kolhapur (M Corp.)	M Corp.	Karvir	549236	11.4	124194	959	90.61	93.95	87.18
Phaltan (M Cl)	M Cl	Phaltan	52118	2.6	11177	986	88.48	92.71	84.24
Akkalkot (M Cl)	M Cl	Akkalkot	40103	4.9	7869	1000	76.09	84.58	67.7
Jawhar (M Cl)	M Cl	Jawhar	12040	6.6	2724	965	88.9	93.18	84.53
Satara (M Cl)	M Cl	Satara	120195	11.2	2771	1039	91.56	94.89	88.38
Murud Janjira (M Cl)	M Cl	Murud	12216	-2.7	27297	966	92.17	95.22	89.03
Jath	M Cl	Jat	35336	20.7	7411	982	83.83	90.28	77.37
Nimsod	Gram Panchayat	Khatav	6984	3.42	1452	994	78.02	85.35	70.8
Aundh	Gram Panchayat	Khatav	5653	2.6	1292	1009	85.16	91.6	78.77
Kapashi	Gram Panchayat	Kagal	5896	7.32	1292	959	80.25	88.55	71.72
Peint	Gram Panchayat	Peint	6858	-8.43	1368	937	84.87	90	79.39

Table 1 Demographic Analysis of all parameters in summary for Princely States

Princely State	Total Workers	Total worker %	Main Workers	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourers	Household industry workers	Other workers	Marginal Workers	Non-working	Main Workers %	Marginal Workers %
Surgana (CT)	2307	37%	1750	72	463	73	1142	557	3956	75.9	24.1
Kagal (M Cl)	11801	35%	11131	1020	2000	286	7825	670	22305	94.32	5.68
Ichalkaranji (M Corp.)	103223	36%	99152	1035	959	3505	93653	4071	184130	96.1	3.9
Sangli Miraj Kupwad (M Corp.)	173225	34%	158958	5241	8063	7141	138513	14267	329568	91.8	8.2
Bhor (M Cl)	6435	35%	5471	247	193	189	4842	964	12018	85.01	14.99
Nagpur (M Corp.)	843771	35%	779259	3424	5683	26731	743421	64512	1561894	92.35	7.65
Sawantwadi (M Cl)	8004	34%	6986	49	38	250	6649	1018	15847	87.28	12.72
Kurundvad (M Cl)	7504	34%	6816	750	1317	123	4626	688	14868	90.83	9.17
Kolhapur (M Corp.)	191556	35%	178211	2228	1743	7790	166450	13345	357680	93.03	6.97
Phaltan (M Cl)	17783	34%	16058	540	605	852	14061	1725	34335	90.3	9.7
Akkalkot (M Cl)	12679	32%	11984	684	2366	360	8574	695	27424	94.54	5.46
Jawhar (M Cl)	4137	34%	3525	65	57	121	3282	612	7903	85.21	14.79
Satara (M Cl)	4211	34%	3614	59	79	126	3350	597	8005	85.82	14.18
Murud Janjira (M Cl)	40386	34%	36746	547	228	1361	34610	3640	79809	90.99	9.01
Jath	12571	36%	11063	1770	1554	693	7046	1508	22765	88	12
Nimsod	3784	54%	3580	1927	1029	25	599	204	3200	94.61	5.39
Aundh	2372	42%	2155	972	358	74	751	217	3281	90.85	9.15
Kapashi	3126	53%	2874	1193	668	219	794	252	2770	91.94	8.06
Peint	2543	37%	1987	183	617	57	1130	556	4315	78.14	21.86

Table 2 Distribution of Workers along with their Activity in Princely States

Sr. No.	Princely State	% Water Supply	% Power Supply			% Education			% Medical		% Banks	Agricultural Credit Society (Numbers)	% Transport	Pucca Road (in km)	% Fire Fighting Service	Manufactured Commodity		
			(Domestic & street lighting)	Agriculture	(Commercial)	% Primary Education Facilities	% Higher Education Facilities	Vocational/ it is	% Hospitals or Dispensary	%Veterinary						1st	2nd	3rd
1	Surgana (CT)	100	100	N.A.	0	100	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	0	Bamboo Products	Bambaoo Basket	Brooms
2	Kagal (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Sugarcane	Groundnut	Soyabeen
3	Ichalkaranji (M Corp.)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Cotton	Hand Loom Cloth	Sugar
4	Sangli Miraj Kupwad (M Corp.)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	Turmeric	Grapes	Musical Instruments With Strings
5	Bhor (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	0	Rice	Jowar	Groundnut
6	Nagpur (M Corp.)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	Steel Furniture & Fabrication	Food Products	Readymade Garments
7	Sawantwadi (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Wooden Toys	Cashunut	Ganjipha
8	Kurundvad (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Dhoti	Milk Product	Sugarcane

9	Kolhapur (M Corp.)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	Kolhapuri Chappal	Kolhapuri Saaz (Ornament)	Jaggery
10	Phaltan (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Jaggery		Sugar
11	Akkalkot (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Oil	Jaggery	Dal
12	Jawhar (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	Vari Rice (Bhagar)	Nagli Papad	Cashew Nut
13	Satara (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	0	100	100	100	0	100	100	0	Betel Nut	Coconut	Fish
14	Murud Janjira (M Cl)	100	100	N.A.	100	100	100	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	Tanned Leather	Ayurvedic Medicine	Satara Jarda
15	Jath	100	100	18	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0
16	Peint	100	100	15	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
17	Nimsod	100	100	8	100	100	0	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
18	Aundh	100	100	15	100	100	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0
19	Kapashi	100	100	20	100	100	0	0	100	100	100	100	100	100	0	0	0	0

Table 3 Availability of Infrastructures and Commodities Manufactured in Princely States

A : Analysis of Growth Rate, Sex ratio, and Literacy Rate:

1. It was observed that 18 princely states have a growth rate of less than 15 percent in Murud Janjira and Peint has a negative growth rate. The growth rate is the highest in Kagal since industrial development.

2. Kagal being an industrial hub and having a 5-star MIDC has the highest growth rate and all Gram Panchayats have a very less growth rate.

3. The sex ratio is highest in Murud-Janjira, Aundh, and Akkalkot which is more than 1000 and the sex ratio is lowest in Ichalkaranji which is 926, lower than the sex ratio of Maharashtra i.e., 929.

4. Literacy rate is more than 90 in 6 princely states. It has been observed that female literacy rates are much lower as compared to male literacy rates in many princely states.

5. Nagpur has the highest population and now it is a metropolitan city with more than 10 lakh population. (i.e., 24 lakhs above)

6. Total literacy rate is more than 90 in Bhor, Nagpur, Sawantwadi, Kolhapur, Murud Janjira and Satara.

7. It is observed that male literacy rates amounts are significant but female literacy rates are much lower compared to male literacy rates in many princely states. The literacy rate is lowest in Akkalkot and Kagal and Nimsod.

B : Analysis of Distribution of workers in Princely States:

1. Least number of workers are found in Surgana and all villages which include Nimsod, Aundh, Kapashi and Peint.

2. Highest number of workers are found in Nagpur. All Municipal Corporations have more than 1 lakh workers.

3. Ichalkaranji is known as Manchester of the East, here the worker population is highest when compared with the average. Here the worker population is more than one lakh whereas the total population is around 2.8 lakhs.

4. Nagpur has the highest number of workers. Ichalkaranji, Sangli-Miraj, and Kolhapur along with Nagpur have total workers of more than 1 lakhs.

5. All 4 villages including Murud-Janjira, Jawhar and Surgana have the lowest number of total workers which is less than even 5000.
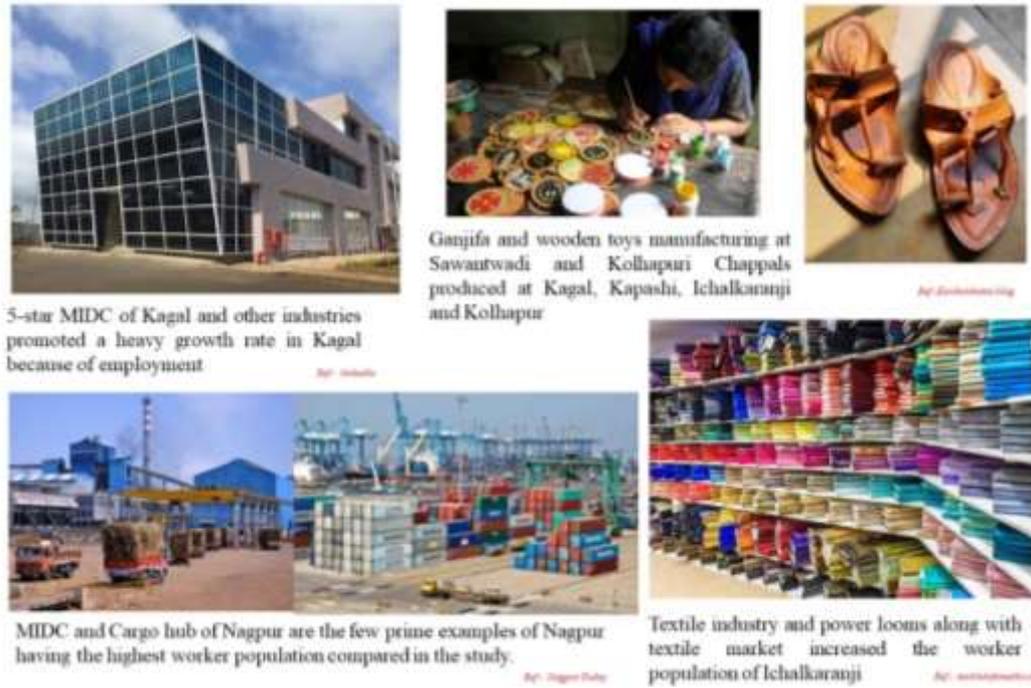
Figure 5 Industries and Manufacturing

C : Availability of Infrastructures and Commodities Manufactured in Princely States:

1. All the four villages which were once the princely states had the least development including municipalities like Surgana and Bhor, here the workers are very less, the growth rate is less, no fire safety services and infrastructure facilities are also less in numbers.

2. Jath was once a village now upgraded to Municipal Council, have good number of services and facilities along with other Municipal Councils. Jath has still maintained all the facilities along with their culture which were during princely state reign and cultural activities are still followed like organizing cattle fairs, markets, etc.

3. Nagpur has significantly very high development post-Independence and after joining the union. It is now the Second Capital of Maharashtra, growth rate is very high, having the highest number of facilities and infrastructure. Most number of workers compared with all the old princely states are highest here.

4. Kagal has developed many new industries as well as it has a 5-star MIDC Industrial area. Hence it has maintained a very high growth rate. Ichalkaranji is known as Manchester of the East having the highest number of textile industries as well as MIDC. It has the highest number of workers when compared with the total city population and has upgraded to Municipal Corporation. All the princely states of Kolhapur district have emerged and upgraded including Kurundvad, whereas princely states of Nashik district like Surgana and Peint and Satara district like Nimsod and Aundh have perished and degraded as a result.

5. Sawantwadi developed small-scale industries like wooden toys, handicrafts like Ganjifa, and the tradition and culture since the princely state's reign has been maintained by Sawantwadi and Jath. Murud -Janjira has developed tourism.

Conclusion:

It has been observed that once these princely states were the capitals where the development was autonomous and the rulers of these states have done enormous developments during their reign. But after Independence, these princely states autonomy rule was abolished and they were merged to theUnion of India. It resulted that most of the princely states in the nation lost its value. And in Maharashtra, it was observed the growth rate was declined, heavy out-migration was observed. These princely states which were once the capitals been destroyed and some of the capitals turned into villages where population declined and development has been stopped.

But it has also been found out most of the princely states in Maharashtra have emerged as Urban local bodies like Municipalities and Municipal Corporations. According to Municipal Law, a supplyline should be administrated, preparation of Development Plans, Capacity building and more focus on fiscal resource mobilization and sustainable development.

All the four villages which were once the princely states had least development including a census town named Surgana and Bhor, here the workers are very less, growth rate is less, no fire safety services and infrastructure facilities are also less in numbers.

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As a result, the Princely states in urban areas have developed enormously but certain Princely states of rural areas and remote areas have shown very less sign of development as compared to before Independence. These were once the capitals, and now some of them has turned to necropolis or in small villages where people have out-migrated, these princely states had once the potential to become a conurbation.

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