

## **Minor research Project, “Origin, Growth and Development Planning of Kolhapur City”**

### **Summary of the findings of Minor research Project ,’Origin, Growth and Development Planning of Kolhapur City’,**

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Kolhapur is located in the southern part of the State of Maharashtra. Its geographical location is between 16<sup>0</sup>42’ North latitude and 74<sup>0</sup>14’ East longitude at an altitude of 650 m above the mean sea level.

The City of Kolhapur has really grown out of a clump of original seven small villages i.e. Brahmapuri, Uttareshwar (Lagmapur), Khol-khandoba (Kesapur), Rankala, Padmala, Ravaneshwar and Laximiwadi-that were settled nearly 2000 years ago. The Mahalaxmi temple is very ancient temple in Kolhapur City. Kolhapur is known as ‘DakshinKashi’ because of Mahalaxmi temple.

There were six wards in the city where the density of population was above 600 persons per ha. These Wards are Vicharemal, Daulat Nagar, Kholkhandoba, PadmarajeUdyan, Yadav Nagar and Sukrawar Gate.Wards like Tembalaiwadi and ZilhaKaragruhindicating poor sex ratio of below 850.Literacy rate was very poor in four wards i. e. Vichare Mal 73.36%, Yadav Nagar 74.74%, Rajendranagar 76.16% and Daulat Nagar 79.85%.Avachit Nagar (12.32%), Vicharev Mal (11.15%), Kotithirth (10.99%), Tohfecha Mal (7.17 %) and Rajendra Nagar (8.50%) are the largest slums in the city. It is observed that, in 2006, 4.32% vehicles were in Kolhapur as compare to Maharashtra and in 2011, this figure slightly decreased to 4.06%.

It is observed that in Kolhapur City there are 90 maternity, 49 physicians, 36 surgical, 30 ENT, 25 orthopedic, 22 pediatrics, 13 general, 7 multispecialty hospitals are located. It is found that there are 1491 higher qualified doctors serving in the city in various specialties.

The Kolhapur city has facing some problems:

- i. High density of population has concentrated in the some wards of the city.
- ii. Several small industrial units are located in the core area of the city.
- iii. The city has several bottle-necks that obstruct the free flow of the traffic.
- iv. The KMT (Kolhapur Municipal Transport) has no open space at its command for bus stand.
- v. There are no sufficient parking places in the city. Particularly, BhavaniMundap, Mahadwar Road, ShivajiChowk, Town hall, PapachiTikti and Laxmipuri are the areas where this problem has facing very intensively.
- vi. Water pollution is one of the serious problems facing in Kolhapur city.
- vii. Pollution of river Panchganga is serious problem of the city.
- viii. Limited area of the city is also intensive problem of the city.
- ix. Inadequate tourist facilities are also important lacunas of the city.

An urgent need of the city is to implement following Development Planning Policies for healthy environment of the city:

- i) Attempt to be made to imply re-densification of some of the existing thinly areas and decentralization of the overcrowded areas.
- ii) Phased programme of redevelopment of slum areas is required, so that necessary amenities like small houses, road, electrification, drinking water, etc. facilities will be available.
- iii) New parking places should be developed at Rajarampuri, Laxmipuri, Vinus Corner and Gangavesh area.
- iv) In the Kolhapur City, there is 200 ha of land has been kept as open space. It indicates that only 3% of developed land is available as open space. On a very modest slandered of one hectare per 1000 population, the city's requirement is 500 hectares of land as public open space.
- v) In Kolhapur city, there are total 1.23,997 houses from which 97,397 houses have toilet facility. Nearly, 21,000 families are using public toilets.

- vi) There are 5600 families of the city have not their own toilets. They are using open defecation and this is very serious matter as far as health is concern. Therefore, KMC must provide public toilet for these families at appropriate places.
- vii) Planning should be made to eradicate the pollution of river Panchganga by using some measures like construction of underground drainage at appropriate places, construction of sewage processing centre at KasabaBawada, construction of decentralize processing centre on Dudhalinallah, to prevent sewage from nallahs, restart the Processing centre at KasabaBawada, construct raw dam on nallahs for preventing sewage, supply sewage water for agriculture, mix bleaching powder in sewage of nallahs and to keep river flowing.
- viii) It is very necessary to expand the city area by merging adjoining villages like Shiye, Vadange, Ambewadi, Sarnobatwadi, Ujalaiwadi, Nagdevwadi, Balinge, Shinganapur, Chikali, Pirwadi, Morewadi, Pachagao, Kalamba, Shirol, Unchagaon, GokulShirgao, Balinge, Gandhinagar, Valivade and Nagaon. Today, all these villages are the suburbs of Kolhapur City but on the basis of law these are known as rural components, due this the city is not able to get government facilities.
- ix) Kolhapur City is known as 'DakshinKashi'. Therefore thousands of tourist visited Mahalaxmi temple every year. Thousands of people also come to take the darshan of Jotiba. The city attracts 30 lakhs religious tourist every year. Kolhapur is connected with road, railway and air way with interior part of the country. Therefore, good tourist facilities should be developed in the City.
- x) There were three wards having very low development index value below 5. Very low index value wards are ward No. 14 (Sant Gora Kumbhar), 1 (Sugar Mill) and 2 (KasabaBawada Marathi School). Attempt should be made to develop those wards.