

Ebb and Flow of Status among Urban Centers of Vidarbha Maharashtra, India 1901-2011

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Abstract

In the present work, an endeavor is made to investigate the city-size distribution through time by “city-approach”. Here, the place of each city in the distribution as well as the stability of its statues, are examined. The relative statues of individual cities of Vidarbha at different points of time, and the “net variation” during the period beginning from 1901 to 2011 has been analyzed. An analysis of the ebb and flow of statues of the urban centers during the last twelve decennial census years has revealed some interesting features. Among the cities of population of more than one lakh, Nagpur and Amravati witnessed spectacular rise in the urban hierarchy of the region. The present study sought to provide an index of general description of the city-size distribution as well as the pattern of temporal aspects.

KEYWORDS: Eastern Vidarbha, Hierarchy, Maharashtra, urban centers, urban area, Western Vidarbha

Introduction:

For purpose of maintenance comparability and for administrative convenience, the definition of urban unit, which was adopted for 1981 Census, has been continued in 1991, 2001 and 2011 Census also. An urban area is defined as follows: -

(A) All places with a municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee, etc.

(B) All other places, which satisfy the following criteria: -

(I) A minimum population of 5,000.

(II) The density of population of at least 400 persons per sq. km. (1,000 per sq. mile).

(III) At least 75 percent of male working population engaged in non-agricultural activities.

The development of urban centers is dependent on various factors.

Jain (1964) great work on The Emergence of Urban Centers in The Eastern Districts of Vidarbha, Maharashtra inspired the present work to study the present situation with respect to urban centers in eastern and western vidarbha of Maharashtra. The statues - ebb and flow of the urban settlements of the region amply revealed that traditional urban hierarchy was broken and a new hierarchy has been in the process of evolution.

Methodology:

This study is entirely based on secondary data. Based on line graph an attempt has been made to analyze the ebb and flow of statues for 104 and 58 urban centers of Eastern and Western Vidarbha Region respectively.

Study Area:

Vidarbha, the eastern part of Maharashtra state has been recognized on various counts as an under developed region with a marked subsistence agricultural economy. The region of Vidarbha lies between 18°42'N-21°44'N latitudes and 76° E - 80° 50'E longitudes. It covers an area of 9,7537 sq. kms. -1/3 of the State of Maharashtra. Total urban population according to 2011 census is 80,70,685 which is 35.07% of the total population of the region.

1. THE EASTERN VIDARBHA -

In the (Table No.1), Ebb and flow of statues has been shown from 1901 to 2011. In the Eastern Vidarbha in 1901, there were 27 urban centers. And in 1911 and in 1921 there were respectively 31 and 30 urban centers. In 1911 four new urban centers arose and they were Kamptee (a), Kamptee (b), Gondia, Armori. But in the other way, in 1921 above mentioned urban centers remained as it is. But Ballarpur was declassified from urban centers list. Nagpur is the only urban center that remained No.1 in statues throughout from 1901 to 2011. The reasons are obvious. In this region, Nagpur has the only municipal corporation status. Nagpur is in the eastern portion of the district where the rainfall is heavier than in the cotton area where wheat, gram and other crops are popular. The Nagpur oranges are acknowledged as the best citrus fruit in the whole of Asia. It is consumed mostly as a fresh fruit and is used by the fruit preservation industry in this region.

It is already observed that the size of population in Nagpur city is greater than anywhere else in the eastern Vidarbha. Owing to the commercial importance of the capital of the province, the population has naturally tended to concentrate around it and the growth has been rapid. Nagpur is the chief focal point of road, railway and irrigation system. Its admirable location, the flourishing agriculture in its deltaic hinterland, the increased commercial activity, enhanced its importance.

TABLE NO. 1**EBB AND FLOW OF STATUES IN THE EASTERN VIDARBHA**

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | Nagpur | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | Chandrapur | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | Umred | 3 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 12 |
| 4 | Bhandara | 4 | 11 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| 5 | Hinganghat | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 5 |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 6 | Arvi | 6 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 16 |
| 7 | Warora | 7 | 16 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 10 | 9 | 12 | 13 |
| 8 | Wardha | 8 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 9 | Pauni | 9 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 24 | 31 |
| 10 | Ramtek | 10 | 9 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 21 | 26 | 32 |
| 11 | Tumsar | 11 | 29 | 18 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 12 | Narkhed | 12 | 15 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 24 | 30 | 34 |
| 13 | Khapa | 13 | 10 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 17 | 20 | 20 | 23 | 33 | 40 | 44 |
| 14 | Katol | 14 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 15 |
| 15 | Savner | 15 | 12 | 17 | 17 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 23 | 21 | 22 |
| 16 | Kalameshwar | 16 | 21 | 25 | 31 | 27 | 23 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 36 | 34 | 38 |
| 17 | Mohpa | 17 | 22 | 24 | 30 | 29 | 27 | 26 | 30 | 33 | 47 | 54 | 80 |
| 18 | Ashti | 18 | 14 | 20 | 22 | 22 | 32 | | | | | | 90 |
| 19 | Keladoh | 19 | 19 | 23 | 28 | 28 | 29 | | | | | | |
| 20 | Deoli | 20 | 20 | 19 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 23 | 25 | 34 | 37 | 39 |
| 21 | Mowad | 21 | 28 | 26 | 27 | 30 | 26 | 24 | 29 | 32 | 45 | 50 | 71 |
| 22 | Pulgaon | 22 | 23 | 15 | 18 | 16 | 9 | 7 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 17 | 20 |
| 23 | Sindi | 23 | 17 | 21 | 19 | 25 | 28 | 23 | 24 | 27 | 38 | 43 | 55 |
| 24 | Brahmapuri | 24 | 25 | 27 | 26 | 23 | 21 | | | | 16 | 19 | 19 |
| 25 | Nawargaon | 25 | 27 | 29 | 25 | 26 | 24 | | | | | | |
| 26 | Chimur | 26 | 26 | 28 | 29 | 24 | 25 | | | | | | |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 27 | Ballarpur | 27 | 30 | | 23 | 18 | 14 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 28 | Sindi Turf Hindnagar | | | | | | | | | | | 38 | 35 |
| 29 | Walani | | | | | | | | | | 39 | 47 | 66 |
| 30 | Sillewada | | | | | | | | | | 41 | 51 | 79 |
| 31 | Chicholi | | | | | | | | | 29 | 31 | 31 | 40 |
| 32 | Kandri | | | | | | | | | | | 53 | |
| 33 | Totladoh | | | | | | | | | | 49 | 60 | |
| 34 | Kandri | | | | | | | | | | 50 | 59 | 62 |
| 35 | Mansar | | | | | | | | | | | 55 | |
| 36 | Kamptee (a) | | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| 37 | Kamptee (b) | | 31 | 30 | 24 | 31 | 30 | 25 | 22 | 21 | 37 | 42 | 47 |
| 38 | Kanhan (Pipri) | | | | | | | | 28 | 24 | 27 | 28 | 30 |
| 39 | Tekadi | | | | | | | | | | 29 | 35 | 52 |
| 40 | Yerkheda | | | | | | | | | | | 48 | 43 |
| 41 | Mahadula | | | | | | | | | | 32 | 32 | 33 |
| 42 | Davlameti | | | | | | | | | 37 | | 49 | 49 |
| 43 | Digdoh | | | | | | | | | | 30 | 18 | 17 |
| 44 | Wadi | | | | | | | | | | 18 | 15 | 11 |
| 45 | Wanandongri | | | | | | | | | | | 36 | 18 |
| 46 | Nildoh | | | | | | | | | | | 39 | 36 |
| 47 | Sonegaon (Nipani) | | | | | | | | | | | 44 | 67 |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 48 | Koradi | | | | | | | | | | 53 | | 86 |
| 49 | Bina | | | | | | | | | 35 | | | |
| 50 | Dewhadi | | | | | | | | | | | 57 | |
| 51 | Ganeshpur | | | | | | | | | | | 52 | 69 |
| 52 | Sawari Jawaharnagar | | | | | | | | | | | 45 | 72 |
| 53 | Mohadi | | | | | | | | | 31 | | | |
| 54 | Warathi | | | | | | | | | 34 | 44 | | 54 |
| 55 | Chikhala | | | | | | | | | | 51 | | |
| 56 | Sitasawangi | | | | | | | | | | 52 | | |
| 57 | Tirora | | | | | | | 16 | 16 | 16 | 19 | 25 | 27 |
| 58 | Gondiya | | 18 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 59 | Desaiganj | | | | | | | | 21 | 20 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 60 | Gadchiroli | | | | | | | | | | 14 | 11 | 10 |
| 61 | Alapalli | | | | | | | | | | 43 | | |
| 62 | Aheri | | | | | | | | | | 40 | | |
| 63 | Shivajinagar | | | | | | | | | | 35 | 41 | 51 |
| 64 | Bhadravati | | | | | | | | | | 25 | 9 | 9 |
| 65 | Ghugus | | | | | | | | 25 | 22 | 17 | 20 | 21 |
| 66 | Nakoda | | | | | | | | | | 46 | 56 | 89 |
| 67 | Kondumal | | | | | | | | | | | 46 | 63 |
| 68 | Durgapur | | | | | | | | | | | 33 | 41 |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 69 | Mul | | | | | | | | | | 28 | 27 | 26 |
| 70 | Chandur | | | | | | | | | | | 29 | 25 |
| 71 | Sashti | | | | | | | 27 | 31 | 30 | 48 | 58 | 102 |
| 72 | Rajura | | | | 32 | | 31 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 26 | 22 | 23 |
| 73 | Visapur | | | | | | | | | | 42 | | 65 |
| 74 | Armori | | 24 | 22 | 20 | 20 | 20 | | | | | | |
| 75 | Majari | | | | | | | | | 36 | | | |
| 76 | Hudkeshwar | | | | | | | | | | | | 28 |
| 77 | Pipri | | | | | | | | | | | | 29 |
| 78 | Borgaon (Meghe) | | | | | | | | | | | | 37 |
| 79 | Narsala | | | | | | | | | | | | 42 |
| 80 | Sakoli | | | | | | | | | | | | 45 |
| 81 | Aheri | | | | | | | | | | | | 46 |
| 82 | Deori | | | | | | | | | | | | 48 |
| 83 | Sawangi (Meghe) | | | | | | | | | | | | 50 |
| 84 | Borkhedi | | | | | | | | | | | | 53 |
| 85 | Nalwadi | | | | | | | | | | | | 56 |
| 86 | Chandkapur | | | | | | | | | | | | 57 |
| 87 | Bori | | | | | | | | | | | | 58 |
| 88 | Kudwa | | | | | | | | | | | | 59 |
| 89 | Takalghat | | | | | | | | | | | | 60 |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 90 | Amgaon Bk. | | | | | | | | | | | | 61 |
| 91 | Bamhni | | | | | | | | | | | | 64 |
| 92 | Nanda | | | | | | | | | | | | 68 |
| 93 | Masala | | | | | | | | | | | | 70 |
| 94 | Bhokara | | | | | | | | | | | | 73 |
| 95 | Gondpipri | | | | | | | | | | | | 74 |
| 96 | Waghoda | | | | | | | | | | | | 75 |
| 97 | Murmadi | | | | | | | | | | | | 76 |
| 98 | Kurkheda | | | | | | | | | | | | 77 |
| 99 | Sironcha | | | | | | | | | | | | 78 |
| 100 | Risama | | | | | | | | | | | | 81 |
| 101 | Khamari | | | | | | | | | | | | 82 |
| 102 | Katangi Kala | | | | | | | | | | | | 83 |
| 103 | Warud | | | | | | | | | | | | 84 |
| 104 | Thana | | | | | | | | | | | | 85 |
| 105 | Waddhamana | | | | | | | | | | | | 87 |
| 106 | Bela | | | | | | | | | | | | 88 |
| 107 | Fulchur | | | | | | | | | | | | 91 |
| 108 | Padoli | | | | | | | | | | | | 92 |
| 109 | Amgaon Kh. | | | | | | | | | | | | 93 |
| 110 | Mouda | | | | | | | | | | | | 94 |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTRE | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|--------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 111 | Dhopatala | | | | | | | | | | | | 95 |
| 112 | Tadali | | | | | | | | | | | | 96 |
| 113 | Awalpur | | | | | | | | | | | | 97 |
| 114 | Urjanagar | | | | | | | | | | | | 98 |
| 115 | Shahpur | | | | | | | | | | | | 99 |
| 116 | Isasani | | | | | | | | | | | | 100 |
| 117 | Chikhala | | | | | | | | | | | | 101 |
| 118 | Nandgaon Pode | | | | | | | | | | | | 103 |
| 119 | Nagalwadi | | | | | | | | | | | | 104 |

Source: Compiled by the Researcher .

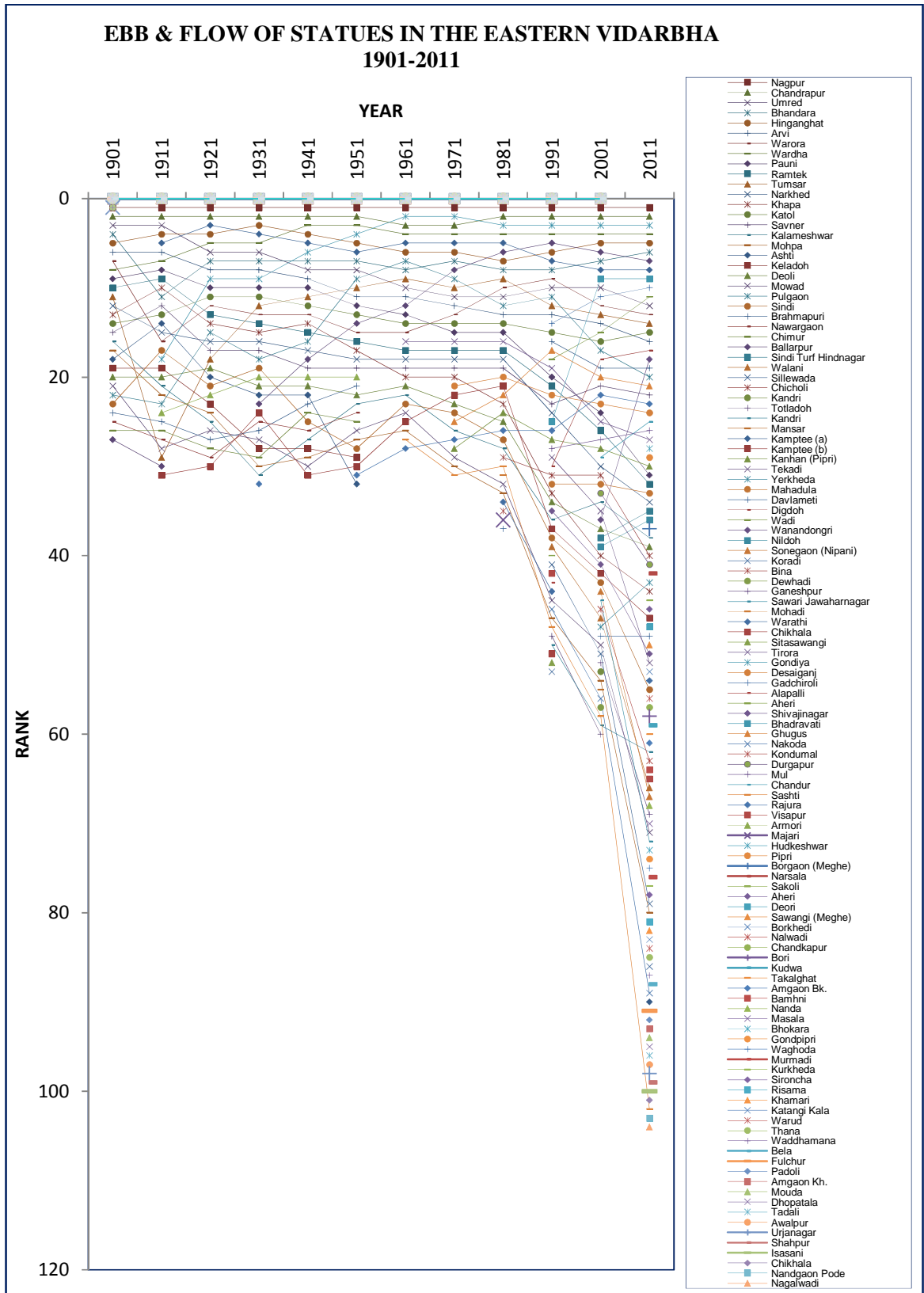


FIG.NO. 1

Whereas Chandrapur was second in the statues of ebb and flow from 1901 to 1951. But in 1961 to 1971 it decreased in third. From 1981 to 2011 its position was restored back to second. In the same way, Chandrapur is the district place and the civic administration status of town is Municipality. As an urban center, it is connected with good roads. The North –East portion of Chandrapur where with a normal rainfall of 55” the cultivation of rice and sugarcane under irrigation has been brought to a high stage of development. The district of Chandrapur where the Government and private forest is very high. The rapid progress of this tract is due directly to the enormous development of the cotton cultivation and of the industries and trade connected with it. The enterprise of the people has grown with their wealth, factories have sprung up, mineral wealth has been exploited, and railways and roads have been constructed or improved. Eastern Vidarbha has extensive high-grade limestone deposits in Chandrapur, Gadchiroli. The demand for labour has exceeded the supply, and with the rise in the standard of comfort, urban life has expanded.

According to the statues, Umred was third in 1901-1911. But from 1921 it has been declined and in 2011 its statues was twelfth. Bhandara was 4th in 1901 but in the next census period in 1911 its statues has been declined on 11th. And after that from 1921 – 1951 its position was 7th and again in 1961 to 1971 its ebb and flow of statues was respectively 8th and 7th and then from 1981 to 1991 it remains constant on 8th position and in 2001 and 2011 again its statues was 7th and 8th respectively. Numbers of people find their way to Nagpur which is only 37 miles distant from Bhandara town, it tells the story of migration from this district.

In Hinganghat, Arvi and Wardha their position was 5th, 6th and 8th respectively in 1901. In three of them, Wardha improved its statues on third in 1941 to 1951. But from 1961 to 2011, it again declined on 4th statues. Whereas Arvi has a great fall in ebb and flow of statues from 1901 to 2011. Its statues was between 6th position and 16th. Hinganghat was also a little bit declined from last 12 decadal census.

According to the Fig. No.1 Ramtek, Tumsar, Narkhed, Khapa, Katol, Savner, Kalameshwar, Mohpa, Warora, Pauni are another important urban centers which witnessed a great fall in the hierarchy.

Ashti and Keladoh had remained as an urban center till 1951 only but in 2011 census Ashti emerged again in 90th rank. From 1931 to 1951 there were again the same numbers of urban centers and that was 31. From 1961 to 1981, there had been 28, 31 and 37 urban centers respectively.

Ashti, Keladoh, Brahmapuri, Nawargaon, Chimur, Armori had been also declassified in 1961. But on the other side, Tirora, Sashti, Rajura had been included for the first time as an urban center in 1961. In 1971 Kanhan (Pipri), Desaiganj, Ghugus these three new urban centers had been included. From Nagpur district Chicholi, Davlameti, Bina, Mohadi, Warathi and Majari were included as urban centers in 1981. Among these Bina, Mohadi and Majari had been declassified from urban centers list in the next census 1991. Davlameti was the only center which had been included as an urban center in 1981 and in 1991 it was again declassified and in 2001 it arose again as an urban center with maintaining the 49th rank since 2001 to 2011.

In the census of 2001 and 2011, there were respectively 60 and 104 urban centers. In 2011 total 44 urban centers had been included for the first time they were as follows: - Hudkeshwar, Pipri, Borgaon (Meghe), Narsala, Sakoli, Aheri, Deori, Sawangi

(Meghe), Borkhed, Nalwadi, Chandkapur, Bori, Kudwa, Takalghat, Amgaon Bk., Bamhni, Nanda, Masala, Bhokara, Gondpipri, Waghoda, Murmadi, Kurkheda, Sironcha, Risama, Khamari, Katangi Kala, Warud, Thana, Waddhamana, Bela, Fulchur, Padoli, Amgaon Kh., Mouda, Dhopatla, Tadali, Awalpur, Urjanagar, Shahpur, Isasani, Chikhala, Nandgaon Pode, Nagalwadi. Brahmपुरi was the only center which was declassified in 1961 but arose again as an urban center in 1991.

In 2001, there were 60 urban centers apart from that Kandri, Mansar, Dewhadi, arose as an urban center but in the next census 2011, it has been declassified. Koradi, Warathi, Visapur these three urban centers were declassified in 2001 census but again arose in 2011 census with rank 86th, 54th, 65th respectively.

Tirora arose as an urban center in 1961 and its status was 16th up to 1981 and in 1991, it had been fluctuated by three status back and its status was 19th. But in the next census of 2001 its status was again declined on 25th and in 2011 its rank is 27th.

Kamptee (b), Shivajinagar, Sashti, Narkhed, Khapa, Mohpa, Deoli, Mowad, Sindi, Totladoh, Kandri are important urban centers which witnessed a great fall in the hierarchy. Hinganghat Warora, Tumsar, Katol, Savner, Chicholi, Desaignanj etc. too had a descent in the urban hierarchy of the region but not to a large extent. What are the factors that were responsible for the significant ebb and flow of the status of the urban centers of the regions? The construction of Pench Hydroelectricity Project, Gosikhurd Project, the emergence of agricultural market centers, and the construction of the major roads and railway lines introduced new location and economic elements rearranging the relative importance of the settlements of the region.

Overall, if we observe the ebb and flow of status it strongly shows that there are some urban centers whose status had been in the first ten series in 1901 but later on as time passes the status has been also getting down year by year. Here some urban centers status has been mentioned. They are Umred, Bhandara, Arvi, Pauni, and Ramtek. These urban centers were in 3rd, 4th, 6th, 9th and 10th respectively in 1901 but in 2011 their status has been changed into 12th, 6th, 16th, 31st and 32nd respectively. But there are some more urban centers like Khapa, Mohpa, Mowad whose status had been 13th, 17th, and 21st in 1901 and their status in 2011 have become 44th, 80th, and 71st respectively. These urban centers are situated under Satpuda hills and because of that these urban centers had been dependent on primary rural occupation. And as most of the places situated near it were dependent on it its status had been high during that time.

2. THE WESTERN VIDARBHA -

In the (Table No.2), ebb and flow of status has been shown in the Fig.No.2 western part of Vidarbha from 1901 to 2011. In 1901 there had been 43 urban centers but in 2011 only 15 more centers arose and then its total number of urban centers were 58. As compared to Eastern Vidarbha and Western Vidarbha, there is a drastic change from 1901 to 2011. In east Vidarbha in 1901, there had been only 27 urban centers but in 2011 there had been almost three times double that is 104 urban centers arose. Whereas, we can see that the progress of urban centers in western part of Vidarbha is very slow.

In Western Vidarbha, Amravati has been a leading urban center from 1901 to 2011. It has a Municipal corporation. It has been observed that Amravati and Achalpur are greater than any part of the district. Reason is the development of industry and consequent growth of the urban population. In Wardha basin, water supply project is undertaken for Amravati city; particularly in the area of MIDC (681 Lakh Q.m.). Orange is the multi –

annual cash crop. In Wardha basin, on the upper part of the area, orange farming is on large scale. But because of the lack of industries based orange farming, all the raw materials are sent to north India and Mumbai by trucks. It seems, industries based on raw materials should be established in this area.

Akola had been second on statues from 1901 to 2011. Cotton is the main crop in the western part of the Vidarbha. Among these Yavatmal, Amravati, Akola and Buldhana districts are the major producers.

Achalpur had been the third largest town since 1901 but it declined from 1951 to 1971 on fifth statues and then, it had been settled on 4th statues from 1981 to 2011.

Khamgaon showed a steady variation in between the 3rd and 10th place. In 1901 Khamgaon had been on 4th statues and in the next census, it had been declined to 10th statues and again it arose on 4th statues in 1921 to 1931. In 1941 it had been again declined by one statues on 5th but in 1951 its statues had been on 3rd, 1961 to 1971 its statues had been again declined on 4th. But at last since 1981 to 2011 it had been settled on 5th statues.

In 1901 to 1951, there had been 43 urban centers. But in 1961 four urban centers had been declassified from the list and they were Barshi Takli, Pathrot, Shirasgaon Kasba and Karasgaon. From 1961 to 1981, there had been 39 and 38 urban centers respectively. In Amravati district the number of sub-districts and towns namely 6 and 13 respectively remained unchanged in 1971 census. For 1981 census, there was no change in the number of six sub-districts. The number of towns had been reduced from 13 in 1971 to 12 in 1981 census because of merger of Achalpur Camp (Paratwada) into Achalpur.

TABLE NO. 2

EBB AND FLOW OF STATUES IN THE WESTERN VIDARBHA

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTER | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | Amravati | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | Akola | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | Achalpur | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 4 | Khamgaon | 4 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 5 | Akot | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 |
| 6 | Karanja | 6 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 11 | 9 |
| 7 | Shegaon | 7 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 12 | 13 | 12 |
| 8 | Washim | 8 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 7 |
| 9 | Malkapur | 9 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 10 | Badnera | 10 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 10 | 17 | 13 | | | |
| 11 | Yavatmal | 11 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 12 | Balapur | 12 | 24 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 21 | 18 | 17 | 20 |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTER | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 13 | Achalpur Camp | 13 | 36 | 18 | 21 | 19 | 16 | 16 | 15 | | | | |
| 14 | Anjangaon | 14 | 12 | 15 | 13 | 10 | 19 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 14 | 15 |
| 15 | Jalgaon (Jamod) | 15 | 13 | 14 | 17 | 21 | 29 | 26 | 29 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 31 |
| 16 | Morshi | 16 | 19 | 19 | 23 | 22 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 23 | 24 | 24 |
| 17 | Karasgaon | 17 | 28 | 25 | 34 | 35 | 37 | | | | | | |
| 18 | Warud | 18 | 14 | 21 | 18 | 23 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 20 | 24 | 16 | 17 |
| 19 | Shendurjana | 19 | 15 | 30 | 26 | 34 | 26 | 29 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 33 | 36 |
| 20 | Pusad | 20 | 16 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 15 | 15 | 10 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 8 |
| 21 | Nandura | 21 | 17 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 13 | 17 | 21 | 22 | 19 | 21 | 21 |
| 22 | Shirasgaon Kasba | 22 | 22 | 31 | 33 | 31 | 34 | | | | | | |
| 23 | Deolgaon Raja | 23 | 23 | 39 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35 | 35 | 33 | 32 | 30 | 29 |
| 24 | Barshi Takli | 24 | 26 | 36 | 40 | 40 | 41 | | | | | | |
| 25 | Murtijapur | 25 | 30 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 19 | 23 |
| 26 | Wani | 26 | 20 | 23 | 12 | 16 | 17 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 13 |
| 27 | Digras | 27 | 18 | 17 | 24 | 20 | 20 | 21 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 28 | Patur | 28 | 29 | 33 | 35 | 32 | 35 | 34 | 33 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 38 |
| 29 | Chikhali | 29 | 33 | 28 | 31 | 27 | 25 | 23 | 23 | 17 | 15 | 15 | 14 |
| 30 | Mangrulpir | 30 | 21 | 35 | 36 | 36 | 33 | 32 | 30 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 28 |
| 31 | Chandur | 31 | 34 | 37 | 30 | 33 | 31 | 33 | 34 | 34 | 37 | 39 | 42 |
| 32 | Mehkar | 32 | 35 | 32 | 32 | 29 | 30 | 28 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 20 | 18 |
| 33 | Daryapur Banosa | 33 | 27 | 27 | 25 | 17 | 12 | 22 | 22 | 19 | 21 | 22 | 25 |
| 34 | Chandur Bazar | 34 | 38 | 40 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 37 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 40 | 43 |
| 35 | Dattapur Dhamangaon | 35 | 31 | 16 | 20 | 30 | 22 | 25 | 27 | 27 | 30 | 32 | 39 |
| 36 | Darwha | 36 | 37 | 22 | 22 | 26 | 27 | 30 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 31 | 32 |
| 37 | Telhara | 37 | 40 | 41 | 37 | 38 | 38 | 36 | 37 | 37 | 38 | 38 | 40 |
| 38 | Umarched | 38 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 23 | 20 | 23 | 16 |
| 39 | Pathrot | 39 | 32 | 38 | 41 | 41 | 40 | | | | | | |

| S.NO. | URBAN CENTER | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 | 1941 | 1951 | 1961 | 1971 | 1981 | 1991 | 2001 | 2011 |
|-------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 40 | Buldhana | 40 | 39 | 34 | 29 | 25 | 23 | 19 | 13 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 11 |
| 41 | Pandharkaoda | 41 | 41 | 29 | 28 | 28 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 27 | 28 | 27 |
| 42 | Ghatanji | 42 | 42 | 42 | 42 | 42 | 42 | 38 | 38 | 35 | 35 | 36 | 37 |
| 43 | Chikhaldara | 43 | 43 | 43 | 43 | 43 | 43 | 39 | 39 | 38 | 42 | 46 | 58 |
| 44 | Sindhkhed Raja | | | | | | | | | | 40 | 42 | 44 |
| 45 | Lonar | | | | | | | | | | 34 | 35 | 33 |
| 46 | Umri Pragane Balapur | | | | | | | | | | | 41 | 41 |
| 47 | Malkapur | | | | | | | | | | | 43 | 46 |
| 48 | Risod | | | | | | | | | | 29 | 27 | 26 |
| 49 | Umarsara | | | | | | | | | | 39 | 37 | 35 |
| 50 | Waghpur | | | | | | | | | | | 45 | 50 |
| 51 | Wadgaon Road | | | | | | | | | | | 25 | 22 |
| 52 | Vasantnagar | | | | | | | | | | | 47 | |
| 53 | Rajur | | | | | | | | | | 41 | 44 | 52 |
| 54 | Ner | | | | | | | | | | | | 30 |
| 55 | Lohara | | | | | | | | | | | | 34 |
| 56 | Dharani | | | | | | | | | | | | 45 |
| 57 | Yavatmal® | | | | | | | | | | | | 47 |
| 58 | Shivani | | | | | | | | | | | | 48 |
| 59 | Sundarkhed | | | | | | | | | | | | 49 |
| 60 | Khadaki Bk. | | | | | | | | | | | | 51 |
| 61 | Shrirampur | | | | | | | | | | | | 53 |
| 62 | Pimpalgaon | | | | | | | | | | | | 54 |
| 63 | Deogiri | | | | | | | | | | | | 55 |
| 64 | Umari Pr.Akola | | | | | | | | | | | | 56 |
| 65 | Shivar | | | | | | | | | | | | 57 |

Source: Compiled by the Researcher .

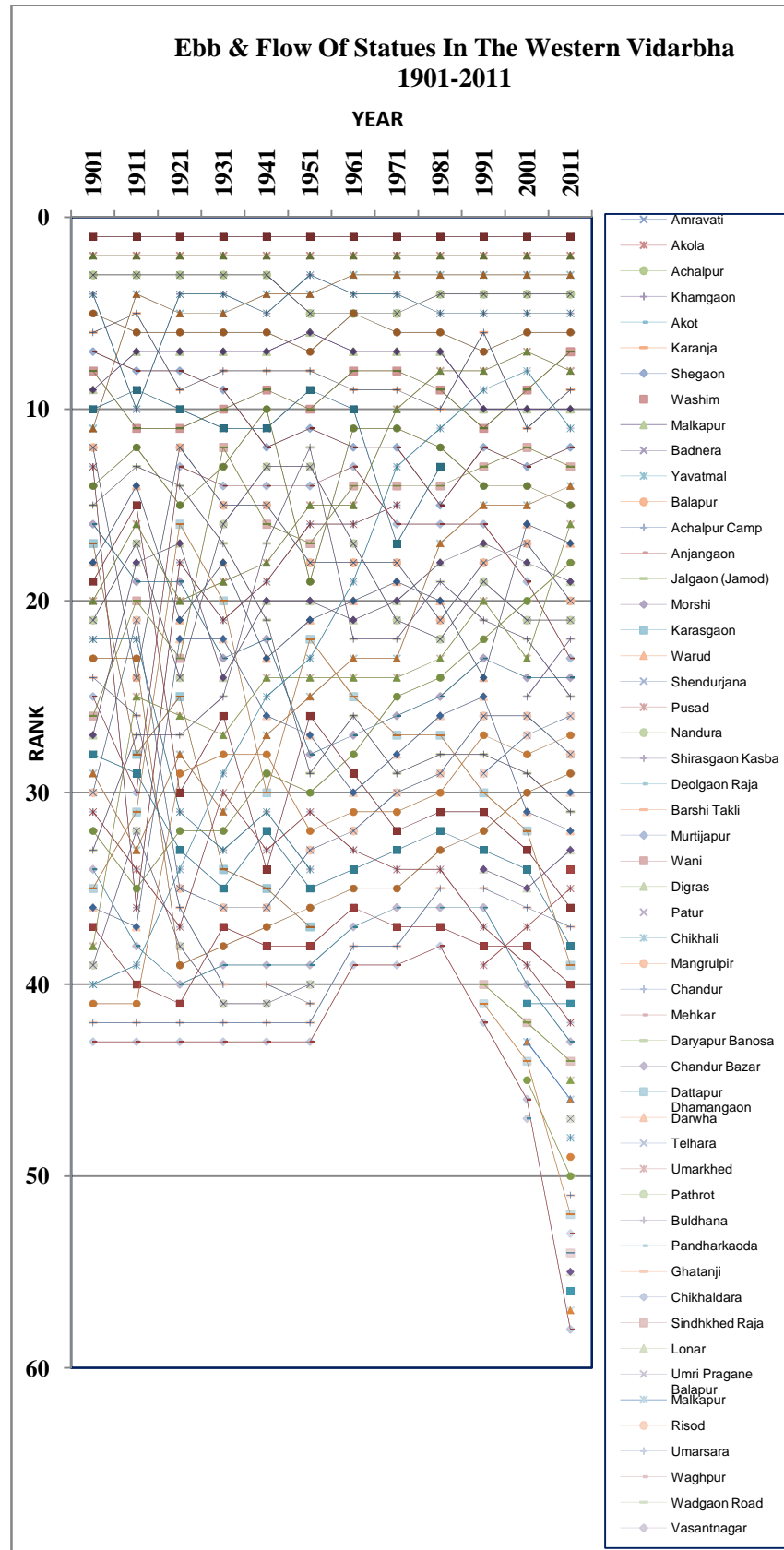


FIG.NO. 2

From 1991 to 2011, there had been a drastic change in the ebb and flow of statues. In 1991 and 2011, there had been respectively 42 and 58 urban centers. It means in this decade four and sixteen, new urban centers have newly originated. And the new urban centers in 1991 had been Sindkheda Raja, Lonar, Risod, Umarsara, and Rajur. Whereas, in 2011 the new urban centers arose where Ner, Lohara, Dharani, Yavatmal®, Shivani, Sundarkhed, Khadaki Bk., Shrirampur, Pimpalgaon, Deogiri, Umari Pr.Akola, Shivar,. In 1991 Bandera had been declassified as urban centers. Vasantnagar arose first time as an urban center in 2001 in 47th rank but in next 2011 census it was declined.

Yavatmal had been 11th in statues in 1901 but from 1911 to 2011 it had been fluctuated between five and three. At last in 2011 it had been settled on 3rd statues. In 1901 Malkapur had been on 9th statues but rest of the year it maintained a steady 6th and 7th place throughout except when in 1991 to 2011 it dropped to the 10th position. Akot had maintained its position between five & seven.

In the western Vidarbha, Buldhana is the only urban center which rose in statues constantly. Its statues had been started from 40th in 1901 and had been settled in 2011 on 11th statues. The reason for the rise of the Buldhana was due to the excess of the population. There had been some decline by emigration from the districts of Amravati and Akola. The district of Buldhana has gained slightly and the Yavatmal district Considerably remained in the balance of migration. These districts and by the probabilities of the case of dangerous plague which affected many Towns and villages of the Amravati and Akola districts at the time of the census must have caused a temporary exodus of people. Some of whom would have crossed the border. The Yavatmal district which is behind the others in progress and development has attracted a considerable number of cultivators from outside who have taken up much of the agricultural land then available.

Jalgaon (Jamod), Morshi, Shendurjana, Deolgaon Raja, Patur, Chandur, Chandur Bazar and Telhara suffered a setback in their statues order. Murtizapur, Wani, Digras, Chikhali, Mehkar, Darwah, Umarked, Balapur, Pandharkaoda, Ghatanji too had declined in the urban hierarchy of the region but not to large extent.

Chikhaldara has been a very small urban center but then also it remained as an urban center till 2011. Gonds and Korkus have settled in this urban center in Melghat area of Amravati District. It had been opened out to the North by a good road, there by an increase of population, which is partly due to immigrants and cultivators from the north. Pusad and Wani on the southern border of the Yavatmal district have risen by 8th and 13th statues in 2011 respectively.

Risod had arisen as an urban center in 1991. And its statues had been in 1991 and in 2011, 29th and 26th respectively. Before arising as an urban center, it was a big village with a flourishing grain trade and was a central market place in the heart of thickly populated rural area. The number of non-agriculturists had been slightly higher than that of the agriculturists.

Shegaon had been 7th in 1901 and had been fluctuated in 2011 on 12th statues. Yavatmal districts urban centers are not so fully developed as the rest of western Vidarbha. It has been always accepting the Melghat, and it contains fairly extensive forests peopled by primitive tribes. The growth of population had been considerable and as shared by all sub-districts. It is to be noticed that in this district as elsewhere the population shows the

biggest increase in the more backward tracts where in times of comparative plenty, the aboriginal population always tends to multiply rapidly.

In western parts of the Vidarbha, roads and railway lines have improved the importance of the settlements of the region. In this area Mumbai- Nagpur double broad gauge railway lines, Purna-Khandawa meter gauge and Achalpur-Yavatmal narrow gauge are also available. Dhule-Calcutta National Highway No.6 goes from this region. These railway lines and national highways are available in the middle part of the region because of that; it had improved the growth of urban centers.

Table No.2 shows that there are some urban centers like Karanja,Shegaon, Balapur, Jalgaon (Jamod), Morshi, Shendurjana, Deolgaon Raja, Patur, Chandur, Chandur Bazar which were staturesd 6th, 7th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 19th, 23rd, 28th, 31st, 34th respectively in 1901. Most of the above mentioned urban centers are situated under Satpuda Hills. During that period these urban centers were lacking good communication but still the statues of these urban centers was high but in 2011 the statuesing is found to be poor and the statues of these urban centers in 2011 has been found to be as follows: - 9th, 12th, 20th, 31st, 24th, 36th, 29th, 38th, 42nd, 43rd respectively. Now the question arises why the statues was high during that period which later on failed and it has been found that during that period these urban centers were having strong rural economy and other centers near it were dependent on it.

The physical conditions have been by no means entirely favorable to the development of population. In any case, it seems probable that in view of the fact that all available land has been taken up, any considerable increase in population must in the central portions be confined to existing urban areas or connected with an extension of urban life.

Conclusion:

Nagpur is the only urban center that remained No.1 in statues throughout from 1901 to 2011.Owing to the commercial importance of the second capital of the province, the population has naturally tended to concentrate around it and the growth has been rapid. Nagpur is the chief focal point of roads, railways and irrigation systems. In the Eastern Vidarbha in 1901, there were 27 urban centers but in the census of 2011, there are 104 urban centers. The factors that were responsible for the significant ebb and flow of the statues of the urban centers of the regions are the construction of Pench Hydroelectricity Project, Gosikhurd Project, the emergence of agricultural market centers, and the construction of the major roads and railway lines introduced new location and economic elements rearranging the relative importance of the urban settlements of the region. Table No.2 shows the western part of Vidarbha's urban centers. In 1901, there had been 43 urban centers but in 2011 only 15 more centers arose and then its total number of urban centers were 58. As compared to eastern Vidarbha and western Vidarbha, there is a drastic change from 1901 to 2011. In east Vidarbha in 1901, there had been only 27 urban centers but in 2011, it had almost three times doubled that is 104 urban centers arose. Whereas, we can see that the progress of urban centers in western part of Vidarbha is very slow. In western Vidarbha, Amravati had a leading urban center from 1901 to 2011.

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