

CHAPTER V

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF MARKAPUR
REGION**

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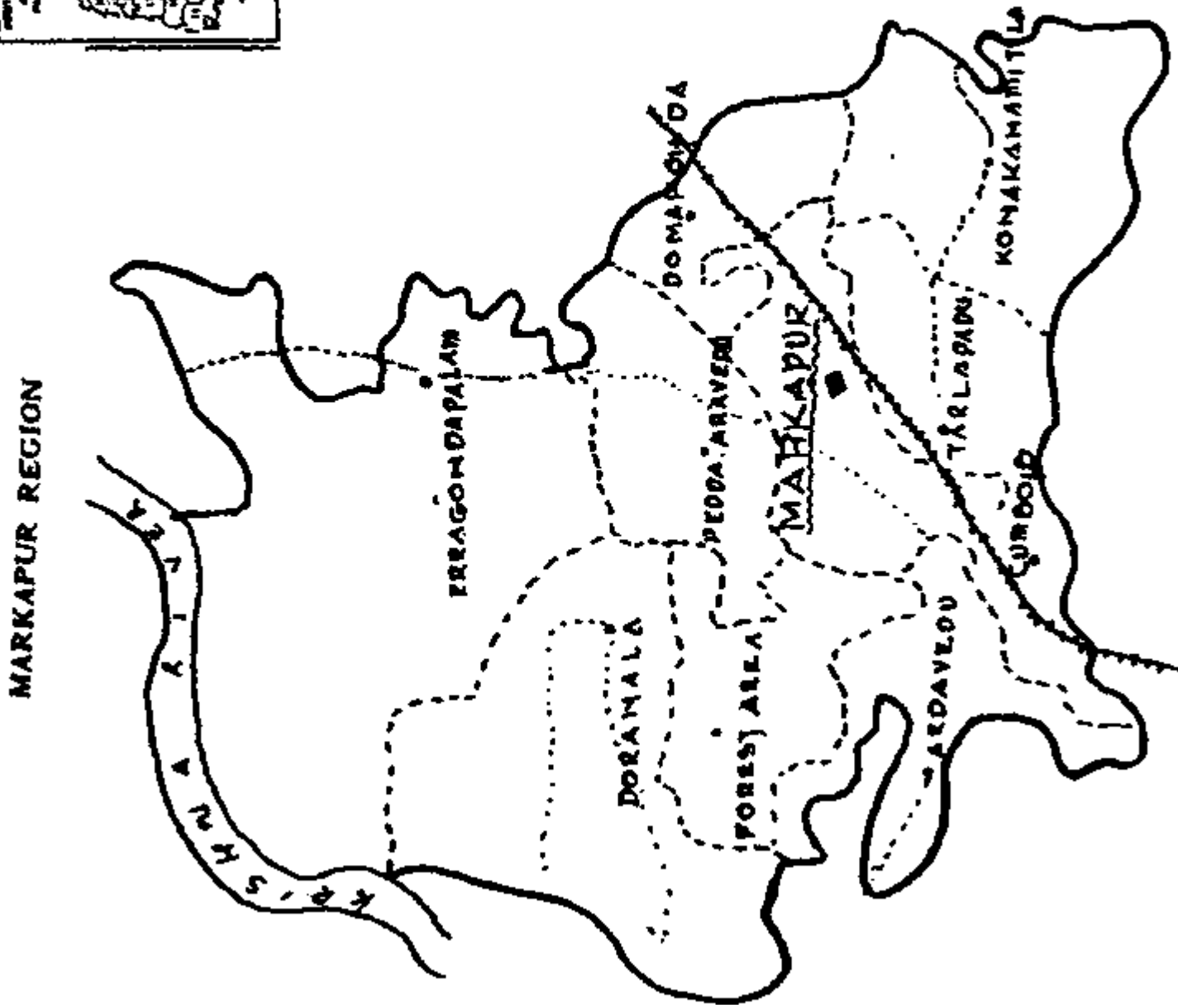
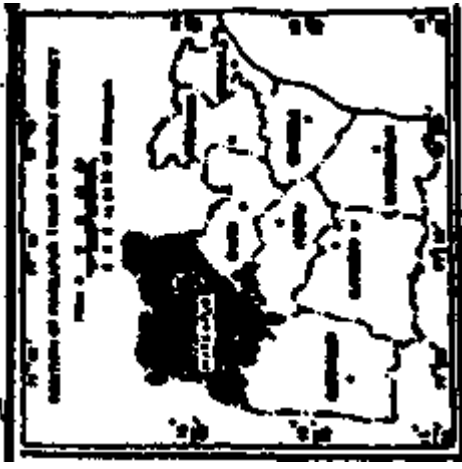
Occupational classification

The following mandals constitute the hinterland of Markapur town. They are Markapur, Tarlupadu, **Konakonamitla**, Donakonda, **Cumbum**, Pedda **Araveedu**, Dornala, **Ardhaveedu** and **Yerragonda palem**.

Location and Physical Setting:

The present study area falls in the upland plateau of the Prakasham district. Prakasham is one of the newly formed district in Andhra Pradesh, with parts from **Kurnool**, Guntur and Nellore districts. The district was formed on 2nd February, 1970. It is bounded on the north by Guntur district, on the south by Cuddapah and Nellore districts, on the west by Kurnool district and on the east by *Bey of Bengal*. The district lies between $15^{\circ}30^1$ and 16° north latitude and $78^{\circ}43^1$ and $80^{\circ}25^1$ eastern longitude. The western portion of the district which constitute Markapur region lies in an upland area. It contains large tracts of low shrubs and forests, diversified with rocky hills and stony plains which form a distinct feature of the district. This western part was originally in Kurnool district (which lies in **Royalaseema**). As already mentioned it is included in the Prakasham district (*part of* Andhra region). However, Markapur region morphologically, historically, economically, politically and culturally has more similarities and links with Royalaseema region.

The western part of Markapur region in our present study with Yerragonda palem, Dornala, Pedda araveedu and Ardhaveedu mandals is covered by forests. They are the border foot hills of Eastern Ghats where Nallamala forests exist.



In the mandals to the east of Ifarkapur constituting Donakonda, Tarlupadu, **Konakonamitla** and **Markapur**, much of the area is of hilly terrain, with rocky soils and stony plains. The land surrounding slate mines is uncultivable because of its rocky and hard nature thereby, the land available for cultivation is less. Consequently, most of the land holdings in the region are small and uneconomic.

Soils:

In the entire Markapur region 90 percent of the soils are red and the remaining 10 percent are black. Much of these black soils are in **Cumbum** and Tarlupadu mandals. The soils in the region are less fertile with poor ground water levels and are not suitable for gainful agriculture.²

Climate and Rainfall:

As already mentioned the entire Markapur region falls in the rain shadow region of Eastern Ghats, where the rainfall is less, uncertain and erratic. Most of the rainfall occurs during the South-West Monsoon season which starts in the 2nd week of June and extends upto October. Droughts are common in the region. The average rainfall of the district *for* the decade 1981- 1991 is 751 mm (which itself is low) while that of Markapur region is 652mm.³ The rainfall is not sufficient to the needs of the region and therefore very often exposed to droughts. The climate is usually hot and humid. The temperatures are very high during summer which go upto 45°C. The **minimum** and maximum temperatures recorded during 1993 are 15.6°C and 44.4°C respectively.

Demographic Background:

The total population of the hinterland according to 1991 census is 3,41,261. Of this 51 percent are males and 49 percent are females. Further, 20 percent are SCs and 4 percent are STs.

The total number of households are 66,850. The average size of the household is five.

The population density of the region is 134.

Literacy:

Of the total population of **3,41,261**, 26 percent are literates. Within this, 19 percent are males and 7 percent are females. And within the literates the percentage of female literates is only 24 percent. This shows that illiteracy is high in the region and is more predominant among the females.

Occupational Classification:

Of the total population of 3,41,261, 46 percent are main workers, 3 percent are marginal workers and the remaining 51 percent are **non-workers**.

Of the 46 percent main workers, more than half of them, that is, 24 percent are agricultural labourers. The **farmers'** share accounted only 13 percent. The remaining 9 percent are distributed in various activities like livestock, rearing, mining and **quarrying**, manufacturing, **construction**, trade and commerce, and other services.

Surprisingly according to 1991 census, only 0.5 percent of the population is shown working in **mining** and quarrying when the actual

condition is that of over 70 percent of population ranging between 30,000 to **40,000**, from nearly 40 villages are dependent on slate mines for their livelihood. This shows the nature of record maintenance of registered workers in the slate mines of Markapur region.

Another significant aspect to be noticed is that the number of agricultural labourers is almost twice the number of cultivators, that is, actual farmers. This may be because, due to the ungainful agricultural conditions in the region, most of the marginal and small farmers are converting themselves to agricultural labourers.

Land Use Pattern:

The total geographical area of the Markapur hinterland is 10,67,774 acres.

From the table **No. 5.1** we can observe that in the past seven years there are no major changes in the land use patterns of Markapur region. The only significant change is the decrease in the percentage of current fallows from 6 to 2 in the recent years.

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The average figures of the seven years, from 1985-86 to 1991-92 would give us better account of land use pattern in Markapur region. **It** is evident from the table that 47 percent of the land is under forests. **12.5** percent under barren, uncultivable and cultivable waste. Nearly 11 percent of land is under current and other fallow lands. Thereby, the net sown area constitute only 2,05,722 acres, that is, nearly 20 percent of total land.

Table 9.1

LAND USE PATTERN IN **MARKAPUR** REGION

(Percentages)

Year	Total Geo- graphical Area (acres)	Forest	Barren & unculti- vable land	Permanent pastures	Land Under Misc. Trees	Cultivable Waste	Land Put to Non- Agrioul- tural Uses	Currant Follow lands	othar follow lands	Mat Araa Sown	Araa Mora Onoa	Sown than	Total Cropped Araa
1985-86	1021225	47	6	2	1	6	7.5	6.5	5	19	2		21(212297)
66-67	1021227	47	6	2	1	6.5	7.5	6	6	18	1		19(196049)
87-88	1022226	47	6	2	1	6	7.5	8	5.5	17	3		20(202672)
88-89	1021225	47	6	2	1	5	7.5	6	5	20.5	3		23.6(239046)
89-90	1021225	47	6	3.6	.6	4	7	5	6	21	2		23(230154)
90-91	1067774	47.6	9	4	.6	4.5	5.5	3.5	5	20.5	2.5		23(243476)
91-92	1067774	47.5	9	3	1	5.5	6	2	6.5	19.5	2.5		22(233969)
	1034666	47	7	2.5	1	5.5	7	5	5.5	19.5	2		21.5(222523)

Source: Compiled from the Data available at Chief Planning Officer, Ongole.

Thus, much of the land in the **Markapur** region is either covered under forests or wasted as **barren**, uncultivable and cultivable waste. Further, due to low rainfall and drought conditions, a significant portion of the land is left over as fallow lands. This might be also due to less fertility and ungainful agricultural conditions existing in the region. As the rainfall is less and due to lack of irrigation facilities, the area sown more than once is as low as only 22,890 acres, that is, 2 percent of total land.

Land Holding Details:

From the table 5.2 we can observe that, of the 61,995 holdings in Markapur region, 63.5 percent holdings are of small and marginal farmers, 34.5 percent are of semi-medium and medium farmers and the rest 2 percent of the holdings are of large farmers.

Table: 5.2
Land Holdings in Markapur Region
(in acres)

Type of Land Holding	Number of Holdings	% of total holdings	Area under this category	% of total area
Marginal and Small	39,525	63.5	94,198	28.5
Semi-medium and medium	21,434	34.5	1,98,849	60.0
Large	1,036	20	37,413	11.5
Total	61,995	100	3,30,457	100

Source: Compiled from the Agricultural Census, 1991. Office of the Chief Planning Officer, **Prakasham** District.

Though 63.5 percent of the holdings are with marginal and small farmers, they own only 28.5 percent of the total area of the land. **Semi-medium** and medium farmers hold 60 percent of the land and the large farmers who own only 2 percent of the holdings covers 11.5 percent of the land.

Irrigation Sources and Extent of Irrigation:

Table 5.3 shows that 57 percent of the irrigated area in the **Markapur** region is through dug wells. Other major irrigation sources are Tanks and Tube wells where 21 percent and 18.5 percent of Gross irrigated area is under these sections respectively. Only 2 percent of the gross irrigated area is under canal irrigation.

In fact the gross area irrigated is only 5.5 percent of the total geographical area. Thus, the irrigation level is very less. And whatever little irrigation there is, is mainly through dug wells, tube wells and village tanks.

If we observe the changes in the irrigation sources over different years, we can notice that, while the percentage of irrigated area through dug wells is decreasing, there is gradual increase in the area irrigated through tube wells. This shows that there is increasing use of tube wells with the wide use of electric motors. However, the role of tanks in irrigation is varied in different years since this is based on extent of rainfall in each year. The more the **rainfall**, the more the tank irrigation will be. The only river flowing through the region is **Gundlakamma** which is no way useful to the region's irrigation purposes.

Table 5.3
IRRIGATION SOURCES AND EXTENT OF IRRIGATION IN MARKAPUR REGION
(Percentages)

Yaar	Canals	Tanka	Tubewells	Dugwells	Othar Sources	Nat Irrigated Area	% of Nat sown araa (or) X of Nat Croppad araa
1965-66	2	2.5	1.3	94	.2	34588	17.7
66-67	6	1	2.4	91.6	.1	20794	11.4
67-66	-	28	16	58	1	27334	15.8
66-69	4	42	14	39	1	47890	23
89-90	1.6	20	28	46	4.6	46804	22
90-91	1	25.8	31.6	38	3	42800	19.5
91-92	1	23	37.5	36	2.6	44588	21.7
	2	21	18.5	57	1.5	37713	18.7

Source: Compiled froa tha Data available at Chief Planning Officer, Ongola.

Cropping Pattern:

Of the total 1,97,728 acres of net cropped area, 48.5 percent of the area is under food crops and 41.6 percent is under **commercial** crops. Further, 1.3 percent is under vegetables and the rest 8 percent is under other miscellaneous crops.

Of the 48.5 percent under food crops, 21 percent is under major millets, 11 percent is under minor millets and the remaining 8.5 percent is under cereals mainly rice.

Of the 41.5 percent under commercial crops, most of it is under groundnut, cotton, tobacco and chillies.

Table 5.4

AREA UNDER PRINCIPAL CROPS IN **MARKAPUR** REGION

(percentages)

Year	Rice	Jowar	Bajra	Cotton	Tobacco	Groundnut	Total
1985-86	2.5	4.6	35.5	4.0	10.0	2.0	63,494
1986-87	1.5	42.5	39.0	1.5	8.5	7.0	68,287
1987-88	23.0	35.0	28.5	6.0	4.0	3.5	73,262
1988-89	28.5	31.0	26.0	6.0	6.5	2.0	1,07,174
1989-90	13.5	34.0	31.0	8.0	7.5	6.0	93,866
1990-91	18.0	23.0	22.0	11.0	8.0	18.0	1,20,132
1991-92	17.5	16.5	20.0	16.0	9.0	21.0	1,14,060
Average	15	32.5	29	7.5	7.5	8.5	91.468

Source: Compiled from the Data available at Chief Planning Officer, **Prakasam** District

Thus, the cropping pattern in the **Markapur** region shows that, the majority of the region is under food crops particularly under millets which does not generate any marketable surplus. **Further**, the various commercial crops grown in the region also does not generate any significant **agro-processing** industries except a few groundnut and rice mills.

The main reasons for the low efficiency of agriculture in **Markapur** region are unfavourable natural conditions (example poor soils, less & erratic rainfall, undulating nature of terrain in some areas), traditional farming practices of the community characterised by little use of physical inputs such as irrigation, fertilizers, improved seeds. Also inadequate provision of agriculture infrastructure. Only a small portion of the cultivated area is under commercial crops like tobacco, cotton, groundnut. In this situation little cash income arrives to the farmer. The cropping pattern has continued without change for many years. The agriculture production in many parts of region has touched a low leaving the farmer with little or no incentives to make additional savings and investments. This state of agriculture is responsible for the backwardness of the region.

The cropping pattern of the region is characterized by mono-culture in rice with little diversification. In years of crop failures and famines, there is exodus of people from the rural areas to mining and industrial areas.

However, the region is not without areas of progressive farming although they constitute a small fraction of the total area. **In Cumbum** and parts of Tarlupadu mandals where fertile black soils are existing, there is increasing trend towards cultivation of tobacco and cotton.

The cropping pattern is characterized by very little diversification. The holdings are of very small size and can hardly sustain an average

family. Also accompanied by this agricultural backwardness is the social backwards interms of health, education and inadequate transport and communication facilities. The existing transport facilities are deficient and do not provide **satisfactory** accessibility to many areas of the region.

Agro-based Industries:

As we have already discussed, Markapur region is marked with subsistence agricultural economy. Besides paddy, predominantly subsistence crops like millets and pulses are grown thereby the need for agro-processing is minimum. **There** are 30 rice mills in the hinterland besides 8 rice mills in town. Further, there are 7 ground nut mills in the hinterland. Though cotton and sugarcane are the main commercial crops, the agro-processing units are in towns like Guntur and Narasaraopet which are located 100 **kms.** away from Markapur. Another commercial crop is oranges which is marketed in Vijayawada, Hyderabad and Nagapur. Thus the very nature of agriculture in Markapur generates less scope for marketing and processing.

The major employment source in the hinterland is slate mining and slate manufacturing, which is discussed in detail in the following chapter.

MARKAPUR TOWN

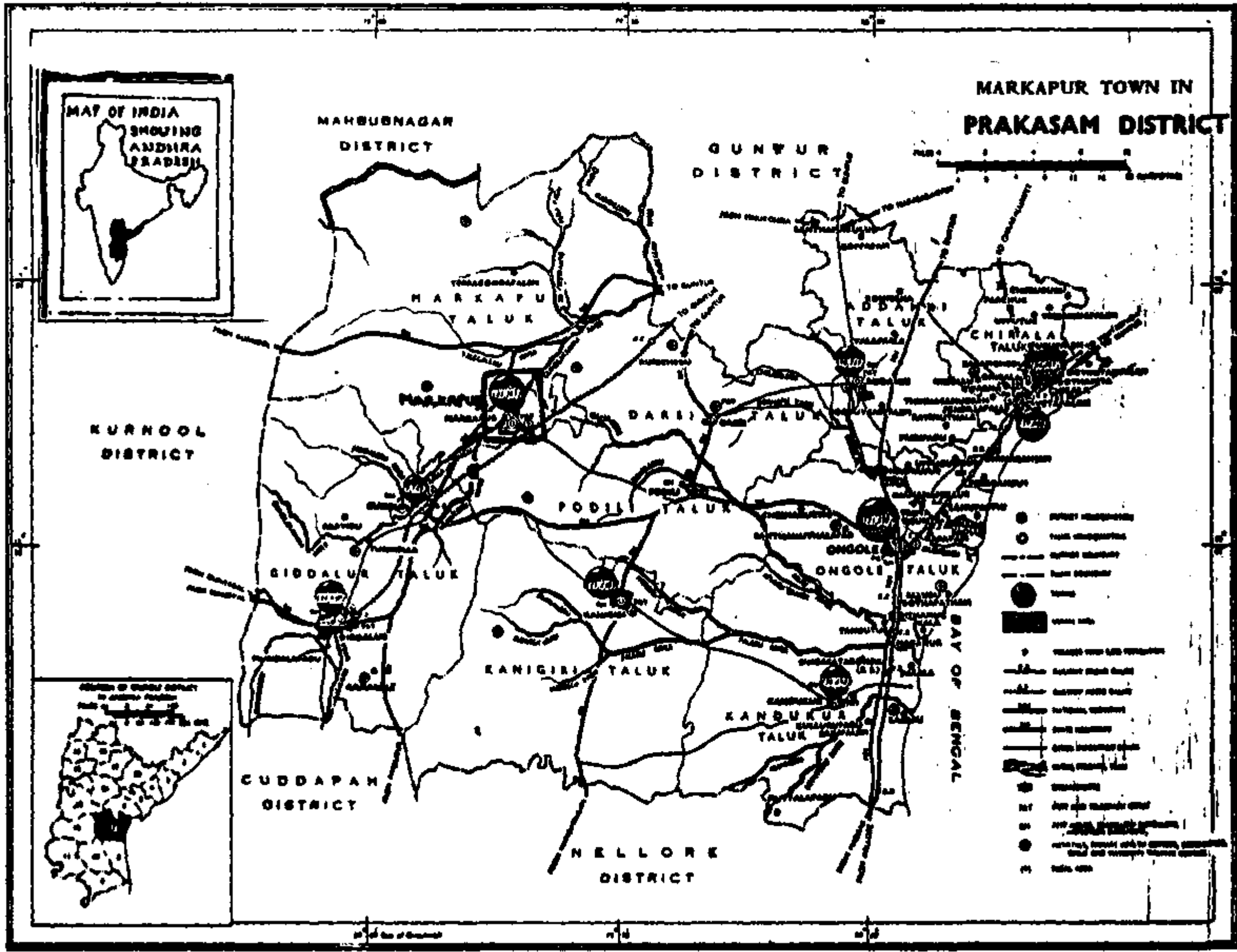
Location:

Markapur is a small town situated in the eastern part of Peninsular India. It is located on the **Guntakal-Guntur** broad gauge line. It is the head quarters of the Revenue Division in the district and is about 80 kms. South-West of Ongole, the district head quarters. It is located 350 kms. from Hyderabad, the capital of Andhra Pradesh.

History and Growth of Town:

The most important aspect behind the history of Markapur town is the existence of Lord Chenna Kesava Shrine. This temple was built in the medieval period. Markapur is named after a shepherd girl, '**Marika**', by whom the temple here is said to have been founded in the fourteenth century A.D. However, Marikapuram village began to develop from early nineteenth century, when an officer of Gajapathi Raja by name Telugu Rayudu built the tank here as well as the large Telugu Rayudu Tank in the **Nallamala** valley in the **north-west** corner of the **mandal**.^g

During 1920s and 1930s Markapur is a small village with a population of around 6000. While probing into the history of town, discussions with senior citizens of town brought to light some interesting facts. Markapur was basically a local pilgrimage centre and infact the growth of **village** is due to migration of Vaishyas to this village to establish small shops considering its pilgrimage importance. Its importance grew with the completion of nine storied Raja Gopuram in mid 1930s.⁹ Another reason for development of Markapur as pilgrimage centre is of its location on the **way**



to another major pilgrimage centre, Srisailam. People visit this **temple** and go to Srisailam which is 80 km away from Markapur. However, discovery of slate stone in the surrounding areas of Ifarkapur during 1920s changed the entire **fortune** of liarkapur town.

Markapur for the first time on 1st **October**, 1964 was declared as grade III municipality town. Later **on**, on 2nd May, 1984 it was upgraded as grade II municipality town.¹⁰ The area of the town is 28.77 square **kilometers**. **Markapur** is the largest slate manufacturing centre in India and produces nearly eighty percent of the slates manufactured in India. Presently, it is the head quarters of the Revenue Division.

Demographic Growth of Town:

The total population of the Markapur town according to 1991 census is 45,563 of which 51 percent are males and the remaining 49 percent are females. The population growth of Markapur town since 1951 is presented in the below given table.

Table:5.S

POPULATION GROWTH OF MARKAPUR

Year	Population	Decade variation	Growth rate(%)
1951	11.794	3.348	39.6
1961	16,665	4.871	41.3
1971	22,263	5,598	33.6
1981	34,381	12.118	54.4
1991	45.563	11.182	32.5

Source: Census of India, 1991.

From the table 5.5 we can observe that, the decadal variation of population of Markapur indicates that there are wide fluctuations in the growth rate of Markapur town. During the last four decades the population of Markapur increased from 11,794 to 45,536 registering a growth rate of 286 percent.

In the history of Markapur only in the decade 1971-81 the growth rate of town was above 50 percent. However, again in 1991 census, the growth rate has fallen down from 54 percent to 32 percent. Also, there is decrease even in the absolute increase of population between 1981-91 when compared to that of 1971-81 decade.

The major section of population in Markapur town are Vaishyas. They constitute 30% of the total population of Markapur. Other important sections are Muslims (20%), **Baliyas** (15%), Reddies (15%).¹² Primarily Vaishyas are the most important dominant section engaged fully in all commercial activities like hotel industry, clothing, general (kirana) stores and others besides slate industry. Muslims are mostly engaged in automobile industry besides slate industry.

In Markapur, according to 1991 census reports, 8 percent of people belong to Scheduled Castes and 1 percent to Scheduled Tribes.

Population Density:

The population density of Markapur town was 773 in 1971. It rose to 1,194 in the year 1981. According to the **1991** census, the population density of Markapur is 1,582.

Literacy:

In Markapur, nearly 48 **percent** of population are literates. There is one degree and intermediate college at Markapur. Further, there are **two** high schools, three middle schools and thirty one primary schools. Besides this, there are eight English medium convent schools run by various private organizations. There is one high school for the rehabilitation of child labours of slate industry run by Assist India, a voluntary organization in association with Ministry of Labour, Government of India.

Medical and Health Facilities:

There are two major hospitals functioning in Markapur town. They are the government hospital with 30 beds and **an** Employees State Insurance (E.S.I) hospital serving as an out patient unit.¹³ Further, there are 12 private nursing homes functioning in the town. As many as 13 medical shops exist in Markapur which supply the required medicines to the people of **the** region.

Transport and Communication:

Markapur is located on the route which links Rayalaseema region with Andhra region. All the buses of Rayalaseema travelling towards Andhra region pass through Markapur. But, most of these buses are night services besides a few day services. Further, this town lies on **Vijayawada-Guntakal** broad guage railway route.

The Markapur APSRTC Depot daily operates sixty three buses to the nearby mandals and towns. The total income of the Markapur depot per month

is around thirty lakh rupees. Markapur draws people mostly from within 20 to 25 **kms.** radius of the town.¹⁴

There is one Telephone exchange and Telegraph office in Markapur. However, no S.T.D. facility is available. The number of Telephone connections existing in town are 297. Recently a radio station is opened in Markapur.

Occupational classification:

In Markapur, of the total population of 45,563, 31 percent (14,245) are main workers and 0.5 percent (248) are marginal workers and the rest 68 percent (31,070) are **non-workers**.

Of the 31 percent of the main workers, a majority of them **(9.5%) are** engaged in household manufacturing sector, while only marginal sections **(1%)** are engaged in non-household manufacturing sector. Trade and commerce constitute the next important sector where 6 percent of workers are engaged. Another 6 percent of workers are engaged in other miscellaneous services. Also a significant portion (4 percent) of them are agricultural labours.

Commerce and Trade:

The structure of enterprise (commerce) is primarily defined by the market economy and its specific local manifestation. Business in Markapur is of subsistence type. The town business in general is of anarchic **nature** and the merchants feel there is high competition **among** themselves.

Most shops are small and capital is limited. Much of the commerce and trade is carried out in the shopping streets established around the temple located at the heart of the town. Agro based servicing and supplying units, fertilizer shops, electric goods, cloth stores, medical shops and general (**kirana**) stores constitute the major section of trade and commerce units. Since, the agriculture in the region is of subsistence type, the business done by the few agro based units like fertilizer units (11), servicing units is also seasonal and weak. The number of cloth shops rose from 22 in 1950 to 64 in 1993. However, there are only three big shops which are existing from 1960s. Since the majority of people in the region are workers of slate industry and small and marginal farmers, the buying capacity of the people is weak thereby the trade and commerce of the town is weak and is of subsistence type.

Table:5.6
Export, Import and **Manufacture** of Three Most Important Commodities of Markapur

Year	Import	Export	Manufacture
1981	Slate frames Slabs Country wine	slates Agarbathis Cotton	Slates Agarbathis Tooth Powder

Source: Town **D i r e c t o r y** of Andhra Pradesh, Census of India, 1981.

Any discussion on the commerce and trade of Markapur has to incorporate the role of Vaishyas, the dominant business community in Markapur. However, rarely a mention is made of the economic importance or social relevance of the present day bania castes.¹⁸ In Markapur, Vaishyas comprises the largest, most influential and wealthiest segment of the resident population. The largest single group after Vaishyas is the Muslim

community which account for slightly over 20 percent.

Local people say that Vaishyas and Brahmins are anti-Muslim because these castes mostly retain the spirit of Hinduism in social habits and ideals and therefore are inimical to Islam. In **Markapur**, the leading Vaishya business men have affiliation either towards Congress or Telugu Desam parties. However, they are more oriented towards Hinduism and have strong sympathy towards Bharathiya Janata Party.¹⁹

The antagonism between Vaishyas and Muslims in Markapur is not totally communal or religious but partly due to political and business competition. Some of the Muslims do own slate factories besides they have monopoly on slate transporting. Although a good deal of overlapping exists in the nature of their commercial ventures, Muslims and Hindus do tend to specialize their economic activities. Vaishyas mostly concentrate in general trade, i.e. kirana shops, cloth stores, electric shops, oil trade, hotel industry besides dominating in the slate manufacturing. Muslims mostly are engaged in the automobile industry.

Although most of the Vaishyas like to start a new business, very few wanted to risk the capital that such undertaking would require. This is accepted by one leading Vaishya Slate industrialist in Markapur, **Sudhakar**, where he says "Vaishyas in Markapur though have lot of capital, **rarely** venture to invest in any activity other than slate **industry**, or on any other new activity within slate industry". Thereby, though there is declining trend of slates, still many stick to slate business with little capital investment. However, **our** interviewee, that is, **Sudhakar** is a

masters graduate in commerce thereby convinced his ~~father~~ to invest money in starting a new design tiles industry, particularly of green colour which has greater market in European countries.

Markapur Vaishyas tendency of non investment in ~~new~~ avenues indicate the subsistence-type thinking that forms their business procedure. Vaishyas are chary of investment and risk taking. They are greatly restrained, have conservative familial subsistence orientation of individual businesses. They all complain of lack of investment capital, whereas their neighbours always accuse them of having lakhs of rupees hoarded.

Thus, the "**profit** motive" among the local merchants and particularly among Vaishyas has taken an involuted form in a high rate of savings and business chicanery rather than an outward manifestation in large business investment and expansion.

This may be one of the important reason for outsiders investing in the Markapur design tiles industries. To mention, Venkateshwara design tiles industry, the largest design tiles industry in Markapur, belongs to Manik Reddy, who hails from Telangana region in Andhra Pradesh. Further, other design tiles units also belongs to non-local people.

Notes:

¹**Hand** Book of Statistics, **1989-90**, compiled by Office of the Chief Planning Officer, Prakasham district, p xv.

²**Mandal** Development Reports, **Government**. of Andhra Pradesh, compiled by Chief Planning Officer, **Prakasham** District. 1987.

³**Hand** Book of Statistics, op.cit., **1989-90**, p 49.

⁴**Ibid**, p 47.

Field notes. Interviews with Gunman, President, Slate Mine Workers Association, Trade Union leaders viz.Nasariah, Ravindra, information provided by pamphlets of slate mine workers association, report submitted by slate mine workers to the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh when he visited Markapur in 1987. Also see Planning Commission report on Child Labour in Slate Industry of Markapur, 1992, pp 9-10.

Hand book of Statistics, op.cit., 1992-93, p 48.

District Gazetteer, **Kurnool** district, 1951, p 52.

⁸Presently called as **Cumbum** tank, rated as one of the biggest tank in Andhra Pradesh. Kurnool District Manual, 1886, pp 184-185.

⁹Narayana, the president of town chambers of trade and commerce, says that he was nine years old when temple's Raja **Gopuram** was **constructed**.It was constructed completely based on money made by people's contribution. People voluntarily participated in the construction activities. He says, he himself used to carry mud baskets and helped in the construction activities.

Administrative reports of Markapur Municipality, 1992-93, Office of the Municipal **Commissioner**, Markapur.

Ibid. Also please see Planning Commission Report, 1992, op.cit. p 9.

Field Notes. Interviews with Assistant Labour Officer, Revenue Divisional Officer, Municipal Commissioner, various persons engaged in slate industry, commerce & trade.

¹³**Hand** Book of Statistics, 1992-93, op.cit.. p 36.

¹⁴Field Notes. Interviews with Manager, Assistant Manager. Traffic inspector. **APSRTC**, Markapur.

Hand Book of Statistics, 1992-93. op.cit.. p 207.

This information does not totally explain the ground level facts. This is because, the employees of slate factories and companies never reveal facts to any government officer for any official purpose. Also they strongly instruct all the slate workers never to spell out their work place and wage details.

Field Notes. Interview with **Kesava** Rao. General Secretary of Markapur **Cloth** Merchants Association.

¹⁸Zamindar to Ballot Box, Richard G Fox, 1969. p 4.

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General Secretary of Slate **factory** owners association is the active member of local **R.S.S.** unit. The interview with him was undertaken in the office of the newly constructing temple at the heart of the town. In the interviewing process I was patient enough to listen to his lecture on **Hinduism**, present role of youth to protect it before he actually started talking on the details of **Markapur** slate industry and other aspects.