

# **Research Paper**

# Geography

# The Rural Working Population of Karnataka State – A Geographical Analysis

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STRACT

The total geographical area of Karnataka is 1,91,773 sq.kms., which is 5.83% of the total area of India. The total population of Karnataka during 1991 census, Karnataka state had total population of 4,49,77,201. During 2001 census, Karnataka state had total population of 5,28,50,562.

The total population of Karnataka can be divided into rural and urban to understand the role of population. During 1991 census, the total rural population in Karnataka was 3,10,69,403 (69.07%), while its total population was 4,49,77,201. During 2001 census, the total rural population increased to 3,48,89,033 (66.01%), while its total population was 5,28,50,562. During 1991 period the total rural working population in Karnataka was 1,44,31,584 (40%). This rural working population during 2001 census increased to 1,71,27,803 (50%).

# **KEYWORDS**

Rural, Working Population, Primary, Secondary Workers

#### Introduction

A worker is a person whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by his physical or mental ability. There are contrasting differences in the participation ratio of women, children and old people living in rural areas in comparison to urban areas. The caste and religion are the two major social institutions, which have tangible impact on working force. Age at marriage, income level and employment, size of family, health conditions, skill, experience, aptitude and education are other agents to be associated with the characteristics of the working population.

# Study Area

The total geographical areas of Karnataka is 1,91,773 sq.kms., which shares 5.83% of the total area of India and lies between 11° 35' North Latitudes to 18° 30' North Latitudes and 74° 50' East Longitudes to 78° 35' East Longitudes.

For administrative purpose the state is divided into 30 districts consisting of 176 taluks, 496 towns and 29483 inhabited villages. As per 2011 census the total population is 6.11 crores, which shows 318.60 persons density per sq.kms. (Fig. 1)

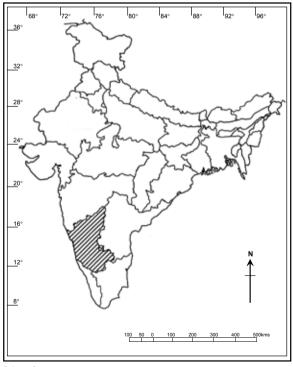
#### **Objectives**

The main objectives of the present study is to make taluka-wise analysis of rural working population of Karnataka state with its classifications such as rural working population.

## Methodology

The present investigation is based on secondary data, data is collected from census of India and Karnataka state at a glance. By using mean and SD method five class interval classifications are done for rural total working population. The correlation method is used.

# LOCATION MAP OF STUDY AREA



(Fig. 1)

# **Taluka-wise Rural Total Working Population**

The working population of any society is related to a number of factors. The basic foundation is laid by nature and the variety of physical resources like good land for agriculture, vast cover of trees, vast coast for fishing and rich geological strata for mining, etc. Commercialization in the use of these primary resources diversified the working structure, while their use at subsistence level keeps the economy orienting to a few activities, such activities are related to the production, consumption and exchange of various commodities.

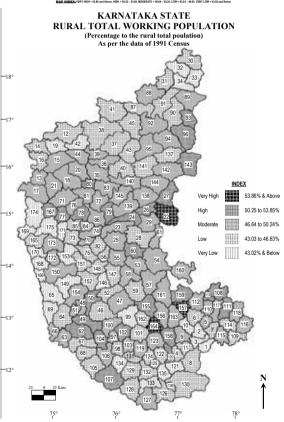
The taluka-wise percentage data of total rural working popu-

lation (percentage to the rural total population) of each taluk of Karnataka state classified into 5 groups through mean and SD method for spatial analysis. During 1991 period the total working population in Karnataka was 1,44,31,584 (40%). This rural working population during 2001 census increased to 1,71,27,803 (49.09%).

#### I. Very High Range of Rural Total Working Population

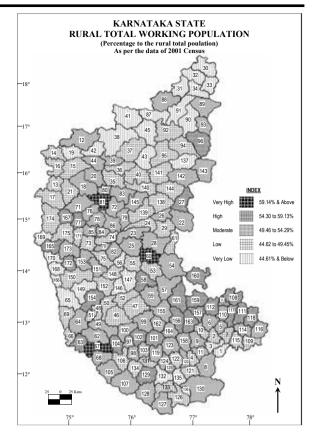
In the very high range of total rural working population in Karnataka, during 1991 period with 53.86% and above, 3 taluks are identified. These 3 taluks are Bellary, Turvikere and Koratageri (Table-1 & Fig. 2). During 2001 census in the very high range of 59.14% and above, 3 taluks are noticed viz. Jagalur, Puttur and Navalgund (Table-2 & Fig. 3)







(Fig. 2)



(Fig. 3)

#### II. High Range of Rural Total Working Population

During 1991 census, in the high range of total rural working population with 50.25% to 53.85% in Karnataka 25 taluks are noticed. These are found in bunch form in north Karnataka and south Karnataka (Table-1 & Fig. 2). During 2001 census in high range category with 54.30% to 59.13%, these 26 taluks are noticed, where the majority of them are locked in south Karnataka, while 6 taluks viz. Yadgir, Siraguppa, Haliyal, Kalaghatagi, Ankola and Siddapur are in north and western Karnataka (Table-2 & Fig. 3).

#### III. Moderate Range of Rural Total Working Population

In the moderate range with 46.64% to 50.24%, these 66 taluks are noticed during 1991 census as rural total working population. These 66 taluks are found all over Karnataka (Table-1 & Fig. 2). During 2001 census, 64 taluks are noticed in the moderate range with 49.46% to 54.29%. The distributional pattern of these 64 taluks is noticed in different parts of Karnataka excluding coastal region (Table-2 & Fig. 3).

# IV. Low Range of Rural Total Working Population

During 1991 census, 55 taluks are noticed in the low range of rural working population with 43.03% to 46.63%. These 55 taluks are found in different clusters all over Karnataka. One big cluster is in the extreme north of Karnataka, second one in central Karnataka and third one down south of Karnataka and fourth one in south-west Karnataka of western ghat (Table-1 & Fig. 2). During 2001 census, 53 taluks are noticed in the low range of 44.62% to 49.45%. These rural working population distributed in 53 taluks are found in north Karnataka, north-west Karnataka, central-west Karnataka, central-east part, south-western part and south-eastern part (Table-2 & Fig. 3).

# V. Very Low Range of Rural Total Working Population

In the very low range of rural working population during 1991 census with 43.02% and below, 26 taluks are noticed. Majority of these taluks are located in the coastal Karnataka and their adjoining western ghats. There are small clusters of ta-

luks in north Karnataka and south Karnataka (Table-1 & Fig. 2). During 2001 census in the very low range of 44.61% and below, 29 taluks are noticed. Majority of these taluks are noticed in northern most part of Karnataka, in addition to coastal region and 3 taluks in central Karnataka and 5 taluks in southern boundaries of Karnataka (Table-2 & Fig. 3).

## **Correlation Analysis**

Correlation analysis of number of rural workers with those of 10 variables: It is observed that there is a positive with very high significant correlation with decadal growth of population (r=0.93), number of rural population (r=0.93), number of rural literates (r=0.84) and number of primary workers (r=0.81). The **positive with high significant** correlation is observed with number of rural cultivators (r=0.71) and number of agricultural labourers (r=0.67). A positive with low significant is noticed with total population (r=0.40), number of secondary workers (r=0.30) and number of tertiary workers (r=0.34). The **positive with very low significant** correlation is observed with number of urban population (r=0.12).

#### Conclusion

The rural area has made agricultural system in Karnataka to remain in the not well developed system. During 2001 census the rural total working population has reached 50% and his also should further improve, so as to provide full employment to the eligible persons in rural areas, for this the only available remedies are training of rural farmers by the agricultural departments of government/ agricultural universities, providing modern seed at a affordable price to the farmers, judicious use of water for irrigation, solving land related litigations without going to the court can be major trust areas apart from solving other issues related to agriculture.

This study reveals that in order to increase work opportunities in moderate to very low working population taluks, the resource development and utilization is urgent need of such

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