

PREFACE

Brought into existence on 15-8-1986, the Bangalore Rural District ranks 16th in area among the districts of Karnataka, only Bidar, Mandya, Kodagu and Bangalore (Urban) districts being smaller in area than it. However, in population it ranks 14th and its proximity to Bangalore City has attracted a considerable number of inhabitants to this district as a kind of floating population, visiting Bangalore daily.

Bangalore Rural district enjoys a captivating landscape because of the unevenness of its topography. A series of hills dot its landscape, most of them in enchanting settings blessed with temples on their tops, which are centres of pilgrimage too. Some of these temples on hilltops are provided with steps, but others are not. Thus a visitor has to trek for considerable distance and height by foot. Tourist potential of this district is immense because of these captivating spots of natural beauty.

Bangalore district is essentially an agricultural district with ample scope for industrialisation, dairy development and sericulture. It is next only to Tumkur in raising ragi and quite progressive in animal husbandry. It ranks second after Dakshina Kannada in poultry farming and is making steady progress in inland fisheries. Proximity to Bangalore City has helped it to take fast strides in horticulture, especially in raising vegetables and flowers.

The breaking up of four old taluks and transfer of one hobli from each of these to the Bangalore (Urban) district on the one hand and both the State and the Central Government departments not providing separate departmental offices with exclusive jurisdiction for the new district in all cases had been a major problem in compiling separate statistical information for this new district. Separate figures on vehicles in the district before 1986 or income to the Government by way of license fees from them or statistics on Income Tax, progress of National Savings Schemes, employment

and registration in employment exchanges, District Income, etc., could not be secured for inclusion in this volume. Still, wherever it was possible, when hobli-wise figures were available as in the case of Census figures, etc., exclusive statistics on the district have been provided by calculating them in this office itself. But, this was not possible in many cases though such cases are not too many.

This district gazetteer is 19th in the series of district volumes being published after independence from the State, and the last volume, on Bangalore (Urban) district, has been sent to the press. With it the new series comes to an end. From the VIII Plan, programme to publish revised editions of district gazetteers will be taken up, and already 12 district gazetteers (out of the 18 published) in the new series have gone out of print. It is proposed to bring out a supplement to the State Gazetteer (published in 1982-83) during 1992, followed by annual supplements in the form of State year-book.

The help rendered by the Deputy Commissioner's Office of the Bangalore Rural District and the heads of various departments at the district level in compiling this volume has been highly valuable. Scholars and knowledgeable persons in the district like Sri. B.T. Mahadev of Dodballapur, Sri. Chand mohan of Hoskote, Sri. P. Nataraja and Sri. D. Ramachandra of Magadi, Sri. 'Rasika Puttige' (P.S. Acharya) of Channapatna, Sri. M.G. Nagaraj and Dr. S.L. Thimmaiah of Ramanagaram, Sri. K.E. Nanjappa, (A.E.O), Sri. K.R. Nagaraja and Sri. Venugopala Soraba of Kanakapura, Sri. M. Sannahuliyappa and Sri. M. Nagaraj of Devanahalli, Sri. Manikchand of Vijayapura and Sri. R. Veeranna of Kuderu have been of immense help to us, especially during our survey work.

Sri. M. Maheshan, Chief Secretary, Zilla Parishad and his subordinates have also rendered us timely help by providing all information necessary. M/s. Parishree Printers have done a nice job in printing the work neatly. Our thanks are due to them all.

Sri. A.B. Datar, former Chief Secretary, as Chairman of the Advisory Committee, and Sri. K.S.N. Murthy (present Chief Secretary) who was taking special interest in our work when he was working as Additional Chief Secretary, have to be specially thanked for their keen interest in our work. The co-operation extended by the erudite members of the Advisory Committee by offering valuable advice at every step by taking our work as love's labour requires special mention. Their list is given separately in the volume. By heartily thanking my colleagues in my office both in the academic and non-academic cadres for their enthusiastic labour, I conclude my few words.

Suryanath U. Kamath
Chief Editor

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