3.1 PROFILE OF KOPPAL DISTRICT

Koppal, a newborn district of Karnataka state, carved out of Raichur District, came into existence on 01-04-1998. It is situated between 15° 09’ 00” to 16° 03’ 30” North Latitude and 75°47’30” to 76°48’10” East Longitude. Koppal district is surrounded by Raichur district in the east, Gadag district in the West, Bagalkot district in the north, Bellary district in the south. Koppal district headquarters is closest to the world heritage Hampi.

The newly formed district of Koppal has four taluks namely Koppal, Gangavathi, Kushtagi and Yelburga. There are 20 hoblies with 596 villages. The number of Grama Panchayats are 134. Only four taluk headquarters are considered as towns.

Soil

Koppal district is having partly red sandy and black cotton soil suitable for agriculture and horticulture crops. The taluk is having few rocky mountains with xerophytic vegetation.

Rivers

The Tungabhadra river is formed by union of two rivers, viz., the Tunga and the Bhadra, both of which rise at Gangamula in the Varaha Parvata of the Western Ghats. This river enters the district near Kesalapur village at the south-western tip of Koppal Taluk. The general slope of the land in the district being north-west to south-east, the Tungabhadra has a large number of rivulets and
streams serving as tributaries. But none of these streams is of any great Importance by itself and they generally go dry during the summer. There is Thungabhadra reservoir at Munirabad which is in the border of Koppal taluk. The Tungabhadra river also is reputed as one of the important rivers of South India.

Climate and Rainfall

The climate of the district is very hot and dry. Hot season starts from middle of the February to end of May. Southwest monsoon ranges from June to end of September. Post monsoon is during the October and November. Cold season is from December to middle of February. The average rainfall of the district is 572 mm and average rainy days are 46.

Population

The total population of Koppal district is 13.9 lakhs (as per 2011 census) among which 10.95 lakhs from rural area and 1.98 lakhs from urban area. The district is having sex ratio of 982 per 1000 males. The literacy level of the district is 68.39%. Population Density is 216 per sq km.

As can be seen from Table 3.1, Koppal district has a higher proportion of SC population as compared with the state population. This is mainly on account of a higher proportion of SC population concentration in urban areas of the district. In rural areas, the proportion of SC population in the district vis-à-vis state is not as widely different as in the case of urban areas.
Table 3.1: Proportion of SC/ST Population (2011) in Koppal district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taluks</th>
<th>Total population</th>
<th>SC population</th>
<th>ST population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gangavati</td>
<td>459905</td>
<td>88770</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koppal</td>
<td>377781</td>
<td>72533</td>
<td>19.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kustagi</td>
<td>284792</td>
<td>45266</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yalberga</td>
<td>267442</td>
<td>52039</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>1389920</td>
<td>258608</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Calculated from Census 2001 and 2011

The proportion of ST population in the district is higher than that witnessed for the state as a whole. This is true for both rural and urban areas and hence, for the district as a whole. STs seem to be more rooted in rural locales unlike SCs, if we compare the urban-rural proportions of SC and ST population. This is true for both Koppal district as well as Karnataka state. The proportion of population in the age group of 0-6 years has special significance. It is indicative of the need for social sector spending in order to reap the demographic dividend in the years to come. In absence of a proper developmental strategy, this can result in various socio-economic-political problems, such as, unemployment, conflicts and crimes associated with the same. In Koppal district, the proportion of young population is higher both in urban and rural areas and hence, it is true for total population as well. It is also very interesting to note that this proportion has a spatial pattern. The proportion of young Koppal District – An Overview population is higher in the north-eastern parts of Karnataka, which is mainly Hyderabad-Karnataka.

Sex ratio in Karnataka as well as in Koppal district has increased from 2001 to 2011. In 2001 sex ratio in Koppal was 983 and it has increased to 986 (2011). These respective figures for the state as a whole are 965 and 973. In brief,
the sex-ratio is higher for Koppal district than for the state. However, Karnataka state has registered a higher increase (by 8 points), as compared to only 3 points by Koppal district, during the period 2001 to 2011. If we look at the rural-urban differences in sex ratio for Karnataka, the sex ratio in rural areas is 979 and for urban areas it is 963 (Census 2011). As compared to this, the sex ratio in Koppal is 983 in rural areas and 998 for urban areas. The Child sex ratio in the district has increased from 931 to 943, which is a welcome sign. In brief, the sex-ratios (overall, rural, urban and child) are higher for Koppal district as compared with Karnataka State.

**Literacy**

The average literacy rate is 75.4%, the male literacy rate is 82.5% and the female literacy rate is 68.13%.

**Occupation**

The working population of Koppal district is 46.46% of the total population. The main workers population comprises of 35.37% of the total population and 11.08% is the marginal workers. Of the total working population 22.5%, 15.19% are cultivators and agricultural workers respectively. The workers population in the district indicates that cultivators and agricultural labours dominate the total working population. The non-working population of the district is 53.54%.

**Industry**

As regards large industries, the district has big factories in iron, steel and telecom sectors. These are mainly food processing, wooden furniture, textiles and textile products (readymade garments), repairing services, etc.
Irrigation

Koppal is drought prone district of state. Gross irrigated area of gross sown area (2011-12) is 40.5%. The main mode of irrigation in the district is canals and tube wells. However, different taluks have very similar modes of irrigation. Gangawati relies mainly on canal network and tubewells. As against this, Koppal, Kushtagi and Yelburga rely primarily on tube wells, as per the recent data.

Table 3.2: Gross Irrigated Area as a % of Gross Sown Area (2011-12) in Koppal district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taluks</th>
<th>Land irrigated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gangavati</td>
<td>76.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koppal</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kustagi</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yalburga</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Infrastructure

Transport infrastructure is quite satisfactory in the district. The district has a good network of roads. Koppal town is well connected by road to all important cities in Karnataka. It is connected by road to Bengaluru, Hubballi, Hosapete, Ballari and Raichur by National Highways (NH63 & NH13). It is 380 kms away from Bengaluru and industrial area and estate, but Koppal District at a Glance gives these data as zero.

120 kms from Hubballi, State transport buses ply to and fro to Koppal town from almost all important cities like, Bengaluru, Hubballi, Mysuru, Goa, Hyderabad, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Raichur, Ballary, Dharwad, Davanagere, Belagavi, Bagalkot, Vijayapura, Mangaluru, etc.

Koppal district is also well connected by broad gauge railway line. It enters the Koppal taluk from Gadag via Yelburga taluk near Bhanapur village and
traverses Koppal district headquarter and exits the taluk near Munirabad and proceeds to Hosapete in Ballary district then further to Guntakal. The length of railway is 34 kms in Koppal taluk and 18 kms in Yelburga taluk. The goods transport facility is also available from Koppal and Munirabad station.

The air strip facilities are located at Ginigera in Koppal taluk between Koppal and Munirabad. This airstrip is being used and managed at present by M/s MSPL. Given the historical importance of the district, it has immense potential to become a hub of historical tourism. However, the journey to Koppal for exploring the historical places of interest is not comfortable and needs to be improved. The various historical monuments in the district are in need of urgent attention.

**Tourist Attraction**

Temples of Koppal district, reflecting the typical south Indian pattern of architecture are some of the excellent tourist spots in Karnataka. Koppal district was formed after the division of Raichur district and is the best seed production center in the state. Places of interest in the district are Anegundi, Navabrindavana, Kanakagiri, and Kuknur.

Maadanoor Temple, one of the temples of Koppal district houses two bronze idols of Brahmayaksh and Padmavati of the 13th and 16th centuries. At the temple, one can also witness two bronze Idols of Mulnayak Bhagvan Shantinath and Bhagvan Ajitnath. The temple with its tranquil and peaceful atmosphere attracts pilgrims from far and near. The temples of Koppal district have earned great popularity since their construction.
Anegundi

Anegundi (means “Elephant Pit” in Kannada) is one of the most ancient places of Koppal district is situated on the left bank of the river Tungabhadra. It is said that, Anegundi is the place where the elephants of the Vijayanagara kings were kept.

Pampa Sarovar Lake in Koppal District is 45 km from Hampi. Lying south of Tungabhadra River, it is awe-inspiring. Pampa Sarovar is considered one of the five greatest sarovars in India.

Kanakagiri

The old name of Kanakagiri town of Gangavathi taluk was Swarnagiri (means a “Hill of Gold”). It is said that Kanaka Muni, a saint, performed penance at this place. Kanakagiri was the headquarters of the southern area of the Mauryan Empire. During the Vijayanagar period, this was chief town of the Bedar Rajas. Kanakachalapathi temple here is a specimen of the South Indian architecture of Vijayanagar times. The gopuram and walls have well-executed sculpture.

Kuknur

Is a small town lying seven miles due north of Bannikoppa station on the Guntakal-Hubli railway line. The town, though now small, was an important place in early and mediaeval days and is rich in antiquarian remains of later Chalukyan style of architecture and these buildings range from the 8th to the 13th century AD. The folklore speaks of this place as the legendary Kuntalapura of Mahabharata period. The Navalinga group of temples here represents early Chalukyan architecture. Two other important temples are Kalleshvara and Mallikarjuna.
**Munirabad**

In Koppal taluk, about eight kilo meters from Hospet, on the Hubli-Guntakal railway line and about 32 kilometers from Koppal District headquarters. Tungabhadra reservoir is the attraction of Munirabad in Koppal taluk. The Left Bank Canal from here, which passes through the Koppal, Gangavathi taluks, irrigates a large extent of agricultural lands in the district.

**Koppal Fort**

Is another important object of historical interest at Koppal. It is not known definitely by whom it was built. But it was acquired by Tippu Sultan in 1786 AD from a Paleyagar and rebuilt strongest forts with help of French engineers.

Bahadur Basadi is situated at Koppal in Koppal District of Karnataka. It is an ancient cave temple of the Jains, built during the 11th century. The temple has magnificent idols of Tirthanakar and Brahmyaksh.

Gundlavaddigeri is an ancient village in Koppal District. It was a big city prior to Vijayanagara period. A 12th century stone deed in Halegannada (old Kannada), belonging to the Vijayanagara dynasty has been excavated from here. According to this deed, a lake was built in this village for irrigation. Now there are many dry lakes in this village.

Maadanoor temple is situated at Koppal in Koppal District of Karnataka, about 9 km from Bahadur Basadi. The temple houses two bronze idols of Brahmayaksh and Padmavati of the 13th and 16th centuries.

Gavimutha is an old and noted Veerashaiva Mutt situated close to Koppal Parshwanath Basadi at Kappal. The vicinity of this mutt was once the center of Jaina and Veerashaiva religion and culture. Gavirnutha is associated with a saint called Gavisiddeshwara.
Itagi (in Yelburga taluk)

Is about three miles from the south of the Bannikoppa railway station on the Gadag-Koppal line. This place is famous for the Mahadeva temple, which is one of the finest of later Chalukyan temples. The temple, which faces east consists of a shrine with an ante-chamber, a closed hall with porches on either side of it towards the north and the south, and the pillared hall which is open at the sides.

Kinnal (in Koppal taluk)

About eight miles from Koppal, is noted for manufacture of toys and images by Chitragsars. Weaving, preparing of combs from horns and pottery are the other industries of this place.

Kanakagiri (in Gangavathi taluk)

Is an ancient place situated on the Gangavati-Lingasugur road, about 13 miles from Gangavati. Kanakagiri means a “Hill of God” and its old name was Swarnagiri with the same meaning. This place was probably the headquarters of the southern viceroyalty of the Mauryas.

Pura, Kotilinga Temple, Pura in Kushtagi taluk, about the five miles from Tavargera, Kotilinga Temple, Pura is noted for its fine and spacious temple of Someshwara which has Koti Lingas, where annually a big jatra (fair) is held in the month of Shravana.
3.2 PROFILE OF UDUPI DISTRICT

Udupi is one of the thirty-seven districts in Karnataka state. It was formed on 24th August, 1997, carved out of the erstwhile Dakshina Kannada (South Kanara) district with three taluks namely Udupi, Karkala and Kundapura. Udupi city is the District Head Quarters. Historically, it was a part of Vijayanagar kingdom and subsequently under Mysore rule. During the British rule, it came under Madras Presidency. With the formation of lingual states in 1956, it got merged with Karnataka state. Along with Dakshina Kannada, it is commonly known as “Tulu Nadu”. The district is known for its pilgrimage places, particularly Udupi as a centre of Madhwa philosophy. Administratively, the district has 248 villages, 146 GPs, one city municipality (Udupi city), two town municipalities (Karkala and Kundapura cities) and one town panchayat (Saligrama town).

Geographical Features

Udupi district located between the foothills of Western Ghats in the east and Arabian Sea in the west, Udupi is one of the three coastal districts of the state.

Along its southern border lies Dakshina Kannada district; Uttara Kannada into the north and Shimoga and Chikamagalore to the east, while Arabian Sea forms its western boundary (district map). The total geographical area of the district is 3575 sq kms, which constitute about 2.08 percent of the total geographical area of the state. The district has three distinct natural regions; the coastal region consisting of western parts of Kundapura and Udupi taluks with a coastal belt of about 98 kms, midland plain terrain, covering 75 percent of the
district and malnad region, consisting of north-eastern parts of Kundapura and Karkala taluks.

Udupi district has varied climatic zones. It is humid in the coastal region, cool in the ghat region and warm in the eastern region. Humidity is as high as 78 percent during the greater part of the year. The temperature ranges from 16.7°C to 39°C. There are four distinct seasons viz. rainy season from June to September, following withdrawal of monsoon, two months of warm and damp weather during October and November, a pleasant winter season between December and February and a hot and sultry summer season from March to May. The district is blessed with good rainfall from the south-west monsoon. Normal annual rainfall is about 4302 mm during the rainy season. The district presents three types of soils namely, coastal alluvium, laterite and red loam. The soil in general is acidic due to heavy run off, but rich in nitrogen and deficient in potassium and phosphorous.

The district has a large ghat section with hills and thick forest cover accounting for 26 percent of the total geographical area. Many rivers take birth in the foothills of Western Ghats, flowing westwards and joining the Arabian Sea. Important rivers of the district include: Seetanadi, Swarnanadi, Shambhavi, Chakra, Varahi (Haladi) and Gangolli.

**Land, Soil and Natural Resource Endowments**

Land utilization pattern in the district reveals that of the total geographical area of 3.56 lakh hectare (ha), the area under forest is one lakh ha (28 percent), area under cultivation, 1.00 lakh ha. (28 percent) and fallow land, 8829 ha (3 percent). The remaining 41 percent of the land is either not available for cultivation or uncultivable (Table 3.3). The district has one of lowest percentage
of area under cultivation in the state. The net cultivated area in the district is 28 percent of geographical area as compared to state’s 55 percent. Taluk-wise data on land utilizations shows that Kundapura has the highest forest area (40 percent) followed by Karkala (32 percent) and Udupi has lowest (5 percent). As against this, the proportion of net cultivated area is the highest in Udupi taluk (37 percent), followed by Kundapura (27 percent) and Karkala has the lowest (23 percent). The gross cropped area in the district is 1.18 lakh ha. The cropping intensity works out to 1.18. The low cropping intensity is mainly due to lack of irrigation facilities. There is no much inter-taluk difference in the cropping intensity.

Soil structure of the district contains three types: sandy alluvium soil, yellow loamy soil and red lateritic soil, which are acidic in nature. The sandy soils are confined to coastal belt having width ranging from less than 100 meter to about one km. The fine to medium texture sandy soils characterized by high rate of infiltration is good for ground water recharge. Yellow loamy soils, which are mostly found along river banks and lower valleys, are fertile and well suited for irrigation. They are also used for tile industries. The red lateritic soils are the main soil type in midland area. The texture of the soils varies from fine to coarse depending on location. The soils in the valleys are rich in loam whereas in upland plains they are coarse type. The soil in general is acidic due to heavy run-off, but rich in nitrogen and deficient in potassium and phosphorous.
The district is blessed with many rivers, which take birth in the foothills of Western Ghats, flowing westwards and joining the Arabian Sea. Important rivers of the district include: Seetanadi, Swarananadi, Shambhavi, Chakra, Varahi (Haladi) and Gangolli. These rivers are perennial during normal rainfall years. There are many other minor rivers, tributaries and streams. They normally become dry during summer. In spite of many rivers, the district has one of the lowest net irrigated areas in the state.

Overshadowed by the Western Ghats in the east and Arabian sea in the west, the district has got many biospheres and genetic diversity. The Western Ghats Mountains have thick forests and vegetation and are rich in biodiversity.

**Table 3.3: Land utilization (2011-12) in Udupi district (hectares)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taluks</th>
<th>Geographic area</th>
<th>Forest</th>
<th>Land not available for cultivation</th>
<th>Other uncultivated land</th>
<th>Fallow land</th>
<th>Net cultivated area</th>
<th>Gross cropped area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karkala</td>
<td>107586 (100)</td>
<td>32811 (30.5)</td>
<td>9164 (8.52)</td>
<td>36800 (34.2)</td>
<td>4475 (4.16)</td>
<td>24336 (22.62)</td>
<td>28389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kundapura</td>
<td>156062 (100)</td>
<td>62605 (40.12)</td>
<td>22765 (14.59)</td>
<td>27538 (17.64)</td>
<td>1345 (0.86)</td>
<td>41809 (26.79)</td>
<td>49117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udupi</td>
<td>92798 (100)</td>
<td>4686 (5.05)</td>
<td>19542 (21.06)</td>
<td>31578 (34.03)</td>
<td>3009 (3.24)</td>
<td>33983 (36.62)</td>
<td>40378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>356446 (100)</td>
<td>100102 (28.08)</td>
<td>51471 (14.44)</td>
<td>95916 (26.91)</td>
<td>8829 (2.48)</td>
<td>100128 (28.09)</td>
<td>117884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>19049836 (100)</td>
<td>3071833 (16.12)</td>
<td>2173931 (11.41)</td>
<td>1614677 (8.48)</td>
<td>1785288 (9.37)</td>
<td>10404107 (54.62)</td>
<td>12873308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Figures in the parentheses indicate percentage
Source: Annual Season Crop Report: 2009-10, DES.
It is a treasure house of flora and fauna and medicinal plants. It has also falls such as Teethe Falls, and Barakana Falls and Someshwara Wild life Sanctuary and Mookambika wild life sanctuary. The district has 90km long coastal belt which provides good scope for fisheries in Udupi and Kundapura taluks. The coastal belt has a large number of wetlands, backwaters, estuaries and creeks, mangroves, salt marshes and lagoons. Malpe, Kaup, Thrasi and Maravanthe beaches are well known and have good tourism potential. St. Mary’s island has unique basalt rock formations and is a place of natural beauty. The district has also endowed with various mineral resource potentials. Iron-ores in Kerady of Kundapura Taluk, silica in Kaup, Moolur and Hejmady and aluminum reserves in Madalpare of Byndoor have been traced but not commercially exploited. Laterite and granite stones are available all across the state.

As per 2011 census, the total population of Udupi district was 11.77 lakh, of which 5.62 lakh were males and 6.15 lakh females. Male:female ratio of 1000:1130 is one of the highest in the state. Out of 11.12 lakh population, rural population was 9.06 lakh (82 percent) and urban 2.06 lakh (18 percent). Udupi district has recorded the lowest population growth rate in the state. The decadal population growth in the district was only 7.14 percent between 1991 and 2001. During 1981-91 period, the decadal population growth was 9.42 percent. The district has literacy rate of 81.25 percent; ranks third in the state. The literacy rate among males was 88.23 percent and among females 75.19 percent. In rural areas, the literacy rate was 79.35 percent and urban areas 89.47 percent.
Talukwise, Udupi taluk has the highest population (5.62 lakh) followed by Kundapura (3.97 lakh) and Karkala (2.16 lakh). The density of population of the district was 311 per sq.km. Udupi taluk has the highest density (572 per sq. km) and Karkala the lowest (188 per sq.km). Kundapura recorded a density of 242 per sq.km. Udupi has also the highest percentage urban population (29) followed by Karkala (12) and Kundapura has the lowest (7). Hindus account for about 84 percent of the population, followed by Muslims, 11 percent and Christians 4 percent. The district has the lowest percentage of schedule castes (SCs) and schedule tribes (STs). As per 2001 census, the SC population was 0.68 lakh and the ST, 0.42 lakh. Of the total SC population, 83 percent live in rural areas and 17 percent in urban places. Of the total ST population, 86 percent live in villages and 14 percent in urban areas. Of the total population of SC and ST in the district, Udupi taluk has the highest percentage of SC (44) and ST (48) population.

**Demography**

Table 3.4 shows the gender composition of the population in the district. During the decade 1991-2001, the growth of male population increased by 7.4 percent, female population witnessed 6.9 percent during 1991-2001. As against this, the decadal growth in 2001-11 for male population works out to 7.6 percent and for female, 4.3 percent. Consequently, sex ratio which declined marginally from 1134 in 1991 to 1030 in 2001, declined significantly to 1094 in 2011. Comparative male:female ratio of the state is 1000:973 in 2011.
Table 3.4: Gender Composition, of Population in Udupi District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taluks</th>
<th>1991</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male (No.)</td>
<td>Female (No.)</td>
<td>Sex ratio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karkala</td>
<td>88450</td>
<td>102210</td>
<td>1156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kundapura</td>
<td>163331</td>
<td>188342</td>
<td>1153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udupi</td>
<td>234628</td>
<td>261138</td>
<td>1130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>486409</td>
<td>551690</td>
<td>1134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State(lakh)</td>
<td>229.52</td>
<td>220.25</td>
<td>960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census 2011. Sex ratio: female population per 1000 male population.

The sex ratio in Udupi district is still the highest in the state. However, the recent significant decline in the sex ratio accompanied by decline in child (0-6) sex rate from 958 to 955 is an area of concern. The children in the age group of 0-6 also declined from 114581 in 2001 to 103160 in 2011, accounting for decline of 10 percent during the decade. Taluk-wise, Udupi taluk has the lowest sex ratio (1000:1077) and Kundapura has the highest (1000:1124). The male-female ratio of Karkala is 1086.

The work force constitutes 44 percent of the total population in the district. While the male workers constitute 55 percent of total male population, the percentage share of female workforce in total female population is only 34. The composition of workforce shows that 85 percent of workers constitute main workers and 15 percent, marginal workers. In rural areas, cultivators constitute 23 percent of workforce and agricultural labourers 15 percent. About 14 percent of the people in rural areas are in household industries and 48 percent in other occupations. The occupational structure, thus, shows urban trends in rural employment, more rural workers are engaged in non-farm employment. During
1991 and 2001, the total workforce of the district has increased from 4.22 lakh to 4.88 lakh. The decadal growth in workforce works out to 15.6 percent.

**Agriculture and Allied Activities**

Agriculture is the main stay of the district economy. Agro-climatically, the district is divided as coastal, midland plains and western ghat area. Land utilization pattern in the district reveals that of the total geographical area of 3.56 lakh hectare (ha), the area under forest is one lakh ha (28 percent), area under cultivation, 0.99 lakh ha. (27 percent) and fallow land, 0.13 ha (4 percent). The remaining 45 percent of the land is either not available for cultivation or uncultivable. The proportion of net area sown is the highest in Udupi taluk (37 percent), followed by Kundapura (26 percent) and Karkala has the lowest (22 percent). The gross cropped area in the district is 1.22 lakh ha. The cropping intensity works out to 1.23. The low cropping intensity is mainly due to lack of irrigation facilities.

Khariff, the rainy season is the main cropping season. In rabi season, the area brought under cultivation is only 0.23 lakh ha as against khariff cropping area of 0.99 lakh ha. The district has no major and medium irrigation projects. Consequently, irrigated area constitutes less than 20 percent, which is mainly through well, tank and check dams. Kundapura has minimum net irrigated area. Varahi irrigation project, which was launched ten years ago, is not yet operational. Main crops grown are paddy (0.62 lakh ha), pulses (0.08 lakh ha) and oilseeds (0.02 lakh ha). Paddy accounts for nearly 80 percent of the cropped area, followed by pulses (14 percent). Sugarcane, which was grown once in about 2000 ha, is now abandoned with the break-down of Brahmavar sugar factory. Even in the case
of food crops, the area under cultivation is declining in recent years, mainly due to high cost of cultivation and labour scarcity. The district has substantial acreage under plantation crops such as coconut (0.14 lakh ha.), cashewnut (0.19 lakh ha.), arecanut (0.05 lakh ha.) and rubber (0.02 lakh ha.). Other horticultural crops grown in the district include mango, sapota, banana, pineapple and vegetables. The area under the plantation and horticulture crops witnessed some increase in recent years. Kundapura is the main producer of horticulture-based products.

The district has 1.83 lakh farmers. Most of them (90 percent) are small and marginal farmers with land-holding less than 2 ha. Land-holding pattern in the district indicates that the marginal farmers with less than one ha account for 77 percent of total farmers and own 29 percent of the land area. The medium and large farmers with above 2 ha constitute 10 percent of farming community and own 48 percent of the land area cultivated. The average size of land-holding works out to 0.83 ha. Considering the agro-climatic and physio-geographic conditions, Udupi district was, once, declared as a district not favourable for development of animal husbandry activities. However, now the situation has changed. As cropping is becoming unviable, small and marginal farmers and other weaker sections of the rural community have accepted dairy farming as a viable option for their livelihood. The district has now 2,47,827 local cows and 90,770 cross-bred cows. The milk collection is around one lakh litre per day. The Karnataka Milk Federation operates a dairy unit at Mangalore with a processing capacity of milk upto 2 lakh litres per day. There are also two private milk processing units in the district. As against the white revolution in milk production, meat production in the district is very negligible, the lowest in the state.
The district has 90 km. long coastal belt, which provides good scope for fisheries in Udupi and Kundapura taluks. More than 5000 families depend on fishing for their livelihood. The annual fish production is about 60869 tonnes, 59005 marine and 1864 tonnes inland during 2005-06. Fish catch of the district accounts for about one-third of the total fish production in the state. The district has 13 cold and frozen storages and 74 ice plants. Fishing is mainly done by using persiene boats (134), trawlers (910), and other mechanized boats (3073), besides 2072 non-mechanised boats. Since the district has heavy rain fall, a number of tributaries and backwaters provide good scope for inland fishery. Inland fishery is now undertaken mainly in tanks and streams. Prawn cultivation is also undertaken in about 125 ha area of ponds using backwaters.

Industry

Udupi district has 13 large and medium scale industrial units employing about 45,612 people. They include cashew-nut processing, rice mills, coconut powder units, fish canning and processing, fish meal and fish oil units, fish net manufacturing, printing units, granite units, readymade garments, auto parts and units of block manufacturing etc. The district has three industrial estates and 7,398 registered small scale units employing 44,550 persons, mainly in automobiles, chemicals, electrical and electronics, ferrous and non-ferrous, food and intoxicants, leather, mechanical engineering, paper and printing, textiles, wood and others. The minerals and ores that are available in the district include silica, calcium, ordinary sand, laterite and granites. With the presence of Konkan Railways and commissioning of Suzlon project and Nandikur Thermal Projects, the district is expected to get further fillip to its industrial growth.
Tourism

Udupi district is known for its temples, beaches and Udupi restaurants. It is also considered the cultural and spiritual capital of Karnataka. Bound by lush green mountains on the east and palm-fringed beaches on the west, the district is studded with numerous tourist spots of great scenic beauty in its entire expanse. The district is also well known for its pilgrim centres and of diverse forms of cultural heritage. The pilgrim places include the famous Krishna temple of Udupi established by Madhwacharya in the 13th century with eight Maths and the Kollur Mukambika temple located at the foothills of Kodachadri established in the eighth century by Adi Shankaracharya. Malpe, Kaup and Thrsi, Maravanthe beaches are well known. St. Mary’s island where Vasco da Gama first landed in India, has unique basalt rock formations and is a place for natural beauty. The Western Ghat mountains offer places worth visiting such as the Kudi Theertha Falls, Barakana Falls, Someshwara Wildlife Sanctuary and Mookambika Wild life Sanctuary. Historical places include Barkur, Udyavar and Karkala. The district is also famous for its various fairs and festivals and folk dances such as Yakshagana – a fabulously costumed musical dance drama, Boothakola and Kambala (buffalo race).

Power

The district falls under Mangalore power circle and is managed by Mangalore Electricity Supply Company (MESCOM). The district gets electricity from Varahi and also from the main receiving station at Shimoga. Industry uses about 21 percent, but irrigation uses very little electricity considering the activity pattern of the district. With the commissioning
of Nandikur Thermal plant, electricity supply in the district is expected to improve.

**Infrastructure**

Well-knit and well-connected motorable roads are the hallmark of Udupi district. Transport network within and outside the district is one of the best in the country. All villages are connected by all weather motorable roads. The State Highways are well connected to major urban centres. National Highway-17 and 13 pass through the district. Bajpe International Airport and New Mangalore Port are very close to Udupi city. The broad gauge Konkan Railway passes through Udupi and Kundapura taluks and connects Kerala in the south, Uttara Kannada, Goa and Mumbai in the north. The district has minor ports at Malpe, Gangolli and Maravanthe.

The district can boast of well connected telecommunication facilities. Every village has a post office. There are 106 telephone exchanges with 1.16 lakh telephone connections. Education infrastructure in the district is the cynosure of many. Most of the villages have more than three primary schools. There are 920 primary schools, 201 high schools, 73 pre-university colleges, 28 colleges and 9 professional colleges in the district. Manipal University in Manipal and Nitte education institutions are known education centres of excellence in the country. Zonal Agriculture Research Station at Brahmavara extends support to farmers with modern techniques and educates them on improved agricultural practices.
Udupi district is unique in the nation’s banking map with the highest concentration of bank branches. There are 22 banks operating in the district with a network of 230 branches; out of which 136 are in rural areas. As against the national per branch population of 12000, the district has less than 5000.