A Profile Of
Dharwad District
CHAPTER – III

THE PROFILE OF DHARWAD DISTRICT

Area of Study

Dharwad district is situated in Western sector of northern half of Karnataka State. The district encompasses an area of 13783 Sq. km. In its shape the district may be regarded as roughly resembling an inverted triangle broad at the northern end and very narrow at the Southern end. Its greatest length from north to south is about 164 KM and its greatest width from east to west is about 115 KM.

Origin of the Name: How And Why?

The word ‘Dharwad’ means a place of rest in a long travel or a small habitation. For centuries, Dharwad acted as a gateway between Malenaadu (Western mountains) and Bayalu seeme (plains) and it became a resting place for the travelers. Another theory is, during Vijaynagara rule of Dharwad, there was a ruler by name ‘Dharav’ (1403 AD) and Dharwad got its name from him. There are some inscriptions which refer to Dharwad as Kampana Sthana.1
How old is Dharwad?

The inscriptions found near Durga Devi Temple, in Narendra and RLS high schools, Dharwad. This prove that Dharwad existed in 12th century and it is now at least 900 years old. During the early historical period the entire Deccan region, including this district also, formed part of the Mauryan empire. References in ancient inscriptions to various centres of this district reveal that Dharwad area too formed part of the empire of the Satavahanas.

Chalukyas ruled Dharwad during 12th century. A stone inscription indicate that there was a ruler by name Bhaskardeva in 1117 AD. The area around Dharwad was ruled by several dynasties. The Kadambas, Chalukyas, Vijayanagar emperors, Maratha emperors, Muslim emperors, Mughal Emperors and Peshwas. Then comes under the control of British rule. After 18th Century Dharwad became a district under British ruler. It was a district place in the Bombay Province. After independence, when reorganization of state was made in 1956, Dharwad District was included in the newly formed Mysore State.²

Before 1997, the district had an area of 13738 Sq. km In 1997, the new district of Gadag, Haveri were created out of Dharwad’s former territory. A portion of Dharwad district was having some area of which were formerly parts of three other districts. From 1997, the Dharwad
district is bounded by Gadag district in the north east and east by Haveri district on the South, by Uttar Kannada district on the South West and by Belgaum district in the north west and north.

**Important Events held in Dharwad District’s History:**

1818 : Dharwad came under complete British rule

1830 : Formation of district of Dharwad

1831 : First Kannada School established

1844 : Hospital of mental health (mental hospital) established

1856 : Municipality established.

1866 : Chennabasappa appointed as Deputy Director of education

1868 : First Girl’s School was established

1872 : School started in Kumanakatti, later this is to be known as the Victoria’s High School, now it is called Vidyaranya School, Dharwad

1988 : Dharwad – Vasco Railways commences its operation

1889 : Karantaka Vidya Vardhaka Sangha founded by R.H. (Ra.ha) deshpande.

1895 : Women’s Training College established

1917 : Karantak College came into existence.

1920 : Mahatma Gandhiji visited.
1938 : Subhash Chandra Bose visited

1940 : Veer Savarkar Visited

1942 : Two girls – Vimal Glvadi and Shinalekar hoist the tricolour India Flag at the district collector’s office

1944 : K.E. Board’s Arts College founded late came to be known as JSS college

1947 : Agriculture College established

**Area and Population**

The area of Dharwad district was 4263 Sq. kms and its population was 317756 in 2001. Navalgund taluk is the biggest taluk with area of 1080Sq. kms and Hubli taluk is the smallest taluk with an area of 631 sq.kms. The district is divided into talukas for the administrative purposes.

In accordance with the latest information furnished by the District Department of statistics, the total population of district of Dharwad is around 13, 75,000. It accounts for approximately 6 percent of the state population. Of this total population 7,10,600 are male and 6,64,000 are female.
The literacy rate of the district is comparatively higher than the national rate. It is scaling to the tune of 55.52 percent. Of this total the literacy rate amongst male is to the tune of 68.86 percent while females, it is approximately 41.39 percent.

**Educational Centres**

The taluka of Dharwad is recognized as the centre of education. It is the premier taluka enjoying credit to have the highest seat of learning in the Karnataka University, Dharwad, the University of Agricultural Science, the Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachara Sabha, Dharwad and the Indira Gandhi Open University, Dharwad.

The Karnataka College, Dharwad, has been serving the cause of education since the time of Britishers. The KLE’s BVB Engineering College, the SDMC College of Dental Science, Engineering and Technology, Dharwad, has built up its academic statute as the permier institution of Asia. The Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences, Hubli, is yet another versatile institution rendering yeoman service since fifties.

A synoptic view of the educational institutions in the district of Dharwad is presented in table-3.1.
### Table 3.1

**Educational Institutions in the District of Dharwad**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Particulars</th>
<th>Total Number of Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Primary Schools</td>
<td>884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Secondary schools</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pre-University Colleges</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Degree Colleges</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Engineering Colleges</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Medical/Unani/Dental</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Polytechnic Colleges</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Women’s Colleges</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Research Centres</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Management Science</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Universities</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: District at Glance, District Statistical Office, Dharwad.

In addition to these institutions, there are a number of privately managed professional institutions imparting education in the realm of computer programming, soil testing, T.V., Air conditioner, Refrigerator training centre, Training Colleges for men and women.  

**Climate**

Dharwad district has an agreeable and healthy climate. Dharwad district enjoys moderate weather and it is not subjected to extremes either summer or winter. Described as 'Chota Mahabaleshwar' because of its pleasant weather and seven hill on which the city is located.
The soil in the inland region is red and brown. A major portion of the district contains black soil. The quality of black soil is suited to the dry climate of the district. A vast area of 35,235 hectares is covered under forests. The irrigated area measuring around 10,380 hectares.

**Roads**

The split of information reveals that the district of Dharwad has the highest network of village roads (36.63 per cent) followed by main roads (28.24 per cent). The national highways account for 2.7 percent.

**Railway Line**

The district has a long broad gauge railway line of 151 kms. It has the notable Railway junction in the city of Hubli with a network of 21 railway stations.

**Communication Facilities**

The district of Dharwad has a vast and well-knit communication network facilitating the course of business persons and the industrialists. With a network of 215 Post Office, 152 Telegraph Offices and as many as 57 Telephone Exchanges offers the fastest communication services through ISD, STD, Telex, Fax, E-mail facilities. In addition to this there are a number of privately managed agencies rendering Internet facility to the general public. The trading agencies and industrial units are offered the website facility as well. Thus the district offers unique facility for multiplying trade and commerce through e-commerce.
Air Transport

There exists Vayudoot service with its terminal station at Hubli. It is a feeder to Indian Airlines.

Finance

Finance is the basic input determining the course, the volume and the scale of any productive activity. The district of Dhawad is blessed with a well-organised and well-knit network of banking and non-banking financial institutions. The nationalized commercial banks of the eminence of State Bank of India, the Punjab National Bank, Corporation Bank, Syndicate Bank, Canara Bank, etc., catering to the credit needs of business community with a wide network of 129 bank branches. Some of these banks have instituted their Zonal/Divisional offices in the district particularly in Hubli and Dharwad with a view to serving the financial need of the village dwellers, there exists Malaprabha Grameen Bank with a network of 40 bank branches. The Bank has based its Head Office in Dharwad.

There exists a wide network of co-operative banking sector as well. There are 22 Urban Co-operative Banks with District Co-operative Credit Bank at Dharwad. There exist 5 Primary Land Development Banks and 18 Rural Co-operative Societies.
The fast growing centres of Hubli and Dharwad have attracted certain term lending institutions as well. These institutions include the Karnataka State Finance Corporation, The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, the State Industrial Development Bank of India, the Unit Trust of India, the Life Insurance Corporation of India, etc., with a view to encouraging private investors, the Hubli city offers services of Stock Exchange Sub – centre.

In addition to this there are a number of non-banking financial institutions and private finance lending institutions.

With a view to facilitating the cause of rich businessmen the Centurion Bank and the state Bank of India have set up 24 Hours Banking Service.

**Water and Electricity**

The Karnataka Urban Water Supply Board with its pumping station at Neerasagar and District Headquarters at Dharwad has shouldered the responsibility of providing drinking water to the people. While the Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd., formerly known as Karnataka Electricity Board, is providing electricity for domestic as a also commercial use.
Industrial Estates

The Government of Karnataka along with certain institutions has been taking utmost care in creating befitting environment to attract the attention of prospective entrepreneurs. With a view to flourishing the industries on systematic footing, it has been developing the industrial estates.

The district of Dharwad has to its credit as many as 4 industrial estates. The details have been furnished in Table 5.3.

**Industrial Estates in Dharwad District**

**Table 3.2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Industrial Estates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Tarihal Industrial Estate, Tarihal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Gokul Industrial Estate, Hubli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Belur Industrial Growth Centre, Dharwad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The lakmanhalli Industrial Estate, Dharwad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Ramankoppa Industrial Estate, Kundgol (under construction)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Annual Reports, District Industries Centre, Dharwad

Specialized Service Institutions

With a view to building up entrepreneurial skills amongst the prospective entrepreneurs, the CEDOK (Centre for Entrepreneurial Development of Karnataka) has been organizing training programmes. Similarly the Small Scale Industries Service Institute (SISI) has been
organizing technical sessions for the benefit of management as also rendering certain counseling services. Of late, it has started marketing services to help the cause of small enterprises. The Government has sponsored an Industrial material Testing Laboratory in Gokul Industrial Estate, Hubli, benefiting the cause of industries in testing mineral and chemical components.

Administration

Administrative Divisions

Talukas; Byadagi, Dharwad, Gadag, Hangal, Haveri, Hirekerur, Hubli, Kalghatagi, Kundgol, Mundargi, Nargund, Navalgund, Ranebennur, Ron, Savanur, Shiggaon, Shirahatti (According to old Dharwad district)

According to New Dharwad District formed in 1997, talukas in Dharwad district are Dharwad, Hubli, Kalghatagi, Kundagol, Navalgund, Parliamentary Constituencies along assembly segment.

i) Number and name of Parliamentary Constituencies : 23 Dharwad South, 24 Dharwad North.

ii) Number and Name of Assembly Segments : Dharwad-South.

(a) Kundgol – Kundgol taluk and Shiggaon circle (excluding Shiggaon town, 21 Kanakanwad and 22 Jakkanakatti Villages) in Shiggaon taluk, in Savanur sub division.
Dharwad North:

(b) Dharwad Rural: Dharwad taluk (excluding wards 01 to 5 of Hubli Dharwad Corporation) in Dharwad sub division.

c) Dharwad – wards Nos 1 to 5 of Hubli Dharwad corporation in Dharwad taluk in Dharwad subdivision.

d) Hubli – Wards Nos 8, 9, 10, 12, 14 and 15 of Hubli Dharwad Corporation in Hubli taluk in Dharwad division.


(g) Navalgund: Navalgund taluk and 15-Umachagi, 16-Koliwad and 17-Malligawad villages in Shiraguppi circle in Hubli taluk in Dharwad sub division.\(^5\)
Caste & Religion

The community wise break up (OBC) in Dharwad North is Muslims 16%, Scheduled Castes 7%, Scheduled Tribes 5%, Linayats 17%, Kurubas 11% and Bedas's 6%, Bhambis 2% among the scheduled castes, are more numerous, naikas and kadu kurubas are included in Scheduled Tribes.
REFERENCES


2. www.historyofdharwaddistrict.


4. The Gazetter of Dharwad District, Southern Zone (Vol. 1) Gyan Publishing House New Delhi

5. The Gazetter of Dharwad District, Southern Zone (Vol. 1) Gyan Publishing House New Delhi