



## ADILABAD

The district derives its name from Adilabad, its headquarters town which was named after the ruler of Bijapur, “*Ali Adil Shah*”. The district was for long not a homogenous unit and its component parts were ruled at different periods by various dynasties, namely, the Mauryas, Satavahanas, Vakatakas, Chalukyas of Badami, Rashtrakutas, Chalukyas of Kalyani, Mughals, Bhonsle Rajas of Nagpur and Asaf Jahis, besides the Gond Rajas of Sirpur and Chanda. Originally this was not a full-fledged district but a sub-district named Sirpur-Tandur which was created in A.D. 1872 with Edulabad (Adilabad), Rajura and Sirpur as its constituent talukas. In 1905 the status of this sub-district was raised to that of an independent district with head quarters at Adilabad.

In 2006 the Indian government named Adilabad one of the country's 250 most backward districts (out of a total of 640). It is one of the districts in Telangana currently receiving funds from the Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme (BRGF).

- *Konda Lakshman Babuji* popularly known as Telangana Gandhi (27 September 1915 - 21 September 2012) was an Indian freedom fighter who participated in the Telangana Rebellion. He died on 21 September 2012 at his residence (Jala Dhrushyam) in Hyderabad. Babuji was born in Wankidi village, Adilabad district, Hyderabad State.
- Famous tribal Gond hero *Komaram Bheem* who fought against the deadly tyranny of Nizam government and against its land grabbing activities in the forests, belongs to Adilabad district. His biography was written by Puchalapalli Sundarayya who was the Chief of the Telangana Rebellion against Nizams.

**Geographical features :-** The district was situated between 77.46' and 80.01' of the eastern longitudes and 18.40' and 19.56' of northern latitudes. The district is bounded on north by Yeotmal and Chanda district of Maharashtra, on the east by Chanda district, on the south by Karimnagar and Nizamabad districts and on the west by Nanded district of Maharashtra State. The district has population of 2079098 which accounts for 3.13% of the total population of the State. It is however takes the fifth rank in area with an extent of 16128 sq kms. Which account for 5.90% of the total area of the State. It is however, the second largest district in the Telangana of the inhabited and 167 uninhabited village and 11 Towns.

The District Comprises of 52 Mandals and 1743 villages of which 1557 villages are inhabited and 186 villages are un-inhabited. There are 7 Municipalities in the District. The District is conveniently formed into 5 divisions 1)Adilabad , 2) Nirmal ,3)Utnoor, 4)Asifabad,5)Mancherial.

**Climate:-** The climate of the district is characterized by hot summer and in generally dry except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season from December to February is followed by the summer season from March to May. The period from June to September constitute the south west monsoon season, while October and November from the postmonsoon season.

The rainfall in the district, in general increases from the south-west towards the north east. About 85% of annual rainfall is received during the south-west monsoon season. July being the peak rainy month. The variation in the Annual rainfall from year is not large. The normal Annual rainfall of the district is 1044.5m.m.

There is a meteorological observatory, station at headquarters Adilabad. The cold weather commences towards the end of November when the temperature begins to fall rapidly. December is generally the coldest month, with the mean daily maximum temperature at about 29 C and the minimum daily is 15 C.

The Sahyadriparvat or Satnala range traverses the district from the north-west to the south-east for about 281.5 Kms. In this range the *Mahbubghat* is the highest peak. In the eastern portion of the district some hills and hillocks are of minor importance.

#### **Rivers: -**

The most important *river* that drains the district is the river Godavari. The Pengange, the Wardha, and the Pranahita come next importance. The Kadam and the Peddavagu are tributaries of the Godavari. Besides these, there are also rivulets like the Satnala, the Swarna vagu, and the Suddavagu which drain the district. The Godavari which is the largest river in peninsular India rises in the western Ghats at Trambakeshwar near Nasik in Maharashtra state and enters this district near Basara in Mudhole Taluk. This mighty river forms the boundary of the district separating the district from Nizamabad and Karimnagar districts and skirts the southern borders of Chennur, Luxetipet, Khanaapur, Nirmal and Mudhole east - while taluks. The penganga forms part of the northern boundary of the district in Adilabad , while the wardha and the Pranahita from the northern and eastern boundaries of the district , skirting east - while Sirpur and chennur taluks respectively. The Kaddam river takes its origin at Bothai village in east- while Sirpur and Chennur taluks respectively. The Kaddam river takes its origin at Bothai village in east - while Boath taluk and flowing across this taluk and enters Khanapur at Paspula and finally falls into Godavari. The Peddawagu flows across the east - while taluks of Asifabad and Sirpur. the Satnala, Swarnavagu and Suddha vagu rivers flow across the east while taluks of geology and mineral resources.

## Forests:-

The dry deciduous forests of Adilabad are classified for the convenience of forest management into Teak forest and Mixed Forest.

The forest area of the district is 6944.5 sq.kms. and forms nearly 43% of the total area. Except in Mudhole eastward taluk on the west, the forest is well distributed and the local population get all its requirements of the timber and fodder from the forests. The forests on steep hill slopes are maintained for the protection of the soil and no vegetation is normally exploited. The accessible forest in the plains as well as gentle slopes are under intensive management and are exploited systematically under different silvicultural systems suitable for the locality. The important sericultural systems of forest management followed are selection-cum improvement, coppice with reserves and clear felling. Conversion of natural forests into teak, Eucalyptus and bamboo plantations is achieved under the last mentioned system.

The forest has generally two storeys or tiers of vegetations. The top storey consists mostly of Taluk, Nallamaddi, Bijasal, Chairmanu, Ippa, Jitregi, Musti, etc., and lower storey consists of Usiri, Maredu, Modugu, Sarapapu, bamboo etc.

Adilabad forests have been the abode of several *species of wild animals* from time immemorial. The hills abound in large game such as tigers, leopards, bears, hyaens, wolves and wild dogs. In jungles on the plains nilgai, sambar, and spotted deer are met within large numbers.

Among the *birds* those that occur commonly are peafowl (nemali) and peacock, Jungle fowl, Pigeon, Parrot, Myna etc\



## Population:-

According to the 2011 census Adilabad district has a population of 2,737,738. This gives it a ranking of 143rd in India (out of a total of 640). The district has a population density of 170 inhabitants per square kilometre (440/sq mi). Its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 10.18%. Adilabad has a sex ratio of 1003 females for every 1000 males, and a literacy rate of 61.55%. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people in the district. The geographical area of the district is 4004035 Acres. And the land use under different types is : forest (42.8%)

Land put to non-Agri uses (3.7%) and Net area sown 35.4%.

## Languages:-

Adilabad town has a cosmopolitan character. Urdu and Telugu are official and native languages Gond, Marathi and Kannada are also spoken. Telugu was introduced in 1956 as the official language for the first time in the history of Adilabad and most of the newer towns and villages are of Telugu. The older towns are Marathi and Gond (a Dravidian language which has many Telugu words due to close proximity to the Kakateeya ruled regions where Kannada was replaced with Telugu as the official language during the Kakateeya Period). Adilabad was included in Andhra Pradesh in 1956 because Gond is a Dravidian language and even today Adilabad has many towns which are disputed with Maharashtra. Most of the cities adopted Telugu but Marathi and Urdu are the main languages among the higher castes and Gondi is still the popular native tongue of the people. It is one of the richest districts of Telangana containing 20% of state's wealth. About 75% of the district is covered with thick tropical moist deciduous forests, the second largest district in terms of forest coverage, next to Khammam.

**Agriculture:-** The southern part of the district consisting of Nirmal, Luxettipet, Khanapur and surrounding mandals is fairly developed agriculturally, owing to the availability of irrigation facilities there. The total cropped area of the district is 5.93 lakh hectares which constitute 37% of the total geographical area. The principal crops of the district are Jowar, paddy, Cotton, Wheat, Maize, Chillies, Sugarcane and Soya.

- *Cotton* occupies an important place in the agriculture sector of this district. Adilabad has got 27% area under cotton in all the Telangana districts put together and 16% of the area under cotton in the entire state. However the yields are not in accordance with the above ratios, which accounts to only 11.76% cotton production of Telangana districts and only about 5% of the states' total cotton production. The Regional Agricultural Research Station situated at Adilabad is conducting research on cotton in modern cultivation and pest management techniques to advise the farmers for better yields achievement.

- *horticulture* crops is only about 3.5% of the net area cultivated in the district. Horticulture produce assumes importance for it provides, supplementary income including foreign exchange and employment. The cultivable wastes and fallow lands can be put to use by plantation on the contours and bunds of the farmlands. With the above average rainfall, the district and minor irrigation facilities in general is suitable for horticulture comprising of fruits, vegetables and flowers. The medical and aromatic plant cultivation is another untapped area in the district, which has good potential.
- A study based on the present land use pattern and the hardy nature of Horticulture crops which can be grown even on dry lands and wastelands an area of 41,565 hectares is identified that can be put to use for this activity. Thus an additional area of 5,50 hectares can be brought in short term under this crops, in addition to the present 36000 hectares of this activity. The Department of Horticulture in association with the ITDA, Utnoor and the SC Corporation, Adilabad through programme for promotion of horticulture schemes in the district. Backward linkage likes nurseries/farms to meet the seedling requirement forward linkage like processing and preservation plants, for value addition are the need of the hour to augment the development of this sector.
- The area of *medicinal and aromatic plantations* is the most suited and the least tapped source of the district Nux-vomica an important medicinal plant forms a substantial forest source in the district. The potential and advantages of medicinal aromatic plants cultivation should be made know to the locals to promote this fast catching activity all over. Apie culture and floriculture are the other areas not operational to their full in this climatically congenial nature of the district for these activities. The locals should be encouraged to take advantage of these natural vistas.
- *Sericulture* is an activity making roads into this non-traditional area, with the implementation of National Sericulture project from 1989-90. The major constraint hampering the progress of sericulture activity has been the marketing of cocoons. The absence of an established market is a major bottleneck in this activity, as the growers are forced to go to the neighboring state like Karnataka, spending a lot on transportation. There are no forward linkages either, like silk reeling and twisting units around. The lower activity in this sector, which is less than 1000 acres under mulberry cultivation can be attributed to the above factors. ITDA Utnoor is, instrumental in taking initiative in the implementation of National Sericulture Project. Utnoor has got both reeling and twisting units and also a Tusser weaving unit which are used both as training cum production centers.



- *Animal Husbandry* is only second to agriculture in terms of contributing to the gross income and employment in the district. Keeping in mind the suitability of agro-climatic conditions for rearing of livestock and poultry, the Government by various schemes through several developmental agencies, like ITDA and DRDA etc., identified the activities like dairy, poultry, sheep and goat rearing to be promoted to give a thrust to this sector, all over the district. The National Commission on agriculture recommended a veterinary centre with a veterinary graduate for every 5000 units by 2000 AD. Adilabad district is mostly covered with hills and the availability of non-arable land is sizeable which is covered with field grasses. Sheep and goat rearing can be an important activity with existence of large tracts of forest, cultivable fallows and uncultivable barren areas and other wastelands, congenial for development of this income generating activity.

“Adilabad is one of the ‘*industrially backward*’ districts of Telangana. Adilabad district is endowed with rich mineral resources and forest resources. The principal mineral resource i.e. coal, limestone, quartz, clay and manganese ore deposits are available. The forest resource like bamboo, Teak and beedi leaves. The important existing industries are cement manufacturing, cotton spinning and weaving mills in large/medium scale sector. Cement and ginned cotton bales are export items, nirmal toys and nirmal paintings are major exportable items.”

### **Minerals:-**

Among the districts of Telangana, Adilabad ranks first in earning revenue from minerals. It is well endowed with rich reserves of coal, iron ore, limestone and clays.

- All the workable *coal* seams are confined to the Barakar stage of the lower Gondwanas, the coal fields include the Asifabad. Tandur (Bellampally) Chenur east and west taluqs, Khanara and north Godavari fields, these deposits are actively exploited by the Singareni Collieries Company Limited. The Tandur and Khanara fields covering an area of 181 sq.kms. lie about 2.40 km. to the north east of Bellampally Railway station on Kazipet-Balharsh line. The north Godavari field occupying an area of 75 sq.km. is located about 6.40 kms. south west of Tandur coal field. The proved reserves of coal in these two fields as estimated by Singareni Collieries is given below.
- Extensive deposits of low grade *iron-ore* consisting of magnetite and hematite occur in Dharwadrian schists near Chittal and Kalleda in Kadam Mandal, Rebbanpalli in Luxettipet Mandal and near BirsaiPET in Utnoor Mandal.

In addition to these, are several minor occurrences in the Dharwariah schists near Dusturabad, Raidubba, Parpalli, Maddipadaga and Somwarpet of Khanapur Mandal and Mayapur, Velmal, Ananthpet Ponkal and Mamda in east while Nirmal taluk. Lateritic iron-ores derived from Deccan Traps occur near Servai and Kotari in Utnoor east while taluk, These are too alluminous to be used as iron-ore and too rich in iron to be used as aluminium ore.

- There are fairly extensive deposits of cement grade *lime stones* belonging to the Penganga series. The main deposits are those of the Ryali Reserve Forest are in eastwhile Luxettipet taluk and those occurring to the north of Asifabad and Adilabad. The former has a reserve of 600 million tonnes of cements grade lime stone and these are actively worked by the Associated Cement Companies Limited for their cement factory at Manchirial. Recent work of the Geological survey of India has indicated a reserve of 50 million tonnes of flux grade lime stone in the Asifabad area. The deposits at Adilabad, Asifabad and Luxettipet are actively exploited by Cement Corporation of India, Somshwara cement. Annapurna cement and Orient cements for their cement factories at Adilabad, Asifabad and Devapur respectively.
- Extensive deposits of pure *white clays* associated with Kota Maleri beds of upper gondwanas occur at about 1.60kms. south of Pachagoan and Rallapet of Asifabad east while taluk. The reserves of clay in this deposits are estimated at 18 million tonnes. Minor deposits of clay occur in Kattarla and Butternal of Asifabad east while taluk and Kothapalli in Chennur south while taluk. The deposits near Rallapet are being used for the Manufacture of Potteries, Chinware, Stone ware, bricks and sanitary ware.

#### **HANDICRAFTS & ARTISANS :-**

Toy making crafts Dhokra casting crafts are very popular in Adilabad District. Nirmal for toy making & Ushagaon, Jamgaon & Keslaguda village of Jainoor & Kerameri mandal for Dhokra casting, as provided a natural location for the world famous toys & Dhokra casting. The artisans at Nirmal produced articles of artistic content and features reflecting the local life and environment. The present day trend is on making animals birds fruits and vegetable which is appearance look as real as the natural pieces.

The Dhokra casting artisans are living in this district since last 100 years and producing tribal ornaments zoomorphic figures in particulars horses, elephants either with or without rider, birds, animals bells and lamps.

The stimulate the growth of toys of Nirmal and Dhokra casting at Jamgaon & Ushagaon villages of Jainoor mandal. The artisans was organised on co-operative lines with a view to make it (1) serves as an instalments for generating employment (ii) to offer the public variety of artistic products (iii) extent financial assistance and various common facilities and other benefits to promote production and marketing of products.

Presently the following (3) societies (2) toy makings one Dhokra casting are functioning in Adilabad district.

1. Nirmal Toys and Arts ICS Ltd. Nirmal
2. Nirmal painting and decorative furniture Mfg. ICS Ltd. Nirmal
3. Jangubai Tribal Brass Handicrafts ICS Ltd. Jamgaon (V) Jainoor (M)

The average annual production of the above societies are Rs.24,00,000 P.A. The sales are made locally, through the Lepakshi & Exhibitions.

Beside the above, the Dist. Industries Centre, Adilabad officers have made a survey on Handicrafts Artisans during the survey identified the following hidden crafts.

1. Stone carving at Ichoda
2. Wood Carving at Adilabad
3. Bhrown Crafts at Shanthinagar of Gudihathnoor Mandal
4. Bamboo Handicrafts Articles at Kamana of Wankidi Mandal.



## TOURISM :-

There is a highest waterfall situated at Kuntala (V) of Neradigonda mandal, Potchera Waterfall at Pochara(V) of Boath mandal, the only one holy pilgrimage of Saraswathi temple at Basara where the thousands of pilgrimages are visiting every day. Kaddam project. and mandal.

Identification of resources available, their present utilization levels and evaluation of the scope for further exploitation through appropriate channels are key elements for any developmental planning schemes. In this chapter an attempt is made to highlight the status availability of various resources on which the assessment of Industrial potential in the district can be based and the possible lines of activity be suggested. These resources are classified broadly as Human and Material resources here.

