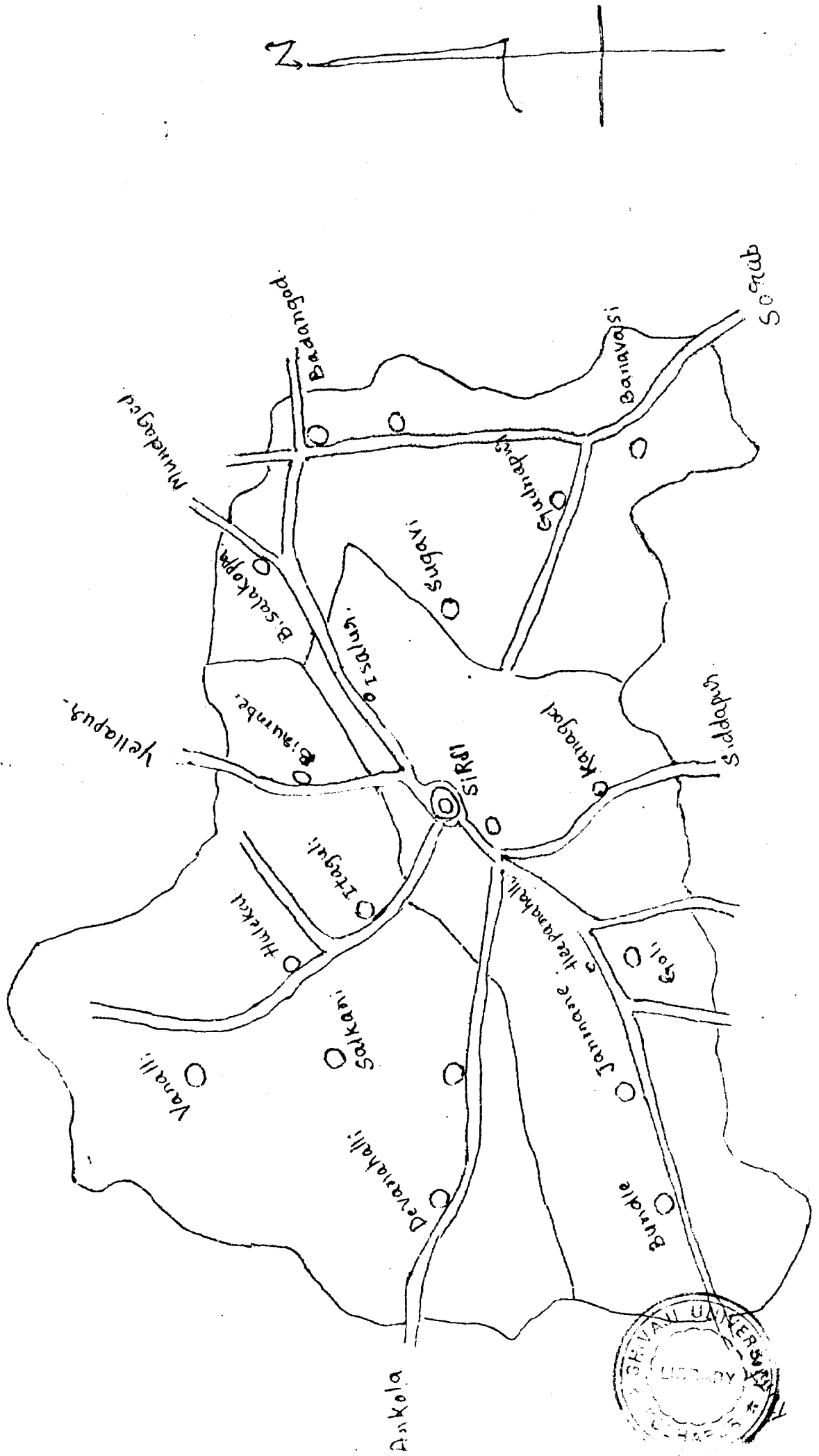


C H A P T E R - I I I

PROFILE OF SIRSI TALUKA

* * * *

Taluk Sirsi, Uttar Kannada District, Karnataka State.



Profile of Sirsi Taluka.

Sirsi taluk is situated in the eastern part of Uttar-Kannada district of Karnataka State. Astronomical location of Sirsi taluk is 14° -35' N latitude and 74° -50' E longitude. It covers 1325.6 square k.m. consisting of 1,35,103 population spread over 226 villages in the taluk. The density of population is 86 per sq.km. Municipal Government is established on 1st July, 1866. There were 32 panchayats, now for the administrative purpose to ensure convenience and efficiency, taluk is divided into 16 mandals.¹ There are two rivers flowing in the taluk. "Aghanashini" in the east and "Shalmala" in the west. Average rainfall is 3465.2 mm. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people. People are socially traditional, economically active and industrious, culturally rich with varied heritage. The beautiful nature of the taluk is attracting the tourists. Temples, historical places, like Banavasi, Sonda, are worth-seeing to visitors.

Agriculture is the dominant economic activity in the taluk providing employment to 11900 farmers and 9225 -

agricultural workers. 86% of the geographical area consists of forests fostering agriculture. An average annual production is 15400 ton paddy, 22300 tons of sugercane, 35 tons of jawar, 300 tons of dal, 385 tons of oil seeds. There is greater dependance on nature for rainfall. Irrigation facility is only in respect of 500 hectors of land.²

Horticulture, sericulture, dairy, fisheries, professions, small industries, trade, banking, are other economic activities in the taluk. Sericulture in Sirsi has gained importance in present decade. It stands first in Uttar-Kannada district in respect of production and in the entire Karnataka State in respect of quality and yield.

Dairy business is carried out as an allied activity to agriculture. Milk producers formed into co-operative society for effective marketing. There are 16 vetarnary hospitals in taluk for the promotion of animal husbandry.

Transport and communication has facilitated transactions between rural and urban part of the taluk.

Even though it is a rural area transport and communication is reasonably good. 79 post offices, 18 telegraph offices, 72.50 k.m. of National Highways, 633 k.m. of roads, 6 big bridges, are there in the taluk. - K.S.R.T.C. buses provide significant transport facility. There are 42 bus routes linking urban Sirsi with rural.³

L.I.C. and various banks are principal financing agencies. There are 21 bank branches. 13 commercial Banks, 7 co-operative banks, 1 land development bank. Credit co-operatives also form one of the significant agencies supplying rural finance.

Industries in Sirsi are more on small scale - rather than medium and large scale. There is only one large scale industry. That is "Divagi Metal Works - Private Limited, Sirsi", with an initial investment of 4 crores. On the completion it involves an investment of 10 crores. Similarly the employment generation would extend up to 500 employees. This organisation manufacturing range of components required for the final assembly of motor vehicles, tractors etc. The original buyers are Escorts India Limited, Faridabad, Mahindra and - Mahindra, Telco etc.

The technology and finance has been brought from its main sister concern at Poona. This industry has also given scope for the upraise for 18 to 20 ancilliary engineering units in the form of sub-contracts.

Industries in this taluk include mainly four catogeries.

1. Agro-based Industries.
2. Horticulture based Industries.
3. Forest based Industries.
4. Service based Industries.

There are more than 150 small scale industries. 85% of industries are established after 1980.⁴ Saw-mills, printing, agarbatti, soap manufacturing, steel works, wooden packing, alluminium, repairs, rubber stamps, candles, plastic, foot-wears, suitcases, food processing, are various field of activities of industries.⁵ Details of Agro-based and horticulture based industries are - mentioned in the following table No.1 and table No.2.



Table No.1

Agro - Based Industries in Sirsi Taluka. (Registered)

Sl.No.	Name of the unit	Product	Date of Establishment	Initial Investment in Rupees	No. of Persons Employed
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Jayalaxmi Hittina Girani	Flour Mill	22.10.1985	13,500	1
2.	Raghavendra Flour Mill	Flour Mill	19.12.1985	18,000	1
3.	Meghana Ice-cream Production Centre	Ice-cream & Popsy	20.01.1986	40,000	4
4.	Siddivinayak Flour Mill	Flour Mill	20.01.1986	30,000	2
5.	Mahalaxmi Hittinagirani	Flour Mill	26.02.1986	16,200	2
6.	Laxmi Rice Mill	Flour Mill	13.03.1986	1,00,000	3
7.	Geam Bakers	Bread, Biscuits, Buns.	24.03.1986	19,700	4
8.	Tilavalli Flour Mill	Flour Mill	24.03.1986	11,500	1

Contd....

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Marikamba Prasad Flour Mill	Flour Mill	27.06.1986	29,500	2
10.	Vasundhara Vermically Industries	Vermicallin	27.10.1986	29,000	5
11.	Siddalingeshwara Flour Mill	Flour Mill	27.02.1987	25,000	3
12.	Siddivinayak Flour Mill	Flour Mill	26.09.1987	35,000	3
13.	Nayak Ice-cream Parlour	Ice-cream	17.10.1987	90,000	2
14.	Jubida Flour Mill	Flour Mill	31.12.1987	20,000	2
15.	Janata Hittina Girani	Flour Mill	25.06.1988	28,455	2
16.	Maruti Flour Mill	Flour Mill	31.08.1988	15,000	2
17.	Kamat Ice-Candy	Ice-cream	02.06.1989	62,000	11

Table No.2

Horticulture Based Industries in Sirsi Taluka. (Registered)

Sl. No.	Name of the unit	Product	Date of establishment	Initial investment in Rupees	No. of persons employed
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Trapti Industries	Jams, Pickles	23.01.1982	41,000	5
2.	Goverdhan Industries	Co-conut Powder	22.11.1982	4,20,000	16
3.	Archana Food Products	Potato, Banana, Jack-fruit chips	30.05.1986	18,200	5
4.	Manoj Ice-cream Parlour	Fruit Juice	27.06.1986	91,000	3
5.	Madhura Food Products	Chilly & Masala Powder	29.05.1987	35,000	3
6.	Canara Flour Mill	Chilly & Masala Powder	30.09.1987	38,000	2
7.	Rasraj Juice Centre	Fruit Juice	30.10.1987	70,000	3
8.	Al, Chips Industries	Potato & Banana Chips	30.10.1987	30,000	3
9.	Samata Products	Chilly & Masala Powder	30.01.1988	40,000	3
10.	Jayashree Masala Industries	Chilly & Masala Powder	29.03.1988	46,400	2
11.	Annapurna Industries	Papad	24.02.1989	7,000	2

Contd....

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	R.S. Silk Industries	Silk Yarn	27.08.1989	3,14,000	14
13.	Vinayak Leaf-Cups	Leaf-cups	29.03.1983	1,40,000	4
14.	Kamdhenu Co-operative Milk & Fruit Processing Society	Pulps & Slices	Year 1962	10,00,000	11
15.	Pradeep Fruit Products	Supari Packets	28.03.1980	85,000	4

References -

1. A.K.S., Sirsi Taluk Darpana., M.E.S., 1989. P.320.
2. Ibid., P 323.
3. T.M.S., Sirsi Taluk., I.B.H. 1985., P.43.
4. A.K.S., Sirsi Taluk Darpana, M.E.S., Ch.6,P.327,
1985.
5. Ibid., P.328.

