

Structural Changes in the Rural Economy of Mandya District- A Geographical Analysis

Dr. Vishwanath B.C.

Guest Faculty, Department of Geography, Bangalore University, Janana Bharati Campus, Bangalore (India)

ARTICLE DETAILS

Article History

Published Online: 13 March 2019

Keywords

Rural Economy, Cropping Pattern, Fallow land.

Corresponding Author

Email: vishwabc.mandya[at]gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Rural economy is one of the most fascinating and widely studied concepts in India. It is also probably one of the most attracting themes in the literature of social science. Rural economy is also a highly complex subject consisting of multidimensional structure which needs to be studied and understood. The District lies between 76° 19' and 77° 20' East Longitude and 12° 13' and 13° 04' North Latitude. The district is situated at the height of 762 to 914 meters from the sea level. The district consists of 7 talukas. Total area of the district is 4961 square kms. The main aim of the paper is to identify the elements of rural economic structure of Mandya district. The secondary data is collected to examine the overall changes in the structure of rural economy. Both district and taluk level analysis is made with the help of secondary data collected through the books published by directorate of economic and statistics. Besides these books, census report, journals, periodicals, gazetteer, administrative reports, magazines, news papers, books and various websites in internet are browsed to collect relevant data. To find out the changes in the rural structures of the economy at the taluk level two points of time are considered viz. 2007 & 2017. Comparatively in 2017 net sown area has decreased drastically. This indicates land under current fallow has increased at cost of net sown area. Due to the decreasing net sown area that impacts directly on cropping pattern of the district and income of the farmers.

1. Introduction

Rural economy is one of the most fascinating and widely studied concepts in India. It is also probably one of the most attracting themes in the literature of social science. Rural economy is also a highly complex subject consisting of multidimensional structure which needs to be studied and understood. It has got multidimensional face and draws attention from all the disciplines. Since India is predominantly a rural economy, any programme or plan designed for its upliftment should be rural oriented. Keeping this in view numbers of approaches, programmes and policies have been formulated by a variety of people trained in different fields. In fact rural economy seems to be haunting ground for testing hypothesis often of a random type. The structure of rural economy in the country after the introduction of five year plan has experienced steady changes. This can be noticed in all the villages of India in general and Mandya District in particular. Rural change has taken place in respect of occupation, transportation, agriculture, industry housing, population, mode of living and other elements.

The rural economy of Mandya district occupies a prestigious place because it is economically resourceful and politically powerful. India's development has no meaning if her vast rural masses are not taken into consideration. Hence Rural economy is an interesting and dynamic subject for study.

Change is the law of nature and it is a continuous process. Further change is the characteristics of any economy be it, a rural or urban, backward or developed, traditional or modern. But intensity or rate of change varies from one economy to another. The structural change of an economy at given a time is the result of the process of change that has occurred over a

period of time in the society. These changes in the economy take place because of the continuous interaction among host of elements of the rural structure.

The natural resources are not ubiquitously found all over the earth surface, so also is the human skills. Consequently the level of scientific and technological developments also varies greatly over the space. As a result we find tremendous differences in the structure of an economy over space and time.

Rural change is a comprehensive concept which refers to the changes in the broad spectrum of elements comprising the rural economic structure. Rural change occurs because of the changes in the natural factors like rainfall, soil fertility, topography, as well as the man induced factors in his quest for economic development and enhancing the quality of life. These man induced factors are agricultural, industry, trade, transportation, communication, education etc., which have a direct impact on the life of rural mass.

The impact of industrialization, modernization and globalization on the structure of rural economy is also clearly seen in recent times. The various government policies have tried to transform the old and traditional rural areas into new and modern rural areas. Besides this the exposure which the rural people get due to rise in literacy and influence of communication like newspapers, television, telephone etc., are the dominant factors behind the changes which are taking place in the rural areas. These changes should be identified and their impact on the life of rural people needs to be assessed, so that the government can appropriately formulate

the schemes to accelerate the progress of rural development. Hence this study is significant.

2. Study Area

Mandya district popularly known as 'Land of Sugar'. The district is located in the south east of Karnataka state and shares its borders with the districts of Mysore, Hassan Tumkur and Bangalore. Most of the land is flat, interspersed with hilly region and sparsely vegetated by thorns and bushes. The District lies between 76° 19' and 77° 20' East Longitude and 12° 13' and 13° 04' North Latitude. The district is situated at the

height of 762 to 914 meters from the sea level. The district consists of 7 talukas. Total area of the district is 4961 square kms. Soil of the district can be classified into three groups, such as; Red sandy loams, Red clayey loams, Clayey loams. These type of soils are suitable to cultivate different crops like sugarcane, Paddy, Ragi, Jowar, ground nuts etc.,

3. Objectives

To identify the elements of rural economic structure of Mandya district.

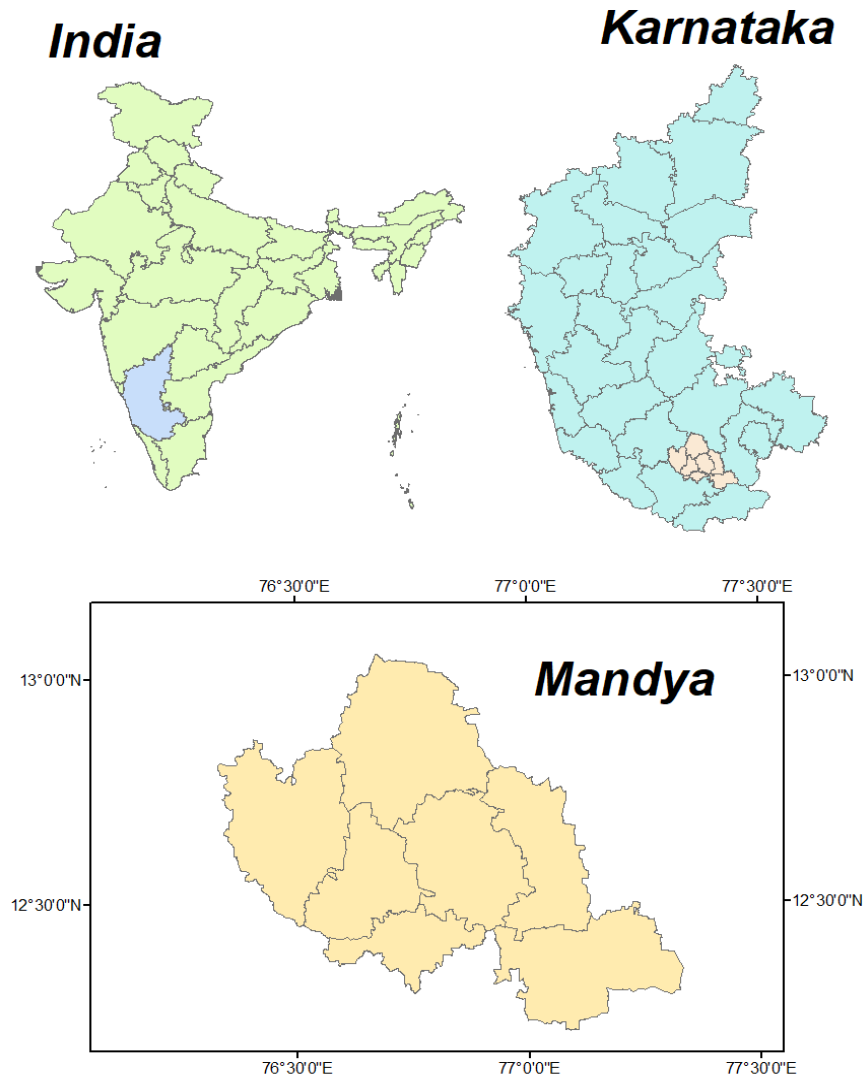


Figure 1. Study Area.

4. Methodologies

Any research work should follow a systematic methodology with regard to selection of samples, collection of data and analysis of collected data. To meet the above framed objectives, it is attempted in this study to make use of different, well-known techniques and methods which are available in the field of social science particularly in cartography. This study is an attempt to analyze geographically, the structural change in the rural economy of Mandya based on both primary and secondary data.

The secondary data is collected to examine the overall changes in the structure of rural economy. Both district and taluk level analysis is made with the help of secondary data collected through the books published by directorate of economic and statistics. Besides these books, census report, journals, periodicals, gazetteer, administrative reports, magazines, news papers, books and various websites in internet are browsed to collect relevant data. To find out the changes in the rural structures of the economy at the taluk level two points of time are considered viz. 2007 & 2017.

5. Analysis

Table 1. Taluk wise Fallow land and Area sown in 2007 & 2017 (in Hectare)

Sl No	Taluks	2007		2017	
		Fallow Land	Area Sown	Fallow Land	Area Sown
1	K.R.Pet	9865	42356	10502	40407
2	Maddur	10987	31567	11687	30202
3	Malavalli	18976	33458	19747	31568
4	Mandya	13457	55675	16807	33268
5	Nagamangala	22897	21898	29645	29691
6	Pandavapura	9875	22890	11321	22185
7	Srirangapatna	9678	13057	11203	14057
Total		95746	220901	110912	201378

Table explains about fallow land and net sown area in 2007 & 2017. In 2007 total fallow land of the district is 95746 but it has increased to 110912 hectares in 2017, because most of the people are migrated my villages to the urban areas for employment opportunities. Comparatively in 2017 net sown area has decreased drastically. This indicates land under current fallow has increase at cost of net sown area. Due to the decreasing net sown area that impacts directly on cropping pattern of the district and income of the farmers. After 2012 farmers are started to grow more commercial crops than food crops because of the structural change in rural economy.

6. Conclusion

Mandya in many ways is the classic district of India. In terms of natural regions, languages, traditional, faiths, heritage

and culture, it exhibits almost as much diversity as the state itself. In development attainments too, the state is at the moderate level in major sectors including the tertiary sector. Revolution in information ans technology sector is worth to be mentioned as it is a giant leader in both information technology and Bio technology sectors in India.

Agriculture and its allied activities should be given prime importance and crops of geographical identity with in the regions of Mandya should be encourages. Cropping pattern should be made more scientific like rotation of crops growing more food grains and cereals and encouragement for mixed crops. The government schemes and programmes for rural poor people should be properly executed and the process should be made simpler.

Reference

1. Abraham, V (2013): "Missing Labour or Consistent „De-feminisation“?," Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 48, No 31, pp 99-108.
2. Aggarwal, A and N Kumar (2012): "Structural Change, Industrialization and Poverty Reduction: The Case of India," Development Papers 1206, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations, South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi.
3. Chand, R and S K Srivastava (2014): "Changes in the rural labour market and their Implication for Agriculture," Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 49, No 10, pp 47-54.
4. Chand, R., R Saxena and S Rana (2015): "Estimates and Analysis of Farm Income in India, 1983-84 to 2011-12," Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 50, No 22, pp 139-145
5. Kannan, K P and G Raveendran (2012): "Counting and Profiling the Missing Labour Force," Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 47, No 6, pp 77-80.
6. Maurya, N K and J V Vaishampayan (2012): "Growth and Structural Changes in India"s Industrial Sector," International Journal of Economics, Vol 6, No 2, pp 321-331.
7. Papola, T S (2012): "Structural Changes in the Indian Economy: Emerging Patterns and Implications," ISID Working Paper No 12, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi.
8. Rangarajan, C, P I Kaul and Seema (2011): "Where is the Missing Labour Force?" Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 46, No 39, pp 68-72.
9. Rangarajan, C, Seema and E M Vibeesh (2013): "Developments in the Workforce between 2009-10 and 2011-12," Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 49, No 23, pp 117-121.
10. Srivastava, S.K., Chand, R., and Singh, J. (2017): "Changing Crop Production Cost in India: Input Prices, Substitution and Technological Effects", Agricultural Economics Research Review, Conference Issue
11. Thomas, J. J. (2012): "India"s Labour Market during the 2000s: Surveying the Changes," Economic & Political Weekly, Vol 47, No 51, pp 39-51.