

The effective functioning of any institution largely depends on the socio-economic environment in which it is functioning. It is especially true in case of institutions which are functioning for the development of women. Hence, an attempt is made here to present a socio-economic and banking profile of Ananthapuramu district, which happens to be one of the areas of operation of tribal development schemes.

### **Profile of Ananthapuramu District**

Ananthapuramu offers some vivid glimpses of the pre-historic past. It is generally held that the place got its name from 'Anantasagaram', a big tank, which means 'Endless Ocean'. The villages of Anantasagaram and Bukkarayasamudram were constructed by Chilkavodeya, the Minister of Bukka-I, a Vijayanagar ruler. Some authorities assert that Anantasagaram was named after Bukka's queen, while some contend that it must have been known after Anantarasa Chikkavodeya himself, as Bukka had no queen by that name.<sup>1</sup>

Ananthapuramu is familiarly known as 'Hande Anantapuram'. 'Hande' means chief of the Vijayanagar period. Ananthapuramu and a few other places were gifted by the Vijayanagar rulers to Hanumappa Naidu of the Hande family. The place subsequently came under the Qutub Shahis, Mughals, and the Nawabs of Kadapa, although the Hande chiefs continued to rule as their subordinates. It was occupied by the Palegar of Bellary during the time of Ramappa but was eventually won back by his son, Siddappa. Morari Rao Ghorpade attacked Ananthapuramu in 1757. Though the army resisted for some time, Siddappa ultimately bought off the enemy for Rs.50, 000.

Ananthapuramu then came into the possession of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan. Tipu hanged all the male members of the Siddappa family except Siddappa who escaped from his confinement at Srirangapatnam. After Tipu's death, it was once again taken back by Siddappa. Siddappa submitted himself to Nizam because of the treaty of 1799, who took the total control of the area. He was later pensioned off when British occupied the territory.<sup>2</sup>

Ananthapuramu district was formed in the year 1882 having been separated from Bellary district. Later on, it was expanded with the addition of Revenue Mandals of Kadiri, Mudigubba, Nallamada, N.P.Kunta, Talupula, Nallacheruvu, O.D.Chervu, Tanakal, Amadagur and Gandlapenta (previously Kadiri Taluk) from Kadapa district in the year 1910.

During the year 1956, the present Revenue Mandals of Rayadurg, D.Hirehal, Kanekal, Bommanahal and Gummagatta of Bellary district were added to Anantapuramu district.

Presently the district has been divided into 3 Revenue Divisions consisting of 63 Revenue Mandals (Ananthapuramu Division 20, Dharmavaram Division 17 and Penukonda Division 26).

### **Topography of the District**

Ananthapuramu district lies between 13°-40' and 15°-15' Northern Latitude and 76° -50' and 78° -30' Eastern Longitude physically.<sup>3</sup>

The district may be divided into 3 natural divisions. They are,

- (1). Northern Mandal of Rayadurg, Kanekal, Beluguppa, Gooty, Guntakal, Vajrakarur, Uravakonda, Vidapanakal, Yadiki, Tadipatri, Putlur and Yellanur containing larger areas of black cotton soils.
- (2). Kalyandurg, Kambadur, Settur, Brahmasamudram, Ramagiri, Kanaganapalli, C.K.Palli, Dharmavaram, Bathalapalli, Tadimarri, Mudigubba, Anantapur, Kudair, Pamidi and Peddavadugur in the center which are mainly made up of arid treeless, expanse of poor red soils.
- (3). High level land of Penukonda, Roddam, Somandepalli, Hindupur, Lepakshi, Chilamathur, Madakasira, Rolla, Gudibanda and Agali which connects with Mysore plateau at higher elevation of the rest of the district. This part has average sandy red soils of normal productivity.

### **Boundaries of the District**

It is bounded by Bellary, Kurnool district on the North, Kadapa and Kolar district of Karnataka on South East and North respectively. The district is roughly oblong in shape, the longer side running North to South with a portion of Chitradurg district of Karnataka State intruding into it from West between Kundurpi and Amarapuram Mandals.

## **Decadal Population Growth in Ananthapuramu District**

As per 2011 census, Ananthapuramu district has a population of 40.81 lakhs and a population density of 190 persons/sq. km which is growing at a decadal growth rate of 12.16 per cent. District is largely dominated by rural population comprising of 71.19 percent of the total district population. The district has an average literacy rate of 56.1 percent, which is lower than the average literacy rate of the state (average literacy rate – 61%). Male population with nearly 68 per cent literacy rate dominates the literate population in the district. According to the 2011 census, Ananthapuramu has nearly 7.8 lakh households with an average household size of five members. The growth of population in Ananthapuramu since 1941 is given in the Table 5.1.

**Table- 5.1**  
**Population of Ananthapuramu District-1941-2011**

| <b>Period</b> | <b>Rural Population</b> | <b>Urban Population</b> | <b>Total Population</b> | <b>Population Growth in %</b> |
|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1941          | 1019639                 | 146590                  | 1166229                 | -                             |
| 1951          | 1139998                 | 221558                  | 1361556                 | 16.75                         |
| 1961          | 1459837                 | 307627                  | 1767464                 | 29.81                         |
| 1971          | 1739531                 | 375790                  | 2115321                 | 19.68                         |
| 1981          | 2017095                 | 530917                  | 2548012                 | 20.46                         |
| 1991          | 2435761                 | 748053                  | 3183814                 | 24.95                         |
| 2001          | 2720915                 | 919563                  | 3640478                 | 14.34                         |
| 2011          | 2935437                 | 1145711                 | 4081148                 | 12.16                         |

Source: Hand Book Statistics 2013, Chief Planning Office, Ananthapuramu.

Table 5.1 shows that the population of the district has been increased more than three times during seven decades of study. During the same period the growth of rural population increased less than three times, whereas the urban population increased more than six times. It indicates that the people in the district are migrating to towns for several reasons. It is important to note

that the decennial growth population during 1991-2001 was sharply declined from 24.95% to 14.34%. It further declined to 12.16 % in 2011.

**Figure 5.1**  
**Rural and Urban Population of Ananthapuramu District During 1941 to 2011**



The density of population of the district is 213 per Sq.km, against (308) of the state. The population of rural and urban to the total population of the district works out to 71.19 percent and 28.81 percent as per 2011 Census as against 75 per cent and 25 per cent of 2001 Census. There are 977 Females per 1000 Males in the district as per 2011 Census.

The working force in the total population of district forms 48.83 per cent as per 2001 census out of which 26 per cent are in the agricultural sector.

#### **Male Female Population - 2011 Census**

As per 2011 census the total population of Ananthapuramu district is 4,081,148. Among them 2,064,495 constituting 50.59 per cent are males and 2,016,653 constituting 49.41 per cent are females. Nearly 71.93 per cent of population was living in rural areas of the district. Among the rural population nearly 50.73 per cent are males and the remaining 49.27 per cent are females. In case of urban areas the male population is 50.22 per cent and

remaining 49.78 per cent are females. There are little variations among the male (51.88 %) and female (48.12 %) population in the age group of 0-6 years. The share of 0-6 population is 10.93 per cent of total population of the district. The scheduled Caste (SC) population of the district is 583,135 (14.29 %). Among them 292,379 (50.14 %) are males and 290,756 (49.86 %) are females. The Scheduled Tribes (ST) constitutes 3.78 per cent of total population. Among the ST population 50.98 per cent are males and 49.02 per cent are females. The sex ratio of general population is 977 and sex ratio of 0-6 population is as low as 927. The sex ratio of SCs is higher (994) than STs (962) in the district.

**Table-5.2**  
**Population of Ananthapuramu District (2011 Census)**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> |                                   | <b>Male (%)</b>    | <b>Female (%)</b>  | <b>Total (%)</b>   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1              | Number of Households              |                    |                    | 968160             |
| 2              | Population                        | 2064495<br>(50.59) | 2016653<br>(49.41) | 4,081,148          |
| 3              | Population – Rural                | 1489157<br>(50.73) | 1446280<br>(49.27) | 2935437<br>(71.93) |
| 4              | Population – Urban                | 575338<br>(50.22)  | 570373<br>(49.78)  | 1145711<br>(28.07) |
| 5              | Population (0-6 Years)            | 231369<br>(51.88)  | 214587<br>(48.12)  | 445956<br>(10.93)  |
| 6              | S.C. Population                   | 292379<br>(50.14)  | 290756<br>(49.86)  | 583135<br>(14.29)  |
| 7              | S.T. Population                   | 78573<br>(50.98)   | 75554<br>(49.02)   | 154127<br>(3.78)   |
| 8              | No. of Literates                  | 1338474<br>(57.92) | 972486<br>(42.08)  | 2310960<br>(63.57) |
| 9              | Literacy Rate                     | (73.02)            | (53.97)            | (63.57)            |
| 10             | No. of Illiterates                | 726021<br>(41.01)  | 1044167<br>(58.99) | 1770188<br>(36.43) |
| 11             | Total workers                     | 1208544<br>(59.35) | 827622<br>(40.65)  | 2036166<br>(49.89) |
| 12             | Main workers                      | 1065582<br>(63.44) | 614073<br>(36.56)  | 1679655<br>(82.49) |
| 13             | Marginal workers                  | 142962<br>(40.10)  | 213549<br>(59.90)  | 356511<br>(17.51)  |
| 14             | Non-workers                       | 855951<br>(41.86)  | 1189031<br>(58.14) | 2044982<br>(50.11) |
| 15             | Cultivators                       | 278360<br>(67.36)  | 134893<br>(32.64)  | 413253<br>(20.3)   |
| 16             | Agricultural Labourers            | 394357<br>(44.84)  | 485180<br>(55.16)  | 879537<br>(43.2)   |
| 17             | Workers in Household Industries   | 61572<br>(58.45)   | 43771<br>(41.55)   | 105343<br>(5.17)   |
| 18             | Other workers                     | 474255<br>(74.33)  | 163778<br>(25.67)  | 638033<br>(31.34)  |
| 19             | Household size                    |                    |                    | 4.22               |
| 20             | Sex ratio (Female per 1000 Males) |                    |                    | 977                |
| 21             | Sex ratio (0-6 Years)             |                    |                    | 927                |
| 22             | Sex ratio (SC)                    |                    |                    | 994                |
| 23             | Sex ratio (ST)                    |                    |                    | 962                |

Source: Primary Census Abstracts 2011, Chief Planning Office, Ananthapuramu.

## **Literacy and Illiteracy**

The total literacy rate of the district is 63.57 per cent against 67.02 percent of state literacy. The literacy rate of both males and females is lower than the state averages. In the district the male literacy rate is 73.02 per cent against state average of 74.88 per cent. In the same way the literacy rate of females in the districts 53.97 per cent against state average of 59.15 per cent. Among the 7 and above population 1,770,188 are illiterates in the district. With regard to illiteracy rate there are wider variations among the males and females. The illiteracy rate of females is 46.03 per cent, whereas males are 26.98 per cent.

## **Working and non-working population**

Table 5.2 reveals that nearly half of (49.89 %) the population are engaged with one type of work or other type of work. The data reveals that a preponderant majority of women are not working in the district. Among the total workers male and female share is 58.54 per cent and 41.04 per cent respectively. The non working females population is 1,189,031 (58.96 %) and male non-working population is 855,951 (41.46 %). Among the total workers nearly 82.49 per cent are main workers and the remaining 17.51 per cent are marginal workers. Among the working population a preponderant majority i.e. 43.20 per cent are agricultural labourers. About 20.30 per cent are farmers and 5.17 per cent are working in household industry. The remaining 31.34 per cent are engaged in other works like industrial labour construction labour, private employees, government employees etc.



## Demographic profile of Scheduled Tribes

There exists a significant scheduled caste / scheduled tribe population in the district which together forms nearly 17.5 per cent of the total district population. To be more precise scheduled castes constitute 16.02 percent of total population, which is just below state average scheduled caste population. The population of scheduled tribes in the district is far behind State average scheduled tribe population. The table 5.3 gives the Mandal wise scheduled tribe population as per 2011 census.

**Table-5.3**  
**Mandal Wise Scheduled Tribe Population as per 2011 Census**

| <b>Name of the Mandal</b> | <b>Total population</b> | <b>Total ST population</b> | <b>ST- Males</b> | <b>ST- Females</b> | <b>% of ST Population</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Atmakur                   | 38970                   | 3917                       | 1994             | 1923               | 10.05                     |
| Kudair                    | 38312                   | 2061                       | 1072             | 989                | 5.38                      |
| Garladinne                | 53780                   | 1716                       | 848              | 868                | 3.19                      |
| Singanamala               | 43643                   | 2262                       | 1129             | 1133               | 5.18                      |
| Putlur                    | 36902                   | 29                         | 15               | 14                 | <b>0.08</b>               |
| Yellanur                  | 35732                   | 114                        | 62               | 52                 | 0.32                      |
| Narpala                   | 54973                   | 1012                       | 521              | 491                | 1.84                      |
| Bukkaraya Samudram        | 67384                   | 2608                       | 1370             | 1238               | 3.87                      |
| Ananthapuramu             | 388023                  | 12540                      | 6463             | 6077               | 3.23                      |
| Raptadu                   | 38057                   | 511                        | 265              | 246                | 1.34                      |
| Vidapanakal               | 53476                   | 154                        | 76               | 78                 | 0.29                      |
| Guntakal                  | 171655                  | 7012                       | 3581             | 3431               | 4.08                      |
| Gooty                     | 88887                   | 3357                       | 1889             | 1468               | 3.78                      |
| Peddavadugur              | 45771                   | 209                        | 93               | 116                | 0.46                      |
| Yadiki                    | 56122                   | 766                        | 390              | 376                | 1.36                      |
| Tadpatri                  | 165872                  | 2653                       | 1327             | 1326               | 1.6                       |
| Peddapappur               | 34629                   | 140                        | 76               | 64                 | 0.4                       |
| Pamidi                    | 55303                   | 3181                       | 1603             | 1578               | 5.75                      |
| Vajrakarur                | 50007                   | 5475                       | 2781             | 2694               | 10.95                     |
| Uravakonda                | 80201                   | 2139                       | 1140             | 999                | 2.67                      |
| D.Hirehal                 | 46613                   | 891                        | 462              | 429                | 1.91                      |
| Rayadurg                  | 102691                  | 3346                       | 1726             | 1620               | 3.26                      |
| Kanekal                   | 64979                   | 205                        | 110              | 95                 | 0.32                      |
| Bommanahal                | 55989                   | 477                        | 238              | 239                | 0.85                      |
| Beluguppa                 | 43735                   | 3434                       | 1746             | 1688               | 7.85                      |
| Gummagatta                | 49207                   | 574                        | 297              | 277                | 1.17                      |
| Brahmasamudram            | 43162                   | 1139                       | 571              | 568                | 2.64                      |
| Kalyandurg                | 89879                   | 3844                       | 1939             | 1905               | 4.28                      |
| Settur                    | 43172                   | 730                        | 371              | 359                | 1.69                      |

| <b>Name of the Mandal</b> | <b>Total population</b> | <b>Total ST population</b> | <b>ST-Males</b> | <b>ST-Females</b> | <b>% of ST Population</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Kundurpi                  | 53180                   | 433                        | 223             | 210               | 0.81                      |
| Kambadur                  | 50799                   | 3232                       | 1637            | 1595              | 6.36                      |
| Kanaganapalle             | 39673                   | 1688                       | 868             | 820               | 4.25                      |
| Dharmavaram               | 172479                  | 6009                       | 3106            | 2903              | 3.48                      |
| Bathalapalle              | 39373                   | 2197                       | 1118            | 1079              | 5.58                      |
| Tadimarri                 | 32385                   | 626                        | 303             | 323               | 1.93                      |
| Chennekothapalle          | 44351                   | 1636                       | 852             | 784               | 3.69                      |
| Ramagiri                  | 34001                   | 1048                       | 519             | 529               | 3.08                      |
| Mudigubba                 | 60469                   | 7620                       | 3883            | 3737              | 12.6                      |
| Talupula                  | 42392                   | 2798                       | 1383            | 1415              | 6.6                       |
| Nambulipulikunta          | 31404                   | 1956                       | 964             | 992               | 6.23                      |
| Gandlapenta               | 26183                   | 2465                       | 1273            | 1192              | 9.41                      |
| Kadiri                    | 125373                  | 9492                       | 4584            | 4908              | 7.57                      |
| Nallamada                 | 41376                   | 5060                       | 2624            | 2436              | 12.23                     |
| Bukkapatnam               | 40149                   | 3198                       | 1615            | 1583              | 7.97                      |
| Kothacheruvu              | 39046                   | 1603                       | 823             | 780               | 4.11                      |
| Roddam                    | 51168                   | 542                        | 269             | 273               | 1.06                      |
| Madakasira                | 81227                   | 2852                       | 1466            | 1386              | 3.51                      |
| Amarapuram                | 55771                   | 533                        | 273             | 260               | 0.96                      |
| Gudibanda                 | 52610                   | 950                        | 485             | 465               | 1.81                      |
| Rolla                     | 39964                   | 626                        | 316             | 310               | 1.57                      |
| Agali                     | 36253                   | 278                        | 154             | 124               | 0.77                      |
| Parigi                    | 58225                   | 308                        | 185             | 123               | 0.53                      |
| Penukonda                 | 55383                   | 3672                       | 1901            | 1771              | 6.63                      |
| Puttaparthi               | 59000                   | 4533                       | 2327            | 2206              | 7.68                      |
| Obuladevaracheruvu        | 48308                   | 2388                       | 1139            | 1249              | 4.94                      |
| Nallacheruvu              | 31036                   | 1527                       | 766             | 761               | 4.92                      |
| Tanakal                   | 47946                   | 4783                       | 2413            | 2370              | 9.98                      |
| Amadagur                  | 29520                   | 1161                       | 602             | 559               | 3.93                      |
| Gorantla                  | 77271                   | 6820                       | 3556            | 3264              | 8.83                      |
| Somandepalle              | 47591                   | 1318                       | 662             | 656               | 2.77                      |
| Hindupur                  | 203538                  | 2343                       | 1139            | 1204              | 1.15                      |
| Lepakshi                  | 45122                   | 563                        | 300             | 263               | 1.25                      |
| Chilamathur               | 51456                   | 1373                       | 690             | 683               | 2.67                      |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>4081148</b>          | <b>154127</b>              | <b>78573</b>    | <b>75554</b>      | <b>3.78</b>               |

Source: Primary Census Abstracts-2011, Chief Planning Office, Ananthapuramu.

In Ananthapuramu district there are 63 mandals which are spread in 3 revenue divisions. The Scheduled Tribe population is registered in all 63 mandals with varying degrees. In Penukonda revenue division there are 26 Mandals, in which highest Scheduled Tribe population i.e. 70, 762 are living. The second highest tribal population of 51, 856 is registered in Ananthapuramu

revenue division. The Scheduled Tribe population in Dharmavaram revenue division is 31, 509. The governmental schemes are extended to good number of Scheduled Tribe population in the district.

With regard to scheduled tribe population Ananthapuramu Mandal tops the list with 12540 persons. In this mandal the scheduled tribe population is also exceeding the scheduled caste population. It is followed by Kadiri mandal with 9492 scheduled tribe persons. In Putlur mandal there are only 29 persons belonging to scheduled tribes. In all there are eight mandals in which scheduled tribe population is above 5 thousands and below 7500. In fifteen mandals of the district the population ranges between 2500 to 5000. In the remaining 51 mandals the scheduled tribe population is below 2500. Among them, in 20 mandals the scheduled tribe population is less than 1000. The female population outnumbering the male population in 13 Mandals of the district. The percentage of female population is very low i.e. 43.73 per cent in Gooty Mandal of the district. In Mudigubba Mandal the percentage of ST population to the total population of the Mandal is high i.e. 12.60 per cent and low i.e. 0.08 per cent in Putlur Mandal. (table 5.3)

### **Demographic profile of Scheduled Castes**

There exists a significant Scheduled Caste population in the district which forms nearly 14.29 per cent of the total district population, which is just below state average i.e. 16.41 per cent of Scheduled Caste population. The table 5.4 gives the Mandal wise scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population and their literacy levels.

**Table-5.4**  
**Mandal Wise Population of Scheduled Castes in Ananthapuramu District**  
**-2011**

| <b>Name of the Mandal</b> | <b>Total Population</b> | <b>Total SC Population</b> | <b>SC-Males</b> | <b>SC-Females</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| D.Hirehal                 | 46613                   | 6882                       | 3462            | 3420              |
| Rayadurg                  | 102691                  | 12022                      | 6103            | 5919              |
| Kanekal                   | 64979                   | 9872                       | 5001            | 4871              |
| Bommanahal                | 55989                   | 7090                       | 3564            | 3526              |
| Vidapanakal               | 53476                   | 7805                       | 4053            | 3752              |
| Guntakal                  | 171655                  | 23824                      | 11819           | 12005             |
| Gooty                     | 88887                   | 15879                      | 7624            | 8255              |
| Peddavadugur              | 45771                   | 8705                       | 4407            | 4298              |
| Yadiki                    | 56122                   | 8227                       | 4167            | 4060              |
| Tadpatri                  | 165872                  | 22861                      | 11340           | 11521             |
| Peddapappur               | 34629                   | 6373                       | 3212            | 3161              |
| Pamidi                    | 55303                   | 7424                       | 3765            | 3659              |
| Vajrakarur                | 50007                   | 9173                       | 4654            | 4519              |
| Uravakonda                | 80201                   | 12647                      | 6206            | 6441              |
| Beluguppa                 | 43735                   | 8332                       | 4193            | 4139              |
| Gummagatta                | 49207                   | 9028                       | 4510            | 4518              |
| Brahmasamudram            | 43162                   | 7515                       | 3536            | 3979              |
| Kalyandurg                | 89879                   | 13322                      | 6610            | 6712              |
| Atmakur                   | 38970                   | 6306                       | 3216            | 3090              |
| Kudair                    | 38312                   | 6994                       | 3493            | 3501              |
| Garladinne                | 53780                   | 10077                      | 5116            | 4961              |
| Singanamala               | 43643                   | 9434                       | 4733            | 4701              |
| Putlur                    | 36902                   | 6786                       | 3389            | 3397              |
| Yellanur                  | 35732                   | 5954                       | 3027            | 2927              |
| Narpala                   | 54973                   | 10276                      | 5286            | 4990              |
| Bukkaraya Samudram        | 67384                   | 10929                      | 5557            | 5372              |
| Ananthapuramu             | 388023                  | 35321                      | 17395           | 17926             |
| Raptadu                   | 38057                   | 5089                       | 2580            | 2509              |
| Settur                    | 43172                   | 8467                       | 4317            | 4150              |
| Kundurpi                  | 53180                   | 9242                       | 4688            | 4554              |
| Kambadur                  | 50799                   | 12286                      | 6043            | 6243              |
| Kanaganapalle             | 39673                   | 6916                       | 3547            | 3369              |
| Dharmavaram               | 172479                  | 11761                      | 5872            | 5889              |
| Bathalapalle              | 39373                   | 6050                       | 3004            | 3046              |

| <b>Name of the Mandal</b> | <b>Total Population</b> | <b>Total SC Population</b> | <b>SC-Males</b> | <b>SC-Females</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Tadimarri                 | 32385                   | 5789                       | 2873            | 2916              |
| Mudigubba                 | 60469                   | 5903                       | 2971            | 2932              |
| Talupula                  | 42392                   | 4029                       | 1994            | 2035              |
| Nambulipulikunta          | 31404                   | 2805                       | 1416            | 1389              |
| Gandlapenta               | 26183                   | 2629                       | 1291            | 1338              |
| Kadiri                    | 125373                  | 7732                       | 3912            | 3820              |
| Nallamada                 | 41376                   | 4948                       | 2361            | 2587              |
| Bukkapatnam               | 40149                   | 3982                       | 2034            | 1948              |
| Kothacheruvu              | 39046                   | 3528                       | 1743            | 1785              |
| Chennekothapalle          | 44351                   | 5914                       | 2974            | 2940              |
| Ramagiri                  | 34001                   | 6945                       | 3538            | 3407              |
| Roddam                    | 51168                   | 9923                       | 5029            | 4894              |
| Madakasira                | 81227                   | 18029                      | 9111            | 8918              |
| Amarapuram                | 55771                   | 12860                      | 6242            | 6618              |
| Gudibanda                 | 52610                   | 12449                      | 6348            | 6101              |
| Rolla                     | 39964                   | 8123                       | 4110            | 4013              |
| Agali                     | 36253                   | 7586                       | 3886            | 3700              |
| Parigi                    | 58225                   | 11970                      | 6141            | 5829              |
| Penukonda                 | 55383                   | 7478                       | 3793            | 3685              |
| Puttaparthi               | 59000                   | 7439                       | 3786            | 3653              |
| Obuladevaracheruvu        | 48308                   | 5766                       | 2935            | 2831              |
| Nallacheruvu              | 31036                   | 3140                       | 1582            | 1558              |
| Tanakal                   | 47946                   | 7686                       | 3802            | 3884              |
| Amadagur                  | 29520                   | 3934                       | 1921            | 2013              |
| Gorantla                  | 77271                   | 8017                       | 4043            | 3974              |
| Somandepalle              | 47591                   | 7875                       | 3993            | 3882              |
| Hindupur                  | 203538                  | 23304                      | 11786           | 11518             |
| Lepakshi                  | 45122                   | 7697                       | 3886            | 3811              |
| Chilamathur               | 51456                   | 6786                       | 3389            | 3397              |

Source: Primary Census Abstracts-2011, Chief Planning Office, Ananthapuramu.

The data in the table 5.4 indicates that highest number of Scheduled Caste population is living in the mandals which are located near the cities and towns. Ananthapuramu mandal has highest (35321) population of scheduled castes in the district. It is followed by Guntakal (23824), Hindupur (23304) and Tadipatri (22861). It can be attributed that large number of Scheduled Caste

families migrated to these villages, which are located in sub-urban areas for the works. As such the concentration in those mandals is high. The Scheduled Caste population in 46 mandals of the district is below 10,000. There are 13 mandals in which SC population is above 10,000 and below 20,000. In the remaining 4 mandals the population of scheduled castes is above 20, 000. The percentage of Scheduled Caste population in 28 mandals is above state average of 16.41 per cent. On the other hand the per cent of Scheduled Caste population in 38 mandals of the district average of 14.29 per cent. It is pertinent to note that in Ananthapuramu mandal where the highest Scheduled Caste population is registered the share of SC population in that mandal is confined to 9.10 per cent. In Gudibanda mandal the share of Scheduled Caste population touched the highest figure of 23.66 per cent. It is followed by Amarapuram (23.06 per cent) and Madakasira (22.20 per cent) mandals in second and third places respectively. In 20 out of 63 mandals of the district the female population outnumbered male population.

### **Land Reclamation and Utilization**

The pattern of land utilization in the district is presented in Table 5.5. The territorial changes the district had undergone during the last century do not seem to have affected the pattern to any considerable extent. It can be seen from the Table 5.5 that the percentage of area under forests has remained practically stationary while the proportion of the net area sown to the total geographical area has registered a fairly perceptible increase. The only persistent drawback is the vast extent of barren and uncultivable land. There is also a considerable extent of cultivable waste which, with the advent of mechanized agriculture is likely to be brought under cultivation.

**Table - 5.5**  
**Land Utilization**

| (Area in Hectares) |  |                |                |                |
|--------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>S. No.</b>      | <b>Category</b>  | <b>2010-11</b> | <b>2011-12</b> | <b>2012-13</b> |
| 1                  | Total geographical area  | 1913000        | 1913000        | 1913000        |
| 2                  | Forests  | 196978         | 196978         | 196978         |
| 3                  | Barren & uncultivable land   | 167469         | 167469         | 167469         |
| 4                  | Land put to non-agricultural uses  | 143462         | 149029         | 150140         |
| 5                  | Cultivable waste   | 48856          | 48856          | 48856          |
| 6                  | Permanent pastures and other grazing lands                                 | 5846           | 5848           | 5848           |
| 7                  | Land under miscellaneous tree crops & groves not included in net area sown | 9416           | 9416           | 9416           |
| 8                  | Other fallow lands   | 86064          | 85754          | 86502          |
| 9                  | Current fallows  | 152050         | 200395         | 227945         |
| 10                 | Net Area Sown  | 1101744        | 1048140        | 1018735        |
| 11                 | Total Cropped Area   | 1178967        | 1114083        | 1083515        |
| 12                 | Area Sown More than Once   | 77223          | 65943          | 64780          |
| 13                 | Fish & Prawn Culture   | 1115           | 1115           | 1111           |

Source: Records of Chief Planning Office, 2013, Ananthapuramu.

### **Soils**

The soils in the District are predominantly red except Kanekal, Bommanahal, Vidapanakal, Uravakonda, Vajrakarur, Guntakal, Gooty, Pamidi, Peddavadugur, Yadiki, Tadpatri, Yellanur, Peddapappur and Putlur. In these Mandals red and black soils occur in equal proportion. Red and black soils occur in 76 per cent and 24 per cent of the area. The soils are shallow poor in nutrients with high water absorption capacity. 30% of lands are saline and alkaline especially under tank ayacuts and river banks.

### **Rivers**

The District is not endowed with perennial rivers. The important river in the District is Pennar River. Jayamangala, Chitravathi, Vedavathi, and Hagari rivers flow during the rainy season, and benefit the seasonal requirements of the farmers on river banks. Apart from these rivers streams like Kushavathi in

Chilamathur Mandal Swarnamukhi in Madakasira, Tadakaleru and Pandameru in Anantapur block, Maddileru in Kadiri block, Papagni in Tanakal mandal are the important water supply sources to various large and medium irrigation tanks in the district.

### **Forest Resources**

The forests in the District are thin and scanty. The vegetation on the eastern ghat and southern sides is better because of the gradual elevation and better climate conditions. Of the total geographical area of 19, 13,900 ha, the area under forest area is 1, 96,978 ha. which is 10.29 per cent of the geographical area. About one third forest area is covered with barren hillocks and very steep slopes. A total of 73000 ha constituting 36.98% of Reserve Forest land are classified as degraded forest land. The degraded forest areas in the district suffer due to lack of moisture and natural regeneration is adversely affected due to soil erosion and high run off.

### **Natural Resources**

Ananthapuramu District is rich in mineral resources and is well known for Gold and Diamond deposits. The main mineral Deposits are Lime Stone, Barytes, Dolomite, Iron Ore, Corundum, Steatite, White Shale Serpentine and Green Quartz, Black, Pink and multi-colored granites are also available in the District. Tadipatri area is rich in cement grade limestone deposits.

### **Industries**

The district is industrially backward with the lowest number of workers employed in registered factories. The industrial development is concentrated in urban areas. The District Industries Centre has been functioning since 1978. There are 9 industrial estates including Industrial Development Area at Hindupur besides at Ananthapuramu, Tadipatri, Sajjaladinne, Kadri, Guntakal,



Gooty and Hindupur, Penukonda, Sadlapalli. There are 4 mini industrial estates for Schedule Caste people.

There are 51 large and medium scale industries with an investment of Rs 2589.10 Crores providing employment of 6912 persons. These include the units like steel, Cement Spinning mills, Hydraulic components. In the small scale sector, small scale industries and tiny units comprise of units like slab polishing, Granite stone cutting and polishing, Solvent Extraction, Groundnut oil extraction. Fuel Briquettes from Groundnut shells, Camphor, burnt lime, soap powder units, readymade Garments (Jeans), Mosaic chips, cement bricks, Mineral water, silk twisting and Reeling. Silk Mills, wind mills etc.

Micro enterprises 2873 units, Investment of Rs.34087.74 lakhs and employment 17241, Small enterprises units 661 investment Rs.47659.53 lakhs employment 7600 and Medium enterprises units 84, investment Rs.6322.47 lakhs and employment is 36893 existing in the district.

### **Power**

The domestic and industrial power requirement of the district is drawn from Tungabadra Hydel Project at Hospet. Integrated power grid is established at Gooty connecting Nagarjunasagar, Kothagudem and Tungabadra.

All the revenue villages in the district have been electrified and 3360 hamlets were electrified. 1, 82,884 Agricultural, 7,613 industrial, 74163 Commercial service connections, 8, 65,601 domestic connections, a total of 11, 30,261 connections were provided by the Electrical department. Power shortage is a constraining factor in improving agricultural productivity and also industrial development in the district.

## **Transport**

Ananthapuramu district has 10702 Kms of road and 309 kms of railway line. The district is linked with Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and also Hyderabad by railway. Guntakal is one of the biggest railway junctions in the country. There are 39 railway stations in broad gauge. A.P. State Road Transport Corporation provides commuting facilities in the district with a fleet of buses. The district has also got an airport at Puttaparthi.

## **Communication**

There are 942 post offices, and 147 telephone exchanges. Number of cities in the country is connected through STD, FAX and internet facilities. Ananthapuramu town is provided with a TV relay station with 75 kms radius of operation and TV relay stations are also working at Hindupur and Guntakal and a FM radio station is situated at Ananthapuramu.

## **Places of Tourism**

**Lepakshi:** Lepakshi of Hindupur area is popular for its Veerabhadra Temple and the huge stone Nandi. The temple is a treasure of sculpture and architecture. Lakhs of pilgrims visit the place for Shivaratri.

**Pennahobilam:** Pennahobilam is famous for its temple of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy. The temple of Lakshmi the lord's consort is situated by the side of main shrine. There is a spring channel in the temple known as Bugga Koneru.

**Puttaparthi:** Puttaparthi situated on the banks of Chitravathi is in Penukonda Division, which is universally famous with the abode of Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Super Specialty Hospital is also located with free treatment given to one and all and is famous all over the world.

Penakacherla Dam is also a sightseeing place. Kadiri, Kasapuram, Alurukona and Gutibayalu, Gorantla, Hemavathi are also of important tourist attractions because of the temples situated in these areas. Thimmamma Marri Manu has become an important tourist center, which is near Kadiri town, and it is recorded in the Guinness Book of records as the oldest and largest tree in the world. Gugudu village in Narpala Mandal is known for its Moharram festival.

### **Hills**

The forests in the District are thin and scanty. The Muchukota hills in length run from North of Gooty town up to extreme Southern corner of Tadipatri, Yadiki mandals. Another line of hills starts from west of Gooty mandal called Nagasamudram hills runs about 80 kms. The Mallappa Konda range begins at Dharmavaram and runs into Karnataka State. The Penukonda range starts in the South of Dharmavaram through Penukonda and Hindupur proceeds to Karnataka state in Madakasira the hill divides Rolla and Agali mandals in to Southern and Northern portions. There are numerous isolated peaks and rocky clusters, which are devoid of any vegetation. The height of some of these hill ranges is given below.

### **Education and Unemployment**

The District is provided with 3 universities viz, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Ananthapuramu and Sri Sathya Sai University at Puttaparthi. There are 13 Engineering Colleges, 1 Medical College, 2 Pharmacy Colleges, 3 Polytechnic Colleges, 53 Degree Colleges, 46 Junior Colleges, 653 High Schools, 936 Upper Primary Schools 3150 Primary Schools and 6 Industrial Training Institutions. Oil Technological Research Institute only one of its type in the South and Dry

Land Agriculture Research Stations are situated at Ananthapuramu. Further there are 4 schools for physically disabled.

### **Origin and Growth of PRIs in Ananthapuramu District**

The concept of Local Self-Government, though not in the sense, in which it is understood today, was age old. Even in the pre-Vijayanagara days, local assemblies called “Urs” transacted all public business on behalf of the people inhabiting the villages. In the ‘Brahmadaya’ villages or ‘agraharams’, however, assemblies known as the ‘Sabhas’ were functioning not merely as agencies for collecting taxes but were also redressing public grievances and exercising judicial powers. But the pattern of Local Administration in the Madras Presidency did not receive any statutory basis till the enactment of the Towns Improvement Act X, 1865 and the Local Funds Act IV, 1871. A fund was, however, raised in 1854 for being spent on district roads by the Collector and the District Engineer under the supervision of the Board of Revenue. To augment the fund, rents on ferries; carts and grasses and’ the proceeds of avenue tree clippings were added to it. The surplus proceeds of the cattle pound fund raised from 1860, and tolls and’ fishery rents collected from 1864 were also credited to it. The Education Cess Act VI of 1863, passed for the maintenance of schools, failed completely in its object as adequate funds could not be raised and it was realized that it was impossible for Government to bear the burden of the maintenance of schools and the construction and repair of roads all over the Presidency without recourse to local taxation.

## **Local Fund Boards**

The Towns Improvement Act X of 1865 and the Local Funds Act of 1871 created Municipalities and Local Fund Boards respectively in the Presidency. They were essentially designed to establish a common fund to meet the expenditure on Roads, Education and Public Health and Sanitation. The Local Funds Act of 1871 which provided for such taxation, divided the whole Presidency into a number of Circles and constituted a Local Fund Board for each of them. It repealed the Education Cess Act of 1863 and the District Road Cess Act of 1866 and transferred the existing funds and the charges appertaining to roads and schools to the newly constituted Local Fund Boards. It also provided for the levy of house tax, of a cess similar to the district roads cess limited to a maximum of one anna in the rupee on the annual rental value of occupied lands and of tolls on roads. Local Fund Boards were authorized to spend the proceeds of these taxes on the maintenance of roads; upkeep of schools; construction and repair of hospitals, dispensaries, choultries, markets, tanks and wells; training and employment of vaccinators; carrying out of sanitary inspection; and cleaning of roads and streets.<sup>4</sup>

The district of Bellary of which Ananthapuramu was then a part was divided into three Circles. Tadipatri, Gooty, Ananthapuramu, Alur and Adoni taluks (the last two now in Kurnool district) constituted the first Circle; Hindupur, Penukonda and Madakasira formed the second; and Rayadurg, Bellary and Hospet constituted the third. Kadiri was then a part of the Madanapalle Circle in Cuddapah district. On the formation of the Ananthapuramu district in 1882, the three Local Fund Circles were converted

into two, one coterminous with Bellary and the other with Ananthapuramu. The Ananthapuramu Circle Board consisted of 40 members—nineteen officials and twenty-one non-officials. The resources of the Board during this period were very limited as would be evident from the fact that, on the day of its formation, it opened with a credit balance of Rs. 54,396 under Road and Rs. 20,270 under General Funds. The income of the Board consisted chiefly of land cess, ferry rents, tolls, bungalow fees, income from the sale of rubbish, etc., besides provincial grants and the contributions for specific purposes. Revenue from fishery rents, the sale of clippings from avenue trees, and fines and penalties were the other sources of income.

To strengthen the non-official element of the local bodies, the Madras Local Boards Act V of 1884 was passed repealing the Act IV of 1871. It provided for the constitution of a District Board at the district level, a Taluk Board at the taluk or divisional level and a Union Board for a village or a group of villages. The District Board so formed, consisted of a President and not less than twenty-four members, wholly appointed by the Governor-in-Council or partly appointed and partly elected by the members of Taluk Boards. Their term of office was three years. The Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officers were ex-officio members of the Board. The number of official members appointed by the Governor-in-Council together with the ex-officio members should not exceed one-fourth of the membership of the Board. The President of the Board might be elected from among its members whose term of office was 3 years. The Board was empowered to levy any of the taxes authorized by the new Act with the approval of Government. The Ananthapuramu District Board was constituted in 1885 with 24 members, six

of whom were officials and the rest non-officials. All the members were initially appointed by Government. The receipts of the Board in that year amounted to Rs. 1, 10,635 of which Rs. 1, 00,278 was derived from land cess, Rs. 3,072 from tolls, Rs. 5,078 from market rents, Rs. 2,050 from choultries and the balance from other sources. Its expenditure was chiefly on the execution of new works and repairs to existing works amounting to Rs. 50,209 followed by Rs. 27,820 on hospitals and dispensaries, vaccination, sanitation markets, choultries and bungalows, Rs. 12,239 on education and Rs. 14,320 on administration. There were three toll gates at Gooty, Penukonda and Kalyandurg. The length of village roads maintained by the Board was 253 miles. It ran a Normal School and two Middle Schools (one at Penukonda and another at Tadipatri). The Board also maintained seven dispensaries one each at Gooty, Tadipatri, Kalyandurg, Uravakonda, Penukonda, Hindupur and Dharmavaram. Besides, there were 14 'chatrams and sixteen bungalows under its management.<sup>5</sup>

### **Taluk Boards**

Taluk Boards were formed for each taluk or a group of taluks with a President and not less than twelve members, partly appointed and partly elected by the members of the Union Boards or by the tax-payers themselves. Their term of office was 3 years. The jurisdiction of these Taluk Boards coincided with that of the Revenue Divisional Officers who were made ex-officio members and Presidents of these Boards. The funds of the Taluk Boards consisted of one-half of the proceeds of the land cess levied by the District Board in the Taluk Boards area, fees such as license fee for markets and rents on choultries, fisheries and ferries. With the approval of

Government, the District Board could transfer a portion of its funds to the Taluk Board. The Taluk Boards were formed in this district in October, 1886. They maintained 37 markets and seven dispensaries and of the 16 endowed institutions in their charge (of the Local Boards) 15 were markets. Again, Union Boards were constituted for single villages or groups of villages called Unions, with not less than 5 members, wholly appointed or partly elected, the headmen of the villages constituting the Union being ex-officio members. One of these headmen was to be the Chairman of the Board and the term of office of its members was 3 years. The proceeds of the house-tax levied within the area of the Union, varying from four annas to five rupees, constituted the main source of revenue for these Boards.

Nine Unions were ordered to be formed in the district in December, 1885 and they started functioning in October 1886. The Unions so formed were those at Gooty, Uravakonda, Tadipatri, Kalyandurg, Dharmavaram, Bukkapatnam, Penukonda, Hindupur and Madakasira. Pamidi was constituted into a Union in 1887 and Yadiki in 1889.<sup>6</sup>

Till 1920, the history of local boards in the district is one of changes in the jurisdiction of Taluk Boards, an increase in the quantum of elected representatives and the creation of more Unions. But there was no change in the functions of these Boards. In practice provision was made to elect one-half of the members of the District Board by means of executive orders. By 1889 there were five non-official members on the District Board elected from the Taluk Boards of Ananthapuramu, Gooty and Hindupur. Three were ex-officio members and 12 (3 official and 9 non-official) were nominated. In 1891, Government which had hitherto encouraged the Boards to maintain



Teachers' Training Schools veered round to the view that Government should maintain these institutions in the interest of efficiency. In 1895-96 the Taluk Boards of Penukonda and Ananthapuramu were reconstituted the former with Penukonda, Hindupur, Madakasira and Dharmavaram taluks and the latter with Anantapur and the newly formed Kalyandurg taluk. Consequently, the Hindupur Board ceased to function. By 1896 all the Unions were levying house tax at one-fifth of the maximum rates prescribed. The imposition of this tax was the subject of popular resentment. The people of Dharmavaram were reported to have protested against its levy and its collection was consequently hampered. The Unions had what was known as a 'Ward system' for supervising sanitation and enforcing other health measures. In 1898, the Local Boards Act was amended as a result of which the Governor could nominate a non-official as the President of a Local Board. The responsibility for the opening and maintenance of relief works in times of famine and scarcity also devolved on the District Board. By 1900, the District Board was levying a land cess of one anna per rupee of assessment. Its income was derived from land cess, house tax, tolls, market rents, sale proceeds of avenue tree clippings and the contribution from provincial funds. It utilized its receipts for starting new works, and for looking after communications, education, medical services, vaccination, sanitation and the maintenance of markets and choultries. In 1900, it maintained five hospitals and five dispensaries.<sup>7</sup>

The average local taxation was two annas and six pies per head in 1900. During this year the Local Boards Act was amended prescribing a procedure for the removal of the President, Vice-President or any member

from office. In 1902-03, the Presidents of the respective Boards were declared to be members of the Boards over which they presided. During the next year the rate of house tax in Unions was raised to the maximum permissible under the Act. In 1905-06 the strength of Kalyandurgam Union Panchayat was reduced from 12 to 10. The Royal Commission on Decentralization whose report was published in 1909 recommended that the village Panchayats should be wholly elective and that there should be elected majorities in both the Taluk and District Boards. In 1909 the privilege of having an elected Vice-President was conferred on the Gooty Taluk Board. In 1909-10 the number of members constituting the taluk boards of Ananthapuramu and Gooty was raised from 13 to 15. Consequent on the addition of the Kadiri taluk to the Anantapur district in 1911, the strength of the District Board was raised from 25 to 32. The Taluk Boards were also regrouped and their number was raised to four in place of the existing three. They were located at Gooty, Ananthapur, Dharmavaram and Penukonda. The Dharmavaram and Penukonda Boards had a strength of 15 each, while the others had a strength of 13 each. In 1912 the maximum elective strength of Taluk Boards was raised from  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  and the total number of elected seats in all of them became 30.<sup>8</sup>

For the first time a non-official was appointed in 1914 as the President of the Ananthapuramu Taluk Board. During the same year, Amarapuram was constituted into a Union. In 1916, Guntakal and Timmancherla were constituted into a single Union. In 1918, a resolution was passed by the Government of India declaring that the local bodies should have a substantial elected majority and the system of nomination should be restricted only to secure the necessary representation of minorities. During the same year,

Konakondla, Singanamala and Yellanur were also constituted as Unions and Beluguppa in 1919. It was in this year that the Penukonda incomplete Secondary School and the first grade Elementary Schools at Uravakonda, Kalyandurg and Tadipatri were upgraded into high schools. In the next year the Penukonda Taluk Board took over the incomplete Edward Coronation Secondary School at Hindupur and upgraded it to a high school. The principle of election was employed on a larger scale in the Local Boards during the year 1919- 20. The number of elected seats on the District Boards was raised from 16 to 24 and two-thirds of the strength of the Taluk Boards was made elective. In 1919 a nonofficial Vice-President was appointed to the District Board and non-official Presidents to the Gooty and Penukonda Boards. In the next year the Anantapur Taluk Board was given the right of electing its President and the strength of the Gooty Taluk Board was raised from 15 to 24 to make provision for the representation of minorities and depressed classes. There were in this year 18 Unions in the district, of which 9 were classified as major Unions. The right of electing their Chairman was extended to the Unions at Uravakonda, Guntakal, Bukkapatnam, Dharmavaram and Kadiri.

The passing of the Local Boards Act XIV of 1920 constituted the next important landmark in the sphere of Local Administration. This Act gave an independent status to different classes of local boards and enhanced not only their strength but also the proportion of their elected members, their resources and their powers. The strength of the District Board was fixed at a maximum of 52 and a minimum of 24, that of the Taluk Board at a maximum of 24 and a minimum of 12 and that of the Union Board at 15 and 7 respectively. The proportion of members to be elected in all these boards was to be not less

than three-fourths of their total strength. Their tenure was fixed at 3 years. The Collector and the Revenue Divisional Officers ceased to be Presidents and ex-officio members. The Presidents of the District and the Taluk Boards became ex-officio members of the District and the Taluk Boards respectively. The Presidents of the Taluk Boards also became ex-officio members of the District Board. In addition to the land cess of one anna in the rupee shared equally by the District and the Taluk Boards, they were also given the option to levy an additional land cess of three pies in the rupee. The imposition of three new taxes—the profession tax, the companies' tax and the pilgrims tax—was also authorized. Local Boards became autonomous and interference by Government was confined only to cases of emergency or maladministration. Inspectors were appointed to supervise the work of Local Boards and Municipal Councils.<sup>9</sup>

The Local Boards Act of 1920 was brought into force from 1st April 1921 in Ananthapuramu District Board. Consequently, the number of elected and ex-officio members of the Board was raised from 24 to 28 while the number of nominated members fell from 12 to 8 members. The President who was nominated is from nonofficial and there was no direct election to the District Board. The District Board was maintained and supervised 1,040 miles of roads, 5 rest houses, 281 Boys' and 61 Girls' Elementary Schools, 5 Secondary Schools, 2 hospitals and 10 dispensaries, 27 weekly markets, a cart-stand, 11 slaughter houses and 17 main and 2 sub- toll gates. Land cess was levied at one anna in the rupee of assessment and the District Board levied an additional cess of 2 paise per rupee. During 1923-24 the strength of the District Board was fixed at 36 consisting of 28 elected and 8 nominated

members. In the subsequent year, the strength remained the same but there were 24 elected, 4 ex-officio and 8 nominated members. The District Board was granted the privilege of electing its president in 1926. . Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai was not only the first non-official nominated as President but also he was the first elected President.<sup>10</sup>

The reconstituted Taluk Boards came into being in July, 1922. There were four Taluk Boards namely Ananthapuramu comprising Ananthapuramu and Kalyandurg taluks, Gooty including Gooty and Tadipatri taluks, Penukonda extending over Penukonda, Hindupur and Madakasira taluks and Dharmavaram covering Dharmavaram and Kadiri taluks. The jurisdiction of these Taluk Boards corresponded to the revenue divisions of the district and their members were directly elected. All the Boards had elected Presidents except the one at Dharmavaram whose President was nominated. The Penukonda Taluk Board levied an optional cess of 3 paise on land. All the Taluk Boards except Gooty levied the education cess at 3 pies in the rupee under, the Elementary Education Act of 1920. The Taluk Boards maintained the medical and the educational institutions within their areas and also attended to sanitation, water supply and drainage. But as a result of the condition imposed by Government that they should limit their expenditure to their own resources, they suffered from considerable financial difficulty. During the years 1923-24 this restriction led to the unhappy situation when they were not able to pay the salaries of the Elementary School teachers for some months at a stretch. The work of the Penukonda Taluk Board was marred by the 'development of party spirit and faction' which led to its dissolution in 1927.

The Local Boards (Amendment) Act XI of 1930 made the office of Presidents elected and brought about provincialisation of services. It also provided for the appointment of a District Panchayat Officer and the formation of a Village Development Fund. It abolished the system of nominations, introduced direct election and extended the franchise to every income-tax assess. Women were made eligible to stand for elections. All Unions were designated as Panchayats and provision was made for the removal of Chairman and Presidents by a vote of no-confidence. Consequent on the introduction of the amending Act, the strength of the Ananthapuramu District Board underwent a radical change. Nine Taluk Boards were created, one for each Revenue Taluk.<sup>11</sup>

Some of the significant changes made after 1930 were the abolition of tolls and the levy of the tax on motor vehicles. The Boards were compensated by Government for the consequential loss of revenue. All Taluk Boards were abolished in 1934, and their main functions were taken over by the District Board along with their assets and liabilities. The Village Development Fund was also abolished and the balance to its credit was placed at the disposal of the District Board. In 1950, Land cess was raised from one and a half annas to two annas per rupee on the annual rental value of all occupied lands and the additional cess so raised was given entirely to the District Board, except in Panchayat areas where one-fourth of it was credited to the Panchayats. Local Boards were authorized to levy a surcharge on stamp duty payable under the Indian Stamp Act of 1899.

By about 1934 the taxes levied in the District Board area were the profession tax at maximum rates, house tax on the capital value of houses in

some Panchayat areas and on annual rental value in certain others, and education tax ranging from 12<sup>1/2</sup> to 25 per cent of house tax and profession tax realized by Panchayats. During 1936-37 the Ananthapuramu District Board was in receipt of a moiety of the Government of India's grant for village communications and for rural water supply, if it was superseded from November 1941 to April, 1942 for "persistently exceeding the powers conferred on it". In 1946, the roads of military and other importance were transferred to the Highways department for maintenance.<sup>12</sup>

### **Present Status of PRIs in Ananthapuramu district**

Historically, Ananthapuramu district has been a perpetually drought prone area. The district is also backward socially and economically when compared with the other districts Kurnool, Kadapa and Chittoor in the Rayalaseema Regions, Circar and Telangana. Geographically, Ananthapuramu district has been one of the largest districts in the state covering an area of little more than 19,000 square kilometers.

In view of this, it was no wonder even if this district remained an area of utter backwardness for years to come. In the pre-independence era apart from the regular administrative apparatus in the district headed by Collector and District Magistrate, there were such institutions as the Village Panchayati, Taluk Boards and District Boards. But there was hardly any other institutional set up which could be compared favourably with the present day Panchayati Raj set up. This institutional set up in the post constitutional period was an administrative corollary of development planning and allied nation – building programmes. When the political and administrative efforts were initiated to

implement the proposals of the Balwanth Ray Mehta study team, the importance of district as the principal administrative unit was not lost sight of.

The Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Samithi and Zilla parishads Act, 1959, was the legislative effort in the direction of establishing Panchayati Raj bodies in Ananthapuramu district. This legislative enactment followed by Andhra Pradesh Gram Panchayats Act, 1964, provided the much needed legal framework of Panchayati Raj set up in the district. The implementation of these two legislative enactment completed the establishment of Panchayati Raj bodies in the district-Gram Panchayats at the village level, Panchayati Samithies at the block level and Zilla Parishad at the district level. Establishment of the three-tier Panchayati Raj set up in the state was in consonance with the recommendations of the Balwanth Roy Mehta Committee.

One aspect of Panchayati Raj set up needs in the state some clarification at this juncture. Through Andhra Pradesh, one of the States that agreed to act in pursuance of this report, the state government got two separate legislative enactments passed in 1959 and 1964 respectively. The former provided for the setting up of Panchayati Samithies and Zilla Parishads and the later paving the way for constituting Gram Panchayati. Since all these institutions constituted the three institutional ingredients of the Panchayati Raj set up in terms of democratic decentralization, one could not help feeling or asking where was the need for getting two separate legislative enactments, and instead of these two legislative enactments one single and comprehensive legislative enactment would have been sufficient. It is difficult to deny the force of logic underlying arguments of this kind. But there was



nothing wrong or something unusual in getting enacted two pieces of separate legislative enactments.<sup>13</sup>

An analysis of these two said enactments will not fail to carry conviction in this regard. Unlike the Panchayati Samithies and Zilla Parishads that were designed to be the institutional agencies of rural development, village Panchayats were created to play a dual role, agencies of rural local self-government and instrument of rural development. Considering this dual role of Gram Panchayati, it was not something unusual or unwarranted that separate and district legislation was enacted in respect of Gram Panchayats. Besides this, there is also another formidable reason. Long before the advent of the Panchayati Raj set up there were Gram Panchayats as an integral part of the rural local self-government set up.

When Andhra Pradesh was formed in 1956 there were three separate laws dealing with the village / Gram Panchayats that were in force in three different administrative regions-erstwhile Madras, Hyderabad and Mysore. There was an urgent need for rectifying this administrating anomaly. This rendered necessary the passage of one single and comprehensive legislative enactment to deal with the institutional set up of Gram Panchayats throughout the state. This fundamental administrative need was of no less consequence in getting the Andhra Pradesh Gram Panchayats Act, 1964, passed separately.

What matters very much in the actual organizational set up of Panchayati Raj in Ananthapuramu district is not merely the legal and administrative frame-work as provided or laid down by law, but the type of men and women who constituted these bodies, and the kind of influence they

brought to bear on the working of these institutions. Thus, from this angle it would be of utmost importance to deal with the social, educational and political background of members who constituted the Panchayati Raj bodies in the district and examine objectively at length how far their experience and background were of any consequence in influencing the actual working of the Panchayati Raj bodies in the district.<sup>15</sup>

After assumption of power the Telugu Desam Government, in 1983 realised that development activities and welfare schemes had not been taking place in adequate measure in the three-tier structure of Panchayati Raj Institution. A Cabinet Sub-Committee of the government examined the mandal system recommended by Ashok Mehta Committee (1978) and made its recommendations based on which Andhra Pradesh Mandal Praja Parishads, Zilla Praja Parishad and Zilla Abhivrudhi Mandals Act was enacted in 1986 repealing the earlier statutes. Under the provision of new Act, 1104 Mandal Praja Parishads (MPPs) came into existence in January 1987 in place of 330 Panchayati Samithis. As per the new act in Ananthapuramu district 63 Mandal Parishads were established. At present the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the district are functioning on the bases of Andhra Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1994.

The Panchayat Raj system in the Ananthapuramu district is divided into Zilla Parishad, Mandal Parishads and Gram Panchayats. The district level body is named after its district headquarters namely Ananthapuramu Zilla Parishad, which in turn divided into 63 Mandal Parishads. The Mandal Parishads are further divided into Gram Panchayats. At present there are 1003 Gram Panchayats in the district.

The Tables 5.6 to 5.8 give the details of Panchayat Raj Institutions working in the district.

### ZPTC Electoral Trends

The particulars with regard to Caste wise, Gender wise and Party wise ZPTC members elected in 2014 elections is presented in table 5.6.

**Table-5.6**

**Gender Wise, Caste Wise and Party Wise ZPTCs Elected to Ananthapuramu Zilla Parishad in 2014 Ordinary Elections**

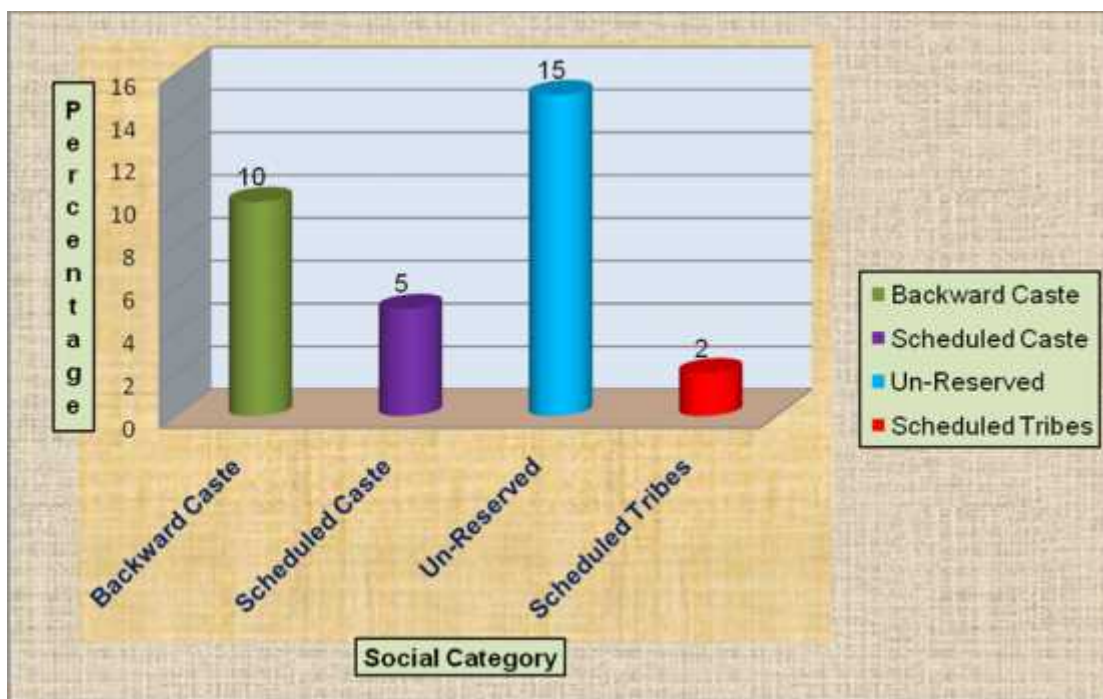
| <b>Social Category</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>TDP</b> | <b>YSRCP</b> | <b>Others</b> |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Women</b>           |              |            |              |               |
| BC                     | 10           | 6          | 4            | 0             |
| SC                     | 5            | 3          | 2            | 0             |
| UR                     | 15           | 11         | 4            | 0             |
| ST                     | 2            | 1          |              | 1             |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>       | <b>32</b>    | <b>21</b>  | <b>10</b>    | <b>1</b>      |
| <b>Men</b>             |              |            |              |               |
| BC (G)                 | 9            | 8          | 1            | 0             |
| SC (G)                 | 5            | 2          | 3            | 0             |
| UR(G)                  | 15           | 9          | 6            | 0             |
| ST(G)                  | 1            | 1          | 0            | 0             |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     | <b>62</b>    | <b>41</b>  | <b>20</b>    | <b>1</b>      |

Source: Zilla Parishad, Ananthapuramu.

It is evident from table 5.6 that the women are outnumbering men in ZPTC elections. Nearly 51.61 per cent of ZPTCs elected in the district are women. Among the women ZPTCs, the share of women belonging to unreserved category stood at 46.88 per cent. The share of Backward Class women is 31.25 per cent. Among the women, the share of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women is 15.63 per cent and 6.25 per cent respectively.

**Figure 5.2**

**Social Category Wise ZPTCs in Ananthapuramu District**



Party wise position of reveals that the share of women won on TDP ticket is 51.61 per cent. In YSRCP Party the share of women APTCs is 50 per cent. The one Independent candidate won in ZPTC elections is also a woman.

**Gender Wise MPPs**

Table 5.7 gives the particulars of the Mandal Parishad Presidents (MPPs) elected in 2014 ordinary elections in Ananthapuramu district.

**Table-5.7**  
**Gender Wise, Caste Wise and Party Wise MPPs Elected to Mandal**  
**Parishads in Ananthapuramu District in 2014 Ordinary Elections**

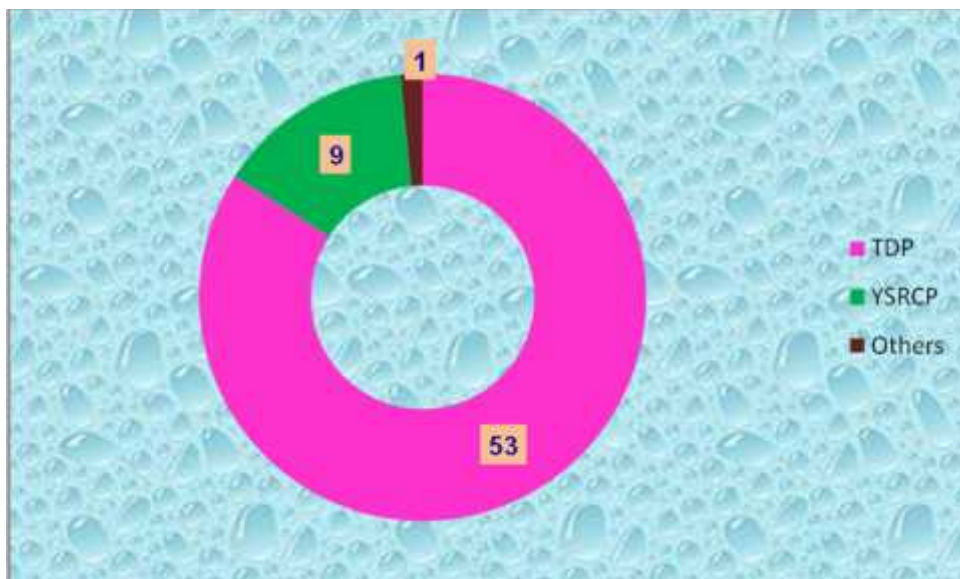
| <b>Social Category</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>TDP</b> | <b>YSRCP</b> | <b>Others</b> |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Women</b>           |              |            |              |               |
| BC- W                  | 18           | 16         | 1            | 1             |
| General(W)             | 14           | 11         | 3            |               |
| SC (W)                 | 8            | 6          | 2            |               |
| ST (W)                 | 1            | 1          | 0            | 0             |
| <b>Sub-Total</b>       | <b>41</b>    | <b>34</b>  | <b>6</b>     | <b>1</b>      |
| <b>Men</b>             |              |            |              |               |
| BC (G)                 | 10           | 9          | 1            | 0             |
| OC (G)                 | 9            | 8          | 1            | 0             |
| SC (G)                 | 3            | 2          | 1            | 0             |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     | <b>63</b>    | <b>53</b>  | <b>9</b>     | <b>1</b>      |

Source: Zilla Parishad, Ananthapuramu.

It is evident from table 5.7 that the share of women among total Mandal Parishad Presidents stood at 65.08 per cent. Among the women MPPs 34 women, constituting 53.91 per cent of total women representatives belong to TDP party. Around 9.52 per cent of them belong to YSRCP party. One independent MPP also belong to women category. Within Telugu Desam Party MPPs, the share of women MPPs stood at 64.15 per cent and within the YSRCP party the share of women MPPs stood at 66.67 per cent.

**Figure 5.3**

**Party Wise MPPs in Ananthapuramu District**



**Gender Wise vice MPPs**

Table 5.8 gives the particulars of the Vice Mandal Parishad Presidents (MPPs) elected in 2014 ordinary elections in Ananthapuramu district.

**. Table-5.8**

**Gender Wise, Caste Wise and Party Wise Vice- MPPs Elected to Mandal Parishads in Ananthapuramu District in 2014 Ordinary Elections**

| Social Category    | Total     | TDP       | YSRCP    | Others   |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Women</b>       |           |           |          |          |
| BC (W)             | 11        | 9         | 1        | 1        |
| UR (W)             | 11        | 11        | 0        | 0        |
| Sub Total          | 22        | 20        | 1        | 1        |
| <b>Men</b>         |           |           |          |          |
| BC General         | 30        | 23        | 6        | 1        |
| General            | 9         | 7         | 2        |          |
| ST                 | 1         | 1         | 0        | 0        |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>62</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>2</b> |

Source: Zilla Parishad, Ananthapuramu.

The data in table 5.8 indicates that the share of women among Vice MPPs is lower than men compared to ZPTCs, MPPs, Gram Panchayat Presidents and Gram Panchayat Ward Members. It is due to nominated nature of these posts, the women got low representation. The share of

women among total Vice MPPs stood at 35.48 per cent. Within the party the share of women in TDP and YSRCP stood at 39.22 per cent and 11.11 per cent respectively.

### **Gender Wise Gram Panchayat Presidents**

Table 5.9 gives the particulars of the Gram Panchayat Presidents elected in 2014 ordinary elections in Ananthapuramu district.

**Table – 5.9**  
**Gender Wise and Caste Wise Gram Panchayat Presidents Elected in Ananthapuramu District in 2014 Ordinary Elections**

| <b>Social Category</b> | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Scheduled Tribe        | 20          | 28            | 48           |
| Scheduled Caste        | 79          | 98            | 177          |
| Backward Class         | 129         | 164           | 293          |
| General                | 222         | 263           | 485          |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>450</b>  | <b>553</b>    | <b>1003</b>  |

Source: District Panchayat Office, Ananthapuramu.

It is clear from table 5.9 that the share of Schedule Tribes in total Gram Panchayat Presidents stood at 4.79 per cent. The share of Scheduled Castes among total representatives is 17.65 per cent. Around 29.21 per cent of representatives belong to Backward Classes. The remaining 48.35 per cent of Gran Panchayat Presidents elected from general quota.

**Figure 5.4**

**Social Category and Gender Wise Gram Panchayat Presidents in Ananthapuramu District**



The share of women representatives nearly 44.87 per cent are women. in general category 49.33 per cent, in Scheduled Caste category 44.63 per cent, in Backward Classes category 44.03 per cent and in Scheduled Tribe category 41.67 per cent of Gram Panchayat Presidents are women.

**Gender Wise Gram Panchayat Ward Members**

Table 5.10 gives the particulars of the Gram Panchayat ward Members elected in 2014 ordinary elections in Ananthapuramu district.

**Table 5.10**

**Gender Wise and Caste Wise Gram Panchayat Ward Members Elected in Ananthapuramu District in 2014 Ordinary Elections**

| Social Category | Male | Female | Total |
|-----------------|------|--------|-------|
| Scheduled Tribe | 126  | 296    | 422   |
| Scheduled Caste | 613  | 1153   | 1766  |
| Backward Class  | 1488 | 1689   | 3177  |
| General         | 2646 | 2439   | 5085  |
| Total           | 4873 | 5577   | 10450 |

Source: District Panchayat Office, Ananthapuramu.



The data in table 5.10 shows that the share of women in Gram Panchayat Ward Members in Ananthapuramu district stood at 46.63 per cent. Among the total ward members 48.66 per cent got elected from general category seats. Around 30.40 per cent of ward members belongs to Backward Class Community. The share of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in total ward members stood at 16.90 per cent and 4.04 per cent respectively.

With regard to caste wise women share, in General Category 52.04 per cent was women. Among Scheduled Caste representatives the share of women is 34.71 per cent. Nearly 30.54 per cent of representatives in Backward Class Community were women. The share of women in Scheduled Tribes stood at 29.86 per cent of total ST representatives.

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