



## A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FOOD SECURITY IN JUNNAR TAHSIL OF PUNE DISTRICT

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### Abstract :

The Green revolution started to provide some of its promise and levels of food production increase in many folds; however, the problem of starvation did not go away and it was not so percolated at the individual level because of food availability and accessibility. The food security exists in the 1970s concerned with every person has the basic right to be free from hunger and malnutrition. Population pressure on cultivable land is continuously increasing. To solve the food security problem, it is always a challenge to increase food production. This paper attempts to assess the food security at tahsil level. The Junnar Tahsil of the Pune District relies mostly on agriculture and is home to a variety of crops. Analysis of the research revealed the disparity in food security in terms of food availability and accessibility. The trend in the plain region is toward a higher proportion of cash crops and a lower in foodgrains. On the basis of the findings, it has been suggested that agriculture become more diversified to achieve food security.

**Key Words:** Crops, Food Security, PDS.

### Introduction:

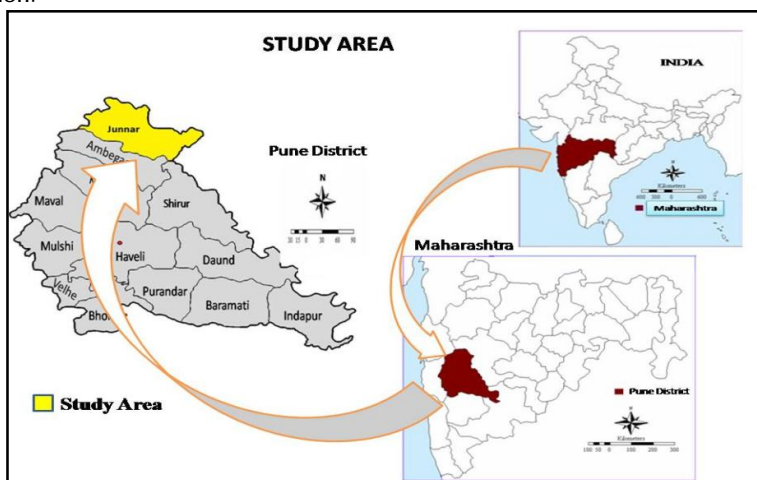
The socio-economic indicators play a significant role in the development of a region. The present study deals with identifying the regional disparity and imbalances in the levels of food security in Mountain and Plain areas. "Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life". (World Food Summit, 1996). This generally accepted definition describes the Availability, Accessibility, Utilization and Stability are the major dimension of food security. The relationship between food security and physical conditions of the region has always been a matter of debate. The economy of the tahsil is dominated by agricultural activities. Due to the accessibility with metropolitan cities like Mumbai and Pune the agriculture of the tahsil has shown remarkable growth and improved level of commercialization in agriculture. The study shows dominance of physical and non-physical factors on food security observed in the Junnar Tahsil.

**Aims & Objectives:-**

- The main purpose of study is to understand the relation between food security a condition of study area. The study is based on following objective.
- To assess the regional disparity in food security of study area.

**Study area:-**

Junnar Tahsil is located in the north part of the Pune district. It occurs in the section of steep slope having rainfall around 50 to 250 cm. The latitudinal extent of the Tahsil is 19° 00' to 19° 24' North and longitudinal extent is 73° 40' to 74° 18' East. The area of the Junnar Tahsil is 1383 Sq.km. Junnar is mainly rural in character as 183 villages are there, according to 2011 census. The population of Junnar Tahsil is 3, 99,302. The rural population is 93.66 %, and the urban population is 6.34 %. Junnar, Nimgaonsava, Otur, Belhe, Aptale, Narayangaon, Vadgaon Anand, Dingore and Rajur are the major nine revenue circles in the Junnar tahsil. The agriculture is major source of income in the Tahsil. Therefore it is interesting to study the facts and factors related food security. Study may help in the regional planning of the Tahsil.



**Fig. 1 Study Area Map**

**Methodology:**

A study is based on primary and secondary data. A Socio-economic picture gives clear idea about regional development. Survey is the best method to obtain socio-economic data. Fifty villages were selected by purposive random sample method from mountain and plain region in the tahsil. Questionnaire filled from villagers by using cluster random sample method. Secondary data collected from reference books, articles and district handbook. The study involves data collection, compilation, computation, analysis and interpretation and it represent with the help of graphs.

**Result and Discussion:****Major Crops**

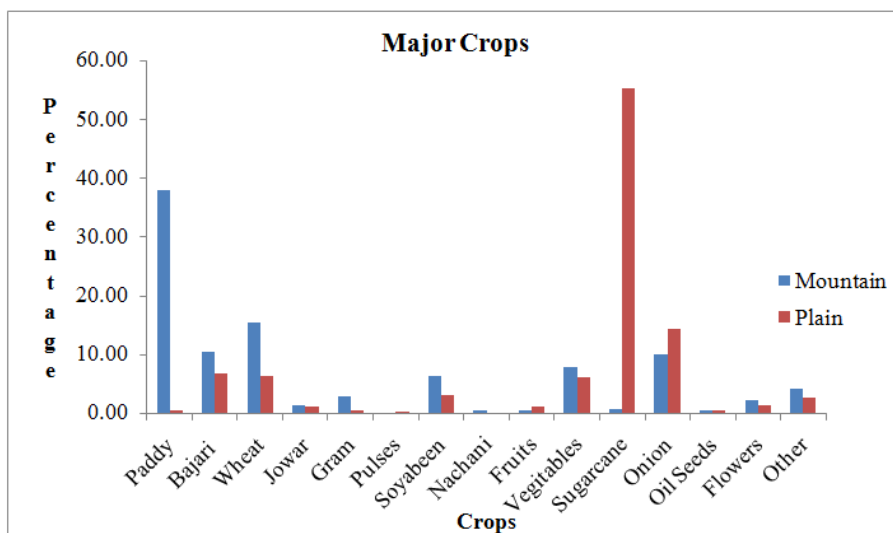
A variety of food and non-food crops are grown in the tahsil depending upon the variations in physical and cultivation practices. *Food demand is increased as a result of population growth and changes in diets. Meeting the food needs of many will not be easy. Several major factors are driving the supply and demand for food over the coming decades. The effective food supply factors are increasing yields, expanding agriculture area, closing yield gap and increasing the productivity of the crop.*

**Table No. 1 Major Crops in the Junnar Tahsil**

Sr. no.	Major Crops	Mountain	Plain
1.	Paddy	37.85	0.58
2.	Bajra	10.34	6.73
3.	Wheat	15.33	6.42
4.	Jowar	1.35	1.06
5.	Gram	2.77	0.50
6.	Pulses	0.00	0.24
7.	Soyabean	6.34	3.07
8.	Nachani	0.42	0.05
9.	Fruits	0.39	1.16
10.	Vegetables	7.85	6.15
11.	Sugarcane	0.64	55.17
12.	Onion	9.91	14.35
13.	Oil Seeds	0.42	0.38
14.	Flowers	2.23	1.44
15.	Other	4.17	2.69

**Source:** Compiled by Author by using primary data

Food Crops are Rice, Wheat, Bajra, Jowar, Nachani and Pulses etc. Cash Crops are Sugarcane, Soyabean, Onion, Flowers and Oilseeds etc. Horticulture crops are Fruits and Vegetables. The rice is the main crop in the mountain region which is 37.85% and sugarcane is major crop in the plain region which accounts for 55.17%. The proportion of food grains crops are more in the mountain region and proportion of cash crop is more in the plain region. The horticulture crops are moreover the same in the mountain and plain region. The production of oilseed crops is more in the mountain region than in the plain region. The production of food grain shows good availability of food in mountain region than plain region.

**Figure No. 2 Major Crops in the Junnar Tahsil**

### Market Distance

A market is a place where buyers and sellers meet to exchange goods and services. It covers a general the demand and supply forces of the region. Local Markets are in such buyers and sellers are limited to the local region or area. They usually sell perishable goods of agriculture for daily use. Families must take purchasing and consumption decisions regarding market distance. When making important decisions, poor families take into account a variety of factors such as market distance and transportation costs.

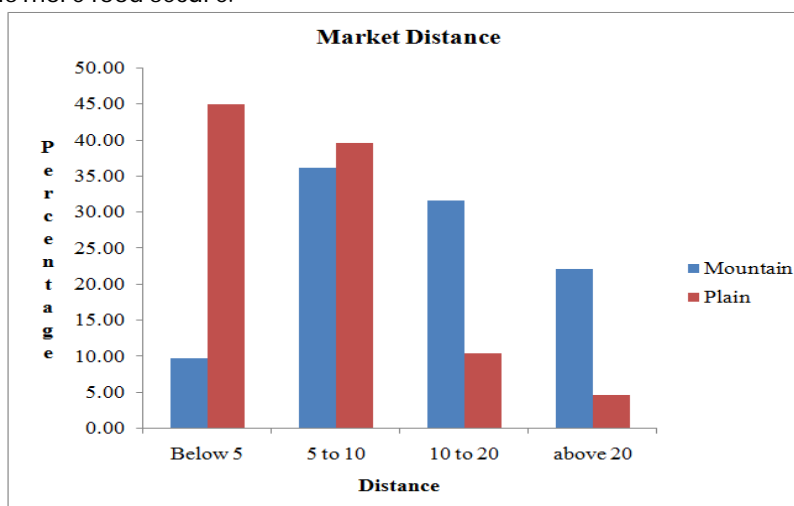
Transportation costs are especially relevant for these families, as they often have fewer roads on which to travel, and if they have paved roads at all, they are regularly in poor condition. The availability of transportation modes is one of the problems in remote regions.

**Table No. 2 Market Distance in the Junnar Tahsil**

Market Distance (Km)	Mountain	Plain
Below 5	9.84	45.07
5 to 10	36.19	39.71
10 to 20	31.75	10.48
above 20	22.22	4.74

**Source:** Compiled by Author by using primary data

Table no. 2 indicates market distance for the population living in the mountain and plain region of tahsil from their native place. The 9.84 % and 45.07% population respectively in the mountain and the plain region have access to the market below 5 km distance. The 36.19% and 39.71% population from the mountain and the plain region have access to market between 5 to 10 km distances. 31.75 % and 10.48% population from the mountain and the plain region have access to the market between 10 to 20 km distances. 22.22 % and 4.74% population from the mountain and the plain region have access to the market above 20 km distance. The 85% of population in the plain region and in the mountain region 46% of population have access to the market at a distance of 10 km. The 54% population from the mountain region and 15% of population in the plain region has access to the market above 10 to 20 km. The distance of market in plain region is less as compare to mountain region, which clearly shows that plain region is more food secure.



**Figure No. 3 Market Distance in Junnar Tahsil**

### Public Distribution System

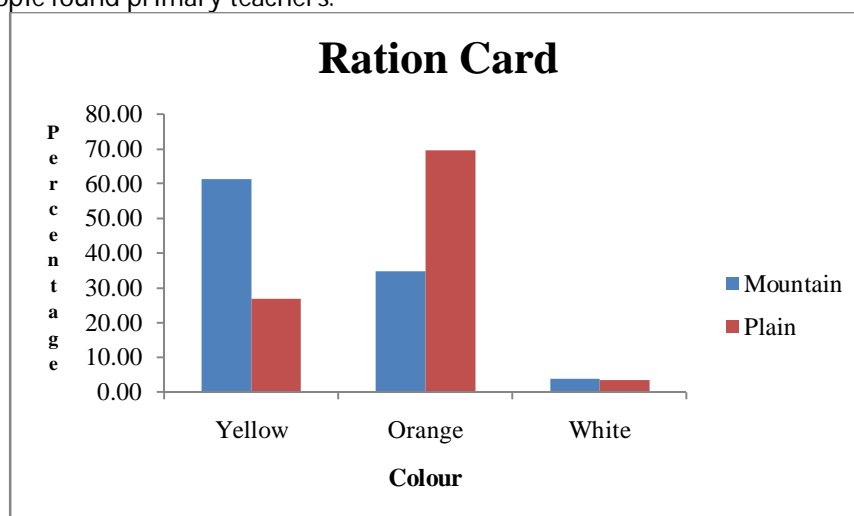
The Public distribution system includes a structure that is introduced by a government and chain of ration shops trusted with the work of distributing basic food and non-food commodities to the lower purchasing power group of the society at very low prices. The Public Distribution System (PDS) involved a distribution system of food grains at affordable prices and management of emergency situations. PDS has plays an important role in the 'food security' and also an important part of the Government's policy for the management of the food economy in the country.

**Table No. 3 Type of Ration Cardholder in the Tahsil**

Ration Card Colour	Mountain	Plain
Yellow	61.38	26.87
Orange	34.78	69.64
White	3.85	3.49

**Source:** Compiled by Author by using primary data

Table no. 3 shows the type of ration card colour holder in the Junnar tahsil. The yellow colour ration cardholder is more in the mountain region than the plain region which is 61.38% and 26.87% respectively. The orange colour cardholder is more in the plain region than the mountain region which is 69.64% and 34.78% respectively. The white colour cardholder is more in the mountain region than the plain region which is 3.85% and 3.49%. The result shows that the yellow colour cardholder is more in mountain region indicates this region is economically backward and hence there is a need of public distribution system. The orange colour cardholder is more in the plain region that indicates this region is economically developed. The white colour ration card is more in the mountain region shows due to most of the people found primary teachers.

**Figure No. 4 Ration Card holder in Junnar Tahsil****Conclusion:-**

The study has attempt food security condition in the Junnar tahsil on the basis of cropping pattern, market, public distribution system. The study shows disparity in food security condition in the mountain and plain region of the Junnar tahsil. This disparity is the result of the physiographic and socio-economic environment. The mountain region has good availability of foodgrains, while plain region has good accessibility of food. The plain region is dominated in the non food crop because of availability of irrigation facilities and medium to deep black soil, while mountain region is dominated in the food crop is the result of undulating topography, scarcity of water in dry season, shallow soil. According to availability of food mountain region is more food secures than plain region and in terms of accessibility of food plain region is more food secure than the mountain region. The disparity in food accessibility and food availability is the combine effect of socio-economic and physical factors in the Junnar tahsil.

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