



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

**KARNATAKA STATE**

# **KOLAR DISTRICT**

**S. Anees Siraj, KAS.,**  
CHIEF EDITOR

**KARNATAKA GAZETTEER DEPARTMENT  
BENGALURU**



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## **PREFACE**

Kolar is one of the eight districts of the erstwhile princely state of Mysore for which a Gazetteer was compiled and printed as early as 1869 by Krishna Iyengar. The scope of Gazetteer then was limited and was confined to physical features, socio-economic conditions and cultural aspects. Infact it was attempted to obtain a survey and general statistical account of the territories, to meet the requirements of not only East India Company, after the fall of Tipu Sultan in 1799, but also other European Countries that evinced interest in the dominions of the Raja of Mysore and the country acquired by the company from Sultan in the last war.

In 1876, B.L.Rice brought out two volumes of Gazetteer devoted to Mysore and a third to Coorg, the first volume of Mysore dealing in General and the second by districts eight in number. Again in 1897 Mr. Rice published a revised edition which won high appreciation. This edition was out of print for some years. The then Maharaja of Mysore, therefore resolved to publish a new edition of the work. Sri Rao Bahaddur R.Narasimhachar was appointed as a compiler followed by Dr.Thyagaraja Iyer. In February 1924, Rao Bahaddur Hayavadana Rao was appointed as editor and entrusted with this work.

Since several changes had taken place in the past thirty years in the administration of state, and His Highness's Government deemed it necessary to incorporate them in the new edition, Sri. Hayavadana Rao revised the work, introduced changes in the general plan and brought out five volumes in eight books. The single volume of B.L.Rice dealing with the state in general was expanded into four volumes, entitled 'Descriptive', 'Historical', 'Economic' and 'Administrative'. The volume 'Historical' was brought out in four parts covering from ancient period to modern period in a comprehensive manner. Volume V is devoted to the eight districts. Thus five volumes in the form of eight books were compiled and edited by Sri C. Hayavadana Rao.

After independence, the Central Gazetteer Unit in consultation with State Units devised a common plan of contents so as to have uniformity and also to enable a wide coverage on various aspects, including the trends of development. In accordance with this scheme, repatterned series of District Gazetteers were brought out and were published by the State Government. The District Gazetteer of Kolar under this scheme was published in 1968 under the supervision of Sri. K. Abhishankar, the then Chief Editor. This volume became a comprehensive single source of information about the district and served both to the specialists and general readers.

After completion of the Centrally sponsored scheme of editing and printing the District Gazetteers that were to be a part of Gazetteer of India, the Department undertook independently publishing of District Gazetteers in

Kannada. This was in pursuance of the State Language Policy. The District Gazetteer of Kolar in Kannada was first published during 2005, under the supervision of Sri H. Chittaranjan, KAS., Chief Editor.

On the advice of the Gazetteer Advisory Committee headed by the Chief Secretary, the department introduced the scheme of translating the District Gazetteers from Kannada to English. These translations helped many people to understand the concept of Gazetteer and also to benefit from the immense information made available on various aspects. The department has completed the translation of District Gazetteers from Kannada to English of Kodagu, Dharwad, Gulbarga, Bijapur, Mandya and Dakshina District districts.

The present volume is a translation of Kannada text published during 2005, and as such includes taluks of the present Chikkaballapura District. For easy reference the Gazetteer is divided into seventeen chapters viz., General, History, People, Agriculture and Irrigation, Industries, Banking, Finance, Trade and Commerce, Transport and Communication, Economic Trends, General and Revenue Administration, Law and Order and Justice, Other Departments, Local Self Government, Education and Sports, Literature and Culture, Medical and Health Services, Other Social Services and Places of Interest. An attempt is also made to outline the various development schemes of Government.

I express my gratitude to Sri Govinda M. Karjola, Hon'ble Minister for Minor Irrigation and Kannada & Culture, Sri S.V.Ranganath IAS., Chief Secretary Government of Karnataka, Sri Basavaraju IAS., Secretary, Department of Kannada and Culture and Information and members of the Advisory Committee for their valuable guidance and support.

I also thank Editors, and their supporting staff for the completion of this volume.

I hope this revised edition of the District Gazetteer will serve the needs of research scholars and general readers as a comprehensive source of information about the district.

Bengaluru  
24-10-2011

**S. Anees Siraj**  
Chief Editor  
Karnataka Gazetteer Department  
Bengaluru

## VII

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE</b>	<b>V</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>VII</b>
<b>GAZETTEER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS LIST</b>	<b>XIII</b>
<b>TRANSLATORS' LIST</b>	<b>XIV</b>
<b>GAZETTEER STAFF LIST</b>	<b>XV</b>
<b>ILLUSTRATIONS</b>	

<b>CHAPTER 1</b>	<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>1-49</b>
------------------	----------------	-------------

Origin of the Name 1, Location and Boundaries - Area and Population 2, Administrative Changes 10, **Water Resources**-The Palar 13, The Northern Pinakini-The Kumudavathi 14, The Chitravathi-The Kushavathi-The South Pinakini-The Papaghni 15, Other Streams 16, Groundwater Resources 17, Geology 18, Pillow Lava, Hills 20, **Tanks** 21, Tank Management Scheme, Kolar 22, **Mineral Deposits** - Gold 23, Corundum, Kyanite, Ochre, Feldspar, Graphite, FLORA 24, Forest Development Activities, FAUNA 26, Environment and Ecology, National Green Army Eco-clubs, World Environmental Day 27, District Environmental Conservation Authority, CLIMATE 28, Rainfall 29, Temperature, Temperature, Temperature, Other Weather Phenomena 33, Seismic Centre, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Gauribidanur 35, List of Tanks under Minor Irrigation Department in Kolar District 36-49

*Translated by : Dr.T.R.Anantaramu*

**Ed: S.N.Raju**

<b>CHAPTER 2</b>	<b>HISTORY</b>	<b>50 - 206</b>
------------------	----------------	-----------------

Introduction 50, Mythological Background 54, Pre-historic Period 59, Neolithic Culture 60, Chalcolithic Culture 63, Megalithic Culture 64, Pre-historic line drawings and Colour paintings 67, Proto-historic Period 68, Historic Period, Banas 69-75, Gangas of Talakad 75, Chalukyas of Badami (C.500-753) 97 Rashtrakutas of Malakheda(757- 973)100, Nolambas of Henjeru 101, Vaidumbas 109, The Cholas of Tanjore 110, Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra (C. 1006-1342) 124, Vijayanagara Empire (1336-1646) 130, Adil Shahi Sultans of Bijapur, Marathas 138, Advent of Mughals, The Local Cheiftains 140, The Local Cheiftains 141, Palegars of Chikkaballapur 145, Palegars of Sugatur 148, Palegars of Tadigolla 153, Avati Prabhus 154, Harapanayakanahalli *Palepattu* 155, Kings of Mysore 156, Hyder Ali Khan 158, Tipu Sultan 162, Restoration of Mysore 163, Commissioners' Rule (1831-1881), Rendition 164, FREEDOM MOVEMENT 165, Gandhi in Nandi hills (1927) 167, Salt Satyagraha (1930) 170, Non Co-operation Movement, Gandhiji in Kolar District (1934)

## VIII

171, Gandhiji at Nandi (1936) 172, Shivapura Congress 175, Viduraswatha Tragedy 176, Mysore Hamilton Building (Town Hall) Satyagraha 179, Kolar Gold-Mines Satyagraha 180, Individual Satyagraha 183, Quit India Movement 184, Mysore Chalo Movement 187, Unification of Karnataka, ELECTIONS 190, Election Results of Lok-Sabha from the District (1952-2004) 198, Election results of Legislative Assemblies from the District (1952-1972) 199, Election results to the Legislative Assemblies of the District (1978-2004) 201-206.

**Translated by : Dr.V.Srinivasan**

**Ed: S.Rajendrappa**

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **PEOPLE**

**207-286**

Introduction 207, Decadal Population Variation 209, Density of Population 210, Household Population, Residential Houses and Families 212, Institutional Population 213, Houseless Population 215, Migrations 217, Sex-ratio 218, Age-wise Classification of Population 219, Rural Population 221, Town Population and Growth 223, Scheduled Castes 224, Scheduled Tribes, Languages 225, Literacy Rate, Physically Handicapped 227, RELIGIONS 228, Buddhism 229, Hinduism 230, Jainism 231, , Christianity 232, Islam 233, Religious Institutions 234, CASTES 237, SOCIAL LIFE 259, Festivals and Deities 273, Fairs and Jattras 281, Important Fairs and Festivals of Kolar District 282-286.

**Translated by : Dr.Chandrashekhara Damble**

**Ed: B.H.Ramakumari**

### **CHAPTER 4**

#### **AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION**

**287- 329**

Agricultural Zone 288, Agricultural Seasons, Soil 289, Agricultural School 290, Soil Health Centre 291, Land Utilization 292, Agricultural Land Holdings 295, Agricultural Workers 296, Cropping Pattern 299, Raita Mitra (Farmers' Friend) Programme, Popularisation of Bio-fertilisers Scheme 303, Vermi Culture, Development of Catchment Areas, Construction of Diversion Canals 304, Soil and Water Conservation, Farm Ponds, Development and Maintenance of Non-agricultural Lands 305, IRRIGATION 306, Border Strip Irrigation System, Check Basin System, Corrugation and Furrow Method, Drip Irrigation System, Sprinkler System 308, List of Major Tanks in the District 309, Agricultural Implements, HORTICULTURE 311, Important Schemes under Implementation by the Horticultural Department 313, FISHERIES 317, Fish Rearing Centres 319, objectives of the Fisheries Department 320, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY SERVICES 323, Sheep Development 325, Rabbit Rearing, Poultry Farming 326, Integrated Sample Survey 326, Veterinary Services 327-29.

**Translated by : Dr.H.P.Shashidhara Murthy**

**Ed: S.N.Raju**

### **CHAPTER 5**

#### **INDUSTRIES**

**330-396**

Introduction 330, Modern Industries 333, Present Industries, Industrial Policy (2001-2006) 334, Supply of Electricity 335, LARGE AND MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRIES-Gold Mining in Ancient India, in Kolar District, Later Developments 339, John Taylor Company 340, Nationalization of Gold Mines 342, Gold Mines is 100 years old (1880-1980) 345, Bharath Gold Mines Limited

(BGML) 347, Bharath Earth Movers LTD (BEML) 349, Gauribidanur Sahakara Sakkare Karkhane Ltd., Gauri Distillary Private Ltd. Gauribidanur, Kolar District Co-Operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd., 353, Progress of Milk Industry, Progress of Milk Industry 355, Small Scale Industries 359, Rice Mills 365, Jelly Crushing, Khadi and Gramodyoga 369, Handicrafts Industry 378, Handloom Industry 380, Cottage Industry 381, Blanket Industry 382, Poultry 383, Silk Industry 384, Infrastructure Facilities 390, Industrial Estate 392, Hotel Industry 394, Scope for the Development of Industries in the District 395-96.

**Translated by : Dr.B.V.Sudhamani**

**Ed: S.Y.Bettegowda**

**CHAPTER 6 BANKING, FINANCE, TRADE AND COMMERCE 397- 454**

Banking and Finance 397, Control of Money-lending 400, Finance Corporations 403, Abolition of Bonded Labours Act 1976, Commercial Banking 404, Progress of Banking Industry in Kolar District 405, Lead Bank Scheme 412, Rural (Grameena) Banks 414, Life Insurance Corporation of India 415, Karnataka Government Insurance Department (KGID), Coinage and Currency System 416, CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT 418, "Yashashvini" Co-operative Health Care Scheme for Farmers, District Central Co-operative Bank 426, Primary Co-operative, Agriculture and Rural Development Banks 428, TAPCMS 430, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) 431, Primary Milk Producer's Societies 432, Non-Agricultural Credit Societies, Primary Consumer's Co-operatives 433, Industrial Co-operatives 434, Tree Growers' Co-operatives 435, District Co-operative Union, TRADE AND COMMERCE 436, Imports and Exports 439, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committies (APMC) 440, Regulated Markets 443, Shandies (Weekly Markets) 447, Cattle Fairs and Markets, Weights and Measures 449, Food and Civil Supplies 451, Public Distribution System 452, Ware Houses 453, District Consumers' Disputes Redressal Forum 454.

**Translated by : M.B.Patil**

**Ed: S.Rajendrappa & P.R.Srinivas**

**CHAPTER 7 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS 455-513**

Land Transport 455, National Highway 464, State Highway 465, Major District Roads, Other District Roads, Rural Roads 466, Rural Communication Plan 467, Taluk Development Board Roads, Irrigation Roads, Forest Department Roads 469, Municipal Roads, Five-Year Plans 470, Zilla Panchayath Technical Division, Traffic Census and Vehicle Survey 471, Regional Transport Office 477, Public Transport 488, Railway Transport 490, Water Transport, Air Transport 497, Postal Department 499, Telegraph Office, Telephones 504, Bharath Sanchar Nigama Ltd., (B.S.N.L.) 506, Kolar Telecom District, All India Radio 508, Television 509, Guest Houses 510, Tourism 513.

**Translated by : Dr.J.V.Gayathri**

**Ed: S.Rajendrappa**

**CHAPTER 8 ECONOMIC TRENDS 514-608**

Introduction 514, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY (1941) 518, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SURVEY (1961) 519, URBANISATION 522, DISTRICT INCOME 527,



PER CAPITA INCOME, PRICES 531, WAGES 539, STANDARD OF LIVING 542, EMPLOYMENT 549, Employment Services 550, LAND UTILISATION 554, IRRIGATION 557, CROPS 558, CATTLE WEALTH, Dairy Industry 562, MINERAL WEALTH 565, INDUSTRIES 567, ELECTRICITY 568, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS 570, CO-OPERATION MOVEMENT 572, HUMAN RESOURCE, Manpower Project 574, PLANS 576, POVERTY ALLEVIATION 593, DROUGHT AND FLOODS 598, DEVELOPMENTAL POTENTIALITY 599, PLACES IDENTIFIED FOR ESTABLISHING PROFITABLE INDUSTRIES 601, Kolar District Socio-Economic Indicators, 603-608.

**Translated by : Dr.S.L.Ramakrishna**

**Ed: S.Y.Bettegowda**

**CHAPTER 9 GENERAL AND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION 609-661**

Introduction 609, GENERAL ADMINISTRATION 611, Divisional Commissioner 612, Deputy Commissioner 613, Assistant Commissioner 618, Tahsildar 619, Block Development Officer, Shirastedar, Revenue Inspector 620, *Nada Kacheri* 621, Village Accountant, Gramasahayaks 622, District Training Institute, Religious and Charitable Institutions 623, REVENUE ADMINISTRATION 624, Reforms under the British Commissioners 627, Revision of Land Revenue System of 1964, 628, Standard Rates, Water Rate 629, Land Revenue Accounts 633, Recovery of Land Revenue 635, Remission of Land Revenue, Rules of Remission of Land Revenue 636, Land Reforms 637, Abolition of Tenancy, Land Tribunals 638, Allotment of Surplus Land, Land Reforms Appellate Authority, Disposal of Government Lands 639, Land Acquisition 640, Other Taxes 641, Stamps and Registration 643, Motor Vehicles Tax, Forest Development Tax 648, List of Deputy Commissioners 659.

**Translated by: Dr.H.P.Shashidhara Murthy**

**Ed: S.A.Jagannath & B.H.Ramakumari**

**CHAPTER 10 LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE 662-694**

Introduction 662, Criminal Cases 668, Civil Cases 675, Fast Track Courts 681, Legal Services Authority, Renowned Persons of Judicial Administration 682, Bar Association, Kolar 683, Office of the Lokayukta, Kolar, Jails and Lock-ups 685, Details of Disturbances 687, COMMUNAL DISTURBANCES 689, Farmers' Movements, KGF Police Circle 691, Home Guards 693-94.

**Translated by : B.S.Sathyanarayana**

**Ed: S.Rajendrappa & P.R.Srinivas**

**CHAPTER 11 OTHER DEPARTMENTS 695-719**

Department of Agricultural Marketing 695, Department of Backward Classes and Minorities, Department of Commercial Tax 696, Department of Economics and Statistics, Department of Excise 697, Department of Fisheries, Department of Forest 698, Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Department of Health 699, Department of Horticulture, Department of Information 700, Department of Kannada and Culture, Department of Labour 701, Department of Legal Metrology 702, Department of Mines and Geology, Department of Pre-university and Vocational Education 703, Department of Police, Department of Postal Service 704, Department of Public Instruction,

Department of Public Libraries 705, Department of Public Works, Department of Registration and Stamps 606, Department of Revenue 707, Department of Sericulture 708, Department of Survey and Land Records 709, Department of Small Savings, Department of Transport 710, Department of Treasuries, Department of Women and Child Welfare 711, Department of Youth Services and Sports, District Construction Centre 712, District Consumer's Forum, District Home Guards and Civil Protection 713, District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), District Training Institute 714, Karnataka Backward Classes Development Corporation Ltd., Karnataka Government Insurance Department 715, Karnataka Land Army Corporation Ltd., Karnataka Lokayukta 716, Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd., Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Board 717, Khadi and Village Industries Board, Watershed Development Department 718-19.

**Translated by : S.R.Mylaraiah**

**Ed: S.Y.Bettegowda & U.Sumana**

**CHAPTER 12**

**LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT**

**720-796**

*Introduction* 720, *Historical Background* 723, *Town Administration* 724, *Local Self Governing Institutions of Modern Period* 725, *Constitution of Panchayats* 726, *Venkatappa Committee* 728, *Developments after the Re-organisation* , *District Development Council* , *Re-organisation of Taluk Development Boards* 729, *Town Panchayats* 730, *Village Panchayats* 731, *Panchayat Raj Act 1983*, 732, *Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act 1993*, 733, *Zilla Panchayat* 735, *Taluk Panchayats* 738, *Zilla Panchayat, Kolar* 739, *Town Planning* 745, *City Improvement Board Kolar* 746, *KGF City Improvement Board* 747, *Elections to Municipalities*, *Directorate of Municipal Administration* 754, *City Municipality, Kolar* 757, *CMC Robertsonpet (KGF)* 760, *CMC, Chintamani* 764, *CMC, Chikballapur* 766, *TMC, Malur* 769, *TMC, Sidlaghatta* 772, *TMC, Mulabagilu* 775, *TMC, Gauribidanur* 778, *TMC, Bangarpet* 781, *Town Panchayat, Bagepalli* 784, *Town Panchayat, Srinivaspura* 786, *Town Panchayat Gudibande* 789, *Karnataka Housing Board* 792, *Slum Clearance Board* 794-96.

**Translated by : M.B.Patil**

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**CHAPTER 13**

**EDUCATION AND SPORTS**

**797-851**

*Introduction* 797, *Ancient period* 799, *Modern Education, Literacy* 800, *Pre-Primary Education* 804, *Primary Education* 805, *Minority Language Schools (Lower)*, *Higher Primary* 810, *Compulsory Primary Education* 811, *Basic Education* 812, *Recent Reforms, Educational Administration* 814, *Methodist Mission School, Morarji Desai Model Residential Schools* 822, *Deaf, Dumb and Mentally Retarded Children's Schools* 823, *Higher Secondary Education, Different Type of High Schools* 824, *Pre-University Education* 828, *Commerce Education* 829, *Higher Education* 830, *Schools and Colleges of National Education Society* 831, *Technical Education* 832, *School of Mines, KGF* 833, *Teachers Training* 834, *Adults Education* 835, *District Literary Council* 836, *National Cadet Corps (NCC)* 837, *Bharath Scouts and Guides* ,

Job Oriented Education 839, Agricultural Education 842, Medical Education, Post-Graduate Centre, Kolar 843, Law Education, Sanskrit Education 844, Libraries, SPORTS 845, Famous Sports persons of the District 847, Golf Club, K.G.F, Cricket, Gymnasium, 849, Yoga Schools, Karate Schools, Stadium 850-51.

**Translated by : Dr.A.H. Gayathridevi Ed: T.G.Narasimhamoorthy,S.N.Raju & M.Mahesh**

#### **CHAPTER 14 LITERATURE AND CULTURE 852-970**

Introduction 852, LITERATURE 853, Ancient Poets 854, Modern Writers 858, Sanskrit Literature 859, Telugu Literature 861, Urdu Literature 865, Modern Kannada Literature 866, English Literature 885, Women Writers 887, Uniqueness of the Language 891, Place Names 894, Kannada Sahithya Parishath, District Literary Meets 896, Cultural Organizations 897, THEATRICAL ACTIVITIES 899, Folk Art Forms 912, Togalugombe 918, JOURNALISM 921, 'Kolar Patrike' : Many Firsts 922, Other News Papers of the District 925, Painting 927, Photography 935, Architecture and Sculpture 936, Sculptors of Shivarapattana 945, State Government Protected Monuments 950, Archaeological Survey of India, Music and Dance 951, Keerthane, Harikathe and Other Forms 961, Cinema and Television 967-70.

**Translated by:Dr.P.V.Narayana Ed:S.Rajendrappa, P.R.Srinivas & B.H..Ramakumari.**

#### **CHAPTER 15 MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES 971-1025**

Introduction 971, Data on Births and Deaths 975, Communicable Diseases 977, District Tuberculosis Centre, AIDS : (Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome) 988, Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy 989, Karnataka State Ayurveda Prachara Parishath, Medical Institutions 990, District Hospital 991, General Hospitals 993, .L. Jalappa Hospital and Research Centre, Tamaka 1006, C.S.I. Hospital, Chikkaballapur 1008, Kamala Nehru Tuberculosis and Chest Diseases Hospital 1009, Rural Health Programmes, Community Health Centres 1010, Primary Health Centres 1014, Primary Health Units 1017, Family Welfare 1018, Maternal and Child Health Programme, Family Welfare Committees 1019, School Health Programme, Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP), Pulse Polio Programme 1021, Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Rehydration (ORS) Programme 1023, District Laboratory, Kolar, Indian Medical Association, Drug Control 1024-1025.

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#### **CHAPTER 16 OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES 1026-1081**

Labour Welfare 1026, Constitution of Labour Department 1027, The Worker's Compensation Act and Insurance Act 1029, Labour Insurance Scheme, Karnataka State Insurance 1031, Minimum Wages Benefit, Workers Provident Fund Scheme 1032, Industrial Peace – Disputes 1033, Child Labour System – Elimination Plan 1036, Trade Union Movement 1039, Labour Education 1040, Central Board for Workers Education 1041, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' Welfare Programmes 1042, Welfare of Backward

### XIII

Classes 1048, Maintenance of Pre-matric hostels in Kolar district 1051, Maintenance of Post Matric Hostels 1052, Karnataka Backward Classes Development Corporation Limited. 1056, Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation 1057, Religious and Charitable Endowment Institutions 1059, Wakf Institutions 1061, Wakf Development Corporation 1062, Women and Child Welfare 1063, Integrated Child Development Project, Anganawadi Centres 1064, Cottages for Destitutes 1065, Social Defence Programmes Implemented in the District Observation Home 1068, Bala Mandir 1069, Karnataka Women Development Corporation 1070, Welfare of Disabled 1071, Other Welfare Measures 1074, Prohibition 1076, Free Legal Assistance – People’s Court People’s Court , 1077, Voluntary Organisations 1079, Indian Red Cross Society and other Social Service Organizations, District Nehru Youth Centre, Jain Yuvaka Mandal, K.G.F 1080-1081.

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**CHAPTER 17** **PLACES OF INTEREST** **1082-1193**

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**REVENUE VILLAGES, HAMLETS AND TOWNS OF THE DISTRICT** **1194 - 1227**

**Ed: S.Rajendrappa**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY** **1228-1239**

**APPENDIX: DISTRICTS AT A GLANCE** **2009-10** **1240-1275**

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**ADDENDA : 2011 CENSUS POPULATION STATISTICS** **1276**

**ERRATA** **1277**

**INDEX** **1278- 1296**

**DISTRICT MAP**

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