

CHAPTER III

PROFILE OF ANANTAPUR DISTRICTHistorical Background:

Anantapur district was formed in the year 1882 separating from Bellary district. Later on, it was expanded with the addition of Revenue Mandals of Kadiri, Mudigubba, Nallamada, Nambulapuli Kunta, Talupula, Nalla Cheruvu, Obuladevara Cheruvu, Tanakal, Amadagur and Gandlapenta (Previous Kadiri Taluk) from Cuddapah district in the year 1910. During the year 1956 the present Revenue Mandals of Rayadurg, D.Hirehal, Kanekal, Bommanahal and Gummagatta of Bellary district were added to Anantapur district. The district has been divided into 3 Revenue Divisions consisting of 63 Revenue Mandals (Anantapur 20, Dharmavaram Division 17 and Penukonda Division 26).

Boundaries and Topography:

Anantapur district lies between $13^{\circ}-40'$ and $15^{\circ}-15'$ Northern Latitude and $76^{\circ}-50'$ and $78^{\circ}-30'$ Eastern Longitude. It is bounded by Bellary, Kurnool districts on the North, Cuddapah and Kolar district of Karnatak of South East and South respectively. The district is roughly oblong in shape, the longer side running North to South with a portion of Chitradurg district of Karnataka State intruding into it from West between Kundurpi and Amarapuram Mandals.

The District may be divided into 3 Natural Divisions. They are (1) Northern Mandals of Rayadurg, Kanekal, Beluguppa, Gooty, Guntakal, Vajrakarur, Uravakonda, Vidapanakal, Yadiki, Tadipatri, Putlur, Yellanur, containing large areas of Black cotton soils, (2) Kalyanadurg, Kambadur, Settur, Brahasamudram, Ramagiri, Kanagani palli, C.K.Palli, Dharmavaram, Bathala Palli, Tadipatri, Mudigubba, Anantapur, Kudair, Atmakur Garladinne, Pamidi, Peddavadugur in the centre which are mainly made of arid, treeless, expanse of poor red soils; (3) High Level Land of Penukonda, Roddam, Somandepalli, Hindupur, Lepakshi, Chilamathur, Madakasira, Rolla, Gudibanda, Agali which connects with Mysore plateau stand at higher elevation than the rest of the district. This part has average sandy red soils of normal productivity.

Hills:

The Mutchukota hills about 35 kms. in length run from north of Gooty town upto extreme Southern corner of Tadipatri, Yadiki Mandals. Another line of hills starts from West of Gooty mandal run 80 kms. called by name Nagasamudram Hills. The Mallappa Konda range begins at Dharmavaram runs into Karnataka State. The Penukonda range starts in the South Dharmavaram through Penukonda and Hindupur proceeds to Karnataka State.

In Madakasira the hill divides Rolla and Agali Mandals into Southern and Northern portions. There are numerous isolated peaks and Rocky Clusters which are devoid of any vegetation. The height of some of these hills ranges are given below:

Mallappakonda four miles North of Bukkapatnam - 3002 ft.
 Penukonda - 3091 feet, Kundurpidurgam - 2996 feet,
 Madakasira hills - 2936 feet.

Rivers:

The important river in the district is Pennar. It has its origin in Nandihill of Karnataka State where it is called 'Uttara Pinakini' and enters this district in the extreme South of Hindupur Mandal and flows through Parigi, Roddam, Ramagiri, Kambadur, Kalyandurg, Beluguppa, Urava Konda, Vajrakarur, Pamidi, Peddavadugur, Peddapappur and Tadipatri Mandals and finally enters Cuddapah district.

Jayamangala River has its origin in Karnataka State and enters this district in Parigi Mandal and joins Pennar River at Samgameswaram Palli of Parigi Mandal.

Another significant river in the district is 'Chitravathi'. Its origin is in Karnataka State. This river enters this district near Kodikonda village of Chilamathur Mandal and flows North over Rocky and Hilly

uplands of Gorantla, Puttaparthi, Bukkapatnam, Kothacheruvu, C.K.Palli, Dharmavaram, Bathalapalli, Tadimarri and Yellanur Mandals and falls into Pennar river at Gandikota in Cuddapah District. Vedavathi or Hagari River also an important one in the district, has its origin in Karnataka State and flows through Gummagatta, Brahmasamudram, Beluguppa, Kanekal and D.Hirehal Mandals and enters into Bellary District of Karnataka State. Bhairavanithippa Project (B.T.Project) constructed on this river provides irrigation facilities to Gummagatta and Brahmasamudram Mandals. Chinna Hagari river also originates in Karnataka State, enters D.Hirehal Mandal and Finally enters into Bellary District of Karnataka State. Apart from these, streams like Kushavathi in Chilamathur Mandal, Swarnamukhi in Agali Mandal, Maddoleru in Nallamada, Kadiri and Mudigubba Mandals, Pandameru in Kanaganipalli, Raptadu, Anantapur, Bukkarayasamudram and Singanamala Mandals, Tadakaleru in Anantapur, Atmakur Bukkarayasamudram and Singanamala Mandals, Papagni in Tanakal Mandal are important water supply sources to various large and medium irrigation ~~xxx~~ tanks in the District.

Elevation:

The District of Anantapur has a fairly good elevation which provides the district with tolerable climate through out the year. It has a gradual fall from the South-Northwards towards the valley of the Pennar in Peddavadugur, Peddapappur

and Tadipatri mandals. There is a gradual rise in Hindupur, Parigi, Lepakshi, Chilamathur, Agali, Rolla and Madakasira mandals in the south to join the Karnataka Plateau where the average elevation is about 2000 feet above the mean sea level. It is about 1100 feet at Anantapur and the lowest 900 feet is at Tadipatri.

Rainfall and Climate:

The geographical position of the District in the middle of the Peninsula render it, the driest part of the State and hence agricultural conditions are more often precarious. Monsoons also evade this part due to its unfortunate location. Being far away from the east coast, it does not enjoy the full benefits of North East Monsoons and being cutoff by the high Western Ghats, the South West Monsoons are also prevented from penetrating and quenching the thirst of these parched soils. It is therefore seen that the district is deprived of both the monsoons and subjected to droughts due to bad seasons. The normal rainfall of the district is 544.0 mms. by which it secures least rainfall in ranking when compared to Rayalaseema and other parts of Andhra Pradesh. The normal rainfall for the South West Monsoon period is 310.8 mms. which forms about 54 per cent of the total rainfall for the year. The failure of rains in this critical South-West Monsoon period of June to September will lead the district into drought by failure of crops. The normal rainfall for North-East Monsoon period

is 147.0 mms. only which forms 27 per cent of the total rainfall for the year (October to December). The other months are almost dry. March-April and May are warm months when the normal daily maximum temperature ranges between 36.8°C to 38.4°C . November, December and January are cooler months when the temperature falls to about 17.2°C . Hindupur, Parigi, Lepakshi, Chilamathur, Agali, Rolla and Madakasira mandals being at high elevation are cooler than the rest of the mandals in the district.

Soils:

The soils in Anantapur district are predominantly red except Kanekal, Bommanahal, Vidapanakal, Uravakonda, Vajrakarur, Guntakal, Gooty, Pamidi, Peddavadugur, Tadipatri, Yellanur, Peddapappur and Putlur. These mandals occur with red and black soils almost in equal proportion. Thus 80 per cent red soils, 20 per cent are black soils.

Demographic Particulars:

The total population of the district was 25.48 lakhs as per 1981 census. The rural population was 20.17 lakhs while the Urban population was 5.31 lakhs. The growth rate of population of Anantapur district for two census periods is given below:

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Period	Total	Rural	Urban	Percentage of growth rate
1971	21,15,321	17,39,531	3,75,790	19.7
1981	25,43,012	20,17,095	5,30,917	20.47

The growth rate during the last two decennial periods was lower than the State average 23.19 per cent.

There are 940 inhabited villages out of 964 total revenue villages of the district. The number of villages in size group of 500 to 1999 forms 51 percent of the total inhabited villages. The size group of 2000 to 4999 forms 31 per cent and the size group of 5000 to 9999 forms 4.2 per cent only out of total villages while 315 villages i.e., 33.9 per cent of total villages are having population less than 1000 each. There are only 3 villages with more than 10,000 population. There are 11 towns in Anantapur district as per 1981 census. They are Anantapur, Guntakal, Hindupur, Kadiri, Tadipatri, Dharmavaram, Rayadurg, Gooty, Uravakonda, Kalyandurg and Penukonda. The density of population of the District is 133 per sq.km. against 195 per sq.km. for the State. The district takes second place in Rayalaseema Region with reference to density of population and number of towns and tops in geographical area. The proportion of Rural and Urban population

to the total population of the District work out to 80 per cent and 20 per cent in 1981 census as against 82 per cent and 18 per cent in 1971. There were 946 females per 1000 males in 1981 census as against 947 per thousand in 1971 census.

The working force in the total population of the District forms 42.66 per cent as per 1981 census of which 32.40 per cent are in the Agricultural sector and 10.26 per cent in the non-agricultural sector. The pattern of distribution of workers to the total population is almost similar in all other districts of Rayalaseema region.

The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population form 13.68 per cent and 3.21 per cent respectively to the total population in the district. The percentage of literates among males is 40.83 per cent as against 16.51 per cent among the females.

Land Utilisation:

The total geographical area of the District is 47.28 lakhs acres. The land utilisation pattern as available in district during the year 1985-86, the net area sown is 1967540 acres which form 41.6 per cent of the total area. The total cropped area is 2019818 acres. Area sown more than once is 52278 acres.

The normal cultivated area of the district is 22.13 lakhs acres, out of which 20.00 lakh acres is under Kharif season and 2.13 lakhs acres under Rabi season.

During the year 1985-'86, the total area under food crops formed about 35.8 per cent of the total cropped area of the district. The total area under non-food crops works out to 64.2 per cent of the total cropped area of the district. Groundnut crop alone accounted for about 59.5 per cent of the total cropped area and about 92.7 per cent of the area under non-food crops.

The district occupies the second lowest position in respect of irrigation facilities with only 14.3 per cent of the gross cropped area being irrigated during 1985-'86. Out of the gross irrigated area of 2.89 lakh acres during 1985-'86, canals accounted for 32 per cent, tanks 3 per cent, wells 60 per cent and other sources 5 per cent. All the principal sources except canals are non precarious.

Natural Resources:

A. Forests:

The district is not rich in forest wealth. The name 'Forest' in Anantapur district does not indicate any dense tree population with thick foliage of variform of pastures.

B. Mineral Sources:

i) Gold:- At Ramagiri village in Ramagiri Mandal, Gold is found to occur to the cholite, schists and phyllite alongwith western part of Dharwar Skhists Belts, in the district.

The place extends over length of 14 kms., exploratory mining in the area as proned about 467 meters of Ore Shoots with an average width of 160 cms. per tonne. Mining operations are being conducted by Bharat Gold Mines Limited.

ii) Diamonds:- Diamond is known to occur near Vajrakarur. They mainly occur in pipe rocks. The Geological Survey of India has undertaken a detailed survey of the area followed by pitting, Trenching and sampling as a part of their field programme. Exploration is also in process by Mining Corporation of India.

iii) Asbestos:- (Chrysolite variety cross fibre type)
Barytes, Clay (white clay plastic), High grade lime stone, Clacite Limestones, Iron Ore, Steatite are the minerals occuring in the district. There are however no large sized mineral based industries in the district. There are proposals to start 2 cement factories in Tadipatri Mandal, one in the public sector and the other in private sector.¹

1. Anantapur District Hand Book of Statistics, 1985-'86,
Compiled by Chief Planning Officer, Anantapur, pp.I-VIII.

Kadiri Mandal:

Kadiri is situated about 90 kms. from Anantapur and is a railway station on Dharmavaram-Pakala section.

Kadiri Mandal has (1) Gandlapenta Mandal on the East, (2) Nallacheruvu Mandal on the South, (3) Obula Devara Cheruvu Mandal on the West and (4) Mudigubba Mandal on the North as its boundaries. Area of Kadiri Mandal in sq.km. is 275.49 and the density of population is 276 per sq.km. Total population of Kadiri Mandal as per 1981 census is 76,139 comprising rural population of 23,365 and Urban population of 52,774. Out of the total population of 76,139, males are 39,194 and females are 36,945. For every 1000 males, there are 942 females. Working population is 27,719 constituting 36.41 per cent to total and the non-working population is 48,420 i.e., 63.59 per cent to the total population. Population of agricultural sector consisted of 6,720 cultivators and 8,162 agricultural labour in a total of 14,882. Thus the percentage of agricultural sector is 19.6 to the total population.

Out of the total revenue villages of 18, one village is uninhabited and the classification of 17 villages according to the size of population of Kadiri Mandal is shown in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1

CLASSIFICATION OF VILLAGES ACCORDING TO SIZE OF POPULATION
IN KADIRI MANDAL, 1981

S.No.	Population Range	No. of inhabited villages
1	Less than 200	1
2	200 - 499	2
3	500 - 999	7
4	1,000 - 1,999	1
5	2,000 - 4,999	5
6	5,000 - 9,999	-
7	10,000 - and above	1
Total		17

SOURCE: Chief Planning Officer, Anantapur.

Geographical Area:

Total geographical area of Kadiri Mandal (1985-'86) is 74,549 acres. Of which 12,943 acres are covered by forests, constituting 17.4 per cent to the total geographical area, 5,417 acres are covered by barren and uncultivable land, percentage to the total geographical area being 7.3 and 3,355 acres of land are put to non-agricultural uses.

Rainfall:

Particulars of rainfall in Kadiri are shown in the following table:

Table 3.2

RAINFALL IN KADIRI FROM 1978 to 1987 (in M.M.).

S.No.	Year	Rainfall
1	1978	567.3
2	1979	700.2
3	1980	403.8
4	1981	1020.2
5	1982	633.0
6	1983	567.5
7	1984	595.2
8	1985	437.6
9	1986	767.2
10	1987	608.5

SOURCE: Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University,
Agricultural Research Station, Kadiri.

Crops:

The following Table 3.3 gives the particulars of the area under Principal crops of Kadiri Mandal season-wise compared to the Normal for the year 1985-'86.

Table 3.3

AREA UNDER PRINCIPAL CROPS OF KADIRI MANDAL (1985-86)

S.No.	Crop	Kharif		Rabi		Total	
		Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual
1	Paddy	298	326	243	193	541	519
2	Jowar	154	146	56	59	210	205
3	Bajra	1797	1948	94	99	1891	2047
4	Ragi	439	468	128	132	567	600
5	Korra	225	319	4	4	229	323
6	Pulses	1418	1475	200	220	1618	1695
7	Groundnut	19879	20385	177	189	20056	20574
8	Mulberry	326	346	26	23	352	369
9	Gross Area sown	25571	26564	1049	1057	26620	27621

SOURCE: Chief Planning Officer, Anantapur.

Irrigation:

Particulars of irrigation are presented in the Table 3.4.

Table 3.4

MINOR IRRIGATION - NO. OF IRRIGATION TANKS
(I & D) 200 ACRES

S.No.	Name of the Mandal	Number		Ayacut (Acres)		Total (3+4)	Total (5+6)
		Old	New	Old	New		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Kadiri	3	-	991	-	3	991

SOURCE: I & D Department, Anantapur.

Table 3.5

MINOR IRRIGATION - PANCHAYAT RAJ

S.No.	Name of the Mandal	No. of tanks	Ayacut	No. of other sources such as Nalas, Springs, River Channels etc.	Ayacut	Total	Total
						No. of sources (3+5)	Ayacut (4+6)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Kadiri	43	831.41	81	604.88	84	1436.29

SOURCE: Chief Planning Officer, Anantapur.

Table 3.6SOURCE OF IRRIGATION IN KADIRI MANDAL
(1985-'86)

S.No.	Source of Irrigation	Number
1	Tube wells and Filter points	10
2	Other wells used for irrigation	1559
3	Oil Engine Pumpsets	89
4	Electric Motor Pumpsets	361

SOURCE: Chief Planning Officer, Anantapur.

Electricity:

All villages in Kadiri Mandal are electrified and the electrification is completed for 54 hamlets in a total of 70 hamlets as on 31-3-1986.

Industry:

Particulars of the industry are furnished in the Table 3.7.

Table 3.7

INDUSTRIAL UNITS IN KADIRI MANDAL

S.No.	Name of Industrial Unit	Number of Units	Number of persons Employed
1.	Rice Mills	9	27
2.	Oil Mills	14	39
3.	Blour Mills	12	24
4.	Saw Mills	5	73
5.	Beedi Making	16	4536
6.	Others	98	1218
7.	Coffee Powder Making	15	30
Total		169	5947

SOURCE: Mandala Ganaamka Darsini, August, 1985
Kadiri Mandal, Anantapur District.

Communications:

6 sub-post offices, 10 branch offices and 5 Telegraph Offices including combined offices are functioning in Kadiri Mandal as on 31-3-1986.

Banks:

Seven Banks are operating in Kadiri town. They are
1) State Bank of India, 2) State Bank of India(A.D.B.)
3) Andhra Bank, 4) The Vysya Bank Limited, 5) Sri Ananta
Grameena Bank, 6) Anantapur District Co-operative Central
Bank and 7) Co-operative Agricultural Development Bank.