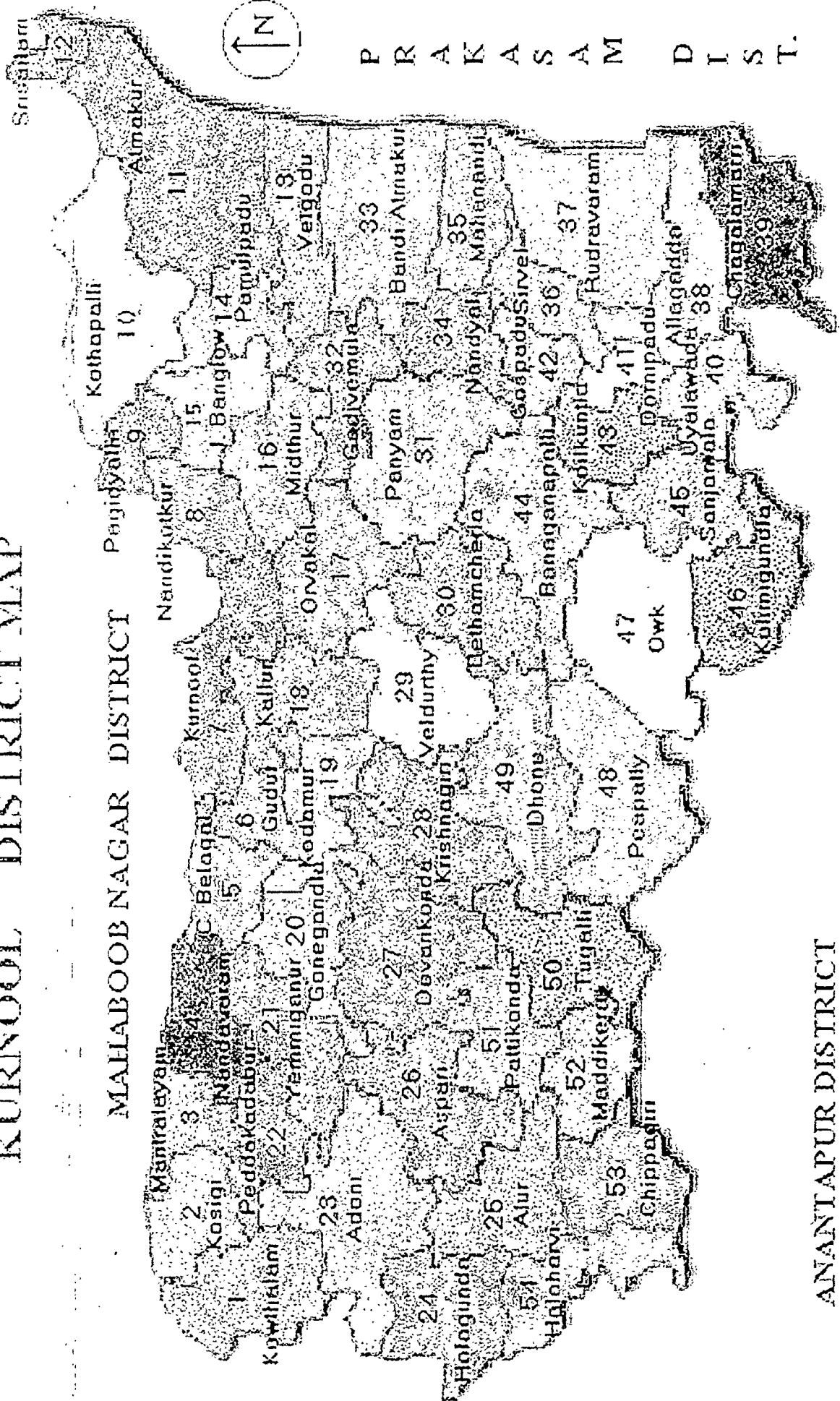


Chapter-III

AGRO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA

KURNOOL DISTRICT MAP



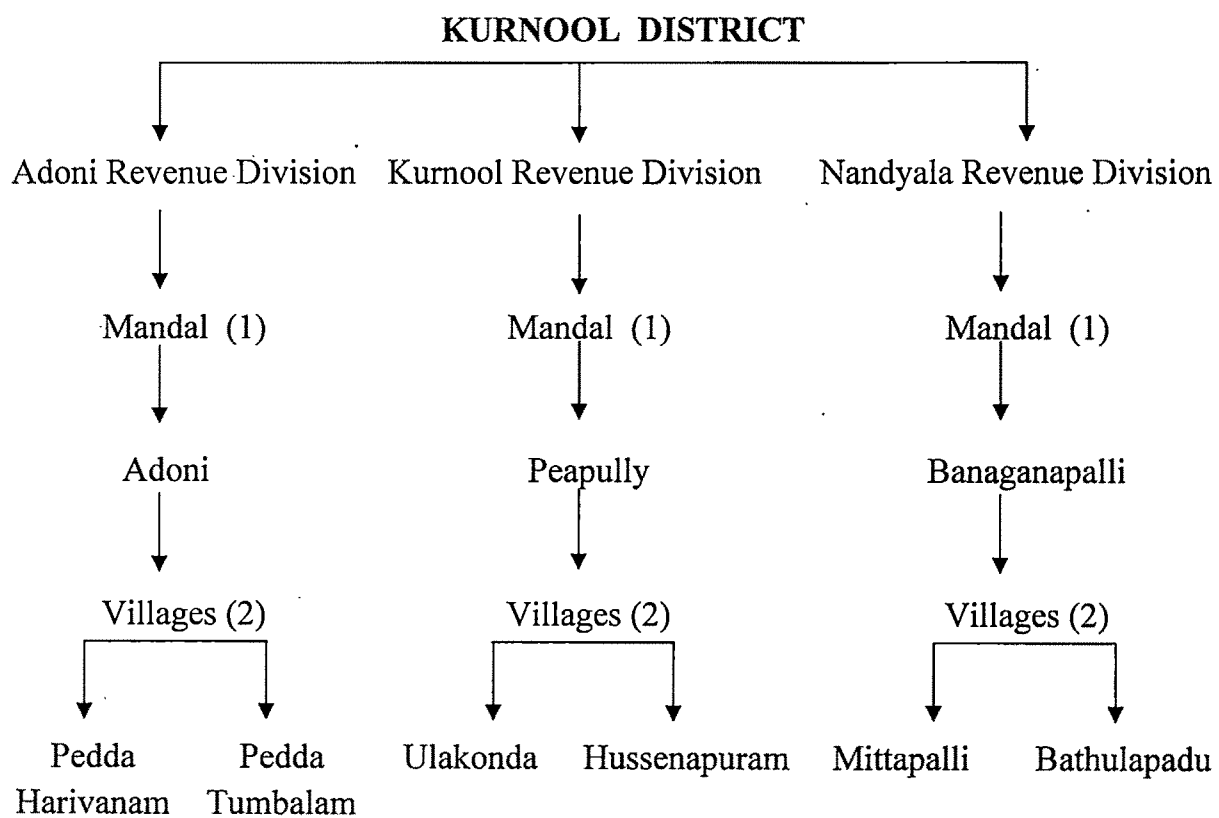
P R A K A S A M D I S T.

K A R N A T A K A S T A T E

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT

KADAPA DISTRICT

Selection of Mandals and Villages in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh



Chapter - III

Agro Economic Background of the Study Area

Kurnool district derives its name from its chief town Kurnool. It was the capital of former Nawabs, and later the Capital of Andhra State from 1 October, 1953 to 1 November, 1956. At present, it is the headquarters of the district. The name Kurnool is said to have been derived from "*Kandanavolu*".

Kurnool district lies between the northern latitudes of $14^{\circ} 54'$ and $16^{\circ} 18'$ and eastern longitudes of $76^{\circ} 58'$ and $79^{\circ} 34'$. The altitude of the district varies from 100 ft to above the mean sea level. This district is bounded on the North by Tungabhadra and Krishna rivers as well as Mahaboobnagar district. On the South by Kadapa and Anantapur districts and on the West by Bellary district of Karnataka State and on the East by Prakasam district. The district ranks tenth in population with 35, 29,494 people accounting for 4.63 per cent of the total population of the State as per 2001 population census, while in area it occupies the third place with 17658 Sq. Kms., which account for 6.41 per cent of the total area of the State.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Nallamalas and Erramalas are the two important mountain ranges in the district running parallel from North to South. The Erramalas divide the district into two well defined tracts from East and West. Between Erramalas and Nallamalas lies the Eastern Part of the district, which comprises Nandikotkur, Pagidyala, Kothapalli, Pamulapadu, Atmakur, Velugodu, J.Bunglow, Midthur, BandiAtmakur, Gadivemula,

Nandyal, Mahanandi, Panyam, Banaganapalli, Owk, Koilkuntla, Rudravaram, and Chagalamarri Mandals. This tract is crossed by the crest of Krishna and Pennar Watershed at the North part of the Pagidyala mandal at about 1000 above the sea level. From this height the ground slopes to the south along the river Kundu till it traverses into Pennar valley. Major part of its tract is predominantly black cotton soils.

The western tract comprised Pathikonda, Tuggali, Maddikera, Devanakonda, Gonegandla, Dhone, Peapully, Veldurthy, Bethamcherla, Krishnagiri, Kurnool, Orvakal, Kallur, Kodumur, C.Belagal, Gudur, Yemmiganur, Nandavaram, Alur, Aspari, Holagunda, Halaharvi, Chippagiri mandals. The terrain here slopes from south to north and it is drained by the river Hundri which joins the river Tungabhadra at Kurnool. The soils in the North Western parts by the river are predominantly red soils.

CLIMATE

The climate of the district is normally good and healthy. January, February and March months are usually pleasant with moderate winds from South-East. April and May are hottest months of the year. During these months the wind shifts southwest with increased force and brings welcome showers by the end of May. During the succeeding four months the wind blows from Western side in major parts of the district and brings fair quantum of rainfall. By the end of September, the wind is light and pleasant forecasting the onset of Northeast monsoon. In November and December, the weather is fine. Rainfall is scarce and wind is light with occurrence of

heavy dew. District annual normal rainfall is 670 mm. During 2008 -09 rainfall received was 582 mm.

RIVERS

The principal rivers flowing in the district are the Tungabhadra (and its tributary is Hundri), the Krishna and the Kunderu.

The Tungabhadra rises in the Western Ghats and after forming part of Northern boundary for some distance separates Kurnool from the Telangana area, flows in Eastern direction receiving Hundri, and falls into the Krishna River at Kudali Sangam after winding northwards.

The Hundri, a tributary of Tungabhadra, rises in the fields of Maddikera, Maddikera mandal receives a stream from Erramalas at Laddagiri in Kodumur mandal and joins Tungabhadra at Kurnool. It drains much of Maddikera, Pathikonda, Devanakonda, Gonegandla, Kodumur and Kallur mandals. This is turbid stream with sudden rise and fall. The Kunderu, also called Kumudvathi, rises on the Western side of Erramalas, winds its way into Kunderu valley and flows in a Southern direction, collecting drainage all along its course from either side. It flows through Orvakal, Midthur, Gadivemula, Nandyal, Gospadu, Koilkuntla, Dornipadu and Chagalamarri mandals and there enters Kadapa district¹.

¹ Hand book of Statistics, Kurnool District, 2009.

LAND USE PATTERN

The total Geographical area of the district is 17.658 lakh ha. During 2008-09 area covered by forest is 3.406 lakh ha, which forms 19.3 per cent of the total geographical area. The net area sown is 8.89 lakh ha, forming 50.35 per cent of the total geographical area. The total cropped area in the district is 10.35 lakh ha. The area sowed more than once is 1.04 lakh ha.

Table – 3.1: Land Utilisation (in ha)

S. No.	Category	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	Total Geographical Area	1765800	1765800	1765800
2	Forests	340669	340669	340669
3	Barren & Uncultivable Land	127390	127314	127315
4	Land put to Non-Agricultural use	136960	137796	138577
5	Cultivable Waste	52541	48411	48292
6	Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	3387	3575	3576
7	Land under miscellaneous tree crops & groves not included in net area sown	2541	1740	1741
8	Current Fallows	156735	128771	140528
9	Other Fallow Lands	84073	83957	75980
10	Net area sown	886256	861504	889122
11	Total Cropped Area	959549	1034808	856537
12	Area sown more than once	98045	141240	104564

Source: Chief Planning Office, Kurnool.

IRRIGATION

The gross cropped area of the district is 10.35 lakh ha, out of which 2.53 lakh ha are irrigated through canals, tanks, wells and other sources during 2008-09.

POWER

The district receives its power supply from Tungabhadra and Hampi Hydro Electric Power Stations. Srisailam Hydro-Electric Power Project is constructed across river Krishna at a distance of 3 kms from famous Srisailam Temple. The total cost of project was ₹. 433 crore. There are seven Hydro generators of 110 M.W.capacity each and electricity produced during 2008-09 was 1811.398 Million K W H.

MINERAL RESOURCES

Kurnool district possesses enormous deposits of lime-stone suitable for cement manufacture. Apart from this, important minerals of economic value in the district are barites, yellow shale, white shale, steatite etc.

Lime-stone occurs in Kallur, Orvakal, Dhone, Peapully, Panyam, Banaganapalli, Owk, Gadivemula and Kolimigundla mandals with an annual exploitation of 74.77 lakh m. tonnes. The annual out - turn of the other minerals in the district is 285.62 lakh m. tonnes during 2008-09.

POPULATION STATISTICS

The population data are presented in Table 3.2. The total population of district in 2001 was 35.29 lakhs. The density of population is 200 per sq. km. the district is

dominated by rural population with about 77 per cent. The literacy rate among the women is only about 40 per cent. The total number of inhabited villages is 928, while non inhabited villages are 29. Number of hamlets is 1575.

Table – 3.2: Population Statistics of Kurnool District

S. No.	Particulars	Unit	1991	2001	Annual Compound Growth Rate
1	Population	Lakhs.	29.68	35.29	1.75
2	Males	Lakhs.	15.20	17.96	1.68
3	Females	Lakhs.	14.48	17.33	1.81
4	Geographical Area	Sqr.KMs	17658.00	17658.00	0.00
5	Density of Population	Sqr.KMs	168.00	200.00	1.76
6	Females for Thousand Males	No	953.00	965.00	0.13
7	Rural Population	Lakhs.	22.04	27.12	2.10
8	Urban Population	Lakhs.	7.63	8.17	0.69
9	Urban Population as Percentage to Total Population	per cent	25.71	23.16	-1.04
10	Literates	Lakhs.	9.64	15.92	5.14
	A. Males	Lakhs.	6.58	10.04	4.32
	B. Females	Lakhs.	3.06	5.88	6.75
11	Literacy Rate	per cent	40.05	53.20	2.88
12	Main Workers	Lakhs.	13.39	15.00	1.14
13	Marginal Workers	Lakhs.	0.42	2.45	19.29
14	Non-Workers	Lakhs.	15.87	17.84	1.18
15	Cultivators (Main)	Lakhs.		3.31	
16	Agricultural Labour (Main)	Lakhs.		6.64	
17	Scheduled Caste Population	Lakhs.	5.17	6.28	1.96
18	Scheduled Caste Population as Percentage to Total Population	per cent	17.43	17.81	0.22
19	Scheduled Tribe Population	Lakhs.	0.56	0.70	2.26
20	Scheduled Tribe Population as Percentage to Total Population	per cent	1.88	1.97	0.47

Source: Director of Census Operations, Hyderabad.

Agricultural Activities:

i) Crops Grown

Kurnool is typically an agricultural district. The important crops of the district are: Rice, Jower (Sorghum), Groundnut, Sunflower, Cotton, Chillies, Onion, Maize, Castor, Bengalgram etc. It is noted that the yield per hectare appears to be slightly better when compared other districts.

ii) Implements and Machinery

The implements used by the farmers in the district are mostly traditional. However, it is noted that about 30, 000 pumpsets and about 2,500 agricultural tractors are in operation.

iii) Crop Loans

The details of crop loans distributed to the farmers are presented in Table 3.3. Ananthagrameena Bank and KDCC Bank are providing loans to the maximum number of the farmers. However, State Bank of India provides the largest amount of loan to the farmers.

Table – 3.3: Distribution of Crop Loans, Bank-wise (2008-09)

S. No	Name of the Bank	No. of Farmers	Amount of Loan (₹. In Lakh)	Name of the Crop for which loans given
1	Syndicate Bank	46402	25257	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Maize etc.,
2	State Bank of India	82500	75500	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Maize etc.,
3	Ananthagrameena Bank	147469	60000	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Maize etc.,
4	Andhra Bank	30500	18200	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Maize etc.,
5	Kurnool District Cooperative Central Bank (KDCCB)	134150	39600	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Maize etc.,
6	Other Banks	146944	75543	Paddy, Groundnut, Pulses, Maize etc.,
Total		587965	294100	

Source: J.D. Agriculture / Lead District Manager

Primary Agricultural Credit Societies

The details of working PACS in the district are given in Table 3.4. The number of societies in the district is 99. There is no change in the number from 2006-07 to 2008-09. But there is a decline in the membership in the societies. There is increase in the share capital, deposits, borrowing and working capital in 2008-09 over 2006-07. The amount of advances also increased during this period, but the overdues declined.

Table – 3.4: Working of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies Including Farmers' Service Cooperative Societies (PACS)

S. No.	Particulars	Unit	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	Societies	No	99	99	99
2	Membership	No	565531	567762	554386
3	Share Capital	₹. In Lakh	2087.76	2268.95	2593.70
4	Deposits	₹. In Lakh	3329.18	3621.69	3371.73
5	Borrowings	₹. In Lakh	28771.75	29294.71	31450.79
6	Working Capital	₹. In Lakh	35326.91	36454.67	39311.65
7	Loans				
	A. Advances	₹. In Lakh	19268.53	18141.40	22186.71
	B. Recovered	₹. In Lakh	15491.88	10570.80	16634.34
	C. Outstanding	₹. In Lakh	24459.85	25108.34	24506.70
	D. Overdue	₹. In Lakh	12656.21	13651.07	12355.33

Source: District Central Cooperative Bank, Kurnool

Seeds

The particulars of subsidised seeds distributed to the farmers are given in Table 3.5. It is seen from the Table that groundnut and Bengal-gram are supplied by the government to the farmers on subsidy basis.

Table – 3.5 : Distribution of Subsidised Seed (2008-09)

S. No.	Name of the Crop	Quality of Seed Distributed (in Tonnes)					Cost of Subsidy (₹. In Lakh)	No. of Farmers Covered
		Crop - I	Crop - II	Crop -III	Others	Total		
1	Greengram	3.3				3.3	0.54	227
2	Castor	0.2				0.2	0.5	53
3	Blackgram	3.3				3.3	0.61	203
4	Soyabean	16				16	3.75	335
5	Bengalgram	7125.3				7125.3	426.32	140676
6	Redgram	51				51	9.12	8425
7	Maize	256.9				256.9	64.21	14915
8	Groundnut	9563.6				9563.6	1299.36	126464
9	Sunflower	221.1				221.1	232.15	49894
Total		17240.7				17240.7	2036.56	341192

Source: J.D. Agriculture, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Fertilisers

The consumption of fertilisers for the crops in the district ranges from 118 to 799 kgs. per ha.

Livestock

The livestock and poultry particulars are given in Table 3.6. Cattle population in the district is 5, 17, 621, while the buffaloes population is 12, 25,241. These data pertain to 2007.

Table – 3.6: Livestock and Poultry Population

S.No	Particulars	Census year	
		2003	2007
1	Cattle (Total)	429304	517621
	a. male over 3 years	222556	270126
	b. female over 3 years	112994	137366
	c. young stock	93754	110129
2	Buffaloes (Total)	458913	646602
	a. male over 3 years	6832	18597
	b. female over 3 years	274469	363512
	c. young stock	177612	264493
3	Sheep	1149281	1393298
4	Goats	386974	608741
5	Horses and ponies	511	215
6	Donkeys	5379	5380
7	Mules	0	0
8	Camels	7	10
9	Pigs	13474	15420
10	Other livestock	39824	40802
11	Total livestock	2483567	3228083
12	Total poultry	1180626	1225241

Source: Regional Joint Director, Animal Husbandry, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

The empirical study is conducted with the agro-economic background of the study area as described above, Results are presented and discussed in the ensuing chapter.