Fig. 1. India and Karnataka state
Fig. 2. Showing the study areas in Karnataka state
CHAPTER – II

METHODOLOGY AND PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA

2.1 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter an attempt is made to provide the methodological issues involved of the study and the details about the villages studied as a form of profile are presented.

Change is the law of nature. Today as a result of industrialization, urbanisation, migration, monetization, marketization, democratization and individualization and other factors, the villages are undergoing rapid change. The present study is an attempt of empirical analysis of the changing aspects of co-operation in rural India. A study of the present type requires an indepth probing into the basic social processes in general and co-operation in particular in nature, forms, functions etc. In order to concretize it for sociological purpose, lot of information need to be collected and developed into data for analysis and interpretation which done with the help of statistical tools and techniques.

The methodology of the study is presented hereunder:

2.2 SELECTION OF THE STUDY VILLAGES

The present study is based on a sample survey conducted in Dharwad district of Karnataka state during December 2005 and March 2006. The study area covers three villages of Dharwad taluka. These three villages were selected as purposive sample on the basis of their density of population and their distance from city and main
transportation line and geographical location in Dharwad taluka. The villages are Amminabhavi, Murakatti and Salakinakoppa. The three villages exhibit typical rural socio-economic environment. These villages represent three different parts of taluka. Amminabhavi village is a somewhat distant place from the taluka end quarter but otherwise counted on main transport line. Geographically, it is situated in the plain area of the district. Salakinakoppa a small village represents suburban area and Murakatti village is an interior place, situated in Malnad region of the district. Therefore, keeping the physical location of these villages, the researcher has selected them.

**Sources of Data Collection**

The main sources of data collection of the present study are two, viz.,

A. *Primary sources* and

B. *Secondary sources*.

**A. Primary Sources**

The data from the primary source was collected by the researcher through field-work. To collect required information, the researcher prepared structured, closed-ended interview schedule that were administered to the respondents of the sample to elicit data for analysis in order to arrive at objective conclusions.
Further the researcher also personally met the respondents in their villages and interviewed them with the interview schedule. This gave the researcher the background data to understand the research field more thoroughly. The data informally collected through the interview method, immensely helped the researcher at the time of analysis of data and to put the conclusions drawn in an appropriate manner.

**ii. Technique - “Interview Schedule”**

Schedule method is one of the most important methods for the study. A schedule is like a questionnaire, which contains a set of questions. These questions are required to be replied by the respondent with the help of researcher investigator. Thus, a schedule is a list of questions formulated and presented with the specific purpose of testing an assumption of hypotheses. Since in the schedule method an interviewer is always present and he can also provide stimuli, therefore, success of schedule is linked with ability and performance of the interviewer. Thus, the schedule is a formal document for maintaining uniformity in questions.

Schedules are of different types, though the aim of all the schedules is to collect data. Among them ‘Interview schedule’ is most important. Interview schedule is used for testing as well as collecting data as well as for the collection of supplementary data. The interviewer takes the schedule with him and interviews the respondent and fills in the forms. Usually in this method the interviewer asks certain
standardized questions. In the present study the major part of the data is collected through structured closed-ended interview schedule.

The researcher prepared the schedule by taking into account the following aspects -

- Background of the socio-economic status of the respondents

- Cooperation in cultural and social aspects with special reference to matrimonial alliances

- Cooperation in marriage engagement functions

- Cooperation in conducting marriage ceremony

- Cooperation in naming ceremony of the child

- Cooperation in religious ceremonies

- Cooperation in festivals, fairs etc.

- Cooperation in conducting entertainment functions

- Cooperation in conducting contests relating to entertainment programmes

- Cooperation in agricultural activities

- Cooperation in economic activities

- Cooperation in monetary and banking transactions

- Cooperation in village activities.
Keeping the above aspects in mind the interview schedule has contained the following aspects in five parts viz.,

1. **Section ‘A’** – This part of interview schedule contained the questions pertaining to socio-economic characteristics of the respondents.

2. **Section ‘B’** – This part of the schedule contained the questions pertaining to changing cooperation in social aspects, matrimonial alliance, engagement functions, marriage ceremony, naming ceremony and others.

3. **Section ‘C’** – This part contained the questions pertaining to cultural, religious activities and rituals of villagers.

4. **Section ‘D’** – This part contained the questions relating to the economic life of the villagers.

5. **Section ‘E’** – This part of interview schedule contained questions relating to agriculture and other activities.

### 2.3 Interview Method

In social research interview method is becoming increasingly popular. From the sociological perspective the interview method is considered a very useful instrument to collect primary data. In this method the interviewer himself approaches the informant, puts questions to him and he records the replies. In this system there is direct contact
between the respondents and the informant. In the present study, the essential primary information was collected through this method.

There are different methods of interview. 'Individual interview' is one among them. Individual interview is very common. In this, the interviewer meets one single person and interviews him. He then collects all information from him. It is believed that such a person possesses the required information and that will serve his purpose. Obviously the advantage is that the person is not under group influence and the views expressed are his own and spontaneous.

With the help of above said schedule, the researcher personally visited and stayed in the study villages and approached the respondents and collected the required information from them. The researcher helped the respondents in filling the schedule, in case of those who knew reading and writing. To fill up one interview schedule, it took nearly 45 minutes. The interview schedules were prepared in Kannada version in order to help the respondents, who are mainly Kannada speaking and illiterates. A majority of the respondents provided all the information with enthusiasm. The illiterate respondents were interviewed personally by this researcher.

i. Selection of respondents

The samples for the study were selected from three villages of Dharwad taluka, which represent different physical, economic and socio-cultural environment. To select the samples 'Disproportionate sampling
method’ was used. To collect the needed information, the researcher visited the residence of the respondents and collected the informations of importance for the study only from the head of the family. The researcher also orally asked some questions to elicit objective answers to some questions, which were concerned to the changing aspects of cooperation in rural community living.

The study is conducted on a sample size of 300 respondents selected from three villages namely Amminabhavi, Salakinakoppa and Murakatti of Dharwad taluka. The population of each of these village is as follows : Amminabhavi has 10889, Salakinakoppa has 1698 and Murakatti has 822 population. Keeping the population of the villages in mind the researcher has selected 145 families form Amminabhavi village, 90 families from Salakinakoppa village and 65 families from Murakatti village. The researcher established rapport with the respondents and obtained data without interference or suggestions coming from other family members of the respondents. It is because only the head of the family was selected for obtaining the data.

ii. Pilot study

In the studies, where questionnaires and interview schedules are being used it is essential that the whole schedule should be pre-tested for its aptuers which is called pilot study. It was therefore essential that a sample should have been picked out of the universe and it should have been tested. Needless to say that this sample would be representative,
the pilot study was conducted in **Sirur village** which characteristically resembled study villages.

Once the defects or shortcomings of the questions in the schedule came to light these should have been removed and questions were modified in the light of defects identified.

Therefore before entering into the field, the researcher made a pilot study to test the validity of the interview schedule. The researcher selected 60 respondents who were heads of their families from **Sirur** village for pilot study, with the help for which the objectivity and interview schedule was tested. After making some modifications interview schedule was prepared systematically and objectively. Thus on the basis of the response obtained in the pilot study, the interview schedule was properly structured by the researcher by excluding irrelevant questions and by including certain questions which would elicit data to support the objectives of the study.

**B. Secondary Sources**

Secondary data is also equally important with primary data. The secondary data provide necessary background material for the problem under investigation. These also provide preliminary orientation and save labour by providing information about the work already done in the field. With the help of secondary data one also comes to know about the techniques of research already used and utility of each technique for a particular type of research. These materials are more useful in the
preparation of questionnaire or schedule. Therefore it is said that before putting the questions in the schedule whole literature dealing with the subject matter should be clearly and carefully studied.

Therefore in the present study the secondary data was collected from libraries and statistical departments. It has also been collected from census reports, district census handbook, district gazetteer, books, unpublished reports of various organizations, panchayat offices, banks, national and international journals and other reports, which throw more light on the subject under study.

### 2.4 VARIABLES FOR THE STUDY

Different sub-systems of wider social organizations are considered as variables for the present study, such as age, sex, caste and sub-caste, occupation, income level, religion, nature of family and education level of the respondents, which have been taken into consideration for the analysis and interpretation of the collected data. These variables have greater impact on the socio-economic, cultural, religious and agricultural changes among the villagers.

#### i. Caste Groups

Caste is a powerful social force which influences the attitudes and social life of an individual in India. In this study, the castes are classified into the following five groups taking into consideration the usual norms of rural purity and the listing of castes in the various government commissions.
1. **Upper Caste** - Brahmins, Jangamas and other Lingayat sub-castes.

2. **Middle Caste** : Madiwala, Kuruba, Hadapada, Badiger, Marat'ia, Devanga, Panchala, etc. which are prominently artisan and pastoral castes.

3. **Scheduled Caste** – Samagar, Chalavadi, Madar, Harijana and others.

4. **Scheduled Tribe** – Beda, Valmiki, Nayaka and others

5. **Non-Hindus** - Muslims and Jains etc.

**ii. Nature of Family**

There are two types of families.

1. **Nuclear Family**: Includes husband, wife and unmarried children

2. **Joint Family** : Includes head of the family, grand parents, or grant children, uncles, aunts, nephews and others.

**iii. Educational Status**

In this study the level of education is categorized into six classes. They are:

1. **Illiterates**: This category refers to those who have not attended any type of formal or non-formal education

2. **Primary**: This category refers to those who have attained only school level education i.e., from I to VII standard schooling.
3. **High School**: This refers to those who have attained secondary school education and completed the secondary school leaving certificate examination.

4. **Intermediary level**: This refers to those who have completed the intermediate courses, more commonly known as the 2 year Pre-University Course, Industrial training course or any other diploma or polytechnic level education and training.

5. **Degree Level**: This refers to those who have completed their first graduation.

6. **P.G. Level**: This category refers to those who have completed post-graduation, M.Phil and Fh.D. degrees

**iv. Occupational status**

The main occupation of the people determines their socio-economic status. In this study, the occupations of the head of the family are classified into the following six categories.

1. **Agricultural labour**: This occupation refers to class of people who have no definite occupation and source of income, and who have no land holdings and work in the farms of other farmers as "coolie".

2. **Non-agricultural labour**: This class refers to the labours who are working in various occupations other than agriculture.
3. **Self cultivation**: This class refers to the peasants who have their own landholdings and work in their own farms.

4. **Business**: This class includes the people who are engaged in retail business, salesmanship, wholesale business and others.

5. **Service (Government/Private)**: This class includes those who are working in private sectors, like factories, banks, etc. as well as in government departments and institutions.

6. **Artisans**: This class includes the workers who have skills in special occupations like Carpentry, Pottery, Smith, weaving, doll making etc.

**v. Type of house**

1. **Pukka** – The house built with cement, stones, iron and steel, good wood, tiles and the like.

2. **Kuchha** – The house built with mud and dry grass

3. **Kuchcha pakka** – The house built with mud walls and stones and cement roof.

**2.5 DATA CLASSIFICATION AND TABULATION**

Classification of data collected is not only essential but it is unavoidable because without such a classification whole data would remain jumbled, complex and un-understandable. Therefore, classification is necessary to arrange the data in some scientific manner. To put this data in concise, precise and logical order, tabulation of the
data is inevitable. Without tabulation, whole data is likely to get complicated. Therefore to classify and tabulate the data, the researcher edited the interview schedules for completeness, accuracy and uniformity. The classification and tabulation of the data was done with the help of computers.

Simple statistical tools like percentages and averages have been used for drawing precise conclusions. Advanced statistical tools and graphical representations have been made use of wherever necessary.

Limitations of the study

The study is subjected to some limitations. It is only confined to villagers. The researcher faced some problems while he was in the field. He had persuaded the respondents to get reliable and accurate information. It is because some respondents provided the required information very easily and some were not. The researcher tried to persuade the respondents and achieved it. While interviewing illiterate respondents the researcher himself filled the schedules by asking questions.

2.6 CHAPTER SCHEME

The present study is divided into eight main chapters. The chapter scheme is made for the purpose of systematic analysis and evaluation of the subject of the research.
1. **Chapter I** : This chapter deals with the introduction, meaning and different facets of cooperation, purpose of the study, statement of the problem, objectives and hypothesis of the study. The chapter also critically reviews available literature on studies conducted on village life in general, village cooperation in particular.

2. **Chapter II** : This chapter focuses on the methodology, adopted by the researcher. This chapter also introduces the study area.

3. **Chapter III** : This chapter throws light on the socio-economic status of the respondents.

4. **Chapter IV** : This chapter deals with the changing aspects of cooperation in social life of the villagers.

5. **Chapter V** : This chapter deals with the changing aspects of cooperation in cultural life of the villagers.

6. **Chapter VI** : This chapter focuses on changing aspects of cooperation in economic life of the rural people.

7. **Chapter VII** : In this chapter an attempt has been made to know the changing aspects of cooperation in agriculture and other activities.

8. **Chapter VIII** : This chapter brings out the summary and the conclusions based on the study.
2.7 PROFILE OF THE AREA

The study covered three villages in Dharwad taluka and an intensive field investigation was conducted in the villages. The data has been collected as per the pre-tested questionnaire. The three villages exhibit typical rural socio-economic environment. Hence the profile of the three villages has been provided here. The profile covers different aspects of the villages viz., population, geography land and agriculture, educational facilities, facilities of infrastructure like transport, water supply and communication, caste and religious affiliations of people and other related social and economic aspects of the villages.

Before understanding the profile of the villages it is necessary to understand the socio-cultural aspects of Dharwad city, which have influenced the surrounding region. Consequently lot of changes has occurred in every sphere of village life. All the villages in the vicinity of Dharwad city very well depend on Dharwad for their various requirements.

The city of Dharwad is situated in north-western part of Karnataka state, which is situated between 14'17" and 15'50" north latitude and between 74'48" and 76'0" east longitudes. It is connected by road and train to the places of national importance, and also the villages surrounding it. The Poona-Bangalore National High Way No. 4 runs through this city. It is 484 kms away from Bangalore (the state capital)
and 724 kms away from Bombay. The nearest aerodrome is at Hubli, 22 kms away.

Due to its situation on the range of hills and salubrious climate the city is known as a 'hill station'. The city is situated on the borderline of Western Ghats at a height of 2,580 ft. above the mean sea level. It comes under 'malnad' region having an average annual rainfall of 32.8 inches.

i. Historical Background

The origin and early history of Dharwad is not clearly known. But the epigraphic records reveal that several dynasties like Kadambas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Yadavas and Vijayanagara rulers have ruled this town as these rulers rose and fell. Later on it was ruled by Bijapur's Adil Shah, Marathas and also by Mysore kings, Hyder Ali and his son Tippu Sultan.

In the year 1817 Dharwad with the surrounding region was passed onto the British by the Peshwa Kings of Poona. Chekki (1966) writes, "....since then Dharwad assumed a new importance and continued to be a British garrison. The temperate climate of Dharwar tempted the British to select it as a District Head Quarters of the civil administration and city began to record steady increase in both population and area. In its structure Dharwad of present reflects the traits of its stormy past".

The district was first formed after the conquest of southern Maratha state by the east India company in 1818, presenting itself as a fragmented and irregular broken belt of Patawardhan and Savanur
erstwhile states. The interested areas of the district, which were administered by the former states of Jamkhandi, Miraj, Savanur and Ramdurg were merged in the district of Dharwad on 1st August 1949.

Dharwad Municipality first came into existence in the year 1856 with an area about 5.12 sq. kms. It was changed to a Municipal Borough in the year 1926. In the year 1962 the Municipal Corporation was formed by joining it with the neighbouring city of Hubli which is at a distance of 22 kms. The area between these two cities is developed into industrial estate public offices, educational institutions and residential blocks along the National High Way No. 4. It is now the second largest city agglomeration in Karnataka state. After the formation of the Corporation, the city has started developing industrially and urbanism has made its mark on the life of people. The city has retained its status as District Headquarters and as a popular educational, cultural and administrative centre of the North Karnataka region.

ii. Growth of Population

The population of Dharwad and the twin cities of Hubli-Dharwad is increasing steadily year after year especially after independence in the year 1881 the population of Dharwad was 27,191. The population increased to 77,163 in 1961, 1,14,216 in 1971, 1,74,101 in 1981 and 2,23,894 in 1991. The recent census report of 2001 reveals the population of twin cities is 7,86,018 (census report 2001).
The higher percentage of increases of population during 1961, 1971 and 1981 can be noted from the Table 3.1. It suggests two reasons for the significant spurt in the population growth. The first was due to the formation of Corporation on number of villages around Dharwad were included in Dharwad city thereby swelling its population. The second reason was the urban-ward migration of the people from the surrounding rural areas and other parts of northern Karnataka in search of jobs, education, trade and commerce and other amenities that the city provides. Recently Hubli-Dharwad municipal Corporation area was declared "Industrially Backward", and the government has given incentives for industrialization in both Dharwad (Belur area) and Hubli (Gokul area) leading to the establishment of small scale and large scale industries. Thus it led to the higher rate of urbanization process.

iii. Religious Composition

The population of Dharwad consists of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sihks, Buddhists and Jains. Among these Hindus are in majority. They have been further divided into caste groups like Brahmins, Jangamas, Lingayats, Reddys, Vaisyas, Panchals, Backward castes, scheduled castes, etc. Many of these castes have a number of sub-castes. The social interactions on several of the occasions are guided by these caste norms. Even elections in many instances for the State Legislature and for the Municipal Corporation are fought mainly on the grounds of these castes.
People of Dharwad city have still faith in religious festivals and processions. The fair of Laxminarayana Temple satisfies the innate love of the people for pageantry for 10 days before ‘Dasara’, while the fair during four Mondays of ‘Sravana’ of Sri Ulavichannabasaveshwar Temple caters to the love of people for folk dances, Murughamath, the most prominent religious institution in the city arranges on several occasion talk by eminent people on religious and philosophical subjects. All these are an integral part of the life of people of Dharwad.

iv. Educational Facilities

For many years Dharwad has been one of the important educational centers of Karnataka state. As a result the literacy rate is high in this city. The literacy rate of Dharwad city in 1951 is 44.90%, in 1961-54.30%, in 1971-59.62%, in 1981-59.61% in 1991-70.20% and in 2001 it is 85.63%. It is due to constant increase of educational institutions from nursery to college level. During last five decades a number of educational institutions have come up.

At present there are 42 government primary schools, 25 high schools, 7 junior colleges and 8 degree colleges in Arts, Science and Commerce. There are two polytechnic colleges, one engineering college, two medical colleges, one dental college, one educational, four law colleges, four teachers training institutions, situated here along with NTTF, the technical institution which is run with the collaboration of Swiss Government. Apart from these, in 1959 the Government of India
started a Demographic Research Centre, Institute of Economic Research in Dharwad, which is one of the five such centers in India.

In Dharwad city there are two Universities: 1. University of Agricultural Sciences and 2. University of social and physical sciences (pure), which is the second university to be started in the state.

Thus, students and teachers form the recognizable portion of the population of Dharwad. The growth of the city can be attributed partly to the development of educational institutions. With the establishment of the Universities, Dharwad has become the nerve-centre of educational activities of the surrounding region. This is how the educated mass forms the major chunk of the population and they have a significant say in the social events of the city.

v. Social and Cultural Activities

Dharwad is the centre of social and cultural activities. The city contained the people belonging to various religions, castes and statuses. The city also contained the people of highly modernized and also conservative.

In the city there are so many cultural and literacy associations are functioning. Among them the "Karnataka Vidyavardhak Sangh" is one of the oldest being established in 1883. Along with this there are Theosophical society and the Basava Philosophy centre. The city also has International Associations such as Lions Club, Rotary Club etc.
The city of Dharwad has seven film theatres, which cater essentially to the young and romantic temperament of the youths screening popular Hindi and Kannada films. English and Telugu films are also screened sometimes, significantly, art films are not screened regularly.

The youth of Dharwad city are very much influenced by television. In the city, the T.V. cables broadcast nearly 60 channels. The different programmes of various channels have made the youths of the city more aware of the social, political and cultural activities. There are also many youth clubs to provide recreation to the youths.

The people of northern part of Karnataka get their daily newspapers. The All India Radio news bulletins are broadcast from the city. The fact that Dharwad is in the forefront of many cultural and literacy movements may be seen from the fact that a number of movements have either been organized or have gained momentum from the city.

Thus, the city is known for its cultural heritage as also its contribution to the field of literature. The city has produced many award winning poets and writers. It is also nurtured many renowned musicians.

The city has been in the forefront in the dissemination of education, a literacy movement as early as 1881, was started by Sri. Deputy Channabasappa to educate young men and provide scholarships and free hostels for the poor and talented students. The 1917 Karnataka
Ekikaran movement was significant from the point of view of development of Kannidagas. It was intensified in the year 1947 soon after the nation’s independence. The contribution of this city to the national independence movement is undoubtedly significant.

Today the college youth grew more sensitive and receptive to new trends of opinions. A number of student organizations like All India Student Federation, Student Federation of India, Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad and Dalit Student Federation have their basis in Dharwad. These organizations have reacted to various situations on their organizational convictions immediately by organizing support or protest movements.

Thus Dharwad city is a cultural and educational centre with warm and healthy climate. All these social, cultural and educational organizations show the increasing rate of modernity in the city. The youths of the city, with the influence of urbanization, are on the path of modernization and they are accepting the changing life styles.

All these aspects influence the neighbouring villages. In the following lines the profile of the selected villages is given.

2.8 PROFILE OF STUDY VILLAGES

i. Village A. Amminbhavi

Amminbhavi is moderately a larger village with a total population of 10,889 which almost equivalent to make it a town as per census of India.
considerations. The village is located to the north of Dharwad city at a distance of about 12 kms on Dharwad-Bijapur main transportation line. The name Amminbhavi is supposed to be associated with the name of one “Ammin din” who is supposed to have constructed a large “bhavi” (well).

**Population**

The village has a total population of 10,889. The population consists of a large number of upper caste people consisting of Lingayats, Jains, Brahmins and other forward communities. The total population of these communities and others composed of 4386 male and 4503 females. There are a sizeable number of SC and ST community people in the village. The total number of male members belonging to SC is 975 and female members were 490. Among the total number of members belonging to ST community there were 271 males and 264 females.

**Agriculture**

The village has been endowed with rich black and red soil suitable for growing variety of food and non-food crops.

Amminbhavi village has a total land area of 46335 hectares. The total sown area is 43688 hectares. The major crops grown in the village and the area of under these crops are indicated below.
Kharif crops

1. Green gram - 1040 hectares
2. Groundnut - 1054 hectares
3. Jowar - 730 hectares
4. Onion - 750 hectares

Rabi crops

1. Horsegram - 1500 hectares
2. Wheat - 830 hectares

Animal Husbandry

The village is predominantly agrarian oriented farmers and others possess a good number of livestock. The details of the livestock in the village are mentioned below.

Cattle - 1626
Baffalow - 749
Sheep - 533
Goats - 382
Total - 3290.

The pattern of the livestock indicate that a good number of families are supported by dairy animals like she baffaloes and by sheep.
rearing for wool and meat. Agricultural operations are supported by bullocks in good number.

**Social and economic infrastructure in Amminbhavi**

1. Rural education facilities are provided by anganawadi's, primary and secondary schools and a public library.

2. Health care facilities in the village are provided by a primary health center.

3. The primary agricultural credit cooperative society and a branch of the UCO BANK provide credit facilities in the village.

4. There is 'Raita Sampar's Kendra' which provides information to farmers on their agricultural operations.

5. The government has setup a 'Ration shop' under the public distribution schemes for the benefit of people below the poverty line.

**Water supply**

The village is well served in the direction of supplying potable water for the villagers. The sources of water supply in the village are

1. Bore well - 7
2. Tanks - 4
3. Suction pumps - 4
4. Public tap - 1
5. Hand pumps - 21
The profile of the village indicate that people are provided modern facilities of education water supply, credit institutions, health care information center for the farmers etc. The village is well served by modern facilities of transport and communication systems like public and private transport vehicles, post, telephone, TV etc.

The village has a Gram Panchayat which gives opportunities for the rural people to participate in democratic practices of election and village administration.

**ii. Village B. Murakatti**

Murakatti is small village in Dharwad taluk with a population of 822. Largely agrarian oriented people in the village subsist mostly on agricultural income. The village is not much exposed to modern life since it is not on any major district or state highways. The social-economic life of the villages are typical of a rural area in the district.

**Population**

The total population of the village is 822. The male component of the population was 426 while the female population was 396. With limited population the social and economic environment is limited by traditional ways of rural life.

**Agriculture**

The main occupation of the villagers is agriculture. The village land is largely endowed with red soil to a tune of 75 per cent of the cultivable
land. Rest of the 25 per cent of the land is having black soil. The total agricultural land of the village is 600 hectares.

**Crops grown**

The major crops grown in Murukatti village are paddy, jowar, sugarcane and cereals. The village has some irrigation facilities.

**Forests**

The village has thick ever green forest area. Almost 25 per cent of the geographical area of the village (875 hectares) is covered by forests.

The climatic conditions are very healthy and temporal.

**Education**

Illiteracy among the villagers is high. A primary school is established long ago. Largely people are uneducated and ignorant.

**Infrastructure**

The village lacks good roads and other transport facilities. Unmettled and mud roads are the only means of traveling.

Houses are built with mud and stones with thatched roofs.

**Drinking water**

The villagers use pond water for drinking. Recently tap water supply is provided under rural water scheme of the state government.
Caste and Religions

The village is inhabited by Hindus and Muslims. Marathas as a caste group are found in good number.

Area under different crops

The total area of cultivable land in the village is used for the different crops shown below:

- Paddy - 350 hectares
- Sugarcane - 50 hectares
- Maize - 35 hectares
- Cotton - 35 hectares
- Other crops - 35 hectares
- Non-agricultural - 35 hectares
- Forest - 20 hectares
- Total - 575 hectares

iii. Village C. Salakinakoppa

Salakinakoppa is a revenue village situated 8 kms away from Dharwad city. The village is located in the Malnad area but close to the city and receives heavy rainfall. It is situated 2300 feet above the mean sea level.

The total geographical area of Salakinakoppa is 1,441.10 acres.
Climate

The village has an annual average temperature of 22-25°C. Climate is warm and dry. The temperature during summer is 40°C while the temperature during winter goes down to 18°C.

Average rainfall of the village is 27.22". The village experiences three seasons viz., (1) summer which lasts from February to May, (ii) rainy season lasts from June to September and (iii) winter season lasts from October to January.

Agriculture

The major crops grown in Salakinakoppa are paddy, jowar, cotton and groundnut. The crops are grown suiting to the soil and climatic conditions.

The non-agricultural crops are neem trees, jail, tamarind. Horticultural crops include mango, chikku and banana.

Population

The total population of Salakinakoppa village is 1698. The sex composition of the population indicates that the male population is more than the female population. There were 890 men and 808 women.

Caste and social composition of the village

The village has a composite caste affiliations of people belonging to Lingayats, Valmiki, Kshatriya, Maratha, Nekar and Kurub communities. Religionwise Hindus and Muslims constitute the major groups.
Lingayats constituted maximum of 411 people accounting for 36.77 per cent followed by Valmikis (34.56%), SC (8.10%), Kshatriyas (6.49%), Marathas (4.32%), Nekar and Kurub communities accounted for 01.08 per cent each.

Muslims families accounted for 07.37 per cent of the total. Social composition of Salakinkoppa is based on caste system. Caste hierarchy of the village is based on commensal relations and traditional occupations which include the principles of ‘purity’ and ‘pollution’.

**Sex-wise distribution of population**

The village had 547 male and 540 female population. Caste wise male and female population among Lingyats was 215 and 176, Valmiki – 176 – 185, Muslims 48-55, Kshatriya 39-33, Harijan 38-32, Maratha-24-24, Nekar 4-09, Kurub-03-06.

**Transport and Communication**

The village has motorable transportation facilities connecting nearby villages. Buses, troly are the common modes of transportation.

Private vehicles include motor cycles, tractors, bullock carts, car and bicycles.

In Salakinakoppa adequate communication facilities are available. Mass media like radio, television and newspaper are providing information.
**Education**

Facilities for primary education are available in the village. A primary school is functioning for the last many years.

**Religious activities**

The public places of worship include 9 temples for Hindus and a Darga for Muslims. The village deity is “Dyamavva” other deities like Basaveshwar, Hari vithal, Mailarjja, etc. are worshipped in temples. Kariyamma and Kalamma temples are the other places of worship for different caste groups.

People observe festivals like Yugadi, Deepavali, Ganesha, Ramazan and Bhakrid. Holi festival is celebrated by mass of people in the village. Moharrum is observed by Muslims.

Today as a result of impact of urban area lot of changes have been occurred in almost all aspects of rural life. The youth of the villages, with the influence of urban culture are on the path of modernization and are accepting the changing life styles. Hence the researcher has selected these villages for the study of changing aspects of cooperation in Indian villages.

The foregoing details about the methodological approaches as well as the area of study and study villages provides a good background in the context of which the present study is carried out. The details in this chapter will be made use of in the relevant context of the presentation of issues connected to the study of changing aspects of co-operation in these villages.