



## Spatial Pattern of Rural Main Agricultural Labourers in Karnataka : A Geographical Analysis

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### ABSTRACT

The total rural population in Karnataka during 1991 census was 3,10,69,403 (60.07%), while its 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%). During 1991 census the rural main agricultural labourers was 46,42,907 (35.93%). During 2001 census rural main agricultural labourers decreased to 35,50,288 (26.37%).

### KEYWORDS

Rural, Working Population, Male Working Population, Main Agricultural Labourers, Talukawise

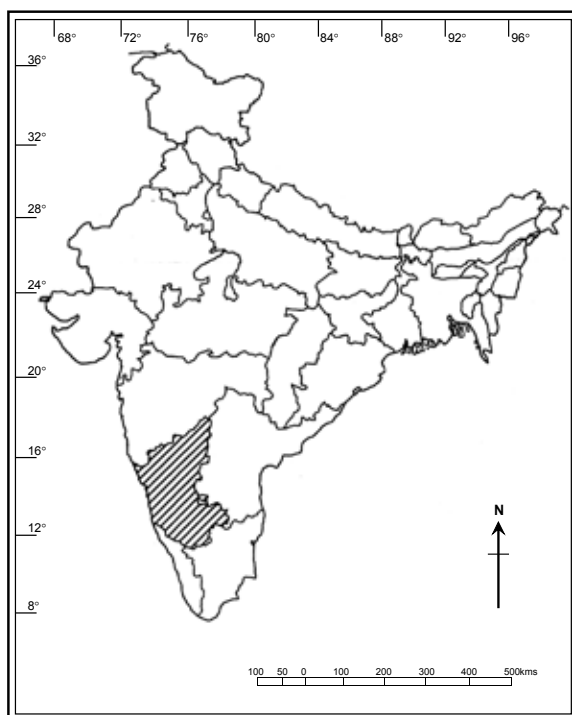
### Introduction

Rural main agricultural labourers were those who had worked for the major part of the year i.e. 183 days or more. A person who works on another person's land for wages in money or kind or share is regarded as an agricultural labourer. She/he has no risk in the cultivation, but merely works on another person's land for wages. An agricultural labourer has no right of lease or contract on land on which she/he works.

### Study Area

Karnataka state is located between 11° 35' North Latitudes to 18° 30' North Latitudes and 74° 50' East Longitudes to 78° 35' East Longitudes. The state is bounded by Maharashtra state and Goa state in the North and North West respectively, by Kerala and Tamil Nadu states in the South and by the state of Andhra Pradesh in the East while Arabian Sea in the West (Fig. 1).

### LOCATION MAP OF STUDY AREA



(Fig. 1)  
Objectives

The present study is to make taluka-wise analysis of rural main agricultural labourers of Karnataka state with its 5 classification such as rural working population.

### Methodology

The present study is based on secondary data, data collected from census of India and Karnataka state at a glance. By using Mean and S.D. Method 5 classifications are done. The correlation method is used.

### TALUKA-WISE RURAL MAIN AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

The rural main agricultural labourers are not the marginal workers, instead they are doing labour works in the agricultural lands of other owners, yet they can work throughout the year, therefore they are identified as (main agricultural labourers) such of the workers during 1991 census were 46,42,907 (35.93%) (Table-1 & Fig. 2). During 2001 period their number decreased to 35,50,288 (26.37%) (Table-2 & Fig. 3).

### I. Very High Range of Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers

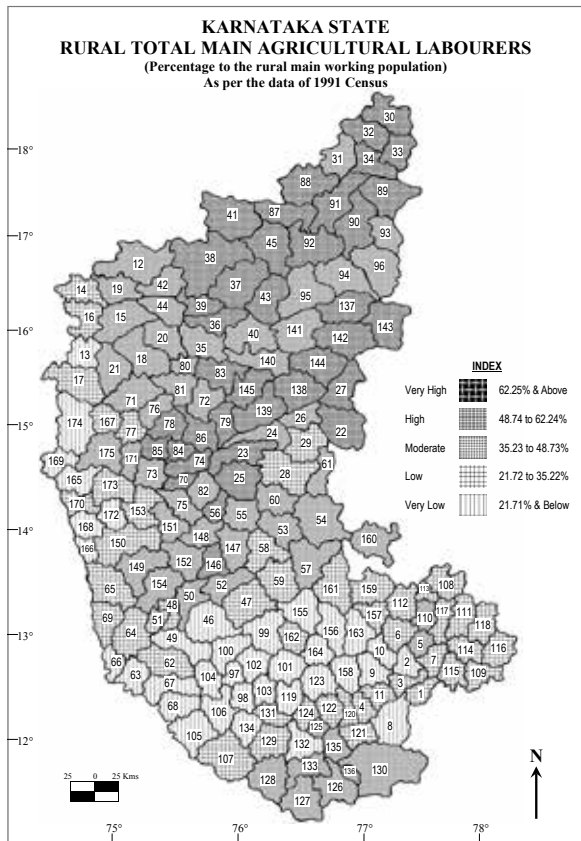
During 1991 period no taluks is identified in the very high range of rural main agricultural labourers, while during 2001 census 2 taluks are identified viz. Siraguppa and Manvi in the range of 50.49% and above.

Table-1 : Karnataka State : Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers (1991)

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5					
1	27	Siraguppa	41845	61.16	36	79	Mundargi	18801	48.81	71	57	Hiriyur	33688	40.86	106	65	Kundapur	32232	29.64	141	134	Piriyapatna	13415	21.36
2	143	Raichur	48695	58.14	37	145	Yalaburga	42878	48.78	72	135	Tirumakudal Narsipur	37209	40.68	107	121	Malavalli	24608	29.58	142	8	Kanakpur	21798	21.04
3	142	Manvi	65302	58.12	38	30	Aurad	41664	48.76	73	80	Nargund	10818	40.12	108	117	Sidlagatta	17966	29.5	143	13	Belgaum	23874	20.96
4	84	Savanur	22554	57.75	39	94	Shapur	43648	48.45	74	154	Tirthahalli	20170	39.95	109	58	Holalkeri	18820	29.38	144	155	Chikkanayakanahalli	14105	20.68
5	87	Afzalpur	35617	57.58	40	26	Hospet	29865	48.44	75	140	Kushtagi	29314	39.79	110	1	Anekal	23054	29.25	145	2	Bangalore North	15631	20.62
6	33	Bidar	46647	57.53	41	73	Hangal	35469	48.07	76	75	Hirekerur	29094	39.72	111	16	Hukkeri	28326	28.79	146	98	Arkalgud	12757	20.29
7	88	Aland	60373	57.22	42	36	Yalandur	13129	47.96	77	151	Shikarpur	23448	39.42	112	120	Maddur	30989	28.44	147	49	Mudgeri	10809	19.77
8	23	Hadagali	33291	56.83	43	32	Ranebenur	38185	47.35	78	133	Nanjangud	42781	38.64	113	159	Madhugiri	27832	28.15	148	99	Arasikere	17249	19.73
9	144	Sindhanur	59338	54.96	44	35	Badami	36813	47.47	79	61	Molkalmur	15793	38.47	114	109	Bangarpet	23642	28.12	149	163	Tumkur	19158	19.62
10	86	Shirahatti	28729	54.87	45	55	Davanageri	45659	46.8	80	12	Athani	48599	37.88	115	161	Sira	25389	28.1	150	104	Sakleshpur	9439	19.31
11	34	Homanabad	43759	54.39	46	44	Mudhol	33836	46.21	81	52	Turvekeri	24999	37.02	116	114	Kolar	22369	27.88	151	172	Siddapur	6947	18.84
12	92	Jevargi	44787	54.07	47	76	Hubli	23304	46.21	82	50	Narasimharajapura	8453	36.84	117	129	Hunasur	20934	27.88	152	156	Hobbi	15852	17.88
13	78	Kundgol	30381	50.42	48	152	Shivmoga	31820	45.99	83	15	Gokak	47871	36.73	118	118	Srinivasapur	16750	26.84	153	168	Gunnavar	7671	18.35
14	37	Basavan Bagevadi	50172	53.11	49	95	Shorapur	49398	45.71	84	53	Chitradurga	34476	36.58	119	150	Sagar	13832	26.57	154	10	Nelamangal	7857	17.88
15	138	Gangavati	59680	52.95	50	126	Channarayana	48161	45.71	85	149	Hosangara	13786	36.53	120	108	Bagepalli	16608	26.44	155	174	Supa	2890	17.77
16	45	Sindagi	54904	52.83	51	72	Gadga	27106	45.5	86	19	Rayabaga	32722	36	121	17	Khanapur	22068	26.35	156	46	Chikmangalor	14145	17.17
17	36	Bagalakot	29475	52.78	52	96	Yadgir	48153	45.46	87	110	Chikballapur	19035	35.99	122	14	Chikkodi	38030	26.23	157	66	Mangalore	17447	16.67
18	74	Haveri	39718	52.59	53	93	Seelam	27003	44.92	88	175	Talapur	7167	35.33	123	107	Virajpet	20203	26.15	158	165	Ankola	4976	16.61
19	146	Bhadravati	38300	52.49	54	24	HazariBomman Halli	27877	44.22	89	125	Sirangapatna	16588	35.92	124	124	Pandavapur	14940	25.63	159	169	Karwar	4161	15.4
20	137	Devadurga	34856	52.47	55	81	Navalgund	23510	44.21	90	5	Devanahalli	17397	35.6	125	111	Chintamani	21871	25.62	160	63	Bantval (DK)	19907	15.37
21	83	Ron	36877	52.4	56	71	Dharwad	34037	44.2	91	128	Hegdeadevanakote	29164	35.55	126	173	Sirsi	11337	25.26	161	97	Alur	4249	14.8
22	91	Gulbarga	46665	52.08	57	148	Honnali	32097	43.85	92	60	Jagalur	19393	35.28	127	167	Haliyal	7657	24.62	162	100	Belur	9141	14.64
23	43	Muddebihal	37726	51.92	58	20	Ramdurg	33625	43.45	93	48	Koppa	11996	35.19	128	47	Kadur	20024	24	163	164	Turuvekeri	9204	14.64
24	139	Koppal	47715	51.72	59	141	Lingsugur	37025	43.41	94	122	Mandyana	38138	34.71	129	62	Beltangadi	23867	23.97	164	166	Bhatkal	4086	14
25	41	Indi	59435	51.65	60	21	Sampgaon	47812	42.57	95	112	Gauribidanur	31053	34.15	130	131	Krishnarajana	17647	23.87	165	9	Magadi	8926	13.71
26	38	Bijapur	58471	51.63	61	18	Parsgad	42837	42.56	96	28	Koudalagi	28861	33.99	131	3	Bangalore South	25046	23.5	166	158	Kurigal	11742	13.49
27	32	Balki	39174	51.19	62	171	Mundagod	13135	42.5	97	77	Kalhatgati	17727	33.57	132	64	Karkal	24514	23.46	167	119	Krishnarajpet	10223	13.39
28	85	Shingon	27810	51.05	63	54	Chalkeri	44341	42.19	98	51	Srineng	3963	32.9	133	59	Hosadurga	15874	23.35	168	67	Puttur	11519	13.36
29	70	Byraddi	20642	51	64	147	Channarayana	39535	42.03	99	153	Sorab	19652	32.85	134	162	Tiptur	14242	23.19	169	101	Channarayapatna	10416	13.98
30	89	Chincholi	41763	50.74	65	127	Gundlupet	32153	41.92	100	28	Sandur	21361	31.89	135	69	Udupi	30898	23.04	170	102	Hassan	11094	12.77
31	22	Bellary	65544	50.24	66	31	Basavakalyan	33889	41.72	101	113	Gudibanda	5574	31	136	170	Kumata	8709	22.81	171	123	Nagamandla	7428	12.14
32	39	Bilagi	26373	49.82	67	40	Hungund	32009	41.42	102	116	Mulbagatna	22502	30.37	137	157	Koratageri	13514	22.65	172	105	Midkeri	4869	11.85
33	90	Chitapur	44657	49.76	68	160	Pavagada	34393	41.37	103	4	Channarayana	21348	30.34	138	11	Ramnagar	14465	22.63	173	103	Hale Narsipur	5780	11.25
34	56	Harihar	30196	49.62	69	130	Kollegal	45850	41.3	104	115	Mairu	19518	30.31	139	6	Dodaballapur	14257	21.74	174	68	Supa	5313	10.79
35	25	Harapanahalli	44312	48.28	70	42	Jamkandi	33529	41.15	105	7	Hoskot	18641	30.13	140	132	Mysore	16992	21.69	175	106	Somavpet	7155	9.68

NOTE: 1 = SL.NO., 2 = TALUKS CODE NO., 3 = NAME OF TALUKS, 4 = RURAL TOTAL MAIN AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, 5 = PERCENTAGE OF RURAL TOTAL MAIN AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS TO RURAL TOTAL MAIN WORKING POPULATION

MAP INDEX: VERY HIGH = 62.25 and Above (00 Taluks), HIGH = 48.74 - 62.24 (38 Taluks), MODERATE = 35.23 - 48.73 (54 Taluks), LOW = 21.71 - 35.22 (47 Taluks), VERY LOW = 21.71 and Below (36 Taluks)



(Fig. 2)

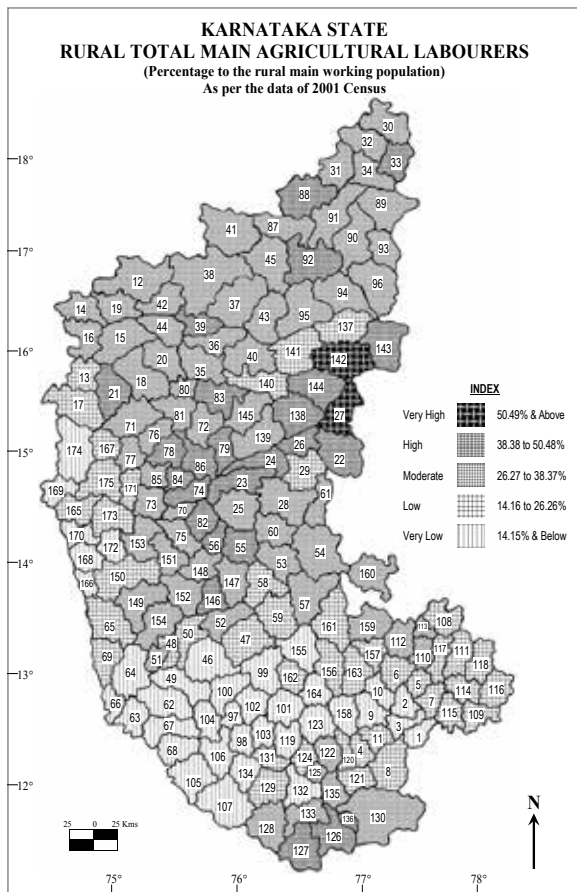
Table-2 : Karnataka State : Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers (2001)

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5					
1	27	Siraguppa	50292	58.7	36	139	Koppal	34903	36.89	71	113	Gudibanda	5615	31.24	106	140	Kushtagi	18101	23.27	141	170	Kurta	4407	12.96
2	142	Manvi	58517	50.96	37	41	Indi	39997	36.67	72	160	Pavagada	27691	31.22	107	4	Channarayana	17816	22.97	142	134	Piriyapatna	10707	12.84
3	26	Hospet	34497	49.53	38	98	Chincholi	27897	36.65	73	12	Athani	51144	31.05	108	108	Bagepalli	15156	22.82	143	99	Arasikere	13347	12.92
4	86	Shirahatti	29231	48.61	39	61	Molakalmuru	15573	36.25	74	30	Aurad	20403	30.71	109	150	Sagar	12742	22.37	144	132	Mysore	11148	12.9
5	23	Hadagali	27962	47.99	40	87	Afzalpur	17797	36.24	75	31	Basavakalyan	23052	30.46	110	118	Srinivasapur	16034	22.18	145	103	Hole Narsipur	6830	12.27
6	84	Savanur	20709	47.44	41	72	Gadga	24420	35.9	76	112	Gauribidanur	33044	30.13	111	58	Holalkere	15852	22.17	146	2	Bangalore North	9873	12.69
7	74	Haveri	37352	46.74	42	75	Hirekerur	26624	35.75	77	53	Chitradurga	28135	29.78	112	29	Sandur	12600	22	147	174	Supa	2041	11.86
8	146	Bhadravati	28887	44.49	43	152	Shimoga	21837	35.73	78	14	Chikodi	53790	29.74	113	111	Chintamani	19449	21.88	148	64	Karkal	9321	11.72
9	78	Kundgol	27576	44.46	44	148	Honnali	28434	35.71	79	15	Gokak	44120	29.4	114	161	Sira	23578	21.4	149	119	Krishnarajpet	10450	11.42
10	22	Bellary	61327	43.81	45	36	Bagalakot	20095	35.65	80	135	Tirumakudal Narsipur	20900	29.39	115	120	Maddur	20876	21.17	150	100	Belur	8263	11.38
11	143	Raichur	35474	43.3	46	145	Yelbarga	30786	35.22	81	151	Shikarpur	18575	29.28	116	59	Hosadurga	16445	20.95	151	1	Anekal	9710	11.32
12	92	Jevargi	31142	42.03	47	35	Badami	23624	35.11	82	149	Hosangara	11239	29.12	117	121	Malavalli	18234	20.78	152	164	Turuvekeri	6810	11.19
13	82	Ranebenur	34516	41.71	48	31	Gulbarga	27581	35.04	83	52	Turvekeri	19584	29.02	118	7	Hosakote	15215	20.73	153	97	Alur	3585	10.53
14	126	Channarayana	37067	41.36	49	95	Sindgi	30916	34.79	84	147	Channarayana	25261	28.88	119	65	Kundapura	23647	20.68	154	9	Magadi	6364	9.99
15	56	Harihar	23985	41.19	50	95	Shorapur	34725	34.79	85	60	Jagalur	18767	28.84	120	141	Lingsugur	14234	20.37	155	3	Bangalore South	11444	9.67

16	45	Sindagi	54904	52.83	51	72	Gadag	27106	45.5	86	19	Rayabag	32272	36	121	17	Khanapur	22069	26.35	156	46	Chikmangalor	14145	17.17
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18	74	Haveri	39718	52.59	53	93	Sedam	27003	44.92	88	175	Yallapur	7167	35.93	123	107	Virajpet	20203	26.15	158	165	Ankola	4876	16.61
19	146	Bhadravati	38300	52.49	54	24	Hagaribomman Halli	26877	44.22	89	125	Srirangapatna	18588	35.92	124	124	Pandavapur	14940	25.63	159	169	Karwar	4161	15.4
20	137	Devadurga	34856	52.48	55	81	Navalgund	23510	44.21	90	5	Devanahalli	17397	35.5	125	111	Chintamani	21871	25.62	160	63	Bantval (DK)	19907	15.37
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23	43	Muddebihal	37726	51.92	58	20	Ramdurg	33625	43.45	93	48	Koppa	11996	35.19	128	47	Kadur	20024	24	163	164	Turuvekeri	9204	14.64
24	139	Koppal	47715	51.72	59	141	Lingsugur	37025	43.41	94	122	Mandya	38138	34.71	129	62	Beltangadi	23867	23.97	160	63	Bhatkal	4086	14
25	41	Indi	59435	51.65	60	21	Sanggaon	47812	42.57	95	112	Gourbidanur	31053	34.15	130	131	Krishnarajana	17647	23.87	165	9	Magadi	8926	13.71
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28	85	Shiggaon	27810	51.05	63	54	Chalkeri	44341	42.19	98	51	Srinigeri	3963	32.9	133	59	Hosadurga	15874	23.35	168	67	Puttur	11519	13.36
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30	89	Chincholi	41753	50.74	65	127	Gundlupet	32153	41.92	100	29	Sandur	21361	31.89	135	69	Udupi	30898	23.04	170	102	Hasan	11094	12.77
31	22	Bellary	65544	50.2	66	31	Basavakalyan	33689	41.72	101	113	Gudibanda	5574	31	136	170	Kumata	8709	22.81	171	123	Nagamandla	7428	12.14
32	39	Bilagi	26373	49.82	67	40	Hungund	32009	41.42	102	116	Mulbagalu	22502	30.37	137	157	Koratagere	13514	22.65	172	105	Midikeri	4869	11.85
33	90	Chitapur	44657	49.76	68	160	Pavagad	34393	41.37	103	4	Channapatna	21348	30.34	138	11	Ramnagar	14465	22.63	173	103	Hole Narsipur	5780	11.25
34	56	Harihara	30196	49.62	69	130	Kollegal	45850	41.3	104	115	Malur	19518	30.31	139	6	Dodaballapur	14257	21.74	174	68	Sulya	5313	10.79
35	25	Harapanahalli	44312	49.28	70	42	Jamakandi	33529	41.15	105	7	Hoskot	18641	30.13	140	132	Mysore	16992	21.69	175	106	Somavpet	7155	9.88

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(Fig. 3)

### II. High Range of Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers

During 1991 census, 38 taluks are noticed in high range with 48.74% to 62.24%. These taluks are distinctly found in 2 belts of clusters in north Karnataka, only in the Malaprabha, Tungbhadra and Krishna river basins. Another belt in north-west Karnataka is spread over in Krishna, Ghataprabha, Bhima, Done and Manjra rivers basin, up to Aurad taluk in the north-east. However, there is one taluk 'Bhadravati' in the central Karnataka in isolation. During 2001 census, 25 taluks are noticed in high range with 38.38% to 50.48%. These 25 taluks are highly concentrated on the left and right banks of central Karnataka, while remaining taluks are isolated which are distributed in north Karnataka, while 3 taluks in one bunch in the southern tip of Karnataka, which include Gundlupet, Chamarnajagar and T.Narsipur.

### III. Moderate Range of Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers

In the moderate range, 54 taluks are found on the map (Fig. 2)

during 1991 census with 35.23% to 48.73%. These 54 taluks are distinctly found in two broad clusters in north Karnataka and central Karnataka, while small bunch in down south Karnataka. However, 3 taluks viz. Devarahalli, Chikkaballapur in south-east and Basavakalyan in the north-east are isolatedly found. During 2001 census, 68 taluks are noticed in moderate range with 26.27% to 38.37%. The distributional pattern is somewhat same as that of 1991 pattern. However, these taluks are very distinctly found in the half part of northern Karnataka.

### IV. Low Range of Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers

During 1991 census, 47 taluks are identified in low range with 21.72% to 35.22%. These 47 taluks are distinctly found in far east of south Karnataka, southern part of Karnataka in Cauvery basin, western parts of western ghats, coastal Karnataka and north-western boundary of Karnataka. During 2001 census the low range with 14.16% to 26.26% is observed in 43 taluks. The distributional pattern of these taluks is almost same as that of 1991 period.

### V. Very Low Range of Rural Total Main Agricultural Labourers

In the very low range of rural main agricultural labourers 36 taluks are noticed during 1991 period with 21.71% and below. These are highly concentrated in the south-central Karnataka, while 7 taluks in a row pattern in the north-west boundary of Karnataka including 2 coastal taluks viz. Honnavar, Bhatkal and one western ghat taluk viz. Siddapur. During 2001 census in the very low range with 14.15% and below, 37 taluks are noticed having rural main agricultural labourers. The distributional pattern of these 37 taluks is almost similar to that of 1991 census.

### Result Analysis

The correlation analysis with those variables shows that there is a **positive with very high significant** correlation only with number of primary workers ( $r=0.86$ ). The **positive with high significant** correlation is noticed with rural workers ( $r=0.71$ ), number of rural male literates ( $r=0.69$ ) and number of rural female workers ( $r=0.67$ ). A **positive with significant** correlation is found with decadal growth of population ( $r=0.67$ ), number of rural population ( $r=0.52$ ), number of literates ( $r=0.51$ ).

### Conclusion

The rural main agricultural labourers are not the marginal workers. Such workers during 1991 census were 46,42,907 (35.93%). During 2001 census their number decreased to 35,50,288 (26.37%). However, the decrease of rural main agricultural labourers can be due to reduction of agricultural works for the entire year or shifting such workers to some other works i.e. other than agricultural works, even by out migration to urban areas and industrial areas. However, even due to discontinuity of south-west monsoon the number of agricultural labourers can also dwindle.

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