

## A Geographical Study of Forest Resources in Aurangabad District

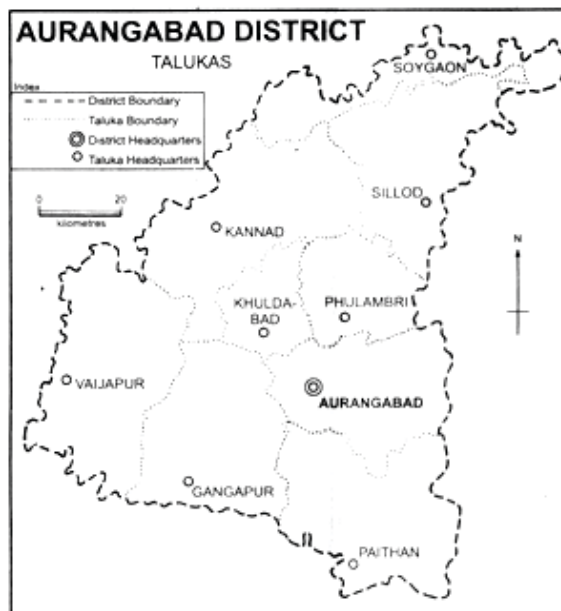
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### Introduction :-

Forest is one of the important natural resource on the earth surface. Vegetation in any region must be fevorable for human life. It have grate value for human beging. It provides unlimited benefite to human begings, and due to availibility of forest resources human being are survived on the earth. Forest helps to check soil erosion and also keep environmental equaliberam. forests protects the wild animals and supplies the various products to the industries and agriculture.

Aurangabad district is also well known for forest resource in maharashtra. The tahasils like Kannad, Sillod and Soygaon are the important tahasils for forest resource in Aurangabad district. There are some important species like teak, sandalwood , anjan, moh, tembhorni and ain are found in the forest of Aurangabad district. The forest cover in Aurangabad district is that peculiar to western India, the forest are marked by a prevelence of long grass and some large trees. The Ajanta and Gaotala ghats are the areas of dense forest in this district.

### Study Area :



For the present study Aurangabad district is selected. Aurangabad is one of the important district of Maharashtra state from forest resource point of new. The location of this district is observed in the central part of Maharashtra. It is located in Godavari Basin and very small parts is in the Tapi Basin. The latitudinal extention of this district is 190, 170 and 200, 401 north latitude and 740, 401 north latitude and 760 801 east longitude. The total geographical area of this district is 10100 sq. km. and the district rancks 16th according to area in the state.

Aurangabad district can be divided into 3 major natural divisions a first one is northern part of

Ajanta ranges, second is Purna river basin and third is Godavari basi, The average height of this area observed 675 meters above mean sea level. The climate of this district is warm and dry through out the year. The average temp is not more then 400c, while in winter the climate is warm and healthy. The average rainfall in Aurangabad district is 725mm. Godavari is important river in this district, while there are same other rivers like shivna, Ghalna, Kham, Dudhna etc. The total population of this district is 1585828 in 2001 census, while in 2011 it is 3695928 and the density is 365 per sq. km. objectives of the study :

1. To find out the important of vegetation cover in Aurangabad district
2. To study the Geographical distribution of forest resource in Aurangabad district
3. To find out the problems & prospectus of forest resource in Aurangabd district.
4. The social forestry programme and plantation in Aurangabad district.

**Research Methodology :**

Basically in the present study methods availing secondary data from district economic social review. The numerical data of Aurangabad apart from this with the help of studies observation and statically methods through percentage used in present research has completed.

After taking into consideration Aurangabad vegetation resource it has found that the ratio of vegetation resources is up and down.

Year	Forest Cover km <sup>2</sup>	Forest Cover %	Net Change Km <sup>2</sup>
2011-12	47482	15.43	---
2012-13	46865	15.23	-617
2013-14	50661	16.46	3766
2014-15	50650	16.46	-11
2015-16	52370	17.13	-12
2016-17	53450	18.18	-12.70

Source : Report of Forest Survey of India.

In 2011-12 is 15.43 % area was covered by forest, it reduced upto 15.23% in 2003. Compared to 2011-2012 it took a change 617 In 2005 it was 16.46 and in 2007 it was 16.46.

Total area of under Forest in Aurangabad 2011-12

District	Area in Geographical Sq. km.	Area %	Area under forest in Sq. Km.
Aurangabad	153073.90	12.12	18555.17
Khultadabad	52239.69	5.85	3058.08
Kannad	16946.49	16.74	28377.60
Soegaon	65135.31	19.19	12501.17
Sillod	148887.47	4.63	6906.62
Paithan	134698.06	3.05	4113.93
Gangapur	143835.08	1.01	1463.27
Vaijapur	155552.61	2.41	3758.45

The above table show that area under forest is very less in Gangapur and Paithan tahasils of Aurangabad district. While Sillod, Khultabad and Kannad tahasils shows large area under forest.

Total Area of under Forest in Aurangabad 2016-17

District	Area in Geographical Sq. km.	Area %	Area under forest in Sq. Km.
Aurangabad	153073.90	12.12	14370
Khultadabad	52239.69	5.85	2812
Kannad	16946.49	16.74	23180
Soegaon	65135.31	19.19	11209
Sillod	148887.47	4.63	6306
Paithan	134698.06	3.05	3513
Gangapur	143835.08	1.01	1163
Vaijapur	155552.61	2.41	3159

In 2016-17 the area under forest is very less in Gangapur tahasil. While in Aurangabad & Kannad tahasils very large area under forest is found in Aurangabad district.

**Conclusion :**

The forest of this district is available on the flanks and level of the tableland among the foot hills and ghat area of Kannad and Sillod tahasils. The trees found in these forests are the Bilawa, Salai, Nim, Bhabul, Kanchana, Apta, Ingan, Khair, Hiver, Yelthurr and the other shrubby plants are the baikul, Karonda, Karbait etc.

Among the eight Tahasils of the district Kannad and Aurangabad tahasil has the largest forest area in Aurangabad District. Aurangabad and Kannad Tahasils together consist about three fifth of the total forest area of the district. The forest product of the district is divided into two main classes such as major products and minor products. The chief major forest products are timber and firewood while the minor forest products are honey, Dink, Temburni leaves, medicines plants etc.

Now a days due to overgrazing and deforestation the area under forest in this district decline on a large scale. The area under forest came. Under agriculture in many tahsils of the district due to forest fire and other natural reasons forest cover is also depleting on a large scale in Aurangabad district.

There are same majors to for controlled deforestation in the district, It includes to protects the forest by various government polices. To protect forest from fire to stop forest cutting by the local people. To increase awareness about conservation of forest at village level. To inspire people for replantation with the help of these measures to maintain forest cover and protect in Aurangabad District.

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