

of a royal palace, and encloses a large mosque and a well. The town contains two post offices, British and Nizam's, a police station, a dispensary, and three primary schools.

**Surapur Town** : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 16° 31' N. and 76° 46' E. Population (1901), 8,271. The town belonged to the Rajas of Surapur, the last of whom revolted during the Mutiny of 1857, and the *samasthan* was made over to the Hyderabad State as a gift after the restoration of order. It contains a Munsif's court, a dispensary, an English middle school, a girls' school, a post office, a branch British post office, and the 'New Darbar,' a large building built by Colonel Meadows Taylor during his residence here.

**Tandur** : Head-quarters of the *jagir taluk* of the same name is the Kodangal *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 15' N. and 77° 34' E., on the Nizam's State Railway. Population (1901), 5,930. The Kagna river flows one mile south of the town.

**Yadgir Town** : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 16° 46' N. and 77° 9' E., on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The fort of Yadgir was built on a hill by a Yadava king. An inscription on the Nizam Burj gives an account of Nizam Ali Khan's visit to the governor of the place. In the town are a Jama Masjid and another mosque with an inscription. Yadgir also contains a post office, a middle school with 237 pupils, and a police inspector's office.

**Boundaries,  
configuration  
and hill and  
River Systems**

**Lingasugur District**<sup>1</sup>.-Frontier District in the Gulbarga Division of Hyderabad State, situated in the south-west corner adjoining the Bombay Districts of Bijapur and Dharwar, which bound it to the west ; Gulbarga and Raichur, which border it to the north and east ; and the Madras District of Bellary, from which it is separated by the Tungabhadra river to the east and south. It lies between 15° 3' and 16° 20' N. and 75° 48' and 77° 2'

1. In 1905 the District of Lingasugur was abolished, the Shahpur and Surpur *taluks* been transferred to Gulbarga and other four to Raichur

E., and has a total area of 4,879 square miles ; but the area of State and 'crown' lands is only 2,968 square miles, the rest being comprised in the two large *jagirs* of the Salar Jang family and other smaller *jagirs* and the two *samasthans* of Gurgunta and Anegundi.

A range of hills 14 miles long, known as the Yamnigadh range, begins at Daryapur village in the Gangawati *taluk* and ends in the same *taluk* at Bamsugur. In the Shahpur *taluk* is a small range called the Muhammadapur hills, 5 miles long, and shahpur town is built on part of this. A third range takes its name from Surapur and is 8 miles in length.

The most important river is the Kistna, which flows from west to east through the District for a length of 94 miles. It enters the District in the Lingsugur *taluk*, and receives the Bhima at a point 16 miles north of the town of Raichur near the boundary of Raichur District. the next important river is the Tungabhadra, which enters the south of the Gangawati *taluk* and flows along the borders of that and the Sindhnur *taluk* for a distance of 44 miles, when it enters Raichur. The Bhima enters Lingsugur near Raoza in the Shahapur *taluk* in the north, and falls into the Kistna after a course of 42 miles in the District. The other rivers are the Maski and the Sindhnur nullahs, both tributaries of the Tungabhadra. The Devapur nullah flows through the Surapur *taluk* for 24 miles and falls into the Kistna.

### Geology

The chief geological formations are the Archaean, including various forms of gneiss and groups of crystalline schists known as the Dharwar series ; the Kaladgi rocks, occupying a few spurs and outliers near the western frontiers, extensions of the main area situated in Dharwar and Belgaum ; and the Bhima series, north, west, and south-west of Sagar, forming a narrow strip between the gneiss and the Deccan trap with constitutes the frontier beyond them. Complete accounts have been published by R.B. Foote in *Memoirs, Geological Survey of India*, vol. xii, part i, and in *Records*, vols.

xv, part iv ; xix, part ii ; xxi, part ii ; xxii, part i. The Hatti gold-mine is situated in the auriferous Dharwar schists.

**Botany**

The flora of the District is scanty and is characteristic of the dry zone. The predominant trees are *babul* (*Acacia arabica*), *nim*, mango, and several species of fig.

**Fauna**

In the hills of Gangawati, Shahpur, and Surapur, leopards, hunting cheetahs, hyenas, and bears are found; and black-faced monkeys are abundant in the Lingsugur and Gangawati *taluks*. Game-birds are represented by peafowl, partridges, and quail, while duck, teal, and water-fowl are met within the vicinity of tanks and rivers.

**Climate,  
temperature  
and Rainfall**

From September to May and June the climate is dry and healthy, but during the monsoons the *taluks* of Gangawati and Surapur are very malarious. The Sindhur, Kushtagi, and Shahpur *taluks* are the healthiest. Though the temperature in May rises to 112° in the day, the nights are cool. In December it falls to 56°. The annual rainfall averages about 21 inches.

**History**

The District formed part of the Vijayanagar kingdom in the fourteenth century. After the foundation of the Bahmani dynasty it became part of that kingdom, but was taken and retaken by the rulers of the two States, until it fell to the Adil Shahi rulers of Bijapur. Upon the conquest of Bijapur by Aurangzeb it was annexed to the empire of Delhi, but was separated from it when the Hyderabad State was founded by Asaf Jah, early in the eighteenth century. It was 'assigned' to the British Government under the treaty of 1853, but was restored to the Nizam in 1860.

The forts of ANEGUNDI, MUDGAL, Jaldurg,

KOPPAL, and Shahpur are interesting from an historical as well as an archaeological point of view. Ittugi, 60 miles south-west of Lingsugur, contains a fine old temple, which dates from A.D. 1112-3. In the village of Gugi are a Jama Masjid and the tomb of a local saint, named Pir chanda Husain. The villages of Kallur and Kukanur also contain ancient temples.

**Population**

The number of towns and villages in the District, including large and small *jagirs*, is 1,273. The population at the last three enumeration was (1881) 480,715, (1891) 620,014, and (1901) 675,813. It is divided into six *taluks* as shown below, and also contains the two large *jagirs* of Koppal and Yelbarga, and the two *samasthans* of Anegundi and Gurgunta. The towns are KOPPAL, SURAPUR, MUDGAL, GANGAWATI, SAGAR, SINDHNUR, and LINGSUGUR. About 90 per cent. of the population are Hindus; while 87 per cent. speak Kanarese and 7 percent. Urdu.

The following table gives the chief statistics of population in 1901 :-

Taluk	Area in square miles	Number of		Population	Population per square mile	Population of variation population between 1891 & 1901	Number of personal to read and write
		Towns	Villages				
Lingsugur	499	1	95	47,487	95	+ 19.8	Not available
Sirapur	550	1	133	87,675	159	+ 4.4	
Shahpur	490	1	110	81,884	167	+ 13.0	
Sindhnur	476	1	65	40,788	86	+ 31.4	
Gangawati	429	1	103	54,539	127	+ 18.0	
Kushtagi	524	-	121	51,769	99	- 10.2	
<i>Jagirs &amp;c.</i>	1,911	2	640	311,671	163	+ 12.7	
<b>District total</b>	<b>4,879</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>675,813</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>+ 8.9</b>	<b>16,998</b>

Castes and Occupations

The most numerous caste in the District is that of the agricultural Kapus, numbering 181,100, two-thirds of whom are Lingayats. Kommaras or potters number 104,100 ; Bedars, 72,000 ; Salas or weavers, 30,500 ; and Upparas, 30,100, of whom 17,700 are extractors of sal from saline earth. The Dhers number 18,200, and the Chamars or workers in leather, 14,600. The number of persons directly engaged in agriculture is about 66 per cent. of the total.

Christian Missions

At Mudgal there is a Roman Catholic mission, which was established about 1557, during the reign of the Adil Shahis of Bijapur, who granted lands to the mission and exempted them from taxes. The mission is one of the oldest in India, and is said to have been established by priests dispatched from Goa by St. Francis Xavier. The native Christian population of the District in 1901 was 524, of whom 481 were Roman Catholics.

General Agricultural Conditions

The larger portion of the District is composed of *masab*, a mixture of reddish and white sandy soils, interspersed with *regar* or black soil and *kharab*. In contrast to the Sindhur *taluk*, in which *regar* predominates and *rabi* crops are extensively grown, the soils of the remaining five *taluks* are chiefly *masab*, and are used for *kharif* crops. White *jowar*, gram, wheat, cotton, and linseed are the chief *rabi* crops, being raised on the *regar* ; while red *jowar*, *bajra*, *tuar* and other pulses, and sesamum are sown in the *masab* as *kharifi* crops. The *kharab* soils are utilized for garden produce, and require heavy manuring. The alluvial soils in the valleys of the rivers also produce *rabi* crops, and are very fertile.

Chief Agricultural Statistics and Principal Crops

The tenure of land is mainly *ryotwari*. In 1901, out of a total area of 2,968 square miles comprised in the *khalsa* and 'crown' lands, 2,205 were cultivated, 22 being irrigated, while 124 were

cultivable waste and fallows, 130 were forests, and 509 were not available for cultivation. The staple food of the people consists of *jowar*, *bajra*, and *Kangni*, produced from 42, 10, and 8 per cent. respectively of the net area cropped. Cotton was grown on 303 and wheat on 39 square miles. Sugar-cane is raised in small quantities with well-irrigation in all the *taluks*, and in the Gangawati *taluk* it is irrigated from the Taungabhadra Channel.

In 1888, when the District was settled, there were 331 square miles of unoccupied land, but in 1901 only 124 square miles remained unoccupied. The ryots have done nothing to improve the cultivation by the introduction of new varieties of seed or better agricultural implements.

#### Cattle & c.

No special breed of cattle is characteristic of the District. Those in use are strong and well suited for ordinary agricultural work, but not for deep ploughing, for which bullocks have to be imported. Up to 1887 Arab stallions were maintained for breeding purposes, but owing to the hot climate breeding operations were not successful. Ponies, sheep, and goats of the ordinary kind are kept.

#### Irrigation

In the Gangawati *taluk* there is some wet cultivation supplied by an old channel 9 miles long, taking off from the Tungabhadra. The total irrigated area in the District is only 22 square miles, supplied by this channel and by wells, of which there are 1,404. Tanks number 89, large and small, but they are used for drinking purposes only. There is great scope for extensive irrigation in the District ; and surveys and estimates have been completed for the two Kistna channels and the Bennur project, which would cost more than 20 lakhs and irrigate 107 square miles, yielding a revenue of about 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> lakhs. The repair of the large tank at Kachkanur

will cost  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lakhs, and it is estimated that it will irrigate 27,170 acres, yielding a revenue of nearly  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lakhs.

**Forests**

The District has 130 square miles of unprotected forests in the Shahpur and Surapur *taluks*, and on the Yamnigadh hills in the Gangawati *taluk*.

**Minerals**

The most important mineral is gold, obtained from auriferous quartz. The mines in the Raichur *doab* were leased in 1894 to the Hyderabad Deccan Company, but are not being worked now. Laminated limestone like the Shahabad stone is found and worked in the Shahpur, Surapur, and Kushtagi *taluks*.

**Arts and  
Manufactures**

There is no important industry in the District. Coarse cotton cloth, *dhotis*, and *saris* are woven in decreasing quantities, as mill-made cloth is imported at cheaper rates. Blankets are manufactured by the shepherds from the wool of their sheep, and sold at from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 a piece. Wooden toys are made at Kanakgiri in the Gangawati *taluk*.

**Commerce**

The chief exports are *jowar* and other cereals, pulse, cotton, oilseeds, chillies, jaggery, tobacco, *tarvar* bark, hides, bones and horns. The principal imports consist of salt, salted fish, opium, species, gold and silver, copper and brass vessels, refined sugar, iron, kerosene oil, yarn, raw silk, and silk, cotton, and woollen stuffs.

There are five commercial centres in the District-Rangampet in Surapur, Mudgal and Maski in Lingsugur, Sindhnur, and Gangawati-from which the whole of the imported articles are distributed to different parts. Besides these, 37 weekly markets are held at various places. The trading castes are the Komatis and Marwaris, who do banking business also.

**Railways & Roads**      The south-west corner of the District is crossed by the Southern Mahratta Railway. The total length of gravelled roads is 219 miles, all under the Public Works Department. The principal routes are : Lingsugur to Pamankalur (11 miles), to Surapur (30), to Jantgal (59), and Surapur to Naikal (27).

**Famine**      In 1793 and 1803 the District was visited by two great famines known as the *dogibara* or 'skull' famine and *ragibara* or *ragi* famine, when people and cattle died by thousands. *Jowar* in 1793 sold at two seers per rupee and *ragi* in 1803 at the same price. The District suffered in 1814, 1819, 1831, and 1866 from famines more or less severe, but worse than all these was that of 1877-8, the effects of which were felt far and wide. Thousands of persons lost their lives, or emigrated to other regions, and many villages were deserted. The rain-fall in 1876 was 10 inches, and in 1877 only 2.4 inches, and *rabi* and *kharif* crops in both years entirely failed. More than 100,000 persons died during this famine, cholera and small-pox being responsible for a large number. These figures refer only to the four *taluks* of which the District was then composed. More than 75 per cent. of the cattle died for want of water and fodder. In 1892 there was scarcity, and in 1897 there was famine which cost the State 3 lakhs. The great famine of 1900 did not affect the District beyond causing scarcity.

**District Sub-  
divisions and  
Staff**

The District is divided into three subdivisions. One consists of the two *Sarf-i-khas* or 'crown' *taluks* of Shahpur and Surapur, under the Second Talukdar; the second consists of the Lingsugur *taluk* only, under the Third Talukdar ; and the remaining three *taluks* are under the First Talukdar. There is a *tahsildar* in each *taluk*.



**Civil and  
Criminal Justice**

The *Nazim-i-Diwani*, or District civil Judge, presides over the District civil court. There are five subordinate civil courts : those of the *tahsildars* of Lingsugur, Gangawati, Kushtagi, and Sindhnur, and that of a Munsif for the *taluks* of Shahpur and Surapur. The First Talukdar is the chief magistrate of the District, and the *Nazim-i-Diwani* is also a joint magistrate, exercising magisterial powers during the absence of the First Talukdar from head-quarters. The Second and Third Talukdars and the six *tahsildars* exercise second and third-class magisterial powers. There is little serious crime in ordinary years, but in adverse seasons dacoities and cattle and grain thefts increase in proportion to the severity of the season.

**Land Revenue**

Nothing is known of the revenue history of the District beyond the fact that lands were formerly leased on contract. This system was abolished in 1866, and a light rate was fixed per *bigha* ( $3/4$  acre) according to the nature of the land. The revenue survey was completed in 1888, and assessments were fixed for fifteen years. The survey showed that the cultivated area had increased by  $29\frac{1}{2}$  percent. The enhancement of revenue was Rs. 33,600, or nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., the demand having risen from 9.8 to 10.2 lakhs. The average assessment on 'dry' land is 12 annas (maximum Rs. 1-10, minimum one anna), and on 'wet' land Rs. 7-8 (maximum Rs. 15, minimum Rs. 1-8).

The land revenue and the total revenue of the District are shown below, in thousands of rupees :-

	1881	1891	1901	1903
Land revenue	6,83	11,90	11,07	11,90
Total revenue	9,06	15,71	14,95	15,80

**Local  
Government**

Since 1887, a cess of one anna in the rupee on the land revenue has been levied for local purposes, of which a quarter, or Rs. 17,000, is set apart for public works. The District board at Lingsugur is presided over by the First Talukdar, and there are *taluk* boards at the head-quarters of the six *taluks*.

**Police and Jails**

The First Talukdar is the head of the District police, with a Superintendent (*Mohtamim*) as his executive deputy. Under him are 7 inspectors, 73 subordinate officers, 420 constables, and 23 mounted police. These are distributed among 26 *thamas* and 27 outposts, and also guard the District treasury and the jail. The District jail is in the village of Karkal, near the head-quarters; prisoners whose terms exceed six months are transferred to the Central jail at Gulbarga. There are lock-ups in the six *taluk* offices.

**Education**

The proportion of persons in 1901 who were able to read and write was 2.5 per cent. (4 males and 0.1 females). The first State school in the District was opened in 1869, and board schools were opened in 1896. The total number of pupils under instruction in 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1903 was 775, 1,990, 3,012, and 3,070 respectively. In 1903 there were 29 primary and 3 middle schools with 130 girls under instruction. The total amount spent on education was Rs. 20,525, of which the State contributed Rs. 13,600. Of the total, 69 per cent. was spent on primary schools. The fee receipts in 1901 amounted to Rs. 1,076.

**Medical**

There are three dispensaries, with a total accommodation for 12 in-patients. The number of cases treated in 1901 was 18,669, including 43 in-patients, and the number of operations performed was 516. The total expenditure was Rs. 7,226.

The number of cases successfully vaccinated in 1901 was 2,583, or 3.87 per 1,000 of population.

**Boundaries  
configuration  
and Hill and  
River systems**

Osmanabad District (formerly called Naldrug)-District in the west of the Hyderabad State, bounded by the Bombay Districts of Ahmadnagar and Sholapur on the north, west, and south ; by Bhir and Bidar Districts on the north and east ; by the Akalkot State of Bombay on the south ; and by Gulbarga District on the south-east. It encloses the detached Barsi *taluk* of Sholapur District, and lies between 17° 35' and 18° 40' N. and 75° 16' and 76° 40' E., with a total area of 4,010 square miles ; but the area of the *khalsa* and *Sarf-i-khas* ('crown') lands is only 2,627 square miles, the rest being *paigh* and *jagir*. A range of hills, which enters the District at the north-west corner from Ahmadnagar, and continues to the south-east, divides it into two portions : a plateau to the north-east and east, and lowlands to the west, south-west, and south. The *taluks* of Wasi, Owsa, Kalam, and parts of Tuljapur, Osmanabad, and Naldrug are situated on the plateau; the remainder of the District on the lowlands. The general slope of the plateau is from south-west to north-east. The land rises from Tuljapur towards Osmanabad ; thence it begins to descend gradually towards the north-east, terminating in the valley of the Manjra river.

The most important river in the MANJRA, which runs due east along the northern boundary as far as the north-eastern corner of the Owsa *taluk*, where it takes a southerly direction before entering Bidar District. Its length in Osmanabad is about 58 miles. Other streams which traverse portions of the District are the Sina and its tributary the Kheri, the Tirna, and the borna, which all run in a south-easterly direction, the Sina forming part of the boundary between Osmanabad and Bhir District.