

## CHAPTER - 5

### ECONOMIC BASE

The economic base of the '**Heritage Area**' is essentially characterized by rural economy of the two Talukas, which are rich in agriculture (irrigation) dominated by the cash crops and tourism activities generated by the Hampi World Heritage Site. Rainfall intensity in Bellary and Koppal Districts is in the modest range of 500 - 700 mm per year only. The Tungabhadra irrigation scheme, which consists of the dam and extensive irrigation canals was completed in the early 1950s. Dam and reservoir structures are needed for flood protection, in addition to their importance for irrigating a very large command area in Karnataka and neighbouring Andhra Pradesh State. The high-level canals -on both sides of the river run to more than 150 km east of Hospet.

The modern irrigation scheme has incorporated those water courses that have been used since the times of Vijayanagar. The seven ancient channels in Hospet Taluk are Raya, Basavanna, Bella, Kalaghatta, Turtha, Ramasagar and Belagodhal. Some of them are right in the World Heritage Site, such as Turtha Channel. This and the other ancient irrigation structures (such as Kamalapura Tank) are important monuments of the engineering skills of Vijayanagar - a feature that deserves to be much more visualized in guidebooks and emphasized in signboards on the site. Similarly, Gangawati Taluk has its fair share of ancient irrigation networks, such as the Anegundi Channel parallel to the river and some ancient weirs and reservoirs connected to the river.

Gangawati Taluk is sometimes referred to as the "**rice bowl of Karnataka**" and was true even 600 years ago (a nearly 90% of the paddy growing areas of Koppal District are in this Taluk). Similarly, the part of Hospet Taluk that lies in the World Heritage Site is one of the largest commercial banana plantations in the region, with exports of bananas over long distances up to the Goa coast. Both Taluks have important sugar cane productions on altogether 5000 ha. The rich agricultural conditions are clearly visible in the lush green valley areas with paddy

fields, banana and sugar cane plantations, surrounded by the granite boulders that provided the material for the Hampi monuments, apart from giving the landscape its characteristic shape. The unique character of the landscape is thus the result of geology and human ingenuity - an extremely important dual feature that complement the historical structures. So both the monuments and the landscape need protection and wise management.

### Area under Paddy and Sugarcane cultivation

Agricultural indicator	Bellary District	Hospet Taluk	In % of District	Koppal District	Gangawati Taluk	In % of District
Paddy (ha)	55,102	12,111	22	68,847	61,212	88
Sugar cane (ha)	6,595	3,756	56	1,956	1,218	62
Irrigated land (ha)	150,731	20,870	14	85,200	48,861	57
Size of agricultural land holdings (ha)	<b>Distribution of agricultural land holdings in Hampi WHS:</b> <b>Hospet Taluk:</b> Only 8% are above 4 ha, and nearly 50% are under 1 ha <b>Gangawati Taluk:</b> 14% above 4 ha, and 30% under 1 ha Even if most of this land is irrigated, allowing double cropping, the figures indicate the limited economic conditions of the rural population in the area.					

Source: District Statistical Summaries for Bellary and Koppal, 2000 (based on statistics for 1998-99).

### 1. OCCUPATIONAL PATTERN:

The occupational pattern of the Heritage Area is basically rural in character. There are 27,991 (53.32%) Workers as against 31,969 non-workers (46.68%) in the Heritage Area. The study of composition of workers and non-workers reveals that the dependants are slightly more than the working population (please refer table for details). Among the total number of workers there are 24,849 main workers accounting for about 88.77% and remaining 3142 (11.23%) are marginal workers. It is also seen that the marginal workers are more in Gangavathi taluka (20.59%) than in Hospet taluka (8.21%).

## DETAILS OF WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS – 2001

### LOCAL PLANNING AREA VILLAGES

Name of the village	Total workers	Main workers	Marginal Workers	Non-workers
1. Hampi	920	885	35	1214
2. Krishnapur	57	57	0	48
3. Singanathanhalli	15	15	0	8
4. Nimbapur				
5. Kadirampur	610	588	22	670
6. Danapur	144	144	0	83
7. Kondanyakanhalli				
8. Mallapanagudi	4260	3239	1021	3995
9. Nagenahalli	1887	1869	18	2102
10. Gudioblapura	1012	998	14	588
11. Venkatapura	1310	1295	15	1121
<b>12. Kamalapuram (TP)</b>	<b>8901</b>	<b>8400</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>12929</b>
13. Bukkasagara	1974	1862	112	1938
14. Kalghatta	81	81	0	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,171</b>	<b>19,433</b>	<b>1738</b>	<b>24,756</b>
15. Anegundi	1587	1143	444	1910
16. Tirmalapur	161	86	75	112
17. Sanapur	711	708	3	980
18. Virupapuragadda	132	26	106	129
19. Hanmanhalli	213	25	188	200
20. Anjanhalli	181	18	163	109
21. Chickrampur	293	132	161	270
22. Laxmipur	32	32	0	44
23. Rampur	1061	1058	3	980
24. Krishnapur	43	43	0	61
25. Ramdurg	338	338	0	322
26. Mallapur	1285	1146	139	1472
27. Basavandurg	567	450	117	445
28. Singangund	7	7	0	14
29. Rangapur	209	204	5	165
<b>Total</b>	<b>6820</b>	<b>5416</b>	<b>1404</b>	<b>7213</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27991</b>	<b>24849</b>	<b>3142</b>	<b>31969</b>