

# CHITALDROOG DISTRICT

SCALE 8 MILES TO AN INCH

B—Travellers' Bungalow. L—Inspection Lodge. S—Railway Station.



# CHITALDROOG DISTRICT

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

*Situation.*—A District in the north. Its situation, taking the extreme limits, is between  $13^{\circ} 40'$  and  $15^{\circ} 2'$  north latitude,  $75^{\circ} 42'$  and  $77^{\circ} 6'$  east longitude; but owing to a long and narrow projection into Bellary northwards the main part of the District does not extend beyond  $14^{\circ} 40'$  north latitude. Its greatest length from north to south is about 88 miles, the greatest breadth from east to west about 100 miles. The arm jutting north into Bellary is 32 miles long, by from 5 to 12 broad.

*Area.*—The area is 4,022 square miles, of which 1,650 square miles are cultivated, and 1,531 square miles are unculturable.

*Boundaries.*—It is bounded on the north by the Bellary District, and on the east by the Anantapur District, both of Madras; on the south-east by Tumkūr District, south-west by Kadur District, and west by the Shimoga District, all of Mysore; while on the north-west it is bounded by the Dharwar District of Bombay.

*Divisions.*—It is divided into the following taluqs, the sub-taluqs being Hosdurga, under Holalkere taluq; and Harihar, under Dávangere taluq:—

No.	Taluq.	Area in sq. miles.	No. of Hoblis.	No. of Villages or Towns.	Population in 1891.	Per sq. mile
1	Challakere ...	790	4	191	60,711	76·84
2	Chitaldroog ...	531	4	189	66,546	125·31
3	Dávangere ...	552	8	262	94,565	171·31
4	Hiriyūr ...	807	5	215	54,302	67·28
5	Holalkere ...	681	6	329	67,051	98·45
6	Jagalūr ...	371	3	169	38,229	103·04
7	Molakālmuru ..	290	2	97	32,560	112·27
	Total ...	4,022	32	1,452	413,964	102·92

**Physical Features.**—The whole of this comparatively arid District is included in the valley of the Védavati or Haggari, with the

Tungabhadra running for a few miles along the north-western boundary. The Védavati enters the District in the south-west and flows in a north-east direction to a few miles beyond Hiriyúr. From this point, where the stream begins to take the name of Haggari, it runs north, within a few miles of the main eastern boundary, and leaves the District near the eastern base of the Molakálmuru projection. During the hot months it is for the most part dry, but supplies a number of wells sunk in the sandy bed.

The District is crossed from south-south-east to north-north-west by a belt, about 20 miles broad, of intermittent parallel chains of low hills, mostly bare and stony, through which are several *kanives*, or passes. The eastern line runs from the west of Hiriyúr up to Chitaldroog (3,229 feet), and thence, with a break for some distance, continues from Kankuppa hill (2,721 feet) to the frontier. The summit of Jogi Maraḍi to the south of Chitaldroog, one of the highest points in this range, is 3,803 feet above sea-level. The western parallel commences at Hosdurga (3,226 feet), and passes by Máyakonda to Anaji. Around Molakálmuru in the north are some detached clusters of rocky hills. Of these, Nunke Bhairava hill is 3,022 feet, Jatinga Rámesvara hill 3,469, and Santigudda 2,595. This part of Mysore, says Mr. Bruce Foote, is "occupied by a tract of country of singular beauty. The bold, rocky hills which rise out of it in every direction are divided from each other by equally picturesque valleys full of fine trees, amongst which tamarind trees, pre-eminent for their love of granitic soil, abound. The road from the travellers' bungalow at Hanagal (on the Bangalore-Bellary high road), which skirts the south side of the line of hills for the first five miles, and for the next four passes right through them, takes one through scenery not easily forgotten for its striking beauty in grand rocks and rich vegetation."<sup>1</sup>

Except in the region of the hilly belt, the whole extent of the District north and east is an open and level plain, entirely destitute of picturesque features, but presenting at certain seasons in favourable spots a vast expanse of verdant cultivation. Though there are no trees there is abundance of excellent pasture, while the black and dreary-looking soil seems only to require the contact of water to develop its productiveness. To the north and west of Chitaldroog the surface of the country is undulating and covered with thick and rich grass. Trees are few in number.

The general level of the District is about 2,000 feet above the sea.

<sup>1</sup> Geology of the Bellary District (*Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India*, Vol. xxv).

At Chitaldroog it is 2,383, but at Hiriyúr it is 1,965, while at Harihar, probably the lowest point in Mysore, it is only 1,830.

**Rocks.**—The hills in the south-east are of secondary formation. They run in straight lines in various directions, and are bare of trees, but have a green appearance in the wet season from the growth of long hill-grass upon them. They are almost constantly covered at the top with a kind of magnetic ironstone, which withstands the decomposing powers of the air and water much longer than the lower parts of the hills. These seem to be composed of ferruginous clayey slate. Through the surface of the soil appear perpendicular layers of slate, which are often intersected with quartz or marl. The slate is iron-shot and always decomposing and red.

The hills to which Chitaldroog belongs are composed of the prevailing gneiss of Mysore, the felspar being in some places of a fine red, in others of a silvery white colour. When this rock begins to decompose it assumes a slaty form, the layers of which are pretty thick, but as the disintegration advances it scales off in thin laminæ which are very brittle, and in them the mica is more apparent than in the fresh rock.

The lower ridges north and west of Chitaldroog consist of a compound in which chlorite, oxide of iron, and sometimes hornblende prevail. They often form basins of considerable size, which have a very fertile soil. Many of them are naked, but some are covered with fine grass and produce trees of a middling size.

West of these ranges of hills descends an extensive and variegated valley leading towards the Tungabhadra. The lower country is variously intersected with ridges, some of which are high, and all contain in their rocks much iron and magnesia. North of Máyakonda the country becomes long waving. Here and there are single hills of short ranges, the former mostly gneissic or granitic, the latter slaty. The nearer the river is approached the more black cotton soil and marl abound. Along its course the former predominates, and below it are beds of mica slate.

**Minerals.**—Clay ironstone constitutes some ranges of hills near Chitaldroog. Drawing slate is also found in the neighbourhood. Schorl in quartz is met with near Harihar. Potstone and actinolite occur frequently in nests near Mattod. It has a considerable admixture of iron, and when decomposed becomes quite red. Asbestoid is found in the potstone near Talya, and ligniform asbestos among the Máyakonda hills. Lamellar actinolite at Harihar. A mineral resembling brown spar occurs near Talya and Anaji. Near the former place and others among the Chitaldroog hills is found iron glance. Carbonate

of soda is abundant. The hills running up from Hiriyúr by Chitaldroog, to the frontier at Jagalur and Anaji, form part of the auriferous tract called the Central or Chiknáyakanhalli band (*see* Vol. I, p. 50).

*Soils.*—The black cotton soil prevails throughout the taluqs north and west of Chitaldroog, interspersed with sandy and gravelly tracts. In the west a red and loamy soil occupies the valleys. In the south the soil contains much common salt, and on that account is favourable to the growth of cocoa-nut trees, of which there are large plantations. The eastern taluqs have a light sandy soil abounding in springs. These *talpárgis* or spring heads may be tapped at short distances from each other. The water is either conducted by narrow channels to the fields, or a *kapile* well is constructed, from which the water is raised by two or four bullocks. These wells extend from Maddagiri up to Molakál-muru, but do not for the most part, except in the Chitaldroog taluq, cross to the westward of a nearly central line drawn from north to south. In the Tumkúr District the water is near the surface, but in the greater part of Pávugada the wells require to be cut through a soft porous rock composed of decomposed hornblende, which, however, forms a wall of tolerable durability. North and west of this the water is still lower, and hard strata of rock have sometimes to be perforated before the springs are reached.

*Climate.*—The climate, as compared with that of other parts of the Mysore, may be described as drier and hotter: a difference due to the lower elevation, the less abundant rainfall, and the absence over a large proportion of the District of considerable inequalities of surface, which might tend to retain moisture and moderate the radiation from extensive and bare plains of black or whitish grey soil. In the western taluqs during the hottest season a cool western breeze often sets in soon after nightfall, and blows during the greater part of the night.

*Temperature.*—From the recorded observations the mean average temperature throughout the year is ascertained to be about seventy-seven degrees Fahrenheit. Captain Chalmers deduced  $78\cdot25^{\circ}$  as the average from a register kept from 1837 to 1841, but the readings were taken at different places in moving about the old Chitaldroog Division, which included the Tumkúr District.

The following tables contain the mean recorded results for 1894 and 1895. In the former year a maximum of  $98\cdot4$  was registered in March, and a minimum of 53 in January. In the latter year the maximum was  $100\cdot4$  in May, and the minimum  $51\cdot2$  in December.

1894	Barometer.			Thermometers.						Aqueous Vapour.		Wind.		Rain.		Cloud.			
	Red. to 32° F.	Red. to Sea Level.	Daily Range.	Dry Bulb.			Wet Bulb.		Press. Inches.	Humid. cent.	Daily Velocity Miles.	Mean Direction.	Fall. Inches.	Number of Days.	Mean. Per cent.	No. of Days.			
				Mean.	Max.	Min.	Range.	Mean.								Min.	Cloud. less than 16 h.	Overcast.	
Jan.	27+	29+	.128	73.3	83.5	61.1	22.4	57.5	53.6	.376	45	183	E. by S	0.00	—	20	14	—	
Feb.	.556	.873	.136	77.7	88.5	64.6	23.9	58.4	54.3	.355	37	182	S.E. by S.	0.00	—	11	18	—	
Mar.	.488	.752	.140	83.3	94.1	70.8	23.3	62.4	58.6	.418	37	150	S.W. by S.	0.41	1	30	5	—	
April	.433	.693	.142	83.9	94.6	71.7	22.9	66.0	62.6	.528	46	181	W. by S	0.85	7	34	—	—	
May	.419	.689	.136	81.7	92.1	70.0	22.1	67.2	64.1	.587	54	227	W.	4.63	10	34	3	—	
June	.362	.648	.092	78.6	86.7	69.8	16.8	67.7	65.2	.629	64	294	W. by S.	0.72	10	86	—	3	
July	.387	.698	.078	75.2	82.0	68.0	14.0	66.7	64.4	.628	72	297	W. by S.	2.97	20	89	—	6	
Aug.	.378	.681	.103	75.6	82.4	68.4	14.0	67.1	65.0	.634	71	271	W. by S.	2.05	14	89	—	3	
Sept.	.412	.715	.119	75.9	83.8	67.4	16.4	66.3	63.9	.603	67	258	W.	1.59	8	78	—	6	
Oct.	.454	.760	.126	75.7	83.1	67.2	15.9	66.2	63.6	.610	67	165	S.W. by W.	5.56	18	68	—	5	
Nov.	.563	.894	.108	71.3	79.2	61.7	17.5	61.8	58.3	.529	66	181	S.E. by E.	3.46	4	53	1	3	
Dec.	.574	.895	.120	72.9	82.1	61.8	20.4	59.4	55.7	.433	52	204	E. by S.	0.00	—	21	12	—	
Year	27+	29+	.119	77.1	86.0	66.9	19.1	63.9	60.8	.528	57	216	—	22.24	92	51	53	26	Total.

CHITALDROOG DISTRICT

1895.	Barometer.		Thermometers.					Aqueous Vapour.		Wind.		Rain.		Cloud.				
	Red. to 32° F.	Red. to Sea Level.	Daily Range.	Dry Bulb.			Wet Bulb.		Press. Inches.	Humidity. Per cent.	Daily Velocity Miles.	Mean Direction.	Fall Inches.	Number of Days.	Mean. Per cent.	No. of Days.		
				Mean.	Max.	Min.	Range.	Mean.								Min.	Cloud- less to h. and 16 h.	Over- cast.
Jan.	29+	.554	.127	74.1	84.5	61.7	22.8	58.4	.394	46	176	E. by S.	—	—	14	17	—	
Feb.	.550	.842	.131	78.3	88.9	66.0	22.9	59.1	.366	37	179	S.E. by S.	—	—	6	16	—	
Mar.	.482	.746	.137	83.3	94.5	70.2	24.3	62.3	.422	37	157	S.	—	—	17	8	—	
April.	.446	.709	.149	83.2	94.2	70.5	23.7	66.2	.538	48	161	S. by W.	3.97	8	35	2	—	
May	.427	.690	.135	82.6	93.7	70.1	23.6	67.7	.585	52	228	W.	7.87	8	40	4	—	
June	.374	.668	.090	77.4	85.3	68.7	16.6	68.4	.670	70	237	W.S.W.	4.75	16	76	—	9	
July	.404	.720	.081	73.9	80.1	67.3	12.8	66.9	.645	77	281	W. by S.	3.16	21	95	—	17	
Aug.	.397	.706	.099	74.7	81.5	67.6	13.9	67.1	.641	74	255	W.	1.83	17	87	—	7	
Sept.	.439	.744	.121	75.8	83.7	67.3	16.3	66.9	.625	70	213	W. by S.	3.37	12	80	—	3	
Oct.	.473	.781	.119	75.6	82.5	67.5	15.0	67.1	.642	70	148	S.S.E.	4.82	16	79	—	3	
Nov.	.580	.902	.110	72.8	80.8	62.7	18.0	62.5	.527	61	142	E.	3.11	4	41	4	—	
Dec.	.564	.900	.118	70.0	78.7	59.3	19.3	57.3	.407	53	189	E.	0.11	3	42	8	4	
Year	27+	.474	.118	76.8	85.7	66.6	19.1	64.2	.539	58	197	—	32.99	105	51	59	43	
													Total.	Total.		Total.		

*Rainfall.*—The average annual rainfall at Chitaldroog, calculated from the observations for 26 years (1870–95), is 24·85, or, according to another statement, 24·23. The average monthly fall is given under each taluq. The average annual rate for the remaining taluq or sub-taluq stations for the same period was as follows :—

	For 26 years.	Other Returns.		For 26 years.	Other Returns.
Challakere ...	17·37	or 18·50	Hosdurga ...	22·47	or 22·24
Dávangere ...	19·65	„ 21·05	Jagalúr ...	17·71	„ 18·88
Hiriyúr ...	16·78	„ 17·15	Molkálmurn ...	21·14	„ 22·46
Holalkere ...	25·60	„ 23·92			

The distribution of rain diminishes as a rule from south-west to north-east. Hiriyúr and Challakere taluqs especially form a comparatively rainless tract, receiving in some parts less than ten inches in the year. From the tables it appears that the heaviest rainfall in the District is generally in October, at the break of the north-east monsoon. Hence the distress occasioned by a failure of the rains at that season, followed as it is by severally totally dry months, including in rapid succession the coldest, and then the hottest period of the year.

The actual annual rainfall at Chitaldroog has been thus recorded:—

1868 ...	21·27	1875 ...	12·14	1882 ...	28·84	1889 ...	30·13
1869 ...	22·90	1876 ...	8·39	1883 ...	35·30	1890 ...	19·63
1870 ...	26·85	1877 ...	12·05	1884 ...	18·31	1891 ...	18·92
1871 ...	25·33	1878 ...	27·15	1885 ...	26·34	1892 ...	22·58
1872 ...	26·38	1879 ...	24·55	1886 ...	22·39	1893 ...	28·55
1873 ...	31·15	1880 ...	32·66	1887 ...	23·17	1894 ...	22·24
1874 ...	34·31	1881 ...	12·94	1888 ...	26·47	1895 ...	32·98

**Vegetation.**—This District is almost throughout a “dry and thirsty land.” It has no forest. Great undulating plains, covered frequently with nothing but stones and a dwarf species of mimosa (called locally the *hote jalli*, and armed with vicious looking and formidable spines from one to four inches in length), are dotted at wide intervals, with villages lying in the hollows, having sometimes a few trees round them. These are the characteristics of fully one-third of the District. The whole taluq of Challakere answers generally to this description, but where there is any water in the soil there are some fine cocoa-nut gardens. The pastures, too, during the cooler months of the year, are good, and the Amrit Mahal has extensive grazing grounds in Dodderi, Tallak, Hosdurga, and other parts of the District.

Standing on the low range of hills near the Mári Kanave, the view which meets the eye is not, during the rainy months, altogether so desolate. Looking up the valley of the Védávati towards Hosdurga a few more trees are seen, and the country is not so very bare. To the



south and south-east, along the Hiriyúr hills, there are jungles of the káráchi (*hardwickia binata*). Again, between Bommagondankere and Hángal, in the taluq of Molakálmuru, is another tract of country covered with the káráchi. In the same taluq, to the east of the kasba town and on the borders of the Bellary District, is a small fuel jungle among hills ; and in the western corner of the Jagalúr taluq is another of tolerable dimensions. Not far from the town of Chitaldroog are a few small patches of acacias, and on the Jógi matti, a hill near Chitaldroog, are a few bamboos and some poor trees of second-class timber.

Yet the soil would not be unproductive if it only had water. Near Jagalúr and Bommagondankere, and one or two other spots where irrigation is possible from either tanks or wells worked by *kapile*, heavy crops are taken. On the high lands where the soil is a disintegrated rock, the dry crops, provided sufficient rain-falls, are good.

The quantity of timber for building purposes is, as may be supposed, very limited ; and the large towns draw their supplies chiefly from more favoured districts. In the villages the huts are very poorly built. The stems of cocoa-nut trees and wood obtained from dead fruit-trees growing in gardens are much used, and not unfrequently the scapes of the common aloe are used both as joists and uprights.

Mr. Bowring remarks : " It is not improbable that this portion of Mysore may have been less sterile formerly, as on many of the hills traces are to be seen of forests cut down long ago. In fact, old records mention the existence of fine timber where such has wholly disappeared, owing, no doubt, to the reckless way in which the cultivators have cut down whatever they required for agricultural implements, regardless of the destruction caused to young trees and saplings. No one ever thought of planting new trees to replace those that had been felled, and so, as population increased and agriculture spread, the few remaining forests rapidly disappeared. The denudation of trees under which the District suffers has probably had much to do with the prevailing drought, there being scarcely any vegetation to arrest the passage of the monsoon clouds, which float onwards without depositing their valuable contents."

*Avenues* have been planted along the public roads as in other Districts, but with little effect, and the trees are kept alive with much difficulty. There were 425 miles thus planted up to 1895. At the same period there were 28,172 trees in 868 *groves*, covering 784 acres.

**Forests.**—The reserved State forests are Jogimatti,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  square miles, and Nirtadi-gudda,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  square miles. *Plantations.*—There are three Forest plantations, covering 92 acres, and nine Revenue plantations,

covering 251 acres. *Groves*.—There are 820 groves or topes in 798 villages, planted with 25,097 trees. *Avenues* have also been planted on both sides of 417 miles of road.

**Cultivation.**—Chitaldroog, Hiriyúr, Máyakonda, Dávangere, and Bilchod produce cotton, which is also grown, though in smaller quantities, in Anaji, Kankuppa, and Molakálmuru. Flax for the manufacture of linseed oil is raised in Dávangere, Kankuppa, and Bilchod. All the northern taluqs produce wheat, jola, navane, sugarcane, and chenna. Rice is less abundant. Cummin seed is grown in the north-east. In the south, about Mattod, are extensive groves of cocoanut trees, growing, as in the neighbouring parts of Tumkur, in the dry lands without irrigation. The cultivation in the south-west consists of the ordinary dry crops raised on red soil. All along the east the *kapile* wells are largely used in raising crops by irrigation, including rági, which on the Bellary border is cultivated in no other way.

The following are the principal crops cultivated in the District :—

Kannada name.	Botanical name.	English name.
<b>CEREALS.</b>		
Baragu ... ..	<i>Panicum milaceum</i> ... ..	—
Bhatta ... ..	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ... ..	Rice.
Godhi ... ..	<i>Triticum aristatum</i> ... ..	Wheat.
Háraka ... ..	<i>Panicum semiverticillatum</i> ... ..	—
Jola .. ... ..	<i>Holcus sorghum</i> ... ..	Great millet.
Navane ... ..	<i>Panicum italicum</i> ... ..	Italian millet.
Rági ... ..	<i>Eleusine corocana</i> ... ..	Rági.
Sajje ... ..	<i>Holcus spicatus</i> ... ..	Spiked millet.
Sáme ... ..	<i>Panicum frumentaceum</i> ... ..	Little millet.
<b>PULSES.</b>		
Avare ... ..	<i>Dolichos lablab</i> ... ..	Cow gram.
Hesaru ... ..	<i>Phaseolus mungo</i> ... ..	Green gram.
Hurali ... ..	<i>Dolichos uniflorus</i> ... ..	Horse gram.
Kadale ... ..	<i>Cicer arietinum</i> ... ..	Bengal gram.
Korasáni ... ..	— ... ..	Panic seed.
Tadagani ... ..	<i>Dolichos catiang</i> ... ..	—
Togari ... ..	<i>Cajanus indicus</i> ... ..	Pigeon pea, doll.
Uddu... ..	<i>Phaseolus minimus</i> ... ..	Black gram.
<b>OIL SEEDS.</b>		
Haralu ... ..	<i>Ricinus communis</i> ... ..	Castor oil.
Huchchellu ... ..	<i>Guizotea oleifera</i> ... ..	Wild gingelli.
Wollellu ... ..	<i>Sesamum orientale</i> ... ..	Gingelli.
<b>VEGETABLES (NATIVE).</b>		
Bellulli ... ..	<i>Allium sativum</i> ... ..	Garlic.
Jirige ... ..	<i>Cuminum cyminum</i> ... ..	Cummin seed.
Kottambari ... ..	— ... ..	Coriander.
Mensina káyi ... ..	<i>Capsicum annuum</i> ... ..	Chilly.
Mentya ... ..	<i>Trigonella foenum groecum</i> ... ..	Fenugreek.
Nirulli ... ..	<i>Allium cepa</i> ... ..	Onion.
Saute káyi ... ..	<i>Cucumis sativus</i> ... ..	Cucumber.

Kannada name. —	Botanical name.	English name.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Adike ... ..	Areca catechu ... ..	Areca nut.
Arale ... ..	Gossypium indicum ... ..	Cotton.
Bále ... ..	Musa sapientum ... ..	Plantain.
Hoge soppu ... ..	Nicotiana tabacum ... ..	Tobacco.
Hunase ... ..	Tamarindus indica ... ..	Tamarind.
Kabbu ... ..	Saccharum officinale ... ..	Sugar-cane.
Sanabu ... ..	Crotalaria juncea ... ..	Country hemp.
Tengina káyi ... ..	Cocos nucifera ... ..	Cocoanut.
Viledele ... ..	Piper betle ... ..	Betel vine.

*Area under principal crops.*—The cultivation of rice covered in 1893 an area of 34,954 acres; wheat, 1,152; other food grains, 730,659; oil seeds, 64,538; sugar-cane, 296; cotton, 44,676; fibres, 947; tobacco, 1,494; other crops, 10,762.

**Wild animals.**—The tiger, panther, bear, hyæna and wild hog infest more or less all the hilly and wild tracts. Deer are to be found chiefly in Hiriýúr, Chitaldroog and Holalkere taluqs.

*Birds.*—All kinds of wild fowl are very numerous in the secluded tanks in the south of the District. Pelicans may be seen about Mattod.

**Domestic animals.**—The cattle vary greatly in size and strength, some of the largest and finest in the south of India being occasionally bred, while the ordinary run of those employed by the ryots, both for domestic and agricultural purposes, is of small size and stature. The best cows and oxen are bred in Chitaldroog and the taluqs to the north and east of it. Buffaloes are finest in the neighbourhood of Chitaldroog.

The best sheep, and those which yield the finest wool, are bred in the north-western parts of the District. In the south and west they are slightly inferior, while those of Hiriýúr are considered still less valuable.

*Live Stock.*—The number of cows and bullocks in 1893 was 235,118; buffaloes, 63,334; horses and ponies, 1,998; donkeys, 4,383; sheep and goats, 316,300.

## HISTORY

The plates existing in Shimoga District, which profess to record grants made at Harihara by the emperor Janamejaya in 3066 and 3022 B.C., have been referred to under that District, and in the general chapter on History in Vol. I.

**Mauryas.**—But the oldest authentic inscriptions found in Mysore, and indeed in Southern India, are the Edicts of Asoka discovered by me in 1892 in Molakálmuru taluq; and no older inscriptions have come to light anywhere in India. This discovery carried back the history of Mysore to the 3rd century B.C., and threw a new light on the condition of the Peninsula at that period. The accounts of Bhadrabáhu and Chandra Gupta at Sravana Belgola (Hassan District) had connected Mysore with the Mauryas, but the Edicts of Asoka made it clear that the north of the country, probably the province long afterwards known as Kuntala, was a component part of the Maurya empire.

**Satavahanas.**—The next link in the chain of evidence for the early history of the District was the find of Buddhist lead coins on the site of the ancient city of Chandrávali, immediately to the west of Chitaldroog. One at least of the coins bore the name of the S'átaváhana king Pulomáyi, and in conjunction with the inscription of Háritiputra Sátakarni, discovered by me in Shikárpur taluq (Shimoga District), left little doubt that the S'átaváhanas held sway over the north of Mysore in the 2nd century A.D.

**Kadambas.**—The Kadambas succeeded the S'átaváhanas, and there is probably a trace of them in an old inscription at Anaji, which may be of the 4th century, and which mentions a great battle between a Pallava king named Napakkása and a king named Krishnavarma, doubtless a Kadamba. The latter suffered so complete a defeat that the prince S'ínavarma retired in consequence from the world. Banavasi was the chief Kadamba capital, but Uchchásringi is also mentioned as an important seat of their government, and this corresponds either with Uchchangi-durga near Dávangere; or with a hill of the same name, but also called Hire-A'ryara-durga, near Molakálmuru, some Kadamba inscriptions being found here. A rock inscription of Chandiyammarasa, to the south-west of Chitaldroog, is also probably Kadamba.

The *Chálukyas* in the 6th century reduced the Kadambas to the condition of feudatories, and soon extended their dominion over this District in their contests against the Pallavas. But in the 8th century the *Ráshtrakútas* became supreme, and so remained for two hundred years. Under them part of the District seems to have been attached to the Kadambalige nád.

**Nolambas.**—But the distinctive ruling race in the District at this time was the Nolambas or Noṇambas, a branch of the Pallavas, and their territory was the Nolambaváḍi or Noṇambaváḍi Thirty-two Thousand, called in an inscription a girdle for her loins (*kaṭi-núpura*) to the Lady Earth. They had a capital at Penjeru or Henjeru, now Hemavati, close to the eastern point of Hiriyúr taluq, but they also had

a city, Nolambapattana, of which only the name remains, to the east of Chitaldroog, near Aymangala, properly Ayyapamangala, so named after a Nolamba king, as also was Nannivála.

The *Chálukya* power was revived at the end of the 10th century, and their government of Nolambavádi was at one time under the prince Vishnuvardhana Vijayáditya, who had his capital at Kampili (in the Puryabhadra in Bellary District) and then under the prince Jayasingha Nolamba Pallava, who also ruled over Banavase. From about the middle of the 11th to the end of the 12th century, the government was hereditary in a family of Pándyas, of whom Tribhuvana Malla Pándya Deva, Vijaya Pándya Deva, Vira Pándya Deva, and another Vijaya Pándya Deva are mentioned; whence the region, or some portion of it, was also called the Pándya rájya and the Pándya mançala. Its capital at this time was at Uchchangi-durga (near Dávangere). In the latter part of the period, though subordinate to the *Kalachurya* kings who supplanted the Chálukyas, these Pándyas appear to have affected some degree of independence. They claim to be of the Yádava race and lords of Kánchipura.

**Hoysalas.**—At the close of the 12th century the District was absorbed in the kingdom of the Hoysalas, whose capital was at Dorasamudra (Halebid, Hassan District). Nolambavádi and Nirgunda were both provinces of the Hoysala dominions, and descendants of the Ganga kings appear to have continued to rule over the latter as subordinate governors. The north-east, as far as Niḍugal, was subdued by Vishnuvardhana, and Molakálmuru by Vira Ballála.

For about 15 years from 1270, the *Yádava* kings of Devagiri (Daulatabad) gained some advantage over the north-western parts of the District, and the seat of the provincial government was apparently established by them at Betúr, near Dávangere, which, however, is also described as having long before been the capital of some local chieftain.

In 1287 the Hoysalas had recovered their possessions in this part of Mysore, but the seat of government seems to have been transferred to Bemmattana-kallu, the present Chitaldroog. Before long both Devagiri and Dorasamudra were taken and sacked by the Muhammadans, and the two royal lines were brought to an end.

**Vijayanagar.**—From the middle of the 14th century, under the Vijayanagar sovereigns, who next became paramount, Bemmattana-kallu continued the chief town of the District. But subordinate to this sovereignty, in the course of the 15th century, arose the various pategars who held tracts of country on feudal tenure. The most considerable of these were the chiefs of Chitaldroog and Niḍugal.

*Chitaldroog.*—The Chitaldroog family were of the Beda or Boya

caste, corresponding with the Kirátas of Sanskrit writers. Hunters and mountaineers, as the names indicate, they belonged to one of the hill tribes who subsisted by hunting and tending cattle. The accounts of their origin are somewhat confused, but it appears that three families emigrated from Jadikal-durga, in the neighbourhood of the shrine of Tirupati, and settled at Nirutadi near Bharmaságar about 1475. The son and grandson of one of the leaders, named respectively Hire Hanumappa Náyak and Timmana Náyak, afterwards took up their residence at Matti in Hadadi hobli, Dávangere taluq. The latter, called Kámagéti Timmana Náyak, was appointed in 1508, by the Vijayanagar king, as Náyak of Holalkere, and afterwards to the same office in Hiriyúr and eventually in Chitaldroog. The hill at this place he fortified, and so conducted himself that a force was sent against him.<sup>1</sup>

On this occasion Timmana Náyak distinguished himself as the hero of a most extraordinary adventure. Stealing into the camp at night, with the intention of carrying off the horse of Sáluva Narasinga Ráya, the prince who commanded, he accidentally roused the groom. Hastily hiding among the litter, he lay quiet to escape observation, when the groom, driving in afresh the peg for the heel ropes, as luck would have it sent it right through the hand of the concealed chief. The latter bore the pain without moving, and when all was again still, releasing himself by cutting off the hand which was pinned to the ground, he succeeded in carrying off the horse in triumph. This unexampled proof of fortitude, while it attached to him more closely his immediate followers, showed the besieging army that no intimidation would be effectual with such an opponent. A peace was therefore, it is said, concluded, and Timmana Náyak invited to Vijayanagar, the sovereign of which expressed the greatest admiration of his courageous exploit. After successfully aiding the royal troops in an expedition against Kulburga, he visited the capital and was rewarded with many honours. At a later period he incurred the royal displeasure and was imprisoned at Vijayanagar, where he died.

<sup>1</sup> According to another account, Timmana Náyak came with a small body of armed men from a place called Madakeri below the Ghats, 10 *gau* distant from Tirupati, and entered the service of the paelegar of Basvapatna. Some quarrel arose about a mistress that Timmana Náyak kept at Matti, and he took refuge at Máyakonda, whence, on being pursued, he escaped to the jungle at Guntanur. Collecting a band, he commenced plundering on every side, and erected a small fort called Rangapatna near Haleiyúr. The neighbouring paelegars of Harpanhalli, Nidugal, and Basvapatna, being much annoyed by his depredations, united against him and with the aid of some troops from Vijayanagar marched upon Rangapatna. Timmana Náyak was then forced to retire to Chitaldroog, where he was closely besieged, when the incident related in the text occurred and led to his formal recognition as one of the chiefs dependent on Vijayanagar.

His son, Obana Náyak, was in the next reign appointed Náyak of Chitaldroog. He took the name of Madakeri Náyak, and on the fall of Vijayanagar in 1564 assumed independence. In 1602 he was succeeded by his son Kastúri Rangappa Náyak, during whose warlike reign the possession of Máyakonda, Sante Bennúr, Holalkere, Anaji, Jagalúr and other places was contested in several battles with the Basvapatna palegar, and they remained as parts of the Chitaldroog territory. At the chief's death in 1652 his possessions yielded a revenue of 65,000 Durgi pagodas. Madakeri Náyak, his son, was next installed, and ruled till 1674. He extended the dominions, principally eastwards, until they yielded 100,000 Durgi pagodas.

An adopted son named Obana Náyak next succeeded, but after a few months was put to death by the dalaváyis, who were dissatisfied with his management. His son Súrakánta Rangappa then took the government, but on refusing to the troops the customary gratuities on the accession of a new master, they mutinied and killed him. Chikkanna Náyak, a younger brother of Madakeri Náyak, was next invited to the throne and installed in 1676. After forcing the Harpanhalli chief to raise the siege of Anaji, he was under the necessity of defending Harihar against the Muhammadans. This he effected by the following stratagem. Causing, on the approach of night, lights to be fixed to the branches of the trees and horns of the cattle at his encampment near the Báti hill, and the musicians to play as usual on their instruments as if the army were still there, he marched with nearly the whole force by a circuitous route and threw himself into the fort from the west, and thus drove off the besiegers. He formed alliances by marriage with the Ráyadurga and Basvapatna chiefs, and died in 1686. His brother Madakeri Náyak succeeded, but was imprisoned by the dalaváyis, who set up Rangappa.

But in 1689 Kumára Barmappa Náyak assumed the government and reigned till 1721. He was principally remarkable for the extent of his benefactions and the number of his children. It was during this period that the Mughals overran the Carnatic possessions of Bijapur and established their government at Sira, of which province Basavapatna and Budihál were made parganas, and to which Chitaldroog and the other neighbouring estates of palegars became tributary.

His son Madakeri Náyak, who came next, was engaged in continual hostilities against Harpanhalli, Sávanúr, Bednúr, and the Mahrattas under Siddoji or Hindu Rao, the father of Morári Rao. He was generally successful in his engagements and annexed a large tract of country on the north-east, extending beyond Molkálmuru, conquered from Ráyadurga. In 1748 he secured the alliance of Chanda Sáhib,

who, released from prison at Sattara through the designs of Mons. Dupleix, was marching south. But in the battle of Máyakonda, the Chitaldroog army encountered with disastrous result that of Bednúr, which was assisted by the confederate forces of Ráyidurga, Harpanhalli and Sávanur. Madakeri Náyak was slain, in single combat on elephants, by Somasekhara Náyak, the Harpanhalli chief; Chanda Sahib's son fell at his side, and he himself was taken prisoner by the Bednúr troops. But having made known his hopes and designs regarding the Navábship of the Carnatic to the Musalman officers of the latter, they released him and joined his standard.

Kastúri Rangappa Náyak, son of Madakeri, succeeded, and with the aid of Morári Rao retook Máyakonda. He made various expeditions to the north and south, in the latter of which he gained some possessions in the Budihál country. He at the same time kept up a friendship with the Subadar of Sira, who, it is said, invested him with the titles of Tallári and Nád-gauda of Sira. He died in 1754 without issue, and Madakeri Náyak, the son of Barmappa Náyak, was acknowledged as his successor.

Placed between the Mahrattas on one side and Haidar Ali on the other, this chief occupied a perilous position. In 1762 he was summoned by the latter, to whom the pategars of Ráyidurga and Harpanhalli had submitted. Madakeri Náyak procrastinated, on which Haidar overran the whole country with his cavalry, and the chief was forced to compromise by paying a fine of two lakhs of rupees and an annual tribute. At this time, a pretender to the throne of Bednúr, announcing himself as Channa Basavaiya, whom it was supposed had been murdered, had sought protection and assistance from Chitaldroog. Haidar Ali soon saw the use that could be made of him, and in 1763 the united armies of Mysore and Chitaldroog invaded the Bednur country, with the ostensible object of restoring the rightful king. The result of the expedition has been related in the history of the Shimoga District. Haidar, having accomplished his purpose, sent the pretender, called in joke the Ghaib (or resurrection) Rájá, to Maddagiri (Tumkur District) as a prisoner, along with the Bednur Ráni.

In 1777, when Haidar Ali was threatened with a formidable invasion by the allied armies of the Mahrattas and of Nizam Ali, the Chitaldroog pategar having received information which led him to consider that Haidar's fortune would shortly be reversed, held back from sending the usual contingent of troops to his assistance. Haidar, posted in a strong position at Gutti, found means to avert the danger, and immediately marched upon Chitaldroog to punish it, rejecting the offers of the chief to pay a large fine. The siege was maintained for



some months without success, when an arrangement was entered into and a fine of thirteen lakhs of pagodas levied on the chief. But the advance of the Mahrattas forced Haidar to destroy the siege works and hasten to the north-west before the whole was paid, and the palegar, still doubting to which side fortune might incline, evaded the order to accompany the army with his troops. The Mahratta campaign failed, from the mutual jealousy of the leaders and other causes, and Haidar, after a successful career of conquest over all the country between the Tungabhadra and the Krishna, once more sat down indignant before Chitaldroog. But only by the treachery of the Muhammadan officers in the palegar's service was the place at last taken in 1779. Madakeri Náyaṅ, on finding himself betrayed, threw himself on Haidar's mercy. He and his family were sent as prisoners to Seringapatam; while to break up the Bedar population, whose blind devotion to their chief had so prolonged the contest, he removed 20,000 inhabitants to people the island of Seringapatam, and of all the boys of proper age formed regular battalions of captive converts or Chelas, who in following wars were of great service to him.

*Nidugal.*—The founder of the Nidugal family appears to have come from the neighbourhood of Bijapur, and claimed to be a Kshatriya. According to tradition, he was born of a girl of that caste, whose family had settled at Dodderi, Harti, and Sarvad in the Bijapur country. At the age of seven she conceived by the Sun, and her father Timma Raja, to avert disgrace, exposed the infant to which she gave birth on a *tippe* or dunghill. The child was found by a cowherd named Kamma, who brought him up as his own. After a time the cowherd removed to Kamlapur near Vijayanagar, where there was an enclosure for the exhibition of tiger fights. On one occasion, when the king Krishna Raya was present, a tiger got loose and ran among the cattle, on which the boy killed it with his axe. The king made inquiry regarding a youth of such bold spirit, and on hearing his story took him away from the cowherd, alleging that as a foundling he belonged to the State. At the same time, from the fact of his having been found on a *tippe*, he gave him the name of Tippana Náyaṅ.

Some time after he defeated a noted champion athlete, who had prevailed against all other opponents at the Court, and put him to death; for which exploit he was granted a tract of country in the east of the Chitaldroog District, to be cleared of jungle and formed into an estate. Settling at Machisamudra, Gosikere, and Challakere, he built Dodderi and Harti, naming them after the towns of his ancestors; and took possession of the country extending from Chitaldroog to Pāvugada, and from Molkálmuru to Sira. At his death, which must have happened

in the latter half of the 16th century, he divided his territory among his seven sons.

On the invasion of the country by the Bijapur army the descendants of these were driven from their respective possessions, and Timmana Náyak, who had lost Dodderi, retired to the hill of Niḍugal, which he fortified; and there the family long remained, paying to Sira a tribute of 3,000 pagodas. On the capture of Sira by Haidar Ali in 1761, the Niḍugal chief, also called Timmana Náyak, submitted to the conqueror, who imposed on him a tribute of 7,000 pagodas and the supply of 300 men. Subsequently, while accompanying Tipu Sultan in the expedition against Mangalore, he fell ill; and when at the point of death was compelled to sign a letter relinquishing his territory and ordering his son Hottana Náyak to deliver it up to the governor of Chitaldroog. Possession was at once taken, and Hottana Náyak, with his brother, were sent as prisoners to Chitaldroog and thence to Seringapatam, where they were put to death when the British army ascended the Ghats.

**Mysore Raj.**—On the overthrow of the Muhammadan government and the formation of the present kingdom of Mysore, the Chitaldroog country was included in it, and formed the Chitrakal Ráyada, Subayana or Faujdári. The west and south suffered during the insurrection of 1830. Under the subsequent British management, the Chitaldroog Division included the Chitaldroog and Tumkur Districts, with headquarters at Tumkur. In 1863 that Division was broken up, by joining the Chitaldroog District to the Nagar Division, and the Tumkur District to the Nundydroog Division. In 1879 the Divisions were abolished, and in 1882 Chitaldroog was reduced to a Sub-Division under Tumkur District. In 1886 the Chitaldroog District was re-established, but Pavugada taluq remained a part of Tumkur District.

## POPULATION

*Number.*—The population of the District by the census of 1891 consists of 209,590 males and 209,394 females, or altogether 413,984 persons.

*Density.*—It will thus be seen that there are 102·92 persons to a square mile—a comparatively low rate, due to the extent of the District and the barrenness of a considerable portion of it. The Dávangere taluq was the most thickly peopled when the census was taken, the ratio being 162·41 persons per square mile, followed by Chitaldroog

talug, with 125·72, and Jagalur talug, with 103·04. The scantiest population was in Hiriyúr talug, with only 67·28 per square mile. Challakere talug had only 76·84, and Molkálmuru 83·48.

By religion.—According to religion the population is thus distributed, adults being shown separately from children :—

Religion.	Above 15.		Under 15.		Total.	Per cent.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
Hindus ... ..	123,134	118,081	76,433	77,224	394,872	95·38
Muhammadans ... ..	5,668	4,972	3,803	3,739	18,182	4·39
Jains ... ..	266	172	117	84	639	0·15
Christians ... ..	117	69	49	49	284	0·06
Others (6 Parsis, 1 Jew)	3	3	—	1	7	—
Total ... ..	129,188	123,297	80,402	81,097	413,984	—

Increase.—The following figures compare the estimates of population in the *kháneshumári* accounts of 1853-4, with the numbers recorded in the census periods of 1871, 1881, and 1891 :—

Talug.	1853-4.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Challakere ... ..	22,144	57,187	45,747	60,711
Chitaldroog ... ..	34,720	75,442	50,834	66,546
Dávangere ... ..	60,823	94,006	72,749	94,565
Hiriyúr ... ..	30,785	61,866	40,163	54,302
Holalkere ... ..	33,493	78,336	47,249	67,051
Jagalúr ... ..	26,710	40,311	28,437	38,229
Molakálmuru ... ..	22,133	28,405	25,332	32,560
Total... ..	230,808	435,553	310,511	413,964

Some of the differences are due to redistribution of taluqs and to changes in the limits of the District. There was an apparent increase in the first 18 years up to 1871 of 88·97 per cent., and even allowing 25 per cent. of defective enumeration in the early estimate, as was shown to be required at the actual census, there still remains the high rate of 63·97 per cent., an eloquent testimony to the security and prosperity of the District. But the great famine of 1877-8 fell with severity upon Chitaldroog, and the population went down 28·7 per cent. by 1881. It has since again risen 33·31 per cent. in the 10 years to 1891, indicating considerable elasticity in the population. The net result may be stated at an increase on the whole of 43·49 per cent. in 38 years.

*Classes.*—Classified according to occupation and nationality, the population is composed of the following divisions :—

	No.	Per cent.
A. Agricultural ... ..	88,393	20·86
B. Professional/ ... ..	15,427	3·72
C. Commercial ... ..	52,708	12·73
D. Artisan and Village Menial ... ..	148,712	35·92
E. Vagrant Minor Artisans and Performers ...	90,148	21·77
Races and Nationalities ... ..	18,473	4·46
Others, not stated ... ..	123	0·02

The following are the largest castes or classes, those which number over 10,000, in order of strength. These account for 330,628, or 79·86 per cent. of the population.

Beḍa ... ..	71,607	Golla ... ..	31,505
Wokkaliga ... ..	69,560	Kuruba ... ..	25,398
Lingáyit <sup>1</sup> ... ..	61,325	Musalmán ... ..	17,219
Mádiga ... ..	37,086	Woḍḍa ... ..	16,928

The most numerous classes of Wokkaliga are the Sáda (27,988), Kunchaṭiga (10,758), Redḍi (8,056), and Nonaba (3,865). Among the Kuruba, Hálu Kuruba number 9,882. Among Musalmáns, the Shekhs (10,912) predominate. There are only 5,993 Brahmans altogether, the most numerous sects being Des'astha (1,412) and Baḍaganád (1,193).

**Stock.**—There were 11,731 carts and 61,120 ploughs in 1893, which form the *agricultural* stock of the District. The *manufacturing* stock included 2,757 cloth looms, 1,500 kambli, 69 girdle, 1 góni, and 1 carpet loom, besides oil-mills which number 115.

**Tanks.**—The District contains 872 tanks.

**Dwellings.**—First-class houses at the same period numbered 15,968, tenanted by 79,840 people, while those of an inferior description numbered 74,857, with 334,144 occupants. The best houses are most numerous in Dávangere taluq. Hiriyúr and Chitaldroog follow next in order.

**Towns and Villages.**—The District contains nine municipal towns, with a population of 33,800, composed of 27,785 Hindus, 5,531 Muhammadans, 310 Jains, 6 Parsis, 167 Christians, and 1 Jew.

The following are the towns, with the population of each :—

Dávangere ... ..	8,061	Holalkere ... ..	2,557
Harihar ... ..	6,385	Molakálmuru ... ..	2,421
Chitaldroog ... ..	4,946	Hosdurga... ..	2,061
Hiriyúr ... ..	2,863	Challakere ... ..	1,710
Jagalúr ... ..	2,796		

<sup>1</sup> There are also 31,853 included among Wokkaliga.

The total number of *asali* or primary villages in 1891 was 1,452, to which were attached 189 *dákhali* or secondary villages or hamlets. Of the former 1,185 were populated, and 267 depopulated. Government villages numbered 1,415, and inám villages 37—namely, 10 sarvamánya, 20 jódi, and 7 káyamgutta.

**Great festivals.**—The largest religious festivals are held at the following places:—

At *Náyakanhatti*, Challakere taluq, on the occasion of the *Tippa Rudra* car festival, held on Pushya bahula first and two subsequent days, about 10,000 people assemble.

At *Kotegudda*, Jagalur taluq, 8,000 people come together for the *Virabhadra Deva* festival, lasting from 17th to 21st March.

At *Kalladevarpura*, Jagalur taluq, the car festival held from 19th to 22nd April, attracts 6,000 people. The same number attend the *Ammanna* festival at *Bevinhalli*, in Hiriyúr taluq, celebrated for seven days from full moon day of Chaitra.

At *Hiriyúr*, Hiriyúr taluq, 5,000 people come together during the *Tyára Mallesvara* festival, kept up for a week from full moon day of Mágha.

At *Murgi maṭha*, in Chitaldroog taluq, 4,000 people collect on the 11th day of Asvija, on account of the *Murgi maṭha* festival.

At *Gurusiddapura*, Jagalur taluq, 3,500 people attend the *Chavudesvara* festival, which lasts from 1st to 3rd March.

At *Mári Kanave*, Hiriyúr taluq, 2,500 people assemble for the *Máramma játre*, held for five days from Vaisákha suddha 5th.

At *Yaraballi*, Hiriyúr taluq, 3,000 people come to a similar *játre*, for five days from Vaisákha full moon day.

At *Devapur*, Hosdurga sub-taluq, more than 2,000 people assemble on the occasion of the *Keriyagalamma játre*, which lasts for eight days in Pushya.

At *Dávangere*, the *Durgamma játre*, held once in two years in Phálguna, is attended by 8,000 people.

At *Harihar*, the car festival of *Hariharsvara*, held on the full moon day of Mágha, attracts 5,000 people.

At *Hale Bâti*, Dávangere taluq, 5,000 people celebrate the car festival of *Pránadeva* in the month of Pushya; and at *Avergola*, in the same taluq, a similar festival on Mágha bahula 5th, is attended by 2,000 people.

At *Nunke Bhairava gudda*, near Molakálnuru, a festival in honour of *Nunke Bhairava* is held for eight days from Vaisákha suddha 5th, and attracts 2,500 people.

At *Gaurasamudra*, Challakere taluq, the *Máramma játre*, held for four days from Bhádrapada suddha, is attended by 3,000 people.

**Fairs.**—The largest weekly fairs are the following:—

Place.		Taluq.	Day.		No. of Visitors.
Dávangere ...	...	Dávangere ...	Sunday	... ..	2,000
Chitaldroog ...	...	Chitaldroog...	Monday	... ..	1,000
Harihar ...	...	Dávangere ...	Tuesday	.. ...	2,000
Jagalur ...	...	Jagalur ...	Saturday	... ..	2,000

**Vital Statistics.**—The birth-rate of the District in 1893-4 was 23·27 per mille of the population, and the death-rate was 13·50 per mille. The number of births registered was 9,634—namely, 4,848 of males and 4,786 of females. The number of deaths registered was 5,590, of which 2,843 were deaths of males and 2,747 of females. The following were the causes of death:—Diseases—cholera, 22; smallpox, 508; fevers, 3,052; bowel complaints, 432; injuries—suicide, 2; wounds or accidents, 78; snake-bite or wild beasts, 13; all other causes, 1,355.

## REVENUE

The following statement exhibits the revenue of the District for five years to 1895-6:—

Items.	1891-2.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Land Revenue ...	6,18,867	6,39,004	6,57,623	6,63,643	6,91,052
Forests ... ..	20,296	20,411	15,397	25,579	21,406
Abkari ... ..	1,40,230	2,10,826	2,16,177	2,19,975	2,23,156
Mohatarfa ...	41,944	42,210	37,418	34,106	33,684
Sáyar ... ..	5,824	5,597	3,405	7,148	5,731
Salt ... ..	8,949	9,105	10,740	8,740	9,571
Stamps ... ..	24,140	28,002	29,143	29,055	29,660
Law and Justice	5,258	7,371	8,221	5,889	6,798
Police ... ..	20	105	26	27	11
Public Works ...	8,414	3,135	6,858	—	—
Miscellaneous ...	9,651	12,013	12,738	14,265	15,773
Total Rs. ...	8,83,593	9,77,779	9,97,746	10,08,427	10,36,842

## TRADE

**Manufactures.**—The most general manufactures of the District are those of *kamblis* or camblots and piece goods.

*Woollen Fabrics.*—The kamblis or woollen blankets, which are generally 4 cubits wide by 12 long, are manufactured of the finest

description in Dávangere and Jagalur taluqs, both white and black, as well as checked. Some have been turned out to the value of Rs. 200 and Rs. 300, of so fine a texture that they could be rolled up into a hollow bamboo, and were considered impervious to water. But the price of the more expensive kinds usually made, the wool being taken from the first shearing of the sheep, varies from Rs. 25 to Rs. 40. Coarser descriptions, costing from R. 1 to Rs. 12 each, are made in Chitaldroog, Challakere, and more or less in all the other taluqs. Towards Molkálmuru they may be had as cheap as 10 annas.

*Cotton Fabrics.*—These are produced in greatest quantity in the neighbourhood of Harihar, in Chitaldroog taluq, and in the north of Molkálmuru. At the first are made women's and men's cloths, towels, napkins, sheets, girdles, and tape. The price of cloth varies from R. 1 to Rs. 25 a piece,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 cubits wide, and from 6 to 12 long for men's wear, 12 to 18 for women's. At Chitaldroog are manufactured white sheets, men's cloths and inferior women's cloths, the latter costing from R. 1 to Rs. 6 each. At Devasamudra and other villages north of Molkálmuru are woven cloths of the kind generally worn by Wokkaliga and Banajiga women, valued at from Rs. 2 to Rs. 10 each. White cloths are also made, costing from 8 annas to Rs. 3 a piece. Coarse cloths are made to some extent in all the taluqs, and in Dávangere and Hosdurga cotton thread is largely spun by the women. In the latter, red and coloured handkerchiefs are made.

A large cotton ginning factory has been established at Dávangere by Messrs. Binny & Co., of Madras.

*Silk Fabrics.*—The silk manufactures are confined to the Molkálmuru and Harihar taluqs. In the former, silk cloths suited for men and women, with scarves and turbans of the same material, are made, varying in price from Rs. 10 to Rs. 150. Women's cloths, of cotton and silk interwoven, are also manufactured, costing from Rs. 3 to Rs. 40 each. At Harihar white-and-black check cloths are woven, of raw silk imported from Bangalore.

*Metal Manufacture.*—This consists principally of *iron*, with some *steel*, and is carried on in the Hiriyúr, Hosdurga, and Chitaldroog taluqs, in the neighbourhood of the central hill ranges. The ore is first melted and the metal procured in balls or lumps: these are afterwards hammered into bars or pigs for use, or converted into steel as required. The iron articles manufactured are tools and implements of various kinds for agricultural and industrial purposes. From steel are made swords, daggers, knives, &c. *Brass* vessels and utensils are made north of Molkálmuru by Panchálas, varying in price from 8 annas to Rs. 60. Similar articles, as well as lamps, are made in Hosdurga taluq.

*Glass.*—The manufacture of bangles or coloured glass bracelets, so largely worn by native women, is carried on at Mattod.

Of other manufactures, that of *paper* was formerly an important branch, especially in Challakere taluq, the size of the paper made in which was the standard of a measure called the Dodderi *gaz* or yard. The material used for the manufacture was old *ganni*, and the paper was of the kind called whitey-brown and unglazed. *Rez* or emery for blotting ink is made at Mattod.

Articles of *leather*, such as slippers, buckets, and cords for *kapile* wells, &c., are made in the Molkálmuru taluq, costing from 2 annas to Rs. 5 each; and also sieves, baskets, mats, &c., of *bamboo*. Blue and red *dyes* are made at Harihar, the former from indigo, the latter from the root and bark of two kinds of tree, called *malagina kone* and *patanga*.

**Marts.**—The chief mart in the District is Dávangere. But there is also considerable traffic between the Nagar Malnád and the eastern districts through Holalkere and Huliyár; and with Bellary and districts to the north through Tallak and other places in Challakere taluq. There are agents of Bombay houses at Dávangere for the purpose of buying up oil seeds, &c.

## COMMUNICATIONS

**Railways.**—The Southern Maḥratta Railway from Bangalore to Poona runs through the west of the District from south to north-west for about 52 miles, not far from the boundary. There are stations at Hosdurga Road, Rámagiri, Holalkere, Chik Jájur, Sásalu, Máyakonda, Kodaganur, Tolahunse, Dávangere, and Harihar.

**Roads.**—The *Provincial Roads* in the District have a total length of 207 miles, and cost for up-keep Rs. 25,940 yearly. The *District Roads* cover 245 miles, and are maintained at an annual expense of Rs. 13,280. Particulars are given below of the length and cost of each:—

PROVINCIAL ROADS.				Miles.	Cost.
Salem-Bellary road	...	...	...	89	12,460
Bangalore-Dharwar road	...	...	...	72	8,640
Chitaldroog-Benkipur road	...	...	...	29	3,480
Shimoga-Harihar road...	...	...	...	17	1,360
				—	—
				Total ... 207	Rs. 25,940



DISTRICT ROADS.				Miles.	Cost.
Holalkere-Huliyar road	...	...	...	27	2,160
Hosdurga-Bidarkere railway feeder	..	...	...	6	240
Hiriyur-Huliyar road	...	...	...	22	1,320
Challakere-Pavugada road	..	...	...	28	840
Challakere-Nayakanhatti road	...	...	...	12	600
Nayakanhatti-Jagalur road	...	...	...	16	480
Hángal-Ráyadurga road	...	...	...	6	300
Hiriyur-Hosdurga road	...	...	...	26	1,040
Hiriyur-Mári Kanave road	...	...	...	4	160
Chitaldroog-Challakere road	...	...	...	18	2,160
Channagiri-Sante Bennur-Sásalu road	...	...	...	5	200
Vijapur-Ujani road	...	...	...	31	1,550
Anagod-Kodaganur road	...	...	...	5	200
Anaji-Uchchangidurga road	...	...	...	2	80
Dávangere-Hadadi road	...	...	...	10	500
Harihar-Harpanhalli road	...	...	...	7	350
Tarikere-Hosdurga road	...	...	...	10	500
Chitaldroog station roads	...	...	...	10	600
Total				245	Rs. 13,280

**Accommodation for travellers.**—Europeans travelling in the District find accommodation in the *dák bungalows* built at the stations named below. Brahman kitchens are attached to several.

*First Class.*—Chitaldroog, Dávangere, Harihar, Hiriyur.

*Second Class.*—Bharmaságar, Bommagondankere, Challakere, Holalkere, Male Bennur.

*Third Class.*—Ayamangala, Anagód, Hángal, Hosdurga, Javangondanhalli, Jogimatti, Rampur, Talak, Vijapur.

Native travellers rest in the *chatrams* maintained by Government at Bharmaságar, Chitaldroog, Hángal, Harihar, Hiriyur, Sánekeré and Talak.

## GAZETTEER

**Betur or Bettur.**—A village in Dávangere taluq, 2 miles north of the kasba. Population, 1,183.

It appears to have been the old capital of a principality. At the end of the 13th century it was taken by the Devagiri general and made the seat of government during the ascendancy of the Yádava kings of Devagiri over the northern parts of the Hoysala dominions.

**Challakere.**—A taluq in the north-east, till 1882 called Doddéri

taluk. Area, 790 square miles. Head-quarters at Challakere. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.				Population.
				Government.	Sarva- mānya.	Jodi.	Kayam- gutta.	
1	Challakere ...	47	3	46	—	—	1	17,088
2	Náyakanhatti ...	47	8	47	—	—	—	10,402
3	Parasurámpura ...	51	4	50	—	1	—	15,331
4	Talak... ..	46	10	45	1	—	—	17,890
	Total ...	191	25	188	1	1	1	60,711

*Principal places, with population.*—Náyakanhatti 2,468; Challakere 1,710; Ghataparti 1,644; Nanniválu 1,279; Mannekote 1,276; Irehalli 1,430; Parasurámpura 1,101; Doddéri 1,001.

From 1875 to 1886 Molakálmuru taluk was included in this taluk.

The Vedavati flows through the east from south to north, and receives various nálas, the most important of which are the Garni from near Chitaldroog, and the Náyakanhatti from that village. The surface of the taluk is comparatively flat, with a few rocky ridges or bare hills. Date groves occur in some parts, and groups of bábul in the beds of tanks and along the river. Except for these, the taluk generally presents a bleak and barren appearance. No less than 104 square miles are occupied by Amrit Mahal kávals.

The soil is mostly red and sandy, but in the south-west corner there is some good black soil. The surface of the ground is often covered with loose stones, solid rock constantly crops up, and enormous boulders are found even in cultivated fields. In many villages the soil is impregnated with saline matter, which causes a white efflorescence on the surface. This soil is cultivated, but produces very poor crops. The tanks are numerous, but few are of the first class. Wells are more relied upon, many of which are formed from *talpargis* or spring heads. Great attention is paid to the cultivation of rice and other irrigated cereals, as well as to the cocoa-nut and areca-nut gardens, but dry crop cultivation is carried on in a slovenly and careless manner. Sajje and sáve are the principal dry crops, but castor-oil, horse gram, rági, and javari are also grown. The two latter, however, as well as wheat, navane and tobacco, are almost always raised in irrigated lands. Cotton is grown in small quantities, chiefly in the black soil.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1872. The area of the taluk at that time was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 251,169; wet, 4,934; garden, 9,434) ...	...	265,537
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.) ...	...	102,205
3 Inam villages (5,760); 22 Amrit Mahál kávals (66,560) ...	...	72,320
Total acres ...	...	440,062

The unoccupied arable area was 151,299 acres, 148,061 of it being dry crop land. Of the present taluq 153,480 acres are cultivated, and 192,335 unculturable. The land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months), was Rs. 93,852, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 98,347.

The average rainfall at Challakere for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other stations for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Challakere	—	0·02	0·23	0·84	3·28	1·21	1·23	1·75	3·91	2·45	2·36	0·09	... 17·37
Náyakanhatti	—	0·13	0·08	1·34	1·65	1·48	0·56	1·08	1·52	3·92	1·62	—	... 13·38
Talak	...	—	—	0·13	1·75	1·28	1·91	1·04	0·73	4·88	5·38	0·85	— ... 17·95

Another register for 23 years makes the annual average at Challakere 18·50 inches.

The Bangalore-Bellary high road runs through the taluq from south to north, being met at Challakere by a road from Chitaldroog. There are also roads from Challakere north-west to Náyakanhatti and east to Pavugada.

**Challakere or Chellakere.**—Head-quarters of the Challakere taluq, situated in 14° 18' N. lat., 76° 43' E. long., on the Bangalore-Bellary road, 18 miles east-north east of Chitaldroog, with which it is connected by a road. It is a municipality.

Population in 1891.					Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 9 Jains)	..	...	...	...	800	790	1,590
Muhammadans	..	...	...	...	67	49	116
Christians	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Total	..	..	..	..	870	840	1,710

There is little of interest in the place, which derives most of its importance from being the taluq kasba. The residents are chiefly Lingáyt traders. To the same sect belongs the temple of Chellakere-amma, the principal building.

Municipal Funds.					1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	...	...	...	...	473	525	534	782
Expenditure	...	...	...	..	514	509	446	714

**Chitaldroog.**—A taluq in the centre. Area 531 square miles. Head-quarters at Chitaldroog. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages	Ham-lets.	Villages classified.				Population.
				Government.	Sarva-māya.	Jodi.	Kayam-gutta.	
1	Bharmasāgara ...	55	6	52	1	1	1	13,933
2	Chitaldroog...	57	23	50	1	6	—	26,270
3	Guntanūr ...	59	10	59	—	—	—	13,608
4	Turavanūr ...	18	6	18	—	—	—	12,735
	Total ...	189	45	179	2	7	1	66,546

*Principal places, with population.*—Chitaldroog, 4,946; Turavanūr, 4,444; Siddavvanhalli, 2,968; Dyamavvanhalli, 1,662; Chikkondanahalli, 1,620; Jampalnāyakankote, 1,323; Guḍḍa Rangavvanhalli, 1,300; Kūnabēvu, 1,225; Bharmasāgara, 1,127; Kelagote, 1,083; Hīre Guntanūr, 1,081; Hāyakal, 1,074; Jānukonda, 1,071.

A range of hills running north and south divides the taluq into two almost equal portions. Towards the north the range is narrow and the hills bare and insignificant, but south of Chitaldroog it spreads out into greater width and the hills are loftier and peculiarly striking in appearance. The country to the east and west of the above range is comparatively flat and free from jungle. To the east black soil preponderates, while to the west the country for the most part is composed of red soil.

The western half has a better water supply than the eastern. In it is situated the large Bhimasamudra tank, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles in length by 2 in breadth. Dry crops are cultivated principally on the eastern side of the taluq, and consist of jola, cotton, navane, gram, &c. The crops of the western side are jola, rāgi, togari, &c., the rāgi being frequently sown in garden and rice lands. The kind of rice cultivated is sal bhatta, which requires little water and thrives upon the rainfall alone, though generally planted near a tank or nullah in case of need.

Chitaldroog was once remarkable for the manufacture of silk and cloths of good description, but at present kambli and cotton cloths are alone woven in that town, and in Turavanur and Siddavvanhalli, where also dyers in red carry on their trade. The caste called Reddis are very numerous in the eastern parts of the taluq, so much so that it is often spoken of as the Reddi country.

The east and north of the taluq are included in an auriferous tract, in which land has been taken up for gold-mining.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1867. The area of the taluq at that time was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 190,011; wet, 6,200; garden, 3,070) ... ..	199,281
Unculturable (including roads, village sites, &c.) ... ..	106,872
Total acres ... ..	<u>306,153</u>

The unoccupied arable land was 62,447 acres, mostly dry crop land. Of the present taluq 159,384 acres are cultivated, and 113,226 unculturable.

The land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 1,02,167, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 1,05,567.

The average rainfall for 26 years (1870-95) at Chitaldroog, and for 3 years (1893-5) at the other station was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Chitaldroog	0·19	0·03	0·33	1·41	3·43	2·57	2·68	2·89	3·61	4·98	2·34	0·39	24·85
Vijapur	—	0·17	—	1·80	0·65	3·36	3·09	2·25	1·99	1·40	1·42	—	16·13

The high road from Hiriyur to Harihar runs through the taluq from south east to north-west, and is crossed at Chitaldroog by a road from the Holalkere railway station in the south-west to Challakere in the north-east. There is also a road from Vijapur to Jagalur and the frontier northwards.

**Chitaldroog.**—The chief town of the District, situated in 14° 14' N. lat., 76° 27' E. long., 24 miles from the Holalkere railway station, and on the Bangalore-Harihar road, 126 miles north-west of Bangalore. It is a municipality.

Population in 1891.					Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	...	...	...	...	1,873	2,114	3,987
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	439	473	912
Jains	...	...	...	...	16	6	22
Christians	...	...	...	...	14	11	25
Total	...	...	...	...	2,342	2,604	4,946

The town, which is surrounded with a line of fortifications and includes an inner fort, is built at the north-eastern base of a dense cluster of rocky hills, very extensively fortified. The history of the place has already been related in connection with that of the District. There are many inscriptions on the hill, of the Chálukyas, the Hoysalas, and the Vijayanagar kings, dating from the 11th to the 15th century. Its name

at that time was Bemmattanakalla or Bemmattanúru. According to legend a giant named Hiḍimbásura was here slain by Vrikódara or Bhima, one of the Pándus. The present name of the place is derived either from *Sitala-* or *Chitrakal-durga*, meaning spotted or picturesque castle, or *Chatrakal*, umbrella rock, the umbrella being the ensign of royalty. To the south-west is a striking lofty hill of this form, considered sacred by both Hindus and Musalmans. At the top is a pillar and shrine of Dhavalappa or Siddesvara. The Muhammadans call it the tomb of Saad-ulla. There is also another hill south of Chitaldroog, with a shrine at the summit dedicated to Obala-devi, and held specially sacred by the Bedas.

The mahal or palace in the inner fort, erected by Tipu Sultan, with a fine fruit garden attached, is used as the cutcherry. Before it stands an immense trough for watering elephants, which was found on the hill, formed out of a single stone. In the town, water is laid on to all the streets from the Timmanhalli tank, a short distance to the south. The principal temple is one of two storeys, dedicated to Uchchangi-amma. The extensive fortifications, batteries and works of masonry forming the *méldurga* or upper hill-fort, which includes 14 temples, present many points of interest. The remains of the fort and palace of the palegars, which were of mud, are still to be seen, with the site of a pleasure garden. The formidable stone fortress, as it now is, was erected under Haidar and Tipu, by whom also were constructed the immense granaries and pits for storing oil and ghee. Chitaldroog was for some years garrisoned by British troops, but given up on account of its unhealthiness.

Besides the usual District offices, which are beyond the fort walls, 3 miles to the north-west is situated the Murgi maṭh, the residence of the chief guru of the Sivabhaktas or Lingáyits. It is a large and well-built edifice. In one part is an ingenious water wheel. The name of the maṭh is said to be derived from *míru-gi*, the three *gi-s*, namely *yógi*, *jógi* and *bhógi*. There is a fine maṭh belonging to the guru on the hill, but it is deserted owing to his inability, on account of the opposition of other sects in the town, to visit it with all the insignia of his authority, one of which is a lighted torch by day.

To the west, among a wildly rugged and picturesque group of hills, is the Ankli maṭh, of recent establishment. There is here a curious long series of subterranean chambers, now regularly built round with masonry and thickly covered with plaster. They are entered by a good stone staircase, which leads down to rooms of various sizes at different levels. In them are shrines, lingas, baths and pedestals, apparently for *yógdsana*. The style of their present architecture may be from 300 to 500 years old, but the caverns no

doubt existed long before. When and for what purpose they were originally formed or occupied is unknown. When the Ankli maṭha was first established, about 40 years ago, they were found deserted, and the entrance choked up with a thick growth of bushes. They are now merely used for storing things in. At the Panchalinga cave, near the entrance, is an inscription of 1286, in the reign of the Hoysala king Nárasiṃha III, recording a grant by his minister Perumále.

In this quarter, immediately to the west of Chitaldroog, are traces of an ancient city, consisting of very large-sized bricks, and remains of pottery. Coins are frequently found after heavy rains. In 1888 a large find was made of Buddhist leaden coins, one of which bore the name of the Andhra or S'átaváhana king Pulumáyi, of the 2nd century. According to tradition the city was called Chandrávali, and extended as far as the four points, Náralgundi, Báralgundi, Huligundi and Basavan-gundi. Huligundi is to the north of the Ankli maṭha, and Basavan-gundi is to the north-west of the Cholagatta hill, near Gárihatti village.

About three miles south of Chitaldroog is the Jogi maṭṭi or maraḍi, one of the highest points in the District, being 3,803 feet above the level of the sea. It is surrounded with hills and is overgrown with bamboo, stunted teak and other trees. A road has been made to it and a plantation commenced. It is a convenient resort during the intense heat of the hot months.

Municipal Funds.					1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5	1895-6.
Income	...	...	...	...	4,785	4,755	7,005	7,954
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	5,184	7,331	4,223	7,652

**Davangere.**—A taluq in the north-west, including Harihar sub-taluq. Area, 552 square miles. Head-quarters at Dávangere. Contains the following hoblis, villages, and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.				Popula-tion.
				Govern-ment.	Sarva-mánya.	Jodi.	Kayam-gutta.	
1	A'nagóđ ...	23	—	23	—	—	—	5,336
2	Anaji ...	28	1	27	—	—	1	9,021
3	Dávangere ...	43	2	41	—	—	2	20,000
4	Hadadi ...	39	—	39	—	—	—	11,455
5	Harihar ...	41	—	40	—	1	—	17,330
6	Male Bennur ...	45	—	44	1	—	—	18,773
7	Máyakonḍa ..	43	3	41	2	—	—	12,650
	Total ...	262	6	255	3	1	3	94,565

*Principal places, with population.*—Dávangere, 8,061; Harihar, 6,385; Male Bennúr, 1,909; Máyakonda, 1,646; Sirigere, 1,348; Hadađi, 1,266; Laukikere, 1,200; Bettur, 1,183; Bellúđu, 1,135; Kákkaragola, 1,082; Kokkanúr, 1,011.

This taluq (to which that of Harihar was united in 1875, and formed into a sub-taluq in 1892) has the Tungabhadra running along its western boundary, into which the Haridra from the Súlekere flows at Harihar. The south-west is bounded by the chain of hills trending the right bank of the Bhadra and Tungabhadra from Ajampur north-west to the frontier. Except where a low range of hills crosses the taluq from the east of Máyakonda to the east of Anaji, it consists of a wide unbroken level plain, sloping down to Harihar and the river in the north-west, upon which the insignificant Bádi hill makes a conspicuous figure, while Uchchangi-durga, beyond the border, looms formidably upon the north-east horizon.

Black soil prevails in the west, and stony or gravelly soil in the east; but these are often intermixed, together with patches of red. The chief crops cultivated are jola, cotton, and rági, of which the ryots use the former principally for food. Rice and sugar-cane are grown to a small extent only under tanks.

The taluq is noted for the manufacture of kamblis, of which some of the finest texture are valued as high as from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300. Coarse cotton cloths are largely woven in the villages. More than half the population consists of Sivabhaktas or Lingáyits.

This country was probably owned by the Kadambas at the beginning of the Christian era. It afterwards formed part of the province of Nonambaváđi under the Chálukya and Hoysala kings, the seat of government being at Uchchangi-durga. The Yádavas of Devagiri held it for some years, making Bettur the chief town. It then fell a prey to the Muhammadan incursions by which the Hoysala dominion was overthrown, but on the rise of the Vijayanagar empire was enriched by its kings, from Harihara Ráya downwards. On the downfall of that State the principal places in the taluq were seized by the chiefs of Bednur and Tarikere, until taken, some by the Naváb of Sávanur, and some by the pategar of Chitaldroog, who in their turn were forced to yield them to Haidar Ali; since when, with occasional possession by the Mahrattas in the latter part of last century, they have remained attached to Mysore.

The revenue settlement was introduced into the old Harihar taluq in 1865, and into Dávangere taluq in 1866. The area at that time was distributed as follows:—



Culturable (dry, 293,406; wet, 3,185; garden, 2,121) ... ..	298,772
Unculturable (including roads, village sites, &c.) ... ..	53,716
Inam ... ..	27,911
Total acres ... ..	<u>380,399</u>

The unoccupied arable land was 127,452 acres. The present taluq has 238,775 acres cultivated, and 54,958 unculturable. The total land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 1,64,166, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 1,64,870.

The average rainfall at Dávangere for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other station for 3 years (1893-5) was as follows:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Dávangere	0·02	—	0·24	0·79	2·40	2·17	2·69	2·07	3·84	4·31	0·97	0·15	19·65
Harihar ...	—	0·04	0·15	1·44	2·04	1·80	2·11	1·38	1·82	5·25	1·32	—	17·35

Other registers make the average for 19 years at Dávangere 21·05, and for 4 years at Harihar 18·19.

The Southern Mahratta railway from Bangalore to Poona runs through the taluq from south-east to north-west, with stations at Máyakonda, Kodaganur, Tolahunse, Dávangere, and Harihar. The Bangalore-Harihar high road passes by Anagod and Dávangere, while from Harihar there is a road south-westwards to Shimoga *viâ* Male Bennúr. From Dávangere there are roads south to Hadaqi and east to Anaji. From A'nagóq there is a road south to the railway and to Holalkere, and one north to Anaji.

**Davangere.**—One of the most important seats of trade in the Province, situated in 14° 28' N. lat., 75° 59' E. long., on the Bangalore-Poona railway and the Bangalore-Harihar road, 38 miles north-west of Chitaldroog. Head-quarters of the Dávangere taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus... ..	3,351	3,428	6,779
Muhammadans	604	571	1,175
Jains ... ..	45	9	54
Christians	26	27	53
Total ... ..	4,026	4,035	8,061

Dávangere was originally an obscure village, forming one of the suburbs of Bettur. Haidar Ali gave it as a jágir to a Mahratta chief named Aporji Rám, who encouraged merchants to settle there. He died without heirs, but the place continued to increase under the

encouragements given by Tipu Sultan, and it is now the most populous town in the Chitaldroog District. The merchants are principally Sivabhaktas or Lingáyits. The increase in population, especially since the advent of the railway, has made it necessary to extend the town to the east.

The most valuable trade here is that which is carried on with Wallajapet in North Arcot on the one side, and Nagar and Ságar on the other. Areca-nut and pepper, the produce of the latter, are sent to the former; and Madras goods imported from Europe, China, Bengal, and the eastern islands, together with salt, obtained in return; which, as well as kambilis made in the neighbourhood, are transmitted to Nagar and Ságar. There is also a large trade in cotton, and a cotton ginning factory has been established by Messrs. Binny & Co. of Madras. Agents of Bombay houses are stationed here for the purchase of oil-seeds, &c.

Municipal Funds.					1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	...	...	...	..	3,890	5,100	8,030	10,300
Expenditure	...	...	...	...	3,651	5,388	7,980	11,006

**Dodderi.**—A village in Challakere taluq, 4 miles east of the kasba. Population 1,001.

It was founded by the progenitor of the Nidugal family of chiefs (see p. 463 above), and it was here that Khasim Khan, the Mughal governor of Sira, being surprised while conveying a large treasure, by a Mahratta force under Danoji Ghorpada, assisted by the palegar of Chitaldroog, appears to have committed suicide to avoid disgrace. His body was afterwards taken to Sira and buried there. From this time Dodderi remained in the possession of the Chitaldroog chief until it was taken by Haidar Ali. Down to 1882 it gave its name to the taluq now called Challakere, and was long the head-quarters. It was once celebrated for its paper manufacture, and the size of the sheets regulated the Dodderi *gaz* or yard, which was a standard measure of length.

**Haggari.**—The principal stream of this name, sometimes called Hire Haggari by way of distinction, is also known as the Védávati, and is described under that designation. But there are in this District a Haggari and a Chinna Haggari besides. For a description of the latter see Janaga-halla.

The remaining stream is formed by the outflow of the Anaji tank, whence running northwards, almost along the boundary, it continues in the same direction through the Bellary country to the Tungabhadra.

**Harihar.**—A sub-taluq under Dávangere taluq, comprising the Harihar and Male Bennur hoblis.

**Harihar.**—An ancient town, situated in  $14^{\circ} 31'$  N. lat.,  $75^{\circ} 51'$  E. long., on the right bank of the Tungabhadra, at the Mysore and Dharwar frontier. Till 1875 it was the head-quarters of a taluq bearing the same name, now united to Dávangere, from which it is 9 miles west. It is a railway station and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus ... ..	2,384	2,487	4,871
Muhanmadans ... ..	712	715	1,427
Jains ... ..	19	5	24
Christians (with 1 Jew)	39	18	57
Parsis ... ..	2	4	6
Total ... ..	3,156	3,229	6,385

According to legend this spot was the capital or stronghold of a giant named Guha or Guhásura, whose extent was such that its eastern gate was at Uchchangi-durga, the southern at Govinahálu, the western at Mudanur, and the northern at Airani. The giant, having by his penance obtained from Brahma the boon of exemption from death at the hands either of Hari (Vishnu) or of Hara (Siva), became in consequence such a tormentor of gods and men that Vishnu and Siva, in order to counteract the spell, combined into one form of Harihara and destroyed him. The descent of this incarnation was at Kudalur, the confluence of the Tungabhadra and the Haridra, where its footprints are still pointed out. The expiring giant prayed that the place might be named after him, whence it was called Guháranya kshétra.

There are numerous inscriptions around the great temple, the earliest of which (passing over one on copper of the 7th century, which refers to another part) are dated in the 12th century. In the time of the Chálukya kings Harihara appears to have been an ancient agrahára, possessed by 104 Brahmans, and included in the province of Noṇambaváḍi, administered by governors bearing the name of Pándya. The present highly ornate temple of Hariharesvara, was erected in 1223 by Polálva, a general and minister of the Hoysala king Narasimha II, and some additions were made in 1268 by Soma, the general under a subsequent king of the same name and dynasty, and the founder of Somanáthpur (Mysore District) with its splendid temple. In 1277 Sáluva Tikkama, commander of the forces of the Devagiri king Rámachandra, appears as erecting a temple to Mahadeva, in honour of the preceding king so named. Many benefactions were bestowed down to

the 16th century by the Vijayanagar kings, one of the founders of which line, Hakka, assumed the name of Harihara Ráya.

After the fall of Vijayanagar the place was seized by the Tarikere chiefs, who erected the fort. From them it was taken by the Naváb of Sávanur, who granted it in jágir to Shir Khan. While in possession of the Muhammadans the temple was left intact, but the roof was used for a mosque, a small Saracenic doorway being made into the tower for the pulpit. Harihara was subsequently sold to the chiefs of Bednur, for, it is said, a lakh of rupees. The Mahrattas next held possession, until it was subdued by Haidar Ali in 1763. Since that time it has been thrice taken by the Mahrattas.

Until 1865 a native regiment was stationed in the cantonment two miles north-west of Harihar. In 1868 was completed the splendid bridge across the Tungabhadra, over which runs the trunk road from Bangalore to Dharwar. It is of stone and brick, built in 14 elliptical arches of 60 feet span, and cost nearly 3½ lakhs of rupees. There is also now a separate bridge over the river for the railway.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income ... ..	2,545	2,978	4,440	4,309
Expenditure ... ..	3,670	6,190	4,487	4,582

**Hiriyur.**—A taluq in the south-east. Area 807 square miles. Head-quarters at Hiriyúr. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.				Popula- tion.
				Govern- ment.	Sarva- mánya.	Jódi.	Kayam- gutta.	
1	Aymangala ...	39	14	38	—	1	—	16,924
2	Dharmapura ...	22	2	22	—	—	—	7,930
3	Hiriyúr .. ...	60	3	57	1	1	1	15,141
4	Javanagondanhalli	32	2	32	—	—	—	5,979
5	Lakkihalli ...	62	1	61	—	1	—	8,328
	Total ...	215	22	210	1	3	1	54,302

*Principal places, with population.*—Hiriyúr, 2,863; Maradidevigere, 1,712; Aymangala, 1,223; Harti, 1,116; Maradihalli, 1,106; Dharmapura, 1,050.

Hiriyúr is reckoned one of the most barren taluqs in Mysore, and, compared with the rest of the country, an almost rainless region.

Throughout the west it is crossed by the parallel ranges of the low rocky and hilly belt which runs in a north-westerly direction through the centre of the District. Making its way through the gaps in these hills, with a course nearly at right angles to their general direction, the Védávati flows north-east across the centre of the taluq to some distance beyond Hiriyúr, where it turns north.

The south-western hoblis are peculiarly barren in appearance. They consist chiefly of large masses of hills, scantily clothed with jungle and generally capped with black rock. No gardens or tanks relieve the harshness of the landscape. Everywhere, to the very fields, stones cover the ground; pure soil is rarely met with, and then only at the very lowest parts of the valleys. But the rocks in this part are reported to be auriferous, connected with the Chiknáyakanhalli band. If the reefs should prove to be of sufficient value for mining, the aspect of the country might soon undergo a great change. In the north-west, Aymangala is a flat and stony country, but contains a large quantity of black soil. For the remainder of the taluq, an abrupt and decided line, almost identical with the course of the high road from Hiriyúr to Bangalore, separates black soil from red. All to the north is flat and composed chiefly of black soil; whilst to the south the country is at first stony and broken, and then hilly and composed of red soil.

In the black soils jola and cotton are the principal productions, but wheat and Bengal gram are grown in soil silted up behind embankments made for that purpose. In the red soil rági and avare are the chief crops, but togari, castor-oil and horse gram are also grown. The garden cultivation is very inferior, and some rice is grown under tanks.

The contact of water alone seems required to quicken the fertility of the dreary and barren tracts in much of this taluq, so much so that a single good season of rain enriches the ryots with comparatively little labour. The construction of a dam across the Védávati near Barmagiri at the Mári Kanive, the last of the narrow gorges through which it passes the hills, has been long proposed, as a means of providing irrigation for this rainless land which would convert it into an expanse of rice-fields. But there appears to be some uncertainty as to the data on which such a scheme must be based, and the project is from time to time postponed. Another similar project is the Kubar-katte.

Though cultivation is wanting, manufacture is busy in the Mattod hobli and the neighbourhood of the hills. Iron is smelted at Arsingundi, Chikka Byáldakere and other villages. At the latter there is an extensive manufacture of shoes for bullocks and horses. At Mattod are glass works, formerly very extensive. The principal article made is bangles or glass bracelets for women.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1868 and 1869. The area of the taluq at that time was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 314,036; wet, 3,724; garden, 8,076) ... ..	325,836
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.) ... ..	358,264
Total acres ... ..	<u>684,100</u>

The unoccupied arable land was 146,423 acres. The total land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 61,521, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 64,900.

The average rainfall at Hiriýúr for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other station for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Hiriýúr ...	0·10	0·06	0·14	0·92	2·78	1·80	1·25	1·21	2·95	3·81	1·39	0·37	... 16·78
Yaraballi	—	0·70	0·59	1·93	2·09	2·26	0·39	0·38	1·83	5·03	1·67	—	... 16·87

Another register for 21 years makes the annual average at Hiriýúr 17·15 inches.

The high road from Bangalore branches at Hiriýúr to Bellary northwards and to Chitaldroog north-west. There is also a road connecting Hiriýúr with Huliýar, and another connecting it with Hosdurga, with a branch from Barmagiri to the Mári Kanive.

**Hiriýur.**—A town situated in 13° 57' N. lat., 76° 40' E. long., on the right bank of the Védávati, at the bifurcation of the Bangalore high road to Bellary and to Chitaldroog. Head-quarters of the Hiriýúr taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.				Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus (with 15 Jains)	...	...	...	1,172	1,115	2,287
Muhammadans	...	...	...	313	251	564
Christians	...	...	...	7	5	12
Total	...	...	...	1,492	1,371	2,863

*Hiri-úru*, the great town, was founded, apparently, in the 16th century, by a chief from Máyasamudra, named Kesava Náyak, the virtue of the spot being discovered by the incident of a hare turning on the hounds. The family of the founder continued in possession for three generations, under Naula Allapu Náyak, Konchappa Náyak, who built the big temple, and Rangappa Náyak. During this time settlers were encouraged to take up their residence in the town, and it reached a prosperous condition. It was then taken, first by the Bijapur army and afterwards by the palegar of Chitaldroog, whose ancestor, before coming to power, had held the office of Náyak of Hiriýúr under the

Vijayanagar kings. In 1762 it was captured by Haidar Ali, and suffered very severely during the subsequent contests of that ruler and the Mahrattas, whose devastations brought on a famine which swept off all the inhabitants.

Its unhealthy condition led to an attempt in recent times to remove the town to a higher site on the other side of the river, where the taluq offices have been built ; but the people, as usual, are loath to leave the neighbourhood of the ancient temples, one of which, dedicated to Tára Mallésvara, has a lofty tower erected by the Chitaldroog palegar. East of the old town the Védávati is bridged for the high road.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income ... ..	760	755	773	1,116
Expenditure ... ..	988	774	785	1,008

**Holalkere.**—A taluq in the south-west, till 1882 called Hosdurga, which was then made a sub-taluq under it. Area 681 square miles. Head-quarters at Holalkere. Contains the following hoblis, villages, and population :—

No.	Hóblis.	Vil- lages.	Ham- lets.	Villages classified.				Popula- tion.
				Govern- ment.	Sarva- mánya.	Jodi.	Kayam- gutta.	
1	Bágúr ... ..	60	18	58	—	1	1	11,504
2	Bacmanáyakandurga ... ..	53	1	53	—	—	—	10,422
3	Holalkere ... ..	48	6	47	1	—	—	13,754
4	Hosdurga ... ..	70	18	68	—	2	—	11,216
5	Rámagiri ... ..	41	2	41	—	—	—	10,166
6	Tálya ... ..	57	4	57	—	—	—	9,989
	Total ... ..	329	49	324	1	3	1	67,051

*Principal places, with population.*—Holalkere, 2,938; Hosdurga, 2,061; Bágúr, 1,156; Jánakal, 1,097; Gundéri, 1,078; Rámagiri, 1,062.

The taluq consists of a long narrow strip of country, lying to the west of the central belt of hills, which from Hosdurga northwards form much of the eastern boundary. The north is also occupied by hills, and there is a group on the west covered with low jungle. The rest of the taluq is comparatively flat, with a preponderance of red soil, but good black soil occurs near Andnur and Rámagiri. The good and bad soils are very intimately interspersed throughout the taluq. Long stretches of good grazing exist in different parts, but especially in the

centre. The country is intersected by many fair-sized *nālas*, and (the Vedāvati runs in a direction from south-west to north-east across the southern extremity.)

The most common dry crops are jola and rági. Cotton is grown, but to no extent. Iron is worked in the Gundéri hobli, and in Hosdurga there are a good many workers in brass.

The oldest inscriptions in the taluq are Ráshtrakúṭa, of the 10th century, and show this part of the country as being then attached to the government of the Kadambalige Thousand náḍ, which I have not been able to identify. The Chálukyas, the Hoysalas, and the Vijayanagar kings succeeded in turn. Under the two first the two great provinces of the Nonambaváḍi 32,000 and the Gangaváḍi 96,000 are constantly mentioned, and there is reason to believe that their boundaries met somewhere near Rámagiri.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1868. The area of the taluq at that time was thus distributed.—

Culturable (dry, 181,858 ; wet, 2,656 ; garden, 1,352)	... 185,866
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.)	... 106,778
	<u>292,644</u>
Total acres	... <u>292,644</u>

The unoccupied arable land was 77,242 acres, nearly all dry crop land. Of the present taluq 137,760 acres are cultivated, and 202,880 acres unculturable. The total land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 97,228, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 1,01,067.

The average rainfall at Holalkere and Hosdurga for 26 years (1870-95), and at the other stations for 3 years (1893-5), was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Holalkere	—	0·01	0·18	1·28	2·65	2·18	3·54	3·27	4·64	4·09	3·61	0·15	... 25·60
Hosdurga	0·06	0·06	0·21	1·51	3·41	2·45	2·50	1·58	2·93	4·58	2·87	0·31	... 22·47
Dhumi	—	—	0·52	0·57	1·63	5·26	6·34	4·04	1·13	3·48	0·70	—	... 23·67
Rámagiri	—	—	1·49	1·74	1·96	3·84	2·02	2·42	1·42	4·77	1·05	—	... 20·71

Other registers make the average for 22 years at Holalkere 23·92, for 12 years at Hosdurga 22·24, and for 2 years at the two other places 25·99 and (?) 12·39.

The Southern Mahratta railway from Bangalore to Poona runs throughout the west of the taluq, from south to north, with stations at Bidarkere or Hosdurga Road, Rámagiri, Holalkere, Chik Jájúr, and Sásalu. There is a road from Channagiri through Holalkere to Chitaldroog, with one from Huliya through Hosdurga to Dávangere, most of it close to the railway line. There are roads from Hosdurga to



the railway at Bidarkere, to Ajjampur and to Hiriyr. Also a road from Sásalu to Sante Bennúr and Súlekere.

**Holalkere.**—A town situated in  $14^{\circ} 2'$  N. lat.,  $76^{\circ} 15'$  E. long., 4 miles east of the Holalkere railway station, and 20 miles south-west of Chitaldroog, on the Chitaldroog-Shimoga road. Head-quarters of the Holalkere taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus ... ..	986	1,066	2,052
Muhammadans ... ..	204	209	413
Jains ... ..	42	40	82
Christians ... ..	7	3	10
Total ...	1,239	1,318	2,557

As Polalakere, it appears to have been an important Jain settlement in the 10th century. The present town seems to have been founded in the 14th century, by a Boya gauda, under the protection of the Dhumi chief Doḍḍaṇṇa Náyak. In course of time it fell into the hands of the pategars of Basvapatna; and in 1475, Timmanna Náyak, the progenitor of the Chitaldroog family, obtained from Vijayanagar his first appointment as Náyak of Holalkere. It remained in possession of the Chitaldroog family till taken by Haidar Ali, and suffered, in common with all the neighbouring parts, from repeated Mahratta invasions.

Its situation on the high road, near the foot of the pass which leads to Chitaldroog, and a large weekly fair combined to make it a thriving town, and its prosperity has been promoted by the advent of the railway and the location here of the taluq head-quarters.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income ... ..	887	955	964	1,593
Expenditure ... ..	1,151	1,020	1,189	1,539

**Hosdurga.**—A sub-taluq under Holalkere taluq, composed of the Hosdurga and Bágúr hoblis. Till 1882 it gave its name to what is now the Holalkere taluq.

**Hosdurga.**—A town situated in  $13^{\circ} 48'$  N. lat.,  $76^{\circ} 21'$  E. long., at the northern base of the hill from which it is named, 11 miles east of the Bidarkere or Hosdurga Road railway station, and 19 miles south of Holalkere, on the Huliya-Tarikere road. Head-quarters of the Hosdurga sub-taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.						Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus	...	...	...	...	...	881	900	1,781
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	...	91	85	176
Jains	...	...	...	...	...	53	51	104
Total						1,025	1,036	2,061

*Hosa-durga*, the new hill-fort, appears to have been erected in 1675 by Chikkanna Náyak, the palegar of Chitaldroog; for the purpose of covering his operations against Bágur, the chief town of that quarter, then in possession of the Muhammadans and attached to Sira. In 1708, a Jangam priest, driven out of Bágur, took refuge with the Chitaldroog palegar, and was by him commissioned to build the petta below the hill and procure settlers to reside there. Eventually the place was taken by Haidar Ali and, with the exception of temporary occupations by the Mahrattas, has ever since been attached to Mysore.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income	982	1,099	1,060	1,847
Expenditure	1,866	1,461	1,134	1,823

**Jagalur.**—A taluq in the north, till 1882 called Kankuppa. It was in that year made a sub-taluq under Chitaldroog, but restored as a taluq in 1886. Area 371 square miles. Head-quarters at Jagalúr. Contains the following hoblis, villages and population :—

No.	Hoblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.		Population.
				Government.	Jodi.	
1	Bilichód...	61	7	61	—	14,490
2	Jagalúr ...	76	15	75	1	18,189
3	Sokké ...	32	2	32	—	5,550
Total		169	24	168	1	38,229

*Principal places, with population.*—Jagalúr, 3,249; Sokké, 1,790; Bilichód, 1,250; Pallagatte, 1,070.

The country is slightly undulating, except where a low and rugged range of hills, somewhat thickly covered with thorn jungle, runs from Kankuppa to the north-west. East of these lies an auriferous band continuous with one from Chitaldroog. There are no water-courses. The Janaga-halla flows along the eastern side; and the stream from

the Anaji tank, also called the Chinna Haggari, along the western. Here, too, there is an auriferous band.

Dividing the taluq into two nearly equal portions by a line from Basavankote through Kankuppa to Chikmallanhalli, the country to the north of this may be described as composed almost entirely of light and sandy soil, except among the hills in the north-west, where in some few places a rich red soil has been formed in the valleys by deposit of the finer particles of the decomposed rocks. All the better descriptions of soil are south of the line. The black soil is rather intimately interspersed with the surrounding red and sandy soils, but predominates in Jagalúr and Bilichód. Probably one-fourth of the whole extent of cultivable soil in the taluq is either black or good brown soil.

Cotton and white jola are grown exclusively on the black soil. Rice and sugar-cane are largely cultivated, the latter of the small kind called *hull'u kabbu*. The only extent of garden land is under the Jagalúr tank. Much rice is grown on the banks of the Janaga-halla.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1867. There was at that time under cultivation an area of 94,590 acres (dry, 91,075; wet, 1,150; garden, 2,365). The present taluq consists of:—

Culturable (dry, wet and garden) ... ..	147,200
Unculturable (including roads, village sites, &c.) ... ..	89,600
Total acres ... ..	<u>236,800</u>

The unoccupied arable area is 36,480 acres. The total land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 52,326, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 54,229.

The average rainfall at Jagalúr for 26 years (1870-95) was as follows:—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	... Year.
— 0·01	0·08	1·24	2·16	1·34	1·69	2·14	3·77	2·51	2·65	0·12	...	17·71

Another register for 24 years makes the annual average 18·88.

The only road is from south to north through Jagalúr and Kankuppa. A road is proposed from Jagalúr east to Náyakanhatti.

**Jagalur.**—A town situated in 14° 31' N. lat., 76° 24' E. long., 28 miles north-by-west of Chitaldroog, with which it is connected by a road from Vijapur. Head-quarters of the Jagalúr taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.							Males.	Females.	Total.	
Hindus...	...	..	...	...	...	...	1,311	1,210	2,521	
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	...	...	142	126	268	
Christians	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7	
Total							...	1,457	1,339	2,796

The population consists mostly of Lingáyits. There is little of interest about the place, which derives its importance from being the taluq head-quarters, removed here from Kankuppa in about 1868. The houses are all built of an iron-shot slaty stone, and flat-roofed. Jagalúr has a large tank.

Municipal Funds.	1892-3.	1893-4.	1894-5.	1895-6.
Income ... ..	855	763	780	1,200
Expenditure ... ..	1,173	1,086	893	1,100

**Mari Kanive.**—A pass in the eastern line of the Chitaldroog hills, through which the Védávati issues to the open country of Hiriyur. So far back as Buchanan's time it was pointed out as a spot peculiarly favourable for the construction of a dam across the gorge, whereby an immense reservoir would be formed capable of irrigating the adjoining thirsty plains and converting them into a vast expanse of rice cultivation. The project, however, though much money has been spent on surveys and measurements, has not yet been commenced.

**Mattod.**—A village in the Hosdurga sub-taluq, 10 miles east of the kasba, near the right bank of the Védávati. Population 880.

It is celebrated for its glass works, at one time more extensive than they are now. The articles made consist entirely of bangles, the rings worn round the wrists of native women. They are of five colours—black, green, red, blue and yellow. The furnaces are constructed in a high terrace, built against the inside of the fort wall, but many of them seem to have long been disused. Only two are now in good repair. The process of manufacture is described in the first part of this work. All the materials are found in the neighbourhood.

Mattod was the seat of a line of palegars, whose founder was named Giryappa Náyak. He was a handsome man, of great stature and prodigious strength, which he exercised in catching the wild beasts of the neighbourhood. Venkatpati Ráya, hearing of him through the Búdhál chief, sent for him to Penugonda, where, an elephant one day breaking loose, he had an opportunity of displaying his powers; for the infuriated animal could not be secured until Giryappa Náyak boldly seized him by the tusks and fastened a rope to his trunk. For these and other feats he was, about 1604, made palegar of Lakavanhalli, his native place, with a grant of villages yielding a revenue of 9,000 pagodas. In 1710, Dodala Náyak, a descendant, built the fort of Mattod. He at the same time adopted the Lingáyit faith. His son, Sangappa Náyak, distinguished himself at the court of Seringapatam by riding a most

vicious and unmanageable horse which would allow no one to mount it; and when the courtiers, jealous of his success, pelted him with limes to embarrass him, he drew a sword and divided them as he rode swiftly about after them.

Hálappa Náyak next succeeded, and after him Siddappa Náyak. He was the second son, but inherited the beauty, stature and prowess of his line; on which account his father had allowed him to supersede the eldest son, Dodala Náyak. The latter thereupon repaired to Chitaldroog, the palegar of which took up his cause, and defeating the younger brother, installed the elder in his place, subject to a tribute of 2,000 pagodas. On Siddappa Náyak's being taken prisoner to Chitaldroog, the daughter of the palegar of that place fell in love with him. His being a Lingáyit would have made their union impossible had he not been a Boya by descent. Eventually it was arranged that he should marry her and be restored to his government. His son Hálappa Náyak was induced by the growing power of Haidar Ali to assist the latter in the first siege against Chitaldroog. On Haidar's withdrawal the palegar of Chitaldroog in revenge took Mattod by assault, plundered the town and carried Hálappa off to prison. Chitaldroog was next year taken by Haidar and Hálappa released, but he never regained his territory.

**Molakalmuru.**—A taluq in the north-east, from 1882 to 1886 made a sub-taluq named Hángal, under Challakere taluq, but then restored to a taluq. Area 290 square miles. Contains the following hóblis, villages and population:—

No.	Hóblis.	Villages.	Hamlets.	Villages classified.			Population
				Govern-ment.	Sarva-mánya.	Jodi.	
1	Devasmudra ... ..	52	11	48	2	2	16,094
2	Molakálmuru ... ..	45	7	43	—	2	16,466
	Total ... ..	97	18	91	2	4	32,560

*Principal places, with population.*—Molakálmuru, 2,421; Devasamudra, 1,977; Konaságara, 1,908; Roppa, 1,822; Nágasamudra, 1,677; Rámpura, 1,579.

This taluq is a long and narrow strip of country jutting into the Bellary district. A few isolated villages on the west are entirely separated from the body of the taluq. The surface is very undulating, and except where cultivated rice and garden lands exist, is covered with rocks and loose stones. A range of bare, rocky hills of considerable

height stretches right across the taluq, running from a south-easterly in a north-westerly direction. When the range approaches the western boundary it becomes split up into numerous elevations of different heights, which singly or in groups are scattered about in all directions, and some of which from the size and fantastic shapes of the enormous boulders of which they are composed present a very remarkable appearance. More than one-third of the whole surface is occupied by these hills, which are so barren that not a blade of grass or a tree will grow upon their sides. A tract of nearly 9 square miles in the south is occupied by kammar (*Hardwickia bennata*) jungle, but the distribution is thin and the trees have been pollarded and much denuded. It seems a pity that steps are not taken to replant and conserve this valuable wood. The southern half of the taluq is comparatively level, but the soils are of the poorest kind, comprising the light red and sandy descriptions, and there is no black soil whatever.

The Janaga-halla, after running along the western boundary for a short distance, suddenly turns to the east, and flowing in a north-easterly direction, with the name of Chinna Haggari, receives the drainage from the bare, rocky hills around, and unites with the Vedávati in the Bellary district. All the tanks of any importance are close to the river, and receive their supply from it by means of channels varying in length from a mile to five miles. These channels are little used for direct irrigation.

The principal feature in the cultivation is the lands irrigated from wells, which exist in almost every village, and under which, as a rule, two crops are obtained annually, chiefly rice; but betel-leaf, tobacco, wheat and javari are also grown. Betel-leaf is extensively cultivated in Devasamudra and Rámpura for the Bellary market. Except under irrigation the soils are peculiarly unfertile, and dry crops are but little attended to, the ryots devoting all their capital and skill to the cultivation of the wet lands.

Kamblis, coarse cotton cloths, women's cloths with silk borders, and tape for belts are the principal manufactures. The women's cloths are chiefly made at Molakálmuru. Iron ore, brought from the Kúmaraswámi hill in Sundur, is smelted in one or two villages.

This part of Mysore has lately acquired a special interest from my discovery here in 1892 of Edicts of Asoka. None have ever been found before in the South of India, and this find has been pronounced by high authority as marking an epoch in Indian archæology. It effectually lifts the veil which has obscured the ancient history, and leaves no doubt that the Maurya empire of the 3rd century B.C. extended as far as to include the north of the Mysore country. The

Edicts found were in three places, close around the village of Siddapura (possibly the Isila to which the Edicts were addressed), engraved on rocks on either side of the Janagahalla—one at Brahmagiri, another at the Timmanna rocks, and the third at the top of the Jatinga Rámesvara hill. Here Jatáyu is said to have fallen in attempting to rescue Sita from Rávana.

The next oldest inscriptions in the taluq are also at the latter place and at the Nunke Bhairava hill. Those of the former are Chálukya of the 10th and 11th centuries, and show us Vishnuvarddhana Vijayáditza ruling the Nolambavadi 32,000, which thus included Molakálmuru, with his capital at Kampili, on the Tungabhadra in Bellary district. He was followed by Jayasingha, younger brother of Vikramáditya VI, and having, among others, the titles of Nolamba Pallava. The inscriptions at the Nunke Bhairava hill are Kadamba, and it is possible that the Uchchangi-durga to the north of Molakálmuru, also known as Hire-A'ryara-durga, hill fort of the old A'ryas, may be the Uchchásringi which was one of the Kadamba seats of government. In the time of the Hoysalas we find a line of rulers of the Solar race, that is of Chola descent, who held Nidugal (*see* above, p. 163), in possession of Háneyakote, which was then the name of the Brahmagiri fort, and of which there is perhaps a reminiscence in Hángal or Háneyagal. The fort was captured in the 12th century by Vira Ballála, who changed the name to Vijayagiri.

Under the Vijayanagar kings, in the 15th century, Molakálmuru seems to have belonged to the chiefs of Ráyadurga, 7 miles to the east. One of them, named Bomma Náyak the Foolish, gave it up to Mallappa Náyak of Hatti (now called Náyakanhatti) in exchange for some white cattle, of which he owned a rare and valuable breed. It was before long conquered by the palegars of Chitaldroog, in whose hands it remained till captured by Haidar Ali and annexed to Mysore.

The revenue settlement was introduced in 1872. The area of the taluq at that time was thus distributed :—

Culturable (dry, 83,604 ; wet, 2,766 ; garden, 5,995) ... ..	92,365
Unculturable (including roads, tanks, village sites, &c.) ... ..	87,254
	<hr/>
Total acres ... ..	179,619
	<hr/>

The unoccupied arable land was 34,466 acres, nearly all dry crop land. The total land revenue for 1891-2 (15 months) was Rs. 49,458, and for 1892-3 it was Rs. 50,023.

The average rainfall at Molakálmuru for 26 years (1870-95) and at the other station for 3 years (1893-5) was as follows :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Molakálmuru	0·01	0·01	0·14	0·56	2·00	2·08	1·60	2·35	5·18	5·27	1·84	0·10	21·14
Rámpura	—	—	—	0·77	1·70	0·97	1·63	1·56	3·72	5·88	1·25	—	17·48

Other registers for 10 and 5 years make the annual average 22·46 and 15·73 respectively.

The Bangalore-Bellary high road runs throughout the taluq from south to north, with a road from Hángal east to Molakálmuru and Ráyadurga.

**Molakalmuru.**—A town situated in 14° 44' N. lat., 76° 48' E. long., 38 miles south of the railway at Bellary, on a cross-road from Hángal, which is on the Bangalore-Bellary high-road, to Ráyadurga. Headquarters of the Molakálmuru taluq, and a municipality.

Population in 1891.							Males.	Females.	Total.
Hindus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	991	950	1,941
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	...	...	229	251	480
Total							1,220	1,201	2,421

The place is entirely surrounded by barren stony hills, among which, just above the town to the north, is a large reservoir, constructed by the Hatti chief in the name of his mother. Near to it a good echo is obtained from the *kúguva bande* or shouting stone, and in the east of it is a boulder on which is inscribed a *yamaka* verse in praise of Kálidása. To the north-west of this is the Nunke-Bhairava hill, on which, in a remarkable enclosed valley or ravine, with no visible outlet at either end, is an ancient temple of that name, served by a succession of Gosáyins from Northern India. Inscriptions show that the proper name of the god is Lunkes'vara, and it appears to have been set up in the 10th century by a Kadamba prince. The Kadambas also had a fort here called the Lunkeya-kote.

The ancient history has been given under the taluq. In modern times, under the Vijayanagar State, it belonged to the chief of Ráyadurga, 7 miles to the east. After the fall of Vijayanagar, the Ráyadurga palegar Bomma Náyak, surnamed the Foolish, gave up Molakálmuru to Mallappa Náyak of Hatti (now called Nayakanhatti) in exchange for some white cattle, of which he owned a rare and valuable breed. Mallappa Náyak, finding water on the hill, fortified it and lived there. But in the time of his son the place was taken by the palegar of Chitaldroog, in whose family it remained till captured by Haidar Ali and annexed to Mysore.



Municipal Funds.	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.
Income ... ..	933	833	816	1,680
Expenditure ... ..	1,444	916	807	1,720

**Nayakanhatti.**—Formerly called Hatti, a large village in the Challakere taluq, 14 miles north-west of the kasba. Population 2,468.

The traditional history of this place relates that one Kotte Malla Náyak, the owner of numerous flocks and herds of superior cattle, living in the forests of Kara-male and Komma-male, to the east of the Srisaila mountains, was compelled by drought and famine to move elsewhere in quest of forage. He ultimately arrived, with 1,200 head of cattle, besides cows and sheep, in the neighbourhood of Hatti; where, finding abundant pasturage, he settled, obtaining permission from Vijayanagar to clear some of the forest, erect villages and bring the region under cultivation. A *bhát* or eulogist one day visited him, and was so liberally rewarded for his flattering verses that on repairing to court he extolled the Náyak in such extravagant terms as to excite the jealousy of the king, who sent a force to apprehend him. Mallappa Náyak, having no other resource, urged his cattle to charge the troops, which were completely routed by these novel defenders. The king, indignant at the repulse, offered a large reward to anyone who would bring the Náyak prisoner to him, but none would venture. Finally some courtesans undertook the task, but failed with all their seductive arts to get him into their power. Surprised at their failure, they questioned the genuineness of his virtue unless it could stand the test that all his cattle would run to him at the sound of his voice. He immediately mounted on a rock and called out in his usual manner, when all the herds and flocks ran and assembled round him. The report of the courtesans aroused the highest respect for Malla Náyak on the part of the king, who conferred on him all the country round Kondarpi-durga, with the title of palegar.

One of his descendants, in the third generation, separated with his cattle from the others and founded Hatti as a residence for himself. At a later time Budi Malla Náyak of this family rendered important military aid to Vijayanagar, and by victory over a *jeṭṭi* or wrestler at court obtained the name of Bhima, and thereupon built Bhimankere. Afterwards, when Bomma Náyak the Foolish was palegar of Ráyidurga, Malla Náyak at his request gave him 2,000 red and 1,000 white cattle, and received in exchange the hill of Molakálmuru. This he fortified and thence extended his possessions; but in the time of his son it was seized by Barmappa Náyak of Chitaldroog, who confined the palegar

to his original estate at Hatti. This, too, was shortly taken by Hiré Madakeri Náyak and annexed to Chitaldroog ; of which it remained a part till captured by Haidar Ali.

Náyakanhatti contains a celebrated tomb and temple dedicated to a Mahá-purusha or saint of the Lingáyits, named Tippe Rudraiya, who lived about 200 years ago, wrought miracles and became the spiritual preceptor of the Hatti palegars. The large sums bestowed upon him by the faithful he devoted to the enlargement and repair of tanks, and to other works of public benefit which entitle his name to be held in honour.

**Nirgunda.**—A village in the Hosdurga taluq, 7 miles west of the kasha. Population 345.

This now insignificant village is interesting as marking the site of one of the most ancient cities in Mysore of which there is authentic record. Nirgunda was the capital of a Jain principality of the same name, included in the Ganga empire, 1,500 years ago. According to tradition, it was founded in B.C. 160 by a king from the north, named Nilasekhara, son of Rája Paramesvara Ráya, who gave it the name of Nilávati-patna. He was succeeded by Virasekhara, and their descendants continued to be independent sovereigns of their country.

From the Nágamangala plates we know that Dundu, with the title of Nirgunda Yuva Rája, and after him his son Parama Gula, with the title of Sri Prithivi Nirgunda Rája, ruled early in the 8th century. The legend of the place proceeds to the reign of Vikrama Ráya of this house, in whose time occurred a romantic incident. Two princes, Somasekhara and Chitrasekhara, sons of Vajra Makuṭa Ráya, came secretly to Nilávati from Ratnapuri (near Lakvalli, Kadur District) for the purpose of securing for the younger the hand of Ratnavati or Rupávati, the king's daughter, famous for her beauty. Having rendered themselves invisible, they penetrated at night to the king's bed-chamber and attached to his arm a paper containing their demand. The king on discovering it was much perplexed ; but a lion having taken refuge in a pleasure garden near the town and become a terror to the people, he caused it to be proclaimed that the princess would be given in marriage to whomsoever should destroy the lion. The two brothers, who lodged in disguise at a dancing-girl's house, sallied forth next night, killed the beast and, cutting off its tail, returned to their concealment. In the morning, Mára, a washerman of the town, finding the lion dead, cut out its tongue, and carrying it to the king, presented himself as the champion to be rewarded with the hand of the princess. While preparations for this distasteful marriage were going on, the princes appeared before the palace in the guise of strolling musicians, with the

lion's tail tied to their lute. This drew attention to them and the truth came out, which ended in Ratnavati being married to Chitra-sekhara.<sup>1</sup> Vikrama Ráya, dying without issue, left the kingdom to his son-in-law. His descendants were Bala Vira and Narasimha. About this time the Hoysala kings captured Nilávati, and some epidemic seems to have led to its desertion soon after. Bágúr, a short distance to the north, was subsequently founded, and became the capital of the region in place of Nirgunda or Nilávati. Mounds of ruins and several old temples are still in existence around the village, with an old Hoysala inscription of 1065.

**Vedavati**, or Haggari, the principal river in the District, a tributary of the Tungabhadra. It is formed by two streams, having their sources on the eastern side of the Chandra Drona or Bábá Budan mountains (Kadur District). The Veda, which is the chief one, forms the beautiful Ayyankere lake, whence issuing, it passes to the south of Sakkarepatna and then turns north-east. Near Kadur it is joined by the other stream, the Avati, and further on by the streams from the hills near Halebid and Harnhalli on the south, and those from the hills around Ubráni on the north.

With a direct north-east course, the Vedávati now enters the Chitaldroog District, passing about midway between Hosdurga and Mattod; and penetrating the central belt of hills, it issues thence by the pass called the Mári Kanive, to the south of Barmagiri-durga, and continues in the same direction past Hiriyur, to about seven miles beyond. Here, on receiving the streams from Sira and Hagalvadi, it turns northwards, taking the name Haggari, said to be derived from *hagga-ari*, freeing from the bonds (of sin).

Winding through an open country, it leaves the Mysore about 5 miles north of Ghataparti in Challakere taluq and enters the Bellary District, with for some distance a north-east course. It then again turns north, and at a point nearly parallel with the furthest limit of Mysore on that side, receives the Janagahalla or Chinna Haggari from Molakálmuru. Continuing north, and leaving Bellary about 10 miles to the west, it flows into the Tungabhadra some distance to the south of Huchahalli.

It is a very shallow river and though impassable except by boats in the monsoon, in the dry season it presents a broad bed of sand, in which, however, *kapile* wells are readily formed. In the Bellary country the river is supposed to be gradually changing its bed. At Moka, 12 miles from Bellary, the sandy bed is two miles broad.

<sup>1</sup> For the continuation of the story, describing the marvellous adventures by which Somasekhara won the hand of a princess of Hemavati (p. 182 above), see my *Coorg Gazetteer*, pp. 94 ff.

The river is bridged for the trunk road at Hiriur (the first bridge erected in Mysore under the British Government), and for the Bellary Branch railway at Permadevanhalli. The project of embanking the stream at the narrow gorge of the Mári-Ḷanive and thus creating, at a cost of about 15 lakhs, an immense reservoir that would irrigate 50,000 acres of the fertile but arid plains of Hiriur, is a proposal of long standing, still under consideration. A great number of small channels are drawn from the Vedávati in the Kadur District.

