

Original Article

The Study of Development of Sugar Factories in Maharashtra

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Abstract

Sugar industry occupies an important position on the industrial map of the state of Maharashtra. Among the Indian states Maharashtra ranks at top in sugar production as well as recovery of sugar. These factories play a major role in the socio-economic development of rural areas in Maharashtra. Sugar industry occupies an important position on the industrial map of the state of Maharashtra. These sugar factories in Maharashtra are playing a role of catalyst in the process of socio-economic development of rural areas.

The study region for present research work has Maharashtra state of India. The main objective of this paper is, to study the temporal development of sugar factories in Maharashtra. From the present study, we can conclude that, The Maharashtra state is one of the leading states in producing of sugar and sugarcane in India. After the independence of India sugar industry developed on co-operative basis in Maharashtra. In 1960-61 there were 27 sugar factories in Maharashtra which increased up to one hundred sixty three in 2010-11. It is due to Maharashtra state experiences good geographical and climatic conditions and provides favorable government policies. The empirical result suggested that there is an urgent need to develop new sugar industry bases allied industry in Maharashtra.

Keywords: Sugarcane, Factories, Development, Sugar Industry, Cooperative Sector

Introduction:

Industry is the second important source of income after agriculture in India. The country has witnessed industrial development by setting up the diversified structure. More-over the special efforts are being made for reshaping and reorienting the old structure of industry. As such the industrial scenario of the country is changing rapidly, in which agro-based industries are predominant. Some of the products of agriculture are consumed directly, most of them are required to be processed, firstly to make them edible and secondly to make them last long. Such a processing is done in industries.

Sugar industry occupies an important position on the industrial map of the state of Maharashtra. Among the Indian states Maharashtra ranks at top in sugar production as well as recovery of sugar. These factories play a major role in the socio-economic development of rural areas in Maharashtra.

These sugar factories in Maharashtra are playing a role of catalyst in the process of socio-economic development of rural areas. They have provided an opportunity to even smallest cane grower to derive the benefits of the large-scale industry. Being the large size agro-processing industry, it provides good employment potentialities. Therefore attempt is made here to study the development of sugar industry in Maharashtra.

Study Region

Maharashtra has geographical area of 3,07,713 sq km, which is 9.36% of the geographical area of the country.

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The State lies between 15°35' N to 22°02' N latitude and 72°36' E to 80°54' E longitude and state is bordered by Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh in the north, Chhattisgarh in the east, Telangana, Karnataka and Goa in the south and Arabian sea on the west.

The State has three physiographic zones namely Deccan Plateau, Western Ghats and West Coast. It experiences a tropical monsoon climate with hot, rainy and cold weather seasons and dry summers. The annual rainfall ranges between 400 mm to 6,000 mm and the annual temperature varies from 25°C to 27°C. The State is drained by number of rivers which include Godavari, Bhima, Narmada, Tapi, Koyna and Krishna. As per the 2011 census, Maharashtra has a population of 112.37 million accounting to 9.28% of India's population. The rural and urban population constitutes 54.78% and 45.22% respectively. The population density of the State is 365 per sq km, which is close to the national average.

Objective:

The main objective of this paper is, to study the temporal development of sugar factories in Maharashtra and to study the sugarcane area in Maharashtra.

Database and Methodology:

The study was conducted in the Maharashtra state. For the purpose of the study, Only secondary information was collected from different sources. Data regarded to sugar factories of Maharashtra state and geographical information collected through economic survey of Maharashtra and Indian Sugar, The Complete Sugar Journal 2012.

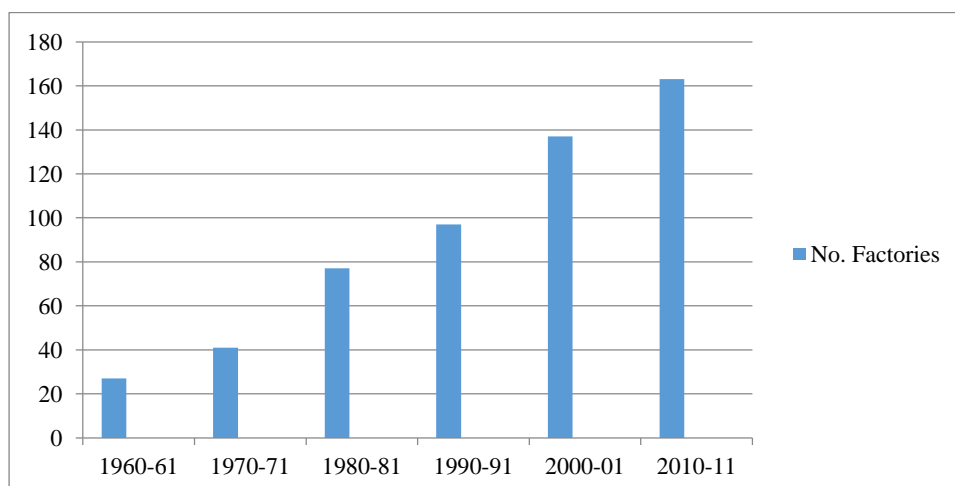
Sugarcane in the Maharashtra state:

Maharashtra is one of the leading states, since it has long history in sugarcane cultivation. Table No. 3.7 shows the increase of area under sugarcane in Maharashtra during the period 1960-61 to 2010-11. It occupies 13 percent of the total cultivated area of the state. It contributes about 12 percent of total agriculture income of the state. The per hectare yield of sugarcane is Maharashtra is greater than the national average.

Table No. 3.7
Area under sugarcane crop in Maharashtra

Sr. No	Year	No. of Sugar Factories	Area under Sugarcane '000'hectares
1	1960-61	27	155
2	1970-71	41	182
3	1980-81	77	291
4	1990-1991	97	444
5	2000-2001	137	595
6	2010-2011	163	990

Source: Indian Sugar, The Complete Sugar Journal 2012.



In the year 1960-61 there were only 27 sugar factories in the state and 155000 hectares area under the sugarcane. After a decade in the year 1970-71 the number of sugar factories were increased upto 41 and at that time 182000 hectares area was under sugarcane crop. Up to 1980-81, 26 new sugar factories were started and area under sugarcane crop has increased up to 291000 hectares. During period 1980-81 to 1990-91 the area under sugarcane was doubled that it has increased from 291000 hectares to 444000 hectares whereas only 20 sugar factories were added to the total in this decade. In the same period sugar factories were expanded their crushing capacity. In the period 1990-91 to 2000-2001 the area under sugarcane crop was increased up to 595000 hectares and 40 new sugar factories were started in the state. Here it is found that the area under sugarcane cultivation is increased and many new sugar factories were opened in the state. It is amazing to see the progress of sugar industry during the period 2010-11 in Maharashtra state. Liberal government policies for opening sugar factory and high returns from sugarcane crop resulted in growth of sugar industry in the state. During 2000-2001 to 2010-11, 990000 hectares area has brought under sugarcane crop and there were 163 sugar factories within Maharashtra state. As compare to last decade the area under sugarcane is doubled and new 26 sugar factories were established in this period.

Conclusion:

From the above observation we can concluded that, The Maharashtra state is one of the leading states in producing of sugar and sugarcane in India. After the independence of india sugar industry developed on co-operative basis in Maharashtra. In 1960-61 there were 27 sugar factories in Maharashtra which increased up to one hundred sixty three in 2010-11. It is due to Maharashtra state experiences good geographical and climatically conditions and provides favorable government policies. The empirical result suggested that there is an urgent need to develop new sugar industry bases allied industry in Maharashtra.

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Conflicts of interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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