

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

THE area of the old district of Bellary was 5,882 sq. miles (including Sandur State which was merged in it in 1949). After three of its taluks were transferred to the Andhra State, the size of the district was reduced to 3,821 sq. miles at the time of its merger in Mysore State. With this area, it ranks eleventh among the districts of the State, covering about 5.15 per cent of the geographical area of the State (being smaller than all its adjacent districts and bigger than Mandya), but because of its relatively lower density, its place when arranged in the descending order of population size was 13th as in 1961 when it had about 3.9 per cent of the total population of the State. The density of population in the district, which was 240 per square mile in 1961, was well below the State average of 319, but within the district itself five out of the eight taluks had density lower than the district's average. In respect of density, the Bellary taluk held the first place. The total population of the eight taluks was 6,08,123 in 1901. The overall-growth percentage between 1901 and 1961 was one of the lowest among the districts of the State, +50.51, while Raichur, the neighbouring district, registered +50.54. According to the final figures of the 1971 census, the population of the district had increased to 11,22,686 by 1971 which meant 84.58 per cent increase between 1901 and 1971, which was still the lowest of all the districts in the State.

The district is in the rain-shadow area. As such, it has been prone to famine and scarcity conditions. The climate is one of extreme dryness and there is scanty rainfall. The normal rainfall in the district is the lowest (575 mms.) among the districts, except its neighbouring district of Chitradurga. Harapanahalli taluk recorded the highest average rainfall of 965.4 mms. and Mallapuram the lowest of 396.3 mms. for the period from 1956 to 1968. But the district is endowed with the perennial river, the Tungabhadra, which holds out the promise of plenty for some parts of the district.

The rich black cotton soil of the Tungabhadra project region and the sandy and red loamy and black loamy soils of Hospet, Harapanahalli, Hadagalli, Kudligi and Sandur taluks together provide ample scope for increasing agricultural production. The hidden treasure of iron ore and manganese ore is being regularly exploited by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India, National Mineral Development Corporation of India and various private agencies.

In 1961, there were seven towns and 585 inhabited villages in the district. Out of the total population of the district, 77 per cent lived in the rural areas and 23 per cent in the urban areas. By 1971, these rural and urban proportions had risen to 73 and 27 respectively. The number of towns also rose from six in 1961 to eleven in 1971. The district was having eight town-like villages with a population of more than 5,000 as per the 1961 census. Of this, two were in Bellary, two in Siruguppa and one each in Hadagalli, Hospet, Kudligi and Sandur taluks. According to the final figures of 1971, there were 11 towns in the district. The class-wise distribution of those towns according to the final figures of 1971 is indicated below:—

Growing
urbanisation

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Class</i>
1.	Bellary	12,183	I (100,000 & above) ..
2.	Hospet	65,196	II (50,000 to 99,999)
3.	Kampli	19,917	} IV (10,000 to 19,999)
4.	Harapanahalli	19,694	
5.	Siruguppa	14,897	
6.	Kamalapur	13,879	
7.	Kottur	12,873	
8.	Amaravathi	10,972	
9.	Tekkalakota	10,929	
10.	Hadagalli	10,455	} VI (Below 5,000)
11.	Hampi (Notified area)	777	

Bellary is among the eleven I class cities of the State and Hospet is one of the ten II class towns in the State. The proportion of population in the city of Bellary to the total urban population of the State as in 1971 was 1.76 per cent, while it was 1.63 per cent in 1961 and the city ranked seventh among the eleven cities of the State. In 1961, it was a class II town, but in 1971 census it came under class I as its population exceeded 1,00,000. The proportion of population of Hospet to the total urban population of the State was 0.92 per cent and the town ranked sixth among the ten class II towns of the State. It is stated that industrial and

agricultural development has resulted in a fairly high growth rate in respect of Kampli and Siruguppa. The Bellary city's growth rate of 46.05 per cent in the decade 1961-71, as against 21.83 in 1951-61, was due to the growing importance of the place as an industrial, commercial, educational, and administrative centre.

**Rural
composition**

The villages in the district are far apart; the number of villages for every 100 sq. mile area in Bellary district was 16 (1961 census), the lowest in the whole State of Mysore. After Coorg, the district had the lowest number of villages in the State. Of the total number of 628 villages in 1961, Bellary taluk had 104 villages, the largest number in the district, followed by Kudligi (98) and Siruguppa (86) taluks. The number of persons per sq. mile in rural area was 188 and the average population per inhabited village was 1,211 as against the State average of 695.

**Livelihood
pattern**

The Bellary district is not dissimilar to other contiguous districts in the main occupational pattern which is, of course, agriculture. From the perusal of the different census reports, it appears that the livelihood pattern of the district has not greatly changed over the decades. It was estimated that in 1901, about 80 per cent of the population was found to be engaged in agriculture and pastoral occupations as against 71 per cent in 1951.

According to the 1951 census, out of the total population of 7,73,712, 71 per cent or 5,49,331 souls were found to be dependant on agriculture. The district being predominantly agricultural, the pressure on the soil has been great. Out of the 71 per cent of the total population engaged in 1951 in agriculture, 50 per cent were owner-cultivators, 5.8 per cent tenant-cultivators, 12.2 per cent cultivating labourers and 3.1 per cent non-cultivating owners. So far as industries were concerned, persons engaged in them were only a small percentage to the total population of the district, *viz.*, 5.9 per cent. In 1951, persons engaged in commerce and transport constituted 5.0 per cent and 1.2 per cent respectively.

Even in recent years, there has not been much change in the livelihood pattern. The 1961 census divided the entire population into workers and non-workers. The size of the working force (meaning 'economically active population') in a district shows in a way the capacity of the district in providing economic goods and services. In 1961, the workers constituted 46.1 per cent of the total population of the district and 3.9 per cent of the total workers in the State. About 65 per cent of the workers in the district were males. About 82 per cent of the total workers lived in the rural parts, their main occupation being agriculture. Of the total workers, 49.63 per cent were cultivators, 22.43 per cent agricultural labourers and only 27.94 per cent were pursuing other avocations. Classifying them according to the three main sectors of economy, 73 per cent were engaged in primary sector, 10.4 per cent in

secondary sector and 16.6 per cent in tertiary sector. The distribution of these workers among the nine broad livelihood classes throws further light. The following table gives the distribution of workers under each category for every 1,000 persons:—

Sl. No.	Livelihood Classification		
	Urban	Rural	Total
1.	107	557	455
2.	69	240	207
3.	10	9	8
4.	33	56	50
5.	93	1	23
6.	42	15	22
7.	82	19	34
8.	32	4	10
9.	214	77	109
	638	510	539
	Total		

The economic activity of workers other than agricultural labourers in the district is indicated in the following table, according to the standard industrial classification issued by the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment:—

Industrial classification of persons at work in household industries.

Sl. No.	Category	Number of		
		employees	Others	
		Total		
1.	(a) Field produce and plantation crops	20	179	199
	(b) Forestry and logging	1	20	21
	(c) Fishing	2	31	33
	(d) Livestock and hunting	883	4,142	5,025
	Total			906
2.	Mining and Quarrying	..	2	2
3.	Manufacturing—			
	(a) Foodstuffs	295	786	1,081
	(b) Beverages	2	58	60
	(c) Tobacco products	54	134	188
	(d) Textile—Cotton	420	1,688	2,108
	(e) Textile—Jute	8	179	187
	(f) Textile—Wool	15	828	843
	(g) Textile—Silk	10	13	23
	(h) Textile—Miscellaneous	185	2,054	2,239
	(i) Manufacture of wood and wooden products	544	5,368	5,912
	(j) Paper and paper products	..	15	15

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Number of Employees</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total</i>
(k)	Printing and publishing	3	12	15
(l)	Leather and leather products ..	48	791	839
(m)	Rubber, petroleum and coal products ..	..	2	2
(n)	Chemicals and chemical products ..	15	68	83
(o)	Non-metallic mineral products, other than petroleum and coal.	160	1,572	1,832
(p)	Basic metals and their products, except machinery and transport equipment.	126	1,177	1,303
(q)	Machinery (all kinds other than transport) and electrical equipment.	12	4	16
(r)	Transport equipment	32	30	62
(s)	Miscellaneous manufacturing industries..	116	1,043	1,159
	Total	2,045	15,822	17,867
	Employees ..	2,951		
	Others ..	20,196		
	Total ..	23,147		

**Industrial classification of persons at work in non-household industry,
trade, business, profession or service.**

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Divisions</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Employee</i>	<i>Single worker</i>	<i>Family worker</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Field produce and plantations.	72	..	13	52	7
	Plantation crops ..	1	..	..	1	..
	Forestry and logging ..	76	..	3	50	23
	Fishing ..	50	10	6	29	5
	Livestock and hunting	254	5	40	172	37
	Total ..	453	15	62	304	72
2	Mining and quarrying	3,565	62	3,055	422	26
3	Manufacturing :					
	Foodstuffs	2,654	85	2,239	252	78
	Beverages ..	80	10	32	33	5
	Tobacco products ..	1,277	15	1,004	236	22
	Textile—Cotton ..	358	9	160	177	12
	Textile—Jute ..	3	..	3	..	..
	Textile—Wool ..	1	..	..	1	..
	Textile—Silk ..	3	..	1	2	..
	Textile—Misc. ..	1,445	43	311	996	95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Manufacture of wood and wooden products.	835	17	237	549	32	
Paper and paper products	4	..	1	3	..	
Printing and publishing	193	13	130	46	4	
Leather and leather products.	132	2	31	91	8	
Rubber, petroleum and coal products.	54	10	34	10	..	
Chemicals and chemical products.	82	4	53	22	3	
Non-metallic products other than petroleum and coal.	737	26	373	308	30	
Basic metals and their products except machinery and transport equipment.	1,266	12	845	371	38	
Machinery (all kinds other than transport) and electrical equipment.	92	3	63	22	4	
Transport equipment ..	734	43	462	217	12	
Miscellaneous manufacturing industry.	647	31	242	336	38	
Total ..	10,597	323	6,221	3,672	381	
4. Construction ..	9,933	203	6,423	3,307	..	
5. Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services:						
(a) Electricity and gas	1,009	..	1,009	..	..
(b) Water-supply and sanitary services.	68	..	68	..	..
Total ..	1,077	..	1,077	..	..
6. Trade and Commerce :						
Wholesale Trade ..	596	129	302	122	43	
Retail Trade ..	14,201	1,253	2,181	9,117	1,650	
Miscellaneous ..	751	68	516	145	22	
Total ..	15,548	1,450	2,999	9,384	1,715	
7. Transport, Storage and Communication:						
(a) Transport ..	4,180	117	3,052	963	48	
(b) Storage and warehousing.	1	..	..	1	..	
(c) Communication ..	631	..	631	..	..
Total ..	4,812	117	3,683	964	48	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8. Services :						
Public services ..	6,956	..	6,956	..	..	..
Educational and social services.	3,254	10	3,244	..	..	..
Medical and health services.	1,216	47	870	299	..	..
Religious and welfare services.	675	11	340	313	11	..
Legal services ..	223	13	67	143	..	..
Business services ..	268	12	220	36	..	..
Community services and Trade and Labour Association.	202	..	202	..	..	..
Recreation services ..	816	20	373	404	19	..
Personal services ..	9,190	399	3,783	4,588	520	..
Services (National Cadet Corps).	25,496	22	9,599	15,577	298	..
Total ..	48,286	531	25,544	21,360	848	..

Employers ..	..	2,715
Employees ..	..	49,486
Single-workers ..	..	39,545
Family workers ..	..	3,113
Total ..	..	94,859
Household industry ..	..	23,147
Non-household industry ..	..	94,859
Total ..	..	1,18,006
Workers in agriculture ..	..	3,04,344
Total workers ..	..	4,22,350
Workers ..	..	4,22,350
Non-workers ..	..	4,92,911
Total population (as in 1961) ..	..	9,15,261

In point of number of persons per 1,000 population in household industry and manufacturing other than household industry, the district occupied the 11th place among the districts of the State, while the rank according to the number of establishments for 1,000 census houses was 14. The rank of the district in respect of the number of commercial establishments

(shop-cum-dwellings, business houses and offices) per 1,000 census houses was 14th for the district, 11th for Raichur and 10th for Mandya. Generally, the people who are above the age of 60 may be too aged to work and those below 15 obviously incapable of supporting themselves. The total population within the age-groups from 15 to 60 was 4,88,350, while those below 15 and above 60 years of age were 4,26,911 in 1961. The dependants were almost half of the total population of 9,15,261 while not all those who came under the working age-groups were engaged in economic production. The number and percentages of the nine categories of workers are given below :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Livelihood Classification</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Cultivators	1,40,782 (51.3)	68,835 (46.5)	2,09,617 (49.6)
2.	Agricultural Labourers	45,446 (16.5)	49,281 (33.3)	94,727 (22.4)
3.	Mining, Quarrying, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and allied activities.	2,901 (1.0)	1,117 (0.7)	4,018 (0.9)
4.	Household Industry	16,076 (5.8)	7,071 (4.8)	23,147 (5.5)
5.	Manufacturing Industry	9,781 (3.6)	816 (0.5)	10,597 (2.5)
6.	Construction	7,319 (2.7)	2,614 (1.8)	9,933 (2.3)
7.	Trade and Commerce	12,566 (4.6)	2,982 (2.0)	15,548 (3.7)
8.	Transport	4,731 (1.7)	81 (0.05)	4,812 (1.1)
9.	Other services	34,896 (12.7)	15,955 (10.2)	49,951 (11.8)
	Total workers	2,74,498	1,47,852	4,22,350
	Non-workers	1,92,425	3,00,486	4,92,911
	Total population	4,66,923	4,48,338	9,15,261

N.B.—Figures in brackets indicate percentages to the total workers.

The cultivated holdings may be taken as the size of the farm business and as such they broadly indicate the economic position of the cultivators. The number of holdings of the **Size of cultivated holdings**

different categories in the district as per the Agricultural Land Laws Committee Report (1958) were as follows :—

<i>Group</i>	<i>No. of holders</i>	<i>Percent- age to total</i>	<i>Total area of holdings</i>	<i>Percent- age to total</i>	<i>Average area per holder</i>
I Group—upto 10 acres ..	58,496	58.38	2,55,738	22.09	4.38
II Group—10 to 45 acres ..	38,081	38.02	5,97,095	51.56	10.20
III Group—45 to 100 acres ..	2,898	2.90	1,77,651	15.34	61.32
IV Group—100 to 1000 acres and above. ..	705	0.70	1,27,539	11.01	180.9
Total ..	1,00,180		11,58,023		11.5

The size of holdings in the district is fairly large. Comparatively, nearly 11 per cent of the cultivated area accounts for holdings of over 100 acres each and about 40 per cent is covered by holdings of over 30 acres each. Holdings of over 15 acres each comprise nearly 65 per cent of the total cultivated area. The main problem of the large holdings is finance, though in some parts, water has been made available under the Tungabhadra Project. Another feature of the size of land-holdings is that a total of 34,604 holders possess an area of 87,616 acres only. Any unit of land-holding, which is less than four acres, is regarded as un-economic. In order to prevent further sub-division and fragmentation of the existing lands, which would result in increasing the number of un-economic holdings, a separate legislation has been passed. Under this, not only further fragmentations and sub-divisions are prevented, but also consolidation of the existing fragments has been made possible.

Agriculture

The agricultural sector continues to play a crucial role in the development of the economy of the district. Nearly 73 per cent of the working population depend on this basic industry for their living. Thus the superstructure of the economy for the most part is based on agriculture. If an overall growth rate in the total income of the district is to be achieved, a high growth rate in agricultural production is necessary and the latter can give an impetus to industrial production also by improved supply of raw materials. More than 61 per cent of the geographical area is under cultivation in the district. Of this, about 10 per cent is irrigated. The district is at present self-sufficient in foodgrains. Special emphasis has been laid on the commercial crops like cotton and groundnut, the percentage share of each of these crops among the principal crops of the district being 19.9 and 14.7 respectively (1968-69). Jowar is the staple foodgrain of the district and its share is 28.7 per cent. It is expected that the new 'Hampi' strain of cotton will increase agricultural output.

As in 1969-70, about 62.77 per cent of the cropped area was under food crops and 37.23 per cent under non-food crops ; thanks

to the Tungabhadra Project, irrigation facilities have immensely increased. According to one estimation, only 61 per cent of the area commanded by the Tungabhadra Project was irrigated by the main canals in ten years since 1958; it irrigated nearly 50 per cent of the cultivated area. Well irrigation is resorted to in other areas. The advent of cheap power has led to wider use of pumpsets, since 377 villages have been electrified. There is a shift from dry to wet cropping in certain areas and there is also multiple cropping. As much as 10.2 per cent of the sown area is now irrigated and this makes a difference. In 1971, there were 156 tractors in the district and more land was being brought under the plough. An Intensive Agricultural District Programme is being implemented in two taluks of the district. This is a specific and selective approach to farm production. Under the programme, rural credit allotment was also stepped up. The advent of high-yielding varieties of rice, jowar, wheat, bajra and maize, in 1965, in the district, has proved to be of considerable assistance and this programme has been an important factor in the direction of transforming the subsistence-oriented agricultural economy into a commercial economy. A new class of enterprising farmers with more capital and enterprise is emerging. In order to help those areas which are not benefited by the Tungabhadra Project, a new Dry Farming Programme has been taken up in the Hadagalli taluk. After some time, its results would be known.

It can be said that, on the whole, now there is a breakthrough in agricultural production. Over a period of 13 years (1953-68), the yield rate of rice and jowar increased by about three times and of bajra and cotton by about four times. The table given below shows the trend in the production of principal crops between 1955-56 and 1966-67 :

(Figures in metric tonnes)

Sl. No.	Crop	1955-56	1966-67	Increase/ decrease
1.	Rice	16,680	69,130	52,450
2.	Ragi	6,825	10,986	4,161
3.	Jowar	1,11,965	1,58,080	46,115
4.	Bajra	16,231	51,070	34,839
5.	Wheat	656	623	-53
6.	Small millets	43,885	20,490	-23,395
7.	Gram	745	3,803	3,058
8.	Tur	5,248	6,377	1,129
9.	Sesamum	1,003	734	-269
10.	Groundnut	92,980	28,553	-64,427
11.	Cotton	56,719	39,885	16,834
12.	Tobacco	834	350	-484
13.	Chillies	1,851	714	-1,137
14.	Sugarcane	3,85,525	6,79,853	2,94,328
15.	Rabi Jowar	9,392	49,591	40,199
	Total	7,50,539	11,20,219	3,69,648

**Development of
ayacut areas**

Although substantial progress has been made in the provision of irrigational facilities under the Tungabhadra Project, it has been observed that there is a considerable time-lag between the creation of irrigational facilities and their utilisation. Because of the difficulties experienced in the development of the command areas of the irrigation project, a comprehensive programme for the purpose was prepared. The programme is supported by financial institutions like the commercial banks, the land development banks and the Agricultural Refinance Corporation. The World Food Programme has also given assistance. A project report for the development of such areas has been prepared and submitted to the Government of India for *inter alia* securing assistance from the World Bank. The following statement indicates the requirement of finance for the development of the ayacut areas coming under the Right Bank Canal of the Tungabhadra Project :

Reclamation of land	..	Rs. 1.95 crores
Re-building soil fertility	..	Rs. 0.04 crores.
Redemption of debts	..	Rs. 0.72 crores.
		Rs. 2.71 crores.

There is a centrally sponsored scheme for the development of infra-structural facilities of the Tungabhadra Project areas for the purpose of organising a market complex and construction of roads. An outlay of Rs. 20 lakhs has been made in the Fourth Five Year Plan for this purpose. The many-sided approach to this problem, which has been evolved as a result of past experience, and the steps taken by the Government to prepare the ground for full utilisation of irrigation facilities will help the development of the area at a faster pace.

**Economic
minerals**

Bellary district is rich in mineral deposits. The entire Sandur range of hills running from north-west to south-east have abundant mineral wealth like iron, manganese and red-oxide. Within the confines of the two narrow belts, in this region, running in several parallel and disconnected bands for a length of about 30 miles, one of the richest concentration of iron ore in the country is found. These minerals are being exploited by the sustained efforts of both the Government-sponsored bodies and the private mine-owning companies and individuals. The ores are exported through the ports of the western and eastern coasts. Though there are 200 mining leases in the area, generally easily workable ores lying in the slopes of the hill ranges have been so far exploited while the main iron ore reefs on the high ranges have remained almost untouched. There are 22 principal mines located in the taluks of Bellary, Hospet and Sandur. The State Department of Mines and Geology has assumed that the ore deposits extend upto

a depth of 200 feet and estimated the reserves of deposits as follows :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of range</i>	<i>Reserve in millions of tonnes</i>	
1.	N.E.B. Range .. ..	..	377
2.	Ettinahatti .. ..	..	53
3.	Donimalai .. ..	..	267
4.	Devadarigudda .. ..	..	78
5.	Ramandurg .. ..	..	258
6.	Kumaraswamy .. ..	..	220
Total .. ..		..	1,253

The quantity of ores exploited has been on the increase as could be seen from the following statement.—

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Iron ore</i>		<i>Manganese</i>
1959 :			
Production in tonnes	7,76,060	71,729
Value in Rs. '000	31,63	22,67
1969 :			
Production in tonnes	26,82,630	2,24,529
Value in Rs. '000	1,39,32	2,250

It was estimated that the production of iron ore had gone up to 9.90 million tonnes by the end of 1970-71. The Vijayanagara Steel Plant, which will come up at Toranagal, will further accelerate the progress of exploitation of iron ores. More than 84 per cent of the total iron ore exploited in the State was from the Bellary district alone (1969), while about 71.2 per cent of the manganese ore exploited in the State was from this district. The average number of workers employed in the mines in the district was 11,391 in 1968. The railway stations, where the ores are being un-loaded from the lorries and loaded on into railway wagons, attract a large number of workers both from within the district and from outside the district and they work on piece-rate basis. The Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and the National Mineral Development Corporation are also in the field of exploitation of the ores and transporting them. It is stated that the National Mineral Development Corporation of India is currently exporting ores worth over Rs. 5 crores from Bellary.

There is also a big company in the district named the Sandur Manganese and Iron Ores, Ltd., which has been mining and exporting manganese ore and it has recently set up also a pig iron plant. It is stated that the sale proceeds of manganese ore exported by this Company amounted to Rs. 88.21 lakhs in 1969.

Industrial development

The various industries functioning in the district have been already dealt with in Chapter V. When the districts of the State were ranked in respect of the number of large factories each district possessed as in the year 1962, this district got the eighth place and in so far as all factories put together were concerned, it had the seventh place. Due to inadequate data and in several cases deficiencies in the available data, it may not be possible to present an exact analysis of the pattern of industrial structure. About 13 large factories covered by the annual survey of industries conducted by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics provided employment to about 4,640 persons in 1966, while the number employed in 1962 was 3,114. These factories employed productive capital of Rs. 8,78,80,000. The gross output from these factories accounted for Rs. 9,83,77,000 in 1966. After deducting the cost for various inputs used in the processes of production, the value added or generated in the course of manufacturing processes was Rs. 2,02,50,000 in 1966, while the net value so added in 1962 was only Rs. 65,70,000. In 1968-69, according to the Lead Bank Survey Report, the gross output of 567 small-scale industrial units came to about Rs. 109.85 lakhs. The figures contained in the following statement relating to the survey of industries in the district from 1962 to 1966 are interesting:—

Sl. No.	Particulars	Unit	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	(a) No. of factories registered.	Nos.	13	12	23	25	13
	(b) No. of returns analysed.	„	12	12	23	25	13
	(c) Coverage..	%	92	100	100	100	100
2.	Average No. of days worked.	No.	214	223	198	233	25
3.	Productive capital.	Rs. in '000	32,739	48,376	51,246	50,889	87,880
	(a) Fixed Capital	„	17,148	41,301	43,436	43,634	60,515
	(b) Working capital.	„	15,591	7,075	7,810	7,255	27,365
4.	Total man-hours worked.	No.	48,42,556	52,01,646	63,60,563	63,97,626	78,04,370

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Employment	Nos.	3,114	2,809	3,470	3,430	4,640
6.	Emoluments	Rs. in '000	3,774	5,003	5,696	5,980	8,446
7.	Total input	Rs. in '000	25,459	25,859	35,796	48,229	78,125
	(a) Fuel, Lubri-	„	533	606	768	943	1,337
	cant, Electricity,						
	etc.						
	(b) Raw materi-	„	21,047	20,932	28,822	41,103	64,717
	als and packing						
	materials.						
	(c) Depreciation	„	2,270	2,358	1,930	2,348	3,686
	(d) Others ..	„	1,609	1,963	4,276	3,835	8,385
8.	Gross output	„	32,029	36,431	44,390	59,981	98,377
	(a) Products and	„	31,499	32,612	41,384	56,155	92,722
	by-products.						
	(b) Others ..	„	530	3,819	3,006	3,826	5,655
9.	Value added by						
	manufacture	„	6,570	10,572	8,594	11,752	20,252

(Source :—Bureau of Economics and Statistics).

Among the agro-based industries, cotton-ginning and oil mills form the largest group among small-scale units, with 371 units with an investment of Rs. 27.28 lakhs as in 1968-69. These units produced goods worth about Rs. 22 lakhs in 1968-69. Next comes the group of units preparing ready-made garments. In 1968-69, there were 80 units manufacturing ready-made garments and they together produced goods worth of Rs. 30 lakhs. The statement given below shows the daily average number of workers employed in the factories in the district as in 1962 and 1968 :—

Sl. No.	Type of Industry	1962		1968	
		No. of Factories	No. of workers	No. of Factories	No. of workers
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Automobile	7	81	26	1,464
2.	Foundry works	2	28	4	61
3.	Agricultural implements and consumer goods.	57	277	65	268
4.	Metal products	3	31	4	12
5.	Cotton textiles	1	16	1	185
6.	Tailoring, hosiery and ready-made garments.	2	36	26	422

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Ginning and pressing ..	8	201	39	282
8.	Vegetable oils, oil mills, etc. ..	11	213	15	155
9.	Tobacco products	3	601	4	615
10.	Confectionaries .. ..	..	..	4	63
11.	Coffee works	3	12	6	16
12.	Soaps	1	10	6	44
13.	Perfumes and allied products ..	12	78	..	..
14.	Camphor products	7	37	..	..
15.	Match works	1	25	1	8
16.	Sawing and wood works	1	10	24	126
17.	Glass and glassware	3	16	4	12
18.	Non-metallic products	1	39	..	..
19.	Paper, printing and binding works and paper bag-making	6	69	26	124
20.	Electrical appliances	1	7	..	..
21.	Plastic goods	24	124	62	248
22.	Betelnut powder manufacturing industries.	2	100	4	123
23.	Cement, tiles	1	6	3	59
24.	Miscellaneous	2	7	191	386
Total ..		159	2,024	515	4,673

(Source :—Bellary Intensive Educational District Development Project Report).

There are many incentives offered by the State Government for industrial advancement of the area. The State Government have selected Bellary-Hospet area as one of the eleven "growth areas" for development of industries in the State. In such areas, good transport and communication systems, drainage, power and water facilities will be provided as a prerequisite for starting of new industries. Finance is also made available by the Government under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1959, by the Mysore State Financial Corporation, District Industrial Co-operative Bank, Commercial Banks, the National Small Industries Corporation, New Delhi, and the Mysore State Industrial Investment and Development Corporation, while the last one offers to prepare also project reports and marketing data and helps in supply of scarce raw materials.

Vijayanagara Steel Plant

The Vijayanagara Steel Plant, one among the three steel plants to be erected by the Government of India, is to come up at Toranagal and it is expected that the plant will go into production well before the close of the present decade and it will provide a big leap forward in the industrial development of the

district. Because of the steel plant, there will be also scope for setting up a number of ancillary industries.

Development of infra-structure is very essential for economic development. In the modern period, it was only in the middle of the last century that some very important roads were laid between Bellary and the old Mysore State. The Bellary-Bangalore road and the Madras-Bombay road facilitated the flow of trade between old Mysore and the Madras Presidency. The Madras Railway Company gave the district an important rail road and this offered good scope for increase of trade. The metre-gauge line from Hubli to Guntakal passing through Hospet is an important line. The orderly progress in the development of road communications has linked every taluk headquarters. Now, there is a better network of roads in the district. Arterial roads from big cities like Madras and Bangalore pass through the district and the district is also connected to places like Marmagaoa, Bombay and Hyderabad. In the sphere of inter-village communications also, much work has been done and there is more to be done and there is an ambitious scheme.

Transport and
communications

In 1953, when the district was merged with the old Mysore State, the district had a road-length of 1,218.27 kms. By 1970, this had increased to 1,639.00 kms. (in charge of P.W.D.). The district possesses 6.7 per cent of the National Highways, 4.1 per cent of State Highways and 4.6 per cent of the Major District Roads in the State. The following statement shows the trend in road development per sq. km. from 1956 to 1970* :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Length per sq. km.</i>
1956	0.13
1962	0.14
1965	0.15
1968	0.18
1970	0.22

(*Source :—Road Statistics in Mysore State—Part I, Bangalore, 1970)

In respect of accessibility, 390 villages out of 628 were at a distance of five kms. from the metalled roads. There were about 18 major bridges in 1956 and the number had increased to 26 by March 1970. The number of routes operated by the Mysore State Road Transport Corporation was 98 in 1965 while it was 194 in 1970. The total number of vehicles plying on the roads had also gone up from 1,715 in 1964 to about 3,588 in 1970, registering

an increase of more than 100 per cent. The total number of motor vehicles in 1970-71 was 4,097 and the number per lakh of population was 366.

After the first railway line was laid in 1869, it took quite a long time, over 36 years, to develop some branch lines in the district. As at present, the district has 91 kms. length of broad-gauge and 215 kms. of metre-gauge railway line. There has been a persistent demand now to connect the metre-gauge Hospet-Kottur line to the Harihar station which is on the Bangalore-Poona section. The Railway Board has completed a survey of this track. A new broad-gauge line is now being laid from Toranagal station to Mudukulpenta which is in the sphere of operation of the National Mineral Development Corporation working at Donimalai. This new link will cover a distance of 23.5 kms. The survey work for another broad-gauge line, parallel to the Donimalai line, is in progress. Leaving Bangalore, Kolar and Dharwar, Bellary was having the longest route mileage of 21.1 kms. for every 1,000 sq. kms. in 1968-69. The following statement shows the number of railway wagons loaded in 1969-70 :—

<i>Railway Stations*</i>	<i>Number of wagons loaded</i>
Bellary	9,125
Toranagal	28,800
Yeshwantnagar	4,842
Samehalli	8,546
Ramgadh	1,172
Total	52,485

There is a post office within two miles from every inhabited village in the district. At present (1971), there are two head post offices, one each at Bellary and Hospet, 63 sub-post offices and 357 branch offices spread all over the district. The telegraph service was first started in Bellary as early as 1901. As at present (1971), there are 44 combined post and telegraph offices. The telephone exchange in Bellary city was first commissioned in 1940 with barely 50 lines and by June 1971, the number of telephone connections had gone up to 1,393. There were 24,760 radio sets of all kinds in 1970, as against 15,529 in 1967.

*For Hospet and Kottur stations, the number of wagons loaded is not available. The quantity of iron ore loaded from Hospet station during 1969-70, however, was 369,881 tonnes.

The taluks of Harapanahalli, Hadagalli, Kudligi, Mallapuram and Siruguppa are fed by the power generated at the Munirabad generating station, which has an installed capacity of 27,000 k.w. and Bellary, Sandur and Hospet taluks are fed by the Tungabhadra Dam site and Hampi generating stations, which have an installed capacity of 36,000 k.w. each. There are also six master-unit sub-stations at Bellary, Siruguppa, Toranagal, Kudligi, Harapanahalli and Hagaribommanahalli and the installed capacity of each of these units ranges from 1 MVA. 66/11 K.V. to 2 of 8 MVA 66/11 K.V. The total power consumption under all sectors was estimated to be 28,33,682 units per month in 1969-70. In that year, the total amount of electricity consumed was as follows :

Irrigation	..	59,67,658 K.W. hours
Industrial (low, medium and high)	..	8,83,49,195 K.W. hours
Domestic, commercial (heat, light and fans).		91,70,142 K.W. hours
Public lighting	..	19,56,374 K.W. hours

The total amount of energy sold to ultimate consumers in 1955 was of the order of 4,325 thousand k.w. hours, while in 1968 it went up to 49,600 thousand k.w. hours. The supply of power (high voltage) was 22.2 per cent of the total consumption in 1955, while it rose to 50.2 per cent in 1968. The number of irrigation pumpsets energised in 1965-66 was 1,763 and the number went up to 5,244 in 1970-71. Among the taluks of the district, Kudligi taluk had the largest number of irrigation pumpsets, followed by Hospet and Hadagalli. There has been a spectacular improvement in rural electrification also. The number of villages electrified in 1955 was only 14, whereas the number electrified by 1969 was 256, the percentage of villages electrified to the total inhabited villages in the district by the end of March 1969 being 43.8. About 59.8 per cent of the inhabited villages in Bellary taluk, the largest percentage in the district, 59.6 per cent in Kudligi, the next largest percentage, and 58.8 per cent in Hadagalli taluk had been electrified by the end of March 1969. The only taluk where the percentage was very low was Siruguppa, it being 17.1. By March 1970, the number of electrified villages had gone up to 377.

The trade pattern of the district has a traditional base. Bellary, Hospet and Kottur are the most important centres of trade. Wholesale business is carried on in *mandies* in the towns and this is canalised into different areas through traditional means, *viz.*, from wholesalers to retailers and from retailers to consumers. Changes have occurred in the pattern of trade due to the effect of railway communications, road development, transport vehicles and the consequent accessibility of remote areas to trade centres. Besides the many old and new shandy *maidans*, there are also regulated markets now and these have had a necessary healthy impact. There is a regulated market at

Bellary with sub-markets situated in important trade centres, viz., Bellary, Kottur, Hagaribommanahalli, Hospet, Harapanahalli, Kudligi and Siruguppa. The export trade of the district consists chiefly of cotton, groundnut, tamarind, sugar, minerals, agricultural implements, ready-made garments, twisted yarn and plastic goods. Most of the cotton that is produced is sent to Adoni, Davanagere, Sholapur and Bombay. Retailers are found in all populated places and villages have small retailers. At one time, the rural population was mainly dependant on the shandies held in important villages once in a week. These weekly shandies are still functioning, but there is growth of retail shops in and around the shandy areas also. They are increasing in number because of the growth of population and the localised needs of the inhabitants. The abundant popularity of the machine-made goods and the growing importance of cash crops have made the trade pattern conform to the changed conditions. The retail shops in the urban areas have a large stock of consumer goods. At one time, people in Bellary had to go to Bangalore or Madras to buy many articles, but with the growth of commerce and changes in the trade pattern, they can get all the goods they need from the local bazaars. The total value of goods traded at the regulated markets in 1968-69 was Rs. 2,28,85,309. According to the Lead Bank Survey Report, the total value of agricultural products that would be created in the Tungabhadra Project area of Bellary district would be of the order of Rs. 1,337.09 lakhs. With this and with the Vijayanagara Steel Plant to be established shortly, the trade pattern of the district will undergo considerable further changes.

Finance

At the time of publishing the old Gazetteer (1904), there were no institutional financing agencies in the district. Loans and advances were offered by the old-time money-lenders to cultivators and small businessmen. Capital formation did not have incentives, because avenues of investment were lacking. Those who had enough money wanted the funds to be invested in safe securities like Government bonds. Only a very few persons of the richer class were attracted towards venture-some investment. With more urbanisation and many other changes, new avenues of investment were opened. In the early days, indigenous bankers were making the finance available though at high rates of interest and even with the development of modern banking institutions, they have not disappeared and many money-lenders are still found in villages and towns. In 1970, there were 1,116 registered money-lenders in the district. Questions of giving security, procedural difficulties and the delay that is ordinarily involved in getting a loan from banking institutions seem to drive many to these indigenous bankers. The spread of co-operative movement is an important development in the field of finance. The number of co-operative institutions in the district in the year 1961-62 was 528 and this number had risen to 759 by 1970. These institutions

render services like provision of credit, sale of goods and easy procurement of small loans. The number of agricultural credit societies in the district had gone up from 334 in 1960 to 432 by 1970. The sphere of co-operation has of late extended to many fields, including industries. Starting of co-operative farming societies is another milestone. Establishment of many branches of reputed banking institutions in important places of the district has contributed much towards the growth of the economy of the district. Institutional banking came into prominence only after 1915 when a Town Co-operative Bank was started at Hospet. Now (1971) there are in all 33 branches of different commercial banks in the district. The commercial banks have also been given the task of helping mechanisation of the farms and lift irrigation schemes. The State Bank of Mysore has taken up two villages, *i.e.*, Sirwara and Kappagal, in the district, for helping their all-round economic development. It is stated that the total volume of credit available in Bellary district, where the potentialities of agricultural development are immense, is less than Rs. 6 crores of the estimated requirement of Rs. 30 crores. This clearly indicates that the institutional financing agencies in this area have yet to expand their activities a good deal.

There are also various schemes in the district which aim at inculcating the habit of thrift and savings among the public, in order to promote capital formation. There were 361 post offices having savings bank facilities in the district as on 31st March 1970. The number of savings bank accounts in these post offices were estimated at 22,260 with a total deposit of Rs. 47.4 lakhs and 6,330 cumulative time deposit accounts with a total deposit of Rs. 5.46 lakhs, 8,169 fixed deposit accounts with a deposit amount of Rs. 3.68 lakhs, while the value of national savings certificates sold amounted to Rs. 8.46 lakhs (1970).

Price-levels and a reasonable check on the upward trend in the selling prices have always been matters of interest to the consuming public as well as to the Governments. The noticeable upward trend in commodity prices in India, though apparent from an earlier date, began to be examined systematically from about the year 1907, when the Government of India took a decision to look into the problem and an experienced officer of the Finance Department, Mr. Datta, was entrusted with the task of noting the trends in prices. It was then decided to determine several variations in price structure affecting all commodities alike and to determine whether there was any marked difference between a particular area and the rest of the country. A detailed examination of this aspect revealed that increase in prices was influenced by world monetary factors also and it was difficult to assert that the upward trend was a purely temporary phase. The economic effects of fiscal and monetary policies had also a bearing on the price line. It is sufficient here to say that the prices of

Prices

essential commodities had a close bearing on the general economic situation in the country.

The Bellary district was a famine-stricken area in the old days. Of the famines and scarcities which affected it before its cession to the East India Company, there is no authentic record. A report of Sir Thomas Munro makes mention of a severe scarcity in 1756, when prices were high. What the prices were at that time it is difficult to say in the absence of records. In 1854, a severe famine swept over the district. In January 1854, jowar, the principal agricultural commodity, was selling at 27 seers per rupee. By June of that year, the price of jowar had risen to 21 seers per rupee. This price continued until September of that year. In some of the northern taluks of Bellary, jowar was selling at 14 seers per rupee. In 1868, the district was again afflicted with a severe famine. The outbreak of the American War in April 1861 had caused a cotton famine in Lancashire and as a result, a run was also noticed in the Indian cotton prices. As the Bellary district is a cotton-growing area, the upward trend in prices influenced the local market also. The price rose from about Rs. 1-4-0 per maund of 25 lbs. in 1861 to Rs. 3 in 1862, Rs. 5 in 1863 and even higher at the end of 1864. The cultivators speculating on a continuation of these extravagant rates, raised cotton to the utmost possible extent. Even while the seasons continued to be good, the prices rose. In 1863-64, the season was bad and the cotton prices went up still further.

**Famine of
1876-78**

The Great Famine of 1876-78, which lasted for 22 months, and the disaster that followed had their impact on the commodity prices. Prices suddenly went up. The prices of jowar rose to nine seers a rupee, rice to seven and the prices of other articles also registered an upward trend. In October 1878, prices went up still further and in Hospet, rice was selling at five-and-a-half seers per rupee. The climate of high prices varied according to the fluctuations in the agricultural economy of the district. In 1896, jowar was selling at 12.1 seers per rupee. In the beginning of 1897, the prices fell and jowar was quoted at 14.3 seers per rupee. By July of that year, there was a sharp rise in prices (9.7 seers per rupee) and by the end of the year, the prices fell again.

As the district was periodically hit by famines and acute scarcity, the average prices for agricultural produce in the latter part of the last century gave low returns to the producer. The agriculturists felt that what he produced from the field was uneconomic. He readily fell into indebtedness. The price structure in the beginning of the present century was unstable and there were notable variations in the selling prices of commodities. In 1902, paddy of better quality was selling at 18.3 seers (about

nine seers of rice) per rupee, jowar at 20.6 seers a rupee and ragi at 22 seers a rupee. These prices were more or less fluctuating in the years before outbreak of the First World War which had its own effect on the prices. In 1916, the better quality paddy was selling at 12.4 seers (roughly six seers of rice) per rupee in Bellary and in the succeeding years, the price went on mounting. After the close of the First World War, in 1919, the price of paddy was seven seers (three-and-a-half seers of rice) a rupee. In 1916, jowar was quoted at 17.2 seers per rupee and in 1925 it was 11.1 seers. In respect of ragi, the price in 1916 was 6.8 seers per rupee and in 1921, the prices fell and the same was quoted at 11.92 seers per rupee; then for a decade or more, there was a fall in average prices of foodgrains. The great economic depression of the thirties had its disastrous effects on the prices of foodgrains. The early years of the Second World War showed a gradual tendency for prices to rise, but it was the commencement of the hostilities with Japan and the conquest of Burma by Japan that threw agriculture in this part of India out of gear by creating a shortage of food-stuffs which was accentuated by the lack of quick and easy transport within the country itself. This made it necessary for the provincial Government to take up the questions of controlling, purchase, transport and sale of food-stuffs.

The Madras Government (of which Bellary was a part till 1953) took the initial step in the direction of price control by setting up Taluk Price Advisory Committees. In every taluk, the Advisory Committee had to publish the fair average prices of all essential commodities. This enabled the general public to know where they stood in regard to their purchases. The publication of fair retail prices prevented black-marketeers from reaping a rich harvest. Closely following this desirable step, the State Government appointed a whole-time Commissioner of Civil Supplies in June 1942 to co-ordinate the work relating to prices. In 1942, the Government also issued a foodgrains control order and this was enforced by a vigilant and trained staff. Immediately, all exports of paddy or rice outside the State were prohibited except with a permit. In September 1942, Grain-Purchase Officers were posted in several places. Rationing of foodgrains was introduced in urban areas and the Grain-Purchase Officers were ordered to make purchases for supply to rationed areas. Price control

When the food supply situation deteriorated still further, the Government decided on procurement. A scheme of intensive procurement was first introduced in deficit areas and Bellary district was one such area. The essence of the scheme was that all surpluses of foodgrains with the producers should be sold only to Government or their authorised agents. These control measures no doubt helped the people to obtain their daily needs but the procedural bottlenecks made them somewhat ineffective. There was an opposition to controls and a demand that all these

restrictions should be removed. Even after the control of foodgrains in 1952, the prices of foodgrains did not go down. There was inflation all round. There were also other factors, viz., growth of population, short-fall in production, ruling prices of gold and silver and export-import policies. Prices continued to be high and fair price shops were opened to alleviate the hardships of the consuming public. Buffer stocks were created to have a steadying effect on the prices. Banks were advised not to lend money on agricultural produce. But none of these measures had a perceptible effect on the price structure. The prices of essential commodities went on rising. The price of rice in 1960 was one-and-a-quarter seers per rupee and jowar was sold at three seers per rupee. Harvest prices of rice, jowar and some other agricultural commodities as in 1961-62 and 1964-65 are given below:—

(Price per maund of 82 2/7 lbs.)

Crop		1961-62	1964-65
Rice	..	21.96	29.08
Jowar	..	13.81	22.36
Bajra	..	12.27	20.48
Gram	..	22.90	28.01
Sugarcane	..	14.84	17.75
Groundnut	..	22.06	30.97
Cotton	..	27.87	32.51

Several measures have been thought of by our planners to hold the price-line. The Government policy whose objective is to usher in a socialistic pattern of society, towards the achievement of which the successive Five-Year Plans have been framed, has had the effect of mopping up the excessive purchasing power to a certain extent. The principles of taxation adopted by the Government aim at keeping down consumption to the limits provided in the Plans. The spiralling prices have long affected the consumers adversely. The important issue is that while the growers should get proper returns for their produce, the consumers must be enabled to get their requirements at reasonably fair prices. A balance between the two has to be struck.

Wages

Though there has been an enormous rise in the price-levels of consumer articles, especially foodgrains, the rise in wages has not been commensurate with the rise in price-levels. Salaries and allowances of employees in Government, semi-Government and private services have been also increased from time to time and there have been frequent demands for improvement of their emoluments. Large-size cultivated holdings and frequent scarcity conditions had their effect on the supply of agricultural labour in

the district. In recent years, in the areas served by irrigation waters under the Tungabhadra Project, there is a good demand for labour and their wages are also relatively higher. The table given below shows the rates of wages paid to workers in Bellary and Harapanahalli taluks in 1957 and 1959 :—

Classification	Bellary			Harapanahalli		
	1957			1959		
	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Rs.	As.	Ps.
<i>Skilled Labour :—</i>						
Carpenter	3	0	0	3	0	0
Blacksmith	2	8	0	3	0	0
Mochi	1	8	0	3	0	0
<i>Field Labour :—</i>						
Men	1	4	0	1	8	0
Women	1	0	0	1	0	0
Children	0	8	0	0	12	0
<i>Other Agricultural :—</i>						
Men	1	0	0	1	0	0
Women	0	10	0	0	14	0
Children	0	8	0	0	14	0
<i>Herdsmen :—</i>						
Men	0	12	0	0	14	0
Women	0	10	0	0	10	0
Children	0	6	0	0	8	0

(Source :—State Bureau of Economics and Statistics.)

Wages continued to rise but not adequately. Especially, the agricultural labourers found it very hard to make both ends meet and their standard of living was much affected. Therefore, it was felt necessary to assure them of minimum wages. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Central Act XI of 1948), the State Government fixed, in 1959, the minimum rates of wages in respect of several categories of employment in agriculture and revised them in 1968. The statement given below shows the old and new revised rates of agricultural labourers :—

Class of employment	Dry areas (all inclusive minimum daily rates).		Irrigated areas (all inclusive minimum daily rates)		Perennial garden areas (all inclusive minimum daily rates)	
	1959	1968	1959	1968	1959	1968
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
CLASS A						
1. Ploughing	..					
2. Digging	..					
3. Harrowing	..					
4. Sowing	..	1.25	1.85	1.50	2.20	1.75
5. Inter-culturing	..					
6. Irrigating or watering	..					
7. Uprooting	..					
CLASS B						
1. Manuring	..					
2. Transplanting	..					
3. Weeding	..					
4. Reaping :—	..	1.00	1.45	1.12	1.65	1.37
(a) Harvesting	..					
(b) Thrashing	..					
(c) Winnowing	..					
5. Picking in the case of cotton.	..					2.00
CLASS C						
1. Cattle, sheep and goat-grazing.	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.75

The monthly minimum rates fixed in 1968 for youths and children employed permanently under class A are Rs. 22.05 with food and clothing and Rs. 44.05 without food and clothing. The corresponding rates under class B are Rs. 14.70 with food and clothing and Rs. 22.05 without food and clothing and under class C Rs. 7.35 with food and clothing and Rs. 22.05 without food and clothing. Recently, the Government of Mysore decided to enhance the minimum wages of agricultural labourers from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2.50.

Cost of living

Owing to the soaring prices of consumer goods, the cost of living of the people of the district has been continuously rising. If there is no corresponding rise in their income, naturally there is a reduction in their standard of living. Consumer price index numbers are being compiled for various industrial centres in the State, of which Bellary is one. Taking 1935-36 as the base year

the consumer price index numbers for working class at Bellary for 1955-56 was 340.3, and it had increased to 858.7 by 1968-69. It is stated that the rise in the food index was mainly responsible for the rise in the cost of living. The movement of consumer price index numbers for working class at the Bellary centre from 1955-56 to 1968-69 was as mentioned below:—

(Base year : 1935-36=100)

Year	General	Food
1955-56	340.3	..
1956-57	412.6	..
1957-58	440.4	..
1958-59	429.0	..
1959-60	463.8	..
1960-61	463.4	539.7
1961-62	468.8	540.3
1962-63	472.5	537.7
1963-64	484.2	551.6
1964-65	536.3	590.8
1965-66	674.8	775.0
1966-67	771.2	908.6
1967-68	839.0	999.8
1968-69	858.7	1,023.0
1969-70	910.1	1,086.9
1970-71	950.1	1,153.1

It has been often stated by many economists that the pressure on prices has eroded the level of living of the middle class much more than any other sections of the society. The consumer price index numbers of middle class are available for four centres in Mysore State, namely, Bangalore, Mangalore, Hubli-Dharwar and Gulbarga. Since the figures relating to Hubli-Dharwar may most probably indicate the position at Bellary, in an approximate way, the movement of consumer price index numbers for urban non-manual employees (base year : 1960=100) for Hubli-Dharwar centre from 1961 to 1969 is shown below:—

Year	Consumer Price Index Numbers
1961	102
1962	107
1963	111
1964	122
1965	136
1966	148
1967	160
1968	163
1969	164

The consumer price index numbers for agricultural labourers have been prepared for the State as a whole and separate figures for the district are not available. The general consumer price index numbers for agricultural labourers (base year: 1950-51=100) was 105 in 1957 and it had risen to 116 by 1961, 182 by 1965 and 211 by 1969, in general for the State.

A statement showing the annual average consumer price index numbers for the working class at the Bellary centre relating to the years 1956, 1960 and 1970 are given below:—

<i>Groups</i>	1956	1960	1970 (January)
Food	422.3	539.7	1,124
Fuels, lighting	361.6	424.6	759
Clothing	452.8	412.3	810
House rent	200.5	200.5	201
Miscellaneous	299.8	306.5	625
General	393.8	464.8	931

**Standard of
Living**

In one of the publications of the Madras Government, namely, "The Fourteenth Tour of His Excellency the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Lawley, Governor of Madras, 1910" published in 1911, an account of the conditions in the Bellary district as assessed at that time is given. The relevant paragraph is quoted here in full: "The education of the people is backward. The natural characteristics of the district are inimical to agricultural prosperity. Except in the eastern taluks, the soil is for the most part very poor. The rainfall is light, capricious and often unseasonable. Tanks are few in number and nearly all rain-fed; channels are fewer still. The proportion of the district which is protected from famine in bad seasons is only two per cent. Except in the western taluks, forests and grazing-lands for cattle are scarce. There are no non-agricultural industries of importance which would serve as an outlet for superfluous labour in times of stress. The Bellary ryot's cultivation is generally of a casual description except in the case of lands under wells. He is content to scratch the soil with a 'guntaka' instead of ploughing it. He hardly ever hedges his field, never thinks of selecting seed, he never varies his custom of sowing practically all his cereals with the south-west monsoon. He has not introduced any new crops. His implements are good and he has adopted the improved cane-crushing mill and the iron plough, but the use he makes of them is to gamble on the chance of getting a crop over a large area by tilling it hastily and imperfectly rather than make more sure, by more careful methods, of a bigger outturn on a smaller holding. In the collection and preservation of manure, his system could

scarcely be more ineffectual and his practice of driving his cattle nightly into the village has the additional disadvantage of exposing them to the risk of contracting any contagious disease which may be prevalent. In general and agricultural education, he is backward, and the district possesses no zamindars who might initiate improvements in methods of cultivation. He is unaware of the possibilities of emigration as a method of relieving the pressure when times are bad. The result is that the average ryot of Bellary is poor. His house is inferior to that of his brother in the south. His household utensils are primitive and jewels of his womankind are fewer. He has less luxuries in the way of fruits, vegetables and condiments, and he can seldom indulge in the delights of civil litigation. His food-supply depends upon the rains of June and July, and if two successive monsoons fail, his cattle die in thousands."

The living conditions of the people in the district of Bellary have vastly changed since the time of that publication. As already stated elsewhere, there has been more of urbanisation through the years, a good deal of irrigational facilities has been created, more lands have been put to agricultural use, a good progress has been made in the field of agriculture and a definite beginning has been made in the sphere of industrialisation and the growth of a sense of new social values is apparent. Educational advancement is proceeding rapidly and more boys and girls are attending schools and compulsory primary education has been introduced. The new land laws have safeguarded the interests of the raiyats. The economic condition of the workers has improved. The produce from the cultivated field is fetching a higher return. Though farming has remained the main occupation, there are several possible avocations (mentioned elsewhere in the chapters) which assure extra income which contributes to a better standard of living. In keeping with the objective of achieving a socialistic pattern of society, a number of welfare measures have been taken up by the Government to help the weaker sections of the society, since 1947.

It is extremely difficult to assess the standard of living of the people of the entire district, for this varies from individual to individual, from class to class and from place to place. The individual's standard can be judged by the amount of necessaries, comforts and luxuries which he consumes. It is difficult to say at times that a particular individual or class belongs to a particular standard. However, the family budget of several groups offers a guide. Investigations have been made regarding the family budgets of different classes of persons of different status both in rural and urban sections. For purposes of analysis, persons in the rural areas have been classified under three distinct groups, *viz.*, landless agricultural labourers, persons owning small holdings and casual labourers. Absentee landlords or agricultural

rent-receivers form only a very small section. The land-less labourers in the district earn just enough to satisfy their bare elementary needs. They have no income on days when their labour is not wanted by the cultivators. Of all the rural sections, the lot of agricultural labourers is the hardest. It is only during the busy seasons of agricultural operations that he hopes to get better wages. The income of the landless labourers has increased because of the increase in wage rates and their womenfolk also work as casual labourers and bring in extra money to the family pool. The pattern of life of the casual and attached labourers is almost the same. Persons, who have small holdings of five to ten acres, are much better off than the landless agricultural labourers. A good number of agriculturists in the district derive an income which is adequate for a good living. But these people also get into indebtedness on account of the social commitments and expenses on education of their children in schools and colleges, marriages of daughters, etc. With the growth of communications and the attractions of urbanity, the rural middle class people have lost their original margin of living.

The family budget of an average agriculturist owning about five acres of land with a family of about six persons may be taken as the standard to assess his living conditions. His assets consist of the land he owns and the livestock and other miscellaneous assets consisting of agricultural and non-agricultural implements, living house, household articles and a little jewellery which the womenfolk of the house possess. The annual income of this group consists of farm produce valued, according to present price structure, at about Rs. 2,000, livestock produce worth Rs. 100 and income from other sources worth Rs. 160. For foodgrains, dairy products, vegetables, a few items of pulses and fodder for their cattle, they depend more on their own farm produces, and this makes the assessment of their expenditure difficult. The items of monthly expenditure are Rs. 70 for pulses, edible oils and spices, gur and sugar, and Rs. 25 for other items. The annual expenditure on farm maintenance may come to Rs. 300; a sum of Rs. 120 may be spent on clothing and Rs. 80 on festivals and guests. The family budget of this group cannot for obvious reasons balance itself; sometimes, the expenditure exceeds the income. In such circumstances, the family gets into indebtedness.

The condition of urban labourers is in no way better than that of the rural farm labourers. Some of the urban labourers get employment as domestic servants, office-boys and errand boys. In some households, the servants are fed and in some cases they are not. The urban labourer has to spend more than his counterpart in rural areas. Though he gets a wage sometimes, of Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 a month, he cannot, in the ordinary course, balance his income and expenditure. In the matter of living standards the urban labourers have no distinct advantages over the rural labourers.

Let us take the family requirements of a cycle rickshaw puller ; ordinarily, he may have a family of five including children. In this group, both the man and the wife go to work and earn. While the man plies his rickshaw, the woman works as a maid-servant or as a labourer. The total monthly income may approximate, on an average, to about Rs. 140. The monthly expenditure of this group is worked out at Rs. 60 for foodgrains, Rs. 15 for meat, Rs. 5 for vegetables, Rs. 10 for beverages and *beedies* and Rs. 15 for miscellaneous items. The expenses on fuel, lighting and house rent are Rs. 8, Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 respectively and the rest is spent on clothing and other items. Generally, the family cannot save as the earnings are barely sufficient to meet both ends.

The middle class people in the towns of the district are within the income range of Rs. 200 to Rs. 600 a month. Some of them possess their own houses, while others have to pay rent varying from Rs. 20 to Rs. 60 a month. The monthly expenditure on foodgrains is about Rs. 80, vegetables Rs. 15, edible oils and cereals Rs. 35, tea or coffee Rs. 20. The family has to spend a good deal on the education of children. More often than not, this group has to pay for the services of a part-time domestic servant. In addition, they have to pay their insurance premium. With all care and caution, they cannot save much. Often, they run into debt. The continuing rise in prices in recent years has made the position of the middle class worse.

Bellary district has a sprinkling of the upper-middle class and the rich, who, with their comfortable income, have a better standard of living. Usually, these are businessmen, lawyers with lucrative practice, doctors with a good private practice and highly-paid officers. The standard of living of this group is higher and they always command a surplus. These people enjoy better comforts of modern living.

Standard of living can be compared in relation to the past when foodgrain prices were low and the purchasing power of the rupee was high. The rising cost of living in recent years has been a stubborn factor affecting the standard of living. A detailed reference to cost of living has been already made. The discussion here cannot be complete if a mention is not made of the general standard of living. More consumption of electricity for domestic, agricultural and industrial purposes, increase in number of automobiles, consumption of better types of food, use of better clothing, better housing, spread of education, availability of modern amenities, etc., are any criteria of a better standard of living, then Bellary district has certainly made considerable progress. The income of the wage-earners has no doubt much increased, but there is a persistent difficulty in the balancing of family budgets. It is very hard to save in these days of mounting cost of living. The middle and the lower classes are hard-hit

by the soaring prices. If the price-line is not held and the prices go up unchecked, the result would be the lowering of the living standards.

**Survey of
Holalu village**

A socio-economic survey of Holalu village in Hadagalli taluk, which is situated in the northern *maidan* region of the State, conducted by the census authorities as a part of their 1961 census operations, throws much light on the prevailing economic conditions of the people in the rural areas of the district at that time. The total population of the village, according to the 1961 census, was 4,637. The average annual income per household and per adult equivalent male in the five occupational groups of the village was as follows in 1961 :—

Sl. No.	Occupations	Average annual income	
		per house- hold	per adult equivalent male
		Rs. P.	Rs. P.
1.	Cultivation of owned lands	1,702-74	290-00
2.	Cultivation of lands taken on lease	1,390-60	241-00
3.	Household industry	809-40	188-00
4.	Agricultural labour	487-93	139-00
5.	Others	1,048-99	261-00

From the above, it is clear that the agricultural labourers form the poorest section of the village community. The amounts of income in the above table refer to gross income. Except the agricultural labourers, others had to make some investments on production. The average monthly expenditure on households in different occupations and in different income groups in the village was as follows :—

Sl. No.	Category	Income groups				
		Rs. 25 and below	Rs. 26 to Rs. 50	Rs. 51 to Rs. 75	Rs. 76 to Rs. 100	Rs. 101 & above
		Rs. P.	Rs. P.	Rs. P.	Rs. P.	Rs. P.
1.	Cultivation of owned lands	30-64	34-21	77-70	105-31	206-29
2.	Tenants ..	51-29	100-71	78-42	87-45	157-93
3.	Agricultural labourers	23-39	39-91	66-80	98-65	112-79
4.	Household industry ..	24-78	46-56	66-23	88-07	187-47
5.	Others ..	19-10	43-67	67-05	86-64	158-15

It could be seen from the above that the expenditure per household exceeded the income figure of households in some of the categories earning below Rs. 75. This was due to the failure of crops during the two years immediately preceding this survey. The average monthly expenditure per adult equivalent male in the village in 1961 was as follows :—

			Rs.	P.
1. Owner cultivators	..	..	23	46
2. Tenant cultivators	..	..	21	53
3. Agricultural labourers	..	..	12	69
4. Workers at household industries	..	..	15	82
5. Others	..	..	21	27

A District Employment Exchange has been functioning at Bellary since 1945. An Employment Market Information Programme was started in the Exchange in the year 1956 and this was mainly concerned with the public sector during the first few years. In 1960, the private sector was also brought under its purview. Under this programme, information is collected in accordance with the provisions of the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959. The Exchange studies the trends to ascertain the employment situation to find out the categories of workers in short supply so that it can be also known as to what vocational training needs to be imparted. The results of such studies are published at quarterly and annual intervals.

The Exchange tries to provide right men for the right jobs. There were 6,010 applicants on the Live Register as on 31st December 1970. Of these, 80.23 per cent were without any previous experience, 42 per cent of them being matriculates and 14.9 per cent being literates. The year-wise particulars relating to the number of vacancies notified for filling up through the Exchange, number of persons on the Live Register, etc., at the Employment Exchange from 1961 to 1970 were as follows :—

<i>As on 31st December of each year</i>	<i>Vacancies notified</i>	<i>Number of vacancies filled</i>	<i>Number of vacancies outstanding</i>	<i>Applicants on the Live Register</i>
1961 ..	779	587	123	2,242
1962 ..	837	540	245	2,606
1963 ..	1,205	509	393	2,758
1964 ..	1,096	633	565	3,205
1965 ..	1,158	832	317	4,158
1966 ..	1,010	573	455	3,494
1967 ..	842	479	396	3,905
1968 ..	1,144	687	278	3,918
1969 ..	972	699	301	5,022
1970 ..	1,076	536	381	6,010

The period of waiting for some of the candidates may be a year or two and in other cases more than three years. The percentage of persons waiting for less than a year increased from 25.9 in 1963 to 56.1 in 1970, while those waiting for two to three years had been on the decrease, the percentages for the latter being 20.7 in 1963 and 17.4 in 1970. The following table shows the percentages of persons waiting for different periods during the years from 1963 to 1970:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Less than a year</i>	<i>One to two years</i>	<i>Two to three years</i>	<i>Three years and above</i>
1963	25.9	26.4	20.7	27.0
1964	24.2	24.4	27.4	24.0
1965	78.2	15.1	5.9	0.8
1966	65.0	22.2	10.2	2.6
1967	52.6	16.8	16.0	14.6
1968	52.8	22.4	20.8	4.0
1969	54.5	24.0	17.6	3.9
1970	56.1	23.0	17.4	3.5

In order to help the smooth functioning of the Exchange, the Government nominated a District Committee on employment in 1964. The present committee consists of 15 members with the Deputy Commissioner as the Chairman and the District Employment Officer as its Secretary. It meets periodically and discusses the trends in employment situation. The statement given below shows the number of educated persons for whom employment was found and the number waiting on the Live Register from the year 1962 to 1970 :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of educated persons employed</i>	<i>Number of educated persons waiting on the Live Register</i>	
		<i>S.S.L.C. & above</i>	<i>Graduates</i>
1962	144	1,405	72
1963	270	1,498	89
1964	161	1,344	82
1965	293	1,171	77
1966	151	1,200	45
1967	147	1,693	80
1968	163	1,486	100
1969	135	2,380	130
1970	116	2,771	186

As can be seen from this table, the number of educated un-employed persons is considerably on the increase; the increase is more than two times in respect of graduates and nearly two times in regard to S.S.L.Cs. and above in a period of nine years. The State Government has granted some concessions in matters of registration as contractors, tendering for public works, etc., to the un-employed graduates and diploma-holders in civil engineering in order to help remove their difficulties. There is also a crash employment programme in operation in the district from the year 1971-72. Under this scheme, about 1,000 persons of the rural areas would get employment for 10 months in a year on a wage rate of Rs. 3 per day per worker. During the year 1971-72, about 48 works pertaining to repairs of the existing roads and formation of new roads, of which 13 were in Kudligi and 11 in Sandur taluks, and one land development work in Mallapuram taluk, were taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,12,000. By the end of January 1972, a sum of Rs. 2,75,041 was spent generating employment upto 83,738 man-days. The establishments both in the public and private sectors are required to submit quarterly and biennial returns to the District Employment Officer under Rule 6 of Section 10 of the Employment Exchanges (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959. The year-wise particulars of the number of vacancies in the public and private sectors as notified to the Employment Exchange from the year 1961 to 1970 were as follows :—

<i>As on 31st December of each year</i>	<i>Public Sector</i>	<i>Private Sector</i>	<i>Total</i>
1961 ..	13,609	3,032	16,641
1962 ..	13,804	2,875	16,679
1963 ..	14,206	6,986	21,192
1964 ..	17,553	6,280	23,833
1965 ..	19,966	6,788	26,754
1966 ..	17,190	6,866	24,056
1967 ..	19,732	7,379	27,111
1968 ..	18,852	7,609	26,461
1969 ..	19,248	8,524	27,772
1970 ..	20,089	8,740	28,829

The number of vacancies in respect of mining and quarrying, manufacturing industries and trade and commerce as communicated to the Exchange, were as follows :—

Year	Mining & Quarrying		Manufacturing		Trade & Commerce	
	Public Sector	Private Sector	Public Sector	Private Sector	Public Sector	Private Sector
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1961	394	..	867	2,388	122	278
1962	300	..	855	2,284	125	307
1963	320	2,220	896	3,614	135	533
1964	337	2,222	944	2,927	143	556
1965	278	2,229	770	3,352	131	152
1966	342	2,274	711	3,538	133	133
1967	866	2,519	718	3,445	171	395
1968	821	2,849	690	3,342	120	423
1969	854	2,895	854	3,952	122	230
1970	1,728	3,168	882	3,923	524	438

The number of establishments covered under the Employment Market Information Programme has also been on the increase since March 1961, as can be seen from the following statement :—

As on 31st December of each year	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total
1961	137	20	157
1962	142	22	164
1963	158	122	280
1964	157	116	273
1965	158	101	259
1966	189	107	296
1967	199	130	329
1968	199	114	313
1969	240	132	372
1970	241	129	370

The trend in women's employment in the district since 1961 is indicated below :—

Year	Employed in		
	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total
1961	910	43	953
1962	1,104	37	1,141
1963	1,077	1,244	2,321
1964	1,821	675	2,496
1965	2,998	889	3,887
1966	1,570	910	2,480
1967	2,254	1,182	3,436
1968	1,729	1,071	2,800
1969	1,762	1,108	2,870
1970	1,956	1,231	3,187

The following are the employment indices for the year 1970-71 as reported by the District Employment Officer, Bellary, which throws further light on the employment trend in the district :—

(Base year and month : March 1966-100)

As on	Public Sector		Private Sector		Total	
	Employees	Indices	Employees	Indices	Employees	Indices
31-3-1970 ..	20,089	105.7	8,740	102.5	28,829	104.6
30-6-1970 ..	20,143	106.1	7,901	92.7	28,044	101.7
30-9-1970 ..	19,409	103.6	7,782	91.0	27,191	99.4
31-12-1970 ..	19,717	105.6	9,072	100.6	28,789	105.6

The fluctuations noticeable above were attributable to seasonal employment opportunities in some of the establishments like sugar factories, cotton-ginning and pressing, oilseed-crushing factories, etc. It is reported that there is man-power shortage in respect of certain categories like upper division clerks (with experience), senior mechanics, laboratory attendants, peons (Scheduled Tribe), Hindi-trained teachers, Urdu-trained teachers, wagon drill helpers, blaster helpers, security havildars, security guards, etc., and there is surplus in respect of fresh matriculates, diploma-holders in civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. Persistent and wide-spread shortages were noticed in respect of stenographers, nurses, Kannada pandits, bulldozer operators, tractor drivers, etc.

The proposed Vijayanagara Steel Plant and various ancillary industries will create substantial employment opportunities. According to one estimation, the Steel Plant would create employment potential for 140 technical supervisory staff, 9,000 skilled workers under contractors, 45,000 unskilled labourers and artisans like carpenters, masons, etc., at the first stage and 129 senior engineers (highly qualified), 636 junior engineers (graduates), 1,244 diploma-holders and highly experienced operators, 5,695 skilled workers and 1,136 semi-skilled workers. It is proposed to start a Special Employment Exchange later to serve the needs of the Steel Plant. The development of other categories of industries, expansion and improvement of infra-structure facilities, etc., will considerably increase employment opportunities in the district in the years to come.

“Community Development” is a phrase which has gained wide currency during recent years. Community development is a process designed to create conditions of economic and social progress for the whole community. It implies integration of two **Community Development Programme**

sets of forces making for human welfare, neither of which can do the job alone, (i) the opportunity and capacity for co-operation, self-help, ability to assimilate and adopt new ways of living that are latent in every human group and (ii) the fund of techniques and skills in every social and economic field, drawn from world-wide experience, and now in use or available to the Government and various agencies. It is one of the most significant development programmes for improving rural life.

The Community Development Programme, which was initiated on 2nd October 1952 in the country, was launched in Siruguppa taluk of Bellary district in April 1954. Prior to the initiation of this programme, the various development works in the district were carried on by the respective development departments individually, like grow-more-food campaign by the Agricultural Department and the local developmental works by the Revenue Department.

The unit of operation in the Community Development Programme is the Development Block which represents, on an average, 100 villages with a population of 60,000 to 70,000 or more, spread over an area of 150 to 170 square miles. The Community Development Programme has been extended to all the taluks of the district.

As for the organisational pattern of the community development in the district is concerned, there is a District Development Committee with the Deputy Commissioner as the co-ordinator and there is the District Committee consisting of non-officials (members of the State Assembly and members of Parliament), the District Heads of the Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Co-operation, Health Services and other development departments. There is a similar block team at the block level with the Block Development Officer as the co-ordinator. At the village-level, there is a village-level worker who co-ordinates the work of a number of villages. He assists also the village panchayats and the village co-operatives in the development matters.

People's support and participation are very essential for carrying out the programmes. In the early stages, advisory committees of local people were set up to assist Block Development Officers and later on these were replaced by block development committees. Now it is the responsibility of the Taluk Development Boards and Village Panchayats to implement the schemes. In order to make it a people's programme in the real sense of the term, it was entrusted to the elected representatives. There was a separate schematic budget for a full block (unit) of Rs. 12 lakhs for stage I and of Rs. 5 lakhs for stage II, with a certain degree of flexibility in the diversion of funds from one aspect to another. The pattern of expenditure is almost uniform among the various

blocks. By way of illustration, the Bellary Development Block is dealt with below briefly.

The Bellary Community Development Block, which was started on 1st October 1957, was a double-unit block in the Bellary Development Block

April 1955. On 1st October 1969, these two units were merged together and a single unit block was formed. The geographical area of the taluk, according to professional survey, is 4,17,240 acres, of which an extent of 7,108 acres is under forests, 20,967 acres are barren, 18,868 acres are used for non-agricultural purposes, 3,694 acres are cultivable waste, 380 acres are under permanent pastures, 394 acres are under miscellaneous trees, 2,846 acres are current fallows and 3,63,198 acres are under cultivation. Progress achieved by the Community Development Programme in Bellary Block can be gauged in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, rural health, education and communications.

Increasing importance is being given to the distribution of improved seeds and fertilisers, preparation of rural and urban compost, supply of tractor and bulldozer services and timely plant protection measures in the community development areas. The most important foodgrains are jowar, rice, bajra and maize and the commercial crop is cotton. In order to increase agricultural production, a Village-Level Agricultural Production Plan, Panchayat-Level Agricultural Production Plan, Intensive Agricultural Area Programme and High-Yielding Variety Programme were taken up. Later, particular emphasis was laid on Intensive Agricultural Area Programme for general crops and High-Yielding Variety Programme for hybrid crops which were taken up with the assured supply of all inputs and services. Considerable results have been achieved in respect of the High-Yielding Variety Programme as can be seen from the acreages brought under it mentioned below:—

Crops	Khairff (area in acres)	Summer (area in acres)
1966-67:		
Paddy	320	1,101
Hybrid Jowar	123	42
Hybrid Maize	8	82
Hybrid Bajra	3	10
Total	454	1,235
1969-70:		
Paddy	4,697	2,507
Hybrid Jowar	167	1,085
Hybrid Maize	1,537	216
Hybrid Bajra	3,169	1,022
Total	8,970	4,830

In 1970-71, about 160 demonstration plots were laid out under this programme.

There were 486 irrigation wells as on 31st March 1968, irrigating an area of 1,303.45 acres. Of these, 329 were fitted up with electric irrigation pumpsets. About 28 new wells in 1969-70 and 11 in 1970-71 were constructed. During the same period, 274 irrigation pumpsets were installed. The water of the High-Level Canal was provided for 10,858 acres in 1968-69, for 22,137 acres in 1969-70 and for 40,321 acres in 1970-71. About 2,193 acres came under the Low-Level Canal for which water is allowed throughout the year. About 12 breeding bulls, 50 rams, 745 improved birds and 1,604 hatching eggs were supplied to the villagers at 50 per cent subsidy. Eighty-one villages were provided with school buildings upto 1970-71; 46 youth clubs, with a membership of 1,606, and 14 mahila mandals with a membership of 428, were organised. The Block has installed 27 radio sets and supplied 51 sets to village panchayats and constructed 14 recreation halls.

In respect of communications, 22 new roads were constructed in addition to 38 culverts and 18 causeways. The Block gave managerial grants to seven co-operative societies, supplied 30 sewing machines to the women who were trained in mahila mandals, at 50 per cent subsidy. In addition to this, various development works were also taken up with the assistance of the Khadi and Village Industries Board, Handloom Board and Small-Scale Industries Board. Thirtyfour *Ambar Charakas* were distributed to the candidates who completed successfully the training under the scheme of Rehabilitation of Displaced Goldsmiths. Further, 53 goldsmiths were given financial assistance to a tune of Rs. 37,900 for purposes of starting various small industrial units.

In co-operative sector, 84 service co-operatives with a total membership of 17,598, a Taluk Agricultural Produce Marketing Co-operative Society with a membership of 2,588, 11 Co-operative Farming Societies with a membership of 124 and 304 hectares of lands under their control were organised. These societies advanced Rs. 25,49,581 as short-term loans in 1969-70 as against Rs. 10,02,846 in 1967-68 and Rs. 48,600 as medium-term loans as against Rs. 97,840 during the same year respectively. Long-term loans were sanctioned under the A.R.C. Scheme and Irrigation Wells Scheme to the tune of Rs. 10,63,350 and Rs. 3,38,275 respectively. The Block selected ten societies as storage centres for purposes of helping the cultivators to get the agricultural inputs as soon as they require them. During 1970-71, the Block distributed through co-operatives fertilisers valued about Rs. 6,71,496, pesticides worth of Rs. 5,171, seeds costing Rs. 2,562 and consumer goods worth Rs. 3,03,454. The following statement shows the actual

expenditure on various items for 1961-62 and 1968-69 in the Bellary Community Development Block :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	1961-62	1968-69
1.	Block headquarters	16,217	23,987
2.	Agriculture and animal husbandry	13,565	9,500
3.	Irrigation and reclamation	58,720	6,500
4.	Rural health and sanitation	25,594	14,100
5.	Education	7,597	2,200
6.	Social Education	15,921	200
7.	Communications	15,839	..
8.	Rural arts and crafts	16,772	1,000
9.	Housing	49,488	..
	Total	2,09,713	57,426

According to the figures gathered by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Bangalore, in 1960-61, the income from agricultural sector formed about 53.87 per cent of the total income of the district, while animal husbandry and transport, other than railways and commerce accounted for 7.03 per cent and 9.8 per cent respectively. The table given hereunder shows the amounts of income under various major sectors in the district as in 1960-61 :—

<i>Major sector</i>	<i>Income in lakhs of rupees</i>
Agriculture	1,524.73
Animal husbandry	199.40
Forestry	33.35
Fishery	1.31
Mining	97.33
Factory establishment (including electricity)	95.73
Small scale establishments	145.12
Communication (Posts and Telegraphs)	3.87
Railways	62.78
Other transport and commerce	278.22
Organised Banking and Insurance	32.90
Professions and liberal arts	129.65
Government service (Administrative)	69.14
Domestic services	13.00
House properties	144.43
Total	2,830.96

Earlier, the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, had estimated the district income of Bellary in respect of main sectors as a part of assessing the inter-state and inter-district disparities in 1955-56 and figures arrived at by it was Rs. 20.07 crores, the percentages of income being as follows :—

Major sector		Percentage of income	
		Rs. P.	
Agriculture	.. ..	56.80	
Manufacturing	.. ..	14.25	
Services	.. ..	28.95	

The *per capita* income as worked out by the Council referred to above was Rs. 238 in 1955-56. Later, for the year 1960-61, the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics assessed it at Rs. 314 and in this respect, the district of Bellary was ahead of all its contiguous districts, though it secured a place just below that of Mandya which is also served by a major irrigation project. (The *per capita* income for those districts was Rs. 317 for Mandya, Rs. 285 for Chitradurga, Rs. 272 for Dharwar and Rs. 267 for Raichur). The district then occupied the seventh place among the districts of the State in point of *per capita* income. In 1969-70, the District Statistical Officer assessed the *per capita* income taluk-wise, for rural and urban areas of the district separately, as follows :—

Sl. No.	Name of taluk	Per capita income	
		Rural	Urban
1.	Bellary	433	853
2.	Hadagalli	319	454
3.	Harapanahalli	327	437
4.	Hospet	403	667
5.	Kudligi	364	458
6.	Mallapuram	396*	..
7.	Sandur	483*	..
8.	Siruguppa	671	867
	District	416	723

(*The figure is for the taluk as a whole, there being at the time no urban area as such in the taluk.)

According to this estimate, the Siruguppa taluk is having the highest *per capita* income both in rural and urban areas, followed by the Bellary taluk. The Harapanahalli taluk has the lowest *per capita* income of Rs. 319 (rural) and Rs. 437 (urban).

While ranking the districts of the State according to certain socio-economic indicators as suggested by the Planning Commission, the Bureau of Economics and Statistics assigned weights in proportion to the importance of the indicators of development. The ranking was then multiplied by weights corresponding to the relative importance of the economic indicators employed, the products added and the sum divided by the total weights. The item-wise ranking and the weights assigned are indicated below :—

Sl. No.	Indicators of development	Rank	Weights assigned
1.	Density of population	6	2
2.	Percentage of total workers in agricultural sector to total workers, 1961.	9	20
3.	Cultivable area <i>per capita</i> per agricultural worker ..	7	4
4.	Net area sown <i>per capita</i> per agricultural worker, 1961-62	4	4
5.	Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown, 1961-62	14	20
6.	Percentage of double-cropped area, 1961-62 ..	7	10
7.	Output in agricultural sector <i>per capita</i> rural population, 1962.	5	8
8.	Number of workers in registered factories, 1962 ..	8	10
9.	Length of roads per 100 sq. kms. of area, 1962-63 ..	16	5
10.	Goods vehicles per lakh of population, 1963-64 ..	5	5
11.	Literacy (total population), 1961	15	5
12.	Technical training seats per lakh of population, 1963-64	3	3
13.	Hospital beds per lakh of population, 1962 ..	5	4
	Total		100

The weighted mean ranking of the district accepted as a composite index is 9, while the same is 8 for Dharwar, 11 for Chitradurga and 16 for Raichur, its contiguous districts. The district does not come under the most developed districts of the State and it is relatively in the middle level of development at present.

The systematic planning and implementation of schemes since 1951 have considerably helped the exploitation of the resources and development of the district. The need to locate resources, to develop the natural potential of the area and to tackle the problems connected with development aspects has necessitated the formation of district plans. It was only in the last quarter of 1968 that formulation of district plans as such was taken up. The Fourth Five Year Plan of Bellary district envisages an annual average growth rate of gross agricultural income by 15 per cent. In the agricultural sector, the district, whose food production had

Present
position

Possibilities of
development

been precarious, has now become self-sufficient in foodgrains. This has to be stabilised and further efforts have to be made to further increase agricultural production in the years to come. The Dry Farming Scheme taken up at Hadagalli needs to be extended to all those dry areas which have not been benefited from Tungabhadra Project. There is also the possibility for developing productive enterprises in respect of fisheries, horticulture and dairying. The reservoir and the canals can further be used for developing inland fisheries. The cultivation of fruits, coconut and vegetables can be taken up on a larger scale. Dairying needs to be organised on sound lines in all the towns of the district. Poultry-farming also holds out good prospects in the district. The assessment of the mineral reserves of the district has indicated that the district has potentialities for the development of ferro-alloys and cement industries also. There are rich reserves of iron and manganese ore deposits, the exploitation of which can be further stepped up.

The Vijayanagara Steel Plant which will come up shortly offers great and unprecedented opportunities to the entrepreneurs of the district. It is stated that a well-equipped industrial estate is going to be started near the Steel Plant. A number of ancillary units can be set up.

**Scope for
Agro-based
Industries**

Bellary district had 1,21,470 hectares of land under cotton cultivation which approximated to 10.12 per cent of the area under cotton in the State, while it could produce 14.7 per cent of the total cotton production in the State (1970-71). But most of the cotton is at present sent out of the district. The *per capita* consumption of cotton cloth is estimated to go up from 15.6 yards in 1960-61 to 22.2 yards in 1975-76. In view of these factors, there is scope for organising cotton spinning and weaving mills on sound lines in the district. There are already two sugar factories in the district and a third one is going to be started shortly at Siruguppa. In 1970-71, the district had approximately 10.3 per cent of the total area under sugarcane in the State and produced 10.1 per cent of the quantity of sugar produced in the State. The *per capita* consumption of sugar is also on the increase. In the country, there is a gradual shift in consumer preference from *gur* and *khandasari* to mill sugar, much more of which can be produced in the district. Required additional quantities of sugarcane can be grown in the district to feed more sugar factories. The molasses produced in the sugar factories has not been fully made use of. There is the possibility for setting up a unit, in addition to the existing one, for the manufacture of alcohol in the district. Large quantities of *bagasse* left after crushing at the sugar factories are at present used only as fuel. This can be put to far better economic use in that *bagasse* can be used for the manufacture of paper and paper boards. Since there are two sugar mills in the district and one more is coming up and there are two more in the neighbouring district of Raichur, there is considerable

scope for setting up a paper factory in the district. It is also possible to start confectionary units in the district since required quantities of sugar are readily available on the spot.

There is a large area under hybrid maize in the district which can provide scope for starting a few units for producing corn meal. A starch factory can also be established for utilising the surplus maize. A scheme to this effect has already been worked out, for possible implementation, if any entrepreneur comes forward to take it up. As the demand for fertilisers is increasing, especially in the Tungabhadra ayacut areas, there is scope for starting a bone-meal factory in the district, for which plenty of bones are available within the district as well as from the neighbouring districts. The several constructional programmes of buildings and roads undertaken in the district have great opportunities for the establishment of stone-chipping and polishing units. It is learnt that a stone-chipping unit has already come up at Hospet very recently. A few more units of this type can be started in the district.

There is demand for red-oxide paints which are generally used for surface coating. Since red-oxide is available in plenty in the district, there is good scope for setting up one or more units for manufacture of red-oxide paints. It is estimated that a quantity of about 300 tonnes of flooring compound is used in the district every year. Taking this into consideration and the demand for this product from other parts of the State, a unit for production of flooring compound can be set up. Since the construction of houses is on the increase, there is scope for the establishment of one or two mechanised brick and tile making units. Among the other industries for which scope exists in the district, may be mentioned the manufacture of glue, builders' hardware, electrical cappings and casings, aluminium utensils, cartons and cardboard packing boxes, cattle feed and the like. The present total annual savings in the district is roughly put at two crores of rupees which is a very low figure. The volume of potential savings is high and it would grow still larger when additional agricultural output comes to market after the proper utilisation of water resources. The banking institutions in the district have yet to mobilise the savings of the people, especially in the rural areas. The financial agencies and the small savings units have to intensify the drive for increasing the deposits. In view of the agricultural prosperity in the district and the foundation already laid for industrial prosperity, there is great need to induce the people to cultivate habits of saving, so that money can be ploughed back for further development.