

## **CHAPTER – II**

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## CHAPTER - II

## DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

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A brief description of the study area provides the background for understanding the problem that is being researched in proper perspective. It helps in drawing proper inferences and meaningful conclusion from the results of the present study. Therefore, an attempt is made to describe briefly the agro and socio-economic features of the area studied. The infrastructural facilities available in the area of study are also discussed.

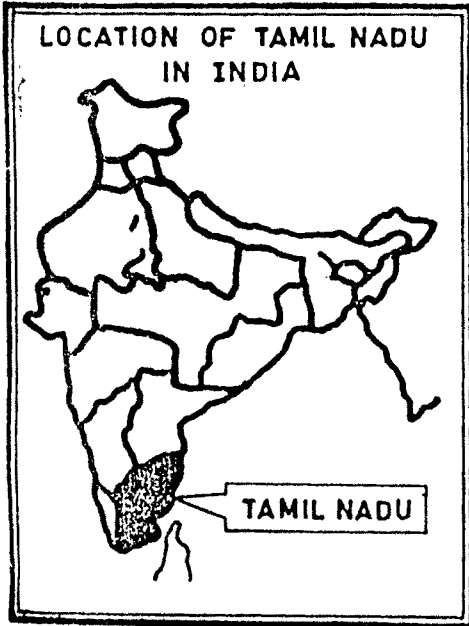
For the proper provision of bank loans to the weaker sections, it is necessary to know the environmental dimensions of the study area. Factors like population, land holding, land utilisation, cropping pattern and its intensity, inputs and implements, infrastructural facilities etc., are the deciding factors for financing the weaker sections. Lending institutions are also to consider these factors with utmost care since these factors influence the decisions regarding sanctioning of loans for various activities. In this context profile of the area of study assumes importance. Pullambadi block is the universe for the present study and hence the socio-economic features of the block are outlined.

**2.1 LOCATION:**

Pullambadi block is located on the eastern border of the Tiruchirappalli District at a distance of 35 kilometres from Tiruchirappalli Town on the way to Chidambaram. The Pullambadi block is surrounded by Thirumanur block on east, Ariyalur and Alathur gate blocks on the north, Mannachanallur block on west and Lalgudi block on south.

EXHIBIT - 1

LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA  
(TIRUCHIRAPALLI DISTRICT)



LOCATION OF  
TIRUCHIRAPALLI DISTRICT IN  
TAMIL NADU

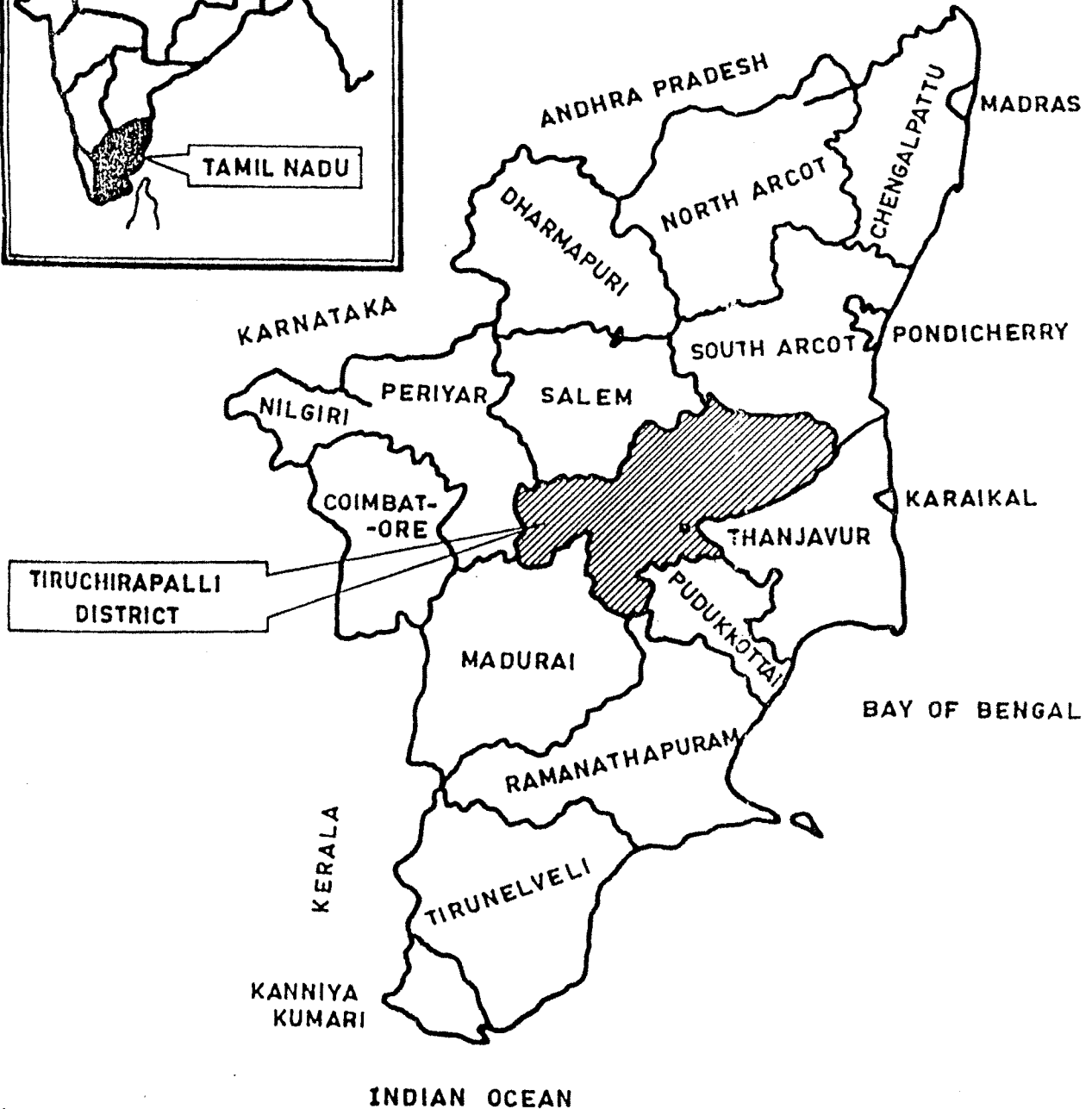
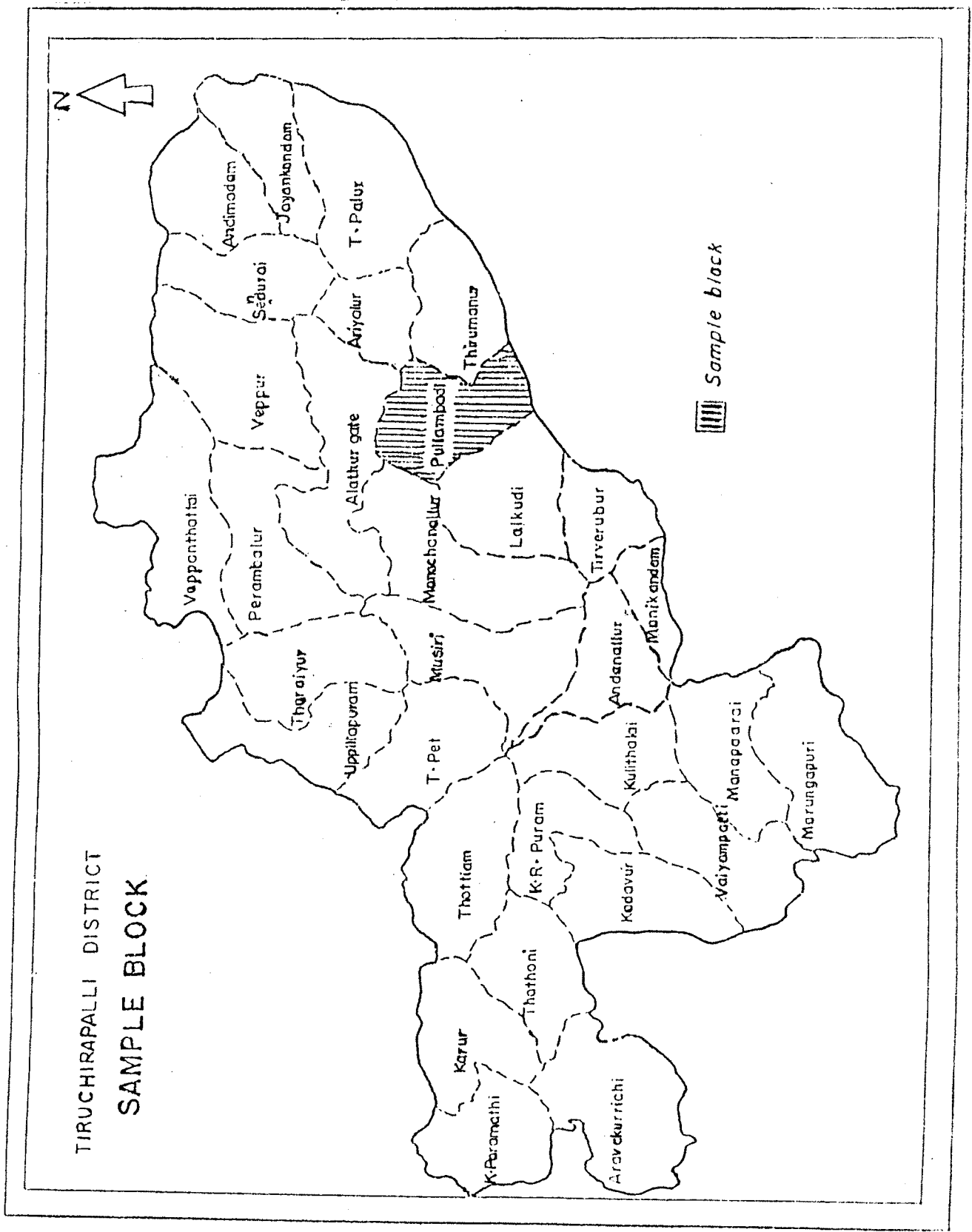
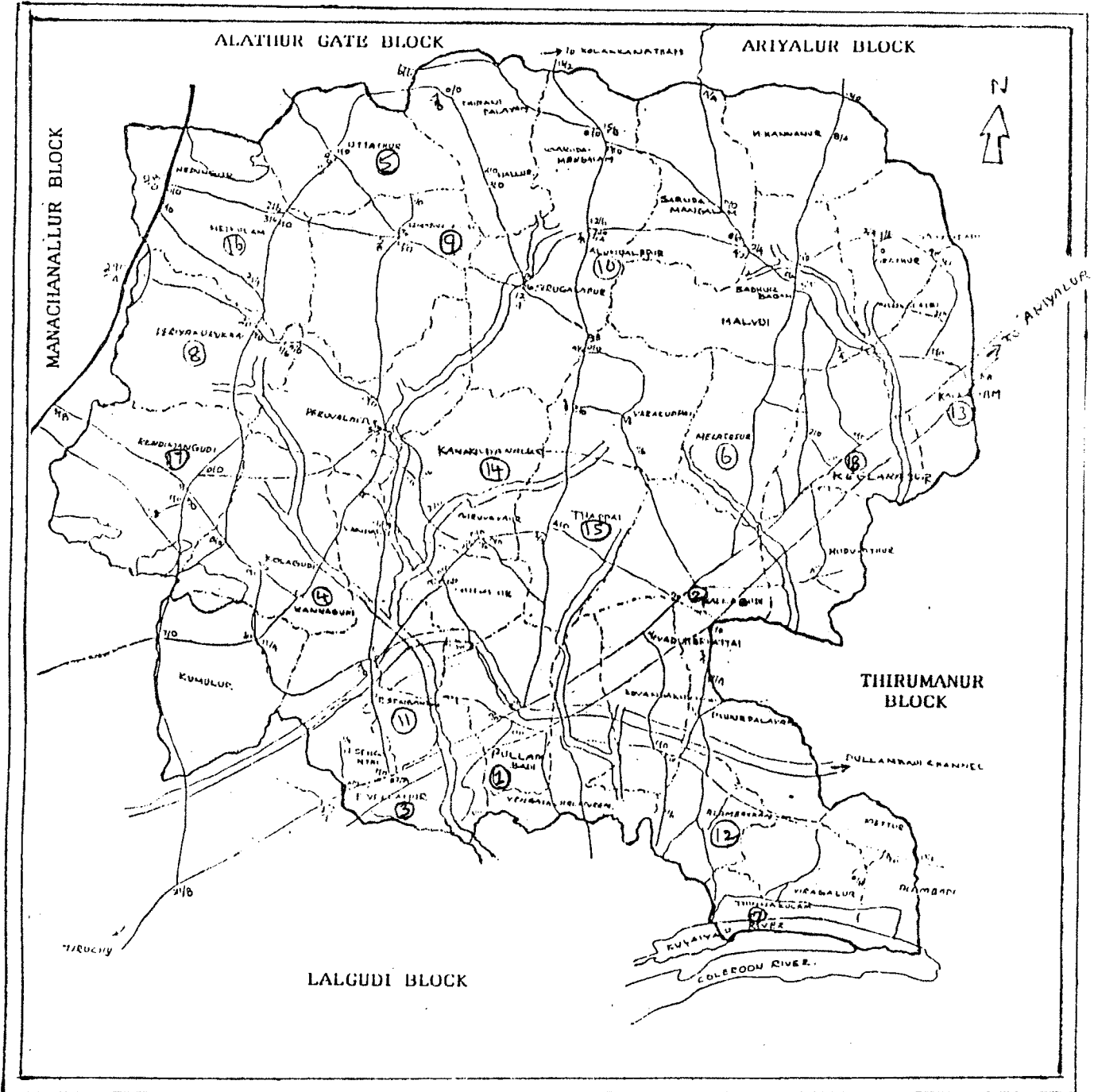


EXHIBIT - 2



# EXHIBIT - 3

PULLAMBADI BLOCK - (TIRUCHIRAPALLI DISTRICT)



Pullambadi block has an area of 388.52 square kilometers and it is divided into 39 revenue villages and three firkas for administrative purposes. There are 33 village panchayats and two town panchayats in the block.

## 2.2 POPULATION:

TABLE 2.1

POPULATION STRUCTURE IN PULLAMBADI BLOCK

S.No.	Particulars	Number (as per 1981 census)			% to Total Population
		Male	Female	Total	
1.	Total Population	43,998	44,612	88,610	-
2.	Rural Population	34,617	35,286	69,903	78.89
3.	Urban Population	9,381	9,326	18,707	21.11
4.	SCs	NA	NA	12,003	13.55
5.	STs	NA	NA	1,098	1.24

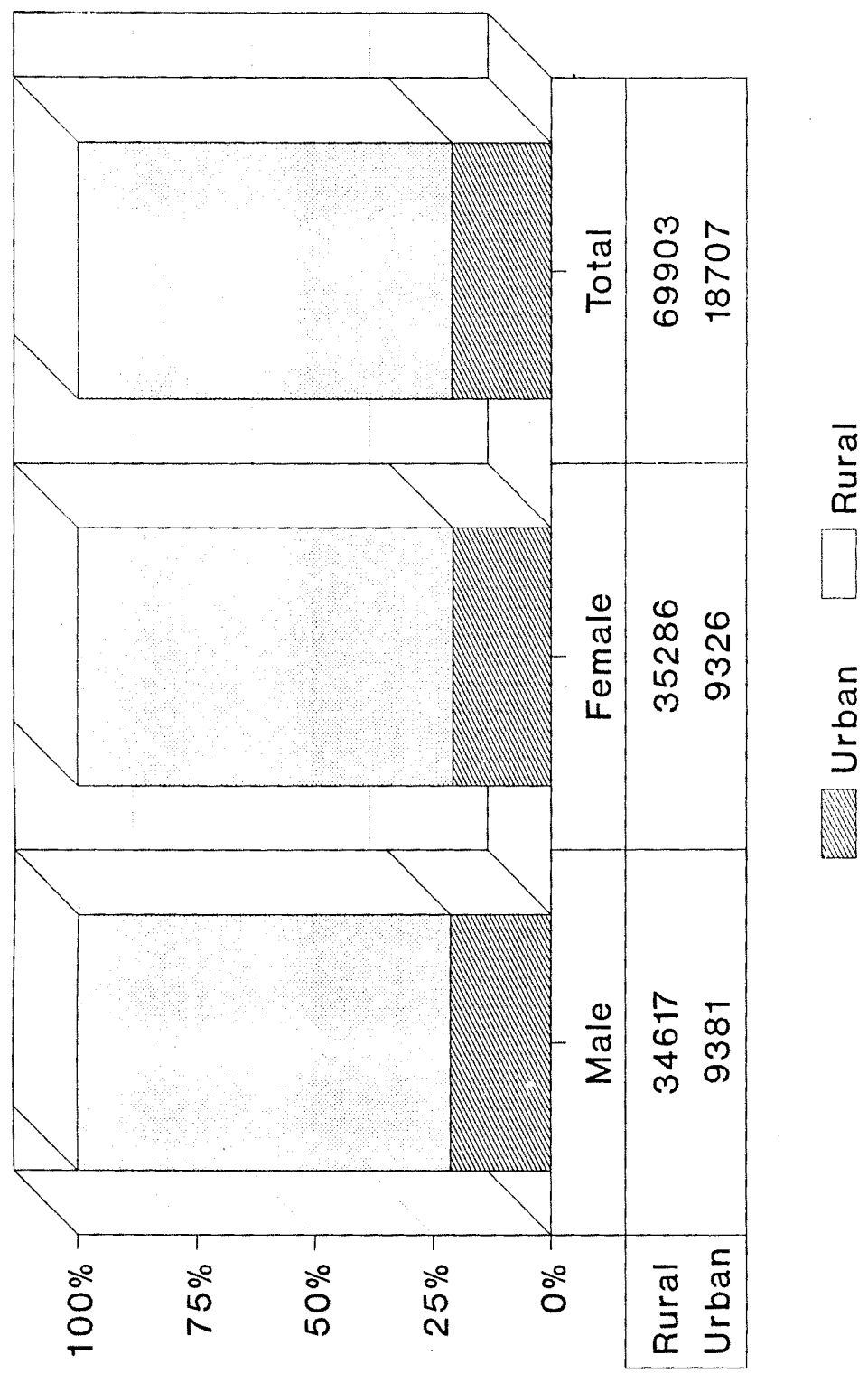
Source: Statistical Office - Lalgudi Taluk, Lalgudi

The table shows the details on population structure of Pullambadi block.

Pullambadi block had a population of 88,610 as per 1981 census, consisting of 43,998 men and 44,612 women. The population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe was 12,003 and 1,098 respectively. The percentages of SCs and STs to the total population were 13.55 and 1.24 respectively.

The rural population in this block was 69,903 consisting 34,617 males and 35,286 females, accounting for 78.89% of the total population. In this block the rural population was more than the urban population.

**Figure - 2.1**  
**POPULATION STRUCTURE IN PULLAMBADI BLOCK**



### 2.3 EDUCATIONAL LEVEL:

The educational status of the people of the block is far from satisfactory. The literacy rate in Pullambadi block is 37.01. The percentage of male and female literacy in the block are 48.33 and 22.88 respectively. The number of educational institutions functioning in the block are as follows.

1. Elementary School	.. 57
2. Middle School	.. 20
3. High School	.. 5
4. Higher Secondary School	.. 4
5. Agricultural College	.. 1
6. Industrial Training Institute	.. 2

### 2.4 OCCUPATION:

Occupation is the source of income which determines the levels of living of the population of a locality. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people and it constitutes the key sector of the economy in the block. More than 80% of the population is engaged in agricultural activities. The bulk of the income of the block is generated mainly from the farm sector.

The occupational distribution of people in the study area and other details are presented below.



**TABLE 2.2**  
**OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION IN**  
**PULLAMBADI BLOCK**

S.NO	TYPE OF OCCUPATION	NUMBER	% TO TOTAL WORKERS
1.	Cultivators	11,357	17.78
2.	Agricultural labourers	52,326	81.93
3.	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing and allied activities	24	00.04
4.	Household and cottage industries	145	00.23
5.	Other industries	12	0.02
6.	Others (mining, quarrying etc.)	2	-
7.	Total workers	63,866	-

Source: Block Development Office, Pullambadi

#### 2.5 CLIMATE:

The climate in the block is almost hot and dry throughout the year.

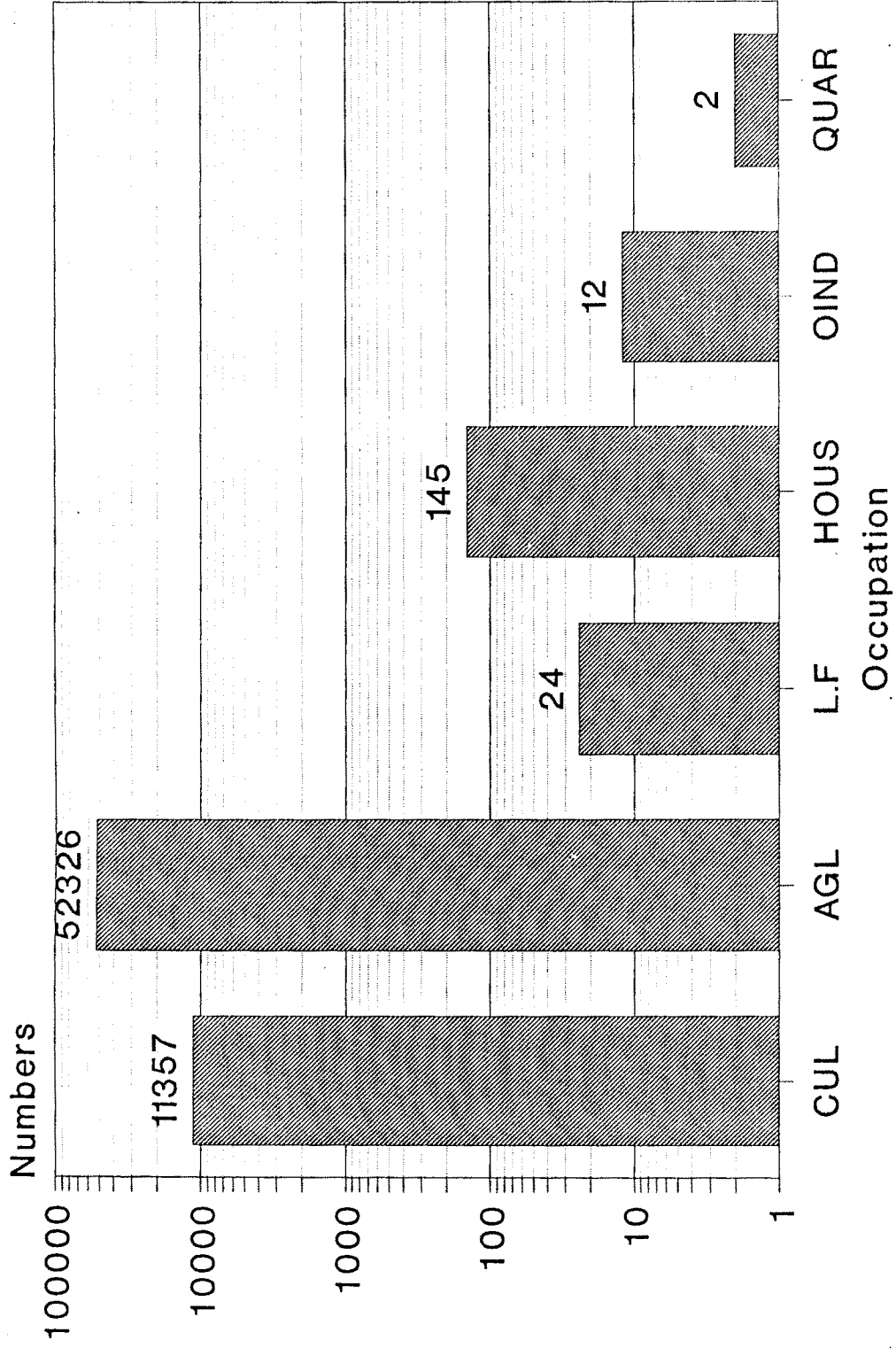
#### 2.6 SOILS:

The major soil type of the block is alluvial black and red soil. Only dry crops are raised in the major area and meagre area is covered by irrigated crops.

#### 2.7 IRRIGATION:

In Pullambadi block canals are the most important source for irrigation. The irrigated areas are under Pullambadi, Peruvalai canals and Nanthiar Channel. The net irrigated area in this block is 7,399 hectares. The total area irrigated under Pullambadi and Peruvalai canals are 2,887.0 hectares and 482.0 hectares respectively. Tanks, dugwells, open wells and filter points are the other sources of irrigation in this block.

Figure - 2.2  
OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION



CUL : CULTIVATORS      L.F : LIVEST,FISH      OIND : OTHER IND.

AGL : AGRI.LABOUR      HOUS : HOUSEHOLD.I      QUAR : QUARRYING

The following table shows the details on net area irrigated through various irrigational sources in this block.

TABLE 2.3

DETAILS OF SOURCES OF IRRIGATION AND AREA IRRIGATED  
IN PULLAMBADI BLOCK

S.No.	Irrigation Sources	No.	Irrigated area (in hectares)
1.	Pullambadi canal	-	2,887.0
2.	Peruvalai canal	-	482.0
3.	Nandhiar canal	-	628.0
4.	Dug wells & open wells	2,185	1,731.0
5.	Tanks	80	476.0
6.	Filter points	44	132.0
7.	Other sources (ponds, streams etc.,)	8	1,063.0

Source: Dept. of Agriculture, Pullambadi block

## 2.8 RAINFALL:

The intensity of the rainfall is high only during the North East monsoon period. The normal and actual rainfall of the block is 837.7 mm and 513.0 mm respectively in the year 1988. The average rainfall for the last ten years upto 1990 was 695.33 mm. The following table shows the total annual rainfall during the period 1981 to 1990.

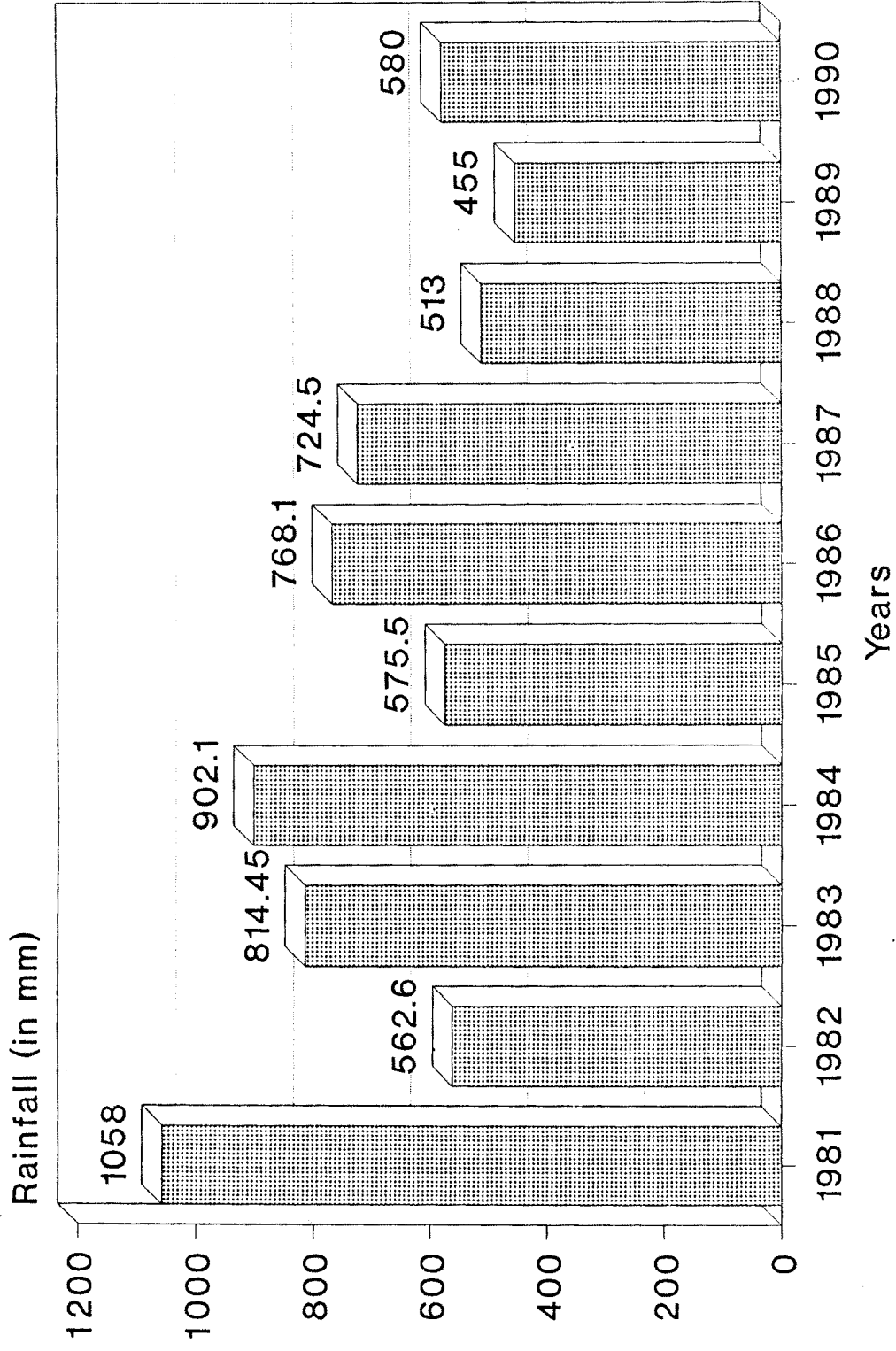
TABLE 2.4

## TOTAL ANNUAL RAINFALL FOR THE PERIOD 1981 TO 1990

S.No	Year	Total annual rainfall (in millimetres)
1.	1981	1,058.00
2.	1982	562.60
3.	1983	814.45
4.	1984	902.10
5.	1985	575.50
6.	1986	768.10
7.	1987	724.50
8.	1988	513.00
9.	1989	455.00
10.	1990	580.10

Source: Dept. of Agriculture, Pullambadi block

Figure 2.3  
TOTAL ANNUAL RAINFALL



## 2.9 LAND UTILISATION:

The utilisation of land for cultivation is a fundamental factor in the development of agriculture. The total cultivable land in the block was 22,656 hectares, consisting of 7,399 hectares of wet land and 15,257 hectares of dry land. The cultivable waste land amounts to 1,320 hectares. There is reserve forest of 550 hectares in the block.

The following table shows the land utilisation pattern in Pullambadi block.

**TABLE 2.5**  
**LAND UTILISATION IN PULLAMBADI BLOCK**

S.No.	Particulars	Area (in hectares)
1.	Area under cultivation	22,656
2.	Pastures and grazing lands	5,870
3.	Grazing and uncultivable lands	1,230
4.	Orchards, tree crops and groves	549
5.	Permanent grazing lands	706
6.	Cultivable waste lands	1,320
7.	Lands not fit for cultivation	6,320
8.	Forest	550

Source: Dept. of Agriculture, Pullambadi block

## 2.10 PRINCIPAL CROPS GROWN:

The important crops cultivated in this block are paddy, sugarcane, cholam, cumbu, ragi, cotton, chillies and coriander. Paddy occupies the major part of the cultivated area. The crops grown and the area under cultivation of each crop in the year 1987-88 are given below.

TABLE 2.6

## PRINCIPAL CROPS GROWN AND AREA OF CULTIVATION

S.No.	Name of the crop	Area under cultivation (in hectares)
1.	Paddy	6,095
2.	<u>Sugar cane:</u>	
	First crop	401
	Ratoon crop	329
3.	<u>Cholam:</u>	
	Irrigated	250
	Rainfed	4,200
4.	<u>Cumbu:</u>	
	Irrigated	1,400
	Rainfed	2,000
5.	<u>Ragi:</u>	
	Irrigated	80
6.	<u>Cotton:</u>	
	Irrigated	860
	Rainfed	30
7.	<u>Chillies:</u>	
	Rainfed	1,610
8.	Coriander	2,215

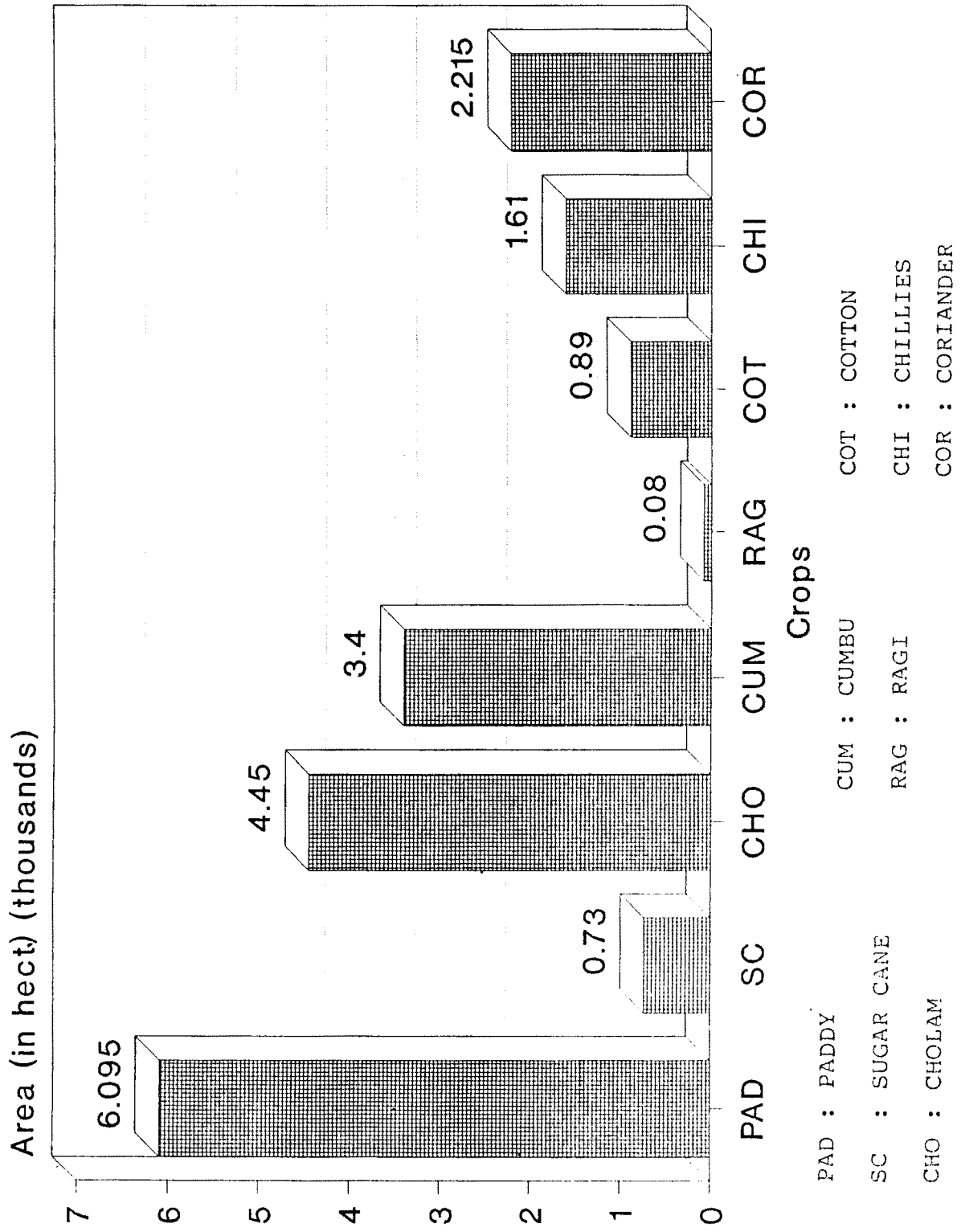
Source: Dept. of Agriculture, Pullambadi block

### 2.11 STATUS OF THE CULTIVATORS:

The total number of cultivators in the block is 11,357. It includes 5,672 marginal farmers, 3,218 small farmers and 1,252 big farmers. The total number of cultivators include 1,500 SC/ST cultivators. Farmers cultivating lands less than one acre and from one to two acres are 330 and 455 respectively. The marginal farmers form the major chunk of the total number of cultivators in this block. They represent nearly 50% of the total cultivators.

The details of classification of farmers on the basis of land holdings in the block are given in the following table.

Figure - 2.4  
AREA OF CULTIVATION



**TABLE 2.7**  
**CLASSIFICATION OF FARMERS ON THE BASIS OF LAND**  
**HOLDING IN PULLAMBADI BLOCK**

S.No.	Types	Numbers	% to total farmers
1.	Total cultivators	11,357	-
2.	Marginal farmers	5,672	49.94
3.	Small farmers	3,218	28.33
4.	Big farmers	1,252	11.02
5.	SC/ST farmers	1,500	13.21
6.	Farmers holding lands less than one acre	330	2.91
7.	Farmers holding lands from 1-2 acres	455	4.00

Source: Dept. of Agriculture, Pullambadi block

#### 2.12 CROPPING PATTERN:

The gross cropped area in the block during 1988-89 was 33,688 hectares, while the net area sown was 22,656 hectares. The percentage of double or multiple cropped area to total area sown is 31. Paddy is the principal crop cultivated followed by cholam, cumbu, coriander, chillies, cotton, sugarcane and ragi.

The double and multi-cropped area formed a larger proportion of gross cropped area in this block. The percentage of area under paddy was higher than the other crops. Since rice is the major food item in Tamil Nadu and because of the availability of irrigational facilities, paddy is grown on a large scale.

The cropping pattern for both irrigated and rainfed lands are given below.



**A. IRRIGATED LANDS:**

1. Paddy	-	Paddy	-	Gingili
2. Paddy	-	Paddy	-	Black gram
3. Paddy	-	Paddy	-	Green gram
4. Paddy	-	Sugarcane		

**B. RAINFED LANDS:**

1. Groundnut	-	Red gram (Inter crop)	-	Pulses (Inter crop)
2. Cholam	-	Red gram (Inter crop)		
3. Coriander	-	Caster	-	Cotton (Inter crop)
4. Chillies				
5. Cotton	-	Coriander (Inter crop)		

**2.13 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS:**

The financial institutions functioning in the block includes 11 primary co-operative banks, 8 branches of nationalised banks and two employees co-operative credit societies which are catering to the credit needs of the block. Credit facilities are made available from the co-operative banks and nationalised banks for agricultural activities.

**2.14 INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES:**

The block is connected by rail on the chord line from Madras to Tiruchirappalli city and mofussil buses and city buses are also operated from and through Pullambadi. 31 villages are supplied with protected water. The entire area of the block is electrified. The Dalmia Ceramic and chemical Limited, Dalmiapuram and Kothari Sugars and chemical Limited, Kattur are the two major private sector industries functioning in this block.

Medical attention is also adequate from primary health centers and private medical institutions. Two veterinary dispensaries and seven intensive Cattle Development programme centres have been established to provide treatment to bovine population.

There are 29 post offices covering 36 villages and two telegraphic offices are functioning in this block. The number of telephones available in this block were 80.

Educational facilities are available upto higher secondary stage in the block. During 1989-90, an agricultural college affiliated to Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore was started in Kumulur village of this block. It is functioning with several research departments in and around 1000 acres of land.

#### **2.15 SPECIAL PROGRAMMES:**

Poverty alleviation programmes of the Government such as Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCA) were implemented in the block. Intensive cattle Development programmes also were implemented in this block during the period of study.

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2. Official records prepared and maintained by Block Development Office, Block Development Office, Pullambadi.
3. Official records prepared and maintained by the Department of Agriculture, Pullambadi.
4. Official records prepared and maintained by the office of the Executive Officer, Pullambadi Panchayat Office, Pullambadi.
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7. Official records, Statistical Office, Department of Statistics, Tiruchirappalli District, Tiruchirappalli.