CHAPTER - I

THE PROFILE OF HUKERI TALUKA

The profile of the Hukeri taluka aims at providing the picture of the taluka as well as the comparative picture of the wet and dry areas in terms of their socio-economic and political backgrounds in the context of the developmental process to which these areas have been exposed.

The profile of Hukeri taluka is divided into two parts, viz., (I) Profile of Hukeri taluka in general & (II) Profile of wet and dry areas in particular.

I Profile of Hukeri Taluka in a Nut'shell

The following institutions/activities are covered to indicate the general development in the taluka and the total picture of the taluka. The following 22 institutions/activities are explained briefly in this connection.

Location

Hukeri taluka is located in the Belgaum district of Karnataka State. The taluka lies between 15.58° and 16.21°
latitude and 74.19° and 74.45° longitude. It is situated at an elevation of 780-910 meters from the sea level.¹

Hukeri taluka has an area of 991.5 Sq.K.Ms. The percentage of the area of the taluka to the district area is 7.39. The Hukeri taluka is 9th in size among the 10 talukas of Belgaum district and 5th in size of population. The taluka is surrounded by Kolhapur district of Maharashtra state in western side, Chikodi taluka in north, Gokak taluka in the east, Belgaum taluka in the south. Hukeri town is the taluka head-quarters. The taluka is divided into three revenue inspection circles. They are (I) Hukeri circle, (II) Sankeshwar circle and (III) Yamakamardi circle. There are 111 villages and two towns viz., Hukeri and Sankeshwar in the taluka.

Topography

On the basis of physico-geographical conditions, the taluka can be sub-divided into two sub-regions as (I) Malanad and (II) Gadinad or transitional tract.²

1) Malanad (Area with higher degree of rainfall)

The western part of the taluka is covered by Malanad. Important rivers like Ghataprabha and Hiranyakeshi flow from
west to east through this region. The western part is situated at a height of 910 meters from the sea level. This area receives more rain than does the rest of the taluka.

II) Gadinad (Transitional rain tract)

The eastern part of the taluka is covered by Gadinad. The eastern part of the taluka is situated at a height of 780 meters from the sea level. This part gets rain by north easterlies. It receives less rain. The river Markandeya flows in some south-eastern parts of the taluka.

Climatic Condition

The climatic condition in the taluka on the whole is healthy and agreeable, and characterised by general dryness, except during the monsoon season. Climate throughout the taluka is generally pleasant. Seasons are evenly distributed. The average annual rainfall varies from 450 mm to 675 mm at different places. Due to uncertain and irregular rainfall, scarcity conditions arise in the North-Eastern part of the taluka quite often.
Population

As per the 1981 census the population of the taluka is 2,72,111. The male population is 1,38,341 and female population constitutes 1,33,770. The density of the population in the taluka is 274 for per Sq.km. According to the 1981 census, rural population constitutes 2,32,548 persons and urban population 39,563 people. The density of rural population is 237 for per sq.km and it is 4,240 in urban area. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population is 34,940 and 14,927 respectively.

Caste Composition

There are 10 major castes/communities in the district. Taluka-wise caste composition statistical data are not at all available. Hence to show the strength of each caste/community, district statistical data are used in this study. On the basis of district level data Lingayat or Veerasaiva community appears as the dominant community in the district as well as in the taluka. The second big caste group is Scheduled Castes followed by Muslim, Kurba, Beda, Jain, Brahmin, Hanabar, Christian, and Scheduled Tribes. Some other backward caste groups and other minority communities are also found in the taluka. In the present study caste/community groups are categorised into 12 groups.
Language

Kannada is the major language in the taluka and it is the medium of instruction for primary and secondary education. As the taluka borders on the Maharashtra state, Marathi language is also spoken in the border villages. The third important language in the taluka is Urdu.

Land Holders

In the year 1984-85 there were 35,037 land holders in the taluka. On the basis of the size of the land holding, the land holders are divided into 8 categories. Those holding less than 5 acres of land numbered 24,519. The persons holding 5 to 10 acres of land were 6,663. The number of land holders holding 10 to 15 acres was 2,162. The persons who held 15 to 30 acres were 1,600 in number. The number of persons holding 30 to 60 acres of land was 256, 24 joint family land holders held 60 to 100 acres. Joint families holding 100 to 200 and more acres of land were 4 and 9 respectively.

The number of male workers in 1981 in the taluka was 76,137. The percentage of male workers to the male population was 55.04. The number of female workers was 20,350 and the
percentage of female workers to the female population was 15.21.

Agents of Change

It is observed that there are many changes in the economic conditions of the people of the Hukeri taluka. These changes are found in terms of family income, crop pattern, size of irrigable land, method of cultivation, occupation, consumption of necessary and luxury goods.

Over the last four decades agents of economic development like irrigation projects, industries, expanded public transport system, wide spread of literacy, mass media, other public service agencies, electioneering activities, etc., have together brought many socio-economic changes and contributed to the process of politicisation and wider political participation. The important agents of change are as follows:

Firstly, the construction of Hidkal Dam between 1956-57 and 1979-80 by the government of Karnataka and the establishment of Hira Sugar factory at Sankeshwar in the year 1960.

Secondly, the welfare programmes, launched by the union and state governments like Community Development Programme (CDP
1952), Twenty Point Economic Programme (1975), Integral Rural Development Programme (1978-79), National Rural Employment Programme (1981), Rural Landless Employment Programme (1983), Self Employment Scheme for the Educated Unemployed Youth (1983), Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (State sector 1984) and loan facilities for the farmers for digging wells, tube wells, levelling of land, to set up electric pump sets, purchase of tractors, with subsidiary or meagre rate of interest by a number of nationalised and primary, Co-operative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks in the taluka, the supply of hybrid seeds and fertilizers by the government either freely or at concessional prices to the small and medium size farmers have also to some extent contributed to the economic development of the people.

Thirdly, rural electrification by the Hukeri Taluka Co-operative Rural Electricity Society Hukeri. It has achieved cent-percent electrification of the villages in the taluka.

Fourthly, construction of village approach roads, district main roads, state high-ways and introduction of communication services like post, telephone and television have opened up the taluka to the outside world.
Lastly, the introduction of administrative measures like police administration, medical and educational facilities so as to reach every village and development measures have brought significant changes in the life-style of the people.

These welfare measures were unknown to many villages in the early days. Many people of the taluka have taken maximum advantage of these new measures. These agents of change have influenced agriculture, horticulture, sericulture, animal husbandry, electricity, education, etc., and brought many changes in the income and economic status of the people.

**Agriculture**

Agriculture is the predominant occupation in the taluka. There are 35,037 land holders in the taluka. The net area sown in the taluka in the year 1985-86 was 66,874 hectares. The total area irrigated from all sources of irrigation in 1985-86 was 10,570 hectares.\(^5\) Hence the percentage of the land irrigated in the taluka is 15.80. Prior to 1960-61 it was only 6.5 per cent. During the last 25 years, potentiality of irrigable land has increased by nearly two and a half times.

Based on the agro-climatic conditions, Hukeri taluka can be divided into two regions, viz (I) Transitional zone and (II) Hilly zone. In the transitional zone shallow to medium
black soils are found. Red sandy loams appear in some parts of the taluka. Nitrogen content is moderate in the taluka.

Western part and south-eastern part of the taluka forms the hilly zone. 13,987 hectares of area is covered by forests in the taluka.

Agricultural Population

According to the 1981 census report there are 96,487 main workers. There are 59,992 cultivators. The percentage of cultivators to main workers is 52.85. The number of agricultural labourers is 19,544. The percentage of agricultural labourers to the main workers is 20.26. On the whole 1,67,023 people are engaged in agriculture. In other words 61.38 per cent of people are engaged in agriculture.

Cropping Pattern

In the irrigated areas cropping activities constantly continue throughout the year. There are three seasons, namely, Kharif (From June to October) Rabi (From November to February) and summer (March to May). The prevailing cropping pattern is the cumulative result of past and present decisions taken by individual farmers or government and its agencies.
The main food crops grown in the taluka are jowar, paddy, wheat, among cereals, gram among pulses. The non-food crops are groundnut, sugarcane, cotton, tobacco, etc.

**Jowar**

Jowar is the main food of the people. In the year 1985-86 jowar was sown in 17,055 hectares. 123 hectares of which was irrigated land. The important varieties sown are C.S.H-1, C.S.H-2, C.S.H-5, C.S.H.-6 (Hybrid) SB 1079 SB 905 (Improved). Average yield of jowar is upto 60 quintals of grain per hectare and 12 tonnes of fodder for each hectare from an irrigated crop and 30 quintals per hectare of grain and 5 tonnes per hectare of fodder from rainfed crop is expected.

**Paddy (Oryza Sativa)**

Another important food crop is paddy. The paddy varieties used are Jaya, Vani, Sona, IR 20, etc., Totally 2562 hectares of land is under paddy cultivation. Out of it 826 hectares of land is irrigated. Average yield of paddy is more in the irrigated area than in the rainfed area.
Wheat (*Triticum aestivum*)

Wheat was sown in 1282 hectares in the year 1985-86. All that land was irrigated. The wheat varieties grown in the taluka are Kiran, UP 301, HD 2189, and Keerthi. A well managed irrigated crop produces about 25 quintals, while a good rainfed crop produces about 10 quintals per hectare.

Maize

Another food crop grown is maize. In the year 1985-86 it was sown in 934 hectares of which 876 hectares land was irrigated. The varieties grown are Deccan-103, Ganga-5, and Vijaya Comspite. The average yield is more than two times in the irrigated area than in the rain fed area.

Pulses

Pulses were sown in 6640 hectares of land. The yield is more in irrigated area than in dry area.

Groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea*)

Ground-nut is a very important oil seed crop of the taluka. It is sown in 17,419 hectares. Out of it 287 hectares of land is irrigated. Among bunch varieties, Spanish
improved TMV-2 and DH-3-30 are in cultivation. The yield is upto 37 quintals per hectare from an irrigated crop and 10 to 12 quintals per hectare from rain fed crop is expected.

Sugar-Cane (Saccharum Officinarum)

Sugarcane is the important commercial crop of the farmers of irrigated area in the taluka. Belgaum district stands first in this crop in Karnataka state. Sugar cane is planted in 4511 hectares in the taluka. The yield upto 80 tonnes per hectare is expected from CO 62175 variety and 45-49 tonnes per hectare is expected from CO 740 and CO 6415 variety.

Cotton

Before the 80th decade of this century cotton was rarely grown. But now it has become an important commercial crop. In the year 1985-86, 105 hectares of land was used for the cultivation of cotton. The main varieties in cultivation include DCH 32, 170, CO 2, Jayadhar, etc. The average yield of cotton per hectare works out to 261 Kgs. It is mainly grown in the wet area.

Tobacco (Nicotiana tubaccum)

Another important commercial crop of the taluka is tobacco. It was grown in 3827 hectares in 1985-86. Belgaum
district occupies the first place in the growing of this crop in the state. The important varieties under cultivation are S-20 Bidi tobacco NPN-190, PL-5, (Sphoorty) and Anand-119. The output of tobacco crop varies between 750 to 1000 kgs per hectare. It is grown in both wet and dry areas.

**Manures and Fertilizers**

The manures used in the taluka are farm yard manure, green manure, compost and chemical fertilizers. Farmers are educated in preparing organic manure in training camps and through other propaganda measures. The consumption of NPK fertilizer was 2800 tonnes in 1977-78 and it went up to 3630 tonnes in 1983-84.

The consumption of chemical fertilizers is more in wet area than in dry area.

**Intensive Agricultural Area Programme**

The Intensive Agricultural Area Programme was introduced in 1966-67 with the objectives of increasing the over-all agricultural production by adopting improved agricultural practices. The area covered by crops under this programme during 1984-85 in the taluka was as follows:
Table - 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of crops</th>
<th>Jowar</th>
<th>Paddy</th>
<th>Wheat</th>
<th>Millets</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area covered</td>
<td>2195</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>1683</td>
<td>6322</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intensive agriculture is mainly found in wet area.

High Yielding Varieties Programme

The high yielding varieties programme was introduced in the taluka in 1966-67 to maximise agricultural production. Introduction of high yielding varieties resulted in consumption of more chemical fertilizers and substantial increase in the crop yields. The following table shows the area covered under high-yielding varieties of crops during 1984-85 in the taluka.

Table - 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H.Y.V of Crops</th>
<th>Hybrid Jowar</th>
<th>Hybrid Maize</th>
<th>Hybrid Bajra</th>
<th>Mexican Wheat</th>
<th>Other Crops</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area covered</td>
<td>18863</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>1728</td>
<td>12566</td>
<td>35340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High yielding crops are mostly found in the wet area rather than in dry area.
Multiple Cropping

The area under multiple cropping during 1978-79 under irrigated area was 185 hectares, and it went up to 1642 hectares in 1983-84. The increase in multiple cropping potentiality during just four years is 787.56 per cent. The area under multiple cropping during 1978-79 under rainfed area was 524 hectares and it increased to 2337 hectares in 1984-85. The percentage of increase is 345.99.

As a result of increased irrigation facilities, use of high yielding varieties of seeds, chemical fertilizers, manures, plant protection methods and modernisation of farming technique there is a constant increase in the area under crops and production in the taluka. It is indicated by the following table.

The table indicates the increase in area under crops and production between the years 1978-79 and 1984-85 in the taluka.

Horticulture

The soil and climatic conditions are well suited for horticultural crops in the taluka. In the western part of the
Table - 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of Crop During 1978-79</th>
<th>Area (in hectares)</th>
<th>Production (in tonnes)</th>
<th>Area (in hectares)</th>
<th>Production (in tonnes)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>2070</td>
<td>2660</td>
<td>2524</td>
<td>3710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jowar</td>
<td>11343</td>
<td>11230</td>
<td>17076</td>
<td>19430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bajra</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>1264</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>1376</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Other cereals</td>
<td>3381</td>
<td>6118</td>
<td>1645</td>
<td>860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Total cereals</td>
<td>19305</td>
<td>21725</td>
<td>25258</td>
<td>28290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Total pulses</td>
<td>1591</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>8111</td>
<td>3810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Total foodgrains cereals and pulses</td>
<td>20896</td>
<td>22501</td>
<td>33369</td>
<td>33570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Groundnut</td>
<td>19533</td>
<td>13830</td>
<td>17040</td>
<td>19600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Other oilseeds</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>1018</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
<td>5143</td>
<td>468013</td>
<td>6440</td>
<td>405720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>5317</td>
<td>3818</td>
<td>4247</td>
<td>3060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Area under Horticulture crop</td>
<td>4109</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Total cropped area (All crops)</td>
<td>64212*</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>69736*</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The total area figures do not tally as minor crops have not been included for which average yield data are not available.
taluka the main horticultural crops like pineapples, banana, mango, and vegetable crops like cole-crops, potato, sweet potato etc., are grown. In the eastern part of the taluka horticultural crops like chillies, banana, mango, lime are grown.

The office of department of horticulture was opened in the district in the year 1960 and thereafter horticulture is being encouraged in the taluka. The following table shows the area covered and the production of horticultural crops in the taluka during 1984-85.

Table - 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area in hectares and production in tonnes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fruit crops</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sericulture

Sericulture in the taluka has gained importance during the 80th decade of this century. In 1981-82 the area under
mulberry was 53.20 acres and it was raised to 250.20 acres in 1986-87. The quantity of production of cocoons was 5826 kgs, in 1981-82 and it was increased to 23120 kgs in 1986-87. Around 263 families are engaged in sericulture. Sericulture is usually found in the wet area of the taluka.

Irrigation

The experience of agriculturally developed countries as well as the Indian States like Punjab and Haryana has amply demonstrated that application of good irrigation facilities coupled with modern technology brings structural improvement in agricultural production by enhancing the productivity level per unit of crop area which in turn provides large number of employment opportunities, self sufficiency in food production and economic development of the people.

Similarly there is increase in the size of irrigable land and crop yields in the taluka. Prior to 1960 about 6.5% of land was irrigated. But now it is 15.80%. There are a number of sources of irrigation like wells, tube wells, tanks, barrages, dam and canal. All these sources are being utilised in the taluka. The following table shows the number of sources of water supply and the area irrigated in the taluka in 1977-78 and 1985-86.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. Sources of Water No. Supply</th>
<th>No. of Sources of Water Supply.</th>
<th>Area in Hectares In 1977-78</th>
<th>Area Irrigated in 1985-86</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Tube wells/bore wells.</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wells/masonry and non-masonry</td>
<td>6508</td>
<td>4676</td>
<td>3292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Lift irrigation schemes</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Barrages (Reservoirs) and other sources</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>2084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Irrigation tanks</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Ghataprabha Right Bank Canal and Chikodi Branch Canal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6694</td>
<td>8722</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Area irrigated more than once in the same year. N.A. 18 48

Net area irrigated 10570

The above table clearly indicates that within a span of 8
years the size of irrigated land has increased from 694 hectares to 8722 hectares. In other words as a result of the use of new irrigation sources 2028 hectares of land is newly irrigated and 1848 hectares of land is irrigated more than once in the same area.

All these facts and figures shown with the help of a number of tables on agricultural, and horticultural development and increase in irrigation facilities prove that there is significant development in agricultural production. This increase in agricultural production in the tables is mainly due to (I) increased irrigation facilities (II) use of high yielding varieties of seeds (III) use of chemical fertilizers, manures, plant protection methods and modernisation of farming technique (IV) improvement in the cropping pattern i.e., the proportion of area under different crops at a particular period of time and (V) increase in area under crops.

The Agricultural Research Station Sankeshwar

The agricultural research station was established in 1959 at Sankeshwar. It is located in wet area. It was initially known as Regional Sugarcane Research Station to conduct research on sugarcane and improve the yields of sugarcane. It
identified and released Co-740 variety in 1964, Co-6217 in 1974 and Co-6415 in 1977. Recently it has evolved Co-7219 (Sanjivini) a sugar-rich variety. Work on Chilly has also been undertaken and in 1979 D.H-7-6-6 Chilly variety was released. All the varieties released by this centre are used throughout the taluka. There is a seed production programme of sugarcane, chilly, groundnut, maize, sunflower, towar, wheat, cotton, tobacco, which helps the farmers of the taluka to get more yield.

In dry area seeds multiplication farm is established at Hukeri. It has released seed varieties like D.C.H.38 Tower M-35-1, Maize Deccan 103, Bengal gram-Annigeri, Sunflower, etc. Farmers of this taluka are benefited by this farm.

Rivers of the Taluka

The river Ghataprabha flows in the taluka. It is one of the principal rivers of Karnataka State. It has three main tributaries, viz Hiranyakeshi, Markandeya and Tamraparni. The river Ghataprabha has substantial water resources. The river rises in the western Sahyadri Ghat range near Amboli and flows generally in an eastern direction for a length of 260 Kms, before joining the river Krishna, in Bijapur district. It has a good catchment with an assured rain fall varying from 9260 mm to 1118 mm, and drains annually about 2830 m. cusec.
T.M.Cft) of water. The catchment area upto Hidkal Dam site is 1312 sq.kms (545 sq.miles) and 75% dependable yield at dam site is 1980 m. cum (70.70 T.M.Cft).

The river Ghataprabha flows in Hukeri taluka for a length of 60 Kms. To utilise the water of the Ghataprabha river, a dam has been constructed at Hidkal at the cost of Rs.157.90 crores. The irrigation potentiality of the dam is 3,17,436 hectares. Out of it, 10,413 hectares of land belonging to 27 villages of the Hukeri taluka get irrigated.

The river Hiranyakeshi flows in the centre of the taluka for a length of 30 Kms. This river flows for nearly 8 months. It serves as an important source of water during Kharif and Rabi seasons. To utilise the water of this river for irrigating the land, two weirs and one barrage are constructed across the river at Gotur, Kochari and Yarnal villages respectively. Another river of the taluka is Markandeya. It flows from west to east in the south-eastern part of the taluka. It provides irrigation facilities for 7-8 months from June to January. Across this river two barrages are constructed in the taluka at the villages-Pachapuri and Mavanur.

Inadequate rain fall has compelled the government to establish irrigation schemes like barrages and weirs. There
are a good number of co-operative irrigation schemes and private pumpsets to lift the water from these rivers. Timely water is being provided through these schemes in the taluka.

**Administration and Service Agencies**

Hukeri town is the taluka head quarters, consisting of all the taluka level offices of different departments of the government of Karnataka state. In the year 1836 Belgaum district was formed. Since 1836 Pachapur was the taluka head quarters and Hukeri was a Mahal in Chikodi taluka. In the year 1908 Hukeri was made a Taluka of Belgaum District. The Tahsildar is the chief revenue administrative officer and taluka magistrate. With all other usual government offices there is a Taluka Panchayat Samithi at Hukeri town. There are 20 Mandal Panchayats in the Taluka. The Taluka Panchayat Samiti and Mandal Panchayats are constituted under the Karnataka Zilla Parishads, Taluka Panchayat Samithis, Mandal Panchayats and Nyaya Panchayats Act 1983 with a view to decentralising power so as to solve the problems of the villagers and to meet the needs of the people at the local level. There are two assembly and 8 Z.P. constituencies in the taluka.
Education

As a result of the introduction of free primary education and adult education many children and adults have become literate. The census figures indicate a growth in the level of literacy. In the year 1961 the rate of literacy in the taluka was 23.37 per cent and in 1971 it increased to 27.67. In 1981 the percentage of literacy became 33.29. As per 1981 census there are 63243 (45.72%) male and 27354 (20.45%) female literates.

After independence government paid much importance to education and opened a number of schools, high schools, and colleges. A number of educationists came forward and opened private schools and colleges in Hukeri taluka. The first private educational institute was started in 1939 at Hukeri by the New English School Society, Hukeri.

Later on several such private educational institutions have opened a number of primary schools, high schools and colleges. Hence there is a rapid growth in the level of literacy. The details of the number of schools, secondary schools, colleges and students enrolled during 1977-78 and 1984-85 are given in the following table.
The table shows the increase in the number of schools, secondary schools, colleges and students from 1977-78 to 1984-85.

Table - 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Degree of Schools</th>
<th>Number of Schools/ Students in 1977-78</th>
<th>Number of Schools/ Students in 1984-85</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Nursery Schools X</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Primary Schools XX</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Secondary Schools XXX</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Colleges (General Education)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Students Enrolled in Classes V to VI.</td>
<td>28176</td>
<td>32193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Students Enrolled in Classes V to VII</td>
<td>8077</td>
<td>10233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Number of illiterates made literate</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>2071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Adult Education Centres</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Reading Rooms</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X Include Local Board, unaided and Government Nursery Schools.

XX Include government and private lower and higher primary schools.

XXX Include junior colleges functioning in higher secondary schools.
Electricity

Hukeri taluka has achieved remarkable progress in the field of electricity. Before 1970, power supply and power maintenance in the taluka was under the control of Karnataka Electricity Board. But in 1970 a unique co-operative society named as the Hukeri Taluka Co-Operative Rural Electricity Society Ltd., Hukeri, came into existence with an objective of providing quick and better services to the consumers of electricity. This kind of electricity society is the first of its kind in Karnataka state. Before the commencement of this society i.e. in 1970, only 20 villages, 743 pump sets, 3688 houses, 196 L.T. industries, 1650 street lights were served with electricity. Since the inception of the society, tremendous progress has been achieved in the field of electrification. The per capita consumption of power was 44.94 units in 1977-78 and it increased to 73 units during 1983-84. The following table shows the progress achieved by the society in the service of electrification from 12-10-1974 to 31-3-1986.

Transport and Communication

Transport and communication facilities are satisfactory in the taluka. Since 1960 there has been rapid improvement
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Before the commencement of the society as on 12-10-70</th>
<th>Progress achieved from 12-10-70 to 31-3-85</th>
<th>Progress achieved from 1-4-85 to 30-3-86</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Village electrification</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>87+15+14</td>
<td>87+15+14</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>11 K.V.Line (Kms)</td>
<td>213017</td>
<td>390160</td>
<td>11528</td>
<td>6378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>L.T.Line (Kms)</td>
<td>258732</td>
<td>1497103</td>
<td>83508</td>
<td>181363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Agricultural pumps sets</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>6792+1 H.T.</td>
<td>559+1 H.T.</td>
<td>844+2 H.T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>L.T. Industries</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>H.T. Industries</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(-2)</td>
<td>--</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Domestic &amp; commercial</td>
<td>4646</td>
<td>18499</td>
<td>2648</td>
<td>2515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Street lights</td>
<td>27/1650</td>
<td>133/5512</td>
<td>1/136</td>
<td>164/7298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Connected load K.W.</td>
<td>4353637</td>
<td>26486460</td>
<td>3083223</td>
<td>33523320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Transformer centres</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes hamlets.
in the transport and communication facilities. The construction of Hidkal Dam and Hira Sugar Factory encouraged the transport system as roads were required for these establishments to transport the construction materials, labour force and sugar cane to the sugar factory. In the eastern part of the taluka, Bangalore-Miraj metre-gauge railway line goes through for 14-30 Kms which helps transport, trade and commerce.

Television was introduced in the taluka in 1984. The taluka has now a good number of television sets, and the television become an important mass media as well as a source of entertainment to the public. The following table-8 shows the growth of transport and communication services between 1977 and 1984.

Public Health Service

In 1961 there were only 31 public health and medical institutions. In 1977 there were 8 hospitals and dispensaries, including primary health units. By the end of March 1985, 9 hospitals and dispensaries including Primary Health Units and 3 Primary Health Centres catered to public health. In addition, 3 Ayurvedic institutions are also there. The number of primary centres and sub-centres increased from
Table - 8

The table indicates the development in respect of length of roads and number of posts and telephone services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>In 1977</th>
<th>In 1984</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Length of surfaced and un-surfaced road (in Kms)</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Road length per '000' Sq.Kms area</td>
<td>488 Kms</td>
<td>577 Kms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Number of villages not connected by roads</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>No. of post offices</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Population per post office</td>
<td>4505</td>
<td>4692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>No. of telephones</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
23 to 41. In 1979 the population served by each Primary Health Centre was 124671 and by the sub-centre was 11873 and in 1985 it came down to 90704 and 6479 respectively. Now the service of the basic health workers is made available to every family of every village.

Co-operative Institutions

Hukeri taluka is known for co-operative institutions. The co-operative movement was launched in 1905. The first co-operative primary agricultural credit society to be promoted in the Belgaum district was at Bellad-Bagewako in 1905 in the taluka. There are many outstanding co-operatives in the taluka. The important are Hiranyakeshi Sadakari Sakkare Karkhane Niyamit, Sankeshwar (Hira Sugar Factory) and Hukeri Taluka Co-operative Rural Electricity Society Ltd., Hukeri.

The Co-operative primary agricultural credit societies play a vital role in catering to the credit and other requirements of the agriculturists. They mobilise deposits and link credit with marketing, and extend storage facilities. They provide fertilizers to the farmers at concessional rates. In June 1985 there were 54 agricultural credit societies in the taluka. These societies have
advanced Rs.2,80,000=00 short term and medium term loans and 
11,31,000=00 rupees long term loans in 1985. As on March 985 
there were 44 milk co-operative societies and 34 co-operative 
industrial societies. There are 4 co-operative Urban Bank 
branches and one Karnataka State Primary Co-operative 
Agricultural and Rural Development Bank.

Another important co-operative is Agricultural Produce 
Market Committee. It was established in 1950 at Sankeshwar 
town. Its sub-markets are opened at Hukeri, Pachapur, 
Yamakanamaradi, Bellad-Bagewadi, Daddi, and Hebbal. 
Sankeshwar town is the leading marketing centre for chillies 
in the district. The A.P.M.C. and its sub-markets provide a 
number of facilities to the farmers at trading centres to 
store and sell their commodities. In 1977-78 there were only 
6 milk co-operatives but now they are 44.

The number of members of co-operative societies was 
16976, in 1976 and it increased to 51,157, in 1981-82. It 
shows that people's participation in co-operative 
institutions is enormously increasing.

Bank Services

The first commercial bank branch opened in the taluka 
was at Sankeshwar town in 1945. By the end of 1985 there
were 18 commercial bank branches and 17 co-operative bank branches, whereas in 1977 only 11 commercial bank and 11 Co-operative bank branches were functioning. Bank facilities have increased for 4 times during the last 20 years.

Animal Husbandry

Animal husbandry is the complementary occupation of the farmers and it is the means of livelihood for a number of families. According to the 1983 live stock census the total live stock population was 1,83,807. During the last few years, poultry has become a profitable occupation. The total poultry is 47642. Exotic breeds used in the taluka are Holstein and Jersay. Sufficient care about animal health is being taken by the department of animal husbandry and veterinary services. In 1985 there were 2 dispensaries and 4 rural veterinary dispensaries. These figures prove that there is development in the field of animal husbandry.

Industries

Since independence a concerted effort towards industrialization is being made in India. It is encouraging to note that industry's contribution to the national income is increasing steadily. As a result of new industrialisation policy a number of medium scale and small scale industries
have come into existence in the taluka. Small scale industries like Khadi, handicrafts, handloom industries have become the source of income to a few families. There are some agro based industries like sugar factory on a large scale, oil industries, Bidi rolling, tobacco processing industries of medium and small scales in the taluka. There are a number of cottage industries like agarbatti (Joss-Sticks) production, basket making, rope making, leather craft, pottery making, weaving of blankets, etc. There are some forest based industries like saw mills. There is a paper industry called Ghataprabha Paper Board Industry Ltd., Managutti. It has provided employment opportunities to 120 persons.

The only major and most important large scale industry in the taluka is Hiranyakeshi Sahakari Sakkare Kharkane Niyamit, Sankeshwar. It started its production on 5th November 1961. The capital investment of the factory is Rs.12.65 crores. It provides direct employment for 1405 persons during the crushing seasons. Crystal sugar is the main product and filter cake, bagasse and molasses are its by-products. It is the first sugar factory in the district and the most successful co-operative sugar factory in the state. In 1984-85 the membership (Producing members) of the organisation was 6669 with a share capital of Rs.92.03 lakhs.
The area under sugarcane in the jurisdiction of the factory during 1984-85 was 24,779 acres. The crushing capacity of the factory is 525. M.tonnes per day during the season. The total quantity of sugarcane crushed during 1984-85 was 5.35 lakhs. M.tonnes, producing sugar of 5.69 lakh quintals, valued at Rs.24.17 crores.

The factory has set up its distillery in 1972 and the total investment made on it upto 1985 accounted to Rs.1.35 crores. During 1984-85 the distillery produced 87.26 lakh liters of M.G. alcohol and 680 lakh liters of deratured spirit, altogether with a sales value of Rs.2.15 crores. The net profit earned by the organisation was Rs.7.21 lakhs.

Till 1983, in the taluka, 17 agro-based 8 forest based 87 engineering and allied industries, and 30 animal husbandry industries were started with the investment of 51.94 lakh rupees capital. These industries have provided employment to 515 people. Thus the process of industrialization is going on in the taluka.

II The Profile of Wet and Dry Areas

The profile of wet and dry areas consists of a comparative picture between 10 wet and 10 dry villages, which are selected for this study as sample villages. The
following institutions/activities are taken in this study to present the comparative developmental picture of wet and dry areas. Wherever it is not possible to give exact figures, qualitative statements like more in this area and less in that area, are made. These statements are based on participant observation because the research scholar is born and brought up in this area and has been working in this area.

Population

According to the 1981 census the total population of the 10 wet villages was 22893. Out of that 11568 males and 11325 females were there. The 10 dry villages consisted of 13024 men and 12970 women. The total population was 25999. The total number of voters in wet villages in 1987 was 12997. In the dry area there were 14073 voters. These figures show that population is more in the dry area villages than in the wet area villages.

Caste Composition

Caste composition is more or less similar in wet and dry areas. The upper caste, particularly Lingayat community has dominance over the other castes. But Brahmin, Jain and
Maratha community people have also a big voice in the affairs of the villages in both areas. Many from the lower caste and others who were traditionally poor have improved their economic status thanks to modern developmental opportunities. Middle class and rich class people who have utilised the sources of development have become still richer. Such persons, by strengthening their earlier status and power, are dominating over the rest. (Please see appendix-II for caste hierarchy).

Occupation

Many peasants who own small pieces of land, village artisans and craftsmen in the dry area still cling to their traditional vocations. They do not have alternative employment opportunities, whereas in the wet area there is a change in the traditional vocation of these persons, as they have new employment facilities. Some of the small land holders, village artisans and craftsmen in the dry area do not get adequate income to meet the minimum requirements of their families.

The impact of Hidkal Dam on the economy of the farmers, labourers, and some white collar workers of the villages within a radius of 15-20 kilometers is perceivably
remarkable. The villagers around Hidkal Dam were attracted by the construction work of the dam and its attractive wages. The dam construction work drew most of their manpower.

Cattle rearing is common to both areas. But exotic breeds are more in the wet area than in the dry area. However, sheep rearing is more in the dry area.

There is variation even in the earnings of agricultural labourers of wet and dry areas. The rates of wages paid to the agricultural labourers during the harvesting season in the wet area are either equal or higher than the rates fixed by the government, under the Minimum Wages Act. On the contrary in the dry area, unemployment problem is severe and manpower is abundantly available. So the rates of wages paid to agricultural labourers is automatically lower than the rates fixed by the government under the Minimum Wages Act.

Agriculture

Agriculture is the predominant occupation of the people of both the areas. But the number and size of land holders, sources of water, percentage of land irrigated, and crop pattern are entirely different from the wet area to the dry area. The total number of land holders holding less than 5 acres of land is more in the dry area than in the wet area.
There are 2759 land holders holding less than 5 acres of land in the 10 sample dry villages, whereas this category of land holders are 1878 in the 10 wet villages. In the wet area big land holders are more in number while small land holders are more in the dry area. The following table-9 makes it clear.

The percentage of land irrigated is obviously more in the wet area than in the dry area. The total area of land irrigated in the 10 wet villages in 1965 and 1984-85 was 406 acres and 6514.07 acres respectively. On the contrary the total area of land irrigated in the 10 dry villages in 1965 and 1984-85 was 403.93 acres and 811.48 acres respectively. In other words in the year 1965 both in wet and dry villages the area of land irrigated was more or less the same (406 acres and 403.93 acres). But the size of land irrigated in the wet villages increased by more than 15 times during the last 20 years. Where as in the dry villages it increased only by two times. This is the primary and fundamental difference between the wet area and the dry area, and it is the indicator of development also. This difference in the size of the irrigated land is brought about by the construction of Hidkal Dam across the river Ghataprabha for irrigation purpose. As per the plan these 10 wet villages come under the irrigated area through the canals of Hidkal Dam. The other 10 villages fall outside the plan of
The table 9 shows the size of land holders in wet and dry areas in 1984-85

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>No. of persons holding less than 5 acres</th>
<th>Holding 5-10 acres</th>
<th>Holding 10-15 acres</th>
<th>Holding 15-30 acres</th>
<th>Holding 30-60 acres</th>
<th>Holding 60-100 acres</th>
<th>Holding 100-200 acres</th>
<th>Holding above 200 acres</th>
<th>Total No. of land holders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>wet</td>
<td>1878</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry</td>
<td>2759</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
irrigation. So the increase in the size of irrigated area in the 10 dry villages is less.

The construction of Hidkal Dam and its irrigation facilities achieved a major break-through in the agriculture of the wet area. The irrigation facilities and the fair price paid to sugarcane by the Hira Sugar factory induced the farmers to give up the traditional method of cultivation and to adopt modern improved methods like the use of electric pumpsets instead of yeta or piccota and bullock to draw water from river or well, use of the tractor in lieu of the bullock cart, improved plough with a steel blade etc. But in the dry area traditional methods of cultivation are still in practice. The use of improved seeds, chemical fertilizers, plant protection chemicals, high yielding varieties are more intensive in the wet area than in the dry area. As a result the yield of each crop has become more in the wet area than in the dry area.

There is significant change in the crop pattern between wet and dry areas. Sugarcane, groundnut and vegetables have become the main crops of the wet area. D.C.H.32 cotton variety is also grown in the wet area. During the last decade the area under sugarcane has significantly increased in the wet area. But in the dry area even today tobacco, pulses, chilly, jowar, have remained as the main crops. As the dry
area villages lie above the water level of the main canal, they largely depend on natural rain fall for their agriculture. They do not have sufficient sources of water. So in most of this area sugarcane cannot be cultivated, even paddy and groundnut crops are negligible in this area. So they have been prevented from availing the benefits of Hidkal Dam and Hira Sugar factory. Hence they have remained backward. The number of the poor, and level of poverty is more in the dry area than in the wet area. Lack of irrigation facilities and alternative employment facilities have made the people of dry area poor. The small and marginal farmers of dry area are of the opinion that the improved agricultural inputs are very costly. They are not sure of getting the benefits in return to the improved costly agricultural inputs as they largely depend on natural rain. The harvest they reap is often not enough to cater to their needs.

**Sources of Irrigation**

The people of the wet area have several sources of water for irrigation. Out of 150 respondents of wet area only 6.0% respondents have no sources of water, as against 58.7% in dry area, 124 respondents have sources of water like river, canal, barrages, lift irrigation, wells/tube wells. But in the dry area, 9 respondents use river water, one respondent is benefited by
lift irrigation, 19 respondents use tube well, 17 respondents of the wet area have no land, but landless respondents are 33 in the dry area.

The availability of irrigation facilities in the wet area has significantly increased the income of the cultivators by increasing the production and productivity of crops. Though agriculture continues to be a source of employment and livelihood for a greater proportion of people in the dry area the non-availability of irrigation facilities, has deterred the use of high yielding variety seeds and chemical fertilizers, which in turn has led to a decline in per hectare productivity of agriculture.

Consumption of Goods and Services

The analysis of the socio-economic conditions of the respondents of the dry area revealed that the masses there have not witnessed any radical change in their life style over the years. Majority of the people of dry area do not possess any productive sources except cultivation of pieces of land through which they can derive some income. Hence most of them largely depend upon their wages. Majority of the lower caste people are lack of skills and are poor, which compel them to become agricultural labourers. Even the children and old members of the family are compelled to contribute their
mite for sustaining the family. They cannot buy rich food and other basic necessities of life with the meagre agricultural income and meagre wages they earn. Most of the small land holders, landless labourers and Scheduled Caste people of dry area live in one or two roomed houses, which have inadequate accommodation and poor ventilation. The people of the dry area have to go long distances to fetch water from the well or borewell or tank. All these factors adversely affect their health. They do not send many of their children to schools as they are poor and unable to provide the requirements of the school going children. Meagre wages, non availability of work during the slack season, observation of festivals and the problem of dewy are some of the other factors which have made the poor farmers and labourers to raise loans at exhorbitant rates of interest. Pledging of household articles for raising loans from the money lenders is also prevalent under some exceptional circumstances.

On the contrary the masses of wet area have witnessed many radical changes in their life style. They have irrigated land and agriculture has become a profitable occupation. They have alternative employment opportunities. The labourers of wet area get higher wages. Most people of the wet area send their children to schools. The standard of
living of the people of wet area is higher than that of their counterparts in dry area. Many of them have constructed new houses or purchased land and some of them have two-wheelers. Some rich farmers have purchased tractors. Though some of the lower caste people of the wet area live in one or two roomed houses, their family income is better than their counter-parts in the dry area. The people of wet area raise loans from the banks rather than from private money lenders. The problem of dowry and observation of festivals are the same as in the dry area. But unlike the dry area people, their financial position is not adversely affected. These socio-economic conditions have had their impact on the political participation of masses.

To indicate the different degrees of life style of the people of the wet and dry areas some items of modern consumer goods are taken as samples. They are given in the following table. The table-10 indicates the economic development in wet and dry areas in terms of consumption of goods and services since 1970.

The table evidently indicates that there is more economic development in the wet than in the dry area. The table reveals that the consumption of goods and use of services is also more in the wet area than in the dry area.
### Table - 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>No. of respondents</th>
<th>Radio</th>
<th>T.V.</th>
<th>Refrigerator</th>
<th>Two wheeler</th>
<th>Car</th>
<th>Purchase of land</th>
<th>Construction of house</th>
<th>Nil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wet</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(82.67)</td>
<td>(21.33)</td>
<td>(5.33)</td>
<td>(40.67)</td>
<td>(2.67)</td>
<td>(31.33)</td>
<td>(62.00)</td>
<td>(9.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(34.67)</td>
<td>(7.33)</td>
<td>(2.67)</td>
<td>(5.33)</td>
<td>(0.67)</td>
<td>(10.67)</td>
<td>(18.67)</td>
<td>(59.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(58.66)</td>
<td>(14.33)</td>
<td>(4.0)</td>
<td>(23.0)</td>
<td>(1.66)</td>
<td>(21.0)</td>
<td>(40.33)</td>
<td>(34.33)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note: Figures in the bracket indicate the percentage)

(Source: First hand data collected through interview)
Since 1970 in wet area 136 respondents have consumed one or the other goods and services and only 14 respondents have neither consumed any goods nor services. But in the dry area only 61 respondents have consumed goods or services and 89 respondents have neither. The table of consumption pattern of the people shows the low levels of the standard of living of the dry area people.

The table-10 not only reveals the higher proportion of consumption of goods and services in wet area but also, demonstrates that the process of politicization is more in the wet area than in the dry area. In the wet area 124 (82.67%) respondents have purchased radio and 32 (21.33%) respondents have purchased televisions, as against 52 (34.67%) radio and 11 (7.33%) televisions purchased by the respondents of the dry area, during the last 18 years. Thus the people of the wet area are exposed more to the mass media than the dry area people. Hence it is confirmed from the data projected in the table that the trend of process of politicization is more in the wet area than in the dry area.

**Education Facilities and Literacy**

The number of primary schools is equal in both the areas. There are either lower or higher primary schools in all the 20 villages. But the number of high schools in wet
area is 4 and in dry area it is only 2. Each area has a junior college. Yet the level of literacy is more in the wet area than in the dry area. The following table supports this view. The table 11 shows the difference in the level of literacy between the respondents of wet and dry areas.

Table - 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Literacy groups</th>
<th>Wet area</th>
<th>Dry area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No. of respondents</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Illiterate</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>36.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Collegiate</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Technical</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Post-Graduate</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total | 150 | 100.00 | 150 | 100.00 |

Source: First hand data collected through interview.

The figures reveal that the percentage of literates is more in the wet area, while the percentage of illiterates is more in the dry area. There are 25.3% illiterates in the wet area but they are 48.6% in dry area. There is a difference in the level of literacy between the respondents of wet and dry areas at all the levels of education. The number of post-graduate is only 2 in wet area and none in dry area.
Communication

In each area there are 5 post offices. There are 3 telephone exchanges in the wet area and one in the dry area. Though every village in both the areas has an approach road, the transport services are more in the wet area. Both the areas are exposed to the T.V. channel. 32 respondents of the wet area have television sets as against 11 respondents in the dry area.

Electricity

All the villages of wet and dry areas are electrified. But consumption of power is more in the wet area, because most of the electrical pumpsets to lift water are in the wet area. Hence the consumption of electricity for agricultural purpose is more in the wet area.

Socio-Economic Institutions

There are 6 co-operative agricultural societies in the wet area and 5 in the dry area. The number of members of co-operative agricultural societies in the wet area is 4599, whereas it is 3529 in the dry area. These figures show that the participation of people in these institutions is more in the wet area than in the dry area. The number of milk co-operatives is 4 in each area. But the number of members in the dry area is marginally more. The number of members in the dry area is 494, whereas it is 433 in the wet area. There are 7 Yuvak Mandals (Youth Organisations) in the wet area. They are only 4 in the dry area. Even Mahila Mandals (Women Organisations) are more in the wet area. They are 4 in the wet area and 2 in the dry area. Peasants' organisations are not only more in number but also more active in the wet area.
than in the dry area. The number of Rayth Sanghs (Peasant Organisation) is 4 in the wet area and 3 in the dry area. In each area there is one consumers' society. In all, the number of co-operative institutions in wet and dry areas are 15 and 10 respectively. The total number of Socio-Political institutions in the wet area are 16, whereas they are only 9 in the dry area.

Recreation Facilities

The break up of the recreation facilities shows that each area has a touring talkies. In addition, one amateur artists' organisation and 5 libraries are in the wet area. In the dry area there are only two libraries. Though traditional artist groups exist in both areas, modern amateur dramatists' club exists only in the wet area. These figures show that though the population in the dry area is marginally more, the various co-operative and developmental institutions are more in the wet area.

The Economic Development/Increase in Family Income

As a result of the introduction of external stimulus of economic development in the taluka, the family income of the beneficiaries has increased. In other words, the family income of the people of the wet area has enormously increased, while the family income of the people of the dry
area has not significantly increased. The following table indicates the increase in the annual income of the families of respondents between 1970 and 1988 in wet and dry areas.

Table - 12
Area-wise Increase in the Family Income in Rupees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Income groups</th>
<th>Wet area</th>
<th>Dry area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Less than 2000/-</td>
<td>54  (36.00)</td>
<td>2  (1.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>2000/- to 5000/-</td>
<td>50  (33.33)</td>
<td>26  (17.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>5001/- to 10000/-</td>
<td>18  (12.00)</td>
<td>30  (20.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>10001/- to 15000/-</td>
<td>19  (12.67)</td>
<td>15  (10.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>15001/- to 25000/-</td>
<td>8   (5.33)</td>
<td>38  (25.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>25001/- to 50000/-</td>
<td>1   (0.67)</td>
<td>27  (18.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Above 50000/-</td>
<td>0   (0.00)</td>
<td>12  (8.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150  (100.00)</td>
<td>150 (100.00)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(The figures in the bracket indicate the percentage)
The table displays that in the year 1970 the respondents belonging to the income group of less than Rs.2000/- were more in the wet area than in the dry area. They were 54 in the wet area as against 38 in the dry area. Only 2 respondents of the wet area remained in the same group in 1988 and the rest of the 52 respondents have joined higher income groups. In the dry area, out of 38 respondents, only 2 of them have got into higher income groups during the same period and the rest of the 36 respondents remained in the same income group. In 1970 respondents belonging to the income group of Rs.2000/- to 5000/- were more in the dry area than in the wet area. Fifty respondents had income between Rs.2000/- and 5000/- in the wet area. But in 1988, 26 respondents are in that group and the rest 24 respondents' income has increased. On the contrary there were 79 respondents in this income group in 1970 in the dry area, and in 1988, 57 persons remained in that group. In 1970 no one was in the income group of above Rs.50000/- in both areas, but in 1988, 12 respondents of the wet area reached this group. But in the dry area only 2 respondents reached this income group.

In all, the income of 141 (94.00%) respondents of the wet area has increased and only 9 (6.00%) respondents' income has not gone up. In the dry area only 55 (36.56%)
respondents' income has increased and 95'(63.13%) respondents income has remained the same. It indicates that the growth rate of family income is rather slow in the dry area.

The table indicates that prior to 1970 the average economic position of the people of the dry area was better than that of the wet area. But now the economic position of the people of the wet area has become sounder than that of the dry area.

The Factors Responsible for the Economic Development

Many people of the taluka are economically benefited by a number of schemes and programmes. The respondents of wet and dry areas both admitted their economic development, to a greater or lesser degree and identified some factors which are responsible for this. The following table-13 shows the factors responsible for the economic development in wet and dry areas since 1970.

The table reveals that the first three factors are mainly responsible for the economic development of most of the respondents of the wet area. But in the dry area only a few persons are benefited by factors mentioned in the table.
Table - 13

Area-wise factors responsible for economic development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Factors responsible</th>
<th>No. of respondents admitted factors in wet area</th>
<th>No. of respondents admitted factors in dry area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>New irrigation and employment facilities through Hidkal Dam.</td>
<td>92 (61.33)</td>
<td>1 (0.66)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Construction of Hira Sugar factory</td>
<td>114 (76.00)</td>
<td>17 (11.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Financial assistance by Bank/Society/Govt.</td>
<td>99 (66.00)</td>
<td>26 (17.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Co-operative lift irrigation schemes</td>
<td>29 (19.33)</td>
<td>3 (2.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Scientific cultivation</td>
<td>29 (19.33)</td>
<td>13 (8.66)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Government/Private employment</td>
<td>19 (12.66)</td>
<td>15 (10.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Personal efforts</td>
<td>12 (8.00)</td>
<td>11 (7.33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>All of the above</td>
<td>0 (0.00)</td>
<td>0 (0.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Other factors</td>
<td>16 (10.66)</td>
<td>23 (15.33)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Figures in the bracket indicate the percentage)

(As more than one factor is responsible for the economic development of the many respondents, the number of beneficiaries cannot tally with the total number of respondents).
On the whole 141 (94.00%) respondents of the wet area are benefited by one or the other factors listed in the table. But in the dry area only 55 (36.67%) respondents are benefited by these factors.

Among all the 8 factors of economic development the construction of Hira Sugar Factory is dominant. 144 respondents in wet and 17 respondents in dry area are economically benefited by the factory. The factory finances, at a meagre rate of interest, private and co-operative irrigation schemes undertaken by the share holders. The factory has undertaken five lift irrigation schemes in five villages covering an area of about 300 acres of land to facilitate its members. It has the distinction of paying the highest cane price to the cane growers on the all India level in 1968-69 and 1980-81. It has always paid a better price to the cane than the support price. It has helped the share holders to secure finance from banks to purchase tractors, pumpsets, pipelines etc., by providing security to the banks. The factory supplies sugarcane seeds to the needy share holders. The share holders of the factory are no longer the victims of uncertainties of the jaggery market and selfish businessmen. The farmers are freed from the problem of making jaggery and uncertain returns as the jaggery market normally fluctuates. These
87.33% respondents answered that their family position would have remained the same. 9.33% respondents replied that their family economic position could have been poorer and 2.67% respondents said that their family financial position would have become worse in the absence of these two constructions.

These figures make it clear that the people of the wet area are sufficiently benefited by the two constructions, whereas these constructions have not helped the people of the dry area in general and its respondents in particular.
REFERENCES


9) Ibid.


12) "Taluka-wise Plan Statistics, Belgaum District"


14) "Taluka-wise Plan Statistics, Belgaum District"

15) "Records of the Department of Land Records and Survey Settlement, Belgaum, Belgaum District" (Maintained by Tahsildar Office Hukeri, Unpublished).

16) Small Farmers: The person holding 0.5 to 1.0 hectare irrigated land or 1.0 to 2.0 hectare of unirrigated land.
Marginal Farmers: Land holders having below 0.5 hectare in case of irrigated land or below 1.0 hectare in case of unirrigated land. Quoted in Taluka-wise Plan Statistics Belgaum District (Bangalore: Government of Karnataka Publication, 1986).