

# Flood Frequency Analysis of High Magnitude Riverine Flood of Upper Godavari Basin

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## ABSTRACT:

Flood is weather related hydrological globally widespread disaster and most frequently occurrence phenomena. It is overflow situation of river during heavy rainfall inundating area along channel. Recently published report of two decade (1995-2015) assessment of worldwide flood concluded that, 2.3 billion and 1.57 lakhs populations affected and killed respectively subsequently many more study and report exposed that India to be gradually flood prone country placed in top ten in context to lives and GDP losses with recurrence of high magnitude flood towards end of 21st century. Genuine research published in nature of rainfall of period 66 years (1950-2017) exhibiting significant observation that, over central India, 'the mean monsoon rainfall is a decline but the frequency of extreme rainfall events (daily rainfall  $\geq 150$  mm) it has increased by about 75% during the period (Roxy, et al., 2017). Literature available on Upper Godavari basin also has been in same line of fact. Flood frequency is statistical measure of high magnitude flood occurrence probability. Hence, in this attempt flood frequency curve or plot has adopted to comprehend high magnitude discharge or flood events at five gaging stations of sub-basins of Upper Godavari basin, Maharashtra. In conclusion we found flood frequency of high magnitude flood recurrence interval in year given in bracket with gaging stations, Nandur Mamdmeshwar (55), Jayakwadi dam (40) Gangapure dam (47), Kopargaon (110 to 130), Bhandardara dam (115), Mula dam (150). It very cogent in flood risk assessment, forecasting and management practices.

Key Words: Flood, Frequency curve, Upper Godavari basin, Recurrence interval

## I. INTRODUCTION

Flood is most frequently occurring, big killer of people, terrible harmful hydrological hazard cum disaster experienced by almost every country and communities of the world. It has extensive spatiotemporal scope. Flood is trigger to various phenomena as type of floods viz. flash flood, costal flood, urban flood and riverine flood instigate by heavy rainfall and lack of drainage. Flood severity is byproduct of combination of intensity cum spatiotemporal distribution of rainfall, topography cum surface nature, river pattern cum basin size-shape and anthropogenic encroachments cum interference.

Dichotomy has been observed while thoroughly reading, studying and reviewing literature which is available right from local to international level that is fluvial floods are natural or man induced. This dichotomy is not only in the literature but also among the layman, environmental-social activist, administrators, NGOs, politician, planners and policy makers, and judiciary also. Commonsense make enable to say confidently that most of time flood is man induced rather than natural looking at recent year events in the climate change ear. The Earth's environment was stable in the past ten thousand year as period of Holocene when human civilization arise, developed and flourish but in recent period stability of nature may under threatened particularly since Industrial Revolution new era called Anthropocene in which human actions, activities and so-called development have becomes main driver force for global environmental changes without sustainability (Rockström, et al., 2009). Under the effect of climate change, severe meteorological and hydrological phenomena including flood with the potential to cause, loss of human life, social disruption and economical loss. The frequency, magnitude and consciences of flood have been increased and become top killer among the natural and manmade hazards. The specific magnitude flood recurrence interval in large and medium river basins of the world has been increased.

Among all natural disasters, occurrence percentage of flood hydrological disaster is 43% with top rank having observed 3062 flood events since 1995 to 2012 within 20 years in the world (Wahlstrom & Guha-Sapir, 2015). UNISDR report entitled The Human Cost of Weather Related Disaster (WRD)-2019-2015 rightly pointed out that people frequently and highly affected by flood and in two decades (1995-2015) number of affected people was 2.3 billion (56%) hence it is top one among the all-weather related disaster. Flood killed 157000 which are 26% of WRD people in two decades. Economic damage is more than 25% (662 billion US\$). Future losses to be increased in built environment by five disaster in which river flooding is one with earthquake, tsunamis, tropical cyclone and wind & storm surge. (UNISDR, 2018)

Natural and Man induced are two broad category of disasters. Hydrological hazard defined by (EM-DAT, 2009) as a hazard caused by the occurrence, movement, and distribution of surface and subsurface freshwater and saltwater. Among the natural hazard, hydrological hazard Flood is most frequently recurrent one which has been classified as. Coastal, Riverine, Flash and Ice Jam Flood (EM-DAT, 2009) (Wahlstrom & Guha-Sapir, 2015). Flood is maximum flow which results high water level that overflows the river banks (natural or artificial levees) along the stream due to heavy rainfall, storm, cyclone and snow melting

## II. FLOOD LOSSES IN INDIA & MAHARASHTRA:

Most of the internationally published research based report cogent reports have been strongly and tactfully underlined that India is high flood prone country. (Simpkins, 2017), concluded that thirty million people affected by extensive flooding in India because of extreme rainfall which result in flash flood (Goswami, Venugopal, Sengupta, Madhusoodanan, & Xavier, 2006) as well as same events are increasingly common in recent decades, threefold increase in widespread extreme rain events over central India during 1950–2015 and India alone amounted to losses of about \$3billion per year, which is 10% of the global economic losses (Roxy, et al., 2017). National Flood Commission 1980, reported 40m.ha flood prone is in India with

33.516m.ha, unprotected and rest of it is protected, subsequently according to X & XI plan area was reported 45.64 m.ha. (Paithankar, 2013)

India witnessed worst natural disaster where flood is most recurrent and most devastating are Bihar flood (1987), Maharashtra Flood, 2005, Assam Floods, 2012, Uttarakhand Floods 2013, Kashmir Floods, 2014 (DB, 2018), are five most devastating floods of India, with some more events viz. Kerala Flood-2018, 2017-Mumbai, Gujrath, West Benal, Bihar, North East India,2016-Brahmaputra, 2015- Chennai, Gujrat, Assam, 2014-Kashmir, 2013-North India(UK), 2013 Brahmaputra, 2008-Bihar.2007-Bihar,2005 Mumbai. The 268 flooding events in India between1950–2015 witnessed impact like 825 million people, leaving 17 million homeless and killing 69,000 people (Roxy, et al., 2017)

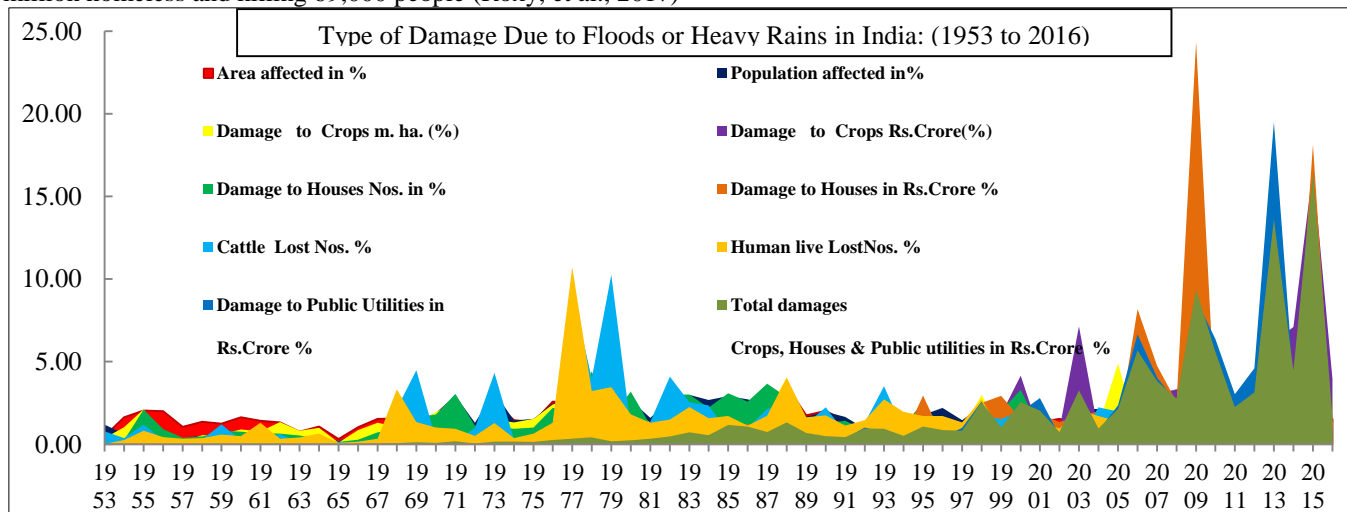


Fig.1: Type of Damage Due to Floods or Heavy Rains in India: (1953 to 2016)

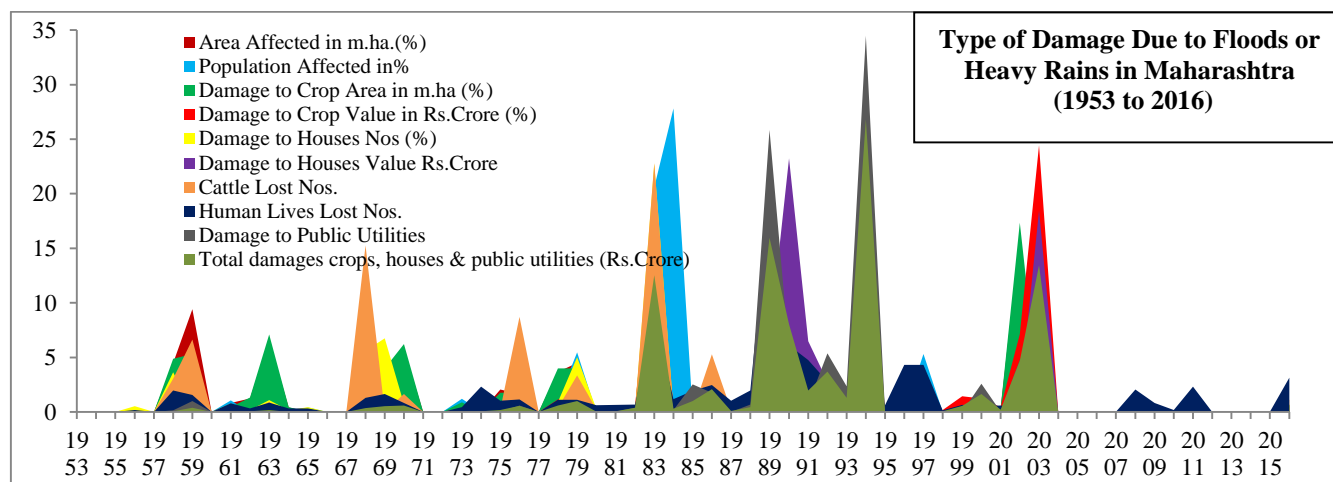
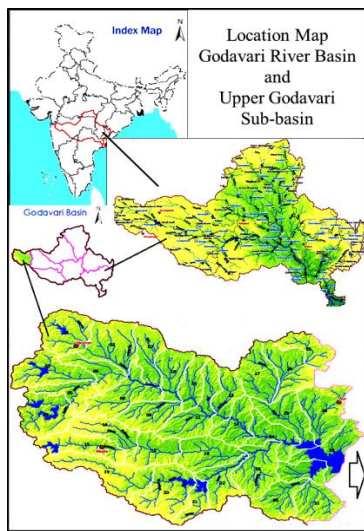


Fig 2: Type of Damage Due to Floods or Heavy Rains in Maharashtra: (1953 to 2016), Source: (FFD, 2018)

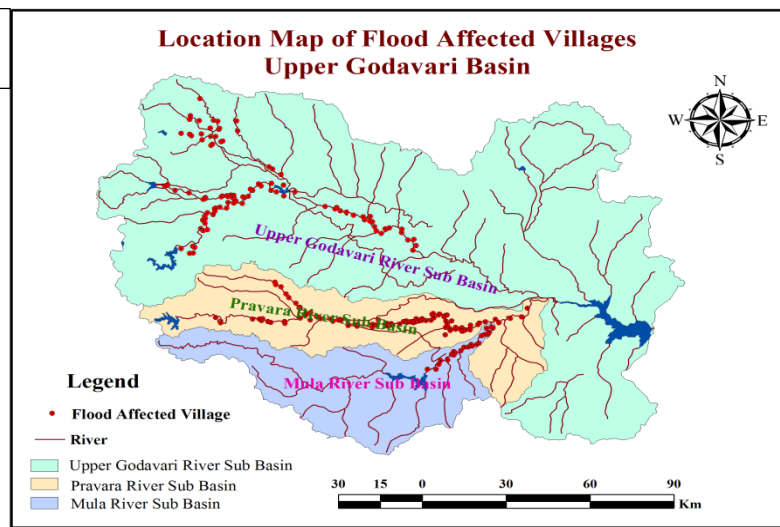
**III. STUDY AREA: LOCATION AND DETAIL REVIEW OF FLOOD IN UPPER GODAVARI BASIN**

Godavari River is flow in central India as second largest after Ganga River which source of water to drinking, irrigation, industry, power generation and it scared one among Hindu culture. Its absolute extension is 73°24’ to 83°4’ E and 16°19’ to 22°34’ N having source at Trimbakeshwar, Nashik, Maharashtra and flow with 1,465 km length up to mouth at Bay of Bengal sea. The total area is 3, 12,812 Sq.km which is nearly 9.5% of the total geographical area of the country, it is distributed among six states and one union territory. Upper Godavari sub basin (Map-1) from source to Jaykwadi dam has been considered as study area, which actual area is 21443.23 Sq.km. Within sub basin, six gauging stations have been selected for flood frequency analysis.

Upper Godavari basin is having good number of major (12), Medium (10) Minor (82) and local sector dams (871) with few ongoing projects as an water management aspect but in heavy rainfall during monsoon period this network get over flow and flood has been observed along the main channel in the basin where lives, property, agricultural field and crop, infrastructure etc. get effect of adjacent settlements. (GoM-WRD, 2013) IITM Pune (MWR-GOI, 2008) has been studied entire country and three basins Ganga, Godavari Krishna with focus on spatial change in summer monsoon rainfall variability and water availability and genuinely predicted increase in extreme rainfall and rainfall intensity with rainy days in the basin toward 21<sup>st</sup> century, Godavari basin projected to have higher rainfall than Ganga and Krishna basins and flow would be change from 98 km<sup>2</sup> (1961:1990) to 116km<sup>2</sup> (2071:2100) (MWR-GOI, 2008), so flood management related policy implications have been suggested. The mean monsoon rainfall is a decline but the frequency of extreme rainfall events (daily rainfall ≥ 150 mm) it has increased by about 75% during the period (Roxy, et al., 2017).



Map 1: .Location Map of Upper Godavari



Map 2: Flood Affected Villages (FAV) Source:

**IV. FLOOD AFFECTED VILLAGES AND POPULATION IN UPPER GODAVARI BASIN**

While taking review of flood related reports of various departments, it found that 215 villages in Upper Godavari basin are Flood Prone or Affected which have been visualized in map below with sub basin boundary to understand sub basin wise distribution. Flood affected villages are visualized on the map of Upper Godavari and its sub basins such as Upper Godavari Sub basin, Pravara Sub basin and Mula Sub basin (Map-2). The total 215 villages (Map-2) from Upper Godavari basin has been identified as flood prone by irrigation departments (Paithankar, 2013). Out of 215, the 111 are located along the Godavari main channel in Upper Godavari sub basin, 79 & 25 are found in Pravara and Mula sub basins respectively (Map-2). Likelihood this number to be increase with erratic nature of rainfall and land use change in the basin. Hence analysis of existing flood discharge data is need of time and cogent.

**V. HYDROLOGICAL DATA & FLOOD ANALYSIS OF VARIOUS SITE**

Data is fact in form of quantity or quality nature. Data is radical in all kinds of analysis including hydrological. Hero of Alexandria first time monitored riverine flow in 1<sup>st</sup> century (Jain, 2012), whereas in India this practice begins with measurement of precipitation by Chanakya or Kautilya or Vishnugupta (EB) in 4<sup>th</sup> century (Wikipedia, 2017). Monitoring hydrological cycle in long period to archive is essential in order to comprehensive understand of this continue global water system towards establishing predictive models and risk management (BHS, 2012). In the present study, most of time series hydrological data has been used to carry out Flood Frequency Analysis (FFA) of selected gauging stations of Upper Godavari River basin

Table 3: Selected Hydrological gauging stations in present study from Upper Godavari basin. (Source CWC)

| SN | Gaging Station  | Rivers      | District   | Catchment Area | Latitude  | Longitude |
|----|-----------------|-------------|------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1  | Gangapur Dam    | Godavari    | Nashik     | 357            | 20°02'24" | 73°40'46" |
| 2  | NMD Wier        | Godavari    | Nasik      | 4650           | 20°00'34" | 74°07'56" |
| 3  | Kopargaon       | Godavari    | Ahmednagar | 6840           | 19°52'42" | 74°28'55" |
| 4  | Bhandardara Dam | Pravara (G) | Ahmednagar | NA             | 19°32'15" | 73°45'55" |
| 5  | Mula Dam        | Mula (G)    | Ahmednagar | 2280           | 19°19'00" | 76°22'00" |
| 6  | Jaikwadi Dam    | Godavari    | Aurangabad | 22410          | 19°29'14" | 75°22'16" |

**VI. FLOOD FREQUENCY (FF) ANALYSIS & RETURN PERIOD (T)**

Frequency analysis of flood is very active technic to investigate extreme magnitude events to its frequency of occurrence using probability distribution (Rao & Hamed, 2000), it deals with the incidence of peak discharges (Schumm) to understand frequency of hydrological event. Understanding of FF of any river basin is fundamental necessity input in flood zoning, flood risk analysis and management, flood insurance activity which are significant for flood policy of basin (Dalrymple, 1960). Significant features of this method are temporal peak discharge. Gumbel introduced first time application of statistical frequency curves to floods using annual peak flow data which is available for number of year (Saksena).

Return period or average recurrence interval or repeat interval or most popular tool study hydrological events viz. flood, (Maity, 2018) and crucial in hydraulic, hydrologic design and hydroclimatic study. (Shiau, Shen, & Member, ASCE, 2001). (Maity, 2018), defined return period as *the average length of time for an event of given magnitude to be equaled or exceeded in a statistical sense*. In same line, Haan (1977) it is defined as the average elapsed time between occurrences of an event with a certain magnitude or greater.

**VII. FLOOD FREQUENCY CURVE (FFC)**

Flood Frequency plot is most suitable and used method to study frequency of high magnitude flood at gaging station in the basin. Three types of flood-frequency curve have been noticed viz. 1. discharge, 2. stage and 3. volume out of these first one discharge frequency curve is very common (Dalrymple, 1960) The FFC is simply relate flood discharge values to return periods to provide an estimate of the intensity of a flood event. This graph is plotting of discharge values against return period using liner or a logarithmic scale. Looking at cogent and applicability flood frequency curve has been applied for analysis of flood frequency subsequently to understand the flood risk at gaging station and downstream of station in study area. Essential data, statistical techniques and methodology has been given below in flow diagram (Fig.4). Recurrence interval (RI) or Return Period denote by capital 'T' is probability based statistical tool that particular event of flood flow will be equaled or exceed in any given year. In general, high discharge (flood flow) event has less recurrence interval where as low or minimum flow always to be high recurrence interval. The different formulas such as California ( $T=N/m$ ) and Hazen's ( $T=N/m-0.5$ ) but Weibull's formula ( $T=N-1/m$ ) which is used in present study and given below. is popular and widely used This is popular, widely sued and familiar to

calculate Return Period or Recurrence Interval (RI) in years or any time unite as per nature of data. (Christopherson & Hobbs, 2000)

**VIII. DATA SOURCES METHODOLOGY AND EQUATIONS:**

Hydrological data, particularly discharge of few sites was taken from various sources such as <http://www.india-wris.nrsc.gov.in/>, whereas data of Mula and Bhandardara dam has been collected from irrigation department Ahmednagar. The data has organized and analyzed in Excel-10 software. To carryout entire analysis for present study we have been flowed following equations and methodology presented in flow chart. Return period of all discharge observation at all six sites has been produced by Eq.1 subsequently probability and probability in percentage has been calculated using Eq.2 and Eq.3 respectively. Probability (P) is reverse of return period (T).

Recurrence Interval or Return Period:  $T = \frac{N+1}{M}$  ..... Eq.1

Probability:  $P = \frac{1}{T}$  .....Eq.2

Probability in %:  $P = \frac{1}{T} * 100$  .....Eq.3

Where...N: total record of discharge in years; M: Rank of particular discharge in total observations,

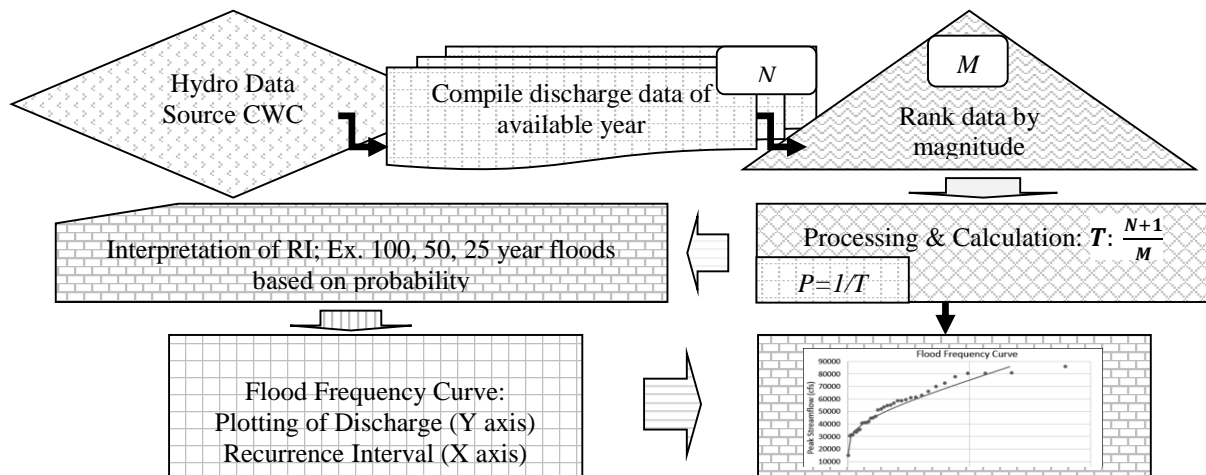


Fig 4: Methodology Flow Chart of Recurrence Interval and Flood Frequency Curve

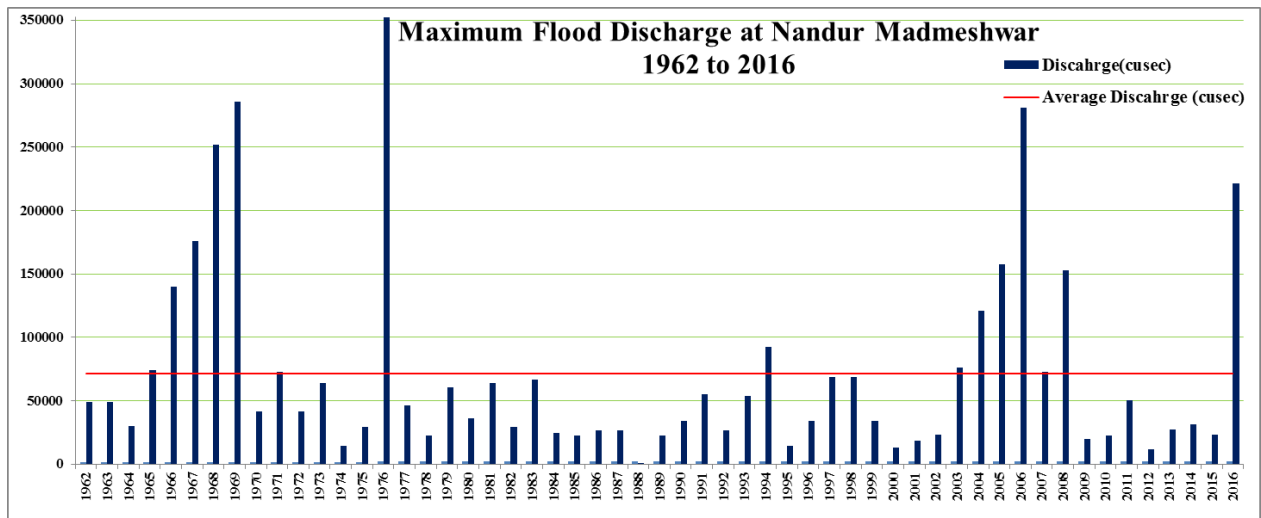


Fig.5: Hydrograph of Nandur-Madmeshwar Gauging Station in Upper Godavari basin (1962 -2016), Source: CWC

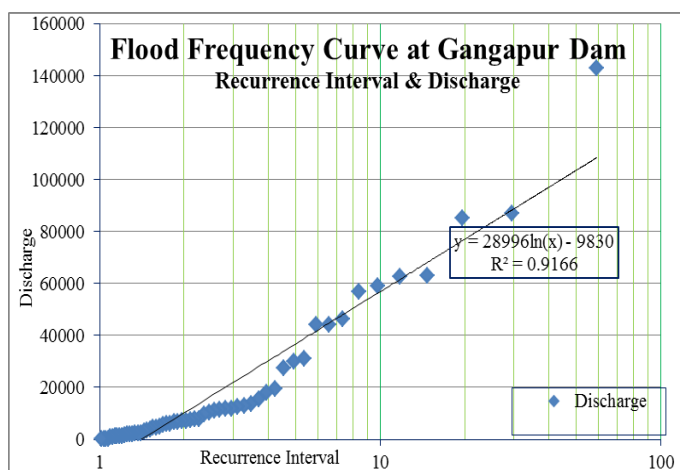


Fig 6: FFC at Gangapur Dam gauging station (G)

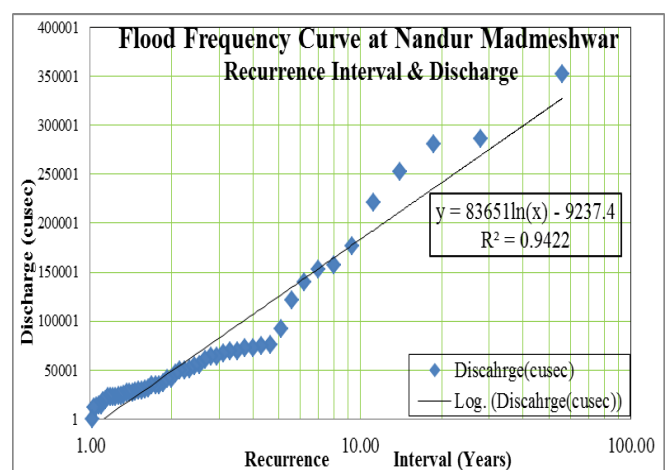


Fig 7: FCC at Nandur-Madmeshwar weir gauging station (G)

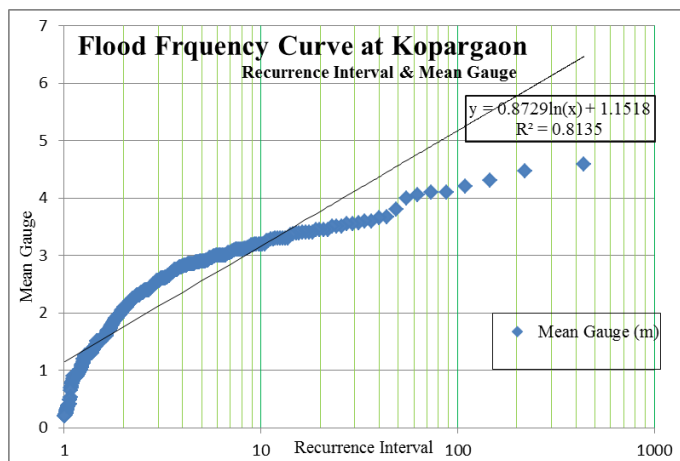


Fig 8: FFC at Kopargaon gauging station (G)

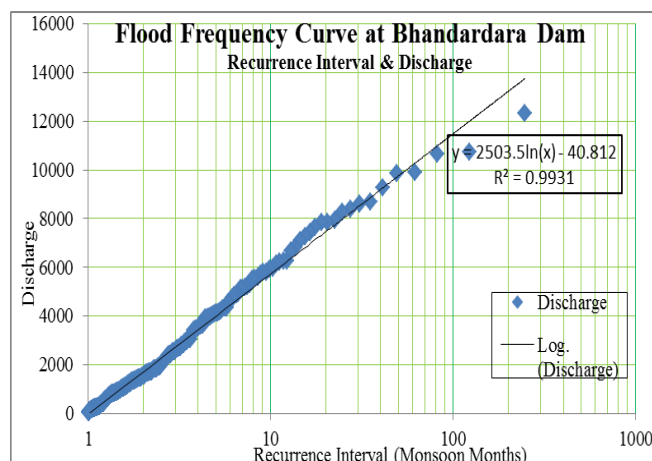


Fig 9: FCC at Bhandardara dam gauging station (P)

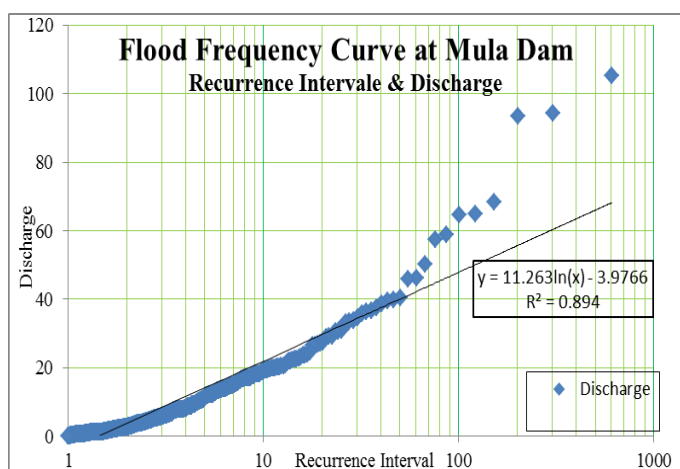


Fig 10: FFC at Mula dam gauging station (M)

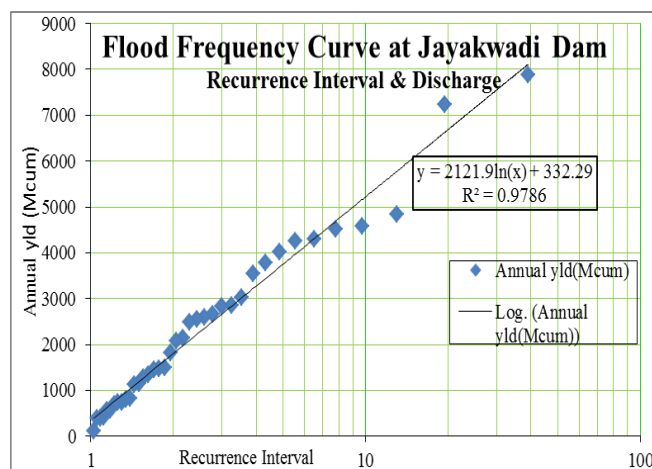


Fig 11: FCC at Jayakwadi dam gauging station (G)

**IX. ANALYSIS AND RESULT DISCUSSIONS**

All six sites (Table-3) data has been analyzed in order to produce flood frequency curve. It this entire process initially dada has been organized in descending order and then allotted ranks to each value. The arranging, ranking data and calculations of ‘T’ and ‘P’ based on ‘Q’ of all station has been done but not given her in details, only result in form of Flood Frequency Curves of all selected six is given since Fig. 6 to Fig. 11. Flood frequency curve is showing situation of recurrence interval of particular discharge. The at all station flood fact is different as Mula dam having (3) events, Kopargaon (2), Bhandardara dam (1) whose return period is more than 200years and remaining Gangapur (1), Nandur-Madmashwar (1), Jayakwadi dam (1) whose return period (T) is 20 to 60 years. High magnitude discharge flood has been found with its recurrence interval (Table-4) at all six selected sites.

Table 4: Recurrence Interval and Probability of selective high magnitude flood discharge of six gauging station

| Station         | Year | Q       | T     | (P = 1 / T)  | (P (%) = 1 / T*100) |
|-----------------|------|---------|-------|--------------|---------------------|
| Gangapur Dam    | 2006 | 142871  | 59    | 1/59=0.0169  | 1.7                 |
| NMD Weir        | 1976 | 352333  | 56.00 | 1/56=0.018   | 1.8                 |
| Kopargaon       | 1990 | 4.58    | 439   | 1/439=0.0023 | 0.23                |
| Bhandardara Dam | 1995 | 12306   | 246   | 1/246=0.004  | 0.40                |
| Mula Dam        | 2006 | 105.24  | 606   | 1/606=0.0017 | 0.17                |
| Jayakwadi Dam   | 2006 | 7889.13 | 39    | 1/39=0.026   | 2.56                |

**X. CONCLUSION:**

Return period is determination of the possibility of an even such as flood in hydrological study in order to understand the risk of same magnitude flood after expected interval of time. Flood risk assessment is very fundamental activity while study river hydrology toward planning of ricer restoration, hydro project development and flood hazard management. In present study return period at three stations viz. Mula dam, Kopargaon and Bhandardara of high magnitude is found more that is more than 200 year. Other three sites viz. Gangapur dam, Nandur-Madmashwar dam and Jayakwadi where return period of high magnitude is between 20 to 60 years. It can be say that at all sites or downstream having probability of high magnitude flood. At Gangapur which is located upstream of Nashik city where recurrence interval of high magnitude flood of 2006 (Q142871) is 59, it means respected amount of flood probably likelihood in practice once in 59 years which probability is 0.0169 or 1.7 percent. It could be dangerous to the Nashik city.

Study has been found three high magnitude flood years e.g. (2006, 2016, 2004) at Gangapur, (1976, 1969, 2006) at Nanduardmadmeshwar, (1990, 2013, 2001) at Kopargaon, (1995, 1976, 2005) at Bhandardara, (2006, 2008, 2005) at Mula project and (2006, 1976, 1990) at Jayakwadi Paithan dam. The range of return period (T) of all above mentioned years discharge magnitude is from 13 (Jayakwadi dam-1990) to 439 (Kopargaon-1990) years.

Recent study produced & published in reputed journals noticed that this basin would be have erratic nature of rainfall and rain may decline but extreme events of rains and subsequently flood likely to be increased in days to come. On this back ground this study is significant, plus it helps to hydrologist while hydro project development planning is in practice. In short flood frequency analysis using flood frequency curve based on the return period of recurrence interval has been cogent towards flood risk assessment (future scope of study) in the upper Godavari river sub basin with special focus on Pravara, Mula and Upper Godavari sub basins as part of Godavari Upper basin.

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