

## CHAPTER IX

### ECONOMIC TRENDS

**S**HIMOGA is one of the *malnad* districts of the State. Broadly speaking, the district encloses the Varada-Tungabhadra doab and comprises *malnad* on the west and *maidan* on the east and a long strip of land in between which exhibits the characteristics of both the *malnad* and the *maidan* to a certain extent. It is the ninth biggest district in the State in respect of area and occupies the twelfth place in point of the number of persons living in it. Out of the total population of the district, 76.39 per cent are living in rural parts which comprise 99.49 per cent of the total geographical area, while 23.61 per cent are residing in towns in 0.51 per cent of the total geographical area of the district as per the 1971 census. Roughly, a little more than one-fourth of the rural population are living in villages having a population of less than 500 each. On the other hand, more than 66 per cent of its urban population are found living in Shimoga City and Bhadravati Urban Agglomeration. These two places have continued to grow faster than those of other towns in the district. Between 1901 and 1971, the range of increase of population in respect of the towns varied from 88.70 per cent for the Nyamati town to 3,687.67 per cent for the Bhadravati Urban Agglomeration. The average number of persons living in a square kilometre of area in the district was 123 in 1971; it was 95 in the rural areas and 5,752 in the urban centres, while the average number of persons living in the cultivated area only was 341. In the year 1972-73, thirty per cent of the geographical area was under the plough and 20.4 per cent was under forest. Of the sown area, more than 43.16 per cent was irrigated. In this respect, the district ranked second among the districts of the State.

#### Standard urban areas

It was for the first time in 1971 census that Shimoga city and Bhadravati were classified under the 12 standard urban areas of the State on the basis of a population criterion of 50,000 and above and possessing certain other characteristics. The Bhadravati Standard Urban Area includes the core towns of Bhadravati and Bhadravati New Town and 20 rural components, covering an area of 12.21 sq. kms. of urban component units with a population of

1,01,368 and 49.86 sq. kms. area of rural component units with a population of 12,108. Similarly, the Shimoga Standard Urban Area includes Shimoga city urban component unit and 17 rural component units and covers an area of 5.96 sq. kms. of urban component unit with its population of 1,02,709 and 54.09 sq. kms. of rural component units with their population of 13,388.

The mainstay of the people of the district continues to be agriculture. According to the 1971 census, 32 per cent of the total population of the district were workers and the rest were non-workers. Further 26.78 per cent of the males and 5.23 per cent of the females in the district were classified as workers. In so far as the participation-rate in the two broad fields of economic activities are concerned, 22.5 per cent of the total population in 1971 were found engaged in agriculture and another 9.5 per cent in non-agricultural occupations, the remaining being non-workers. Classified according to the main sectors of economy, 74.07 per cent of the workers were in primary sector (comprising the categories like cultivators, agricultural labourers and those engaged in forestry, rearing of animals, mining, quarrying, etc.), 11.15 per cent in the secondary sector (consisting of the categories like manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs, construction, etc.) and 14.78 per cent in tertiary sector (including trade and commerce, transport, storage, communications, other services, etc.), the corresponding percentages for the State being 71.35, 11.99 and 16.66 respectively. For every 1,000 persons in the district, 237 were in primary sector, 36 in secondary sector and 47 in tertiary sector, the non-working population being 680. Percentage livelihood classification of workers as in 1971 was as follows :—

Livelihood  
pattern

Sl. No.	Livelihood classification	Percentage to total workers in		
		Shimoga district	Karnataka	India
1.	Cultivators ..	38.6	40.02	43.34
2.	Agricultural labourers ..	31.8	26.70	26.33
3.	Livestock, etc. ..	3.5	4.12	2.38
4.	Mining and quarrying ..	0.2	0.51	0.51
5.	Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs (a) Household industry	(a) 2.8	4.31	3.52
	(b) other than household industry	(b) 6.1	5.89	5.94
6.	Construction ..	2.2	1.79	1.23
7.	Trade and Commerce ..	6.1	5.88	5.57
8.	Transport, storage and communications	2.4	2.68	2.44
9.	Other services ..	6.3	8.10	8.74
	Total ..	100.0	100.00	100.00

The age-group between 15 and 59 is generally considered as working group. The percentage of total workers to total population of the district in this age-group was 55.43; the percentage of male workers to the total male population in the same age-group was 87.30 and that of the female workers to the total female population was 19.03. In the rural areas of the district, 57.92 per cent of the population in the same age-group were workers, whereas in the urban areas the corresponding percentage was 48.19.

**Survey of  
Govinakovi  
village**

A socio-economic survey of a village called Govinakovi of Honnali taluk, was conducted by the census authorities in 1961. In that year, it had 469 workers and 850 non-workers, the total population being 1,319. About 55.8 per cent of the total male population and 14.0 per cent of the total female population of the village were workers. Among the non-workers, 22.82 per cent were students, 40.24 per cent other dependents, 34.70 per cent house-hold workers and 2 per cent rent-receivers, and 0.24 per cent were employment seekers. About 89 per cent of male workers and 75 per cent of female workers were within the age-group of 15-59. The principal occupation of 84 per cent of the workers was agriculture. Among agricultural labourers, the number of female workers exceeded that of males. Some interesting occupation-wise figures were as follows :—

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Average annual income per household</i>	<i>Average annual income per equivalent adult male</i>	<i>No. of gainfully employed persons per household</i>
	<i>Rs.</i>	<i>Rs.</i>	
Cultivation of owned lands	1,615	228	2.28
Cultivation of lands taken on lease.	1,100	222	1.67
Agricultural labour ..	426	114	2.56
Household industry ..	501	118	1.38
Others ..	947	322	1.00

The total number of households in the village was 218. The average annual income of these households was Rs. 917. About 55 per cent of the households belonging to cultivators of owned lands were getting an annual income of Rs. 1,200 and above. Whereas 66.6 per cent of the households which had taken lands on lease earned between Rs. 601 and Rs. 900, another 33.33 per cent of the same category earned Rs. 1,200 and above. Another 12.50 per cent came under the next category of the household industry under the income group of Rs. 601 and Rs. 900. While one-fourth of agricultural labourers got Rs. 300 and below per annum, 62.50 per cent of this class earned between Rs. 301 and Rs. 600. "The agricultural labourers form the poorest lot in the village. They earn less and their means of livelihood is also not secure. There

is no household of workers at household industry earning more than Rs. 76 per month. Their lot is only next to that of agricultural labourers in poverty", says the monograph\*.

Taking a household as a basic unit, the average monthly expenditure per household was Rs. 112.23 in the case of owner-cultivators, Rs. 84.43 in the case of tenant-cultivators, Rs. 35.92 in the case of agricultural labourers, Rs. 39.87 in the case of workers in household industry and Rs. 63.73 in respect of others. Thus the average expenditure is lowest among agricultural labourers and highest among owner-cultivators. A household of agricultural labourer spent as much as Rs. 28.86, on an average, on food and drinks. This meant that nearly 80 per cent of its total expenditure was on food and drinks. Similarly, in respect of workers in household industry, about 80 per cent of their average expenditure was on food. This showed that theirs was a subsistence living. A table showing monthly expenditure on different items among the five categories of residents of Govinakovi village as in 1961 is given at the end of the Chapter (Table I).

A survey of Nidige village was conducted by the Planning Forum of the Sahyadri College, Shimoga, in 1970. This village is situated at a distance of about eight kms. from Shimoga city towards Bhadravati on the Bangalore-Honnar road. The population of the village grew from 350 in 1927 to 1,350 in 1969. A study of about 100 families of 574 persons was taken up by the Forum. Of them, 139 were men, 145 women and 290 children. There were 183 workers in the age-group of 18-35, 71 workers in the age-group of 36-50 and 30 workers in the age-group of 51 and above. More than 61 per cent of the surveyed families depended on agriculture wholly or partly. About 13 per cent of them were landless labourers. As the village is very near to the industrial town of Bhadravati and the district headquarters town, Shimoga, many of the residents of the village were found to be working in factories and offices located in the two cities. Out of the 100 surveyed families, about 94 families were in debts. An appreciable improvement in agriculture and "the will to progress" among the people were noticed in the village.

A study team of the Small Industry Extension Training Institute, Hyderabad, selected a few places for a study of growth-centres, as a part of their programme of assessing the industrial potentialities of the district in 1973. They were Sagar, Tirthahalli, Shiralkoppa, Channagiri, Sorab and Nyamati. For this purpose, it assigned some weights or points to each indicator and arranged the centres in the descending order. A point each was given for every centre with an increase in 5,000 population, and another point for every centre with 500 workers. Similarly, a point was

\* Census of India, Village Survey Monographs, Govinakovi village, 1961, p. 47.

given to a centre with one power sub-station and two points were given to a centre with more than one power sub-station. In respect of financial institutions, a single point was given to a centre having only one bank, two points for a centre with two to three banks and three points for a centre with three to six banks. In so far as communications were concerned, a point was allotted for each centre with one to two post offices and two points for a centre with three to five post offices. As to the centres of education, a single point was set apart for a centre with ten primary schools and a high school, two points for a centre with a junior college and three points with a degree college. Centres having one hospital got a single point and those with more than two hospitals were given two points. The centre-wise ranking and the total points given by the study team for each of the growth-centres were as given below :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of growth centre</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Rank/order</i>	<i>Score (points obtained)</i>
1.	Sagar ..	27,573	I	20
2.	Tirthahalli ..	10,645	II	10
3.	Shiralkoppa ..	9,262	III	9
4.	Channagiri ..	9,655	III	9
5.	Sorab ..	5,439	IV	8
6.	Nyamati ..	6,531	V	7

#### Slump in areca market

Areca is the main cash crop of the district. In recent years, there was a steep decrease in the prices of this product owing to various reasons (see Chapter VI). This adversely affected a considerable section of the people of the district. A survey to understand the impact of this slump in the areca market on the rural community around Sagar was conducted by the Lal Bahadur Arts and Science College, Sagar, in 1972-73. It covered 1,952 persons of 262 families residing in five villages of Sagar taluk. Areca was the main crop of these villages; banana, cardamom, pepper, betel-leaves and paddy are the other crops. Areca was the main crop of cultivation for 126 out of 262 families, the average acreage per family being 1.7. The total income of these families was computed at Rs. 4,24,500 at the then prevailing market rate of Rs. 300 per quintal of areca. In the previous years, the rate for areca had gone up to Rs. 800 per quintal. So, taking the normal rate of areca at Rs. 700 per quintal, the total previous income was put at Rs. 9,96,500. The net loss was thus Rs. 5,66,000. In terms of averages, the annual income of a family derived solely from areca after the slump was Rs. 3,387 calculated at an average production of 6.64 quintals per acre and at a price of Rs. 300 per quintal, whereas the income at the previous normal rate of Rs. 700 per quintal would have been Rs. 7,903. When the price of areca fell to Rs. 300 per quintal, there was a loss to a tune of Rs. 523 per family. As a result, they had to borrow money continuously

to meet their immediate expenditure. Some of them became defaulting families and the percentage of such defaulters was 32. The percentage of those who repaid debts partly was 35. The tendency to borrow money, particularly from the local money-lenders, increased in general. Out of the 262 families surveyed, as many as 163 families were found to be borrowing from money-lenders. In 1974, prices of arecanut were looking up and there were signs of improvement of the position.

There has been a phenomenal increase of population in the district in recent decades. It has had its impact on the socio-economic life of the people. Until a few decades back, the *malnad* districts suffered from the scourge of malaria. Now the health conditions in the region have been vastly improved and the economy of the district has become more active. The district has attracted a large number of in-migrants. About 40 per cent of the total population of twelve villages in Hosanagar, Bhadravati and Shikaripur taluks of the district selected for a demographic survey by the Demographic Research Centre of the Institute of Economic Research, Dharwar, in 1963-64 was of in-migrants. They entered the area with the aim of securing lands for tilling and settling themselves permanently. The economic position of these in-migrants improved gradually. Taking the percentage distribution of the in-migrants according to their size of annual income into consideration, a large percentage of 2,901 households selected for the study were in the income-range between Rs. 500 and Rs. 999. The next highest number of households was in the income-range between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 1,499.

**Income ranges  
in some Malnad  
villages**

Out of the 310 households selected in those twelve *malnad* villages for another survey conducted, in 1971, by the same Institute for the purpose of understanding the socio-economic background of the *malnad* villages, 22.3 per cent were in the income-group of Rs. 100 and below per month and 26.8 per cent in the income-group between Rs. 100 and Rs. 149 per month. Only 9.3 per cent of the households were earning Rs. 400 and above per month, and the remaining 41.6 per cent of the households were in the income-range between Rs. 150 and Rs. 399. Another demographic survey conducted in the year 1973 by the same Institute in the 12 *malnad* villages showed that more than 58 per cent of the households selected for the survey were found to be in the low income-group of Rs. 1,000 and above per annum; about six per cent of them were in the income-group of Rs. 3,000 and above. As many as 87.5 per cent of those earning low income were landless labourers.

### PRICES

Price-levels and the need to check the upward trend in the prices of various commodities have always been matters of keen interest to the consuming public and the Government. According

to Dr. Buchanan, in 1800 ragi was sold at 50 seers a rupee and rice of best sort at 9 seers a rupee and rice of second sort at 21 seers a rupee in the Mysore State. The place of price-rise in the early decades of the last century in this district was one of "slumbering growth with intermittent fluctuations". This was attributed, *inter alia*, to the peculiar characteristics of the *malnad* taluks of the district. Chief among them were a climate dreaded by the people of other districts, sparse population resulting in shortage of labour force, dependence on the vagaries of the monsoon, the thick forests which were inaccessible and the like.

There was the *sutgider* system under which the *wargadars* had to sell their produce on such terms as the *sahukar* to whom they were indebted might dictate. These rates were much less than the ruling market rates. Lack of proper infrastructural facilities checked the free movement of goods and services. The Moplahs, who went to the remotest corners for collecting areca in return for the supply of piece-goods and provisions on credit-basis, made much profit from the areca bought from the areca-growers of those villages. "While collecting areca, the Lubbe or the Mopla will have so managed the weighing of the nut, etc., in several ways that, nearly 25 per cent will be added to the declared weight. First and foremost, there is what is called *idukattu* or reductions in price by atleast four annas per maund, secondly, on every 100 maunds bought, about five maunds are given away free as *mamool*. He (the farmer) has to pay also what is termed as *labhasare*, which works to about half a seer on every maund. Then there is what is called *mungole*, that is an extra piece of iron added to the weight of the scale pans. There are several other practices, the total effect of which is to make the Lubbe get much more than what the ryot is paid for"\*. The statement given below shows the rise in prices of some commodities from 1846-47 to 1872-73 (Quinquennial) :—

Year	Number of seers per rupee		Jaggery (Price per maund)		
	Small rice cleaned	Ragi	Rs.	As.	Ps.
<i>Shikaripur taluk :</i>					
1846-47	27	53	0	12	0
1851-52	32	80	0	5	0
1856-57	20	53	0	10	0
1861-62	11	23	1	0	0
<i>Shimoga taluk :</i>					
1862-63	14	29	1	15	0
1867-68	8	25	2	5	0
1872-73	10	38	1	2	0

\* "A Preliminary Sketch of the Resources, Industries, Trade and Commerce",  
V.S. Sambasiva Iyer, 1914, p. 91.

Arecanut (best variety) was sold at Rs. 6 per maund in Shimoga taluk were : rice of first variety  $9\frac{1}{2}$  seers a rupee, second 1872-73. The prices of various other commodities for the years 1862-63, 1867-68, and 1870-71 in Shikaripur taluk were as follows :—

		(Per khandi of 160 seers)								
Sl. No.	Commodity	1862-63			1867-68			1870-71		
		Rs.	As.	Ps.	Rs.	As.	Ps.	Rs.	As.	Ps.
1.	Rice in husk .. ..	3	12	0	7	12	0	5	8	0
2.	Best rice (cleaned) ..	11	8	0	12	0	0	13	0	0
3.	Coarse rice (cleaned) ..	10	8	0	11	0	0	12	0	0
4.	Ragi .. ..	5	8	0	5	8	0	4	12	0
5.	Jowar .. ..	5	8	0	6	8	0	5	8	0
6.	Toordal .. ..	16	0	0	19	0	0	25	0	0
7.	Avare .. ..	11	0	0	13	0	0	12	8	0
8.	Horsegram .. ..	8	8	0	10	0	0	7	8	0
9.	Gram of chenna .. ..	12	0	0	22	0	0	30	8	0
10.	Wheat .. ..	16	0	0	25	0	0	38	0	0
11.	Niger .. ..	10	8	0	15	0	0	15	8	0
12.	Gingelly .. ..	17	0	0	23	8	0	15	0	0
13.	Salt .. ..	13	8	0	14	0	0	15	8	0
(Per maund of 40 seers)										
14.	Gur or Jaggery .. ..	2	6	0	2	8	0	1	12	0
15.	Ghee .. ..	10	8	0	14	0	0	13	8	0
16.	Supari (Arecanut) .. ..	5	0	0	7	8	0	7	8	0
17.	Pepper .. ..	2	4	0	1	12	0	1	12	0
18.	Tamarind .. ..	0	14	0	1	12	0	1	0	0
19.	Coconut oil .. ..	6	8	0	11	0	0	9	0	0
20.	Coconuts (per 100 nuts) ..	4	12	0	7	0	0	5	12	0

The average prices for four years from 1869-70 to 1872-73 in Shimoga taluk were : rice of first variety  $9\frac{1}{2}$  seers a rupee, second variety  $13\frac{1}{2}$  seers ; ragi 42 seers a rupee ; arecanut Rs. 8.10.3 for first variety, Rs. 6.13.0 for second variety and Rs. 4.7.0 for third variety per maund ; jaggery Rs. 1.12.3 for a maund. A comparative idea of the price-rice between 1852-53 and 1871-72 in respect of a few important products can be had from the following statement :—

Sl. No.	Commodity	1852-53	1871-72
1	Cleaned rice (in seers per rupee) ..	32	14
2	Arecanut (I sort) (per maund) Rs.	4 4 0	6 0 0
3	Pepper do do	3 12 0	6 4 0
4	Jaggery do do	1 0 0	1 10 0
5	Cardamom do do	31 13 0	113 14 0



## Fall in prices

Later years saw a general fall in the level of prices. In 1873, arecanut was sold at Rs. 48-0-0 per *nijja* of 870 seers (24 rupees weight was equivalent to one seer, 15 seers to one *dhadiya*, 60 seers to four *dhadiyas* or a maund and 870 seers or 14½ maunds to one *nijja*), and cardamom at Rs. 72 per maund (22 rupees weight of cardamom was equivalent to one seer, 12 seers to one *dhadiya* and 48 seers to one maund). Between 1891 and 1900, rice was sold at 7.93 seers a rupee and ragi at 26.8 seers a rupee in Honnali taluk.

Rise from  
1900 onwards

The prices from 1900 onwards showed more or less a steady tendency to rise. During the period of 25 years from 1886 to 1911, the prices of ragi had more than doubled and those of rice had increased by more than 50 per cent. A perspective of the range of rise in price levels can be had from the average quinquennial prices of the chief foodgrains in Shimoga district from 1886 to 1911 expressed in terms of averages for the erst-while Mysore State for 1886-90 taken as 100 :—

Quinquennium	Rice	Ragi	Jowar	Bengal gram
1886-1890	90.2	90.4	105.1	89.7
1891-1895	113.1	123.1	131.6	110.8
1896-1900	123.4	155.5	165.4	123.4
1901-1905	106.8	129.7	144.5	117.1
1906-1911	152.6	221.6	213.1	155.4

The retail price of ragi in 1812-13 was 15.98 seers per rupee, rice of best variety 5.46 seers, second variety 7.17 seers, jowar 14.69 seers and Bengal gram 8.26 seers a rupee (quantity expressed in seers of 80 tolas a rupee in the district), while the State averages were 15.30, 5.48, 6.29, 15.88 and 8.33 respectively. The average wholesale prices of ragi and rice in the State had risen from 6.9 seers and 14.28 seers per rupee in 1913-14 (*i.e.*, on the eve of the First World War) to 5.0 and 8.51 seers per rupee respectively in 1924-25. Then for about a decade or more, there was a fall in the average prices of foodgrains on the whole. The raiyats of the district were hit hard. The Government fixed the maximum reduced rate of dry assessment at Rs. 2.12.0 and reduced the rate of garden assessment by 12½ per cent as a special relief to *malnad* raiyats in 1937-38. A further reduction of 12½ per cent for gardens was also given in 1945-46. Subsequently, the excise duty (*halat*), which was felt to be burdensome, was also abolished in 1948. But the prices had started rising from 1940 (the first year of the Second

World War). The prices of some articles that prevailed in the Shimoga market from 1933 to 1962 were as given below:—

(Price per palla of 100 seers)

Year	Rice	Ragi	Horsegram
1933	9.00	3.50	6.50
1938	13.75	4.50	8.00
1943	18.75	8.25	20.00
1947	27.81	15.94	37.50
1952	55.50	26.08	46.00
1957	49.00	31.00	38.50
1962	53.00	40.00	40.00

It is interesting to note the prices of foodgrains during the years of first two revision settlements and a later year in some taluks of the district, which were as follows:—

(Price in terms of seers per rupee)

Prices prevailing during

Name of taluk	Year of		
	first revision	First	Second
Sorab	1901	11	10
Sagar	1905	14	9
Shikaripur	1905	7	10
Tirthahalli	1913	5	9
Hosanagar	1912	8	9

settlement revision settlement  
settlement revision settlement  
1959-60

It had been expected that the prices would fall after the Second World War in 1945. But the increasing tendency of the After second world war

prices persisted. The overall shortages and inflation made the prices soar further. During the years 1957 and 1960, a scheme of procurement of foodgrains was in force and large quantities of foodgrains were procured in the open market at fixed prices. This stock was sold in the scarcity areas and populous towns at fixed prices through fair price shops. The farm harvest prices of certain crops for 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64 were as follows:—

(Unit: per maund of 22 2/7 lbs.)

Year	Rice	Ragi	Wheat
1961-62	28.94	15.00	15.00
1962-63	30.53	14.44	15.00
1963-64	35.00	18.00	14.44

The price of paddy in 1965-66 was Rs. 107.52 per quintal, ragi being quoted at Rs. 92-17 per quintal. The total quantity of *khari* paddy procured was raised from 11,669 metric tonnes

1967-68 to 20,040 metric tonnes in 1969-70. In 1971-72, it was, however, only 9,237 metric tonnes. This was disbursed through 454 fair price shops. The farm (harvest) price for paddy in 1966-67 was Rs. 67.56 per quintal and it was raised to Rs. 73.48 in 1968-69. The average retail price of coarse rice was 0.936 kg. a rupee in 1970 as against 0.820 kg. in 1968. While a rupee could procure 1.071 kgs. of ragi in 1968, it could do so 1.038 kgs. in 1970. The average wholesale price of paddy in the State had risen from Rs. 37 per quintal in 1960 to Rs. 74 in 1971. Rice of second sort was quoted at Rs. 129 per quintal in 1971 as against Rs. 61 in 1960. The average retail price of rice (coarse) was quoted at Rs. 1.21 per kg. and of wheat at Rs. 1.17 per kg. in 1971. Since then, the trend of rise has continued unabated.

**Price of  
agricultural  
Commodities**

The table given below shows the price of agricultural commodities in Shimoga district for some recent years as published in the Karnataka Gazette :—

(Price in rupees per quintal)					
<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Variety</i>	1966	1967	1968	1969
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Paddy	Fine	75	73	65	70
	Medium	67	70	63	69
	Coarse	63	62	58	68
Ragi		78	60	73	60
Jowar		80	68	84	65
Groundnut		125	133	111	100
Horsegram		75	..	80	64
Chillies		200	327	277	138
Pepper		304	280	278	342
Tamarind		90	161	179	110
Soapnut		—	133	108	69
Cotton		—	145	112	..
Arecanut	Saraka	720	810	814	600
	Bette	520	579	600	414
	Gorabalu	360	395	385	300
	Red	511	575	596	486
	White	462	441	496	459
	Sippegotu	342	240	249	201

  

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Variety</i>	1970	1971	1972	1973
1	2	7	8	9	10
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Paddy	Fine	58	62	72	88
	Medium	54	56	65	83
	Coarse	50	50	62	78
Ragi		54	53	60	82
Jowar		60	52	63	93
Groundnut		130	160	80	..
Horsegram		56	78	68	..
Chillies		251	296	230	330

1	2	7	8	9	10
Pepper		620	651	..	576
Tamarind		..	130	90	130
Soapnut		..	..	..	172
Cotton		..	..	..	..
Areca nut	Saraku	588	802	160	225
	Bette	372	780	637	688
	Red	260	483	306	120
	White	521	675	513	228
	Sippegotu	176	515	400	93
		200	229	188	98
Coconut (per 100) ..	..	60	50	45	70

The wholesale prices prevailing in Shimoga market as on the 15th of February 1975 as published in the Karnataka Gazette are given below :

(Price in rupees per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	Unit	Price
I	Cereals :			
	(i) Paddy	(a) Fine	100 Kgs.	120
		(b) Medium	do	118
		(c) Coarse	do	112
	(ii) Rice	(a) Fine	do	210
		(b) Medium	do	178
		(c) Coarse	do	166
	(iii) Wheat	White	do	240
		Red	do	200
	Wheat flour	White	do	240
	(iv) Jowar	White	do	155
	(v) Ragi		do	158
	(vi) Subsidiary food crops :			45
	Potatoes		do	
II	Pulses (whole pulses) :			
	(i) Gram		do	250
	(ii) Mung		do	255
	(iii) Urd		do	295
	(iv) Other pulses :			
	(i) Avare		do	230
	(ii) Horsegram		do	135
	(iii) Cowpea		do	250
III	Sugar :			
	(i) Gur	(a) Sort I	do	245
		(b) Sort II	do	200
	(ii) Sugar (refined)	(a) Open market	do	250
		(b) Central rate	do	199
IV	Oil seeds :			
	Ground nut	(a) Unshelled	do	190
		(b) Machine shelled	do	368
V	Coconut :	Nuts	Per 1,000 nuts	1,021

## WAGES

There has been dearth of labour for carrying on various operations connected with areca cultivation in the *malnad* taluks. The areca-growers have had to get a number of labourers from South Kanara. Labourers from the *maidan* areas were reluctant to go to the *malnad* parts owing to the prevalence of malaria. In some cases local labourers accepted advances from the areca-growers agreeing to repay the same out of their earnings. But every time they had to incur fresh debts, as their earnings were hardly sufficient to meet their immediate expenditure. Accumulation of debts made most of them debtors continuously and this debt was passed on from generation to generation. As the local labour was barely sufficient, labourers from South Kanara came in considerable numbers during the cold season and returned during May or June. In 1872, the labourers from South Kanara were paid at the rate of four annas per day for a man and two annas for a woman, in addition to a seer of rice, pepper, salt, etc. Between 1905 and 1912, the labourers from South Kanara got 4½ annas a day with a seer of rice and condiments, while the local labourers got two to three annas per day with food for the first part of the day. There were some fluctuations in the wage rates upto 1940 and thereafter there was a steady rise.

## Agricultural wages

In 1942, the wages paid was 6 to 8 annas and a seer of rice for labourers coming from below the ghats, while the same rate was paid to local labourers with no rice. The statement given below shows the rise in agricultural wages in a *malnad* taluk (Sagar) and a *maidan* taluk (Honnali) of the district from 1930-31 to 1959-60 :—

Year	Sagar taluk	Honnali taluk
	Rs. P.	Rs. P.
1930-31	0.25	0.25
1935-36	0.36	0.25
1941-42	0.50	0.44
1947-48	1.00	0.62
1953-54	1.25	0.75
1959-60	2.50	0.84

## Variations in rates

The rates of wages paid to the labourers were not uniform throughout the district. They were higher in places situated near Davanagere, Shimoga and Bradravati and in project areas where there was much demand for them. In Shimoga and Bhaḡravati taluks, the wages paid to labourers were Re. 0.75 in 1930, Rs. 1.50 in 1950 and Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.50 in 1961. Sometimes, during the sowing, interculturing, trimming and such other operations, the labourers were paid in kind, while during harvest seasons, they were paid in cash. The rates of wages in kind varied from 4 to 3 seers of paddy depending upon the demand for labour.

Sometimes, especially during the harvest season, they were also given food during the day. The wages paid to women had risen from Re. 0.75 to Rs. 1.25 between 1950 and 1960. Abnormal rise in prices of commodities in the subsequent years naturally caused considerable increase in the rates of wages. The labourers in the arca gardens work on a contract basis for different operations; the rate of contract is calculated on every 100 arca trees. During some subsequent years, the rates of wages were as follows:—

Year	Skilled labour					Other agricultural labour
	Carpenter	Black-smith	Cobbler	Field labour	Other agricultural labour	
1961-62	Rs. 3.28	Rs. 3.35	Rs. 2.55	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00
1962-63	Rs. 3.83	Rs. 3.28	Rs. 3.00	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00
1963-64	Rs. 3.72	Rs. 3.28	Rs. 2.28	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00
1964-65	Rs. 4.50	Rs. 3.75	Rs. 3.50	Rs. 2.50	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00
1965-66	Rs. 3.72	Rs. 3.28	Rs. 2.55	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00
1966-67	Rs. 4.50	Rs. 3.74	Rs. 3.50	Rs. 2.50	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 2.00

Source : State Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

The average agricultural wages in the district during the years 1968, 1969 and 1970 were as given below:—

Year	Skilled labour					Field labour		Other agricultural labour
	Carpenter	Black-smith	Cobbler	Men	Women Children	Other agricultural labour	Other agricultural labour	
1968	Rs. 3.58	Rs. 3.46	Rs. 2.67	Rs. 2.20	Rs. 1.66	Rs. 1.44	Rs. 2.29	
1969	Rs. 4.54	Rs. 3.91	Rs. 3.07	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 2.30	Rs. 1.91	Rs. 3.15	
1970	Rs. 4.63	Rs. 4.21	Rs. 5.53	Rs. 2.95	Rs. 2.23	Rs. 1.77	Rs. 2.66	

Source : State Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

Especially the agricultural labourers found it very hard to make both ends meet. 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 had fixed the minimum rates of wages in respect of several categories of employment in agriculture in the State in 1959, which were revised in 1968 and again in 1973, as shown in the following tables:—

## 1959 and 1968

Class of employment	Dry areas		Irrigated areas		Perennial garden areas	
	1959	1968	1959	1968	1959	1968
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<b>CLASS A :</b>						
1. Ploughing	}	1.25	1.85	1.50	2.20	1.75
2. Digging						
3. Harrowing						
4. Sowing						
5. Inter-culturing						
6. Irrigating or watering.						
7. Uprooting						
<b>CLASS B :</b>						
1. Manuring	}	1.00	1.45	1.12	1.65	1.37
2. Transplanting						
3. Weeding						
4. Reaping						
(a) Harvesting						
(b) Thrashing						
(c) Winnowing						
5. Picking in the case of cotton.						
<b>CLASS C :</b>						
8. Cattle. Sheep and Goat-grazing	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.75	0.50	0.75

## 1973

Class of employment		All inclusive of minimum rates of daily wages		
		Dry land	Wet land	Garden land
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<b>CLASS A :</b>				
1. Ploughing	}	3.15	3.75	4.30
2. Digging				
3. Harrowing				
4. Sowing				
5. Inter-culturing				
6. Irrigation or watering				
7. Uprooting				

1	2	3	4	5	
CLASS B :					
1	Manuring	}	2.50	2.80	3.40
2	Transplanting				
3	Weeding				
4	Reaping :				
	(a) Harvesting				
	(b) Thrusting				
	(c) Winnowing				
5	Picking in the case of cotton				
CLASS C :					
	Cattle, Sheep and Goat grazing	1.30	1.30	1.30	
CLASS D :					
1	Harvesting in areca and coconut gardens.	}	3.15	3.75	4.30
2	Peeling the coconuts and arecanuts				
3	Trimming and spraying in arecanut and coconut gardens				
4	Any other operations				

The monthly minimum rates fixed in 1968 for youths and children employed permanently under class 'A' were Rs. 22.05 with food and clothing, and Rs. 44.05 without food and clothing. The corresponding rates under class 'B' were Rs. 14.70 with food and clothing. The monthly minimum rates in 1973 fixed for persons working as attached labour (adolescents and children) employed under class 'A' were Rs. 37.50 with food and clothing and Rs. 74.85 without food and clothing per month. The corresponding rates under class 'B' were Rs. 24.30 with food and clothing and Rs. 37.50 without food and clothing and under class 'C' Rs. 12.50 with food and clothing and Rs. 37.50 without food and clothing per month. In case where bullocks were supplied by a worker, he would get Rs. 3.75 in addition to his wages. The wages of workers employed in rice, flour or dhal mills were Rs. 5.40 per day for 'A' class skilled worker, Rs. 4.90 for 'B' class skilled worker, Rs. 4.30 for semi-skilled worker, Rs. 3.75 for unskilled worker ('A' class), Rs. 3.25 for unskilled worker ('B' class) and Rs. 215 per month for managers, Rs. 162.00 per month for clerks/typists and Rs. 162 per month for lorry drivers. In the case of daily-wage earners, the minimum daily rates of wages were worked out by dividing the minimum monthly rates of wages by 26. A statement showing the wages of certain categories of labourers in Shimoga district from 1969 to 1973 is appended at the end of the Chapter (Table II). According to the Labour Commissioner, the rates of wages paid to agricultural labourers at two selected villages during May 1974 were as follows :—



Sl. No.	Category	Arlapur	Somulapura
		(Tirthahalli taluk)	(Channagiri taluk)
1	Skilled labour :	Rs.	Rs.
	(a) Carpenter	5.00	6.50
	(b) Blacksmith	4.00	5.00
2	Field Labour :		
	(a) Men	3.00	3.50
	(b) Women	3.00	2.50
	(c) Children	2.75	1.50
3	Other Agricultural Labour :		
	(a) Men	3.00	3.00
	(b) Women	3.00	2.00
	(c) Children	2.75	1.50
4	Herdsmen :		
	(a) Men	3.00	3.00
	(b) Women	2.00	2.00
	(c) Children	2.00	1.50

**Revised rate**

The State Government revised the minimum rates of wages payable to workers in tile factories with effect from 15th January 1974, and in respect of workers in rice, flour and dhal mills with effect from 19th March 1974. The revised rates are as follows :—

Sl. No.	Class of employment	All inclusive minimum rates per day	
		Tile factories	Rice, flour and dhal mills
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Skilled :	5.05	..
	(a) Skilled — A	..	5.40
	(b) Skilled — B	..	4.90
2	Semi-skilled :	3.90	4.30
3	Un-skilled :	3.40	..
	(a) un-skilled — A	..	3.75
	(b) un-skilled — B	..	3.25
4	Office staff :		
	(a) Manager	..	215.00 (per month)
	(b) Clerk/typist	167.00 (per month)	162.00 (per month)
	(c) Cashier	do	..
	(d) Store-keeper	do	..
	(e) Lorry-driver	do	162.00 (per month)

The minimum rates of wages as notified by the State Government for employees in any oil mills of the State, which were brought into effect from 15th April 1974, were the same as those fixed for workers employed in rice, flour and dhal mills.

The soaring prices of consumer goods have had their impact **Cost of living** on the cost of living of the people of the district. Consumer price index numbers are being compiled for various industrial centres in the State, of which Bhadravati is one. Taking 1935-36 as the base year, the consumer price index numbers (general) for the working class at the Bhadravati centre for 1955-56 was 308.9 and it had increased to 879.3 by 1968-69. This large rise was attributed mainly to the rise in food-index numbers. The movement of consumer price index numbers for the working class at the Bhadravati centre from 1955-56 to 1972-73 was as mentioned below :—

(Base year : 1935-36=100)

Year	General index numbers	Year	General index numbers
1955-56	308.9	1964-65	526.9
1956-57	348.0	1965-66	658.6
1957-58	366.6	1966-67	787.8
1958-59	384.1	1967-68	874.3
1959-60	418.5	1968-69	879.3
1960-61	441.5	1969-70	884.7
1961-62	451.5	1970-71	209*
1962-63	455.3	1971-72	218*
1963-64	468.5	1972-73	273*

\*Base year for these figures was 1960=100.  
(Labour Bureau, Simla series).

The table given below shows the group index numbers under each item, at Bhadravati centre, for December 1973.

(Base year : 1960=100)

Sl. No.	Group/Item	Weight proportional to total expenditure	Index Nos. for December 1973
1.	Food	55.9	308
2.	Fuel and light	8.7	433
3.	Clothing	9.3	368
4.	Rent	2.9	100
5.	Miscellaneous	23.2	210
	All groups	100.00	298

There was a decrease of 7 points when compared with the index numbers for all groups as it stood in December 1972.

The percentage increase of consumer price index numbers for working class as worked out by the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics for the period between 1955-56 and 1968-69 for the Bhadravati centre was 184.7, which was the highest increase in the whole State at that time. Many economists are of the view that

the pressure on prices has a tendency to erode the level of living of the middle class much more than any other sections of the society. However, separate consumer price index numbers for urban non-manual employees for the Bhadravati or any other centre in the district are not available. Nor are consumer price index numbers for agricultural labourers available for individual districts in the State. They are computed for the State as a whole. The general consumer price index numbers for agricultural labourers in Karnataka was 105 in 1957 and it had risen to 176 by 1970. (Base year: 1950-51=100).

#### Avenues of employment

The District Employment Exchange, Shimoga, and the Town Employment Exchange, Bhadravati, are rendering free service to the employers of public and private establishments and to the employment-seekers in the district. In 1973, about 138 employers and 945 employment-seekers availed themselves of the facility. The number of employment-seekers on the Live Register of the District Employment Exchange as in 1973 was 11,706 and on that of the Town Employment Exchange, Bhadravati, was 11,430. Every year, large number of candidates are coming out of the schools and colleges of the district. This adds to the backlog of unemployment, the employment potential generated in the district being not sufficient.

An Employment Exchange was started at Bhadravati in 1956. It had jurisdiction over Shimoga and Chikmagalur districts. In 1966, it was shifted to Shimoga and its jurisdiction was also limited to the revenue district of Shimoga. In 1973, a Town Employment Exchange, one among the three exchanges of the type in the State, was set up at Bhadravati. The Employment-seekers of Channagiri and Bhadravati taluks, with qualifications of pass in the S.S.L.C. or lower examinations are allowed to make use of this Exchange. Those with higher qualifications have to go to the District Employment Exchange at Shimoga.

The Employment Exchanges offer guidance to both employers and employment-seekers and try to put "the right man in the right job". There is a District Employment Committee headed by the Deputy Commissioner of the district and the District Employment Officer functions as its member Secretary. The Head of the Department of Economics of the Sahyadri College, the District Officer of the Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Board, the Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce, the General Managers of the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. and the Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., Bhadravati, the Principal of the Industrial Training Institute, Bhadravati, the District Social Welfare Officer, the Presidents of the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. Labourers Association and the Mysore Paper Mills Labourers Association and two members of the Legislative Assembly are the other members of the Committee.

The Exchanges function through three main wings, viz., employment exchange wing, vocational guidance wing and employment market information wing. The District Employment Exchange at Shimoga collects employment information from those public and private sectors establishments which employ 25 persons or more. Information in respect of other establishments employing 10 to 24 persons is collected on a voluntary basis. The employment-seekers are introduced to employers against their notified demands and guided to secure jobs. Data in respect of the employment situation are compiled, analysed and published in quarterly and annual reports. The table given below shows the number of employment-seekers on the Live Registers of the Exchanges classified according to broad occupational divisions as at the end of December 1972 and 1973 :—

Sl. No.	Occupational divisions	No. of job-seekers on the Live Register as on		
		31-12-72	31-12-1973	
		D.E.E., Shimoga	D.E.E., Shimoga	T.E.E., Bhadravati
1.	Professional, technical and related workers	834	937	22
2.	Administrative, Executive and Managerial workers	..	1	..
3.	Clerical, sales and related workers	495	583	42
4.	Farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers, etc.	86	23	28
5.	Mines and quarrymen and related workers	2	..	1
6.	Workers in transport and communication occupations	223	168	108
7.	Craftsmen and production process workers	1,519	846	2,027
8.	Service, sports and related workers	419	249	25
9.	Graduates in arts	278	516	..
10.	Graduates in science	583	860	..
11.	Graduates in commerce	78	139	..
12.	Matriculates and intermediates/under graduates	6,574	4,914	3,990
13.	Middle school standards	2,621	1,456	3,371
14.	Literates	1,373	737	1,135
15.	Workers without occupation	1,528	277	681
	Total	16,613	11,706	11,430

N.B. : D.E.E. — District Employment Exchange.

T.E.E. — Town Employment Exchange.

While matriculates accounted for more than 39 per cent of employment-seekers, those who had studied upto middle school standard were 16 per cent. The table given hereunder shows the number of vacancies notified by different establishments, the number of vacancies filled through the District Employment Exchange and the number of employment-seekers outstanding at the end of each year from 1968 to 1972.

Year	Number of vacancies		
	Notified	Filled	Outstanding
1968	1,807	1,492	315
1969	1,568	2,125	267
1970	1,140	981	283
1971	2,436	1,762	710
1972	1,386	1,064	629

A good number of matriculates and under-graduates are found waiting on the Live Register for more than a year as could be seen from the following table :--

Educational level	Number waiting on the Live Register for				Total
	Less than a year	One year or more	Two years or more but less than 3 years	Three years or more	
<b>1971</b>					
Below matriculation (including illiterates)	4,250	581	138	192	5,161
Matriculates and persons who have passed a higher secondary course	2,548	1,279	971	1,054	5,852
Graduates	384	168	55	60	667
<b>1972</b>					
Below matriculation (including illiterates)	4,081	2,257	572	350	7,260
Matriculates and persons who have passed a higher secondary course	3,534	2,072	1,057	1,653	8,316
Graduates	543	248	139	66	996

Under Rule 6 of Section 10 the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959, all establishments employing 25 persons and above are required to notify the number of vacancies as on the date and draw suitable persons from the Employment Exchanges only. The subjoined table

shows the category-wise number of vacancies notified, filled and outstanding as in 1968 and 1972 :—

Category	1968			1972		
	Number of vacancies			Number of vacancies		
	Notified	Filled	Out-standing	Notified	Filled	Out-standing
Central Government	31	20	11	44	24	20
State Government	1,527	1,311	216	680	533	147
Public Sector undertakings	110	100	10	474	396	78
Quasi-Government and local bodies	62	13	49	140	85	55
Private	77	48	29	48	26	22
Total	1,807	1,492	315	1,386	1,064	322

Employment of women in the district is also on the increase as shown in the following table :—

Year (as on 31st March)	Public Sector	Private Sector
1966	1,540	177
1967	1,658	207
1968	1,612	213
1969	1,288	159
1970	1,736	246
1971	1,957	273
1972	1,982	307
1973	1,966	810

The applicants belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as also those who are physically handicapped are taken as a special class of applicants. In 1968, the number of applicants from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who got employment through the District Employment Exchange were 55 and 3 respectively and the corresponding numbers for 1972 were 181 and 9. During the year 1972, nine physically handicapped applicants got employment through this Exchange. The number of such applicants waiting on the Live Register in 1972 were 1,345, 16 and 88 respectively. The indices of employment in both the public and the private sectors at the end of each financial year in

**Scheduled Castes  
and Tribes**

the district from 1968 to 1973 were as given below :—

(Base year : March 1966=100)

Year	Index figures
1968 (March) ..	111.3
1969 do ...	100.7
1970 do ..	109.9
1971 do ..	119.6
1972 do ..	119.9
1973 do ..	119.2

The table given below shows the trend in the growth of employment in public and private sectors in the district at the end of each financial year from 1967 to 1973 :—

Year	Public sector	Percentage change	Private sector	Percentage change	Total	Percentage change
1967	27,029	..	4,584	..	31,613	..
1968	29,359	+ 8.6	4,182	— 8.77	33,541	+ 6.10
1969	25,565	— 12.9	3,774	— 9.76	29,339	— 12.53
1970	27,319	+ 6.86	4,735	+ 25.46	32,054	+ 9.25
1971	29,813	+ 9.13	5,062	+ 6.91	34,875	+ 8.80
1972	29,566	— 0.83	5,369	+ 6.06	34,935	+ 0.17
1973	31,737	+ 7.34	7,285	+ 35.69	39,022	+ 11.70

There was relatively a larger increase in 1973 which was attributed *inter alia* to identification and inclusion of contractors' establishments under the Employment Market Information Programme. The table given below shows the unemployment trend of the cumulative increases among the employment-seekers in the district from 1967 to 1972 :—

Year	No. on Live Register	Increase
1967	.. 8,547	..
1968	.. 9,382	+ 835
1969	.. 9,704	+ 322
1970	.. 12,630	+2,926
1971	.. 13,951	+1,321
1972	.. 15,399	+1,448
1973	.. 9,950*	—5,449
1974	.. 11,928	+1,978

\*This decrease in figures is due to transfer of index cards of 7,140 applicants to the Town Employment Exchange, Bhadravati, which was set up in 1973.

It is reported that there has been a surplus of manpower resources in the district in respect of graduates, matriculates and non-matriculates, who have no previous experience, since the beginning of this decade. As in 1973, there was a shortage of suitably qualified applicants in respect of mining mates, staff-nurses, stenographers, midwives, laboratory technicians, blasters,

salesmen, experienced store-keepers, accountants—clerks, boiler-attendants, trained X-ray technicians and trained punch-operators in the district. Unemployment continued to be acute among diploma-holders in civil, electrical and mechanical engineering. Only a slight improvement in respect of applicants qualified in civil engineering was noticed.

The other employment-oriented scheme that is under implementation in the district pertains to land army. It is at present confined to Channagiri taluk only. Under this scheme, labour-intensive works such as construction of tanks and roads are being taken up. By the end of 1973, three approach roads were completed and three more roads were on hand. The construction of a minor irrigation tank at Honnaikanahalli was in progress. A carpentry centre was opened. The total expenditure incurred upto the end of 1973 was Rs. 2,14,193 and the number of man-days generated was 24,522.

A Crash Scheme for Rural Employment, which is a central sector scheme, is in operation in the district since 1971-72. The Deputy Commissioner of the district through the Taluk Development Boards and the Land Army Directorate are entrusted with the work of executing this scheme. Construction of rural communication roads, minor irrigation works (including community irrigation wells), soil conservation and afforestation are among the programmes included in this scheme. A sum of Rs. 12,97,223 was sanctioned for the year 1971-72 towards 30 road works, two community development works, one minor irrigation work, one afforestation work, two soil conservation works and eight school building works. Out of 44 total works, 23 works were completed by the end of the year, generating 23,522½ man-days. The number of persons who were employed for these purposes was 2,090. In 1972-73, about 111 new works were sanctioned, the estimated cost of which amounted to Rs. 26,62,759. Of these, 51 works were completed. This was in addition to 17 spill works completed out of the backlog of 21 works. The total man-days generated was 3,00,437 and the number of persons engaged was 5,028. In 1973-74, there were 61 spill works and the number of new works taken up was 57 with an estimated cost of Rs. 15 lakhs.

The State Bureau of Economics and Statistics selected some indicators for assessing the relative position of each district in respect of agricultural development. Weights were assigned for each indicator and ranks were given for each district on the basis of points scored. The districts getting the composite index of 125 per cent and above were classified as relatively better developed districts. Among seven such agriculturally better developed districts in the State, Shimoga district took the first place in the year 1975. The table given below shows the weights assigned for each indicator, and points scored by the Shimoga district during that year :—



<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Weights assigned</i>	<i>Points scored by Shimoga district</i>
1.	Percentage of net area cultivated to the total area	25	28.3
2.	Percentage of cultivable area	10	38.9
3.	Percentage of net irrigated area to the net cultivated area (estimated)	30	58.6
4.	Average yield per hectare :		
	Cereals (in kgs.)	4	1,833
	Pulses	1	444
	Oilseeds	3	912
	Cotton	3	177
	Sugarcane	3	85,500
	Tobacco	1	753
5.	Percentage coverage under H.Y.V.P. to the total area under crops.	15	47.2
6.	Per hectare consumption of N.P.K. in kgs.	15	44.4
7.	Average area irrigated by irrigation pumpsets	10	1.3
8.	Composite index of development	..	205.99

**District's income**

In 1955-56, the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, worked out district income estimates for the districts in 14 States in the country, of which Karnataka was one such State. The total income originating from different sectors of the economy in the district of Shimoga as arrived at by that body was Rs. 19.09 crores. The percentage distribution of this income under primary, secondary and tertiary heads was 60.19, 15.24 and 24.57 respectively. Five years later, *i.e.*, in 1960-61, and again in 1970-71, the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics estimated the sector-wise income at current prices, for this district, as given below :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Sectors</i>	<i>(Rupees in lakhs)</i>	
		1960-61	1970-71
1.	Agriculture .. ..	1,726.52	5,098.09
2.	Animal husbandry .. ..	266.83	674.52
3.	Forestry .. ..	59.67	124.04
4.	Fishery .. ..	14.63	64.67
5.	Mining .. ..	26.20	22.28
6.	Factory establishments (including electricity) .. ..	221.59	552.56
7.	Small-scale establishments .. ..	94.53	307.57
8.	Communications (Posts and Telegraphs)	4.21	24.87
9.	Railways .. ..	27.35	41.04
10.	Organised banking and insurance	5.50	83.95
11.	Other transport and commerce .. ..	218.89	615.03
12.	Professions and liberal arts .. ..	138.91	236.72
13.	Government services (Administration)	156.45	385.65
14.	Domestic services .. ..	7.17	32.67
15.	House properties .. ..	157.06	359.55
	Total .. ..	3,125.51	8,623.21

The percentage distribution of income from different sectors grouped under the three major heads (primary, secondary and tertiary) was 69.39, 9.97 and 20.64 respectively for the year 1970-71 as worked out by the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics.

The statement given below shows the inflow and outflow of money through the District Treasury in Shimoga district for some recent years :—

Year	Receipts		Payments	
	Rs.	P.	Rs.	P.
1971-72 .. ..	5,16,03,874.35		5,91,80,046.11	
1972-73 .. ..	5,92,82,881.13		8,07,03,567.28	
1973-74 (11 months only)	7,28,30,842.68		7,83,40,704.23	

Source : An Integrated Development Plan for Shimoga District, 1973-74, p. 89.

The *per capita* income, as worked out by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, was Rs. 227 for this district in 1955-56. Later, the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics assessed it at Rs. 319 for 1960-61 and Rs. 676 for 1970-71, the percentage variation during the decade at current prices being 112.0, which was higher than the State's percentage variation of 87. In the descending order of *per capita* income among the districts of the State, the Shimoga district had the fifth place in 1960-61, but it secured the fourth place in 1970-71.

The Census Report for India for 1961\* indentified the districts in the country as at four levels of development at that time, on the basis of 63 different indicators. According to this classification, the Shimoga district was in the first category (*i.e.* in the class of relatively higher level of development), the other district coming under this level of development being Chikmagalur. The other isolated or discontinuous districts surrounding the districts of other levels of development are Chitradurga and Bangalore. Ranking the districts of the State in a descending order of development as per certain indicators of development adopted, the Programme Administration Division of the Planning Commission in its study entitled "Level of Economic Development" assigned in 1969 the second rank among the districts of the State to Shimoga, the first being Coorg. The figures relating to the Shimoga district in respect of the indicators accepted by that agency in 1969 were as given hereunder :—

\* Census of India, 1961, Vol. I, Part I (A)(i), Levels of Regional Development in India, 1964, pp. 9-10.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Rank</i>
1.	Density of population per sq. km. (1965) .. ..	111	9
2.	Number of workers engaged in agriculture as percentage of total workers (1961).	61.57	5
3.	Cultivable area per agricultural worker (in acres) (1964-65)	6.58	5
4.	Net area per agricultural worker (in acres) (1964-65) ..	2.47	11
5.	Percentage of gross irrigated area to gross sown area (1964-65)	5.13	1
6.	Percentage of area sown more than once to net sown area (1964-65)	3.68	10
7.	<i>Per capita</i> gross value of agricultural output (1965-66) (Rs.)	538.14	3
8.	Establishments using electricity (1965-66) .. ..	38,447	3
9.	Number of workers per lakh of population employed in registered factories (1965).	1,359	2
10.	Mileage of surfaced roads :		
	(a) per 1000 sq. miles (1965-66) .. ..	330	6
	(b) per lakh of population (1965-66) .. ..	136	4
11.	Number of commercial vehicles registered in the district (1965-66).	1,240	6
12.	Percentage of literate population in 1961 :		
	(a) Men .. ..	38.3	6
	(b) Women .. ..	16.6	6
13.	Percentage of school-going children age-groups (1962-63) :		
	(a) 6 to 11 — boys .. ..	105.54	12
	(b) do — girls .. ..	92.86	3
	(c) 11 to 14 — boys .. ..	49.14	8
	(d) do — girls .. ..	23.13	5
14.	Seats for technical training per million population (1965-66):		
	(a) Craftsmen-level .. ..	284	3
	(b) Diploma level .. ..	80	19
15.	Hospital beds per lakh of population (1964-65) ..	76	11
	Total of ranks .. ..		138

Rank for the District—Second

Index of  
development

In 1968-69, the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics ranked the districts of the State according to certain indicators of economic development as suggested by the Planning Commission. It assigned weights in proportion to the importance of indicators of development, multiplied these weights by the ranks, added the products and divided them by the total weights and arrived at the weighted mean ranking as the composite index of development. The percentage of the net area irrigated to the net sown area, percentage of workers in the agricultural sector to the total workers, extent of double-cropped area and number of workers in the registered factories per lakh of population were accorded relatively higher weights. The weighted mean rank assigned for this district was first among the districts of the State, while it was second for South Kanara, third for Chikmagalur, fourth for Bangalore, fifth for North Kanara, sixth for Mysore and seventh for Coorg. The item-wise rankings and weights assigned by the

Bureau for the Shimoga district under several indicators of development and under a composite index were as given below :—

Sl. No.	Indicators	Weights assigned to indicators	Ranks	Product
1.	Density of population	2	7	14
2.	Percentage of workers in agricultural sector to total workers (1961)	20	5	100
3.	Cultivable area <i>per capita</i> per agricultural worker (1961-62).	4	6	24
4.	Net area sown <i>per capita</i> per agricultural worker (1961-62).	4	11	44
5.	Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown (1961-62).	20	1	20
6.	Percentage of double cropped area (1961-62)	10	9	90
7.	Output in agricultural sector <i>per capita</i> rural population (1960-61).	8	4	32
8.	Number of workers in registered factories per lakh of population (1962).	10	5	50
9.	Length of roads per 100 sq. kms. of area (1962-63)	5	8	40
10.	Goods vehicles per lakh of population (1963-64)	5	2	10
11.	Literacy (in total population 1961)	5	6	30
12.	Technical training seats per lakh of population (1963-64).	3	15	45
13.	Hospital beds per lakh of population (1962)	4	8	32
Total		100		531

The mean weighted ( $531 \div 100 = 5.31$ ) ranking (composite index) = 1.

The Shimoga and Bhadravati taluks are fairly well developed. But some of the other taluks of the district are relatively more backward in respect of infrastructure, agriculture, industries and institutional agencies. It is stated that the *malnad* taluks are in general more backward. Comparatively, Hosanagar and Sorab taluks are most backward. The statement appended at the end of the Chapter shows the inter-taluk differences in respect of certain indicators of development.

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Programme was started in Karnataka on 2nd October 1952 as in other parts of India. In the beginning (1952), the programme covered the Shikaripur and Sorab taluks and three *hoblis* of Sagar taluk of this district. This created a new enthusiasm among the rural people to work for their economic and social uplift with a programme of aided self-help. The programme has been carried out in three stages, namely, the National Extension Service Stage for four years which was relatively less intensive, community development stage and post-intensive

stage. In 1955, work in the Hosanagar Block was begun. During the years 1957 and 1958, two new Blocks at Honnali and Shimoga were started. On 1st April 1958, the distinction among the three stages was abolished. During the Third Five-Year Plan, the programme covered all the taluks of the district. The Channagiri taluk was divided into two units. By 1969-70, the distinction between Stage I and Stage II was also abolished. The main activities undertaken by the Blocks are: (1) Development of cottage and small-scale industries; (2) promotion of the work of the village panchayats which are the basis of local self-government; (3) development of co-operatives; (4) improvement of village communications; (5) improvement of education, health and recreation facilities in the villages; (6) improvement of housing in rural areas; (7) social education and development of youth clubs, *mahila mandals* and *balavadies*. The community development programme has made considerable progress in the district. By way of illustration, a resume of the work of the Sorab Community Development Block since its inception to the end of 31st March, 1973 is given below.

**Sorab  
Community  
Development  
Block**

The Sorab Community Development Block was inaugurated on 2nd October 1952 as a part of the programmes of the Rural Community Project, Shiralkoppa, which was under implementation. On 30th April 1957, the Rural Community Project, Shiralkoppa, was closed. Consequently, a separate Block for Sorab taluk was formed on 1st May 1957. It functioned as Stage II Block for a period of five years with a schematic budget provision of Rs. 5 lakhs. Since 1st May 1962, the funds for the developmental activities are being provided under various plan and non-plan schemes. The jurisdiction of the Block covers an area of 1,138.7 sq. kms. and a population of 1,19,153 (1951). There are about 307 revenue villages which are distributed among ten village-level workers' circles.

The main crop of the taluk is paddy, other crops of importance being ragi, sugarcane and areca. In addition to food-crops, cultivation of commercial crops like pepper and groundnut is on the increase. The total cropped area in 1973 was 30,805.11 hectares as against 29,096.42 hectares in 1961-62. More than 30 per cent of the cropped area was brought under the use of chemical fertilisers and plant protection chemicals. The taluk is poor in cattle wealth. As a measure for improving this position, two artificial insemination sub-centres at Sorab and Anavatti were started. On an average about 500 head of cattle per year were artificially inseminated. Three stockmen centres and two poultry units were started in 1972-73. The Taluk Development Board is running two dispensaries at Kuppagadde and Jade which function on certain days of the week. The main source of irrigation is the tanks. There were in 1972, 1,181 tanks and three lift irrigation projects. About 149 irrigation wells, including three

bore wells, were dug and 30 electric and diesel pumpsets were fitted up. Many of the irrigation tanks were repaired at an expenditure of Rs. 4,46,429.

There are now one primary health centre and seven health units as against a solitary local-fund dispensary at the beginning of the programme. In addition, four ayurvedic dispensaries and a family planning centre are also functioning. About 124 drinking water wells were constructed or repaired at an outlay of Rs. 3,60,750. Out of 305 villages in the taluk, 261 villages are inhabited. All the inhabited villages, excepting 10 villages and 14 hamlets, have now drinking water wells. The National Rural Water Supply Scheme is being carried out in Chandragutti village of this taluk. The Block started nine *mahila mandals* and eight *balawadies*; the total membership of *mahila mandals* was 300. The *mahila mandals* are, *inter alia*, conducting demonstrations on the preparation of nutritious food on kitchen gardening and cultivation of healthy habits. There were about 64 active youth clubs with a membership of 1,636. Six of these clubs received incentive awards for the years 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73. About 115 primary school rooms were constructed and about 200 were repaired.

*Kachcha* roads to the extent of 328 kms. and 160 culverts were constructed. All the *panchayat* areas of the taluks have been covered by co-operative societies. About 13 godowns were constructed. The Anavatti Village Panchayat won a state award of Rs. 10,000 for having collected more than Rs. one lakh towards small savings. A house-building co-operative society for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was organised in 1967. A hostel for boys, two women welfare centres and an *ashram* school were started and four agricultural colonies were formed. Under the scheme of distribution of house sites to landless agricultural labourers introduced in 1972-73, about 1,572 free house-sites were distributed in 36 villages of this taluk. Under the intensive development of fisheries programme which has been in operation since 1966-67, 50,000 fish fingerlings were supplied. A fish carps rearing centre has been opened at Anavatti. The statement given below shows the expenditure incurred under various heads :—

Sl. No.	Head of account	Total expenditure from 1957-58 to 1962-63
		Rs.
1.	Block headquarters	58,253
2.	Animal husbandry and agricultural extension	27,599
3.	Irrigation and land reclamation	56,999
4.	Health and rural sanitation	31,306
5.	Education	32,090
6.	Social education	32,711
7.	Communication	43,345
8.	Rural arts and crafts and industries	13,845
9.	Rural housing	750

From 1962-63 onwards, the expenditure was incurred under allotments made by the Government to the Block at the beginning of each year. The statement given below shows the expenditure under important heads during the years 1963-64 and 1972-73 :—

Sl. No.	Head of account	Expenditure	
		1963-64	1972-73
		Rs.	Rs.
1.	Sinking and repairs of drinking water wells	17,607	90,000
2.	Repairs to minor irrigation tanks	17,000	65,000
3.	Loans for construction of rural houses	3,664	..
4.	Grants for the construction of women teachers' quarters.	2,500	..
5.	Construction of community centre buildings	3,536	..
6.	Loans under <i>taccavi</i>	..	47,400
7.	Repairs to school buildings	..	20,000
8.	Construction of junior primary schools	..	41,000
9.	Girls attendance scholarships	..	2,118
10.	Crash scheme for rural employment	..	59,553
11.	Distribution of free sites to landless agricultural labourers	..	29,901
12.	Loans for the cultivation under High-yielding variety programme	..	8,000
13.	Grants for the purchase of bullocks	..	11,500
14.	Loans for land improvement	..	10,000

#### Jayanti villages

A village in every community development block has been selected as Jayanti village to mark the celebration of the silver jubilee year of India's Independence. Those villages are being developed in an all-round way and they are expected to serve as model villages. They are Navalebasavapura (Bhadravati taluk), Thillineerkatte (Channagiri taluk), Manganahalli (Channagiri taluk), Hanumasagara (Honnali taluk), Kallukoppa (Hosanagar taluk), Adarante (Sagar taluk), Honnavalli hamlet (Shimoga

taluk) and Heggodu (Tirthahalli taluk) and one each in Shikaripur and Sorab taluks.

Several programmes for the development of these villages, such as those pertaining to infrastructural facilities, establishment of schools, post offices, veterinary dispensaries, local fund dispensaries, community centres, *balawadies*, *mahila mandals*, *yuvak mandals* are being taken up. Construction of drinking-water wells, formation and distribution of house sites for the Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes, supply of electricity for domestic lighting and street lighting, formation of co-operative societies and distribution of loans, construction of quarters for teachers, doctors, nurses, etc., are some of the other items of work that are in progress. In respect of Navalebasavapura village in Bhadravati taluk, the Karnataka Housing Board has taken up the construction of houses for houseless persons.

#### DISTRICT PLANS

With the formation of district plans, beginning with the Third Five-Year Plan, the main focus in development aspects was shifted to the level of the district and below. Programmes of Governmental agencies as also those of self-governing institutions like the Taluk Development Boards and Village Panchayats were included in the district plans which laid emphasis on understanding and co-ordination between non-officials and officials and between the public and their elected representatives. The Fourth Five-Year Plan explained the role of district plans in the following words :

“If the State Plans are to succeed, their formulation in relation to physical features and resources and the institutional organisation in each area is the first requirement. Development needs not only financial resources and material inputs but personnel and the right kind of institutions. This requirement has to be worked out for each operational area. The natural corollary of beginning to plan realistically and from the bottom is to recognise that planning is not something that comes from outside or the above but what each State, district, locality and community does to develop its own resources and potentialities. This emphasises wide diffusion of initiative in decision-making and participation. It also implies a parallel shouldering of responsibilities”.

The First Five-Year Plan period was one of experimentation in planning and it was mainly in the Second Five-Year Plan that the programmes were executed systematically. The principal aim in the first two Five-Year Plans was to increase food production. During the second plan, an additional area of about 486 hectares was brought under the Japanese method of paddy cultivation at the end of every year. Four seed farms were started during the

**Progress under  
first two plans**



same period. The work on the Sharavati Valley Project was begun. A sum of Rs. 57,64,229 was spent for restoring 743 tanks and desilting 48 tanks, bringing thereby additional 12,563 hectares of land under irrigation. The Tungga Anicut and the Left Bank Channel of the Bhadra Reservoir Project were completed. Considerable importance was attached to improvement of cattle wealth. Two main artificial insemination centres with eight sub-centres were started. Hallikar and Murrah buffalo bulls were supplied to these centres. A Fishery Development Division was opened at Shimoga with jurisdiction over Sagar, Shikaripur, Sorab and Hosanagar taluks during the Second Plan. By the end of the period, 12 lakhs of seed carps and dry fishes were collected and stocked in deep tanks. An outlay of Rs. 20.52 lakhs was made under forests for bringing 445.5 hectares under teak plantations, 429.3 hectares under reclamation of soil and 190.35 hectares under match-wood plantations and 202.5 hectares under fuel plantations.

#### Power Supply

In order to transmit the power generated at Jog, a double circuit 110 K.V. 3 phase transmission line, 110 K.V. transmission lines, a single-circuit 66 K.V. transmission line, a main receiving station at Shimoga, step-down stations of 1,500 KVA capacity at Sagar, Lingadahalli and Shimoga were completed. About 249 villages were electrified and about 590 irrigation pumps were serviced. A sum of Rs. 122.67 lakhs was spent for improvement of communications, forming 131.81 kms. of new roads, cement-concreting 32.2 kms., asphaltting 130.41 kms. and metalling 276.92 kms. of roads.

In respect of education, 59 primary schools and 87 junior primary schools were converted into basic type, and 274 additional teachers were appointed; three new high schools were started and one high school was converted into higher secondary school, and four high schools into multipurpose high schools. Mid-day meals and attendance scholarships to school-going children were given at a cost of Rs. 43,945 and Rs. 84,102 respectively. Additional facilities were provided at the McGann Hospital, Shimoga, at a cost of Rs. 1,05,014 and 15 primary health units of Mysore-type and six health units of Government of India-type were established and four family planning centres were taken up and completed. A Rural Industrialisation Scheme was introduced. About 40 rural industrial co-operative societies were organised at the *hobli*-level which were subsequently amalgamated into Taluk Rural Industrial Co-operatives. Twenty one large-scale co-operative societies, nine marketing societies and 159 service co-operatives were organised and the district central co-operative bank was re-organised. Ten cottage industries and one model carpentry and smithy centre were started and were later substituted by the

Rural Artisan Training Institute at Sagar. About 21 craft societies were organised.

By the end of the Second Plan, the entire district, excepting Bhadravati and Tirthahalli taluks and a part of Channagiri taluk, were covered under the Community Development Programme. The expenditure incurred in the several development Blocks upto the end of 31st March 1961 was of the order of Rs. 29.30 lakhs. Under rural programmes, 496 drinking-water wells were sunk, 222 drainages were provided and 692.8 kilometres of village roads were laid out at a cost of Rs. 17,35,767. In addition, under the local development works programme, 293 wells were sunk, 81 drainages were provided, 459.2 kilometres of village roads were formed, 24 school buildings and 51 village panchayat halls and recreation centres, etc., were constructed. The expenditure on these works was Rs. 15,20,126, while people's participation was of the order of Rs. 3,80,031. A sum of Rs. 8.28 lakhs as house subsidy, Rs. 52,822 for the construction of 42 drinking water wells, Rs. 89,038 as aid for agriculture, Rs. 31,756 as assistance to craftsmen, Rs. 41,543 for the construction of 17 community centre buildings, Rs. 4.25 lakhs for establishing 20 agricultural colonies, Rs. 8,097 for forming approach roads, Rs. 63,069 for constructing six Scheduled Tribes students' hostels and an *ashram* school for Scheduled Tribes students, Rs. 7,620 as grant-in-aid to private hostels and Rs. 41,000 for opening eight welfare centres and a tailoring training centre, were spent. A remand home and a reception centre were opened at Shimoga. About 296 labour tenements at a cost of Rs. 7,99,200 under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme and 32 houses under the Rural Housing Programme were completed.

**Second Five-  
Year Plan**

The financial allocation under the Third Five-Year Plan was of the order of Rs. 7,340.25 lakhs, composed of Rs. 401.70 lakhs for district-level programmes, Rs. 6,845.81 lakhs for State-level programmes and Rs. 92.70 lakhs for taluk-level programmes. Most of the schemes that were in operation during the Second Plan period were continued on a larger scale during the Third Plan. The Third Five-Year Plan period and the Annual Plans period were of intensive activities. Development programmes during these periods were aimed at increased agricultural production. The High-Yielding Variety Programme and the Intensive Agricultural Area Programme, which were introduced in the district during 1966-67, made good progress. The high-yielding varieties like hybrid jowar and I.R. 8 paddy have become very popular on account of increase in yields when compared with the local varieties. The Tunga Anicut was completed and an *atchkat* of nearly 9,112.5 kilometres was developed. The work of another project, *i.e.*, the Ambligola Project was also completed.

**Progress under  
Third Plan and  
Annual Plans**

Out of a total *atchkat* of 40,446.14 hectares in Shimoga district under the Bhadra Project, an extent of 31,365.63 hectares was fully developed by the end of December 1968. In addition, a good number of tanks were restored and several minor irrigation works were completed by the end of the period. A soil conservation programme was also implemented in Honnali, Santhebennur and Shikaripur blocks. Under animal husbandry, six veterinary dispensaries were opened. The rural veterinary dispensary at Nyamati was up-graded. Under the key-village scheme at Honnali and at the artificial insemination centre at Shimoga and at its 15 sub-centres, the work of cattle development was continued. A poultry extension centre was started at Shimoga in 1964-65. Under industrial sector, it was stated that the total investment had gone up to Rs. 30 crores. Under small-scale industries, 150 new units were registered which provided employment to about 608 workers. About 439 artisans received training in various crafts and industries. As many as 50 per cent of the agricultural families were covered by the co-operatives in the district. The achievements under health services, particularly in respect of the National Malaria Eradication Programme, the National Small-pox Eradication Programme and the Family Planning Programme, were considerable. The other notable achievements were the completion of the Linganamakki Dam and the installation of eight generating units at the Anebylu Power House.

#### Fourth Five-Year Plan

The major objectives of the district plan were formulated against the background of the objectives of the Fourth Five-Year Plan of the State. The size of the Fourth Five-Year Plan of the district was of the order of Rs. 35,94,57,400 allocated under different heads as follows :—

	Rs.
Departmental outlays (Government)	29,11,10,606
Plan and non-plan schemes	73,83,000
Resources of the local bodies	1,60,61,794
Other Resources (ARC finance, etc.)	4,40,02,000
Popular contribution	9,00,000
Total	35,94,57,400

The sectoral progress under Fourth Five-Year Plan was stated to be one of mixed trends. Under rural electrification programme, the total number of villages electrified was 1,064 as against 660 at the beginning of the plan, the percentage variation for the district being 61.2. This percentage variation was highest in Sorab taluk (163.3) followed by Shikaripur (91.5), Shimoga (82.7) and Tirthahalli (76.3). The number of health units at the end of the plan was 92 as against 66 in the beginning. The bed-strength at the end of 1972-73 was 689 as against 626 in 1970. The percentage variations in these two items were 39.3 and

10.0 respectively. The number of telephone exchanges increased from 14 in 1968 to 16 by 1972-73, the number of telephones from 1,105 to 1,641 and the number of post offices from 357 to 408. The total percentage increase in road-lengths was of the order of 63.9. The number of branches of banks in the district increased by 100 per cent and the rise in deposits was 61.1 per cent and the advances 29.9 per cent. The number of co-operative societies increased from 815 to 874. The percentage variation in respect of irrigation pumpsets was 83.8, the increase in their number being from 2,229 to 4,098. This percentage variation was highest in Tirthahalli (377.3) followed by Shikaripur (213.0) and Sorab (206.5). The table given below shows variations in the production of various agricultural commodities during the period:—

Name of crop	Production (in tonnes)		Percentage change
	1968-69	1972-73	
Paddy	3,29,066	2,74,736*	-16.51
Jowar	11,633	66,035	+467.65
Ragi	22,743	30,524	+34.21
Groundnut	3,390	7,595	+124.04
Tur	2,995	1,981	-33.85
Sugarcane	3,36,171	6,38,282	+89.90
Areca nut :			
Green nuts	49,739	47,003	-5.50
Cured nuts	10,507	10,480	+0.25

The main reason attributed to this decrease was that many farmers switched over to the cultivation of sugarcane in place of paddy as it was more profitable.

#### POSSIBILITIES OF DEVELOPMENT

It can be said that the successive Five-Year Plans with their cumulative achievements have laid a good foundation for economic development. The phenomenal increase in population in recent decades is no doubt a serious drawback from the point of view of economic development. By 1986, the population of Shimoga district, according to "population projections" for Karnataka (1927-86), carried out by the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics would be 18,64,000, with a percentage variation of 43.22. But this increased man-power resources need to be utilised well for better progress. The agricultural sector has been now rejuvenated and considerable infra-structure facilities have been provided. Several new industries have come up and some of the existing ones are being modernised and expanded. The district is no longer an area of deep-rooted diseases like malaria and small-pox. In the past, people used to dread to migrate

to the *malnad* parts owing to health hazards. There is no such fear now and there is an influx of employment-seekers into the district.

**Under  
Agriculture**

The formation of District Five-Year Plans is helping a systematic assessment of the physical resources in the district and paving the way for their optimum utilisation by stepping up the tempo of economic activities. The production of paddy, which had shown a decreasing trend, is being made up by intensive methods of cultivation and introduction of high yielding varieties. The available fallow land is to be brought under cultivation. In the project areas, there is further scope for introducing high yielding varieties in the entire area of local paddy. About 16,200 hectares of land have been found useful for the cultivation of the Sea-Island cotton. It is estimated that the production of this cotton could be stepped up to 31,000 quintals. Besides six irrigation projects already completed, another five projects are yet to be completed. According to ground-water studies, about 68,300 wells can be dug and the available ground-water would be upto 23.76 cmt. Deepening of some of the existing wells will be also of help. A good deal of fruits and vegetables are being imported at present. If concerted efforts are made, it would be possible to grow these in the district itself.

**Under Industries**

There is ample scope for starting of new industries with the available minerals and other raw materials. Among the mineral-based industries, manufacture of china clay articles, calcium oxide, calcium hydroxide, low-tension porcelain insulators has scope for development. Among the wood-based industries, manufacture of doors and windows, wooden packing cases, electrical casing and capping, round blocks, meter boards, etc., photo-frames, drawing boards and T-squares can be started. More industries connected with rice-bran oil, scented arecanut powder and fruit preservation unit can also be set up. There is also plenty of possibility for starting demand-oriented industries like manufacture of agricultural implements and builders' hardware, and ancillary industries like non-ferrous foundry and machine shops, general forge shops, production of cores for spun-pipe factories, electrical repair shops, etc.

**Minerals**

Earlier investigations have shown that the Kudurekonda and Palavanahalli areas of the district have gold deposits. But the question is how far their mining could be commercially viable. The iron ore reserves of the district are estimated at 45 million tonnes. There is scope for setting up an electric arc furnace and units for producing ferro-alloys such as ferro-titanium, ferro-vanadium, ferro-manganese, ferro-silicon, ferro-chrome, etc. The estimated limestone reserve is put at more than 25 million. Lime is used in the manufacture of sugar, paper and pulps, as bleaching agent in textiles and leather industries and also in industries

engaged in the manufacture of bleaching powder, calcium carbide, soda ash, etc. Hence an ancillary industry preparing lime can be set up. The Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. has already planned to expand its cement plant. As lime and charcoal can be had in plenty in the district, manufacturing of calcium carbide, which is used largely in the production of fertilisers, petro-chemicals, acetylene gas and in many other organic chemicals such as trichlor ethylene is possible. Dolomite, which is chiefly used in the manufacture of ferro-alloys and in refractory bricks, is available in Shankaragudda range of Shimoga taluk. A small unit for the exploitation of the same can be started.

The *malnad* taluks of Hosanagar, Sagar, Sorab and Tirthahalli abound in forest trees. Since preparation of wood charcoal by wood distillation process is economical, a few more units, in addition to those already in existence, can be opened. Sandalwood dust is used in the manufacture of activated carbon which is, in turn, used in the manufacture and purification of many chemicals. In view of the large demand for this product, a few more units for manufacturing activated carbon can be established. Oxalic acid out of saw dust, pineapple waste and molasses, which are available in plenty can be manufactured. The district has the single largest hydro-electric generating station in the country. The waters of the Sharavati river have not yet been fully exploited and it is stated that there is scope for setting up two more generating units and a few smaller units of the type. Obviously, the demand for electrical appliances is bound to increase. Hence, a few units manufacturing electrical appliances can be also opened in the district.

#### Forest resources

There are several oil mills and two solvent extraction plants. Most of the non-edible oil and also a small portion of the edible oil are at present sent outside the district for manufacturing toilet soaps. These could be utilised locally for a toilet soap industry. High grade manganese dioxide is found in the taluks of Channagiri and Shimoga. Therefore, the possibility of starting a unit by making use of this chief raw material in the manufacture of potassium permanganate can be explored. There are many general engineering establishments in the district, which are feeling the lack of a tool room unit.

The district, which is predominantly an agricultural district, offers good scope for starting a number of agro-based industrial units. Sugarcane is extensively grown in Shimoga, Bhadravati, Sorab and Tirthahalli taluks. There is only one sugar factory at Shimoga with a capacity of crushing 2,500 tonnes per day. According to the report on the feasibility study on establishment of a mini sugar plant at Shimoga, published by the Small Industry Extension Training Institute, Hyderabad, the sugarcane production in the

#### Agro-based industries

district is two times higher than the capacity of the existing sugar plant.

It is reported that the surplus sugarcane is at present exported to adjoining districts or utilised for the manufacture of jaggery, which is uneconomical, and the surplus sugarcane is sufficient for two more sugar plants. Thus there is scope for setting up two more units for the manufacture of sugar and a few smaller cane-crushing units. Jaggery scum can be made use of for making syrups and toffees and molasses for oxalic acid and other chemicals. Paddy is the major crop of the district. Paddy husk is used for making household detergents, building-bricks, silica flour, etc. Hence possibilities of starting a unit for this purpose can be examined. Especially, manufacturing of straw-boards from paddy husk can be taken up. Experiments conducted at the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, have shown that chewing gum, chocolates and soft drinks could be made from arecanut. A paper mill in Kerala, which carried out research on areca products, found that arecanut husk can be used in the manufacture of straw-boards and packing paper. This husk is also available in abundance in this district.

**Western Ghat  
Development**

Considering the vast natural resources of the *malnad* areas, the Western Ghats Development Board has indicated the possibilities of several projects among which are starting of units manufacturing railway axles and a forge plant at Shimoga/Bhadravati at a cost of Rs. 25 crores, industries connected with the extraction of minerals like gold, manganese, iron, limestone, china clay, etc., at Honnali, Shimoga, Hosanagar and Tirthahalli at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 crores, manufacturing of earth-moving machinery and rigs at Channagiri at an estimated cost of Rs. 75 crores, afforestation-work like raising of sandalwood, rose, teak, bamboo and softwood trees in Sorab, Sagar, Tirthahalli and Hosanagar taluks at an estimated cost of Rs. 100 crores, iron and steel industry at Hosanagar (Kodachadri) and Bhadravati at a cost of Rs. 250 crores, nuclear power plants, making of rockets and missiles and conducting of space researches at an estimated cost of Rs. 500 crores, Rs. 750 crores and Rs. 1,000 crores respectively at Shimoga/Bhadravati. It can be said that there is indeed a bright future for economic development of the district if the vast potentialities are utilised in a judicious way in the coming years.

TABLE I

Statement indicating monthly expenditure among five categories of residents of Govinakovi village of Honnali taluk in Shimoga district as in 1961

Category of occupation	unit	Food	Drinks	Clothing	Hired labour	Purchase for production	Other Expenditure	Total
I. Cultivation of owned lands	(a) Rs.	55.29	6.26	6.87	19.50	9.27	15.04	112.23
	(b) Rs.	9.55	1.08	1.18	3.36	1.53	2.59	19.29
	(c) Percentage	49.24	5.66	6.12	17.36	8.25	13.37	100.00
II. Cultivation of lands taken on lease	(a) Rs.	39.58	2.78	3.47	11.11	4.86	22.63	84.43
	(b) Rs.	7.98	0.66	0.70	2.24	0.98	4.57	17.03
	(c) Percentage	46.88	3.29	4.11	13.16	6.76	25.80	100.00
III. Agricultural labour	(a) Rs.	28.30	0.56	2.17	0.62	0.70	2.57	35.92
	(b) Rs.	7.56	0.15	0.58	0.17	0.19	0.94	9.59
	(c) Percentage	78.78	1.56	6.04	1.73	1.95	9.94	100.00
IV. Household industry	(a) Rs.	32.60	1.76	2.08	..	0.11	4.32	39.87
	(b) Rs.	7.44	0.41	0.49	..	0.03	1.02	9.39
	(c) Percentage	79.26	4.41	5.22	..	0.28	10.83	100.00
V. Others	(a) Rs.	32.87	5.19	5.52	8.18	1.56	10.41	63.73
	(b) Rs.	10.84	1.71	1.82	1.05	0.51	4.98	20.91
	(c) Percentage	51.58	8.14	8.66	4.99	2.45	24.18	100.00

Note : (a) Expenditure per household. (b) Expenditure per equivalent adult male. (c) Percentage to total expenditure.



TABLE II

Statement showing the wages of certain categories of labourers in Shimoga district from 1969 to 1973 (for eight hours of working)

(Amount in rupees)

Year	Skilled labour			Field labour			Other Agricultural Labour			Herdsmen		
	Carpenter	Blacksmith	Mochies	Men	Women	Child	Men	Women	Child	Men	Women	Child
1969	4.54	3.91	3.07	3.10	2.30	1.91	3.15	2.35	1.76	2.64	2.18	1.61
1970	4.63	4.21	3.53	2.95	2.23	1.77	2.66	2.13	1.69	2.53	2.17	1.73
1971	4.56	4.35	3.59	2.88	2.26	1.97	2.62	2.09	1.61	2.30	2.08	1.56
1972	4.34	4.49	3.67	2.83	2.32	1.92	2.68	2.25	1.86	2.33	2.14	1.71
1973	4.95	4.78	4.05	3.00	2.47	2.10	2.91	2.51	2.10	2.53	2.31	1.87

Source : The Commissioner of Labour, Bangalore

TABLE III

Statement showing inter-taluk differences in respect of certain indicators of development in Shimoga district as in 1973-74

Sl. No.	Indicators	Bhadra- vati	Channa- giri	Hon- nali	Hosa- nagar	Sagar	Shikari- pur	Shimoga	Sorab	Tirtha- halli	District total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Density	296	145	160	56	69	146	189	105	92	123
2	Density of working population per sq. km.	606.5	44.8	51.3	17.5	21.9	46.8	62.6	33.3	31.8	39.5
3	Percentage of urban population to total population	49.8	5.4	10.9	0.48	20.6	20.2	51.5	4.5	9.2	23.6
4	Percentage of agricultural workers to total workers	53.3	86.7	83.3	79.9	59.0	79.3	53.5	80.2	77.0	70.3
5	Percentage of literacy to total population	31.85	24.1	25.49	24.74	26.93	25.92	35.98	23.83	30.76	28.10
6	Net area sown as percentage to total area	39.67	59.02	54.32	10.78	11.27	34.72	25.87	28.37	17.22	28.31
7	Percentage of net area irrigated to net area sown	74.31	25.15	23.20	28.91	44.72	66.27	68.40	48.87	44.69	43.16
8	Percentage of double-cropped area to net area sown	34.96	16.24	10.24	2.55	4.23	2.68	8.50	0.65	5.51	10.81
9	Percentage of net area sown to total cultivable area	79.5	87.3	83.9	56.1	58.4	64.9	60.2	52.9	49.9	68.1
10	Percentage of net area irrigated per 1000 persons to net area sown to 1,000 persons.	73.8	24.9	23.1	28.8	44.1	66.5	68.2	48.6	44.6	43.3
11	Percentage of net area irrigated to total irrigated area by canals	96.2	70.3	78.9	..	..	42.7	48.3	..	..	46.0
12	do .. .. by tanks	2.8	18.0	17.3	100.0	80.1	49.8	38.8	98.6	99.8	48.5

TABLE III—(Concl.)  
Statement showing inter-taluk differences in respect of certain indicators of development

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	Percentage of net area irrigated to total irrigated area by wells	1.3	4.9	3.0	..	0.8	2.4	3.2	0.4	0.1	2.1
14	Percentage of irrigation pumpsets energised to the district total	8.1	43.2	12.5	1.2	4.6	3.5	9.2	3.4	13.8	100.00
15	Number of villages electrified as percentage of the district total	9.9	10.56	10.0	3.8	12.2	8.4	10.0	7.4	26.7	100.00
16	Percentage of number of industrial power connections to district total.	13.51	7.94	7.57	1.41	8.86	7.46	30.91	16.88	5.41	100.00
17	Percentage number of commercial power connections to district total.	26.9	5.0	4.5	2.6	6.9	7.2	33.2	3.3	10.1	100.00
18	Percentage of number of domestic power connections to district total	24.6	15.1	10.3	0.98	8.4	7.7	21.4	3.5	7.8	100.00
19	Percentage of industrial establishments to district total	..	9.0	15.0	24.0	7.0	7.2	11.5	14.2	8.9	100.00
20	Percentage of total credit lent by co-operatives to the district total	1.5	1.6	0.7	27.8	21.9	27.1	1.9	16.7	0.5	100.00

Source : An Integrated Development Plan for Shimoga District, 1973-74, Shimoga, pp. 11-46.