



Spatio Temporal Analysis of Agricultural Workforce in Mysore District

Rani.T.V.¹

Prof. H.Kamala.²

Abstract: Agriculture is one of the science or practice of farming, including cultivation of the soil for the growing of crops and the rearing of animals to provide food and other products to people and to provide raw materials for industries. An agriculture cultivator those who work in their own land and agricultural labourers those who work on the land of others for wages. Agricultural labourer has no right of lease or contract on land on which she or he works. These agricultural forces are mainly involved in the activities like ploughing, leveling, manuring, sowing, selection of seeds of good quality, irrigation, weeding, harvesting, storage, transportation and marketing. This article is mainly focus on spatio temporal changes in study region, using three decades i.e., 2001, 2011 and 2021. The methodology is based on secondary data collected by different government office and census of India.

Key words: Agricultural workforce, cultivators, labourers etc.

1.1. Introduction:

Agricultural labourers are one of the most important production components of agriculture. Agriculture labour's contribution in the development of agriculture is very high but their share in the gains of development is lowest. Without agricultural labourers agriculture production is inconceivable, although they have always been the most neglected class but without them the development of economy cannot be imagine.

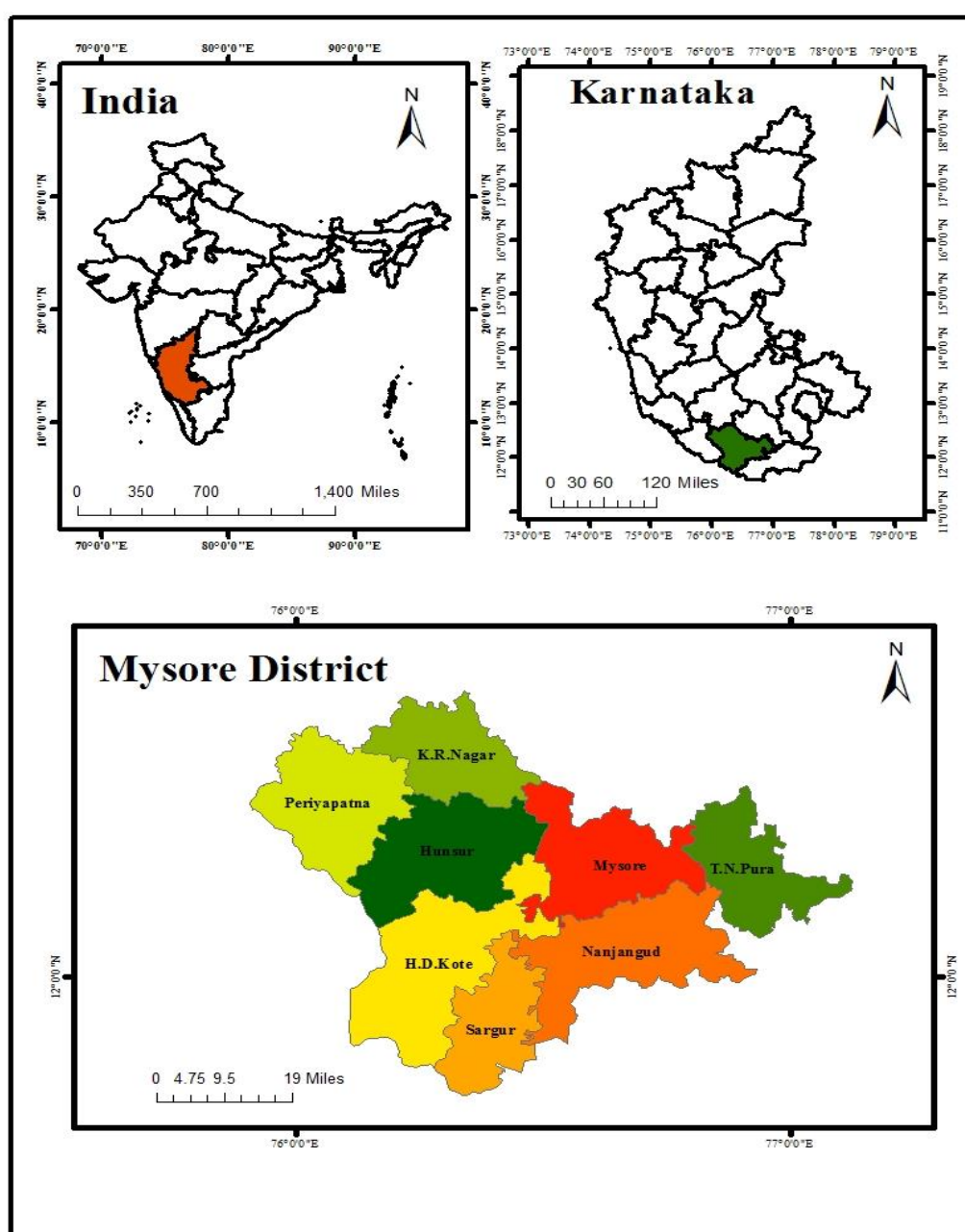
1.2. Study area: Mysore district is situated in the south of Karnataka state between 11° 60" to 21° 17" North latitude and 75° 19" to 77° 77" East longitude. The district covers a total geographical area of 6307 sq. km, which 3.57 percent of the state's total geographic area. The

¹. Research scholar, Department of Geography, Maharaja's college, University of Mysore, Mysore.

². Professor, Department of Geography, Maharaja's college, University of Mysore, Mysore.

district comprises of 1336 inhabited stretching in 8 taluks namely, H.D Kote, K.R. Nagara, Mysore, Nanjangud, Periyapatna, T.Narasipura and newly formed Saragur. Agriculture is the backbone of the economy of Mysore district even though the agriculture is highly dependent on the rainfall, the rivers Kaveri and Kabini provide the irrigation needs required for agriculture in this district. Some of the important crops grown here are cotton, grams, groundnut, jowar, maize, ragi, rice, sugarcane, sunflower and tur. Horticulture is another area contributing significantly to the economy; especially the palm oil production in H D Kote Taluk.

Map.1: Study area



1.3. Objectives and methodology: The main objective of the present study is to analyse the agricultural labour scenario in Mysore district. The study is mainly based on the secondary data and personal computation collected from district statistical office for the period of 2001 and 2011, for the period of 2021 the data has been projected.

1.4.Characteristics of Agricultural workforce: There are mainly four key characteristics:

- **Aging Workforce:** Few young people are entering farming, and the average age of farmers is increasing.
- **Gender Dynamics:** Women form a large part of the workforce, especially in developing countries, often yet facing disparities in pay, training, and land ownership.
- **Rural-Urban Shift:** Many economies see a decline in agriculture's share of employment as workers move to industrial and service sectors,
- **Skill & Status:** A large segment consists of unskilled labourers, unpaid family workers, and small or marginal farmers.

Resulting in challenges like

- **Economic Vulnerability:** Landless and smallholder households face significant economic instability.
- **Physical Demands:** High intensity of work impacts older farmers, necessitating support for less demanding roles.
- **Social Protection:** Lack of social security, poor health or safety, and food insecurity are common issues.

In essence, while agriculture remains vital, its workforce is changing, becoming older, more diverse in roles but often less skilled, and increasingly needing policy focus for sustainability and decent work.

1.5.Agricultural Workforce of the District: The total workforce of the study area has been represented in the following table. According to the 2001 census, the total agricultural workforce of the district was 257953 and in 2011 it was witnessed a growth of 23.24% resulting in 660339 and estimated force for 2021 was 782458 and increase for the decade is 15.60%.

Table:1.1. Cultivators and Labourers to the total workforce the district

SL. NO	Taluks	2001			2011			2021		
		Cultivators	Labourers	Total Workforce	Cultivators	Labourers	Total Workforce	Cultivators	Labourers	Total Workforce
1	Heggadadevanakote	23868	30385	54253	33414	39195	72609	38428	48015	86443
2	Hunsur	45660	32222	77882	63798	41459	105257	73370	50883	124253
3	K.R Nagar	39601	29617	69218	55456	38113	93569	63778	47008	110786
4	Mysuru	27083	20110	47193	38168	26024	64192	43896	31818	75714
5	Nanjangud	31953	49803	81756	45184	64667	109851	51964	78910	130874
6	Piriyapatna	46541	23510	70051	64992	30267	95259	74742	37132	111874
7	Saraguru	11370	20233	31603	15914	19230	35144	18304	23557	41861
8	T.Narasipura	22835	52073	74908	32411	52047	84458	37273	63380	100653
Total		248911	257953	506864	349337	311002	660339	401755	380703	782458
Source : personnel computation										

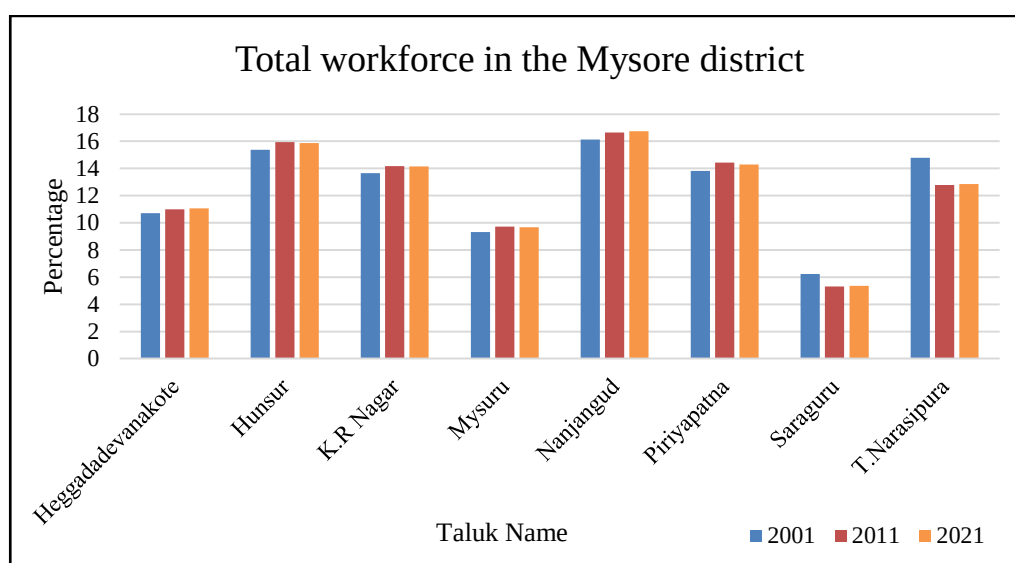
1.6.Comparative study of total agricultural work force of the taluk for the period of 2001, 2011 and 2021 to the District: Even though the total workforce population has increased in the study area but shows a decline growth rate compare to 2011 to 2021. The growth of workforce for the period of 2011 to 2011 was 23.24% and declined to 15.60% for the projected period of 2011 to 2021.

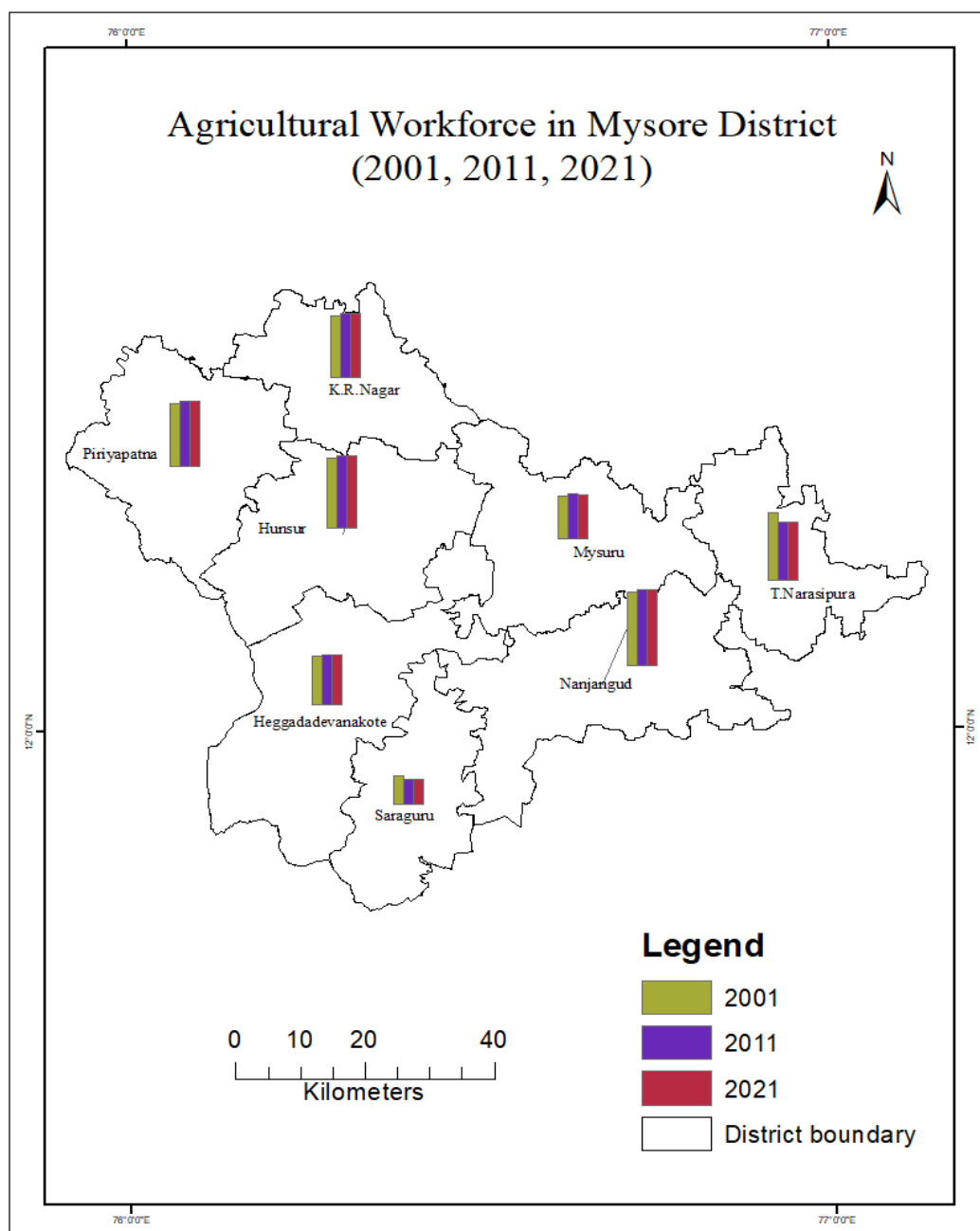
As represented in the tab there is a marginal increase in all the taluks except Saraguru and T.Narasipura for the period of 2001 to 2011but declined for the next period of 2011 to 2021 with almost same percentage of work force s 2011 even in 2021. Nanjanagud taluk witnessed highest percent of agricultural work force to the total district and shows an increase growth rate in the entire three decade with16.13%, 16.64% and 16.73% respectively, followed by Hunsur with 15.37%in 2011 and increased to 15.94% in 2011 with a marginal decrease to 15.88% for the period of 2021. Whereas it least in the newly formed taluk of Saraguru with Saraguru 5.24%, 5.32% and 5.35% respectively.

Table.1.2. Total Agricultural Cultivators and Labourers and total Workforce in the District (in percentage)

SL. NO	Taluks	2001			2011			2021		
		Cultiva tors	Labou rers	Total Workforce	Cultiva tors	Labou rers	Total Workforce	Cultiva tors	Labou rers	Total Workforce
1	Heggadade vanakote	9.59	11.78	10.7	9.56	12.6	11	9.57	12.61	11.05
2	Hunsur	18.34	12.49	15.37	18.26	13.33	15.94	8.26	3.37	15.88
3	K.R Nagar	15.91	11.48	13.66	15.87	12.25	14.17	15.87	12.35	14.16
4	Mysuru	10.88	7.8	9.31	10.93	8.37	9.72	10.93	8.36	9.68
5	Nanjangud	12.84	19.31	16.13	12.93	20.79	16.64	12.93	20.73	16.73
6	Piriyapatna	18.7	9.11	13.82	18.6	9.73	14.42	18.6	9.75	14.3
7	Saraguru	4.57	7.84	6.24	4.56	6.18	5.32	4.56	6.19	5.35
8	T.Narasipura	9.17	20.19	14.78	9.28	16.74	12.79	9.28	16.65	12.86
Total		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: personnel computation

Graph: 1.1. Total workforce in the Mysore district

Map.1.2 Agriculture workforce in Mysore District (2001, 2011, 2021)

1.7.Conclusion: The study result shows that except in Saraguru and T.Narasipura the percentage of agricultural workers is increasing but not in those two taluks where there is a gradual decrease from decade 2001 to 2011 but a very minor increase for the period 2011 to 2021.

References:

- ✓ Ar Uma. S M Shankar. B, Joshua Rego “Agriculture in Mysore District Proposal of an Agriculture Hub in Mysore City”, International Journal of Recent Technology and Engineering (IJRTE) ISSN: 2277-3878 (Online), Volume-10 Issue-4, November 2021.
- ✓ Amruthkumar V “An Analysis on the trends in the participation of women in agriculture in India”, Int J Res Anal Rev. 2018:5(3):216-4.
- ✓ Chaudhary, A., & Singh, S. (2021). Socio-economic conditions of agricultural labourers in Punjab. Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics, 76(3), 443-452.
- ✓ Kiramei 2017 “Acceptance of artificial intelligence in German agriculture: an application of the technology acceptance model and the theory of planned behavior”, Journal of research guide 2017.
- ✓ Patil B, Babus VS. “Role of women in agriculture”, 2018:4(12): pp 109-14.
- ✓ Singh, S. (2013). Socio-economic conditions of agricultural labourers in India: A case study of Punjab state. Journal of Rural Development, 32(2), 123-138.
- ✓ S Subramanian, “Emerging Trends and Patterns of India’s Agricultural Workforce” Evidence from the Census, ISBN 978-81-7791-203-6 -2015.
- ✓ Verge .V. (2019), “Relational Agriculture: Gender, Sexuality and Sustainability in U.S. farming”, Journal Society & Natural Resource.