LOCATION

Nellore district with its headquarters at Nellore is the southern most coastal district of Andhra Pradesh extending over an area of 13,160 Sq.Kms. It is lying between $13^\circ-30^\prime$ and $15^\circ-51^\prime$ of Northern latitude and $70^\circ-5^\prime$ and $80^\circ-16^\prime$ of the Eastern longitude. The boundaries of the district are Prakasam district on the north, Bay of Bengal on the east, Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh and Chengalpat district of Tamilnadu on the south and Veligonda hills which separate it from Cuddapah district on the west.

There are three revenue divisions with headquarters at Kavali, Nellore and Gudur. There are 46 Mandalas in the district. Out of 1204 revenue villages of the district, 1130 villages are inhabited. The population of the district is 20.17 lakhs (1981 Census) and density of population is 153 per sq.km. The urban population of the district is
1. Seetharampuram
2. Udayagiri
3. Marripadu
4. Duttaluru
5. Varikuntapadu
6. Vinjamur
7. Kaligiri
8. Kondapuram
9. Kavali
10. Bogole
11. Jaladaki
12. Kovur
13. Kodavalur
14. Allur
15. Vidavalur
16. Dagadarthi
17. Buchireddypalem
18. Sangam
19. Indukurpet
20. Thotapalligudur
21. Chejerla
22. Podalakur
23. Atmakur
24. Ananthasagaram
25. A.S. Peta
26. Nellore
27. Kaluvoya
28. Muthukur
29. Venkatschalam
30. Rapur
31. Chillakur
32. Sydapuram
33. Gudur
34. Manubolu
35. D.V. Satram
36. Kota
37. Ozili
38. Sullurpet
39. Tada
40. Vakadu
41. Chittamur
42. Naidupet
43. Dakkili
44. Pellakur
45. Venkatagiri
46. Balayapalli
4.18 lakhs constituting 20.7% of the district population. The rural population of the district is 15.99 lakhs which constituted 79.6% of total district population. Scheduled castes population is 4.16 lakhs constituting 20.6% of the district population. Scheduled Tribe population is 1.74 lakhs constituting 8.6% of the population.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP

Nellore district is having three revenue divisions consisting of 46 Mandals, which were formed with effect from 25.5.1985. The three revenue divisions of Nellore, Kavali and Gudur are having 12 Mandals, 18 Mandals and 16 Mandals respectively (Fig.2.1.)

Out of the 1130 inhabited villages of the district, 97 villages are very small villages, each with a population less than 200. 223 villages are having population less than 500 and more than 200. Another 264 villages are having population ranging from 500 to 1000. 271 villages are having population ranging from 1000 to 2000. 207 villages are of considerable size of population ranging from
PHYSIOGRAPHY

FIG 2.2

- SPOT HEIGHT
- CONTOUR INTERVAL IN METRES

8 0 16 KM
2000 to 5000. 39 villages are considered to be big villages as they are with a population above 5000 and less than 10,000. The remaining 29 villages from 12 towns each with a population of more than 10,000. These towns include the three Municipalities i.e. Nellore, Kavali and Gudur.

RELIEF

The district constitutes mainly plains lying parallel to the Pennar river, Pennar delta, coastal plains, lateritic plains, black soil plains and red sandy plains. The plains of the district lie below 50 metres. The western uplands lie in between 50 to 150 metres. On the north-western side the Udayagiri hills raised to a height of about 300 metres. The Veligonda hills lying on western part of the district raised to a height of about 150-300 metres and forms the border for Cuddapah and Nellore districts. The maximum height in the district is 1105 metres above MSL (Fig.2.2) in the Veligonda hills in north-western part of Rapur.

SOILS

Soils in the district are black soils, red soils and clay loamy soils constituting 23%, 43%
and 34% respectively of the total area of the district (Fig.2.3).

MINERALS

In this district mica, silica sand, limestone, quartz, vermiculate and laterite are the major minerals. The sand and black granite are the minor minerals available. Mica is available at Gudur, Manubolu, Chillakuru, Sydapuram, Podalkur and Sangam Mandalas. Quartz is available at Chejerla Kaluvoya, Rapur, Sydapuram, Podalakur, Varikuntapadu and Marripadu Mandalas.

RIVERS

The main rivers are Pennar, Kandleru and Swarnamukhi. They drain in the district, traversing through the district from west to east and flow into Bay of Bengal. These three rivers are not perennial and get dried up during the major period of the year.

CLIMATE

RAINFALL: Normal rainfall of the district is 1041 mm which is more than state average by 141 mm.
Major portion of the rainfall is received during north-east monsoon i.e., from October to December only. This district is prone to cyclones during the north-east monsoon period.

TEMPERATURE

May is the hottest month in the district with normal mean maximum temperature of 39.6° C and the normal mean minimum temperature is recorded as 20° C during January. Both the maximum and minimum temperature steadily raise from January to May and show downward trend in the remaining months upto December. Even in the hot summer period of April to May the climate in the district will be very pleasant.

HUMIDITY

The normal humidity is high in the district in the months of November, December and January ranging from 64 to 84 percent. It is lowest in the month of June ranging from 46 to 57%.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

The population is fairly distributed in the
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION (1981)

FIG 2.4
### Table 2.1

AREA, POPULATION AND DENSITY OF POPULATION—MANDAL WISE (1981 CENSUS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Seetharampuram</td>
<td>141.13</td>
<td>18,803</td>
<td>133</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Udayagiri</td>
<td>257.09</td>
<td>26,164</td>
<td>102</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Marripadu</td>
<td>416.77</td>
<td>34,190</td>
<td>82</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Duttaluru</td>
<td>291.35</td>
<td>22,887</td>
<td>79</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Varikuntapadu</td>
<td>345.59</td>
<td>24,722</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Vinjamur</td>
<td>221.18</td>
<td>27,044</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Kaligiri</td>
<td>397.40</td>
<td>34,189</td>
<td>86</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Kondapuram</td>
<td>379.02</td>
<td>33,357</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Kavali</td>
<td>287.08</td>
<td>94,044</td>
<td>328</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Bogole</td>
<td>178.54</td>
<td>44,082</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Jaladanki</td>
<td>307.48</td>
<td>36,840</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Kovur</td>
<td>72.13</td>
<td>53,122</td>
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<td>Kodavalur</td>
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<td>Alluru</td>
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<td>15.</td>
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<td>39,083</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Dagadethi</td>
<td>287.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Buchireddypalem</td>
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<td>49,694</td>
<td>416</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Sangam</td>
<td>203.15</td>
<td>34,623</td>
<td>170</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Indukurpat</td>
<td>194.87</td>
<td>46,606</td>
<td>239</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Thotapalligudur</td>
<td>174.53</td>
<td>40,322</td>
<td>231</td>
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<td>21.</td>
<td>Chejerla</td>
<td>300.18</td>
<td>28,869</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Podalkur</td>
<td>465.18</td>
<td>49,869</td>
<td>107</td>
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<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Atrakur</td>
<td>293.68</td>
<td>45,262</td>
<td>154</td>
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<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>Ananthasagaram</td>
<td>271.37</td>
<td>38,177</td>
<td>141</td>
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<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>A.S. Peta</td>
<td>280.73</td>
<td>28,934</td>
<td>103</td>
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<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>Nellore</td>
<td>340.54</td>
<td>2,91,413</td>
<td>856</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>Kaluvoya</td>
<td>322.44</td>
<td>33,716</td>
<td>105</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Muthukur</td>
<td>247.22</td>
<td>42,457</td>
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<td>29.</td>
<td>Venkateshchalam</td>
<td>300.72</td>
<td>42,096</td>
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<td>Rapur</td>
<td>465.60</td>
<td>34,523</td>
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<td>Chillakuru</td>
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<td>32.</td>
<td>Sydepuram</td>
<td>345.68</td>
<td>39,512</td>
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<td>33.</td>
<td>Gudur</td>
<td>258.38</td>
<td>82,623</td>
<td>320</td>
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<td>34.</td>
<td>Manubolu</td>
<td>192.33</td>
<td>29,500</td>
<td>153</td>
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<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>Doravari Satram</td>
<td>263.15</td>
<td>29,262</td>
<td>111</td>
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<td>36.</td>
<td>Kota</td>
<td>248.27</td>
<td>35,081</td>
<td>141</td>
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<td>37.</td>
<td>Ozili</td>
<td>240.34</td>
<td>30,018</td>
<td>125</td>
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<td>38.</td>
<td>Sullurpet</td>
<td>364.51</td>
<td>52,335</td>
<td>144</td>
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<td>39.</td>
<td>Tadep</td>
<td>148.04</td>
<td>29,059</td>
<td>196</td>
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<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>Vakadu</td>
<td>235.49</td>
<td>31,111</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>41.</td>
<td>Chittamuru</td>
<td>265.73</td>
<td>33,758</td>
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<td>42.</td>
<td>Naidupet</td>
<td>163.26</td>
<td>45,971</td>
<td>282</td>
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<tr>
<td>43.</td>
<td>Dakkili</td>
<td>279.47</td>
<td>29,600</td>
<td>106</td>
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<tr>
<td>44.</td>
<td>Pellakur</td>
<td>185.69</td>
<td>29,137</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.</td>
<td>Venkatagiri</td>
<td>193.15</td>
<td>50,118</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46.</td>
<td>Balayapalli</td>
<td>272.12</td>
<td>28,252</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
district because major part of the district falls on the plain regions. The population concentration is high in coastal Mandalas of the district (Fig. 2.4). The sparse distribution of the population is noticed on the western Mandalas in Velligonda and northwestern part in Udayagiri hills of the district. The density of population ranges from 71 persons per $\text{Km}^2$ in Varikuntapadu to a maximum of 856 persons per $\text{Km}^2$ in Nellore district (Table 2.1 and Fig. 2.5). The spatial distribution shows on the western, northern, north-western and south-eastern Mandalas of the district the population density is less than 150 persons per $\text{Km}^2$. On the eastern, south-eastern and south-western Mandalas of the district the density of population ranges from 150 to 300 persons per $\text{Km}^2$. In Nellore, Kavali and Gudur Mandalas the density of population is more than 300 persons/$\text{Km}^2$.

**OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE**

There are about 8,42,581 (41.77% of the total population) workers in the district in 1981. Out of them about 2,29,491 (27.2%) are cultivators and 2,71,770 (32.3%) are agricultural labourers. About 35,567 persons (4.2%) are engaged in household
industries and remaining 2,05,753 workers (24.4%) are engaged in other works. There are about 11,74,504 (58.23% of the total population) non-workers.

LITERACY

Literacy of the district is 30.8% whereas it is 38.7% in males and 22.7% in females.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Broad gauge railway line extends to a length of 222 Km. in this district. There are 27 railway stations. 12 Mandal headquarters are having railway stations. National highway passes through this district to a length of 194 Km. State highways are running to a length of 362 Km. All the Mandal headquarters are connected by pucca roads and are having bus facility.

INDUSTRIES

There are about 798 industries located in various parts of the district giving employment to 10,494 workers as on 1986-1987.

Besides the existing industries, 172 small scale industries were started during 1986-87 with an
investment of Rs. 114 lakhs and generated an employment potential to 952 members.

SOCIAL WELFARE

There are 240 hostels existing in the district out of which 141 hostels are for scheduled castes boys and girls with boarders strength of 11,720. 25 hostels are for Scheduled tribes boys and girls with boarders strength of 1922 and 74 hostels are for backward castes boys and girls with 5864 boarders.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL FACILITIES

There are 16 hospitals (including 2 hospitals for special treatment), 22 primary health centres, 21 Mandal primary health centres and 13 dispensaries working in the district, apart from private hospitals and dispensaries and railway dispensaries.

IRRIGATION

Out of the total cropped area of 8.41 lakhs acres in the district during 1986-87, 6.49 lakhs acres is irrigated which forms 77 percent of total cropped area. An extent of 1.8 lakh acres is irrigated
under project canals forming 27.7 percent of the net irrigated area. An extent of 2.39 lakh acres is irrigated under tanks forming 36.8 percent. An extent of 2.12 lakh acres is irrigated by wells and tube wells forming 32.6%. The remaining 10.8 thousands of acres (2.9%) is being irrigated under other sources.

AGRICULTURE AND CROPPING PATTERN

The total geographical area of the district is 32,52,056 acres out of which 6,05,399 acres is under forest constituting 18.6 percent.

The net cultivated area constitutes 23.64% whereas current fallows constitute 4.95% of the total area. The principal crops raised in the district are paddy, jowar, bajra, chillies, groundnut and tobacco.

Total cropped area in the district is 841,205 acres of which paddy constitutes 59.32%, jowar 8.82%, groundnut 10.28%.

PLACE OF TOURIST IMPORTANCE

PENCHALAKONA

At the foot of Veligonda hill near Gonupalli
village of Rapur taluk is Sri Narasimha Swamy Temple. The legendary story reveals that Sage Kanva Mohamuni founded this temple. Every year during the months of April and May Brahmotsavam will be celebrated and pilgrims in lakhs visit the temple to worship lord Penchala Narasimhaswamy.

NARASIMHA KONDA

It is told that Narasimhakonda is the abode of Lord Vedagiri Narasimhaswamy. The temple is located on the hills top at a distance of about 8 Km. from Nellore. Thousands of devotees worship the lord every day and the annual Brahmotsavam is celebrated during the month of May.

JONNAWADA

Taia Kamakshamma Temple at Jonnawada near Buchireddipalem is a place of worship. Thousands of devotees of which women number more, worship the goddess regularly to get their devotional obligations fulfilled.

KASMUR

Kasmur is a pilgrim centre for Muslims. There is the Darga of Mastanvalli. This Darga is
famous for the 'URS' of the Muslim saint Kalesha, popularly known as Masthanaiah. As per Mohammadian calendar the annual festival occurs on the 26th day of Rabbi-Ul-aral. A large gathering of about 75,000 people of all castes attend this festival celebration. This Darga attracts Muslim pilgrims from all over the country.

ANUMASAMUDRAMPET

In the village Anumasamudrampet there is an ancient mosque. The URS of its founder Khaja Rahimatulla is celebrated annually. Thousands of people come from all over the state.

MYPAD

Mypad is a side resort situated at a distance of 22 km. from Nellore on the shores of Bay of Bengal. With convenient communication facilities, the place is more a summer picnic centre. There are two guest houses, one under the control of Irrigation department and the other under Tourist department.

SOMASILA

Somasila irrigation project on the river
Pennar is under construction. At Somasila there is a famous temple of Lord Siva.

PULICOT LAKE AND NELAPATTU

Pulicot lake extends over 12 km. from the village Kudiri to Patrangam. Pelicans and other beautiful birds of stark species reach this lake from distant places like Nigeria in the month of November every year. The birds leave the lake after they brood their eggs.