

Kasaragod

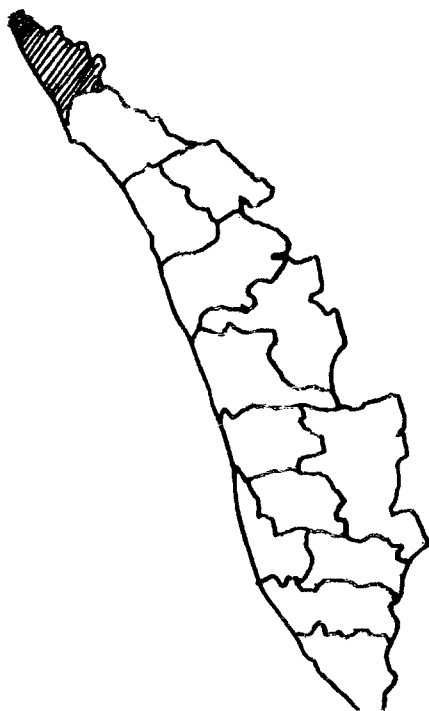
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS,
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***DISTRICT
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KERALA***



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KASARAGOD



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**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS,
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

District Handbooks of Kerala

KASARAGOD

Department of Public Relations

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FOREWORD

The need for a handbook on the districts of Kerala has been felt for some time, especially with the existing ones of the Department getting out of print. With the advancement on the travel, tourism and communication fronts, the demand for updated handbooks on the districts has been on the increase. It is in this context that a new series of district handbooks have been decided upon, by the Department of Public Relations.

It is hoped that this book would cater to the requirements of the tourists as well as the general public who seek a handy booklet containing basic information about Kasaragod district.

Suggestions for improvement are welcome

Thiruvananthapuram
29th October, 1997

L. NATARAJAN I.A.S.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

The name, Kasaragod, is said to be derived from the word *Kusirakood* meaning *Nuxvomica* forests (Kanjirakuttom).

It is with the intention of bestowing maximum attention on the development of backward areas that Kasaragod district was formed on May 24, 1984. With the formation of the new district, comprising the erstwhile Kasaragod and Hosdurg taluks, it has become possible to develop this coastal area fruitfully.

A SHORT HISTORY

Lying on the north western coast of the State, Kasaragod was famous from time immemorial. Many Arab travellers, who came to Kerala between 9th and 14th centuries A.D., visited Kasaragod as it was then an important trade centre. They called this area *Harkwillia*. Mr. Barbose, the Portuguese traveller, who visited Kumbala near Kasaragod in 1514, had recorded that rice was exported to Male Island whence coir was imported. Dr. Francis Buccanan, who was the family doctor of Lord Wellesly, visited Kasaragod in 1800. In his travelogue, he has included information on the political and communal set-up in places like Athipramba, Kavvai, Nileswar, Bekkal, Chandragiri and Manjeswar.

Kasaragod was part of the Kumbala kingdom in which there were 64 Tulu and Malayalam villages. When Vijayanagar empire attacked Kasaragod, it was ruled by the Kolathiri king who had Nileswar as his

headquarters. It is said that the characters appearing in *Theyyam*, the ritualistic folk dance of northern Kerala, represent those who had helped king Kolathiri fight against the attack of the Vijayanagar empire. During the decline of that empire in the 14th century, the administration of this area was vested with the *Ikkeri Naikans*. They continued to be the rulers till the fall of the Vijayanagar empire in 16th century. Then Vengappa Naik declared independence to Ikkeri. In 1645 Sivappa Naik took the reins and transferred the capital to Bednoor. Thus they came to be known as Bednoor Naiks. Chandragiri fort and Bekkal fort are considered to be parts of a chain of forts constructed by Sivappa Naik for the defence of the kingdom.

In 1763 Hyder Ali of Mysore conquered Bednoor and his intention was to capture entire Kerala. But when his attempt to conquer Thalassery fort was foiled, Hyder Ali returned to Mysore and died there in 1782. His son, Tippu Sulthan, continued the attack and conquered Malabar. As per the *Sreerangapattanam treaty* of 1792, Tippu surrendered Malabar except *Tulunadu* (Canara) to the British. The British got Canara only after the death of Tippu Sulthan in 1799.

Kasaragod was part of Bekkal taluk in the south Canara district of Bombay presidency. Kasaragod taluk came into being when Bekkal taluk was included in the Madras presidency on April 16, 1882. Though Vengayil Kunhiraman Nayanar moved a resolution in 1913 on the floor of Madras Governor's Council demanding the merger of Kasaragod taluk with the Malabar district, it had to be withdrawn because of the stiff opposition of the members from Karnataka. In 1927, a political convention held at Kozhikode, passed a resolution stressing the above demand. In the same year, an organisation titled *Malayalee Seva Sangham* was constituted. Thanks to the efforts made by many eminent persons like K.P. Kesava Menon, Kasaragod became part of Kerala following the reorganisation of states and formation of Kerala in November 1, 1956.

National Movement

Kasaragod played a prominent role in the National Movement for

the freedom of the country. Mohammed Sherul Sahib and Kandige Krishna Bhat were the frontline leaders of the independence movement. Umesh Rao, K.M. Krishnan Nambiar, Shreesankarji, Naranthatta Raman Nair, A.C. Kannan Nair, T. Gopalan Nair and Meloth Narayanan Nambiar were prominent freedom fighters.

The agrarian struggles to end the exploitation and oppression by landlords and chieftains were part of the National Movement. The *Kadacom Sathyagraha* was started following the arrest of Gandhiji in 1932. The Palayi harvest agitation (1941), Cheemeni estate struggle (1942), Kayyur agrarian riot (1944), Eleri estate agitation (1946), Karinthalam paddy seizure revolt (1948) and many other struggles waged by the peasant organisations accelerated the tempo of the freedom movement. Besides the agitation of the peasants, the various struggles unleashed for the uplift of the scheduled castes and tribes also supported and enlivened the National Movement.

TOPOGRAPHY

Kasaragod district lies between 11°-18' and 12°-48' north latitudes and between 74°-52' and 75°-26' east longitudes. The district is marked off from the adjoining areas outside the State by the Western Ghats which run parallel to the sea and constitute an almost continuous mountain wall on the eastern side. The Ghats dominate the topography. The coastline is fringed with low cliffs alternating with stretches of sand. A few miles to the interior, the scene changes and the sand level rises towards the barrier of the Ghats and transforms into low red laterite hills interspersed with paddy fields and coconut gardens.

The district is bounded in the east by the Western Ghats, in the west by the Arabian sea, in the north by the Canara district of Karnataka and in the south by the Kannur district.

Based on physical features, the district falls into three natural divisions - the lowland bordering the sea, the midland consisting of the undulating country and the forest - clad highland on the extreme east.

CLIMATE

The diversity of the physical features results in a corresponding diversity of climate. In the plains, the climate is generally hot. Though the mean maximum temperature is only around 90° F, the heat is oppressive in the moisture laden atmosphere of the plains. Humidity is very high and rises to about 90 per cent during the south-west monsoon. The annual variation of temperature is small; the diurnal range is only about 10° F.

The south-west monsoon starts towards the end of May or the beginning of June, heralded by thunder-storms and holds till September when the rain fades out. October brings in the north-east monsoon. Dry weather sets in by the end of December. January and February are the coolest months of the year. March, April and May are generally very hot. The district has an average annual rainfall of 3500 mm.

FOREST

Kasaragod district has a forest area of 115.09 sq. kilometers falling under the Wayanad Forest Division. Reserve forest stretches to 86.52 sq. kms. and vested forest, to 28.57 sq. kms. It stretches in two ranges- Kasaragod and Kanhangad. The forest produces are shegaibark, sheakoy, cardamom, canes, fibres, etc. Sambar, the fastest deer, is seen in some areas. Wild boars are a nuisance to the cultivators of hilly areas.

RIVERS

There are 12 rivers in this district. The longest is Chandragiri (105 kms.) originating from Pattimala in Coorg and embraces the sea at Thalagara. The river assumes its name Chandragiri from the name of the place of its source *Chandragupta Vasti*; where the great Maurya emperor Chandragupta, is believed to have spent his last days as a sage. The second longest river is Kariankod (64 kms), across which a dam is being built at Kakkadavu. Shiriya (61 kms), Uppala (50 kms), Mogral (34 kms), Chithari (25 kms), Nileswar (47 kms), Kavayi (23 kms). Manjeswar (16 kms), Kumbala (11 kms), Bekkal (11 kms) and Kalanad

(8 kms) are the other rivers. These rivers provide ample irrigation facilities.

POPULATION

Kasargod district has a population estimated at 10,71,508 as per 1991 Census, of which the rural population is 9,64,217 and the urban population, 1,07,291. The male population is reckoned at 5,28,803 and the female, at 5,42,705. The scheduled caste population is numbered at 81,970, of which 41,180 are males and 40,790 are females. The scheduled tribe population in the district as per 1991 census, stands at 29,283. The density of population per sq. km. is at 537.90 and the per capita income in the district is around Rs. 3,702 which is rated sixth in the state.

Population Figures - 1991

<i>Bilock</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Scheduled Caste</i>			<i>Scheduled Tribe</i>		
				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Kamhangad	2,36,705	1,15,908	1,20,797	23,605	11,666	11,939	5,881	2,932	2,949
Kasaragod	2,01,948	1,01,125	1,00,823	16,935	8,600	8,335	6,924	3,425	3,499
Nileswar	2,37,364	1,15,414	1,21,950	17,476	8,716	8,760	61	31	30
Mamjeswar	2,88,200	1,43,547	1,44,653	20,184	10,374	9,810	16,189	8,330	7,859
Municippalities									
Kasaragod	50,126	24,887	25,239	1,817	906	911	131	81	50
Kamhangad	57,165	27,922	29,243	1,953	918	1,035	97	42	55
Total	10,71,508	5,28,803	5,42,705	81,970	41,180	40,790	29,283	14,841	14,442

(Population Figures - 1991 census)

The People

The people of this district have, as is the case in other parts of the state, a distinctiveness in personal appearance, marked by fairness of complexion, regularity of features, clean habits and a simple life. Though at present the percentage of literacy is low when compared to that of other districts, the passion of the people for education and learning is growing.

The major religious groups are Hindus, Muslims and Christians. *Brahmins, Nairs, Ambalavasies, Thiyyas* and *Kammalas* are the major divisions of the Hindu community. Thiyyas in the northern parts of the district are known as *Belichappad*. The sub-divisions of Nair community are Nambiar, Menon, Kurup, etc. Kammalas are artisans like *Thattan* (goldsmith), *Perumkollan* (blacksmith) and *Asaris* (carpenters). Brahmins consist of *Bhat, Punichitaya, Kukkillaya, Kunikullaya, Ballullaya, Kadambulithaya, Kakunnaya*, etc.

Christians are settled mainly in the eastern hilly areas. They are the early settlers from the southern parts of Kerala. The first group of Christian settlers came to Rajapuram in 1943. The main Christian settlements are Thomapuram, Palavayal, Vellarikundu, Cherupuzha, Bandadka, Pulingom, Kozhichal, Karibedkom, Malom, Balal, Kanhiradkom, Kadumeni, Malakkallu, Panathady and Cheemeni. These hilly terrains are converted into rich plantations.

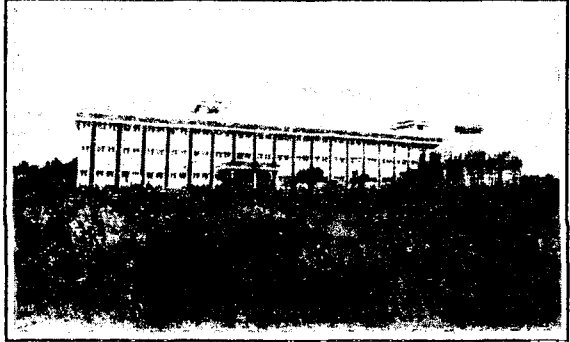
The Muslims are very pious and they follow rigid religious customs. The purdha system is observed more strictly here by Muslim women than in any other parts of the State.

Cherumas, Mavilas, Parayas, etc. are the scheduled castes. They are mainly agricultural labourers. The scheduled tribes consist of Koragars of Kasaragod taluk, Marattis of Hosdurg and Kasaragod taluks and Adiyans of Eravas.

The cosmopolitan outlook and character of the people in the district are because of the contact they had with the trade missions that used to visit this place years back. The Hindus, the Muslims and the Christians live side by side, each influencing and getting influenced by the culture of the other. Communal harmony and religious tolerance are the noteworthy characteristics of the people. Though the people speak different languages, there is no barrier on the cultural unity. Mosques, temples and churches stand side by side as symbols of communal harmony.

ADMINISTRATION

For the purpose of revenue administration, Kasaragod district is divided into two taluks, five firkas and 75 villages. The collectorate functions at the civil station, at Vidhya Nagar, Chengala panchayat, five kms. from Kasaragod town. Kasaragod Revenue Division is the only revenue division in the district. The Revenue Divisional Office is at Kanhangad. Taluk, firka and village wise details are given below.



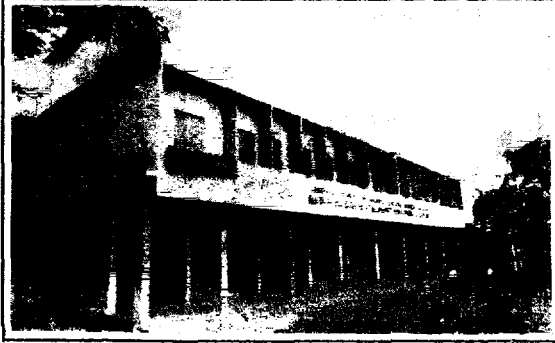
Kasaragod Collectorate - seat of the district administration.

<i>Name of Taluk</i>	<i>Name of Firka</i>	<i>Name of Village</i>
1. Kasaragod	1. Kasaragod	1. Kasaragod 2. Chengala 3. Thekkil 4. Kalanad 5. Adhur 6. Kudlu 7. Adoor 8. Paady 9. Delampady 10. Muliyar 11. Munnad 12. Koluthur 13. Karivedakam

<i>Name of Taluk</i>	<i>Name of Firka</i>	<i>Name of Village</i>
		14. Kuttikole
		15. Bedadka
		16. Thalagara
		17. Bandadka
	2. Manjeswar	18. Kunjathur
		19. Hosabettu
		20. Ichilangod
		21. Uppala
		22. Kodlamogru
		23. Varkady
		24. Meenja
		25. Vaivalike
		26. Kadambar
		27. Kayyar
		28. Bayar
	3. Kumbla	29. Madhur
		30. Nettanige
		31. Ednad
		32. Kumbdaje
		33. Bambrana
		34. Badre
		35. Koipady
		36. Badoor
		37. Neerchal
		38. Enmakaje
		39. Bela
		40. Maire
		41. Badiadka
2. Hosdurg	4. Hosdurg	42. Udma
		43. Pallikkera

<i>Name of Taluk</i>	<i>Name of Firka</i>	<i>Name of Village</i>
		44. Panayal
		45. Periya
		46. Pullur
		47. Ajanur
		48. Chittari
		49. Hosdurg
		50. Madikai
		51. Kanhangad
		52. Ambalathara
		53. Belur
		54. Thayannur
		55. Kallar
		56. Panathady
		57. Balal
		58. Maloth
	5. Nileswar	59. Nileswar
		60. Perole
		61. Kinanoor
		62. Karindalam
		63. Parappa
		64. Beemanady
		65. West Eleri
		66. Chittarikkal
		67. Palaavayal
		68. Kayyur
		69. Cheemeni
		70. Kodakkad
		71. Pillicode
		72. Cheruvathur
		73. Padanna
		74. N. Trikaripur
		75. S. Trikaripur

Panchayat Administration



Grama panchayat Office, Badiadka

The Kasaragod District Panchayat office functions at the civil station. There are four block panchayats and 37 grama panchayat s in this district. The details are given below.

<i>Block Panchayats</i>	<i>Telephone Nos</i>	<i>Grama Panchayats</i>	<i>Telephone Nos.</i>
1. Manjeswar	872673	1. Bellur	460073
		2. Kumbdage	860237
		3. Mangalpady	840221
		4. Vorkadi	802259
		5. Puthige	855043
		6. Meenja	802262
		7. Manjeswar	872238
		8. Kumbla	813033
		9. Paivelige	805028
		10. Enmakdaje	89503
		11. Badiyadka	884026
2. Kasaragod	520230	12. Karadka	460049
		13. Muliyar	450226
		14. Delampaady	470034, 470273
		15. Chengala	420224
		16. Chemmanad	680276
		17. Bedadka	410235
		18. Madhur	521427
		19. Mogral Puthur	522891

<i>Block Panchayats</i>	<i>Telephone Nos</i>	<i>Grama Panchayats</i>	<i>Telephone Nos.</i>
3. Kanhangad	704048	20. Udma	680242
		21. Ajanur	3186
		22. Balal	612235
		23. Kodambelur	746350
		24. Madikkai	640460
		25. Pallikkara	772026
		26. Panathady	636230
4. Nileswar	640328	27. Pullur Periya	794030
		28. Cheruvathur	760221
		29. Kayyur Cheemeni	750322
		30. Nileswar	640360
		31. East Eleri	621035
		32. Pilikode	670289
		33. West Eleri	613336, 621060
		34. Thrikkaripur	670236
		35. Kinanur- Karinthalam	795350
		36. Padanna	760259
		37. Valiyaparambu	760676

Assembly / Parliamentary Constituencies

There are five Assembly and one Parliamentary constituencies in this district. Manjeswar, Kasaragod, Udma, Hosdurg (reserved for SC) and Thrikkaripur are the Assembly constituencies. Kasaragod is the parliamentary constituency.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture forms the mainstay of the population of the district. The soil in the three natural divisions generally fall under three types. In the highland region it is laterite. In the midland, the soil is a red ferruginous loam of lateritic origin with an admixture of clay and sand.

The coastal strip is sandy. Diversity of crops and heterogeneity in cultivation are the key notes of agriculture here.

The eastern tract comprises of forests and hilly areas. The forests comprise of a variety of timber with teak and other plantations. The hilly areas are mostly cleared and put to private cultivation; the important crops being rubber, cashew and ginger. In the skeletal plateau areas, cashew trees are cultivated, while in some patches, arecanut, pepper and cocoa are grown. In the coastal tract, paddy, coconut, arecanut, cashew, tobacco, vegetables and tapioca are cultivated.

The important crops raised and their extent in the district are as below.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Crops</i>	<i>Area in Ha.</i>
1.	Paddy	8,974
2.	Coconut	31,243
3.	Arecanut	12,225
4.	Pepper	3,402
5.	Cashew	16,143
6.	Tapioca	506
7.	Tobacco	835
8.	Rubber	7,643
9.	Sweet Potato	475
10.	Vegetables	948
11.	Pulses	1,134
12.	Banana	1,877
13.	Ginger	730
14.	Oil Seeds	4,070

Land use Pattern

As per survey reports, Kasaragod district covers a geographical area of 1,96,130 hectares. The composition of the geographical features are as detailed below.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Area in Ha.</i>
Forest area	5,625
Land put to non-agricultural use	15,131
Barren & uncultivable	11,692
Permanent pastures and grazing land	222
Land under miscellaneous tree crops	2,369
Cultivable waste	17,184
Fallow other than current fallow	2,021
Current fallow	2,590
Net sown area	1,29,299
Area sown more than once	1,459
Total cropped area (gross)	1,40,757
Net irrigated area	30,419
Gross irrigated area	33,942

Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI)

The Central Plantation Crops Research Institute is an establishment having national importance. With headquarters at Kudlu, five kilometres north of Kasaragod, the CPCRI has regional stations at Kayamkulam, Pottitil and Kozhikode. Its research centres are at Peechi, Palode, Hirehally, Pappangala, Mohithnagar and Kehikuchi. There are seed farms at Kidu and Sathigode, one field station at Thrissur and a World Coconut Germplasm Centre at Sipighat. The objectives of the CPCRI are to serve as a national forum for improving genetic potential of plantation crops, to conduct basic and applied research on various aspects of these crops, to co-ordinate research works being done by other institutions and agencies in the country, to serve as an information centre on all matters pertaining to these crops, to produce genetically superior planting materials and to carry out all India co-ordinated cropping improvement project on coconut, cashew nut, spices and cashew nut. CPCRI was established in 1970 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Research is carried out on various branches of Agricultural Sciences such as gardening, soil chemistry, plant production, micro biology, plant diseases, cattle rearing, pisciculture, etc.

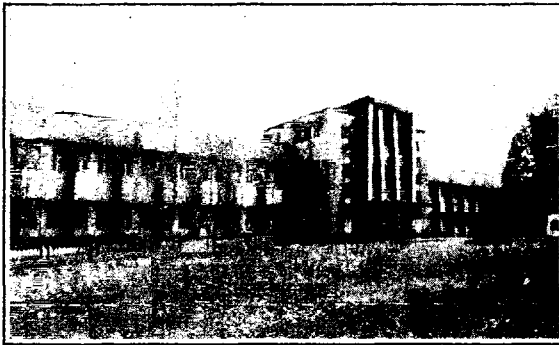
T x D, Mangala arecanut, new species of cardamom, turmeric and cashew, mixed crop and multi-crop system, etc. are some of the contributions of the CPCRI for the development of agriculture. The most remarkable venture is tissue culture in coconut. Research on various diseases of coconut, arecanut, cashew, pepper and field crops has given better yields.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The livestock in this district as per the Livestock Census of 1981 is as follows.

Cattle	1,84,127	Buffalo	21,240
Sheep/Goat	44,265	Pigs	3,782
Others	7	Fowls	6,22,575
Duck	2,637		

EDUCATION



Govt. College - Kasaragod.

The district does not have many standard schools and colleges. As per the data available, the net-work of schools and colleges and other educational institutions in the district is as follows

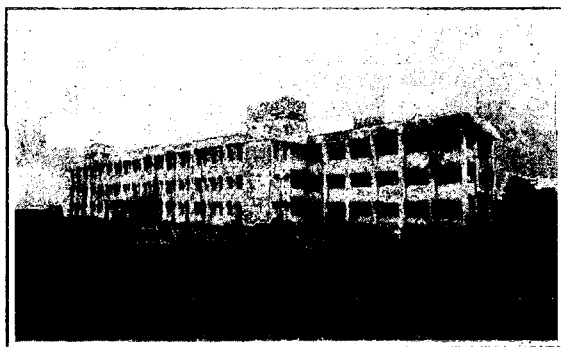
<i>No.</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Govt.</i>	<i>Aided</i>	<i>Unaided</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Lower Primay Schools	138	110	5	253
2.	Upper Primary Schools	72	73	1	146
3.	High Schools	77	31	1	109
4.	Colleges	2	2	-	4
5.	Engineering Colleges	1	-	-	1

6. Teacher Training Schools	3	-	-	3
7. Special Schools for the blind	-	1	-	1
8. Industrial Training Institute	1	-	-	1
9. Industrial Training Centres	-	-	4	4

There are two Kendriya Vidhyalayas and one Navodaya Vidhyalaya in this district.

Literacy

The *Saksharatha* programme of the Government was well received and due to the zealous campaign conducted by the Government as



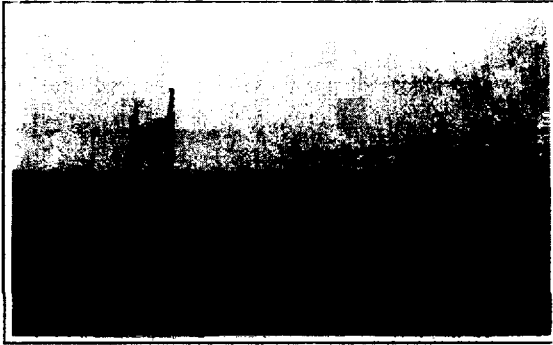
Govt. Polytechnic, Kasaragod

well as voluntary organisations, the level of literacy has a marked improvement. As per available statistics, the district has 7,47,903 literates, of which the number of males is 3,95,620 and females 3,52,283. The details are as below.

Literates

Blocks	Population			Literates		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Kanhangad	2,36,705	1,15,908	1,20,797	1,63,448	85,420	78,028
Kasaragod	2,01,948	1,01,125	1,00,823	1,33,468	72,283	61,185
Nileswar	2,37,364	1,15,414	1,21,950	1,80,778	92,406	88,372
Manjeswar	2,88,200	1,43,547	1,44,653	1,91,145	1,04,294	86,851
<i>Municipalities</i>						
Kasaragod	50,126	24,887	25,238	37,044	19,276	17,768
Kanhangad	57,165	27,922	29,243	42,020	21,941	20,079
Total	10,71,508	5,28,803	5,42,705	7,47,903	3,95,620	3,52,283

ELECTRICITY



220 KV sub-station at Mailathi, Kasaragod

Because of the non-availability of adequate supply of power, the district is dependent, to a major extent, on the supply from the neighbouring Karna taka state. The district has no power projects. It has three sub

stations producing 110 KW of power, one each at Kanhangad, Kubanur and Manjeswar and one 220 KV sub station at Mailatti.

EMPLOYMENT

In order to mitigate the unemployment problem, two Employment Exchanges are functioning in the district. One is the Kasaragod Town Employment Exchange functioning at Kasaragod and the other is the Hosdurg Town Employment Exchange, functioning at Kanhangad town.

As per information made available, the number of unemployed youths registered at Hosdurg Town Employment Exchange as on 31st October 1994 was 57,212 of which graduates numbered 1,676 and technically qualified, 694. The number of unemployed males is 32,869 and females 24,343. The number of persons belonging to scheduled castes registered as unemployed is 3,063; scheduled tribes, 489 and physically handicapped, 458. Employment provided by the Exchange for the period from 1st January 1994 to 31st October 1994 was 609 and number of persons receiving unemployment dole was 2,130.

In Kasaragod Employment Exchange, the total number of unemployed youths registered as on 31st October 1994 stood at 18,622, of which 11,256 are males and 7,366, females. Out of this total, the

number of technically qualified persons are 269, graduates, 942, scheduled castes, 1,372, scheduled tribes, 273 and physically handicapped, 113. The total number of employment provided during the year is 125.

FISHERIES

Kasaragod district has an 80 kms. long sea coast extending from Thrikkaripur to Bengra-Manjeswar. There are many fish-landing centres in this district and some of them have fish-landing, cleaning and transporting facilities.

Bengra - Manjeswar, Shiniya, Koipay, Kavugoly, Kasaba, Kizhur, Kottikulam, Pallikkara, Ajanur, Hosdurg Kadappuram, Thaikadappuram, Poonjari kadappuram, Padanna kadappuram, Kadangod, Valiaparamba and Thrikkaripur Kadappuramm are the fishing villages in this district.

There is a light house at Manjeswar. There are many ice plants in the public and private sectors.

HEALTH

In the field of health and sanitation, the district lacks modern facilities. Patients requiring technologically advanced treatment are forced to go to Mangalapuram, Manipal or Kozhikode.

As per the data available, the particulars of medical institutions and other facilities in the district are as below.

<i>Systems of Medicine</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number</i>
Allopathy	District Hospital	1
	Other Hospitals	2
	Community Health Centres	3
	Primary Health Centres	44

	Family Welfare Centres	247
	T.B. Centre	1
	District Medical Store	1
	L.C. Units	2
	Food Inspector's Office	2
	J P H N Training School	1
	N F C P unit	1
	Government blood banks	2
	Doctors in government institutions	107
	Beds in government institutions	667
	Private medical institutions	64
	Private blood banks	2
Ayurveda	Hospitals	5
	Dispensaries	30
Homoeopathy	Hospitals	3
	Dispensaries	16

[Source: DMO - Kanhangad; District Office, Economics and Statistics, Kasaragod]

INDUSTRIES

Kasaragod district has vast potentials for the establishment of large and medium industries, but the district is at present industrially backward. There is no major industry here. "Astral Watches" and "Kerala Electrical and Allied Industries" are the medium size industries functioning here. As per the latest data available, there are 2395 small scale industrial units in the district.

ROADS

There are at present 1054.6 kms. of PWD roads in this district. Of these, 85.9 kms. come under Central PWD. The different categories and their lengths are given below.

<i>category</i>	<i>length in kms.</i>
National Highway	85.9
State Highway	29.0
Major district roads tarred	89.5
Other district roads tarred	346.5
Other district roads-earthen	11.5
Village roads tarred	355.2
Village roads-earthen	137.0
Total	1,054.6

The length of panchayat roads is 4333.3 kms. Of these, 513.4 kms. are tarred, 865.6 kms. are metalled and 2954.3 kms. are earthen.

Railway

The length of rail line passing through this district is 116 kms.

MEN OF LETTERS

The Kuttamath Kunniyar family in Cheruvathoor had given birth to many poets. The first of this galaxy of Kuttamath scholars was kunhurni Kurup (1813-1885). He was a talented astrologer and Sanskrit scholar. The most important of his works are *Devi Mahatmyam*, *Kapotha Sandesham* and *Vyasolpathi*. Kuttamath Cheria Rama Kurup (1847-1906) was a dramatist, poet, grammarian and Ayurvedic physician of considerable merit. He has composed several Sanskrit works such as *Subhadrapaharanam*, *Rukmini Swayamwaram* and *Sita Swayamvaram*. His *Sarva Garala Prdmochanam* is a comprehensive work on *Visha Vaidyam* (Toxicology). Among his Malayalam works may be mentioned *Kesivadham*, *Kamsavadham*, *Sri Ramavatarams* and three Thullal poems, viz., *Krishnavatharam*, *Poathanamoksham* and *Ahalyamoksham*.

Kuttamath Kunhi Kulu Kurup (1863-1915) distinguished himself as a composer of Thullal poems, the most important of which are *Kharavadham*, *Seemanthini Swayamvaram*, *Sita Swayamvaram*, *Kuchelagopalam*, *Sankaracharya Charitham* and *Radhamadhavam*. He

has also organised a Thullal Kaliyogam of his own to popularise *Ottamthullal*.

Kuttamath Kunhambu Kurup (1855-1911) was a great sanskrit scholar and Ayurvedic physician. Among his works are a poem called *Kirtibhooshana Charitham* and three dramas, viz., *Vaidarbhi Vasudevan Ushaniruddham* and *Amsumatidharmaguptam*.

The most distinguished of the Kuttamath scholars is Kunt Krishna Kurup (1881-1944), who is also known as Mahakavi Kuttamath. He is the author of several important works in Malayalam. The earliest of his literary composition is a poem called *Kaliyamardanam*. He has composed a few dramas such as *Devayani Charitham*, *Balagopalam*, *Nachiketas*, *Dhruvamadhavam*, *Harischandra Charitham*, etc. and several devotional works like *Sri Ramakrishnan Gita* and *Mukambikapuranam Kilipattu*. He has also composed an Attakatha in Malayalam titled *Balagopalam*.

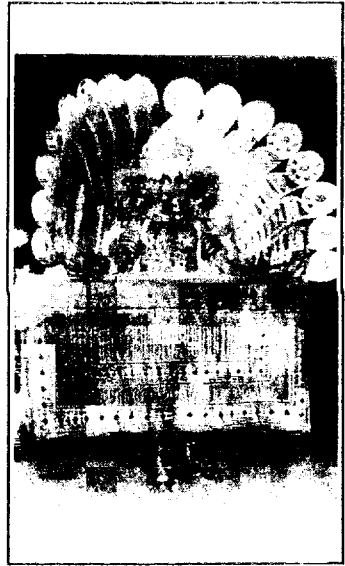
P. Kunhiraman Nair, another famous poet of Kerala, hailed from Bellikoth near Kanhangad. T. Ubaid, the cultural leader of Kasaragod was born at Thalankara. Proficient in Malayalam and Kannada, T. Ubaid translated many Malayalam literary pieces into Kannada and vice-versa. He was also a researcher in *Mopla* songs.

Rashtrakavi, M. Govinda Pai of Manjeswar, is Kerala's contribution to Kannada language and literature. Poet, art critic and literature researcher, M. Govinda Pai (1883-1963) who has enriched Kannada literature and poetry by his famous works, was conferred the title of poet laureate by the erstwhile Government of Madras, along with Mahakavi Vallathol. He excelled himself as a poet, nationalist, historian, dramatist and linguist. *Gommata Jinastuti* was the first published work of Govinda Pai. Govinda Pai also introduced the sonnet form in Kannada.

His *Gilivindu*, which literally means "a bunch of parrots", contains some rare and beautiful gems of Kannada poetry. Govinda Pai also enriched Kannada learning with his historical studies and research. He was an authority on the chronology and history of Tulunad. Govinda Pai was also a prolific prose writer. His earliest composition in prose was

Srikrishna Charita (1909) which provides for remarkable reading. His best works written in blank verse, viz., *Golgotha* (the last days of Christ, published in 1937), *Vaisakhi* (The last days of Budha, published in 1946) and *Hebberalu* (The Thumb, the story of Ekalavya retold, published in 1946) have won for Govinda Pai a lasting place in the gallery of the greatest poets of Kannada literature. These works also testify to his universal outlook as well as to his deep compassion for the poor and the downtrodden.

Sri Parthisuba, the great exponent of *Yakshagana*, was believed to have lived at Kumbla near Kasaragod. Sri T.S. Thirumumbu, a revolutionary poet, was also a leader of the agrarian movement.



Theyyam - a ritualistic folk art form

The colourful and ritualistic folk arts like *Theyyam* and *Thirayattom* are performed here. *Yakshagana*, a colourful dance-drama, originally of Karnataka is also popularly performed here, and that too, some times in Malayalam.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Adoor Temple

Fourty five kms. east of Kasaragod town, Adoor is noted for its ancient Siva Temple, believed to have been founded by Arjuna. The temple, which is known as Sri Mahalingeshwara temple, is situated in picturesque surroundings on the southern bank of the river *Payaswini*.

The Makara Samkramanam is a very important festival day in the temple when a *Sahasra Kumbla Abhishekam* with feeding of a large number of people takes place. According to tradition, the day coincides

with the anniversary of the day on which a harijan spotted the *Sivalingam*. The annual *Jatra* or festival of the temple starts with *Dhwaja Arohanam* (hoisting of the temple flag) on the 27th of *Kumbham* (February, March) and concludes with the *Avabhritha Snanam* (holy dip) in the waters of the *Pcyaswini* on the 4th of *Meenam* (April) every year.

Ajanur Madiyan Kulam Temple

In Ajanur village is situated the famous *Madiyan Kulam* temple. It is about five kms. from Kanhangad, the headquarters of Hosdurg taluk. The main deity of the temple is *Bhadrakali*; but there are also other deities like *Kshetrapalan*, *Bhagavathi* and *Bhairavan*. A peculiarity of this temple is that a Brahmin priest performs *pooju* only in the noon, while the morning and evening *poojas* are performed by a sect called *Maniyanis*. The festivals in the temple fall during the months of *Edavam* (May, June) and *Dhanu* (December, January) and on these days all the *poojas* are performed by the Brahmin priest. *Teyyam* is performed in connection with this festival.

Ananthapuram

At a distance of about five kms. from Kumbla is the Ananthapuram Temple which is said to be the *Moolasthanam* of the Ananthapadmanabha Swami (Sri Padmanabha Swami Temple) of Thiruvananthapuram. Local tradition has it that Ananthapadmanabha of Thiruvananthapuram had settled down here originally.



Ananthapuram temple

Anantheswar Temple

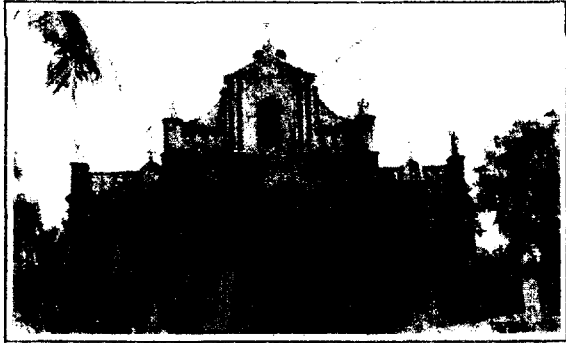
The fame of Manjeswar lies in the famous Srimad Anantheswar Temple owned by the Gowda Saraswath community. It attracts pilgrims from all over India, particularly from the

region lying between Kanyakumari and Goa. The annual car festival of the temple is on the sixth Lunar Day of the bright half of the *Margashira* month, usually between the third week of November and the third week of December. It is also called the *Shashti Festival* as the final day celebration takes place on the *Skanda Shashti* day, a day sacred to Subramanya.

The temple authorities have provided several amenities for pilgrims. In the outer round of the temple, there is a flower garden named *Anantha Nandana Vana*.

Bela Church

About 11 kms. from Kumbla on the Kumbla - Badiadka road, is the Mother Dolorus Church of Bela. This Gothic style Roman Catholic church



Madona Church, Kasaragod

which is under the Mangalapuram Diocese, has celebrated its centenary recently.

The Christian church at Kasaragod has also celebrated its centenary recently. The St. Thomas Church at Chittarikal is another famous one. The eastern parts of the district abound in a number of small and big churches.

Kizhur Sastha Temple

There is an ancient Sastha temple at Chandragiri which is known as Kizhur Sastha Temple. This is the headquarters of the *Anjooru Nayanmar* (five hundred Nairs). The festival which is peculiar to this temple is *Pattu Utsavam*. Troups of professional singers sing jointly in praise of the greatness of the deity. The dignitaries of all the Kazhakams of Saliyas from Pattuvam to Panamboor (present new Mangalapuram)

known as *Pathinalu Nagaram* assemble here annually on the second Saturday of *Vrischikam* (November).

Kumbla Sri Gopala Krishna Temple

Two of the four sacred temples of Kumbla Seema are located in Kumbla and its suburbs. They are the Mujankavu Sri Parthasaradhi Temple and Kanipura (Kaniyara) Sri Gopalakrishna Temple. Kumbla is also called Kanipura (Kaniyara) after the latter temple. In view of the local importance of these temples, brief accounts of each of these are given below.

The temple of Sri Parthasarathi of Mujankavu is situated in Ednad village, about four kms. east of Kumbla and about eight kms. north west of Madhur.

The Sri Gopalakrishna Temple, for which extensive repairs and renovations have been carried out recently, is situated in the heart of the town of Kumbla at the foot of an elevated hill which rises majestically in front of it, with the Kumbla river flanking it on the left (north). The colourful festival at Kumbla temple which lasts for five days every year, commences with the *Dhwajaroohanam* on the *Makara Sankramana* day. People in thousands from all over the region attend these festivities.

Madhur Temple

At Madhur, eight kms. north east of Kasaragod, is the famous Madhur Srinad Anantheswara Vinayaka Temple. The imposing structure of the temple, with its turrets and gables and the copper plate roofing, rises majestically against the beautiful landscape of hills, paddy fields and gardens with the river *Madhuvahini* flowing leisurely in front of it.

The Madhur Temple is a Siva temple with Srimad Anantheswara as its presiding deity. The Sivalingam of the temple is said to have been found by a harijan woman, Madharu.

A special festival associated with the Madhur Temple is the *Moodappaseva*. The large figure of Maha Ganapathi is covered with *appam*. It requires enormous quantities of rice and lakhs of rupees for its

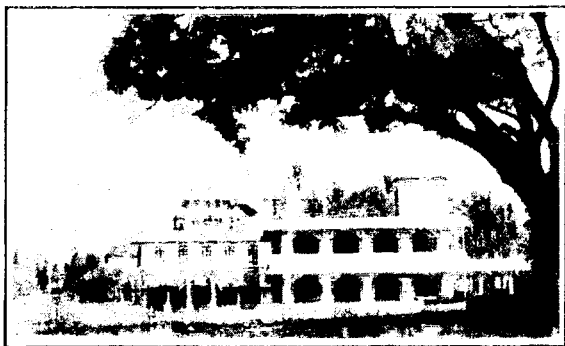
conduct. The festival is conducted only periodically in view of the huge expenditure involved. It was celebrated in April 1962 after a lapse of about 160 years, and very recently in April 1992.

The ceiling of the *Namaskara Mantapam* of the Madhur Temple has been decorated with beautiful figures of puranic heroes in wood carving. A closer examination of the wood carvings would disclose the various episodes of the Ramayana, beginning with the *Putrakameshtiyagam* and ending with *Seetha Swayamvaram*.

The *Mantapam* in the interior of the temple building as well as the outside facade of the second and third storeys of the main building are also profuse with attractive and exquisite wood carvings.

Malik Dinar Mosque

Kasaragod acquired over the years, considerable importance as a centre of Islam on the west coast. It is the site of one of the mosques believed to have been founded by Malik Ibn Dinar. The mosque, Juma Masjid, which is one of the best kept and most attractive in the district, is located at Thalankara. It contains the grave of Malik Ibn Mohammed, one of the descendants of Malik Ibn Dinar and the place is sacred to Muslims. Another



Malik Dinar Mosque - Thalankara

notable mosque, in Kasaragod is the Theruvath Mosque which is in the centre of the town. An important local celebration takes place every year in commemoration of the arrival of Malik Ibn Dinar. The *Uroos* attract pilgrims from all over India.

Narampady Church

This is a Roman Catholic church on the Badiadka - Mulleria

route, about 10 kms. from Badiadka. This is known as St. John Britto Church and this church was established in 1939.

Nellikunnu Mosque

Nellikunnu Uroos, celebrated in Nellikunnu mosque, attracts people in thousands. The *Nercha* celebration, during the second half of November, lasts for one week.

Perne

Of the 18 temples of Muchilottu Bhagavathi, *Perne* is the northern most and the only one north of Payaswini Seema. It is five kms. east of Kumbla and near Ananthapura Lake Temple, on the Kumbla - Badiadka route. The mass marriage at the time of *Pooram* festival in the month of Meenam, is a unique feature of this temple.

Temples of Kasaragod Town

Kasaragod has a few important temples. Of these, the Mallikarjuna temple, situated near the taluk office, is the most important. The annual festival in this temple falls in the month of March and it attracts huge crowds.

One of the most important temples of the Gowda Saraswathas in Kerala is the Venkatramana Temple. The Sri Arya Karthyayani Temple and the Sri Panduranga Temple are also important temples of the place.

Just on the eastern side of Pulikunnu by the Payaswini river, there is a temple belonging to the Thiyya community where thirty nine deities are worshipped. The main festival here, called *Kaliyattam*, falls in February/March. There is also the Palakunnu Temple (near Malik Ibn Dinar Mosque) akin to the Palakunnu Devasthanam of Udma. Bhagavathi temples, such as Theruvath Bhagawathi and Kadappuram Sri Kurumba temples, are spread all over the Municipal area, worshipped by particular communities.

Trikkannad

This is a Siva temple on the sea shore, within one km. of the Bekal

bridge. The place around Pandyan Kallu, a rock rising above the sea near the temple, is an ideal spot for adventurous swimmers. Swimming in the sea is a popular sport here.

Palakunnu Bhagavathi Kshetram is one km. north of Trikkannad on the Kasaragod-Kanhangad road. The annual Bharani festival attracts thousands.

PLACES OF TOURIST INTEREST

Bekal

Bekal, situated on the seashore of Pallikara village, is an important place of tourist interest in the district. It lies 12 kms. south of Kasaragod town. According to Bekal Rama Nayak, a local Kannada writer, the word, Bekal is derived from the word *Baliakulam*, meaning Big Palace. The place is said to have been the seat of a big palace in the past. The term Baliakulam got corrupted as Bekulam and later as Bekal.

It was usual in olden days for every royal palace to be protected by a fort. The Bekal fort might have, therefore, existed even from early days of the Chirakkal Rajas. While giving a description of the Kolathiri Kingdom in his *Kerala History*, K.P. Padmanabha Menon writes; "The eldest of the male members reigned as sovereign Kolathiri. The next in succession, the heir apparent, was the *Thekkelamkur*. The residence assigned to him was the Vadakara fort. The third in succession was the *Vadakkelamkur* in charge of Vekkolath fort. This V(B)ekkolath fort is identified by some scholars as the present Bekal."

H.A. Stuart, in his *Handbook of South Canara* (1985), makes this observation: "..... Several forts were built by the Shivappa Nayaks of Badnore between 1650 and 1670 A.D. The two forts of Bekal and Chandragiri were originally under the Kolathiri or Chirakkal Rajas until the time of Shivappa Nayaka's invasion. Perhaps, the Bednore rulers might have rebuilt and improved it."

The Bekal fort, which is of great historical and archaeological interest, is the largest and best preserved of its kind in the district and the land on which it is situated, runs into the sea with fine bay towards the



Bekal Fort

south. According to the *South Canara Manual*, Bekal fort fell into the hands of Haider Ali in 1763. It housed the Huzur of Canara during Tipu's time and the remains of a gallow reminiscent of the days of Mysorean occupation were seen here till a few years back. After the overthrow of Tipu Sultan in 1799, Bekal was incorporated into the dominions of the English East India Company. The erstwhile Kasaragod taluk of South Canara district was known as Bekal for more than half a century.

The Bekal fort is now under the Archaeological Department of the Government of India.

There is a Travellers' Bungalow, maintained by the Public Works Department of the State Government within the Bekal fort. Several people come and stay here during the summer season, for, this is now a health resort. The natural scenery at Bekal is alluring and makes a visit to the place an exhilarating experience. There is a recently renovated temple dedicated to Hanuman, at the entrance to Bekal. An old mosque is also situated very near the fort and this is believed to have been founded by Tipu Sultan.

There is a scheme for the development of Bekal as a tourist centre and a fishing harbour. The Government has accorded sanction for the construction of a bathing ghat and a tourist bungalow here.

Chandragiri

Chandragiri lies three kms. south of Kasaragod town. It has a large square situated high above the Chandragiri river on its southern bank. The fort is said to have been built in the 17th century by Sivappa Nayak of Bednore, who established his authority over the area and built

a chain of forts. The Chandragiri river, on the bank of which it rises, marked the traditional boundary between Kerala and the Tuluva Kingdom. There is a beautiful bridge over the Chandragiri river at Tekkil, five miles from Chandragiri. A mosque is situated nearby and the view of the bridge with the mosque in the background is one of the most attractive sights on a drive along the NH 17 from Kannur to Kasaragod. A long railway tunnel passes through Chandragiri. A boat club has been recently started here.

Cheruvathur

Cheruvathur is an important place on the NH-17. The former Mangalore-Cheruvathur coast road starts from Mangalapuram, the headquarters of the South Canara district and runs through the coast line, till it reaches Cheruvathur.

The Kunniyar family in Kuttamath Amsom near Cheruvathur has produced a number of illustrious scholars who have contributed greatly to Malayalam literature.

Edneer Mutt

Situated on the Kasaragod - Puthur road, about eight kms. north east of Kasaragod town, this ancient *mutt* is a reputed seat of learning. It attracts devotees from all over Kerala, Karnataka and other states.

This belongs to the Thotakacharya (one of the four disciples of Sankaracharya) tradition. Vadakke *mutt* in Trissur was established by a disciple of Thotakacharya. The Swamiji of this *mutt* was the founder of Padinjare mutt in Trichambaram and Edneer mutt was established by the swamiji of Trichambaram. At present the mutt is renowned for the encouragement it gives to art and culture.

Govinda Pai Memmorial

Manjeswar is renowned as the native place of M. Govinda Pai (1883 - 1963), one of the greatest Kannada poets of modern times. He has enriched Kannada literature and poetry. He was conferred the title of "poet laureat" by the erstwhile government of Madras. He was also a nationalist, historian, dramatist and linguistic.

His residence in Manjeswar is maintained as a memorial and the Government of Kerala has established a first grade college dedicated to his memory.

Hosdurg Fort

The Hosdurg fort with its round bastions, looks imposing from a distance. Several public offices are located within its premises. There is a famous temple attached to the fort which is known as Karpooreshwara Temple. The fort is a major attraction for tourists. In Kanhangad, there are two churches; one Catholic and the other a Protestant. There are also a number of mosques here.

Kammatamkavu

An evergreen forest of about 50-60 acres, with a perennial stream, is a centre of worship connected with the Kammatam Bhagavathi Temple.

Kanhangad

Kanhangad, the headquarters of the Hosdurg taluk, is 33 kms. south of Kasaragod. It has an area of 32 sq.kms. and a population of 23,621. Kanhangad has the remnants of a large fort built by Somasekhara Nayak of Ikkeri (1714-39). It is locally called *Hosdurg* (hosa, new and durg, fort) and it is after this fort that the Hosdurg taluk derives its name.

Kanwatirtha Beach Resort

The clean and neat 3 - 4 kms. long beach and the swimming pool like lake, half a km. long and proportionately broad, formed by sea water, are gift of nature.

Kasaragod Town

Kasaragod Municipal town is situated on the banks of the Chandragiri river and is 31 m. above sea level. It has a population of 27,635 as per the 1991 census.

Kasaragod is an important business centre. Arecanuts and copra are the main trade. Pepper, copra and cashewnuts are the important commodities transported from here. One of the important local industries is cloth cap making, which is the main means of livelihood of a large

number of Muslim women. The caps manufactured at Kasaragod are exported to Zanzibar and other African countries.

Kasaragod is one of the minor ports of the district. The port is located on the eastern bank of the backwaters formed by the Chandragiri river, which is separated from the sea by a sand spit of about one kilometer length. Schooners do not call at this port but anchor outside the bar. Being the district headquarters, Kasaragod is a fairly developed urban centre. There are a number of educational institutions in the town. The Government College, Kasaragod, established in 1957, is the premier educational institution of the place.

Kottancheri Hills

This rain forest near Panathur, is a beautiful picnic centre which is also ideal for trekking 'Talakkaveri', in the Brahmagiri mountains of Coorg, is quite near Kottancheri Hills.

Kottapuram

The place derived its name from the mud fort built by the Nileswar Rajas and later annexed by the Bednore Nayakas in the 18th century. A Juma Masjid and a Hindu shrine stand close by.

Kudlu

It was at Kudlu in the suburbs of Kasaragod, where the famous eight day discourse between Madhwacharya, the great Dwaita philosopher and Trivikrama Pandit, the famous Adwaita scholar, took place. The discourse held in the presence of king Jayasimba of Kumbha, ended in the victory of Madhavacharya and the acceptance of the Dwaita philosophy by Trivikrama Pandit.

Kumbha

Kumbha, which is situated 13 kms. north of Kasaragod town, was the seat of the Rajahs of Kumbha who once held sway over the southern part of the Tuluva country which included the present Kasaragod taluk. The town stands on a bold peninsula in a lagoon separated from the sea by a sand spit and connected to it by a narrow channel. In 1514, Duarte Barbosa, the Portuguese traveller, visited Kumbha and he had recorded

that he had found the people exporting a very bad quality brown rice to Maldives in exchange for coir, from the small port here. Early in the 16th century, the port paid a tribute of 800 loads of rice to the Portuguese.

When Tippu captured Mangalapuram, the Kumbbla Raja fled to Thalassery; but he returned in 1799 and after an unsuccessful bid for independence, submitted to the English and accepted a small pension of Rs. 11,788 per annum in 1804.

It was in Kumbbla that Parthishubha was born in the 18th century and composed all his *Yakshagana Prasangas* which earned for him the title, "father of Yakshagana".

Maipady Palace

Once upon a time, the present Maipady was the seat of the Kumbbla Rajas. The palace is about eight kms. from Kasaragod on the Kasaragod - Perla road and within three kms. from Madhur.

Manjeswar

Manjeswar lies in the northern most extremity of Kerala and is a place of historical and religious importance. According to *Manjula Khetra Mahatmya*, a legend which deals with the history of the place and describes the pilgrimage undertaken by Virupaksha, a Gowda Saraswatha Brahmin saint, this village was known as Manjula Khetra, Manjukhetra or Manjarisha. The southern portion of the town stands on a plain and the northern portion, on a steep bank which overhangs the river. These two portions were held by the Jain Bangara Raja and the Vittal Raja respectively, until Tippu Sultan hanged the former and forced the latter to take refuge with the English at Thalassery. Manjeswar has been for long, the seat of a flourishing community of Gowda Saraswath or Konkini Brahmins. There are two old *Jaina Bastis* at Bangra Manjeswar on the southern bank of the Manjeswar river.

Nileswar

Nileswar, which is the abbreviated form of *Nilakanta Iswar*, was formerly the seat of the Nileswar Rajas who belonged to the family of Kolathiris. It was annexed by Somasekhara Nayaka of Bednore in 1737

after a struggle of twelve years in which the French and the English took part. When the Bednore Nayaka invaded the territory, the Nileswar Raja obtained the aid of the English who had their factory at Thalassery. In 1737, a treaty was signed by which the Bednorians agreed not to advance south of the Valapattanam river and the English obtained commercial concessions including the monopoly of pepper and cardamom in those portions of the Kolathiri dominion, which were occupied by the Bednore people.

The fort at Nileswar, however, remained in the hands of the Raja and he allied himself with the French who held the fort on his behalf till 1761. In the meantime, Bednore was captured by Haider Ali and the Raja remained in power at Nileswar till the territory was annexed by the English in 1799 and the Raja was forced to submit and accept a pension. Among the temples of the place, mention may be made of the Sri Kottapuram Vettakorumakan Temple, Mannampurathu Kavan, Pallikara Bhagavathi Temple and the Thaliyil Neelakanta Temple.

Nityananda Asramam

There are two notable asramams in Kanhangad, viz., the Nityanandasramam and the Anandasramam. The former, which is situated on the hillock about half a km. south of the Hosdurg taluk office, was founded by Swami Nityananda. The spot was at first part of a forest area. Here Swami Nityananda constructed 45 guhas (caves) in a mountain slope. There is a temple built in 1963, after the style and design of the famous Somanatha Temple in Gujarat. A full size statue of Swami Nityananda in sitting posture made of panchaloha is one of the attractions of the asramam.

Anandashramam, situated about five kms. east of the Kanhangad Railway Station, was founded in 1939 by Swami Ramadas, a great Vaishnava saint of modern times. The main asramam and other buildings have a beautiful setting in the midst of shady mango, coconut and other groves. There is a hill to the east of the asramam, to which the devotees retire for quiet meditation and from its west, the surrounding extensive landscape can be seen in its natural grandeur. The spot at the highest point of the hill is so fascinating that the devotees, who go up the hill and sit silently, are blessed with deep peace and tranquillity.

Povval Fort

This is an old fashioned fort on the Kasaragod-Mullaria route, about 10 kms. from Kasaragod.

Posadigumpe

Posadigumpe is an ideal picnic centre, located on a hillock, 487.68 metres above sea level in Dharmathadka, about 18 kms. east of Mangalpady. On top of it, one can see the Arabian sea and the vast areca gardens of Kasaragod, extending up to Mangalapuram city and to Kudremukh.

Ranipuram

The former Madathumala has taken this new name recently. Lying 780 metres above sea level, it is only 9 kms. from Panathur, which is 48 kms. east of Kanhangad. The extensive forest of Madathumala merges with the forests of Karnataka. The natural beauty is comparable only to Ooty. This place is quite ideal for trekking.

Tulur Vanam

Also known as *Kekulom* (the eastern place), Thulur vanam is four kms. east of Panathur. The temple here is consecrated to Kshetrapalan and Bhagavathi. The eight day annual festival commencing from Shivarathri, attracts large crowds from all over the district, as well as from Coorg.

Valiyaparamba

Separated from the mainland by backwaters, this fishing village is an island with the Arabian sea as one of the borders and is an ideal picnic centre.

Veeramala Hills

This hill top with ruins of a Dutch fort, built in the 18th century, is a picnic spot from where the natural beauty of Kariangot river and surroundings can be enjoyed. The Cheruvathur-Kariangot portion of NH-17 runs paralld to the hill near Mayica, Cheruvathur.

BARE FACTS

Area (sq. kms.)	:	1992
Population (in 000's)	:	1072
Percentage to State population	:	3.68
Males (in 000's)	:	529
Females (in 000's)	:	543
Sex ratio : females/1000 males	:	1026
Density of population	:	538
Per capita Income (1992-93)	:	Rs. 5487
No. of households	:	182
Average size of family	:	5.90

(Population Statistics - 1991 Census)

Projected population as on 1st March

Year	:	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Population (in 000's)	:	1130	1145	1161	1177	1192	1209

(Source : Dept. of Economics and Statistics)

Average monthly rainfall -1991 (m.m.)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Rainfall	0	0	0	22	128	1232	1239	574	95	128	13	0	3430

Coast line : 80 kms.

Gross area under irrigation (cropwise) 1990-91

Crops	Paddy	Tubers	Vegetables	Coconut	Areca-nut	Cloves & Nutmeg
Area (in hecets)	4627	12	789	18906	7420	-
Crops	Other Spices & Condiments	Banana	Betel leaves	Sugar-cane	Others	Total
Area (in hecets)	74	999	24	-	905	33756

Livestock Population (1987)

Cattle	Buffaloes	Goats	Sheeps	Pigs	Others
184127	21240	43168	1097	3782	1174

Total Livestock: 254588

Total poultry : 262386

No. of registered working factories (1992) - 204

No. of SSI units as on 31.3.93 - 1411

Distribution of PWD Roads (in kms.) as on 1.4.93

State Highways	Major Dist. Roads	Other Dist. Roads	Village Roads	Total
28.97	84.59	376.69	466.56	956.87

Schools (1992-93)

Section	No. of schools	No. of Students	No. of teachers
LPS	253	1,07,455	2,988
UPS	144	80,396	2,340
HS	108	56,652	2,945
Total	505	2,44,503	7,237

Arts & Science Colleges

Govt.	3	2,803	130
Private	1	2,072	76
Total	4	4,875	206

Medical Institutions

	Allopathy	Ayurveda	Homeopathy
No. of Medical Institutions	61	40	19
No. of Beds	648	100	75

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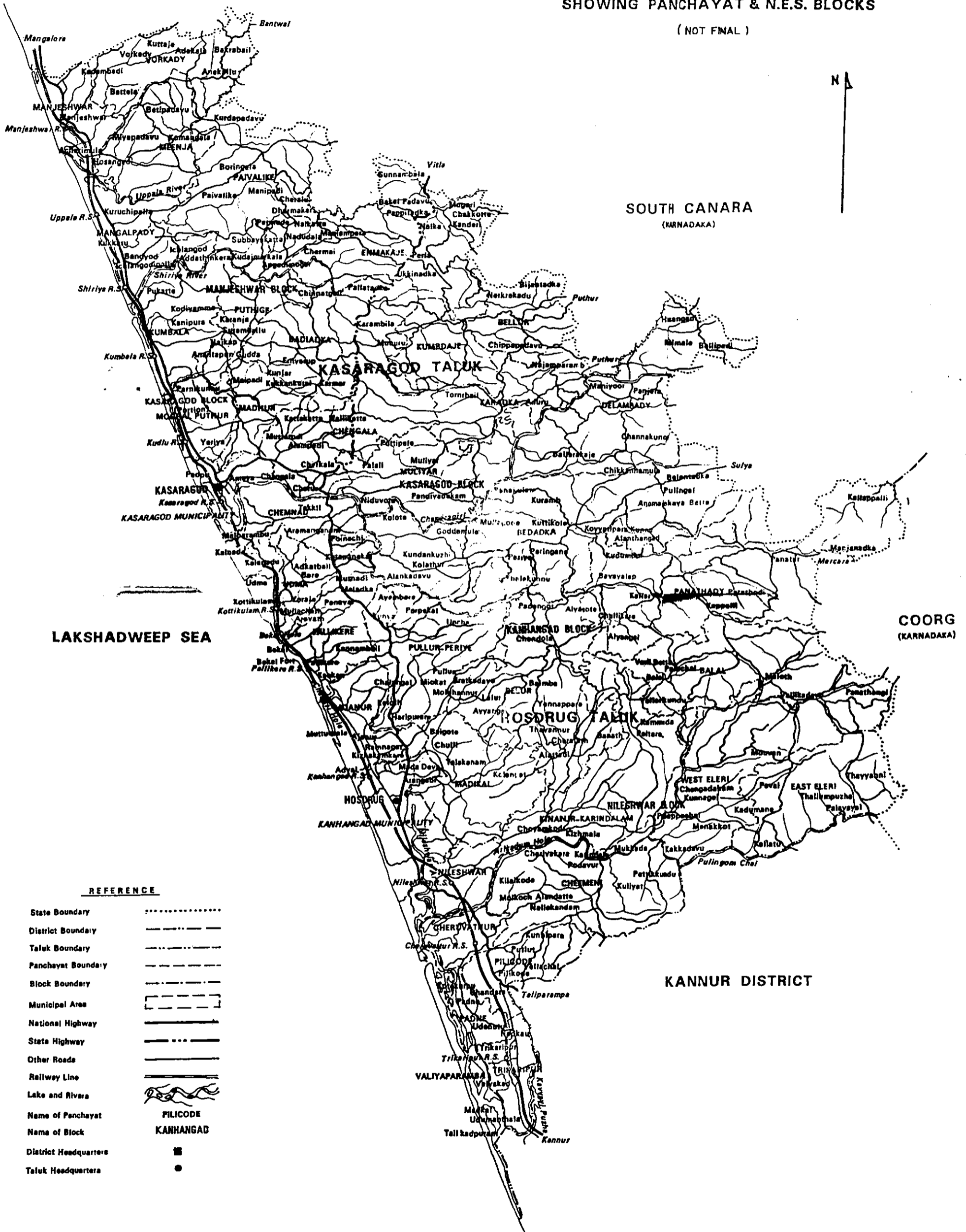
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MAP OF
KASARAGOD DISTRICT
 SHOWING PANCHAYAT & N.E.S. BLOCKS
 (NOT FINAL)



LAKSHADWEEP SEA

SOUTH CANARA
 (KARNATAKA)

COORG
 (KARNATAKA)

KANNUR DISTRICT

REFERENCE

- State Boundary : - - - - -
- District Boundary : - - - - -
- Taluk Boundary : - - - - -
- Panchayat Boundary : - - - - -
- Block Boundary : - - - - -
- Municipal Area : [- - - - -]
- National Highway : = = = = =
- State Highway : - - - - -
- Other Roads : - - - - -
- Railway Line : ————|———
- Lake and Rivers : ~~~~~
- Name of Panchayat : PILICODE
- Name of Block : KANHANGAD
- District Headquarters : ■
- Taluk Headquarters : ●