CHAPTER III

PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Chamarajanagar District was formed in 1997 for administrative purpose, earlier it was a part of Mysore District in Karnataka state. It is the southern most district in State. Its Geomorphological as well as demographic characteristics are interesting. Till 1818 Chamarajanagar was called Arikuntara and it was renamed as Chamarajanagar after the birth of Chamaraja Wadeyar, Maharaja of Mysore. It is a small district with large tract of hilly forests and plain area. There are no major industries, however agriculture and agro based small scale industrial activities sustain the district. Mainly tourism relies on the hill pilgrimage and wild life. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population is considerably large requiring special attention of the state for socioeconomic development. Planning Commission, Government of India has identified Chamarajanagar as one of the backward district, but the state views it is as one of the most backward districts. The district forms a viable unit for the study. The district is only 180 km away from the State capital.

The district has 5101 sq. km. area constituting 2.66% are of the State. The district has four Taluks namely Chamarajanagar, Gundlupet, Kollegal and Yelandur. Among them Kollegal has 2796 sq. km. having biggest area in the State and Yelandur the smallest Taluk with only 266 sq. km area.

As per the 2001 census the population of the State was 5,28,50,562. Out of which 9,65,462 people lived in Chamarajanagar District. Among them 4,89,940 male and 4,75,522 female as against 8,17,372 rural people only 1,48,090 people lived in urban areas. Within the district Chamarajanagar Taluk has the highest population of 3,37571 people. Whereas Yelandur has 77,977 people. The overall density of people in the district was 189 per sq. km.
Yelandur has its density of 293 and Kollegal Taluk has only 121 density and takes last position in the State. The population growth during 1991-2001 was at 9.3% when compared to the country’s population growth showing 21.34%.

3.2 TOPOGRAPHY

The terrain of the area has valleys, hills and flat areas. The northern parts are at 450-760 meters high and 900-1200 meters high in south. The western range extends to the southern range in continuity to Nilgiri Hills. Eastern part raise to form Biligirirangana Betta and Malai Mahadeshwara Hills. Both the ranges are resourceful for varieties of valuable herbs and wild life in terms of biodiversity. The area is rich in black granite which is world famous whereas the plains have cultivated lands in the southern part and villages inhabited by people.

The climate of Chamarajanagar District on the whole is moderate, enjoys cool and equally warm temperature between April to June about 33°C to 37°C. The distinctive climatic conditions in the district are the interplay of tropical monsoon type as a product of both South West and North East Monsoon. However the district is prone to drought.

3.3 FOREST RESOURCE

The forests are classified as reserve and conserved forests. Chamarajanagar district has both evergreen as well as deciduous forests in addition to shola and scrubby jungles. The forest tracts of M. M. Hills, BR Hills and Bandipur are densely covered with precious trees, Teak, Rosewood, Sandal Wood, etc. The wild life is also rich in Tiger, Leopards, Sloth Bear, Elephant, Deer, Gaur, Wild Boar etc. There has been good degree of not only conservation but also increase in their number. The increase in population and live-stock population led to free use of forest trees and hunting for wild animals. Later it was regulated by Forest Act with restriction to enter forests and cut trees or kill wild life. The Project Tiger is implemented to conserve the tiger population which has simultaneously helped conserve Elephants, Leopard,
Bear, Deer, Gaur, etc. Lately, under the Japanese Bank of International Committee Assistance (JBIC) the district has undertaken sustainable forest development and management project, afforestation, prevention of soil erosion, conservation of biodiversity, joint management of forest, infrastructure and human development activities.

State Government has also provided funds to Zilla Panchayats and Grama Panchayats to plant trees in the uncovered areas in their jurisdiction under Vana Samvardhana programme in addition to the exiting social forestry programme. Appropriate legislation has also been passed by the Government of India Act of 2006 ensuring protection of traditional rights of hill tribes and other Adivasis in forests. Accordingly the identification and grant of such rights primarily takes place at the Gramasabha in the Panchayati Raj system.

3.4 LAND USE AND LAND HOLDING

The natural and the economic resources form the basis for development giving scope for infrastructure and technology in ushering economic development of the area. In this direction Chamarajanagar District is yet to see appropriate economic activities in relation to its potential. The forest cover is 275610 hectares as on 2007-08 the uncultivable land is 35128 hectares the rest is either Gomal (grazing land) with 22750 hectares and Thopu (tree patches) in 4741 hectares. Only 218655 hectares was cultivated during the year which also includes 39651 hectares of two crop area.

The average land holding size in the district in 2000-01 as per agriculture census was 1.12 hectares and the SC and ST land holding size was 0.91 hectares and 1.00 hectares respectively. As per 2005-06 agriculture census 1,20,028 Marginal Farmers held 53,426 hectares of land, 51,967 Small Farmers held 72,337 hectares of land, Semi Marginal Farmers were 20,631 and held 54,541 hectares of land. Those who had more than 10 hectares were Large Farmers. Their number was 351 holding 5,223 hectares of land. It is striking to notice the district is having very small land holding farmers in high number and negligible number of large farmers.
3.5 IRRIGATION

Chamarajanagar District is mainly a rain dependent area and people depend on agricultural activities for their livelihood. In 1996-97 the total irrigation area spread over 36,549 hectares. Similarly by 2006-07 the irrigation facilities were improved to cover 7,196 hectares by channels, 6,982 by tanks, 3,404 hectares by wells, 43,128 hectares by tube wells and 500, lift irrigation whereby a total of 61,210 hectares of area in the district have irrigation facilities. Though the district has more irrigational potential it has remained backward.

3.6 CROPS

The crops grown are mostly rain fed. The cereals and minor millets crops are Paddy, Ragi, Jowar, Bajra, Wheat, and Maize. The pulses and oil seeds crops are gram, tur and oil crops like, ground nut, sunflower. The other crops are flowers, vegetables, fruits, sugarcane. In small areas tobacco, cotton and tea are also grown. The total area under all crops during 2008-09 was 2,30,544 hectares.

3.7 SERICULTURE

Sericulture is an age old household industry in the district acting as a supplement to agriculture. The district has good conditions for sericulture. Sericulture is a very important cash crop in all the four taluks of the district and it is one of the reliable economic support to farmers. During 2008-09 it is reported the area under mulberry was 4451.52 hectares, cultivated by 5227 farmers, 460.902 tonnes of cocoons amounting to ₹ 897.93 lakhs.

3.8 ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING

Mainly cattle, sheep, goat raring and poultry are assured income generating activities in rural areas. On which many families depend on for their day to day living. The livestock census 2003 shows 57248 animals and 228193 poultry in the district. There are 9 veterinary hospitals, 32 dispensaries, 24 primary veterinary centres, 4 mobile dispensaries and 13 artificial insemination centres in the district.
Since 1970 under the World Bank, assistance dairy development has been encouraged in addition to agriculture for the socio-economic development. The Mysore District and Chamarajanagar District Cooperative Milk Unions are functioning to help organise systematic milk production and marketing. It is noticeable that there were 291 milk producer cooperative societies and by 2007-08 they have crossed 348 societies, registering 85,138 members. The participation of women in particular and all cross section of society are much involved, which includes landless labours, small farmers, SC, ST and others. Women’s participation is markedly high in milk production.

The district milk producers union mainly collects milk and marketing the milk for the dairy farmers. During 2007-08 4,45,66.173 lakhs litres of milk was collected at the rate of 10,554 litres a day and 28,62,764 litres was sold. The remaining milk was converted to ghee, curd, lassi, masala butter milk, aromatic milk peda, Mysore pak, Badam Barfi, cashew Barfi, etc., milk products.

3.9 MINERAL RESOURCES

All the taluks in Chamarajanagar District are well known for their black granite, among other minerals. It is utilised for ornamental purposes. Most of the black granite is exported for its high demand and value quarrying for black granite is a major activity in the district for the last two decades.

3.10 INDUSTRIES

Industrially Chamarajanagar district is engaged in manufacture of agriculture implement, tiles, bricks, soap, match box, plastic, beedi, agarbathi. There are also weaving and cottage industries. There are 7825 small scale units registered in the district industrial centre till 31/03/2009, providing employment to 33987 workers and the capital investment of ₹ 8,197.0645 lakhs. Only six medium scale industries are there in the district, Chamarajanagar (2 industries) and Kollegal (4 industries). There are no medium scale
industries in Gundlupet and Yelandur taluk. Not a single large scale industry is in the district.

3.11 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION, AND POST OFFICE

When the Chamarajanagar district was formed in 1997, there was no national highway. Later 164 kms of National Highway was declared during 1999-2000 and by 2005-2006, it became 187.10 km of National Highway connecting Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Till now the NH work is not completed. The district has a total length of 2,760 km network. 339.26 kms of State Highway. However 2116.83 kms of the village roads; 236.71 kms of municipality roads, 290 kms of irrigation roads and 486.79 kms forest roads. The length of road is helping in overall development of the district. Only Chamarajanagar is connected to Mysore and Bengaluru by broad gauge. Only 14.2 km of broad gauge railway found in the district.

The communication facility in the district through post service helps considerably the economic activities of the area. In 1997-98 there 201 post offices, 133 telegraph offices, 41 telephone exchanges and 7665 telephones, in the district. By 2008-09 the postal network has changed to 187 post offices, 43 telephone exchanges and 17,732 telephones. Quick mail services, satellite money order, e-mail, fax, etc., have reduced the post offices. Courier services are also available in the district.

There are telephone coin booths in villages for quick services. There is an influx of mobile phones spread over almost all villages. The use of mobile in the district is on the increase.
Map 3: Post and Communication Service in Chamarajanagar District
3.12 HUMAN RESOURCE

The human resource has not been effectively utilized in the district because of high prevalence of illiteracy. The literacy was 47.31 in 1991 and has only touched 59.25 by 2001 census, still leaving 40.75% of population illiterate. Hence the utilization of human resources is at a low level.

Administration

Administratively the district has four revenue taluks comprising of 424 inhabited villages, two City Municipal Councils, one Town Panchayat and two Town municipalities. The district is headed by the Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate having the regulatory functions who also monitors social security programmes. The Revenue Department under the Deputy Commissioner there are 723 officials which includes the district office, few taluk offices, Nada Kacheri, Revenue Inspectors and Village Accountants and the Grama Sahayaks attached to each village accountant at village level. Similarly, the Chief Executive officer for the Zilla Panchayat is in-charge of overseeing the development aspects of four blocks in the district. There is a consumer redressal court at the district level for people to air their grievances.

3.13 ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN CHAMARAJANAGAR

3.13.1 Rural Indebtedness

Chamarajanagar being a backward area, the indebtedness of the rural people is on the increase for various reasons. The per capita income is ₹ 21,892 in 2006-07. Mainly the causes are due to small landholdings and increase in the population of the poor farming families. It is a common feature that the sons of the joint families are taking loans by fragmenting the lands.

3.13.2 Financial Institutions

The unorganised financial markets were operating through the private money lenders, mediators, chit funds, etc. before the commercial banks came into existence. The local people
were exploited by the rich businessman, brokers and moneylenders and pawn brokers at high rate of interests. In order to prevent poor farmers being exploited or harassed, cooperative bank, commercial banks came into existence in the undivided Mysore district.

3.13.3 Commercial Banks

The banks have played an important role in the economic and social development in society. Banks fund for the infrastructure, industries, Agriculture, trade, commerce and transport activities for integrated development of the community. In the undivided Mysore District the State Bank of Mysore was established in 1914. The other banks have been established subsequently. Since 1951, the Reserve Bank policy was liberalised, gradually in tune with the Five Year Plans for the upliftment of poor in the rural areas for extending loans and subsidies through banks. Now there are 41 Commercial Banks, 22 Grameena Banks and 8 Cooperative Banks operating with total credit of ₹6251450.

The primary village cooperative societies were formed in rural areas to help the members in providing short term and medium term loans to help people to get quality seeds for sowing, fertilizers and pesticides. The farmers were also provided with essential commodities like sugar, kerosene, food grains, cloth and other items at controlled rates.

National Agriculture Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) provides long term financial help to all sections of rural areas. The power of loan sanction, supervision, recovery and other activities are decentralised and left it to the Primary Bank branches. In addition to this in all the four Taluks and Hoblies of Chamarajanagar District, Taluk Agriculture Produce Marketing Cooperative Societies (TAPCMS), Horticulture Marketing Societies, function to provide high yielding variety seeds, fertilizers, agriculture implements, pesticides, etc, to the farmers. The Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) provides a fair market place and price for the agriculture produce locally. Regulated price, correct weights and measurements prevent the exploitation by any brokers, agents or merchants. The farmers are also free to store the produce in wearhouse at a reasonable rate of rent.
Map 4: Banking Services in Chamarajanagar District
Since 1971, there is a separate agriculture and cooperative multipurpose societies for the welfare and development of tribal people in the district. Under Special Component Programme the hill tribes and other tribal people are given financial assistance through these cooperative societies.

The Vivekananda Welfare Cooperative Society in Biligirirangana Betta where the Soliga tribals are more. They are given opportunity to sell their forest collections honey, gum, cashew nut, lichens, bamboo baskets, mats and other handicrafts and hand woven clothes at reasonable rate. The essential commodities like kerosene, cloth, medicines, food grains required for the tribals are distributed by the cooperative society. The tribal development society gets special funds from the government. The society is responsible for providing, houses, hospital, school, roads and other rural development works.

3.13.4 Vivekananda Girijana Kalyan Kendra (VGKK)

Since 1981, the VGKK in B.R. Hills has played a major role in providing health care to the tribals especially to Soligas. The centre also encourages economic activities through Vocational Training for processing of forest produce and to market the same. The hill tribes, Soligas, Jenu Kuruba, Betta Kuruba and Kadu Kuruba live on the traditional practice of collection of forest produce. Most of the tribal children in BR Hills benefit going to the residential school run by the VGKK.

3.13.5 Life Insurance Corporation

The LIC has their branches in all the Taluks of the district. There are 98,769 LIC policies running since 1997 to 2007. The total insured amount during 2006-07 was ₹ 591.57 Crores and the LIC premium profit ₹ 35.13 Crores.

3.13.6 Ashakirana

The unorganised section of people viz., farmers, agriculture labours, weak, disabled are covered to provide individual and group insurance in case of accidents. The Ashakirana scheme gives relief to those who are 16-65 years. In rural areas, people engaged in private,
self occupation, agriculture labour, fisherman, mining labour, Gollas, Jenu Kurubas, Lambanis, barbers, cobblers, carpenters, masons, women labourers, artisans, plantation workers, weak, disabled people are all extended insurance.

The Insurance scheme also extends help to those who are victims of accidents, death due to wild animals, families affected by such accidents, drowned people in floods, electricity accidents, fire accidents, patients, poor pregnant women. Government of India has introduced a social security programme giving ₹ 5000 for the unorganised labour whose family income does not exceed ₹ 5000 per annum.

3.13.7 Treasury

The district treasury was formed since 1998, before which there was a sub-treasury in Chamarajanagar. The main function is to provide guidance and supervision to sub-treasuries in all the three Taluks. Collecting, processing information about the revenue, daily disbursements and monthly performance forwarding report to state treasury and the Accountant General of the state. The treasuries have the primary duty to make payments/disbursements for the bills/cheques for various departments and schemes. As per the payment orders received from Taluk office in respect of social security programmes viz., Old Age Pension, Physically Handicapped Pension, Destitute Widow Pension, Sandhya Suraksha Yojana, are to being regulated by treasury. It has to ensure payments to the beneficiaries every month either by money order or through post office accounts or accounts in the nationalised banks. The treasury also monitors pension payments to the retired government servants. The bills and payments are processed in the computerised system of the Taluk treasury which is linked to the state treasury located at the state capital, Bengaluru.

3.13.8 Postal Service

In Chamarajanagar District, including the main post office, there are 22 sub post offices and 178 branch post offices. The extension of postal service is managed by a network
of 29 Branch Postmasters with dual responsibility of maintaining the post office and also
delivery of post and disbursement. In the district there are 149 mail deliveries whose duty is
only to deliver post and payments. There are 631 saving agents, 157 persons in small savings
programmes and nine people work for public provident fund scheme. All these agents are
paid commission by the state government as incentive.

3.14 FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

To mitigate the food problem in the country government has made efforts to establish
Fair Price Shops in almost all the villages. It provides food security to poor people.
Government of India buys the commodities at support price and distributes the needy people
at subsidised rates through the Fair Price Shops. There are 470 Fair Price Shops in the
district.

Under the public distribution system, the district administration provides essential
commodities to the eligible people through fair price shops located in the nearest village. The
BPL, APL card holders are given rice, wheat, sugar, kerosene, etc., at the rates fixed by
government. Free Rice/wheat is supplied to the Annapurna card holders. The table below
shows the number of Yellow Card, Saffron Card and Photo card holders in the district.

Table 3.1: Ration card holders (Talukewise)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taluk</th>
<th>No. of fair prize shops till the end of 31.3.2009</th>
<th>Yellow Card (Rural)</th>
<th>Saffron Card (Rural)</th>
<th>Photo Card holders</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chamarajanagar</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>12314</td>
<td>73785</td>
<td>28247</td>
<td>114346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gundlupet</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>8200</td>
<td>44568</td>
<td>14785</td>
<td>67553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kollegal</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>12304</td>
<td>78961</td>
<td>24803</td>
<td>116068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yelandur</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>3257</td>
<td>15488</td>
<td>5901</td>
<td>24646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>District total</strong></td>
<td><strong>470</strong></td>
<td><strong>360</strong></td>
<td><strong>212802</strong></td>
<td><strong>73736</strong></td>
<td><strong>322613</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.15 DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

The district has predominantly agricultural activities and endowed with rich forest resources. It is an industrially backward district. There are eight medium scale industries and 7603 small scale industries. The total capital investment is ₹ 8197.0645 Lakhs, which has created unemployment to 33081 people by the end of 2008. The district is bestowed with tourism spots, Kyatedevara Gudi, Bandipur Wildlife Sanctuary, Hogenkal Halls, and Bharachukki Falls. In addition Malai Mahadeshwara Hills and Biligiriragana Betta have given a new dimension of economic and social development. Yet the district has remained at 24th place in its per capita income. In order to improve the living conditions government has been implementing several programmes like antipoverty, drought relief programmes, apart from the social welfare programmes for the upliftment of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

3.15.1 Urbanisation

The urban population in Chamarajanagar District has not made much improvement. Only by 2001 Chamarajanagar and Kollegal towns could become class-II towns by registering 60558 and 52607 population respectively. There is not much of urban growth as the existing towns have no potential to attract people for employment on any productive activity.

3.15.2 Employment

In the district, as per 2001 census 4,48,369 people are workers among them 3,36,961 are main workers, 1,11,408 are marginal workers, 5,17,093 non workers, 124312 cultivators, 192978 agricultural labours, 19594 workers in household industry and 111485 other workers. The district is facing unemployment problem. The Government of India through NREGA programme provides minimum hundred day employment to the BPL people. Under the scheme 4644 BPL households have got employment during 2008-09. There are Stree Shakti
Group and other. The Self Help Groups (SHG) in the district have been functioning with a total of 3700 Sthree Shakti participants. The micro finance activity along the women is contributing to the economic assistance of the household.

**Table 3.2: Employment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taluk</th>
<th>No. of Sthree Shakti Groups (SHG)</th>
<th>Total no. of women in SHG (SC)</th>
<th>Total no. of women in SHG (ST)</th>
<th>Total no. of women of all categories</th>
<th>Savings accumulated</th>
<th>No. of groups taken loan from the Bank</th>
<th>Total loan amount taken from Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chamarajanagar</td>
<td>1650</td>
<td>5580</td>
<td>2550</td>
<td>15930</td>
<td>857.34</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>506.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gundlupet</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>3320</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>10390</td>
<td>247.57</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>97.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kollegal</td>
<td>894</td>
<td>5237</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>9936</td>
<td>536.39</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>293.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yelandur</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>1788</td>
<td>1088</td>
<td>3190</td>
<td>144.17</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>194.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Total</td>
<td>3700</td>
<td>15925</td>
<td>4686</td>
<td>39446</td>
<td>1785.47</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>1092.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


3.15.3 Planned Programmes and Zilla Panchayat

Mainly the development programmes are undertaken by various development departments through the Zilla Panchayat administration although certain programmes are implemented directly by the state. The programmes are directed to remove poverty and bring about socio-economic development among the people. Zilla Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat and Village Panchayat carry out the development objectives of the district. There are 120 Gramma Panchayats in four taluks viz. Chamarajanagar (42), Gundlupet (30), Kollegal (37) and Yelandur (11).

3.15.4 Poverty alleviation programmes

The poverty level is measured in terms of calorie intake of people. As followed by planning commission of India if the calorie intake in rural areas is less than 2400 calories and in urban areas 2100 calories, they are considered to be Below Poverty Line. In order to tackle poverty problems Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India have operationalised several programmes to uplift poor people and also effect development in the
rural areas. The State Government in effect expects the Zilla Panchayats to implement the programmes in the decentralised system.

The programmes are Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Ambedkar Housing Scheme, Nava Gram Yojana, National Rural Employment Scheme (NREGA), Western Ghats Development Programme, Nirmala Grama Yojana, Swatcha Grama Yojana, Suvarna Grama Yojana, Yashaswini, Aksharadasoha, are some of the important State Government rural development programmes implemented in the district.

3.15.5 MGNREG Scheme

During the lien period of agricultural operations the agricultural labourers are left without any employment. Hence the programme provides minimum 100 days work at ₹ 100 per day and women below poverty line who are above 18 years of age and below 60 years. Out of ₹ 363.38 allocation, ₹ 100 has been spent during 2008-09 and created 74217 man-hours in the district; and 91434 job carbs are issued during 2010-11 and created 59956 man-hours in the district.

3.15.6 Indira Awas Yojana

The Government of India and state government fund at 75:25 ratio for construction of houses to those who are below poverty line. The beneficiaries are selected in the Grama Sabha of Grama Panchayat. The SC ST beneficiaries will get 60% and 40% to the other communities. The minimum amount of ₹ 25000 is given for construction and ₹ 12500 for repairs in Chamarajanagar district 1340 houses have been built under the scheme till date 403 for SCs and 187 for STs.

3.15.7 Swarna Jayanthi Grama Swarojgar Yojana (SJGSY)

The programme aims to bring the BPL people to be economically self dependent. Depending on the available local resources and the talent the beneficiaries are selected for funding by the banks. The self help groups are given upto 75% and 25% to individual
beneficiaries under the scheme. In Chamarajanagar district, 9000 beneficiaries have been benefited among them 4320 SC and 1350 ST have also been provided with the assistance. The district has achieved ₹ 313.10 lakh financial progress against the target of ₹ 322.20 lakh for 2010-11.

3.15.8 Ashraya (Rural) Scheme

The scheme provides housing to women in rural areas. The scheme provides ₹ 20000 of which ₹ 10000 will have to be met by the beneficiaries selected in the Grama Sabha. 5% to assistance to SC 40%, ST 10%, 5% to disabled, ex-military people and senior citizens. For SC ST woman the entire assistance is given. In Chamarajanagar district 2872 beneficiaries have been benefited till 2009. Among them 158 SC and 259 ST beneficiaries are benefited. Under Ambedkar Vasathi Yojane 96 homes are built, among them 66 SC and 30 ST beneficiaries have been provided with houses.

3.15.9 Total Sanitation Scheme (TSC)

An ambitions programme of government of India to provide toilet to every household in rural area. Specially to all those families which are below poverty line. Each household is given ₹ 1200 subsidy out of ₹ 2000 given for construction of toilet 46192 number of toilets have been constructed in the district by 2009. In addition government of Karnataka has been implementing several programmes like Swarna Grama Yojana, Shree Shakti Yojana, Akshara Dasoha, Yashaswini, Nirmala Karnataka, etc., to alleviate poverty in the state.

3.15.10 Western Ghats Development Programme

It is a 100% assistance provided by the government of India for integrated development and ecological balance in the Western Ghats in Gundlupet taluk the workers have been taken up through the watershed department. Till 2010-11 ₹ 61.2 lakhs has been spent for 577 works against an allocation of ₹ 86.20 lakhs.
3.15.11 Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

Government of India fund 100% for the improvement of village roads and connectivity. Since 2000 till 2009 under the scheme 55 works covering 271 km village roads have been completed in the district at cost of ₹ 5667 lakh.

3.16 INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

The Department of Information and Publicity of the state government and the Field Publicity wing of Information and Broadcasting Department of Government of India, are setup at the district level to publicise and provide information to the people through press and audio visual media regarding the programmes and policies of government. They are expected to go to villages and bring about awareness among the people, particularly about the schemes and programmes that are available for them. It is also the duty of the field publicity officers to bring people close to the government by way of organising exhibition, seminars and film shows on education, health, social and economic development schemes, and legal assistance.

They need to involve the people representatives of Grama Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat, Zilla Panchayat including MLAs and MPs of the area. In order to achieve better rapport with rural people the officers are duty bound to hold Grama Vahini, Grama sampark and workshops, etc., to achieve the objectives of the government. The media will have to plays an important role to instill trust in the government of the people to participate in the process of social and economic development.

Thus the study area with its forest cover has got adequate potential to be developed as a good tourism spot as well as pilgrim centre. Looking at the overall potential if effort is put to utilize the resources of the district it can be one of the prosperous districts in the State.