Obviously, there has been a significant relationship between social characteristics and the type of agriculture. Social characteristics are generally those indicating, who is a land owner, holding operator, decision maker or and producer. What is his relation to the land and to the others working the land what is the scale of operation. Agriculture as an occupation as well as a way of life reflects the responses of the individuals under a given set of social living and by some non-economic forces. In many agro-geographic studies, geographers have
identified and delineated the significant role of land tenural system, land ownership, size of land holdings etc., as social system affects the agricultural practices and types.

With a view to analyse and evaluate the impact of various social attributes on the agricultural typology of Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh, it is worth while to consider seven variables suggested by the IGU Commission on typology of World agriculture. As per the IGU Commission, the following seven diagnostic variables that represent the social attributes of agriculture.

(i). Percentage of agricultural land (i.e.) land under temporary or perennial crops, permanent grassland and fallow land) owned, controlled or held in common (by a group of people), under traditional customary rights of tenure in the total agricultural land.

(ii). Percentage of agricultural land operated under servile, labour or share tenancy (share cropping) in the total agricultural land.

(iii). Percentage of agricultural land owned (or held in owner like possession) as an individual, joint or corporate private property.

(iv) Percentage of agricultural land operated by collective or state enterprises.

(v) Size of operation in terms of the number of people engaged in agriculture per agricultural holding.
(vi) Size of operation in terms of total amount of agricultural land (in ha.) per agricultural holding.

(vii) Size of operation in terms of gross agricultural output (in conventional units) per agricultural holding.

Attribute-1 Percentage of Agricultural Land under Traditional Customary Rights of Tenure:

This variable deals with the proportion of agricultural land which is owned, controlled or held in common by a group of people (tribe, village, community, race etc., including common pastures etc.,) under traditional customary rights. As per the land utilisation statistics concerned which is being maintained by the Government, this type of traditional common ownership landuse is not found in the district.

Attribute-2 Percentage of Agricultural Land Operated Under Share - Tenancy or Share Cropping:

This variable covers the proportion of agricultural land that is operated under the labour or share tenancy (share cropping, in exchange for a share of the produce or its equivalent in money) or any other form of landed bondage.

In the district it is found that very negligible account of share tenancy is under the practice and on which statistics is not officially and publicly accounted due to various reasons. Therefore, this variable is uniformly considered as very low level of distribution in all over the district.
Attribute-3 Percentage of Agricultural Land Owned as an Individual, Joint or Private Property:

This attribute covers the proportion of agricultural land that is owned or held in owner-like possession as on individual, joint or corporate (Company) private property. "The Zamindari Abolition Act" has resulted in the creation of permanent private individual or joint ownership in the country. As a result, almost all the agricultural land holdings (95%) are private individual ownership in the district. Therefore, there has been a uniform pattern of very high proportion of private individual ownership agricultural land in all over the district.

Attribute - 4 Percentage of Agricultural Land Operated by Collective or State Enterprises:

This type of agricultural land is not found in the district.

Attribute - 5 Size of Operation in terms of the Number of People Actively Engaged in Agriculture Per Agricultural Holding:

This attribute helps in finding the nature and orientation of farming (such as family farming, family with some hired labour or family with hired labour dominant) generally practiced in a region. For the purpose the number of actively employed people has been calculated on the basis of 1991 census, summing up the cultivators, agricultural labours and others and dividing it by the total number of holdings in each mandal to determine the size of holding in terms of the number of people engaged in agriculture.
In Chittoor district total number of people actively engaged in agriculture are 10,39,081 covering the total agricultural holdings of 4,40,064, thus showing 2 persons on an average, per one agricultural holding. But spatially, the number of actively employed people per agriculture holding ranges marginally between 2 persons and 5 persons. As per the revenue division-wise, the higher size of agricultural holding in terms of number of people actively engaged is found in Madanapalle division (3 persons per agricultural holding) and it followed by Chittoor and Tirupati divisions (2 persons per holding). In Madanapalle division the higher size of land holding is due to lesser number of agricultural holdings, than the other two divisions in the district.

More number of people actively engaged in agriculture (4 persons per holding) are found in three mandals, namely, Irala, Nimmanapalle and B.Kothakota. These mandals are located in western part of the district. Here the small number of agricultural holding is the contributing factor for the higher size of holding in terms of actively engaged people in agriculture. Moderate size of land holding in terms of people actively engaged in agriculture (3persons per holding) is noticed in 20 mandals. These mandals are located largely in south-eastern and north-western parts of the district. The high density of agricultural population as well as more number of agricultural holdings are responsible for moderate size of holding in south eastern region.

Low size of land holding in terms of people actively employed in agriculture (2 persons per holding) is found in large number of mandals which accounted for 65.1 per cent of the total mandals of the district. These mandals are distributed in all over the district. Very limited agricultural land and as many as number of small agricultural
holdings are caused for the low size of holding in terms people in many number of 
mandals in the district.

Attribute - 6 Size of Operation in terms of Amount of Agricultural Land Per Agricultural Holding:

The size of holdings in terms of total amount of agricultural land is considered 
as one of the most determinant factors in involving and identifying the agricultural types. It reveals the extent of agricultural space and the concentration of agricultural producers. Here the total agricultural land is considered in a broad sense which embraces all types of lands directly or indirectly used for agricultural production. These are (i) land under miscellaneous tree crops, (ii) land under various perennial and semi-perennial crops, (iii) permanent grass lands, (iv) current follows and (v) other fallow lands. It is obvious that the spatial distributional pattern of the size of holdings in terms of agricultural land depends heavily upon the terrain, climate, edaphic and socio-economic conditions of the region.

In Chittoor district, the total number of agricultural holdings are numbered to 4,40,064 covering an agricultural area of 6,96,743 hectares, thus registering on an average an area of 1.58 hectares per agricultural holding. There has been a significant spatial variation in the distribution of size of holdings in terms of agricultural land as is evident from the fact that in a broad spatial perspective Madanapalle division has the highest size of holding (2.17 ha.) and it followed by Chittoor (1.25 ha.) and Tirupati (1.0 ha.) divisions. The presence of hilly ranges endowed with vast forest cover and limited agricultural land on one side and high concentration of small agricultural
holdings due to high potential capacity of agricultural land on the other side made the low size of land holding in terms of agricultural land in Tirupati division.

The spatial distribution of the size of holding in terms of agricultural area has revealed the significant spatial variation ranging between a maximum of 5 hectares in Nimmanapalle mandal to a minimum of 0.7 hectares in Nindra mandal. The high size of holding (3 ha.) is found in 5 mandals only and is located in western and north-western parts of the district. Here the extensive dry farming spread all over the uplands and low density of agricultural settlements and agricultural holdings are the contributing factors for the high size of holding. Moderate size of holding (1.1 to 3 ha.) is found in large number of mandals which accounted for 69.7 per cent of the total mandals of the district. These mandals are distributed in all over the district barring eastern region.

Low size of holding (1 ha.) in terms of agricultural area is found in 15 mandals distributed in the eastern region of the district. The reasons for the low size of land holding in the eastern region are (i) presence of hilly ranges, (ii) extensive forest cover, (iii) low to moderate proportion of agricultural land, (iv) high potentiality of the agricultural land, (v) high density of rural agricultural settlements and (vi) high density of farm population. It is observed that the physiographic conditions as well as the high carrying capacity of the land have exerted a profound influence on the spatial distribution of the size of land holdings in terms of amount of agricultural land in Chittoor district.

Attribute - 7 Size of Operation in Terms of Gross Agricultural Output Per Agricultural Holding (in Conventional Units) :
Gross agricultural output includes production from all the crops and livestock. This variable covers the size of holdings in terms of gross production in conventional units per agricultural holding.

In Chittoor district, the total agricultural production reached to 1,66,13,766 conventional units. This has registered on an average 38 c.u. per agricultural holding in the district. There has been a significant variation in gross agricultural output which is evident from the fact that Chittoor division has accounted the highest agricultural output of 41 c.u. per holding and it followed by Madanapalle (39 c.u.) and Tirupati (31 c.u.) divisions.

Spatially, the gross agricultural output varies from a maximum of 67 c.u. in Thavanam Palle mandal to a minimum of 17 c.u. in Kuppam mandal. The high (50-60 c.u) and very high (60 c.u.) gross agricultural output per holding is found in 13 mandals distributed in southern, south-central, western and north-western parts of the district. The higher size of land holdings in terms of area and production and lesser number of agricultural settlements in western and north-western parts, the intensive cultivation of paddy and sugarcane and marked development of dairy and poultry in central and south-central parts are the contributing factors for higher agricultural output per holding in these areas of the district.

Moderate agricultural output (40-50 c.u.) is noticed in 16 mandals distributed largely in central and south-central parts of the district. Low agricultural output (30-40 c.u.) and very low agricultural output (<30 c.u.) per holding are found in 56.2 per cent of the total mandals of the district. They are mostly located in eastern, western,
south-western and northern parts of the district. The reasons for low level of agricultural output per holding are (i) cultivation of low productive rainfed crops in western, south-western and northern parts, and (ii) heavy concentration of small agricultural holdings on limited potential agricultural land in eastern parts of the district.

To sum up, the variables five, six and seven have clearly distinguished the spatial differences in the distribution of agricultural land, agricultural holdings, agricultural population and agricultural output in the district. It is found that there has been a significant influence of physical conditions especially the terrain, climate and soil apart from the socio-economic condition on the spatial variation of these three important social attributes.