3. STUDY AREA – SRIRANGAPATNA

Srirangapatna town is a municipality with a population of 25061 as per the census of 2011 and is well known for its rich history and heritage. This erstwhile capital of the Mysore kingdom is situated at a distance of 126 kilometers from Bangalore, the capital city of Karnataka State and 18 kilometers from Mysore, the cultural capital of the State. Srirangapatna is the taluk head quarters of the taluk Srirangapatna, in Mandya district, on the Bangalore- Mysore highway (SH-17). It is well connected by rail and road and is a place of historic, cultural and religious significance. Srirangapatna has undergone major changes over the centuries. Being a place of historic significance, it has seen countless battles some of which have shaken the foundation of its massive fort wall, that still stand as a testament to the greatness of Srirangapatna’s glorious past. Distinguished ruling dynasties like The Gangas, Hoysalas, Vijayanagar Kings, The Wodeyars of Mysore and Hyder Ali & Tippu have left their indelible mark on the cultural legacy of this town. Innumerable monuments are a living testimony of this Heritage.

3.1 MYTHOLOGY AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

According to Hindu mythology, Lord Vishnu appeared here to Rishi Gautama in the form of Sriranganatha and established himself on this island attended by the consort, the river goddess Cauvery seated at his feet holding a lotus in her hand. Gautama rishi’s cave is supposed to be hidden beneath two large boulders on the north side of Small Island to the west of Srirangapatna, called Gautama kshetra. The presiding deity of this temple town is Lord Ranganathaswamy, also known as Adiranga. The name Srirangapatna has been derived from a 1000 year old temple dedicated to Lord Sriranganatha which dominates the town, making Srirangapatna one of the most important Vaishnavite centers of pilgrimage in south India. The temple was built by the Ganga dynasty rulers of the area in the 9th century; the structure was strengthened and improved upon architecturally by the successive dynasties. Thus, the temple is a medley of the Hoysala and Vijayanagar styles of temple architecture. Tradition holds that all the islands formed along the Cauvery River are consecrated to Sri Ranganathaswamy, and large temples have been built in very ancient times dedicated
to that deity on the three largest islands. Adiranga in Srirangapatna is the first of the famous trio, the other two being Madhyaranga of Shivanasamudra in Mandya district and Antyaranga located at Srirangam of the State, Tamilnadu. In the early days the name of the town was anglicized as Seringapattana and now it is called as Srirangapatna.

3.1.1 The Gangas: Srirangapatna town has a very interesting history of its origin that commences from the 9th century as revealed in an inscription stating that a Ganga Chieftain by name Thirumalaraya is the founder of the temple of Sriranganatha. The Central and Southern parts of the old Mysore State including the Mandya District and parts of the Cauvery basin were ruled by a line of Kings of Gangas, who were in power from 2nd century to about the beginning of the 11th century.

3.1.2 Hoysalas: Large number of inscriptions and monuments found in Srirangapatna, trace the influence of the rule of Hoysalas and Vijayanagar kings. In 1120 A.D. Udayaditya, brother of Hoysala King, Vishnurvardhana, appears to have built the original town of Srirangapatna. An inscription of great Hoysala King, Veeraballala II, who ruled the Mysore area in 1200 A.D., found on the inner wall of the Sriranganatha temple, mentions the grant of endowments by the King for the worship of the God. Later on the Hoysala King, Vishnurvardhana conferred on Sri Ramanujacharya and his followers, the tract of the country on each side of the river Cauvery at Srirangapatna, known by the name of Ashtagrama or eight villages, over which he appointed officers under the ancient designations of Prabhus and Hebbars.

3.1.3 Vijayanagar Viceroys: Srirangapatna became the seat of the local viceroy of the Vijayanagar Empire during the 15th century. In 1454 A.D., Thimmanna, a chieftain of Nagamangala, obtained the title of Dandanayaka by the Vijayanagar rulers and with their permission built the fort at Srirangapatna. Some improvements to the temple of Sriranganatha were also done during this period. His descendants governed this place until 1495 A.D., when Srirangapatna passed in to the direct possession of the Vijayanagar Kings. The place was probably considered as too important to remain in the hands of a feudatory. The town and the fort assumed such strategic importance that Saluva Narasa, father of the King, Krishnadevaraya, took possession of Srirangapatna and afterwards it was ruled by the Viceroys of
Vijayanagar Kings. It was eventually administered in the name of Vijayanagar Sovereigns, by a Viceroy named Srirangaraya. The last Viceroy, Thirumalaraya, was a relative of the royal family of Mysore.

3.1.4 Mysore Rajas: With the downfall of Vijayanagar Empire in 1565 A.D. the powers of the Viceroy’s dwindled and the Wodeyars of Mysore, though acknowledging the nominal suzerainty of Vijayanagar, obtained possession of Srirangapatna in 1610 A.D. Early in the 17th century differences arose between Thirumalaraya, the last Viceroy and Venkatapathiraya, his emperor and cousin. On behalf of the Emperor Raja Wodeyar, the enterprising ruler of Mysore, Thirumalaraya took over Srirangapatna in 1610 A.D. and it became the capital of the Rajas of Mysore. From then onwards for nearly half a century the Mysore Rajas greatly increased their prestige and authority. Srirangapatna continued to be the seat of government until its seizure by the British during the last Anglo-Mysore war in 1799 A.D.

3.1.5 Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan: In the 18th century Marathas often approached Srirangapatna and forced heavy payments. During this period the capital has been besieged several times by the Marathas and it was during 1760-61, the period of Krishnaraja Wodeyar II, that Hyder Ali drove back the Marathas and stayed to rule it in the name of the Maharaja Krishnaraja Wodeyar II and expanded the territories. Gradually Hyder Ali expanded the State so far that it extended from Dindigal in the South to Belgaum and river Krishna in the north. The Raja was nominally the King, while Hyder Ali was the all powerful military dictator, supported by the patriotic elements in the State, both Hindu and Muslim.

After the death of Hyder Ali in 1782, his son Tippu Sultan, who was only in his early thirties, succeeded to his position. The combined armies of the British, the Nizam and the Marathas overran the territories in 1791 and Lord Cornwallis crossed over by the Ganjam ford to the island and bombarded the eastern walls of the fort. Tippu Sultan was forced to sign the treaty of Srirangapatna and surrender his two sons as hostages for the payment of a heavy indemnity. After this Tippu became more hostile to the British and continued to gain the sustained support of the French. The British army with the allied forces of the Nizam and Marathas marched upon Srirangapatna and
attacked the island and besieged it on killing Tipu Sultan on May 4th 1799. This siege ended the reign of Tipu Sultan, sounded the death Knell for the sovereign State. General Baird led the British attack of the fort; Major Allan, the Deputy Quarter Master General of the British forces gained entry to the palace and delivered an ultimatum to the Mysore forces to surrender.

3.1.6 Srirangapatna, after the fall of Tipu Sultan: With the death of Tipu, the British became the Masters of the country by right of conquest. Colonel Wellesley, who had led the allied forces against Tipu, prevailed on the authorities to effect a restoration in favour of the old princely family of the Wodeyars. Krishnaraja Wodeyar III, then a young boy of 5 year old came to be placed on the throne on 30th June 1799 of Mysore with Purnaiah, who was an able revenue minister of Tipu, as the Dewan. A British Garrison was stationed at Srirangapatna, under the command of General Wellesley, (who later became the Duke of Wellington) and the Raja’s capital was shifted to Mysore. Later on the British Cantonment was removed from Srirangapatna to Bangalore. With these changes the Srirangapatna began to decline. The population of the island, which was about 1, 50,000 during the rule of Tipu Sultan, had reduced to 32,000 within a year. The population continued to decline still further showing the figures as 12,551 in 1891 to 6,300 in 1931. The slight increase in the population was seen at 10,433 in 1951, 11,423 in 1961, 23,729 in 2001 and 25,061 in 2011 respectively. With the death of Tipu, the town suddenly ceased to be of any political significance. The town lost most of its proud heritage and today can be seen to be a dwindling image of the past, still trying desperately to hang on its history.

Srirangapatna was a flourishing city during Chikkadevaraya’s time. The inscriptions and the writings of British officers corroborate this view. An inscription dated 1685 A.D. gives a vivid description of the place. Major Dirom, who was a staff officer in the besieging of the British army in 1792, describes the place in the following words. “This insulated metropolis must have been the richest, most convenient and beautiful spot possessed in the present age by any native Prince in India.” Francis Buchanan who visited Srirangapatna in 1800 A.D. said of Gumbaz as follows: - “Though built of mud, it possess a considerable degree of elegance and is the handsomest native building that I have ever seen”. He also left a glowing account of the remains of the palace saying that in its heyday the palace must have been a magnificent structure and
even the magnificent palace of the Vijayanagar viceroy at Srirangapatna was no match for it.

3.2 PHYSICAL SETTING

3.2.1 Location: Srirangapatna is an island town on the Bangalore-Mysore Highway in the state of Karnataka, India, and is encircled by the river Cauvery (Fig. 3.1). It is a town in the Mandya district located near the city of Mysore at a distance of 18 km and 126 km from the State capital, Bangalore and about 30 km from Mandya the District headquarters and is of great historic, religious and cultural importance. The entire town is enclosed by the river Cauvery to form an island. While the main river flows on the eastern side of the island, the *Paschima Vahini* segment of the same river flows to its west. The town is easily accessible by train from Bangalore and Mysore and is also well-connected by road. The highway passes through this town and special care was taken to minimize any impact on the monuments here.

![Fig. 3.1: Location of Srirangapatna Town](image)
Srirangapatna is located at 12.41° N 76.7° E. on the south east of Mandya district, and is bounded by Mysore district on its west and southwest, Pandavapura and Nagamangala town on its north, Mysore city on its south, Mandya and Maddur town on its east and Krishnarajanagar on its west. Srirangapatna town is well connected by road network to Bangalore and Mysore cities through SH-17. The Bangalore-Mysore broad gauge railway line runs through Srirangapatna town. It has an average elevation of 679 meters (2227 feet), on the Deccan Plateau with an area of 10.93 m². The town is situated on oval shaped island of about 5 km wide, along east – west and about 2 km wide, along north - south, with a gradual slope between the ends from east and west. The climate is warm and the temperature ranges between 14° c and 34.5° c. The town has good potential of plain and fertile land with water resources for irrigation. The average annual rainfall is 810 mm maximum and 217mm minimum.

Srirangapatna town since time immemorial has been an urban center and a place of pilgrimage. During the Vijayanagar Empire, it became the seat of a major viceroyalty, from where several nearby vassal states of the empire, such as Mysore and Talakad, were overseen. When, perceiving the decline of the Vijayanagar Empire, the rulers of Mysore ventured to assert independence and Srirangapatna was their first target. Raja Wodeyar vanquished Rangaraya, the then viceroy of Srirangapatna, in 1610 and celebrated the Navaratri festival in the town that year. It came to be accepted in time that two things demonstrated control and signified sovereignty over the Kingdom of Mysore by any claimant to the throne: One successful holding of the 10-day-long Navaratri festival, dedicated to Durga, patron goddess of Mysore and the other, Control of the fort of Srirangapatna, the fortification nearest to the capital city of Mysore. Srirangapatna remained part of the Kingdom of Mysore from 1610 till India's independence in 1947, as the fortress town closest to the capital city of Mysore. It was the last bastion and defence of the kingdom in case of any invasion.

3.2.2 Demographic Profile: Srirangapatna town has a population of 25,061 as per the census of India 2011; with the density of 501 per Sq. km. Male population constitute 49.28% of the total population and female population 50.72%. Srirangapatna has an average literacy rate of 73.13%, with male literacy rate 52.30%, and female literacy rate 47.70%. The decline of Srirangapatna began with the death
of Tippu Sultan in 1799. Before his death, the population of Srirangapatna was over 150,000. Within a year of Tippu Sultan’s death the population fell to a mere 32,000. The population continued to decline and reached to only 12,744 in 1851 and still lower to 10,594 in 1871. After the introduction of railway line between Srirangapatna and Bangalore in 1891 the population grew to 12,553 (Table 3.1). By 1931 it again declined to 6,300 because of the out migration and this was mainly due to the episodes of the epidemics like plague and malaria. Thus there was a negative growth of population from 1891 to 1931. The French Rocks sub-division now called Pandavapura was constituted as a separate District with Mandya as its headquarters in 1939. Due to the various developmental activities and programs initiated in Srirangapatna, the population of Srirangapatna gradually increased to 21,905 in 1991, 23,729 in 2001 and 25,061 in 2011, but is still a paltry figure considering its glorious past.

**Table 3.1: Growth of Population of Srirangapatna**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Variation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>12,744</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>10,594</td>
<td>-2,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>11,734</td>
<td>1,140*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>12,553</td>
<td>8,190*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>8,584</td>
<td>-3,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>7,457</td>
<td>-1,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>7,217</td>
<td>-240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>6,300</td>
<td>-917*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>7,678</td>
<td>1,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>10,433</td>
<td>2,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>11,423</td>
<td>990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>14,100</td>
<td>2,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>18,138</td>
<td>4,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>21,905</td>
<td>3,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>23,729</td>
<td>1,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>25,061</td>
<td>1,332</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India
The highlights of the major growth changes of the town during various periods are as follows:

- **1673-1704**: Srirangapatna was a Flourishing city and population was about 150,000.
- **1799**: Tipu Sultan death in the 4th Anglo-Mysore War and the end of Islamic rule in the history of Srirangapatna. Population started declining.
- **1811**: British troops were shifted from Srirangapatna to Bangalore, by leasing the Island to Krishnaraja Wodeyar III, who shifted his capital to Mysore. Prevalence of Malaria and Plague after the war resulted in out migration and hence there was a decline in the population growth during 1811-1861.
- **1882**: Bangalore to Mysore Railway line was opened for traffic and some of the developmental activities along with the resettlement started. The immigration to the town for working in railway projects and the natural growth of town lead to the increase in the percentage of population (57%) from 1871-1891.
- **1901-1931**: Again there was a decrease in the percentage of population due to the severe outbreak of Malaria and Plague.
- **1939**: The French rocks (Pandavapura) sub-division was constituted as a separate District and was named Mandya District.
The growth rate during the decade 1991-2001 was 6.91% and in the decade 2001-2011 is 5.61%. (Mandya district growth rate is 7.41 and 2.38 and the States growth rate is 17.25 and 15.60 respectively)

From Fig. 3.2, it is evident that the population of the town is meagerly increasing and it is high time to better manage through various planning measures for the harmonious development and smooth functioning of the town.

### 3.3 ECONOMIC PROFILE

The town is a Taluk head quarters and is a popular tourist destination. Table 3.2 shows the details of number of domestic and foreign tourist arrival to the town. The average income generated per year accounts to Rupees 71 lakhs. Also the Town Municipal council generates an income of Rupees 60 lakhs per year towards parking (Town Municipal Council). The current economic base of the town is agriculture and next to it is the trade and commerce. The principal crops are Paddy, Ragi, Pulses, Cereals and Millets (Mandya District at a Glance, 2012-13). The town has good potential with fertile land and is provided with irrigation facilities from Krishnarajasagar dam. The Tourism based services, commerce and trade activities are only at local level as Mysore city being very close, the town depends on it for higher order facilities.

#### Table 3.2: Number of Domestic and Foreign Tourist Arrival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Domestic Tourist</th>
<th>Foreign Tourist</th>
<th>Revenue (Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>877816</td>
<td>26791</td>
<td>70.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>933252</td>
<td>27063</td>
<td>73.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>925875</td>
<td>26297</td>
<td>72.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>919705</td>
<td>25295</td>
<td>71.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>962237</td>
<td>23286</td>
<td>71.39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Archaeological Survey of India, Srirangapatna

While tourism remains a small and indefinite source of income, agricultural revenue too is uncertain. The need to associate with tourists who become the consumers to a Tourism Driven Economy, forces the locals to encroach onto public space. Beside the road and on it the hawkers fill up not sparing even parks and open space, where they can easily attract tourists and pilgrims with their ware. Therefore, the main centers of
tourist activity have become a muddle of commercialization. Hawkers, beggars and shops crowd the streets hampering and impairing tourism and furthermore leading to accumulation of garbage. This cycle of consequences has affected the economic progress of this small town. Apart from affecting the economic condition of Srirangapatna, the access to the main town is now vulnerable to decay. Encroachments towards the main fort gate (which is the primary entry to the town) have made it nearly inaccessible. Control of Vandalism, plundering and looting of the fort wall has been made impossible.

3.3.1 Occupation Structure: At the height of its glory, agriculture, livestock rearing, forestry, fishing, plantation were the primary occupations of the people of Srirangapatna. But after its decline, it lost all its economic vigour. However, Srirangapatna gradually regained its importance as a place of worship and pilgrimage bringing along with it tourism and commercialization. The influence of these factors crushed the primary source of revenue for many families. As young men left their fields, finding work as guides for tourists, fields were left unmanned and uncared for. While tourism remains a slow and unsteady source of income agricultural revenue too remains minimal. Fig. 3.3 shows the Occupation Structure of Srirangapatna town.

![Fig. 3.3: Occupation Structure of Srirangapatna](Source: Mandya District at a Glance 2012-2013)
Table 3.3: Functional Category of Town

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Functional category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Primary cum service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Primary cum service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Primary cum service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Primary cum service cum tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Primary cum service cum tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Primary cum service cum tourism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India.

Observations:

- Cultivators and Agriculture labours are increasing from decade to decade as the town has good potential of agricultural land with irrigation facility. But the rate of change is gradual.
- The workers under Household industry and other workers are also increasing as the town has scope for service sector. As the town is the Taluk Headquarters, it serves the town and the surrounding villages.
- A sharp decrease in the marginal workers is seen between 1961 and 1981. The reason is most of the town population shifted their occupation to commercial and tourism related activities.
- There is an increase in the classification of other workers and Marginal workers but the other categories show a decline. This is due to the change of occupation from primary to tertiary sector.

Table 3.3 reveals that though the town has retained its primary activity, it is gradually taking up the tourism and service related activities. Hence the town is to be seen as a multifunctional town with service sector taking lead.

3.4 SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

During the reign of the monarch, the city of Srirangapatna had the feature of a giant organism with the various monuments acting as its organs. The city therefore became a conglomeration of activity with minimal diversification. Hyder Ali, the father of Tippu Sultan was very appreciative of other cultures and traditions (especially Hinduism) and allowed for their juxtaposition. Hence Srirangapatna remains one of the few cities of the time to retain elements of both Hinduism and Islam in such
proximity. The fact that Hyder Ali himself patronized the construction of the gopuram for the Srirangapatna temple is evidence of his respect for the bond between Hinduism and Islam that existed in Srirangapatna. However it is found that Hindu religion is dominating with 74%, followed by Muslims with 24%, the remaining with Christians and Sikhs.

The Religion has played a major role in the history of Srirangapatna. Both Hindu and Muslim rulers have made a major contribution to the town in the form of temples, mosques, tombs, gardens etc. These buildings not only functioned as religious places but also acted as cultural centers and at times supported the economy of the town. Among the religions Hindu religion is dominating with Muslim religion as the next in order. The city’s religious centers i.e., the temple and the mosque still occupy the same psychological territory as before. They function independently yet unite the town centrally by infusing a sense of connection inter-culturally as well as spatially.

Today the diversification due to the migration of population caused the city to fragment according to the positions of the various religious centers. The territorial nature of the monuments became very evident as opposed to the more genealogical nature of the city during Tipu sultan’s reign. The monarchial reign brought about intense intercultural exchange even so there were divisions within the communities themselves. The divisions of the caste system were present and are evident even today. In proximity to the temple lay the quarters of the Brahmin community which were closely associated with the activities in the temple and those belonging to a lower caste community got segregated.

3.5 URBAN CHARACTERISTICS
Srirangapatna was once a capital city. Its defense structures helped to hold out against the British occupation till very late. The class III town, with a population of 25061 the town’s present urban characteristics can be considered to be well preserved compared to other similar towns. Until the fall of Tipu Sultan in 1799, Srirangapatna was the capital of Mysore state. The subsequent shift of the capital to Mysore city caused the decay of Srirangapatna which quickly lost its political significance. The city’s religious centers i.e., the temple and the mosque still occupy the same psychological territory as before. They function independently, yet unite the town centrally by infusing a sense of connection inter-culturally as well as spatially.
The fall of Tippu brought about the fall of agricultural revenue. As farmers received no support from the British they immediately sought to transplant their activities elsewhere. Consequently as farmers departed, the town became less sustainable. People slowly left the town to find better living conditions. Srirangapatna’s rich heritage and its monuments were left behind and the town slowly began to die. Now as the town’s population became more diversified the fabric of the city is torn at the seams and it is no longer the unified, homogeneous city that it used to be. Recently most of the town has undergone major change. The penetration of “Modern” building techniques into the fabric of the town has not only affected the visual condition of the town but also has altered the social and behavioral shapes that defined its urban character. People’s dependence on agriculture has declined as they depend more on the revenue obtained from rent and other services.

3.6 STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN

3.6.1 Srirangapatna 9th - 15th Century: The historical town Srirangapatna has a very interesting history regarding its origin that commences from the 9th century A.D. as revealed in an inscription stating that a Ganga Chieftain by name Thirumalaraya is the founder of the temple of Sriranganatha. The Central and Southern parts of the old Mysore State including the Mandya District and parts of the Cauvery basin were ruled by a line of Kings of Gangas, who were in power from 2nd century A.D. to about the beginning of the 11th century A.D. Large number of inscriptions and monuments found in Srirangapatna, trace the influence of the rule of Hoysalas and Vijayanagar kings. In 1120 A.D. Udayaditya, a Hoysala King, appears to have built the original town of Srirangapatna. Srirangapatna became the seat of the local viceroy of the Vijayanagar Empire during the 15th century. In 1454, Thimmanna, a chief of Nagamangala, obtained the title of Dannayaka by the Vijayanagar rulers and with their permission built the fort at Srirangapatna. Some improvements to the temple of Sri Ranganathaswamy were also affected during this period. His descendants governed this place until 1495 (Fig. 3.4), when Srirangapatna passed in to the direct possession of the Vijayanagar Kings.
3.6.2 Srirangapatna 16th - 18th Century: With the downfall of Vijayanagar Empire in 1565 A.D. the powers of the Viceroyds dwindled and the Wodeyar of Mysore, obtained possession of Srirangapatna in 1610 A.D. On behalf of the Emperor Raja Wodeyar, the enterprising ruler of Mysore, Thirumalaraya took over Srirangapatna in 1610 A.D. and made it the capital of the Rajas of Mysore. From then onwards for nearly half a century the Mysore Rajas greatly increased their prestige and authority by carrying out development activities. Srirangapatna continued to be the seat of government until its seizure by the British during the last Anglo-Mysore war in 1799.

Srirangapatna was a flourishing city during this period with the rulers concentrating on the development of the town and built magnificent structures like palaces, temples, gardens, tombs and mosques. During 17th century the post office was started and the present bazaar street was earmarked for very important persons (VIPs) and was called as Soorya Beedhi (street). Ganjam was known as Pete (market) which was the industrial hub and Srirangapatna as Kote (fort). During the era of the king Sri Krishnadevaraya, Srirangapatna got the status of provincial capital. The temple was extended by the Hoysalas, Vijayanagar monarchs and Mysore Wodeyars and about 150,000 people lived in Srirangapatna province. During those days the construction of temple signified the prosperity of the rulers and thus the Jyothirmayi temple and
Shwetha Varaha temple were built in Hoysala style of architecture. The maximum development took place during this period (Fig.3.5).

![Map of Srirangapatna](image)

**Fig. 3.5: Land Use of Srirangapatna - 18th Century**

### 3.6.3 Srirangapatna 18th - 19th Century (after Tippu’s death): The major portion of the fort wall got destroyed during the wars against Marathas and English. With the death of Tippu, the British became the Masters of the country through conquest. A British Garrison was stationed at Srirangapatna, under the command of General Wellesley, (who later became the Duke of Wellington) and the Raja’s capital was shifted to Mysore and later on the British Cantonment was removed from Srirangapatna to Bangalore. With these changes the Srirangapatna began to decline.

The decline of Srirangapatna began with the death of Tipu Sultan in 1799 A.D. and the importance of being the capital was lost. It remained as a temple town, and the growth declined tremendously. The population of Srirangapatna which was over 0.15 million fell to a mere 32,000 within a year of Tipu’s death. The population continued to decline and reached to only 12,744 in 1851 A.D. and still lower to 10,594 in 1871 A.D. In 1882 Bangalore - Mysore Railway line was opened for traffic and some of the developmental activities along with the resettlement automatically started. The in-migration to the town for working in railway projects and the natural
growth of town lead to the slight increase in the percentage (7%) of population between 1871-1891. With the establishment of railway connection between Srirangapatna and Bangalore in 1891 A.D. the population grew to 12,500 (Fig. 3.6).

Fig. 3.6: Land Use of Srirangapatna - 19th Century (After Tippu’s Death)

3.6.4 Srirangapatna - 1950 – 1982: Srirangapatna became the Taluk headquarters and Municipal office was started. Since, the existing gate way could not be used for heavy vehicles; opening was made in the eastern side of the fort wall, to ease the traffic flow. The Municipal Court, Ring road-rampart road and Police quarters were constructed. Ashraya houses were built by the government scheme and high school was established. After 1990 the tourism sector started gaining importance. Bazaar Street has become 100% commercial and commercial activity is slowly spreading to the adjacent lanes. Government has converted farm land and barren land to make residential sites and construction activity is on the rise. Due to the various developmental activities and programmes initiated in Srirangapatna, the population of Srirangapatna gradually increased to 21,905 in 1991, 23,729 in 2001 and 25061 in 2011, but is still a paltry figure considering its glorious past. Though these initiatives were taken, the growth of the town is not remarkable (Fig. 3.7).

While tourism remains a slow and unsteady source of income, the need to associate with tourists who become the consumers to a tourism driven economy, forces the
locals to encroach onto public space and the main centers of tourist activity have become a muddle of commercialization. Hawkers and petty shops crowd the streets hampering and impairing tourism and furthermore leading to accumulation of garbage. This chain of consequences has affected the economic progress of this small town. However, Srirangapatna is gradually regaining its importance not only as a pilgrimage town but also as a historic and heritage town bringing along with it tourism and commercialization.

![Fig. 3.7: Land Use of Srirangapatna -1982](image)

The population growth is increasing and it needs to be managed through various planning measures for the coordinated development and improved functioning of town. The town had an extent of an area of 2.8 Sq km in 1960 (only the fort area was considered under the town area) and later the town area got extended to 7.1Sq km in 1971(Ganjam area was included) and 7.12 Sq km in 1981 and 1991 census (settlement at northern side of Wellesley bridge was included). It further got extended to 8.6 Sq km in 2001 and in 2005 Local Planning Area has been formed by incorporating the new areas.
3.6.5 Srirangapatna – 1982 onwards till date

Fig. 3.8: Land Use of Srirangapatna -2012
Recently most parts of the town have witnessed major changes. The rise of modern buildings into the fabric of the town has not only affected the traditional views of the town but also has altered the social and physical features. People’s dependence on agriculture is declining as they depend more on the revenue obtained from rent and from tourism related activities. The current economic base of the town is agriculture substantially and next to it are trade, commerce and tourism. While tourism remains a small and unsteady source of income, agricultural revenue too is never substantial. The need to associate with tourists who become the patrons of a tourism driven economy, forces the locals to encroach onto public space. The main centers of tourist activity have become a clutter of chaos and commercialization. The traffic and transportation facilities between Bangalore and Mysore have not made any effect on the town. In fact it has led to the emergence of many tourism based business like resorts, restaurants, private road transportation etc., but the town has failed to attract the tourists who opt for night stay but only give a hopping visit to the town, the reason being the closeness to the city of Mysore (Fig. 3.8 and Fig. 3.9).

3.6.5.1 Present Land use: The town had an extent of area of 2.8 sq.km in 1960 (only the fort area) and later the town area got extended to 7.1Sq km in 1971 (Ganjam area was included) and 7.12 sq.km in 1981 and 1991 census (settlement at northern side of Wellesley bridge was included). It further got extended to 8.6 Sq km in 2001 and in 2005 local planning area has been declared. The present Local planning area is 10.93 Sq km.

The existing land use is shown in Fig. 3.8, Fig. 3.9 and Table 3.4 and the following observations hold.

- Community living has evolved on its own pattern of living, its own ideas of culture, and social organization which is reflected in the built form.
- The island formed the right place for the fortified settlement
- Basically an agricultural town, it started as a small base for the Vijayanagar kings. Only supporting workers resided here.
- The urban setting is characterized by few monuments in the vast open space and tightly packed built form and river outside the fort which opens onto the cultivated green pasture and small channels.
- Taluk office road has all the Government offices and institutions.
- Commercial activity is observed on the main road which is slowly spreading towards side lanes.

**Table 3.4: Existing Land Use (2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hectares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>77.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>7.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>11.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public and Semi Public</td>
<td>45.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public utilities</td>
<td>4.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park and open spaces</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant space</td>
<td>32.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>297.89</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Hectares</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture land</td>
<td>699.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Body</td>
<td>96.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Local Planning Area</strong></td>
<td>1093.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Town Municipal Council, Srirangapatna

**Fig. 3.9:** Existing Land Use (2014)
3.7 **INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES OF THE TOWN**

3.7.1 **Water Supply**: The water supply source to Srirangapatna town municipal council (TMC) is the Cauvery River which is at a distance of 1.5 km from the town. The design capacity of the existing water treatment plant (WTP) is 3.89 mld (Million Liters per day). The present capacity utilization is around 3.5 mld. The water is treated in the treatment plant through filters and alum and chlorine dosing is done to produce potable water before supplying to the town. After treatment, potable water is transmitted to service reservoirs located at different locations within the TMC area. In certain areas of the town, ground water extracted from bore well is also used as an alternate source. The source from Cauvery was commissioned during July 1998.

At present, water supply in the town is for 1 to 2 hours daily at 92 lpcd (liters per capita per day), which is not adequate. The residents have to depend on other sources like bore well, open well etc. The present scheme from Cauvery river as source of supply is designed for the population of 24492 (2005) with per capita supply of 135 lpcd. As the present design capacity is not sufficient to cater to the demand in 2033, additional water treatment plant of 2.0 mld is required for
Srirangapatna TMC. Srirangapatna TMC has a storage capacity of 2.06 mld, comprising of 2 Ground Level Service Reservoir, 5 Elevated Service Reservoirs which supplies water to all the 23 wards. The length of water transmission main is 4 km and distribution network system is 48.4 km. The existing network covers 91% of TMC area of 10.93 Sq km. Out of 4994 properties (2006-07) 59% have domestic water connections.

Presently, 3.49 mld of potable water is extracted from Cauvery river, while the design capacity of the water treatment plant is 3.89 mld. The extracted water is not adequate to meet the 4.46 mld demand of water supply for the present population of 25061. The projected population at the end of the design horizon year i.e., 2033 is 33629. The demand of water in the year 2033 will be around 5.74 mld. In order to meet the demand of 5.74 mld, water supply needs to be augmented as the present design capacity will be enough to meet the demand until year 2023 only. Additional WTP of 2.0 mld is proposed to meet the estimated 2033 water demand. The existing distribution system requires improvement in terms of repair and replacement of the old pipelines and extension of pipeline to un-served areas. Replacement of all 90 mm pipes has been proposed for improvement of the level of supply and also to maintain pressure in the pipe line network.

3.7.2 Sewerage System: Srirangapatna TMC does not have underground drainage (UGD) system and most of the households depend on septic tanks for sewerage disposal. UGD construction work is under progress (the design capacity of STP is 2 MLD). Around 3000 households are provided with individual sanitation facility i.e. septic tank and rest of the town residents are using the existing public toilets or resort to open air defecation. Most of the night soil is washed out through the existing drains causing nuisance and health hazard in the entire TMC area. As the development is very dense concentrating in a very small area, there is no space for providing low cost sewerage (LCS) unit in individual houses in the town center. In such cases, people do not prefer to have LCS units. A 100% UGD coverage is considered for Srirangapatna TMC. The entire TMC area has been proposed to be provided with underground sewerage network with pipes of varying diameter as per requirement. In order to treat the total volume of sewage
generated in the year 2033 (8.74 mld) construction of sewage treatment plant of capacity 3.0 mld is required.

3.7.3 Storm Water Drainage: Srirangapatna TMC has road side storm water drains of 50.75 km constituting 49% of road length (including PWD/ Other agency roads). These drains are pucca open type drains. The sewage and sullage water generated by households, shops, etc, get mixed up with the rainwater. During dry season, the drains carry the sullage water and other waste water from various establishments. The lack of or inappropriately located storm water drains create health hazards due to water stagnation, becoming breeding sites for many diseases. The storm water drainage has been designed considering 656 mm maximum rainfall in the area. The existing drains of 50.75kms need to be renovated and new road side drains of 53.25 km (on 26.62 km roads) have to be constructed.

3.7.4 Traffic and Transport: Srirangapatna has a road network of 52 km of which 21.2 km is maintained by the PWD and 30.8 km roads are maintained by TMC. Out of the total length of the Municipal roads, 7.9 km are asphalted roads, 3.5 km is cement concrete roads and 19.4 km are un-surfaced roads of which 13.1 km are water bound macadam and 6.3 km are earthen/kutchha roads. Srirangapatna TMC constructs and maintains roads within its jurisdiction. Srirangapatna town is well connected by road network to Bangalore city and the divisional headquarter Mysore through the SH-17. The Bangalore-Mysore broad gauge railway line runs through the Srirangapatna town.

All the roads had undivided carriageways. Effective carriageways width gets reduced due to haphazard parking and other informal activities. Row violations have been found to be common across the town. The town roads lack signals, signage and footpaths. Two wheelers, cars/jeeps and autos constitute 31% of traffic. Cycles constitute only 5% of total traffic. Public transports i.e. bus/truck and tractor/lorry constitutes 32 % each of total vehicular traffic. The bus system is the main public transport mode. Other major public transport mode is auto-rickshaws and two wheelers. Authorized or formal parking facility is not available in the
TMC area. Parking facility is also not available in the government buildings, commercial and institutional areas and on-street parking is often noticed. The improvements proposed in Srirangapatna town for the transportation sector varies from road development by Widening & Strengthening of 12.2 km & new construction of 10.5 km road is proposed in town.

3.7.5 Street Lighting: Srirangapatna has 1915 streetlights. Tube lights constitute 80 percent of existing lights. The remaining 20 percent are sodium vapour lamps. Srirangapatna TMC has not installed any high mast lights at important junctions and other places. A present gap of 1551 street lights is identified in the town. Streetlights coverage area is only 55 % of the town. There is inadequate street lighting in peripheral/newly developing areas and slums.

3.7.6 Solid Waste Management: As per the survey conducted by Srirangapatna TMC in 2007-08, 8.96 tonnes of solid waste (including construction waste and street sweeping) is generated in the town. The per capita waste generated is 300 gram per day. About 60 percent of the waste is inorganic and recyclable waste. TMC estimates that 68 percent waste is generated by households (about 6134 kg/day). Commercial establishments contribute approximately about 250 kg/day. Street sweeping accumulates 1.2 tons of the total waste. As per the current practice, solid waste is not segregated. Door to door collection is also not practiced. A majority of population dump their waste on to open vacant sites. The management of solid waste activities (include sweeping the wards, drain cleaning, uprooting of plants and collecting of garbage from different wards) is outsourced on annual basis. Private contractor is responsible for collection of solid waste along the roads in 15 wards. Urban Local Body is responsible for 8 wards in the towns. It employs 29 poura-karmikas to cover the roads in all 8 wards. The waste is disposed in low lying areas outside the municipal limit. The proposed land fill site is at Allapatna in an area of 3.36 acres at a distance of 9 km from Town Municipal Council.

Srirangapatna TMC collects about 78 percent of total waste generated (7 tons of 8.96 tons). At present, there is no door to door collection system, and waste is collected through open community bins which are inadequate. Locals dump the
waste haphazardly in drains or open spaces. As a result, drains are clogged and silted. Frequency of collection is inadequate and irregular which is once in 3 to 4 days.

3.7.7 Social Infrastructure: The town has adequate education and health facilities and the details are indicated in Table 3.5. There is one playground at Ganjam and one park located near Sri Ranganathaswamy temple of which the latter is used by the public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Primary School</td>
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<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Secondary School</td>
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<td>Higher Secondary School</td>
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<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>College</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hospital (30 Bed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ayush</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Veterinary Dispensary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Town Municipal Council

3.7.8 Poverty Alleviation: There are 6 slums within Srirangapatna TMC limits and all are declared with a population of 1059 (4.22% of 25061). Slums are scattered in the town spreading over 5 wards. Leprosy Colony has the highest population of 367 among all other slums. Majority of Poor citizens of Srirangapatna are SC/ST (90%) and illiterate (60%). Large numbers of slum population (75%) are daily wagers with a maximum family income in the range of just Rs. 1500-2500. The provision of community toilets, community bathrooms and community taps are proposed for the slum areas.

(Source: www.kuidfc.com/website/webpage.nsf/.../$FILE/Srirangapatna.pdf)
3.8 ARCHITECTURAL BACKGROUND

The History of Srirangapatna reveals that the place has been ruled chronologically by Gangas, Hoysalas, Vijayanagar kings, Islamic rulers and British, the influence of which is reflected by the Historical Monuments. The glory of the rulers is expressed in the magnificent structures like temples, palaces, royal buildings, mosques, tombs, etc. Hoysala and Vijayanagar architecture is seen in temples and Indo-Islamic architecture in mosques, tombs and gardens.

3.8.1 Hoysala Architecture: The temple Architecture of Hoysalas is in the Dravidian style, featured by scalloped plan with excessive ornamentation and grouping of number of shrines on a raised terrace, lathe turned pillars with a circumambulate around it. The characteristic features of Hoysala temples consists of plans elaborated in to a star-shape by means of number of recesses and offsets. This zigzag treatment obtained the largest amount of outside surface or façade with comparatively small area. The temples stand on jagali or high platforms to serve as an ambulatory passage. The plinth surfaces are exquisitely carved with friezes containing a row of animal sculptures such as horses, elephants, geese etc. tier upon tier. The temple consists of three parts namely, the “Garbha Griha” (the shrine), attached to it is a vestibule or sukhanasi, which connects with a pillared hall called “Navaranga”. Shikaras are missing in many temples. The structures are erected without mortar and stability was achieved by accurate fitting of the stones in their places by means of well-shaped tenon and mortise joints.

3.8.2 Vijayanagar style: In the wake of the decline of the Hoysalas, the Vijayanagar Empire was established. The Vijayanagar style of Architecture consists of Great size temples, Mandapas, Gopuras, Corbels, elaborate and elegantly carved pillars with cornices, human and animal sculptures. Narasimhaswamy temple and Gangadhareshwara temple in Srirangapatna belong to this style and period.

3.8.3 Indo-Islamic Architecture: The permanent association of the Muslim with India started in the last decade of 12th century A.D. This long association of Muslims, who had brought their own tradition with them, influenced the social, cultural, religious and Architectural style of the country. The Islamic architecture in India is unique in nature, with the mingling of both Hindu and Muslim style of Architecture
with varying degrees in different parts of the country. Table 3.6 shows the comparison of Hindu and Islamic architectural style. The monuments viz., Jamma Masjid, Daria Daulat Bagh, Gumbaz expresses these features.

**Table 3.6:** Comparison of Hindu and Islamic Architectural Style

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hindu Style</th>
<th>Islamic Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mature style of architecture with complicate rituals.</td>
<td>Rituals were simple and straightforward and places of worship were open and spacious consisting of large halls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trabeate style with pillars, beams, lintels, pyramidal towers.</td>
<td>Arcuate style with arches, vaults, domes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concrete and mortar were hardly used.</td>
<td>Concrete and mortar were freely used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very rich ornamentation and used human and animal forms.</td>
<td>Avoided representation of living beings and flat surface ornament depicting arabesque or geometrical and floral patterns, painting, tile-mosaic, design in marble and inlay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shows the qualities of strength and grace.</td>
<td>Concept of breadth and spaciousness and spanning large spaces with arches.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hiraskar (1991)

Though the intervention of political power of Mohammadans was not in the history of Srirangapatna, the monuments viz., the Jamma Masjid, Dariya Daulat Bagh and the Gumbaz built during the period of Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan clearly express the common features of Indo-Islamic architecture.

### 3.9 MONUMENTS IN SRIRANGAPATNA

“Monuments and archaeological structures serve as testimonies of man’s greatness and establish a continuity of civilizations showing the extent to which human beings are linked”. -Vincente Fox, Former President of Mexico. Monuments have been created for thousands of years and are often the most durable and well known symbols of civilizations in their historical continuity. The Egyptian Pyramids, the Greek Parthenon, the Great Wall of China or the Taj Mahal has become symbols of their civilizations. In more recent times, monuments such as The Statue of Liberty and The Eiffel Tower have become the emblems of modern nations. A Monument is a type of structure that is exclusively created to commemorate a person or an important event or which has become important to a social group as a part of their remembrance of
historical times or cultural heritage. They form a link between the past and the future (Sert et al., 1968).

Monuments are of many types such as buildings built with extraordinary features such as tallest, largest or distinctive design, memorials to commemorate the dead during wars, columns with a statue, fountains placed in formal gardens, tombs and mausoleums of veterans, places of worship with highly skilled calligraphy and geometric artwork built for pilgrimage, war memorials, triumph arches, terminating vistas, palaces and obelisks, monoliths and mounds. The social meanings of monuments are rarely fixed or definitive and are frequently contested by different social groups. More and more monuments are being protected and preserved by the efforts of national governments and organisations like UNESCO and World Monuments Fund. (Rajiv Bial, 2014).

The historical and heritage town of Srirangapatna has quite a large number of monuments that are of National and regional importance and these monuments are recognized and protected by the Archaeological Survey of India and State Archaeology Department respectively.

### 3.9.1 List of Monuments Protected by Archaeological Survey of India in Srirangapatna.

The lists of the monuments which are recognized and protected by the Archaeological Survey of India are presented below:

1. Ancient Palace site and Remains (Tippu Palace-Lal Mahal)
2. Sri Ranganatha Swamy Temple
3. Sri Kantheerava Statue in Narasimha Temple
4. Obelisk Monuments and Fort walls near the Breach
5. Colonel Bailey's Dungeon
6. Thomas Inman's Dungeon
7. Spot where Tippu's Body was found
8. Masjid-E-Ala, (Jamma Masjid)
9. Daria Daulat Bagh
10. Gumbaz containing tomb of Tippu Sultan

(Source: http://www.karnatakaarchaeology.gov.in/)

The monuments which are recognized and protected by the Archaeological Survey of India are located spatially in Fig.3.11.
Fig. 3.11: Spatial location of monuments of Srirangapatna recognized and protected by the Archaeological Survey of India
3.9.1.1 Ancient Palace Site and Remains: After the collapse of Vijayanagar Empire in A.D. 1565, the Mysore Wodeyars till then governing Mysore kingdom declared independence under Raja Wodeyar in A.D. 1610, who made Srirangapatna his seat of government which ultimately became the capital of Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan till it was captured by the British in A.D. 1799.

Fig. 3.12: Ancient palace site and remains
(Source: http://in.worldmapz.com/photo/26297_en.htm, Retrieved on 27-06-12)

At a distance of 150m to the north-east of Sri Ranganathaswamy temple is a raised mound with remains of a lime-plastered brick structure with partly exposed plinth, are the remains of Tippu's palace (Fig. 3.12). Buchanan who visited Srirangapatna in A.D. 1800 has left a glowing account of the structure: in its heyday, the structure contained huge halls and rooms including apartments. The British demolished the greater part of this palace after its capture in 1799 and used it as a military post for some time. It was a very elegant structure with decorative ponds, groves and evergreen trees. Part of this structure is exposed recently, revealing a pillared room, a hall and portion of a flight of steps from the west. A considerable portion to the east is still buried.

3.9.1.2 Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple: The Sri Ranganathaswamy temple in Srirangapatna (Fig. 3.13) is dedicated to the Hindu god Sri Ranganathaswamy (Lord Vishnu). It is one of the 5 vital pilgrims’ journey sites on the stream of Cauvery for
devotees of Sri Ranganathaswamy. These 5 sacred sites along are called Pancharanga Kshetrams in Southern India. Since Srirangapatna temple is the first temple starting from upstream, the god is called as Adi Ranga (“first Ranga”). Tradition also holds that all the islands formed in the Cauvery stream are consecrated to Sri Ranganathaswamy, and huge temples are built in much earlier period dedicated to that god on the 3 largest islands. These 3 cities, that constitute the most pilgrims’ journey centers dedicated to Ranganathaswamy are Adi Ranga at Srirangapatna, Madhya Ranga at Shivasamudra and Antya Ranga at Srirangam. The town of Srirangapatna that derives its name from the deity of the temple is located on an island along the stream of Cauvery.

Fig. 3.13: Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple

According to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the temple is of considerable antiquity. An inscription at the temple reveals that it was first consecrated in 984 A.D. by a local chief called Thirumalaiah, a vassal of the Western Ganga dynasty. In the early 12th century, Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana (AD1108-1152) granted the village of Srirangapatna to the Vaishnava saint Ramanujacharya as an Agraharam (place of learning). An inscription of the great Hoysala King Veera Ballala II (1210 A.D.) confirms that additions and renovations were made to the temple at that time. The
tower over the entrance bears features consistent with Vijayanagar architecture. According to historian George Michel, contributions were also made by the Wodeyar kings of the Kingdom of Mysore. The temple is protected by the Archaeological Survey of India as a monument of national importance.

The temple has an imposing tower over the entrance gate adorning a grand finial (gopura) and two large concentric rectangular enclosures (parker) around its perimeter. The entrance to the inner sanctum (garbhatrima) is through multiple columned halls (mantapa). A vestibule (sukhanasi), hall (navaranga or just mantapa) and a front hall (mukhamantapa) are the other main structures in the temple. The roof of the mukhamantapa is decorated with a "garland" ("hara") of miniature decorative towers (called "kudu" and "sala" sikharas) whose niches contain stucco images of the god Vishnu. In the sanctum, the image of Vishnu reclines on the coils of the snake Adisesha, under a canopy formed by the snake's seven hoods, with his consort Lakshmi at his feet. Flanking Vishnu are other deities from the Hindu pantheon; Sridevi, Bhudevi (goddess of earth) and Brahma (the creator).

3.9.1.3 Sri Kantheerava Statue in Narasimha Temple

Fig. 3.14: Sri Kantheerava Statue in Narasimha Temple
This temple was built by King Kantheerava Narasaraja Wodeyar in 17th century and is the second biggest temple in Srirangapatna (Fig.3.14). The statue of Kantheerava is about 3.5 feet high.

3.9.1.4 Obelisk Monument and Fort wall near the Breach: In memory of the British Officers who died during the siege of Srirangapatna, the Government of Mysore erected an Obelisk (Fig.3.15). This memorial was built by the British to commemorate the soldiers who fell in the Fourth Anglo-Mysore war in which Tippu Sultan met his end on May 4th 1799. The Obelisk stands at the centre of an expansive and concentric series of steps, on a high point close to the fort walls. The structure is of polished stone and is a square-planned pier surmounted by a tapering obelisk with the names of officers who died and the units which fought at the siege of Srirangapatna in 1799 inscribed on it. On the top and around are cannon balls. The four plaques fixed on the square base with chamfered edges are inscribed with various details. Above the base structure is a conical projection supported by four cannon balls. Another cannon ball is fixed at the top too.

![Fig. 3.15: Obelisk Monument and Fort wall near the Breach](image)

To the north-west of the island, the river Cauvery divides itself into the eastern and western branches. The old defense here consisted of a stone wall of about 8 feet high with a brick wall above it more than 10 feet high. It was poorly supplied with bastions and was mainly in the shape of two rather straight lines meeting at a corner. At this corner, a large bastion had been erected and provided with a heavy battery facing north and west. Outside this wall were a wide moat and another lower wall which protected it from the enemies’ cannon. To these Hyder and Tippu added one more
defense wall each totaling it to three. Between the second and third walls there was rock-cut moat. The battery of Bombay army seriously damaged the outer wall and battered the brick structure of the second wall so that they could easily climb on it. For a long time the breach and the walls were left in their original battered condition. At the suggestion of Lord Curzon, the Government of Mysore put up a parapet across the breach and setup an obelisk in memory of the British assault.

3.9.1.5 Colonel Bailey's Dungeon: Between A.D. 1761 and 1799, Srirangapatna played an important role in shaping the political history of Karnataka in particular and that of South India in general. Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan, who ruled the Mysore kingdom, fought the British valiantly in four Mysore battles and in the process, held captive many British army officers. Tippu Sultan held these prisoners of war within the fort at Srirangapatna.

![Colonel Bailey's Dungeon](image)

**Fig. 3.16:** Colonel Bailey’s Dungeon

On the Northern side of the Srirangapatna temple, in the fort wall, there is an oblong bastion in which heavy battery is kept and it is called Sultan Bateri (Fig.3.16). Below the bastion, there is a dungeon which is not visible to any passerby. It measures about 30.50 meters in length and 12.20 meters in width. It is an oblong structure concealed from view with low vaulted roof of brick and lime mortar and having a series of arches resting on huge pillars dividing the interior into bays. In the Eastern, Northern
and Western walls there are fixed stone slabs with holes, perhaps meant for fastening prisoners to the walls with chains. In it many English war prisoners like Col. Bailey, Captain Baird, Col. Braithwaite, Sampson, Frazer, Lindsay and Captain Rulay were imprisoned by Tippu Sultan. During the siege of Srirangapatna one of the cannon rolled back, pierced the ceiling and fell in to the vault which is still lying there. It is more than 10’ long and its mouth is 6” wide. Since Col. Bailey died on 13th November 1782 in the dungeon after a prolonged illness, it is named after him.

3.9.1.6 Thomas Inman's Dungeon: In the North-East corner of the fort in the central fort wall, there is a structure with battery guard on its top. The structure was discovered by Mr. Thomas Inman, an engineer in 1895, which was named after him (Fig.3.17). It is a low arch structure constructed with brick and lime mortar, which are 13.75 meters in length and 9.75 meters in width. It resembles the Bailey’s Dungeon. It is said that the prisoners were kept under guard here even after the fall of Tippu. The Maratha chief Dhondia Vagh was one of the important persons imprisoned here. This is situated very close to the fort that was destroyed in the war of 1799 which is called Bidda Kote. The visitor can reach this point passing through this monument area which links to the ancient bridge which connects the island with the mainland.

![Thomas Inman's Dungeon](image)

*Fig. 3.17: Thomas Inman's Dungeon*

3.9.1.7 Spot where Tippu's Body was found: Srirangapatna, with a hoary past, played a vital role in the history of the old Mysore Kingdom right from the 10th to the
18th century. Its importance in the four Mysore battles fought between the British and the father-son duo, Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan is a well-known part of the history of Karnataka. It ceased to be a political centre after its tragic collapse in 1799 A.D. During the Fourth Mysore battle, the British troops entered the strong fort of Srirangapatna by breaching the fort wall. Near the water gate, (towards north, near Gangadhara temple), a stranded Tippu was attacked by the British soldiers. One of them tried to snatch his golden belt. Tippu tried to ward him off with his sword. Fearing for his friend's life, another British soldier shot Tippu in the temple. Late in the evening, British officers found the body of Tippu Sultan under the heap of dead bodies. A memorial has been erected at the spot in the form of a stone tablet (Fig.3.18).

![Fig. 3.18: Spot Where Tippu's Body Was Found](image)

### 3.9.1.8 Masjid-E-Ala, (Jamma Masjid): Situated to the north-west of the Bangalore gate of the fort is the famous Jamma Masjid. The mosque contains three inscriptions. Of these, the Arabic inscription mentions the ninety nine titles of Prophet Mohammad. The Persian inscription gives the name of Tippu Sultan as builder of this mosque called Masjid-e-Ala and also the date A.H. 1215 (A.D. 1782). The design of the mosque includes an east facing prayer hall preceded by a four pillared verandah and a platform. The huge prayer hall, rectangular on plan is divided into five bays by a series of piers carrying the dome roof.
The Jamma Masjid is a grand structure with two lofty minarets noted for their majesty and grace (Fig.3.19). The hall of the mosque has a number of trefoil arches and a mihrab (a hollow vertical niche) in the west wall symbolizing the light. On the walls of the hall are found stone inscriptions with quotations from the Quran. A winding flight of more than two hundred steps lead to the top of each minaret from where visitors get a panoramic view of the surroundings. At the top of the minarets is large masonry kalashas with ornamentations, above which are small metallic kalashas adding to the elegance of the minarets.

Fig. 3.19: Jamma Masjid (Masjid-E-Ala)

The walls are adorned by paintings depicting tiger stripes in patches. The mihrab on the western wall is of medium size and is mounted by a ribbed dome like protrusion carrying floral designs and the finial. The mosque is entered through a series of flights of steps. The basement portion of the mosque is used for running a Madrasa and the cloister around accommodates a series of rooms used by Waqf committee for various purposes. Some of the pillars with decorations also indicate blending of Indo-Islamic features. The two lofty double-storeyed minarets topped by highly decorated dome, finials and its octagonal exterior accommodating pigeon hole like decoration adds to the elevation to the mosque. Being situated at a higher plane, the mosque forms a
landmark of Srirangapatna across the river Cauvery for people coming from Bangalore.

3.9.1.9 Daria Daulat Bagh: The Daria Daulat Bagh, which is an ancient monument of national importance, houses the Tippu Sultan Museum (Fig.3.20). The museum exhibits, confined to the ground floor of the palace and mostly pertaining to Tippu Sultan, consists of oil paintings, pencil sketches, aquatints and engravings, coins and medals, costumes, furniture, arms, etc.

Dariya-Daulat, "the wealth of the sea", referred to as the summer palace of Tippu Sultan, was completed in the year 1784 AD during the early years of Tippu Sultan’s reign. The Palace is situated outside the fort, on the island. Tippu Sultan laid out a garden here and constructed the Summer Palace which was his favourite retreat. Tippu had three palaces on the island of Srirangapatna. Of these the Dariya Daulat is the only one remaining. It is built in the Indo-Sarcenic style standing on a square platform. There are excellent mural paintings depicting the war scenes, the British and the French officers, the Sultan, the Kings and others. Many English officers like General Baird, Sgt. Graham and Col. Dunlop are featured in it. Tippu's men are on the bridge offering stiff resistance. In the back ground behind the fort walls are part of Tippu’s palace, the minarets of the mosque and the gopura of Sri Ranganathaswamy temple.

Fig. 3.20: Daria Daulat Bagh
A portrait of Tippu Sultan depicts him wearing a turban, a striped shirt, a necklace, a waist belt and a stone-studded cross belt to which is attached a sword. The artist was G.F. Cherry who painted it in 1792. Another full portrait of Tippu Sultan as prince painted by John Zoffany in 1780 is on display. One of the main features of this museum is the famous oil painting "Storming of Srirangapattanam" by Sir Robert Ker Porter made in 1800. This historical painting depicts the final fall of Srirangapatna on 4th May 1799.

Another historical painting by Robert Home, painted between 1792-95 depicts Tippu’s sons Abdul Khaliq and Maizuddin, the hostage princes with Ghulam Ali Khan, the Vakil of Tippu who is shown seated in a carrying chair and in the background an Englishman Captain Kennaway, the personal secretary to Lord Cornwallis is shown as having a discussion with Ali Raza Khan another Vakil of Tippu holding a treaty document. There are eighteen pencil sketches on display and among them are those of the seven sons of Tippu Sultan; Fateh Haider, Abdul Khaliq, Maizuddin, Mohiuddin, Yasin Sahib, Sultan Sahib and Shukrullah, his Vakils ghulam Ali Khan and Ali Raza Khan, Commanders Ghulam Ali Khan, Badruz Zaman Khan, Sheikh Hussain, his companion and confidential servant Raja Khan and the senior door keeper Firuz Saut. Also, on display are the sketches of Mir Alam, Minister of Nizam, his son Mir Dauran, Krishna Raja Wodeyar III and his maternal uncle, Nandi Raja. These portrait sketches were drawn by Thomas Hickey the English artist, between 1799-1801 in Srirangapatna and Vellore.

Some of the soldiers of the East India Company were talented artists who drew views of forts, buildings and scenery as seen from their encampments. The pictures drawn on spots were later used for making engravings and aquatints so that a large number of copies were made. Two copies of engravings, ‘Cornwallis receiving the hostage princes’ and the ‘last effort of Tippu Sultan’, in defense of Srirangapatna are exhibited here besides many aquatints depicting the various fort of Tippu Sultan.

Coins of various denominations on view include double paisa, paisa, half paisa, quarter paisa and one-eighth paisa issued by Tippu Sultan from different mints at Bangalore, Calicut, Chitradurga, Dindigul, Ooty and Srirangapatna. Medals of
different metals like silver, copper and bronze issued by the English, commemorating their victory over Tippu are also exhibited. Among the other exhibits mention may be made the costume of Tippu, a pyjama, a silk coat and a straw hat, two silver bowls presented by him to the Ranganathaswamy temple, a handmade paper manuscript in Persian dealing with the military code of regulations, furniture comprising of chairs, sofa with backrest, couch and a rosewood roundtable, a brass cannon, daggers, swords, pistols and muskets besides iron cannons.

3.9.1.10 Gumbaz containing tomb of Tippu Sultan

Tippu Sultan, after the death of his father in 1782 A.D. assumed the throne of the Mysore kingdom. As a tribute to Hyder Ali, his illustrious father, he built a tomb and mosque (1782-84) at the eastern extreme of his capital Srirangapatna amidst a well-laid garden (Fig.3.21). His mother Fakr-un-nisa is also interred adjacent to his father's cenotaph. Although he did not build the tomb with the intention of his own-burial, after his death in 1799 A.D, the kith and kin of Tippu Sultan chose to bury him along with his parents. The majestic tomb built at the centre of a huge garden studded with choicest floral and fruit bearing trees is entered through an imposing Naqqar Khana with arched entrance and the usual room at the top containing wooden windows.

The tomb is accommodated on a square platform which in turn is surrounded by Khan-Khana of brick and lime and corridor having series of pointed arches. The low platform is externally veneered and the top has a lime concrete pavement. Leaving considerable space all around, the main structure comprises a square chamber surrounded by corridor of polished black stone pillars. The exterior wall of the
chamber made up of granite is also provided with an intricately carved jali depicting geometrical work to allow adequate light to the chamber. Above the corridor is provided a low decorated parapet intervened by squattiest guldastas carrying finials or buds of modern size. The tomb is crowned with a large dome resting on a circular base which rises to a considerable height and it carries a series of finials. The three entrances of the chamber are provided with ivory inlaid teak wood doors. The interior of the chamber up to the hollow circular ceiling is beautifully decorated with painting depicting tiger stripes, a favourite theme employed during the time of Tippu Sultan. Near the eastern entrance is a tablet with Persian legend mentioning the martyrdom of Tippu Sultan in 1213 Hizri (A.D. 1799). Further east of the tomb is a mosque of moderate size with pillared corridor. Two prominent double-storeyed minarets at the corner add elevation to the mosque called as Masjid-E-Aksa. But along with the tomb it contains a huge rectangular hall with massive pillars carrying vaulted roof. The mihrab at the western wall is of considerable size and the frame is decorated. The huge square platform other than the tomb also contains numerous cenotaphs indicating the burials of kith and kin of Hyder Ali and Tippu Sultan's family.

3.9.2 List of Monuments Protected By the State Archaeology Department

The lists of the monuments which are recognized and protected by the State Archaeology Department in Srirangapatna are presented below:

1. Krishnamurti's Bungalow (Webb's Monument)
2. Mummaidi Krishnaraja Wodiyar ‘s Birth Place
3. Srirangapatna Fort
5. Armoury -8Nos.
6. Hanging Bridge (Thugusetuve)
7. Moat around the fort
8. Mirsaddiq Palace
9. Vijayanagar Viceroy’s Palace remains (Thuppada Kola)
10. Obelisks at Ganjam (Ranagambha).

(Source: http://www.karnatakaarchaeology.gov.in/)

The monuments which are recognized and protected by the State Archaeology Department in Srirangapatna are located spatially in Fig.3.22.
Fig. 3.22: Spatial location of monuments of Srirangapatna recognized and protected by the State Archaeology Department.
3.9.2.1 Krishnamurti's Bungalow (Webb's Monument): Krishnamurti’s Bungalow was also known as the Doctor’s Bungalow or Lord Harry’s house or Purnaiah’s Bungalow (Fig. 3.23). General Harry occupied it for short time after the siege of Srirangapatna. Purnaiah continued his administration until 1811, and returned to this house at Srirangapatna, where he died on 28th March 1812.

![Fig. 3.23: Krishnamurti's Bungalow(Webb's Monument)](image)

3.9.2.2 Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar’s Birth Place

![Fig. 3.24: Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar’s Birth Place](image)
About 50 yards to the east of the Sri Ranganathaswamy temple, there is a pavilion to commemorate the place where Krishnaraja Wodeyar III was born. It is stated that there was at this place, a palace of the Vijayanagar viceroy and the Wodeyar rulers. This is the birth place of Mummadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar, and 18th century structure built of brick, lime mortar and wood. The building is simple in design, rectangular in plan with half open and rooms at the sides (Fig.3.24).

3.9.2.3 Srirangapatna Fort: Srirangapatna Fort, constructed on the western end of the island, is an irregular pentagon with a perimeter of about 4 km (Fig.3.25). It contains 240 acres of land and in 1897 had about 1500 houses with about 5400 inhabitants. It was originally built by Thimmanna Hebbar, Chieftain of Nagamangala who got permission from the Vijayanagar emperor Devaraya II to build a mud fort here in 1454 A. D. Later Kanteerava Narasaraja Wodeyar and the succeeding rulers strengthened the fort. To the two walls of fortification, Tipu Sultan added a third inner line of fortification. It is one of the most formidable forts in India. Since it is surrounded by the river Cauvery, the fort may be classified under Jaladurga class of forts. The principal entrance to the fort is the Elephant gate on the south side. This gateway bears an inscription in Persian which mentioned the year of foundation of the fort as 1219AD of Tipu Sultan’s Mauladi era. The other important gates are Water gate near the Gangadhareshwara temple, Jibi or Krishna gate near the Krishna temple and the Bangalore gate in the eastern wall. Apart from this, the fort wall consists of prisons along the inner fortification. There are six magazines or Armories located between the gates.

Fig. 3.25: Srirangapatna Fort wall
There are square or rectangular or oblong bastions, guarded by batteries. Each bastion is named after some important person, e.g., the bastion above the dungeon was called Sultan Bateri and a bastion in the South-East corner of the fort, is called Kaledauredara Bateri. Epigraphically it is very difficult to identify the names of the bastions. The fort walls of Srirangapatna are strong. The first and second enclosure walls from the outer side were protected by stone casing. These walls are very thick and thickness is measured in meters. The third or innermost wall is designed differently. It is designed like a right angle triangle. The outer face is protected by stone wall and in the inside mud ramping is done. It has a considerable slope to move cannons to the top. At the top of the inside fort wall there is a 2 to 3 m wide platform made of natural pebbles and lime mortar and a parapet wall with provision to use cannons and long rifles. These portions of the fort walls were built of brick and lime mortar.

Srirangapatna fort is famous for its splendor and strength. It was a mud fort at the beginning. Then early ruler of the Wodeyar family and in 1654, Kantheerava Narasaraja had strengthened the fort and made provisions within the fort to store the essentials for the public and army for emergency. Tippu Sultan renovated the fort and constructed some gateways probably with the help of French engineers. He started the work of renovation of fort on Tuesday, the 9th day of the month of Khrusriv of the year Zabrajad in 1219 Mauladi, which corresponds to 1791. The fort of Srirangapatna exhibits the best defence features like fort design, bastions and fortification method. It is very interesting to note that the fort has three man-made moats in the southern and eastern directions, whereas in the North and West, it has only two man-made and one natural moat. In other words the river Cauvery functions as the third moat in the North and West. The first fortification in the North and West was erected just on the bank of river Cauvery, and damaged due to floods and human vandalism. The fort was one of the unconquerable forts of India. A military authority of the 19th century (1888) who visited Srirangapatna opined that it was the second strongest fort in India.

The fort has six gateways and among them two gates are very important, namely Aneya Bagilu or Anekote Bagilu which means Elephant Gate. It is situated in the Southern walls of the fort and the Bangalore or Ganjam Gate is situated in the Eastern enclosure walls of the fort. The relevance as well as a brief reference to Gateways is emphasized.
a. The Mysore Gate or Elephant Gate

It is known as Anekote Bagilu in the local tongue (Fig.3.26). It was constructed in 1791, by Tippu Sultan to enter the city on the back of elephant, sitting in the howdah. Actually the entrance had three Gates, each one in three enclosure walls. All the three gates had proper links to pass through. These gates were made of stone, brick and lime mortar. They measure 5.50 m in height, 3.75 m in width and 14.75 m. in length. The gateway in the central fort wall which was badly damaged was repaired in the recent past by the then Government, providing small key-stone arches.

Fig. 3.26: The Mysore Gate or Elephant Gate

b. The Bangalore Gate

The Bangalore Gate, formerly known as Ganjam Gate, is also designated as the Elephant Gate (Fig.3.27). All the three fort walls have a gate, with a considerable height to pass through, sitting on the back of an elephant in a howdah. It is built of stone, brick and lime mortar. Now it is used as the main entrance to the town. Apart from the Gates, the fort wall is also known for the location of dungeon in those days to keep the most wanted war captives. In the Northern and North-eastern side of the fort wall, there are dungeons named after Col. Bailey and Thomas Inman respectively.

Fig. 3.27: The Bangalore Gate
3.9.2.4 Bastions 2 No. (Bateri): The Bastions or Bateri are built with heavy blocks of stones ramped with mud and pebbles. The Bateri is square and rectangular in shape built at the corners of the fort with suitable defence planning (Fig.3.28). The projection walls all around the top of the Bastions had space to house long range cannons movable in various angles. The two Bateri of 18th century are named as Sultan Bateri and Kalgoudara Bateri.

![Fig. 3.28: Bateri](Image)

3.9.2.5 Armoury (Maddinamane, Gun Powder Stores- 8 No.)

![Fig. 3.29: Armoury (Gun Powder Stores)](Image)
The Gun Powder stores numbering eight, which are situated in different places of the fort, were used to store and enable easy supply of ammunition during the war (Fig.3.29). They are near Old Mosque, Elephant gate, Somalinga gate, Railway station, Gangadhareshwara temple, Mosque and Thomas Inman Dungeon. These structures built of brick, stone and mortar are shallow roofed, rectangular in plan with thick walls and a small entrance. There is sufficient space inside to store the arms and ammunitions.

3.9.2.6 Hanging Bridge (Swinging Arch or Thugusetuve): A landmark called Hanging Bridge or Havilland Arch once existed at Srirangapatna. This was the spot from where De Havilland wanted to build a bridge across river Cauvery. The proposal was received with much incredulity and hence, was not followed up. However, he is said to have built an experimental arch in his garden at Srirangapatna (Fig.3.30). De Havilland played a significant role in the British defeat of Tippu Sultan in 1799. He has been described as the “most original man of his time.”

![Image of Hanging Bridge](image)

**Fig. 3.30:** Hanging Bridge

Thomas Fiott de Havilland conceived it as an experimental bridge and the bridge was built just nine years after the death of Tippu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore. It was considered to be one of the wonders of the age as it was a hanging bridge built of brick, mortar and concrete. The bridge was built just five years after the Wellesley Bridge was built by Dewan Purnaiah in 1804. The story of the hanging bridge and de Havilland is as romantic as any other story. In 1808, he married Elizabeth Saumarez and settled down first at Srirangapatna and then at Mysore. He took a leading part in
the European military officer’s mutiny of Srirangapatna which was put down by the British. His house in Srirangapatna was at the end of a road which led to the beautiful garden of Tippu Sultan called Lal Bagh. There were many British bungalows on the road and De Havilland’s house was near the Cauvery River.

Being an engineer, De Haviland was interested in building and building technology. He saw the beautiful dome of the Gol Gumbaz in Bijapur, the dome at Daria Daulat and the monuments of Hyderabad, Brihadeshwara temple in Thanjavur and the palace there. In all these structures, it was the cupola or the dome that struck his eye and he decided to construct an experimental arch. Seeing the serene Cauvery flowing nearby, he hit upon the idea of constructing an arched bridge. The proposal of a hanging or arched bridge was not welcomed and people said such an incredible feat of engineering was not possible. It was then De Haviland decided to build an experimental structure. He hired native workers from Srirangapatna and surrounding areas and planned the arched bridge. While one span rested on firm ground in his backyard, the other was on the other side of the river Cauvery. It was in the middle of 1808 A.D and when completed the arch was a wonder of the area and was called the swinging bridge or hanging bridge (Thugusetuve in local language). It was actually an experimental bridge and a smaller version of what was supposed to be a bigger structure. De Havilland had an idea to build a similar bridge across the river. For some reason the bridge across the river was not built in this style. His proposal was for a five arch bridge across the river Cauvery. By then, the Wellesley Bridge was being regularly used. The British, therefore, did not welcome the idea of another bridge.

The structure built by De Havilland got its name as a swinging bridge as it used to swing about 3 inches at the keystone when people walked over it. The arch had a span of 112 feet with a central rise of 11 feet and thickness 3 feet. He used country bricks, lime mortar and other native materials for construction. It was a great attraction to the young and old alike. The bridge took three years to complete. It is said that De Havilland personally inspected the building materials that went into its construction. Since one of the spans stood in his garden, daily supervision was not a problem. The bridge survived for nearly 130 years. Unfortunately, the bridge fell into disuse soon after De Havilland left for Mysore in 1810 and from there to Madras with his family.
The Hanging Bridge collapsed on July 2nd in 1936, and today only the abutments of the bridge are intact. The bridge is about a hundred meters to the south of the magnificent Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple. The building of such a bridge was a tacit process of knowledge transfer of native architecture to European minds. By commissioning the experiment of the great arch in his backyard, De Havilland became familiar with a wide range of Indian building knowledge and indigenous building technology. The locals and Red Indians prepared the material and built the arch while he watched and recorded the procedure. The bridge was thus his hands on contact and approach with the raw material of bricks and mortar. He thus was among the first of the engineers engaged in ethno scientific venture in India. He used his expertise gained here to build a dome on Mount Road in Madras called Kirk dome and buildings in Mysore. De Havilland got married in 1808. His wife Elizabeth died in 1816 at the early age of 35 and she is buried in St. George’s Cathedral Cemetery, Madras, which was actually conceived and built by Havilland himself. Ironically, his wife was among the first to be buried here.

3.9.2.7 Moat around Fort: Srirangapatna fort has natural and artificial moat. The fort is surrounded by natural river water on one side and on the south and eastern side; an artificial moat of 20 to 25 feet depth was erected with water filled in it (Fig.3.31).

Fig. 3.31: Moat Around Fort
3.9.2.8 Ruined Palace of Mirsadik: Situated near the railway station, this structure is in ruins. The remnants of wooden pillars and arches depicting Islamic style of architecture are seen (Fig.3.32).

Fig. 3.32: Ruined Palace Of Mirsadik

3.9.2.9 Vijayanagar Viceroy’s Palace remains (Thuppada Kola): Thuppada Kola is a small water pavilion built of granite during the Vijayanagar period (Fig.3.33). The design resembles the small water pavilion at Hampi. Today it is the part of the Municipal garden and is situated near Ranganathaswamy temple.

Fig. 3.33: Thuppada Kola
3.9.2.10 Obelisk (Ranagambha- 2 Nos.)

![Fig. 3.34 : Obelisk (Ranagambha)](image)

Obelisk (Ranagambha) is a monument built in memory of the soldiers who fought against British and died in Anglo-Mysore wars. They are two in numbers and are located in Ganjam (Fig.3.34).

3.9.3 Other Important Attractions

3.9.3.1 Wellesley Bridge: Written both in English and Urdu, the inscription located at one end of the bridge reads “Dedicated to Richard Marquis Wellesley K.P., Governor General of India by Krishnaraja Wodeyar Bahadur is a public testimony of his gratitude and as a lasting monument of the benefits conferred on the people and country of Mysore”. Begun August 1802, Finished October 1804, under the direction of Purnaiah Dewan.

![Fig. 3.35: Wellesley Bridge](image)
The photograph of the Wellesley Bridge at Srirangapatna taken in the 1890s by an unknown photographer is from the Curzon Collection’s ‘Souvenir of Mysore Album’. Accompanying the photograph is this note: "Wellesley Bridge, over the river Cauvery at Seringapatnam, was erected in 1804, under the direction of Dewan Purnaiah, at the cost of 5½ lakhs, and named after the Governor-General, the Marquis of Wellesley. It is an interesting specimen of native architecture, being composed of stone pillars, capped with stone corbels, and surmounted by stone girders, on which the flags of the roadway are laid. It has 64 spans of 2.5m each with 170m linear waterway. Though rough in construction, the bridge has survived the heaviest floods for a century without injury" (Fig. 3.3).

3.9.3.2 Gosai Ghat: About 3 kilometers away from Srirangapatna is a place called Gosai Ghat, a perfect place to take off for a relaxed gateway. Nature stands rich with scenic beauty here. The river Cauvery parts into two before reaching Srirangapatna. One part of it flows through the Paschima Vahini and the other towards Gosai Ghat (Fig. 3.36). The parted river again meet at a place called Sangama, which is around 2km away. The name Gosai Ghat has an interesting story. The place has been named after a saint called Udaya Bharati, who hailed from Varanasi, where saints are addressed as ‘Gosai’. Three hundred years ago, the saint Udaya Bharati brought a Shivalinga from Kashi and installed on this bank of Cauvery, as he found this place ideal for such homes of worship. It is believed that since this saint stayed here for years, this place acquired the name Gosai Ghat. Though the temple here is dedicated to lord Kashi Vishwanatha, the premises also has shrines dedicated to gods Lakshmi Narayana and Prasanna Parvati Devi. The then Maharaja of Mysore, Mummadi Krishna Raja Wodeyar has got a few temples constructed here and those add a special enchantment to the place’s beauty. This place is also famous for performing post-cremation ceremonies by Hindu families. The offerings are made to the souls with a ritualistic procedure for the people who have departed. Apart from that, this place is also a wonderful picnic spot with boating facilities. Lot of people far and near visit this place to swim around in the Cauvery river waters; a coracle is available to reach the other side of the bank. Unfortunately the water at this place is on the verge of getting polluted with ashes of deceased persons being submerged at this spot as the practice is considered to be sacred.
3.9.3.3 Sangama: "Sangama" is the confluence of holy rivers. Sangama is just 3 km away from Srirangapatna near the Gumbaz, located near a temple, and at this point, the other branch of the river Cauvery - Lokapavani is reunited. Apart from being frequented by tourists wishing to take a dip at the site to wash away their sins, the place is also thronged by those interested in picnicking. River Cauvery flows into the Mettur Dam in Tamil Nadu, from this point of confluence (Fig. 3.37).

3.9.3.4 Nimishamba Temple: Nimishamba temple is on the banks of the river Cauvery, located at about 2 km from Srirangapatna on the road leading to Sangama (confluence). Sri Nimishamba is considered as the incarnation of Goddess Parvathi, the consort of Lord Shiva.
This place at Ganjam is considered as a holy place. Mukhtaraja of soma Vamsha performed penance at Nimishamba Temple and this temple has great relevance to the Mutharasa. Shree chakra is carved on a stone in front of Sri Nimishamba and pooja is performed. There is a belief that Sri Nimishamba is going to remove all the problems and troubles of her devotees within a minute. Hence, she is called Nimishamba. Somavamsha Mutharasa king Muktharaja was blessed with the boon that Sri Nimishamba will come to his aid in his fight against the demons in a minute. That is why there is a deity Lord Shiva by the name of Moukthikeshwara. This temple was installed at the time of Wodeyars about 300 to 400 years ago (Fig.3.38).

3.9.3.5 Paschima Vahini

Fig. 3.39: Paschima Vahini where rituals are performed
Paschima Vahini on the river Cauvery, about 2 Km from Srirangapatna is a sacred place for the Hindus (Fig.3.39). The pious come from far and wide to immerse the ashes of the dead and perform obsequies to their ancestors in these waters. There are bathing Ghats and choultries here.

3.10 REMARKS
Srirangapatna, a small island town situated on the Bangalore – Mysore State highway (SH 17) is the erstwhile capital of the Mysore kingdom. The town is one of the most renowned Vaishnavite centers of pilgrimage in southern India. It has gained historic significance due to the presence of innumerable monuments which are recognized and protected by both Archaeological Survey of India and State Archaeology Department. The brief description of all the monuments is presented and also the physical setting, economic profile, urban characteristics and infrastructure of the town are narrated.