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PART VI-B

Special Survey Reports on

Selected Towns

VALAPATTANAM

IN

CANNANORE DISTRICT

C O N T E N T S

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Valapattanam, also known as Baliapatam, is in Cannanore taluk of the northern-most Cannanore district of Kerala State. It is the smallest town in Kerala in terms of area. The place, Valapattanam, is identified with Valabhapattanam where a fort was built in the 11th century A.D. by King Vallabha II of the Moosika dynasty.

Location & physiography

Valapattanam is situated about 8 km. north of the Cannanore Municipal town which is the taluk and district headquarters. It is about 180 km. south of Manjeshwar, the northern-most town of Kerala. Trivandrum, the State Headquarters of Kerala is about 528 km. south-east of the town. Mangalore in the South Kanara District of Karnataka State, about 124 km. north of Valapattanam is the nearest Air Port and harbour. The Cochin Air Port and harbour in Kerala is at 296 km. south of the town. The river port Azhikkal is situated at a distance of 2 km. from the town.

Valapattanam is bounded on the south and east by Chirakkal village, on the north by Valapattanam river and on the west by Azhikode village. The river side to the north of the town is a plain

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topography with swamp places here and there. These places have thick tree growth locally known as 'Kandal'. As the town is located in the sea board area, there is no forest within its boundary. However, it is said that in olden days, the Kalarivathukkal temple on the south-east of the town was surrounded by thick forest growth. In and around the town, coconut trees are grown in abundance. The sandy soil on the narrow belt along the river coast is slightly impregnated with salt and is suited to the growth of coconut trees. Agriculture is not of much importance in the peripheral area of the town. Though paddy fields are found here and there, majority of them are uncultivated.

The south-eastern part of the town is a plateau with low sand laterite soil. Some parts of the hills are unproductive areas. Coconut, jack and mango trees are, however, grown wherever possible. Peepul tree, Banyan tree, Mimuspos, Elengi, Strychnos, Neem, Wrightiatinctoria, Cassia fistula, Teak, Casuarina, Cashew-nut tree, Drumstick, Silk cotton, Curry leaf, Bamboo, Papaya, Calotropis gigantea, ~~Bogan villa~~ Bougain Villaea, Jasmine, Rose, Plantain etc. are seen in the surroundings of the Kalarivathukkal temple and elsewhere.

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Important characteristics of the town

The town lies stretched on either side of the National Highway 17, also known as West Coast road. It is an industrial-cum-commercial centre. The second largest plywood factory in Asia and many saw mills are located in this town. The Hard board factory and Fibre foam factory with modern equipments are also functioning here. Just on the opposite bank of Valapattanam river is the non-municipal town, Pappinisseri which is also an important industrial centre. Cotton mills, Tile factory, Plywood factory, Super clay and Mineral mining company and many handloom weaving centres are located in this town. Valapattanam is connected to Pappinisseri by a rail-road bridge over Valapattanam river.

Valapattanam has a Panchayat established in 1939. The town has been divided into 7 wards for administrative purposes. The seven wards are (1) Murukandikkal (2) Thottaru and Thottinakkara (3) Nagaram (4) Kariyil (5) Karingalpadi (6) Kalarivathukkal and (7) Kakkulangara.

Population growth rate and density

The area of the town is 2.04 sq. km. According to 1971 Census, it has got a population of 7,296, with 3,718 males and 3,578 females, as

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against the total population of 5,746 in 1961. More than 75 per cent of the population are Muslims. Hindus constitute a little below 25 per cent while the Christian population is negligible.

The population has registered an increase of 26.98 per cent during the last decade. The growth rate of the population during 1961-71 is indicated in the table below:

TABLE 1.1

VARIATION IN POPULATION, VALAPATTANAM 1961-71

Town	Year	Population	Decadal variation	Percentage decadal variation
1	2	3	4	5
Valapattanam	1961	5,746	..	..
	1971	7,296	+1,550	+26.98

The growth rate of the population of the town is lower than that of the district and the taluk which is 32.85 and 28.12 per cent respectively. This comparative analysis is, however, subject to variation in a number of towns at the time of two censuses. For instance in 1971 census, 6 towns of 1961 in Cannanore taluk were declassified as rural areas. As a result, the growth rate of urban population of the taluk has declined to 41.93 per cent. However, the growth rate of urban population

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of Cannanore district, as a whole, has registered an increase of 8.26 per cent.

There has been a remarkable increase in the growth rate of population of this town during 1961-71 as compared to the growth rate between 1951 and 1961. In 1951, when the town was a desom in Chirakkal village, its population was 5,275. The population had grown to 5,746 in 1961 and to 7,296 in 1971. In other words, while the increase in population during 1951-61 is below 10 per cent, the growth of population during 1961-71 is about 27 per cent. The reason for the slow growth during 1951-61 is stated to be the insanitary and unhealthy conditions of the town during the previous decades. Improvements in sanitary and environmental conditions and the establishment of factories, saw mills etc. in the town account for the high growth rate of population during 1961-71. The infectious disease, filaria was widely prevalent in the area. The whole area was dirty and there was no drainage system at all. Commercialisation made the place all the more worse. The back-waters of the Valapattanam river and all the small canals in the town are still used for retting the woods.

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There is no out flow of water from these canals and backwaters. As a result, hygienic condition was far from satisfactory. The people, therefore, were afraid to reside ~~there~~ here permanently during the period, especially, before 1951. Though there is not much improvement in the environmental condition of the town at present, the inclusion of the town in the National Filaria Control Unit Scheme and the establishment of several factories and saw mills attracted people to migrate to this place. Besides, educationalists and others are also trying to improve the town. They formed a committee by name 'Baliapattam Development Citizens Committee'. The functions of this committee are explained in detail elsewhere in this report.

Density of population

Valapattanam is a thickly populated area. According to 1971 Census, the total population of the town is 7,296. With an area of 2.04 sq. km., the town has a density of 3,576 persons per sq. km. This is much higher than the general density of population in the district (415) and in the State (549). Besides, the density of population in urban areas of Cannanore district and the State is only 1,795 and 2,585 respectively. In other words, the urban density of population in Cannanore district as well as Kerala State is far below the

(contd....7)

density of Valapattanam town. Between 1961 and 1971, the density of population of the town has gone up from 2,816 to 3,576.

Climate

Valapattanam town is a low lying area. Like other parts of the district, the town is neither very hot in summer nor very cold in winter. In other words, the town enjoys a moderate climate. But the humidity will be high during the south west monsoon period and be low during December to February. William Logan describes the climatic conditions of Malabar, in general, as follows.

"The first and most obvious fact which strikes an observer is the uniformity of temperature throughout the year as tested by the thermometer. It may be said in short that it is always hot, sometimes, hotter but never very hot. This is not solely nor even chiefly due to the great altitude of the sun at midday as very often supposed, for the sun is no higher in the heavens in Malabar at certain seasons than it is in temperate climates. Moreover, the sun shines much longer in summer in temperate climates than it does in Malabar. Further, it may be observed that the month in which the sun is at its highest in Malabar, and its hours of shining longest is

by no means the hottest month of the year. At the same time, of course, it is to be remembered that the altitude of the sun is always great, and its hours of shining comparatively long throughout the year, varying as they do from a maximum of about twelve hours and thirty five minutes in latter half of June to a minimum of about eleven hours and thirty five minutes in the latter half of December. One of the most important factors in maintaining the uniform temperature is the super heated condition of the surface soil, the cool sea breezes and the abundance of rain throughout more than half of the year and the process of evaporation. The mountains themselves play an important part in sheltering the country lying to the west of them for they cool down the winds passing over them, where the Palghat gap permits the hot land winds to rush through unimpeded, vegetation receives a severe check in the dry months. Even here, however, the balance of nature is maintained, for heated plains invite the inrush of moist sea breeze and though the days are hot, the sea breeze lasts longer than it does on the coasts, and brings with it fresh nights and cool mornings even in March and April, the hotest months of the year".

Malabar, W.Logan, 1951 (Reprint) Vol.I
Pages 28-30.

(contd...9)

There is no observatory in the town but the temperature was recorded in Cannanore upto some years back and now only rainfall is recorded in this station. The temperature given below are those recorded in Cannanore, 8 km. away from the town during the period 1956 to 1960

TABLE 1.2

TEMPERATURE

Centre: Cannanore

Month		Year				
		1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
1		2	3	4	5	6
January	A	29.4	30.6	31.1	28.9	30.6
	B	25.0	25.6	25.0	25.0	26.7
February	A	30.6	31.1	31.1	32.2	31.7
	B	25.6	26.7	26.7	25.6	26.7
March	A	32.2	32.2	32.2	32.2	31.7
	B	26.7	28.9	28.9	28.3	27.8
April	A	30.0	33.9	32.2	33.9	32.2
	B	22.8	28.9	28.3	28.3	30.0
May	A	30.0	33.9	32.2	33.9	32.2
	B	21.1	23.9	26.7	23.9	26.1
June	A	28.3	32.8	30.0	35.6	30.0
	B	21.1	23.9	23.9	22.8	25.0
July	A	25.6	29.4	30.6	27.8	30.0
	B	21.1	22.8	23.9	22.2	23.9
August	A	26.1	28.9	28.9	27.8	30.0
	B	22.8	23.9	23.9	23.9	23.9
September	A	28.9	30.0	30.0	31.1	30.0
	B	22.2	25.6	25.6	23.9	23.9
October	A	31.1	30.0	30.6	30.6	30.6
	B	25.6	25.6	25.0	25.0	26.1

(contd...10)

Month		Year				
		1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
1		2	3	4	5	6
November	A	30.6	31.1	31.7	31.1	31.7
	B	26.7	25.6	25.0	25.6	26.1
December	A	30.0	30.6	30.6	30.0	30.6
	B	23.9	25.6	26.1	25.0	26.7

A-Highest temperature in centigrade
B-Lowest temperature in centigrade

From the table, it may be seen that March to May are the hotest months. During this season, the maximum temperature is 33.9°C and the minimum is 21.1°C. From 1956 to 1960, the highest temperature was 35.6°C recorded in June 1959 and the lowest was 21.1 recorded in May, June and July 1956.

Rainfall

Kerala lying at the foot of the Western Ghats, receives a very heavy rainfall. Like other parts of Kerala, the town is also benefited by two monsoons. The south-west monsoon begins in the Malabar coast early in June and will be in full swing in July. The rainfall generally continues till the end of August. This rainfall is economically most important for the agricultural operations of the district, as a whole.

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The period between October and November when the north-east monsoon occurs is also a season of rains, though not the rainfall is heavy. Locally the former monsoon is known as 'Edavapathy' and the latter is known as 'Thulavarsham'. The town also experiences cold weather from December to February and hot weather from March to May. The rainfall recorded at Cannanore, the district headquarters, is given in the following table.

TABLE 1.3

RAINFALL

Centre: Cannanore

Months		Y E A R				
		1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
1		2	3	4	5	6
January	I	..	..	..	..	..
	II	..	..	..	..	..
February	I	..	..	..	..	..
	II	..	..	..	..	..
March	I	2	..	..	1	..
	II	17.02	..	..	0.41	..
April	I	5	3	4	4	3
	II	82.04	120.04	0.55	0.45	49.03
May	I	4	6	9	8	18
	II	47.06	89.07	5.44	3.40	389.08
June	I	24	25	27	30	14
	II	833.00	703.80	839.00	1046.00	742.06
July	I	31	29	30	28	25
	II	2239.00	1077.98	1184.00	948.00	902.18
August	I	22	19	31	22	27
	II	297.08	300.38	1198.00	460.00	442.00

(contd....12)

Months		Y E A R				
		1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
1		2	3	4	5	6
September	I	9	14	10	15	8
	II	251.04	305.00	132.00	59.05	64.05
October	I	8	11	10	13	16
	II	79.22	262.04	73.00	105.00	305.00
November	I	1	6	7	..	6
	II	23.02	186.14	26.00	..	70.02
December	I	..	2	..	2	2
	II	..	141.64	..	20.00	26.00

I - Number of rainy days
II - Rainfall in mm.
Source : Taluk Office, Cannanore

From the table, it is seen that the annual rainfall varies considerably. There was heavy rainfall in the month of July except in the years 1970 and 1971. In 1970, rainfall was heavy in the month of August and in 1971 it was in June.

Communication

Valapattanam is connected to all towns of Kerala by road and rail. The National Highway 17 which connects some of the most important towns of Kerala passes through the town. The town has a railway station through which the trains from Mangalore to Madras and Mangalore to Cochin run. The navigation system of the town is quite ancient. The Valapattanam river which originates from the

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western slopes of the western Ghats at an altitude of about 3,000 feet above mean sea level, helped to improve the town's economy from very early period. The total length of the river is about 112 kms. and it has three major tributaries and a number of small branches as well. It flows through Brahmagiri Ghat Reserves in Karnataka State and then through the villages of Iritti, Edakkanam, Perumana, Irikkur, Kalliasseri and Valapattanam town. This is a perennial river and in olden days, it was the only facility available to transport goods from villages and hilly areas to the market at Valapattanam.

Prior to the invasion of Tippu, Malabar, as a whole, had no good roads for traffic except narrow foot paths. Even merchants had to engage coolies to carry their goods for sale. The need for proper roads was felt keenly only after Tippu's artillery was brought to Malabar from Mysore. It is how, some roads worth the name came into existence connecting important places. "This has been accounted as "If Tippu did his best to ruin the trade of South Malabar by destroying the pepper vines, he conferred at least one great economic boon upon the country. He was the pioneer of its roads.....

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(contd...14)

Narrow foot paths 'running at random through paddy lands without any regard to convenience of travelling' took the place of highways, and it was not until Tippu brought his artillery into Malabar that the need of proper roads was felt. He projected and in great part finished, in the words of Major Dow, one of the Joint Commissioners, an extensive chain of roads that connected all the principal places of Malabar and pervaded the wildest parts of the country". During the British regime, attempts were made to maintain the roads in good condition in addition to extending them. After independence, every effort was being made to provide this infrastructure to all parts of the country. However, present day's communication facilities especially road transport to and from Valapattanam, is hardly sufficient to meet the needs of the town. The motorable road is only 5.10 km. in length. The road plays a more important role than railway in the senge that it serves places or villages lying scattered which could not otherwise be linked with railways. The National Highway 17, also known as West Coast road, connects this town with the most important towns and cities from

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Bombay to Cape Comerin. Within the town itself, there is another P.W.D. road by name Mill road, connecting the town with Azhikode village. The only jeepable road in the town was constructed by the Panchayat and it enables people to reach all parts of the town. All the three roads in the town are neither wide enough nor straight to cope with the present day fast moving heavy traffic. There is danger lurking in the street corners and so the police department has posted constables to control the traffic.

In order to lessen the heaviness of the traffic on these roads, the Government have decided to construct a separate bridge over Valapattanam river, about 0.5 km. away to the east of the present rail-road bridge and divert the traffic through the eastern side of the business centre. The bridge will be constructed in box girder type and the work is under progress. The total length of the bridge will be 1,326 feet (404.04 metres) consisting of 13 spans of 102 feet (31.08 metres) each and 14 pillars. The width of the bridge excluding foot path on either side will be 7½ metres, while the foot path will be of 1½ metres each. An amount of Rs.41.60 lakhs has been estimated for the construction of the bridge.

(contd...16)

Railway is the most important means of inland transport and is convenient for carrying goods. Though the first railway line in Kerala was constructed in 1861 between Beypore and Tirur, only in the year 1888, it was extended from Beypore to northern side. To start with it was extended to Calicut. This was followed by the construction of Calicut-Badagara line in 1901. It was further extended to Cannanore in 1903. However, it took a few more years to extend the railway line from Cannanore to Mangalore. The construction of the railway line which passes through Valapattanam was completed in 1907. It was very difficult and expensive to lay down roads or construct railway line in Cannanore district because, many rivers, big and small, were encountered after every few kms. Besides, the climatic condition in Malabar region was also unfavourable for the construction of roads. These facts were observed in the Madras District Gazetteers of Malabar as "The climate and the nature of Malabar are alike unfavourable to road-making, and upto the time of Mysore invasion, the rivers and backwaters of the district were the main channel of trade". (Ref on P14) Between Cannanore and Manjeshwar, the northern boundary of the district, the railway authorities constructed 15 bridges over the rivers

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and many culverts over the canals and, a tunnel near Kasaragod. Among this, Valapattanam rail bridge is one of the biggest bridges with twelve spans of 100 feet (30.48 metres) each. In other words, the total length of the bridge is 1,200 feet or 365.76 metres. As a result, it has become possible now to travel to all important places from Valapattanam.

The water transport is cheaper than land transport and heavy loads can be transported through water. The town has the advantage of water transport from ancient times. The Valapattanam river is navigable for all seasons. The river affords facilities for floating timber in rafts from the hill areas. This is one of the reasons for the establishment of saw mills, plywood factories etc. in the town. The river is about 112 kms. long, of which, 45 kms. form the navigable length allowing motor boat traffic upto 13 kms. Many villages are also connected with boat services. Besides the navigation through the river, there is a canal system which runs from Hosdurg to Athirakam of Elayavoor village covering a total distance of 54 kms. Shri C.A. Innees, I.C.S., the then settlement officer in Malabar, described this canal system as "The rivers and backwaters of the district were the main channel of trade. Through every taluk,

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Madras District Gazetteers-Malabar Vol.I, Page 268

....., one or more big rivers find their way from the Western Ghats to the coast and deprived of outlets to the sea by the littoral sand banks, discharge into a long line of backwaters running parallel with the shore. Connecting links are supplied in many places by canals, and, with slight interruptions, there is communication by inland water from Kavvayi in the extreme north of Malabar to Trivandrum in Travancore. With the exception of the Sultan's Canal between the Mount Deli river and the backwaters of the Taliparamba and Valapattanam rivers, which was dug in 1766 by the Ali Raja of Cannanore, these artificial cuttings all date from the middle of the nineteenth century".

As mentioned, this is a small town with an extent of 2.04 sq. kms. and there is no scope to establish more post offices. The only one post office in the town was opened in 1891 and it is situated by the side of West Coast road, in Kakkulangara ward, the business centre and is very near to the railway station and factories. It is provided with savings bank and telegraph facilities. The town has been provided with telecommunication facilities since from the middle of the present century.

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The telephone exchange is housed in a departmental building constructed in 1965. The exchange with manually operated devices was commenced with an installed capacity of 30 connections. Since then, due to the persistent demands from the public, the capacity of the exchange has been expanded and is converted into automatic one in February 1974. At the time of survey, the exchange is stated to have been working with 312 connections excluding 47 extensions and 6 public call booths. The jurisdiction of the exchange is not only Valapattanam but also Azhikode, Chirakkal & Kalliasseri villages and Pappinisseri non-municipal town. About 550,000 local calls were handled during the year 1972-73 and a sum of Rs.72,000 was realised on this account. There is no list about trunk calls because, the trunk call within the jurisdiction of this exchange is directly handled by the exchange at Cannanore.

Functional areas

Due to the smallness of the town, well defined functional areas cannot be easily identified. No area is specifically set apart as administrative, commercial, residential etc. Residential houses are scattered all over the town and the people are living face to face contact. However, some parts of the town have the characteristics of nascent functional areas such as administrative, commercial, industrial and residential.

Administrative area

The focal point of administration is located in Cannanore, the district and taluk headquarters. As the town is located very near to Cannanore, the need for keeping any administrative office here is not felt very much. But there are a few offices of local importance located by the side of West Coast road. The Village Office, Police Station, P.W.D. Office, Office of the Junior Engineer, Electricity Board are located within a radius of about 50 metres on the western side of the West Coast Road in Kakkulangara ward. The Post Office and the Railway Station are also located in the same ward. Office of the Assistant Engineer, Electricity Board is located on the eastern side of the West Coast road, just about 50 metres away from the Village Office, in Kariyil ward. The Panchayat Board Office and Telephone Exchange are located in the Government Hospital compound on the side of West Coast road in Thottinakkara and Thottaru ward.

Commercial Area

Well-planned shopping centres do not exist in Valapattanam town. But whatever shopping centres exist in the town are found to be smaller in size and are scattered all over the town. Prominent among them is the 'junction' where the market road or ferry road meets the West Coast road. The junction is

(contd...21)

known as 'Thokkilangadi'. A number of warehouses constructed during the time of British rule to store pepper is seen in the junction. Both sides of the ferry road and West Coast road from 'Thokkilangadi' towards about 100 metres north and west are over-crowded with hotels and shops, large and small, such of stationery articles, grocery, household utensils, hardwares, medicines, textiles, pan-bidi etc. Besides, the wholesale business in pepper, cashewnut, arecanut etc. is all centered round the junction. The show-rooms and sales depots of the factories viz. Western India Plywood, Hard Board, Fibre Foam, Tiles etc. the Panchayat Market, Fish market, Vegetable shops, W.I.P. Employees' Co-operative Stores, Parcel Office and Banks are all located in the same area.

Industrial area

The largest timber industries in Malabar are located in Kallayi, Kozhikode. Valapattanam has the next largest timber-based industries. Most of them are located on the southern bank of Valapattanam river which helps to transport timber from hill areas. The most important industrial units viz. Western India Plywoods, Hard Board Factory, Kohinoor Saw Mills, Timber Industries and Trading Corporation, Malabar Timber and Saw Mill, Western Timber Supply and Saw Mill, Western Saw Mill, Raja Saw Mill,

(contd....22)

Ramakrishna Saw Mill and C.N. Plywood are located on the western side of the railway line and on both sides of the Mill road. The second largest industrial area is located in Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward where the Ferry road ends. Hindustan Saw Mill, Eastern Industries and Saw Mill, Janatha Saw Mill and Premier Saw Mill are the notable industries in this area. Another Saw Mill by name Suresh Kumar Industries is also located on the eastern side of the Ferry road in the ward 'Nagaram'. Fibre Foam and Standard Engineering Works are located by the side of the West Coast road, in the wards of Kariyil and Kalarivathukkal respectively. One who enters Valapattanam from the south can see first these two industries. Chirakkal Weavers Collection Centre, a weaving establishment, and National Saw Mill are located in the north-east corner of the town.

Residential area

Residential houses lie scattered all over the town. No area can be classified as exclusively residential except the Panchayat Ward 'Nagaram'. According to 1971 census, there are 666 residential houses in Valapattanam town providing accommodation to 869 households. The number of residential houses per sq. km. is 326 in the town as against 370 in the urban area of Cannanore taluk and 374 in the

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urban areas of the State, as a whole. The Panchayat wards, Nagaram and Karingalpadi, are the most crowded residential areas. Houses are located very close to each other as in major towns and there is not even moving space around them. Both sides of the Ferry road and some parts of the West Coast road are also the most crowded residential areas. Most of the employees working in Plywood factory and Saw Mills are inhabitants of the town and of the adjoining villages and so, there is no necessity for employees' quarters in the town. In the wards, Murukandikkal, Kakkulangara and Kalarivathukkal, the dwellers are scattered and have the privacy of their own compound.

Panchayat wards of the town and their characteristics

The subdivision of a revenue village in Malabar region of the State is known as 'desoms'. This is the smallest unit of revenue administration. Valapattanam, being the smallest town, the whole area is treated as one 'desom'. The area of the town is made up of seven wards by the panchayat board for election and other administrative purposes of its own. The general social conditions of the panchayat wards are examined below:

(contd...24)

Murukandikkal

This ward lies at the extreme west of the town bounded by Azhikode village on the west and south, Valapattanam river on the north and Mangalore-Madras railway line on the east. The Mill road which connects Valapattanam with Azhikode passes through this ward. This ward is an important industrial area and the first saw mill by name Kohinoor Saw Mills was established in this ward. The Western India Plywood, the second largest Plywood factory in Asia where a large number of men from the town and neighbouring areas find employment, is located here. Besides, the Hard Board factory, Raja Saw Mill, Western Saw Mill, Western Timber Supply Co., Malabar Timber and Saw Mill Co. Ltd., Timber Industries and Trading Corporation, C.N. Plywood etc. are the prominent industrial establishments in the ward. Except tea-shops, a provision store and a textile shop, there are no other shops in this ward. Moreover, the ward has neither a school nor a recreation centre.

Thottaru and Thottinakkara

The ward name, Thottaru and Thottinakkara, is derived from thodu (channel) which passes through

(contd...25)

the ward. Thottaru means the nearest side of the Thodu and Thottinakkara means the other side of the Thodu. In other words, it denotes the area on both sides of the river. The ward is bounded on the north, south, east and west by Valapattanam river, West Coast road, Ferry road and railway line respectively. It is an important marketing centre and also the centre of communication. It is accessible by rail, road and river. The passengers who come from outside to Valapattanam for various purposes alight here. About 91 establishments, located on the one side of the West Coast road and Ferry road, deal in items like grocery, stationery, textiles, medicines, furniture, fruits, sweetmeats, jewellery, pan, beedi, pepper etc. Some hotels and tea-shops, show rooms of W.I.P. and Fibre foam, Indian Overseas Bank etc. are also located in the ward. The panchayat market is also located here. North-east corner of the ward is an industrial centre. Hindusthan Saw Mill, Eastern Industries and Saw Mill, Janatha Saw Mill and Premier Saw Mill are situated here. The ward has the best medical facilities as the only one hospital of the town is located here. The administrative offices of Panchayat Board and Telephone Exchange are in this ward. For recreation, it has a cinema hall and

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panchayat library-cum-reading room. It has a plain topography with cocoanut gardens. The ward appeared particularly not conscious of sanitation and public hygiene. There is no educational institution. All the houses in the locality belong to Muslim community.

Karingalpadi and Nagaram

These two wards constitute crowded Muslim households. The wards name Karingalpadi is derived from the granite stepping from the fort to gateway. A portion of famous Valapattanam fort is located in these two wards. The remnants of the dilapidated fort is found in this area. It is said that a granite stone stepping from the fort which located in an elevated place, sloped down upto the gateway in Karingalpadi ward. Today the granite stone steppings are not seen. Instead, laterite steps are seen there. Nagaram means a city. But here, it denotes larger habitation. The wards are bounded on north by Valapattanam river, south by West Coast road and Kariyil ward, east by Kariyil ward and West by Ferry road (Market road). The most important trades of pepper, arecanut, cashewnut etc. which attracted foreigners were conducted in these wards. The old godown where the commodities were kept and exported to

(contd...27

foreign countries are still seen in these wards. Even today, the wholesale of pepper, arecanut, cashewnut and hill products are conducted here. Besides, retail shops of provision, stationery, textiles, electric goods, furniture etc. are also situated. Hotels and restaurants are not many in number. There is a Saw Mill on the river side. A Muslim Lower Primary School and many mosques are located here.

Kariyil

The only importance of this ward is that the Government High School of Valapattanam is located here. A major portion of the Valapattanam fort was also located here. The West Coast road passes through the western side of the ward. The two major industrial establishments of the ward are the Fibre foam and National Saw Mills. The ward is not noted for trade and commerce and shops are also very few in number.

Kalarivathukkal

This ward is situated in the south-east corner of the town bounded on the north by Kariyil ward, south and west by West Coast road and east by Chirakkal village. This locality is named after Kalarivathukkal temple located here. This was the most famous temple of the Kolathiri dynasty.

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The ward has a historical importance as the Kalariparamba, the land of gymnasium where physical exercises called Kalaripayat and sword practice were imparted, was located at the southern side of the temple. This is the ward where majority of the Hindu families are residing. The West Coast road connecting Valapattanam to all important towns passes by the side of the ward and the panchayat road by name Keeriyat road also passes through the ward. Among the four schools of the town, two schools, common to all communities, are situated here. Of these, one is a Primary School and the other is an Upper Primary School. In addition to these schools, there is one Natyakalanilayam to teach dance and one Sangeetha Kalanilayam to teach music. There is no hospital except a Family & Child Welfare Centre. The medical requirements of the ward are met by the Government Hospital at Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward. The main industrial establishments of the ward are Handloom Weaving Industries, Standard Engineering Works, Central Engineering Works, Motor Workshop, Oil Mill and Flour Mill. 5 provision stores, 1 furniture shop, a petrol pump and 6 restaurants are the commercial establishments located here.

(contd...29)

Kakkulangara

One of the oldest and important mosques, Kakkulangara ~~Pillai~~ Palli, is located in the ward and so the ward is known by the name of the mosque. It is bounded on the north by West Coast road, south by Chirakkal village, east by West Coast road and Chirakkal village and west by Mangalore-Madras railway line. The ward is accessible by road and rail. The southern side of the ward has small hills and other parts are plain with paddy fields. Most of the Government Offices are located here. Some of them are, the Village Office, P.W.D. Office, Police Station, Electricity Board Office and Post Office. The ward has no major industries. However, mention may be made of the small industrial units such as National Engineering Works and Abson Printers, Weaving Establishment, Flour Mill, Tyre Works, Jewellery Shops, Watch and Radio Repairing Shops. The ward is also a business centre. There are nearly 60 establishments dealing in items like grocery, stationery, textiles, medicines, hardware, shoes, fruits, sweetmeat, soda water, petrol etc. The Railway Station is located in this ward. All the wards are electrified but water supply is still limited to some public taps.

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Land-use pattern

The land of Valapattanam can be divided into wet, dry and garden lands. The wet land is exclusively used for paddy cultivation. The garden land has been brought under cocoanut cultivation. Part of the dry land is rocky. Cocoanut and other fruit trees like jack tree, mango tree and plantains are cultivated in the dry land wherever possible. About 65 per cent of the total area is under cultivation though only 2.30 per cent is exclusively under paddy cultivation. Though an industrial area, the land put for industrial purpose is only about 4 per cent of the total town area. The land-use pattern of the town is given in the following table.

TABLE 1.4

LAND-USE PATTERN, VALAPATTANAM

Category of land-use		Acres
Total	..	502.75
Home-stead	..	34.00
Administrative	..	0.50
Educational	..	3.00
Commercial	..	4.00
Industrial	..	20.00
Cultivation (Paddy)	..	11.58
Agricultural (other than paddy)		325.23
Road	..	14.00
Others	..	90.44

(contd...31)

Important public places

Jama-ath Mosque, Kakkulangara Mosque, Alur Mosque, Kolangara Mosque, Badir Mosque, Moideen Mosque, Ambalathile Palli, Pokkilakath Palli etc. are the most important public places for Muslim population and are visited by them daily. Kalarivathukkal temple is also very popular for the Hindu Community and is being visited by them frequently. The Sub Post Office, Village Office, Panchayat Board Office, Police Station, Electricity Board Office and a Government Hospital are the few other institutions which the people are visiting daily. A Cinema Hall, a Panchayat Library-cum-Reading Room and some other reading rooms are the other important public places where the local inhabitants spend their leisure time. Besides, the residents of Valapattanam take advantage of various public institutions located in Cannanore Municipal town.

House type

The houses at Valapattanam are similar to those in other parts of Kerala. However, most of the houses are old. These houses are bigger in size and have rooms numbering five and more. About 63 per cent of the total residential houses have five rooms or more, 27 per cent with 3 to 4 rooms

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and the remaining 10 per cent houses have one or two rooms. The material used for walls of the houses varies according to the financial capacity of the owners. While those who can afford, have walls of laterite stone, others have walls of mud or unburnt bricks. Tiled roof is a common feature of all types of buildings with rare exceptions. Another common pattern of the houses in the town is that the walls are constructed with laterite stones, while the doors, windows and inner roof are made of timber. The availability of laterite stones in the town and nearby areas and the possibility of mud walls getting soaked in water during rainy season are said to be the reason for using the laterite stones for walls. Similarly, availability of timber in abundance at cheaper rate is the reason to use it for wood work especially for inner roof in the houses. About 3 per cent of the total households use grass or leaves for roofing.

According to the houselist prepared for 1971 Census, there are only 18 residential houses with thatched roofs. Eventhough the doors and windows of these houses are smaller in number, they are constructed with cheaper varieties of timber. The walls and floor are mud plastered.

(contd...33)

Cow dung is applied on the floor of the room to make it clean and neat. Most of the households have a varandah in the front leaving an entrance in the centre of it and the varandah is used as sitting place. The rest of the floor is divided into one or two small rooms and the kitchen is used also for dining, sleeping etc. This type of building is mostly owned by scheduled tribes and Thiyya community.

Most of the standard residential houses are two storeyed buildings constructed of laterite stones and roofed with tiles. Concrete buildings are nil but the front portion of some buildings are concreted recently. The floor is cemented and mosaic floor is also seen in a few houses. The walls of all the houses are plastered with lime and some of them are adorned with paintings. Some houses have varandah in the front. The buildings are divided into many rooms, all well ventilated. The doors and windows are made by thick and hard timber and some of them are architectured also.

Ethnic groups

This is a town where the Muslims are in majority. According to 1971 census, 75.58 per cent of the total population are Muslims and 24.22 per cent are Hindus. Christians are in minority, as

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they constitute only 0.40 per cent of the town's population. The Hindus are subdivided into Thiyya, Pidarar, Nair, Pulayan, Vaniyan, Parayan, Vannathan, Peruvannan, Marar, Pulluvan, Malayan, Asari (Carpenter), Gowder, Ambalavasi etc. The Christians of the town are Roman Catholic and Protestants(CSI). Among the Muslims, persons of Sunnis sect are found living in the town. Hanafis, Shafis, Hanbalis and Malikis are the four subdivisions of the Sunnis sect. But in Valapattanam, majority of them belongs to Shaffis. Nagaram, Karingalpadi and Thottaru and Thottinakkara are the panchayat wards where only Muslim population is residing. Murukandikkal, Kariyil and Kakkulangara wards also have majority of Muslim households. Majority of the Hindu households are living in Kalarivathukkal ward.

The persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes are less in number and so form only 0.60 per cent of the total population of the town. However, their numerical strength goes to make 2.49 per cent of the total Hindu population of the town. According to 1971 census, no person is found to have returned as Scheduled Caste. But at the time of survey, a few households of Scheduled Castes are found to be living in the town.

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CHAPTER II

HISTORY OF GROWTH OF THE TOWN

Valapattanam was originally a portion of Chirakkal village of Chirakkal taluk in Malabar district. As a result of the State Re-Organisation Act of 1956 (Central Act 37 of 1956), Kerala State was formed on 1.11.1956 integrating erstwhile state of Travancore-Cochin and Malabar district. Subsequently, on 1st January,1957, the Malabar district was trifurcated into Cannanore, Kozhikode and Palghat revenue districts and on the same date old Chirakkal taluk was bifurcated into Cannanore and Taliparamba taluks of the present Cannanore district. As a result, Chirakkal village a part of which constitutes the Valapattanam town became a part of Cannanore taluk of Cannanore district. However, Valapattanam has became a separate village in 1965. Nevertheless, it was recognized as a census town in 1961 as well.

There may not be many places in the State which were known by so many different names as Valapattanam. The present name of the town is said to have had its origin in one of its old names 'Valabhapattanam'. Professor Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai, a well-known historian of Kerala, has observed in his book, "Chila Kerala Charithra

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Prasnangal" (certain problems of Kerala History) written in Vernacular, that 'Valapattanam' is the new form of old 'Valabhapattanam'. The town was established by King Vallabha of Kolathunad in 4th century A.D. and was known as 'Valabhapattanam'. The town was protected by tall towers and huge buildings. The 'Valabhapattanam' founded by the king after his name later came to be called 'Valayapattanam' or 'Valarpattanam' and still later as 'Valapattanam'. The author has also stated that these facts were recorded by Athula, who adorned the court of Sreekantan, the brother of King Vallabha.

Shri Chirakkal T. Balakrishnan Nair, son of late Chirakkal Raja, who claims descent from King Vallabha also endorsed the above view. He pointed out that according to the Sanskrit poem 'Moosika Vamsam' King Vallabha who had the title of 'Perumal', besides renovating and reconstructing the "Madayi Fort", also built some new fortresses and towns, of which Valapattanam is the most majestic and magnificent. The Valapattanam river, which was originally known as 'Neyyar' or 'Neinirayar' (Ghrithathadini in Sanskrit) had come to be known by its present name after the founding of the Valapattanam town and construction of the fort.

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The fortress was located a little north-east of the confluence of Valapattanam and Kottampally rivers. This place is found mentioned in the Arab literature too as 'Bathakhathan' and 'Ouliafathan'.

From early periods of history, Valapattanam was one of the most important centres of Muslim settlements in North Malabar. It also held a position of importance among the few trading centres in the State. The flourishing trade in pepper, arecanut and timber attracted many foreigners to the town, and naturally came to be called by so many names such as 'Neinirayarinkara', 'Neyyattinkarayangadi', 'Valabhapattanam', 'Valaverpattanam', 'Valerpattanam', 'Vatorpattanam', 'Valuvarpattanam', 'Valarpattanam', 'Veliyapathanam', 'Balayarpathanam', 'Valapathanam' etc. In Sanskrit literature, the place is indicated as 'Baladevapattanam', 'Ghrithavadinipuri', 'Vridhipuram' etc. The Europeans referred to it as Baliapattam. Locally, the place is also known as 'Valoodam' or 'Baloodam'. Iban Bathuta, who visited Malabar during his sojurn in India also made a mention of this place in his travelogue. There, it is referred to as 'Badfattan, 'Jarfattan', 'Dadkannan' and so on.

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The place which was once the seat of royal power with its fortresses and gymnasiums gradually lost its historical importance with the disintegration of petty principalities in Malabar. Valapattanam was originally formed part of the principality, Kolathunad and was ruled by the kings of Kolathiri Rajahs. It was also the centre of administration. The King's army was stationed in the fortress in the town. All matters relating to administration of the principality were discussed and decided here. Important treaties and agreements were entered into in this town. Apart from the Muslim traders from Arab countries who found favour with the King, there were also the Dutch, the Portugese and the Europeans in the town engaged in trade and commerce. The records show that the Dutch entered into an agreement with the King, in Valapattanam, in regard to their trading rights in the country in July, 1664.

Hyder Ali, who succeeded to the throne of Mysore in 1761, started implementing his programme of expansion of his kingdom by invading the northern parts of Kerala. By the time, he had also the invitation from King Ali of Cannanore to interfere in the affairs of Kolathunad. Hyder, with the connivance and support of King Ali led a huge army against the King of Kolathunad. In the decisive

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battle fought at Madayi, the Chirakkal Palace and the Valapattanam fort were captured by the enemy and the royal family fled to Tellicherry to find asylum in Thiruvangad temple there. During the second Anglo-Mysore war at Tellicherry in 1780-81, Hyder sent the forces of Kolathunad and Kadathanad to besiege Tellicherry in an attempt to crash the British and their allies. But his forces were successfully repelled by the combined forces of British, Kottayam Rajah and their friends. The failure of Hyder Ali to capture the Tellicherry fort gave fillip to those natives who opposed Ali's Regime in Kerala. As a result, they destroyed Hyder's garrisons in all parts of Malabar. Faced with such a critical situation, Hyder decided to appease the natives and restore their authority. So, he sent his son Tippu to Malabar who returned to Mysore in haste to succeed his father as Hyder passed away. The death of Hyder and the consequent return of Tippu from Malabar to Mysore made the British to ease their control in Malabar and destroy the Mysore authority. When they invaded Mysore via Coimbatore, Tippu seized this opportunity and reoccupied Malabar ~~up to~~ as far as Kottar river in the south. It is recorded in history that Tippu left Malabar, after the war, stationing an army of 5,000 men

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in the Valapattanam fort, and that these army personnel were responsible for bringing in various reforms in the area. Valapattanam, thus, witnessed many a historical event in the past. But with the assumption of power by the British, most of the petty principalities in north Kerala were subdued, amalgamated and brought within the fold of Madras Presidency. Valapattanam lost much of ~~his~~ its historical importance since the disintegration of the Kingdom of Kolathunad. The ruins of the Valapattanam fort and the ancient temple and Muslim mosque still seem to proclaim to the visitors the historical and religious importance of the place in the past.

The decline of the historical importance of the town had least affected its growth and development into a commercial centre. Valapattanam was known to the outside world as an important centre of trade and commerce even during 9th century. In his "Valapattanam--a historic study", a book in vernacular, the author Shri V.K. Mustaffa refers to a writer of 9th century who described the town as a "busy commercial centre surrounded by water with one portion raised above". Chirakkal T. Balakrishnan Nair, of whom mention has been made

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already points out that there is evidence to show that the place was known in North India even during 5th century A.D. He is of the view that the place 'Baladevapattanam' referred to in Varaha Mihira's (550 A.D.) 'Brihatsamhita' can be correctly presumed to be the present 'Valapattanam town'.

The very location of the place by the side of a navigable river might have been one of the earliest factors that had contributed towards its growth and development into a commercial centre. The construction of the fort and the immediate presence of royal power added to the importance of the place. It seemed that the navigation facilities provided by the Valapattanam river attracted traders, especially the Muslims, from far and near to the town. It is not possible to state precisely the period during which the town became the centre of Muslim settlements. According to recorded history, a few Arab Muslims who came to Malabar round about 710 A.D. settled at Valapattanam. Their main occupation was trade. Ibn Bathuta, who visited Malabar in the first half of 14th century, described Valapattanam as an important Muslim trading centre. A number of godowns were constructed on the banks of the

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Valapattanam river to store commodities like arecanut, pepper etc. Maritime trade developed between Valapattanam and distant port towns like Bombay and Karachi. Even the East India Company had a godown in Valapattanam. Trade in timber also developed in the area from very early times due to the transportation facilities afforded by the river. Even now, the town is famous for its plywood industries.

The famous Muslim mosque 'Kakkulangara Palli' and the Hindu Temple 'Kalarivathukkal' which are the ancient religious institutions in the town might have also attracted a few people to Valapattanam to make it their permanent place of residence. Both in the past and present, Valapattanam occupied a place of importance in the commercial map of the country. And, therefore, it is no wonder that Muslims, who are traditionally traders, constitute the largest section of the population there. The co-operation and facilities extended by the Hindu rulers of Kolathunad in the past to the Muslim traders enabled the town to grow into a commercial town.

Valapattanam Fort

The most eminent of Mooshika Kings was Vallabha the second. It was Vallabha who had the great magnificent fort called Valabhapattanam

Fort built at the northern-most point of the plateau lying on the southern bank of Valapattanam river. The fort was called 'Valapattanam Kotta'. Kotta, in Malayalam, means fort where the king resided with his family. He also reconstructed the Madayi fort, an important seat of old Kolathiri dynasty. The remains of the grand fort can still be seen on a lofty cliff overhanging the river. On the northern side of the Kalarivathukkal Bhagavathi temple, we could see the base structure of the ancient fort. Inside the fort there is a decayed basement known as 'Yakshimandapam' and some crumbling grave stones. Its actual name was Lekshmimandapam. It is said that the basement was an architectural shrine where the Rajah installed the idol of the Goddess Shree Mahalekshmi and worshipped daily. So it is called Lekshmi-mandapam. The old granite stone gateway is situated on the western side of the Yakshimandapam.

The fort was located in a highly elevated place and till recently, if one on the top of the fort looks to the northern side he can see the Madayi fort near Payangadi, which was reconstructed by the Vallabha King. But of late, the fort was

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deformed and almost brought to the ground level. Inside the fort, there was a Siva temple known as 'Siveswaram' and its outer platform was used as court by the Kolathiri Rajahs. Later on, this temple was removed and installed near the Katalayi Sreekrishna temple by the Valiya Rajah (Senior Rajah) of Chirakkal who died in 1054 M.E. The vast ground inside the fort was used to burn the dead bodies of deceased Rajahs'.

Gymnasium

There was a famous gymnasium called 'Valarperumkalari'. It was the biggest gymnasium in ancient Kolathunad, the territory under the rule of the two independent dynasties of Kings called Moosika Vamsa and Kolaswaroopam. It is not known when and by whom the great Gymnasium was built. Its historical importance is evident from the Sanskrit Mahakavya 'Moosika Vamsam' written about eight centuries ago by a poet Athula when the country was ruled over by ~~Srikanta~~ Sreekanta, perhaps the last of the Moosikavamsa dynasty. After him, Kolathunad was ruled by the Kolaswaroopa dynasty which was a branch of the Moosika Vamsa. The first Kolaswaroopa King who governed Kolathunad was Udayavarma.

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The great and famous Kalari or Gymnasium where physical exercises called 'Kalaripayat' and sword practice were imparted extended over a long strip of land called Kalariparamba, the land of gymnasium. It was four times bigger than an ordinary Kalari and about 2,000 boys and girls were said to have practised different exercises at a time. Some of the great swordmen who were the heads of the Gymnasium were Vayanattu Kulavan, Kathinoor Veeran and Mannappan. They were later worshipped as demigods. Mention may also be made of a famous temple of Kolathiri dynasty. The temple 'Kalarivathukkal' or 'fencing school temple' on the south of the fort is situated at the northern gateway of the gymnasium. The presiding deity of the temple is their family goddess Bhagavathi.

Crematorium

The Muslim crematorium which is located on the southern boundary of the town has historical importance. The speciality of this crematorium is that ready-made graves can be seen at every place in the crematorium. It is said that in 18th century, Tippu Sultan who captured the Kolathunad including Valapattanam fort ordered the soldiers to dig trenches and keep them covered

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in the form of cells. Therefore, in the event of invasion from enemies, they can be used in fighting. These cells are still seen there and are used as graves.

As mentioned above, Valapattanam was a commercial centre from early times. At that time, road and rail transports were not developed and people depended mainly on river to transport their commodities. The location of Valapattanam on the bank of a navigable river and the transportation of the cash crops of pepper, ginger, cardamom, arecanut etc. from the villages especially from the hill areas through this river to the town made it all the more an important commercial centre, and so, many foreign traders were attracted to the town. But after independence, free movement of the foreign traders was restricted. Besides, the provision of infrastructure such as roads, communications etc. to the remote parts of the state after independence and especially after the re-organization of the State has induced the trading people to transport and market commodities in other towns. Thus the people who reside in villages and even in hill areas got an opportunity to sell the goods at any town far or near. As a result, the olden days' commercial importance of the town has gradually disappeared.

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Though the provision of infrastructure and prevention of free movement of foreign traders decentralised marketing of agricultural produces, the town has caught up with a new dimension in so far as its industrialisation is concerned. In addition to train services, the construction of railway bridge in 1952, over the river facilitated through traffic for all vehicles between the northern and southern parts. This facility made it easy to transport goods to the town from far off places. Besides, the town is having good transport services provided by Private transport companies and the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation. The abundant transport facilities by road, rail and water attracted industrialists to set up important industries like Ply-wood industries, Fibre foam factory, Saw Mills etc.

The first saw mill, by name Kohinoor Saw Mill, started functioning in the year 1923. Later on, several saw mills have been established in the town. Most important among them was the opening of the Western India Plywoods in 1945. At first, the trade was confined to Plywoods only, but later on, they established a Hard board industry in the town. A Fibre Foam Factory was also established in 1964. The employment opportunity

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provided by the industries attracted people from outside. The rapid increase in the volume of traffic, the establishment of industries and consequent growth of population have increased the tempo of trade and commerce again. Naturally some banks have also come into being. There is a Government High School established in 1964. A Government Hospital is functioning since 1969. Thus the town once a traditionally agro-industrial centre has turned to be a modern industrial centre.

However, the Plywood industries which are pivotal for the renaissance of the town are said to be facing some problems. At the time of ~~field work~~ Survey, it was opined that many industries whose main inputs are timber and other woods are stated to have been facing a shortage of raw materials mainly due to the nationalisation of forests.

There is no master plan for the utilisation of lands in the town. According to the land utilisation order, the paddy fields should be used only for the cultivation of paddy and other food grains and the conversion of such lands for cultivation of cash crops is prohibited throughout the state. Construction of buildings is regulated by Kerala Building Rules 1968.

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There are 869 households in the town. The area of the town being small, the average availability of land per household is below 50 cents. People, especially Hindus, do not want to purchase lands for residential purpose for two reasons. Firstly it is a Muslim centre and secondly the town is very dirty. Despite, the land value is high for the reason that it is exploited for industrial purposes. The land around industrial establishments in Murukandikkal ward and on both sides of the main road is in high demand. Land value along the main road and the industrial area ranges from Rs.500/- to Rs.750/- per cent. Remote and hilly areas with less communication facilities are not so much in demand. Land in the Kalarivathukkal ward and at the place where the Fort is located is cheaper when compared to other places in the town.

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CHAPTER III

AMENITIES AND SERVICES, HISTORY OF GROWTH AND THE PRESENT POSITION

Administrative Offices, Municipal and other Statutory bodies of local Self-Government

Valapattanam is a small town. Though it has been recognised as a Census Town since 1961, it has not been raised to the status of a Municipal Town. Administratively, it is a rural area under the jurisdiction of a Panchayat. The location of the town is very near to the district headquarters where a group of administrative offices are situated. As such, important administrative offices were not established here. However, a few Government offices have been set up in the town. All the administrative offices except the Village Office located here are established before 1961. The Village Office was set up in 1965 consequent on the notification of the State Government by which villages of Kerala were reorganised and Valapattanam had become a separate village.

Some departments of the State and Central Governments are maintaining local offices whose jurisdiction is either limited to the town only or extend to some neighbouring villages also.

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Among the departments maintaining such offices are (1) The Revenue Department (2) Public Works Department (3) Police Department (4) Electricity Board (5) Panchayat Board (6) Post and Telegraph Department and (7) Railway Department. Most of these offices are located in Kakkulangara ward by the side of the West Coast road.

The name, location, functions etc. of the important public institutions in the town are given in the table below:-

(contd...52)

Table 3.1

IMPORTANT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS (OTHER THAN BANKS, EDUCATIONAL AND MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS)

Name	Location	When established	Nature of function	Jurisdiction	No. of employees
1	2	3	4	5	6
Village Office	Kakkulangara Ward	1965-66	Collection of land revenue	Valapattanam	5
Police Station	"	-	Maintenance of Law and Order	Valapattanam Pappinisseri Azhikode Chirakkal Narath Kannadiparamba Kolacheri Kayaralom and Mayyil villages	31
P.W.D. Office	"	1959	Construction, maintenance and development of roads and buildings	Valapattanam Chirakkal Azhikkal Pallikkunnu Narath Mayyil Kuttiattur Kolacheri and Puzhathi (portion) villages	18

(contd...53)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Asstt. Engineer, Electricity Board	Kakkulangara	1930	Maintenance of Electric lines, supply of electricity & collection of current charges	Valapattanam, Mayyil and portion of Chirakkal, Puzhathi, Pallikkunnu and Kolacheri and Narath	9
Junior Engineer, Electricity Board	Kakkulangara	-	"	All the above villages	37
Post Office	"	1891	Post and Telegraph Communication	Valapattanam	12
Telephone Exchange	Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward	1950-51	Telephone communication	Valapattanam, Azhikode, Chirakkal, Pappinisseri, Kalliasseri	25
Panchayat Board	Thottaru and Thottinakkara	1939	Local administration	Valapattanam	22

(contd....54)

Valapattanam Panchayat

Valapattanam Panchayat, consisting of the whole area of the town, is the smallest panchayat in Kerala. It was established as early as 1939. However, the real spirit of the Panchayat movement was enjoyed only after the enactment of the constitution of India in 1949. One of the Directive Principles of State policy, as per Article 40 of the Constitution of India 1949, is "The States shall take steps to organise Village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self Government".

Panchayat is not new to any part of the state. Even in olden days, people living in a particular place, elected their leaders to guide them in their social, cultural, economic and political matters. The politicalised system of panchayat under British Government in India and its multi-dimensional growth till now is an offshoot of the old system prevalent in the state. Valapattanam panchayat has become a statutory body of the state only after the re-organization of the state and the enactment of a common Panchayat Bill malled the Kerala Panchayat Bill of 1960.

(contd...55)

Elections to the Panchayat under the provisions of the Act of 1960 were held in November-December 1963 and the new Panchayats assumed office on 1st January, 1964. The term of office of the members of the Panchayat is fixed as 5 years. The President and Vice-President are elected from among the members.

An Executive Officer is appointed for every Panchayat by the Government and their pay etc. are paid by the Panchayats. The Executive Officer (1) shall have the right to attend the meeting of the Panchayat or of any committee thereof and take part in the discussions there at but without the right to move any resolution or to vote and (2) attend any meeting of Panchayat or of any committee thereof, if required to do so, by the presiding officer.

Functions of executive authority

The Executive authority shall carry into effect the resolutions of the Panchayats and supervise all the officers and ~~servants~~ other employees of the panchayat. He shall discharge all the duties and exercise all the powers specifically imposed or conferred on the executive authority by or

(contd...56)

under the Act and subject to all restrictions and conditions imposed by/or under the Panchayat Act. He shall exercise executive powers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act and be directly responsible for the due fulfilment of the purposes thereof.

Valapattanam Panchayat Board came into existence in 1939 and the 1st election was held in the same year. From 1968 onwards, it became a special grade Panchayat having an income of more than Rs. one lakh. There are 8 members in the panchayat, of whom, one is nominated and the others are elected. Nominated member is usually a woman. The Panchayat Office is located by the eastern side of the West Coast road in Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward. Upto 1955, the panchayat had no permanent building and the present building was constructed in 1955. The construction of a multi-purpose flat building is in final stage and the office will be shifted to that building as soon as the work is completed. The present building, being adjacent to the Government Hospital, will be used for the extension of the Government Hospital.

(contd...57)

The main activities of the Panchayat are as follows:

(1) Construction and maintenance of roads in the villages other than district roads, National and State Highways and all bridges, culverts.

(2) Electrification of public roads and public places

(3) Supply of drinking water

(4) Planning & Executing of drainage, sewage and conservancy works

(5) Infant and Maternity Welfare

(6) Family Planning

(7) Maintenance of the purity of food-stuffs.

(8) Promotion of education and maintenance of library

The important sources of income of the panchayat are entertainment tax, building tax and professional tax. In 1971-72, these three items have contributed 51.17 per cent of the total income of the Panchayat.

Besides the Cinema talkies, football tournament conducted every year in the Panchayat ground is another major source of entertainment tax. 4 per cent of the total collection goes to panchayat as tax. About 1,453 houses are located

(Contd....58)

in the town. Majority of them being standard buildings they pay more house tax. This is the second largest income of the Panchayat. Professional tax is another steady source of revenue. Though there are no major Government offices, several private factories, both small and large, are liable to pay professional tax which is the third major source of income to the Panchayat. Building tax, Professional tax, Licence fees, Ground fee etc. have been on the increase during 1970-71 and 1971-72. However, there is a slight decrease in revenue from entertainment tax, show tax, market fees etc. This is not likely to affect the financial position of the panchayat as the revenue from major sources is on the increase.

Eventhough it is a small panchayat, it had an income of about Rs.1.25 lakhs in 1970-71. In 1971-72, it went upto Rs.1.50 lakhs. The income of the panchayat by source and rate schedules is given below:

(contd...59)

Table 3.2

INCOME BY SOURCE AND RATE SCHEDULE

Income by source	Rate Schedule
1	2
Building tax	7 per cent of the annual rental valpe in addition to 2 per cent, the service tax.
Professional tax	Upto Rs.300/- there is no tax Rs. 301/- to 600/- Rs. 1 Rs. 601/- to 1,200 Rs. 2 Rs. 1,201 to 1,800 Rs. 4 Rs. 1,801 to 3,000 Rs. 6 Rs. 3,001 to 4,800 Rs. 12 Rs. 4,801 to 6,000 Rs. 25 Rs. 6,001 to 9,000 Rs. 50 Rs. 9,001 to 12,000 Rs. 75 Rs.12,001 to 15,000 Rs.100 Above Rs. 15,000 Rs.125
Vehicle other than mechanically propelled	Bicycle Rs. 2/- per half year Push cart Rs. 2/- -do- Bullock cart Rs.5/- -do-
Theatre	Entertainment tax: 20 per cent of the admission rate. Show tax: Rs.1/- for cinema per show, Rs.15/- per circus, Rs.25/- for dramas and Rs. 3/- for all other shows
Market and Bus stand	Fixed rent on sheds
Ground	4 per cent of the total collection, if it is used for entertainments, football tournament etc.
Grants from Government	1. Maintenance grant 2. A portion of tax collection 3. A portion of registration fee on transfer of land

(contd....60)

Income by source	Rate Schedule
1	2
	and other non-movable properties. 75% of expenditure towards special D.A. of Panchayat staff will be met by the Government.

Note:- There is no separate tax for water, lighting and conservancy. Two per cent of the total rental value of a house is collected as service tax in addition to the building tax.

Table 3.3

INCOME OF VALAPATTANAM PANCHAYAT FOR THE PERIOD 1970-71 and 1971-72

Income by source	1970 - 71		1971 - 72	
	Amount due	Amount realised	Amount due	Amount realised
1	2	3	4	5
Total	157,251.53	125,419.16	178,566.65	156,594.52
Building tax	44,751.98	25,478.81	42,147.14	29,427.27
Service-water, drainage etc.	8,244.04	4,720.17	7,878.91	5,663.01
Library cess	611.84	412.31	624.00	533.90
Profession tax	21,880.80	15,715.10	22,395.20	18,120.85
Taxes on vessels and vehicles	343.74	198.50	356.49	230.00
Entertainment tax	32,923.66	32,923.66	32,586.42	32,586.42

(contd...61)

1	2	3	4	5
Show	1,101.25	1,101.25	1,083.75	1,083.75
Duty on transfer of properties	222.37	222.37	2,691.41	2,691.41
Licence fees	7,350.50	5,324.50	8,959.50	7,571.00
Building licences	10.25	10.25	3,123.00	3,123.00
PPR Act	1,228.00	1,228.00	900.00	900.00
Ground rent	5,154.33	5,154.33	9,174.00	9,174.00
PFA Act	196.00	196.00	255.00	255.00
Bus Stand fees	917.20	917.20	1,001.30	1,001.30
Birth and death	-	-	49.00	49.00
Lapsed deposit	-	-	865.83	865.83
Market fees	4,695.59	4,695.59	3,410.00	2,775.00
Interest on investment	874.80	874.80	894.85	894.85
Other receipts	-	-	696.35	696.35
Demand notice fees	295.86	87.00	261.31	54.75
Warrant fees	72.50	32.50	83.36	18.00
Compound fees	70.00	70.00	55.00	55.00
Fines imposed by panchayat	137.00	137.00	452.99	452.99
Government grants & contribution	1,525.00	1,525.00	5,771.03	5,771.03
Scavenging fee	250.00	-	250.00	-
Installation of machineries	-	-	1,840.00	1,840.00
Cinema regulations	300.00	300.00	225.00	225.00

(contd...62)

1	2	3	4	5
Other contributions	-	-	2,069.69	2,069.69
Sundry receipts	38.75	38.75	20.50	20.50
Library receipts	33.90	33.90	32.75	32.75
Other receipts	464.37	464.37	-	-
Cash deposit	13,459.95	13,459.95	23,142.73	23,142.73
Additional tax (Refugee relief)	-	-	3,321.50	3,321.50
Advance recovered	2,213.09	2,213.09	1,948.64	1,948.64
Factory construction	679.00	679.00	-	-
Special D.A. grant	4,508.90	4,508.90	-	-
Vehicle tax compensation	696.86	696.86	-	-
Realisation of investments	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	-

The expenditure of the Panchayat has increased more or less on all items except for water supply, drainage and maintenance of panchayat properties. The total expenditure went up to about Rs.93 thousand in 1971-72 from *that of Rs.76 thousand during the year 1970-71.* In other words, the expenditure has increased by 23.11 per cent from 1970-71 to 1971-72. The expenditure of the panchayat during 1970-71 and 1971-72 is given in the following table:

(contd...63)

Table 3.4

EXPENDITURE OF VALAPATTANAM PANCHAYAT FOR THE PERIOD 1970-71 AND 1971-72

Expenditure by items	1970-71	1971-72
1	2	3
Total	75,600.23	93,070.77
Management	30,006.00	30,423.50
Public works	4,543.45	4,949.17
Education	1,641.72	3,422.06
Water Supply and Drainage	727.20	341.60
Public Health	28,071.98	29,836.63
Lighting	8,788.88	11,766.37
Social Welfare	349.00	510.00
Panchayat properties	670.00	150.00
Extra-ordinary expenditure	802.00	11,671.44

It may be seen from the above table that the expenditure on major individual items during 1971-72 has increased from the level of 1970-71. However, the increase of "extra-ordinary expenditure" is quite abnormal. The next highest increase in expenditure to the tune of 108.44 per cent was incurred on education. The expenditure on lighting and social welfare had also increased from previous years' level. However, it is

(contd...64)

surprising to note that there is a reduction of more than 50 per cent in the expenditure on water supply and drainage while the expenditure on lighting, public health, social welfare, education and public works has increased. The reduction in expenditure on drainage and water supply does not seem to be a healthy practice in view of the highly insanitary condition of the town.

Water Supply

Upto 1965, the town had no protected water supply scheme. In 1965, however, the town is also included under the Rural Water Supply Scheme and is receiving the protected water supply. The cost of the scheme is met by the panchayat while the technical supervision of the scheme is done by the Public Health Engineering Department of the State. The water is tapped from a big well, attached to the Rural Water Supply Scheme. The well is located at Keeriyat Vayal on the eastern border of the town. There is a pumping station with a 7.5 HP capacity. It pumps out, on an average, 10,000 gallons of water per day. The water is purified with chlorine and supplied to the public, besides a portion of it being stored in an overhead reservoir of 5,000 gallons capacity. The existing system under

(contd...65)

Rural Water Supply Scheme is, however, inadequate to serve the area fully. Water level in the well during summar is very low with the result that water supply is maintained for an average of 30 minutes daily from January to May.

A total length of 3 kms. of 80 mm diameter pipe was laid till the year 1972-73 to provide water to the public taps on the road sides. No house connection has so far been given. The source of drinking water for majority of the households is well. In Murukandikkal ward, where it is difficult to lay the pipe across the railway line even the public tap facility is not available.

A combined water supply schmme for Cannanore, Tellicherry, Mahe and some neighbouring villages was formulated in 1962. But the commissioning of the scheme had to be adjourned due to Chinese ~~attack~~ aggression in 1962 and later Pakistan ~~aggression~~ attack in 1965. However, the work on this scheme is now in progress. Valapattanam is one of the neighbouring villages to be benefited by the scheme. The contribution towards the cost of the scheme is estimated at about Rs.6 lakhs. Two third of this estimated expenditure is to be

(Contd...66)

met by loan from the Life Insurance Corporation and of the balance one third, 50 per cent will have to be financed by the Government and the other 50 per cent by panchayat. However, the Panchayat has to repay the loan with an interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum over a period of 22 years in equal annual instalments.

Conservancy

Valapattanam is situated on the low lying flat area. The river side with morass lands is used for storing timber. Thodu with stagnated dirty water is located in the heart of the town. A portion of the swamp land which touches the west coast road is used for retting husks and so it fouls the atmosphere with bad smell. Sanitation, particularly in the centre of the town, is unsatisfactory even by normal standards of an urban area. The south-east side of the town area is at an elevated level and in the rainy seasons the rain water runs to the lower part of the town. The river also over-flows during the rainy season and about 4 months in a year, the lower part where majority of the town's population resides submerge in water.

(contd...67)

Natural drainage facility is not also available. The only place where there is a little of natural drainage facility is the Kalarivathukkal ward. There are good natural facilities for drainage in the ward and this is the most healthy ward of the town. Precisely, Valapattanam has no good environmental condition conducive to health. It is dirty, unhealthy and highly unhygenic for human living. The town of its size needs proper arrangements for drainage and local environments. It was reported that filaria was common in the town.

There are three sweepers and five scavengers employed by the panchayat for keeping the town clean and tidy. Besides, there are two field workers (oil masdoors) to spray ~~crude oil~~ latrine in the drains and stagnated water areas and a Field Assistant who is engaged in antifilaria work. The Sweepers and Scavengers are in the scale of pay of Rs.60-130 and Rs.65-130 respectively. Each sweeper and scavenger is allotted separate area within the town. Only the public roads are cleaned in the morning. The scavengers are engaged in cleaning the private latrines. There are no public comforts in the town. Removal type, sanitary type and septic type latrines are found in the town. About 180 houses

(contd...68)

have the removal type of latrines. The Panchayat is trying to reduce, though not completely to eliminate, the removal type latrines by giving Rs.15 per household to put up modern types of latrines. About 35 households are benefited by this scheme. The collected night soil is carried in a country boat and is flowed in the centre of the river. Majority of the households have latrines and about 40 households are without latrines. They go to fields to ease themselves. Some educationalists and well-wishers formed a committee by name Baliapattam-Development Citizens Committee to improve the town. The first meeting of the committee consisting of officials and non-officials was held at the Collector's office, Cannanore on 24-10-1973 to chalk out programme for the improvement of the area and the following decisions were taken.

(1) Steps will be taken to evict the encroachments on either side of the road with the help of the citizens committee.

(2) The Executive Engineer (NH) will take steps to maks some improvements to the roads after the encroachments are evicted.

(contd...69)

(3) The Panchayat will take steps to cover the open drains.

(4) The Executive Engineer (B & R) will explore the possibility of making a compound wall for the Government High School, Baliapattam.

(5) The District Medical Officer will be requested to keep the Government Dispensary premises clean.

(6) The Panchayat will take steps to shift the existing bus-stand to a more convenient place and convert the present bus-stand as a taxi stand.

(7) The progress of action taken will be watched by the District Collector.

Power

The town has got electricity as early as 1930 by licensee method. To start with, electricity was provided through diesel generator and after some time it was connected with grid. The power supply comes from Kuttiadi Hydro Electric Station about 66 km. away from the town. There is also a receiving Sub-station at Valiyannur village of Cannanore taluk, about 18 km. away from the town. The construction work of another 110 KV Sub-station at Mangad Paramba (Kalliasseri), about 8 km. north of the town is

(contd....70)

under progress. In this connection, the Kerala State Electricity Board is stated to have been facing difficulties to draw lines through industrial area with tall buildings, railway lines, long and wide rivers etc.

The jurisdiction of the electrical sub-division office, located in the town, comprises of the town and some adjoining villages. As such, no separate accounts are maintained ~~of~~ for the electrical connections or energy consumed in the town. According to the statistics gathered from the office of the Assistant Engineer, Electrical Sub-division, Valapattanam, there are 620 connections excluding the street lights. The number of connections by type and rate per unit are given below:

(contd...71)

Table 3.5

NO. OF CONNECTIONS BY TYPE, RATE PER UNIT, VOLUME OF CONSUMPTION IN VALAPATTANAM TOWN 1971-72

Sl. No.	Type of establishment	No. of connections	Rate per unit
1	2	3	4
1.	Domestic	448	30 ps. upto 60 units 15 ps. above 60 units
2.	Industrial	25	15 ps. upto 2000 units 14 ps. above 2000 units
3.	Irrigation	1	9 ps.
4.	Commercial	131	38 ps.
5.	Others (Mosque, Temple, Arts Club, Office etc.)	15	

Majority of the households in the town use electricity. Out of the 160 households canvassed in connection with the study, 93 households or 58.13 per cent have electricity.

(contd...72)

Street lights

Both main and village roads and lanes are provided with electric lights by the Panchayat. There are 129 bulbs of 40, 60 and 100 watts and 36 fluorescent lamps. The lights are put on from 6.30 PM to 4 AM. In the year 1971-72, the Panchayat spent an amount of Rs.11,766.37 for street lights.

Transport and Communication

Cannanore district is placed more favourably with regard to railways. All the taluks, except North Wynad of Cannanore district, are benefited by the railway. The railway was introduced in the town in 1907. Though it is not a railway junction, it is a commercial junction in so far as transporting of timber, plywoods etc. is concerned. There is only one plat-form in the railway station with a length of 600 feet. The station is equipped with upper and second class waiting rooms, parcel facilities, telephone facilities and vegetarian refreshment.

The town is connected by rail and road with Kasaragod, the northern-most municipal town of Kerala and also Mangalore, an important municipal town with harbour and Air port in Karnataka State. On the southern side, it is connected with

(contd...73)

all the important towns of Kerala viz. Cannanore, the district headquarters, Tellicherry, Mahe, Badagara, Calicut, Trichur, Ernakulam, Cochin, Kottayam, Quilon and Trivandrum, the capital city of Kerala State. Daily, 4 passenger trains, one mail and one express connecting Mangalore and Madras, another express connecting Mangalore and Cochin and a weekly Jayanthi Janatha Express connecting Mangalore and New Delhi run through the town. The mail and the express trains running between Mangalore and Madras and Jayanthi Janatha Express between New Delhi and Mangalore do not stop at this station. Therefore, the people of the town have to go to Cannanore, the nearest major station at a distance of 6 km. (by rail) to board those trains. As such, the statistics of passengers who travelled to & from the station covers only those who travelled by passenger trains and Mangalore-Cochin Express.

According to the statistics collected from the Railway Station, Valapattanam, 77,585 printed tickets were issued from this station in the year 1975. Of these, 27,661 were issued to passengers who travelled

between 1 to 25 km., 21,807 between 26-49 km., 13,836 between 50-80 km., 12,201 between 81-250 km. and 2,080 were for above 250 km.

The important places to which people board the train from this town are Kannapuram, Payangadi, Elimala, Payyannur, Nileshwar, Kanhangad, Kasaragod and Mangalore in the North and Cannanore, Tellicherry and Calicut in the South. 68.42 per cent of the total passengers travelled to these places. The number of passengers who travelled to each important place during 1973 is given below:

Table 3.6

NO. OF PASSENGERS WHO TRAVELLED FROM VALAPATTANAM TO SOME IMPORTANT PLACES IN 1973

Sl. No.	Name of Station		No. of passengers
1	2		3
	Total	..	53,087
1.	Kannapuram	..	5,800
2.	Payangadi	..	10,025
3.	Elimala	..	3,969
4.	Payyannur	..	5,747
5.	Nileshwar	..	4,159
6.	Kanhangad	..	3,881
7.	Kasaragod	..	4,636

(contd...75)

1	2		3
8.	Mangalore	..	5,449
9.	Cannanore	..	5,139
10.	Tellicherry	..	1,933
11.	Calicut	..	2,349

The study shows that more passengers travelled from this station in the months of April and May evidently for the reason that this is the period in which important annual festivals and school vacation fall.

The number of passengers who travelled in each month from Valapattanam to various places in 1973 is given below:

January	6,073
February	7,038
March	7,561
April	10,318
May	8,467
June	5,857
July	4,235
August	5,106
September	3,874
October	6,677
November	4,619
December	7,760

In addition to the number mentioned above, many persons also travelled with season tickets

(contd...76)

during the same period. On an average, 45 season tickets are issued from here in a month and most of them travelled a distance of below 25 km. In the same year, 62,893 persons have alighted at the Railway Station.

The rising tempo of trade and industry in the town can be measured from the railway traffic returns which give the particulars of industrial and commercial items sent from and received at this station by train. In 1973, the railway handled 6,058,169.47 tonnes of commodities booked to various places. Timber, Plywood, Hard board, Coir, Empty barrel/Drum, Firewood, Bamboo etc. are the important commodities transported from the station. The commodities transported by item and tonnage are as follows:

Table 3.7

IMPORTANT COMMODITIES EXPORTED BY RAILWAY FROM VALAPATTANAM, 1973

Sl.No.	Commodities	Tonnes
1	2	3
	Total	6,058,169.47
1.	Timber	5,987,704.00
2.	Plywoods	40,530.70
3.	Hard Board	11,098.30
4.	Coir	3,182.05
5.	Empty gunnies	291.90
6.	Empty barrel/drum	913.70

(contd..77)

1	2	3
7.	Rubberised coir	281.00
8.	Firewood	12,626.00
9.	Fish plates	148.60
10.	Cotton mill sweepings	69.10
11.	Bamboo	1,192.00
12.	Silk cotton	2.90
13.	Card board	10.00
14.	Fibre	63.50
15.	Tea chest pannel	41.62
16.	Railway material	4.00
17.	Others	10.10

Timber is mostly transported to Korukkupet, Bombay, Nellore, Kankaria, Veraval dock, Bhavnagar Bunder Timber Depot, Kirkee, Bilimora Junction, Mettupalayam etc. Plywood is mainly transported to Kankaria, New Delhi, Bombay (Wadi Bandar), Bagh Bazar, Paharpur, Madras, Vijayawada Junction, Hyderabad and Surat. Hard boards are to Cochin harbour, Bagh Bazar, New Delhi, Madras, Amritsar Junction and Nagpur. 90 per cent of the coir is transported to Salem Junction and empty gunnies to Mangalore.

The goods brought into the town by rail were 157,115.50 tonnes. Timber logs, cement, furnace oil, steel rod, salt, building material etc. constituted

(contd...78)

the main items of imports. Majority of the timber logs are imported from Mangalore. Cement came from Madukkarai (Associated Cement Company) and also from Chettinad Cement Corporation and India Cements Ltd. Furnace oil came from Cochin. The table given below shows the commodities imported by item and tonnage in 1973.

Table 3.8

COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO VALAPATTANAM BY ITEM AND TONNAGE IN 1973

Sl.No.	Commodities	Tonnage
1	2	3
	Total	157,115.50
1.	Timber logs	24,638.00
2.	Cement bags	98,070.25
3.	Furnace oil	26,571.00
4.	Mill sweepings	377.07
5.	Empty glass	369.12
6.	Empty gunnies	52.88
7.	Machinery	191.21
8.	Fire works	8.12
9.	Tables	5.30
10.	Cables	159.00
11.	Salt	439.47
12.	Empty cylinder	12.98
13.	Mat	26.83
14.	Gum	31.06
15.	Building material	453.85
16.	Steel rod/Roller etc.	2,126.85
17.	Iron and Iron rods	2,289.27

(contd...79)

1	2	3
18.	Saw blade	2.90
19.	Coir yarn	36.71
20	Silk cotton	4.34
21.	Phenyle	282.48
22.	Loom	154.74
23.	Others	812.01

Road Transport

Prior to 1952, there was no regular bus service due to the absence of bridge over the Valapattanam river. In 1952, the rail-road bridge of Valapattanam was inaugurated and it is very helpful to untrammelled transport to and from Valapattanam. The road transport in this area was managed by private companies till the formation of Kerala State in 1956. After the re-organisation of the State, the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation extended its bus service on all important routes in the State. All the important towns in Kerala are connected to Valapattanam by the K.S.R.T.C. bus service. To cope with the growing rush of passengers, the K.S.R.T.C. has lately increased the bus services. Daily, 29 Fast Passengers and 21 ordinary buses ply up and down to various places through the town. The Super Express bus also runs through the town connecting Payyannur on the north and Trivandrum on the south.

(contd...80)

Several private buses also ply through the town connecting the town with Kozhikode, Badagara, Mahe, Tellicherry, Cannanore, Taliparamba, Payyannur, Nileshwar, Kanhangad, Kasaragod, Kumbla and Manjeshwar towns and also with the villages of Payangadi, Chemberi, Palavayal, Cherupuzha, Payyavoor, Koyyam, Parassinikkadavu etc. There are also town service buses plying between Cannanore and Valapattanam and between Cannanore and Azhikode via Valapattanam. Besides the transport buses, taxi service is also available from the town to the neighbouring villages and towns. The taxi stand is situated near the Panchayat Office.

Private goods transport companies have started branches in the town for transporting goods to and from the town. Kerala Transport Company, Sree Narayana Transport, C.C. Transport, Associated Traders and Engineers Pvt. Ltd. and M.B.T. are the important companies located here. All their offices are located by the side of the West-Coast road and the commodities mainly transported are Plywood, Pepper, Textiles (both handlooms and power looms) Jute sacks, Tyres etc. In the year 1972, the Kerala Transport Company transported about 550 tonnes of plywood and about 500 tonnes of textiles to Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Madras, Coimbatore, Bangalore and other places.

Water Transport

As already mentioned, the town is located by the side of Valapattanam river which forms a navigable length of about 45 km., of which, motor boat traffic is upto 13 km. from the mouth of the sea. The river passes through paddy fields, thick growth of cocoanut and arecanut palms and the sides of small hills with varieties of trees and so, the journey by boat is really enjoyable. Two boats are put to service through the river. One each is owned by the Chandrasekhara Boat Service and Hameediya Boat Service. Hameediya Boat Service starts from Payangadi, about 8 km. north of the town and ends in Chengalayi village, about 12 km. to east. Chandrasekhara boat service is under the management of Shri 'Muthappan Temple', Parassinikkadavu and is used only to transport persons who come from various places to visit the temple. Daily, the boat plys thrice up and down from Parassinikkadavu temple to Valapattanam and it has no intervening stop. The charge from Valapattanam to Parassinikkadavu is 40 ps.

Prior to the establishment of improved roads and rail transport facilities, most of the commodities of pepper, cocoanut, arecanut, cashewnut, timber etc. were exported to Bombay, Mangalore and

(contd..82)

other places through the port of Azhikkal which is situated at the mouth of the Valapattanam river, about 2 km. away from the town. It is a minor port with a depth of 5½ to 6 feet at low tide. It is declared open for inter state traffic and only hoys are put into service for transporting goods. Daily, an average of 3 hoys were going to Bombay from this port with an average of 100 to 300 tonnes of goods. The chief export is timber logs. The hoy is plying with the help of wind. If the wind is favourable, the hoy will reach Bombay within 16 days, otherwise it will take about 45 days. So, most of the factory owners and businessmen are not willing to transport their goods in the hoy. Moreover, they find it easy and convenient to transport goods by rail or road.

Post and Telegraph Services

The town has only one Sub-Post Office which started functioning in the year 1891. It is equipped with telegraphic facilities. Saving Deposit Scheme is also in operation. In the year 1971-72, the post office transacted 13,676 incoming and 9,611 outgoing telegrams. During 1971-72, the post office had handled 12,028 money orders amounting to Rs.715,508.81. Of this, 5,662 money orders

(contd..83)

for Rs.463,459.38 are received by the post office from outside for delivery to persons within its jurisdiction, while the remaining are those sent through this post office to persons outside.

575 Radio licences were issued from the post office in 1971-72. Among these, 527 are for domestic use, 24 for commercial use and 24 are for public use on concessional rates. The approximate sale proceeds of postal stationery in the Sub-Post Office during 1971-72 are given in the following table:

Table 3.9

TRANSACTIONS IN POST OFFICE, VALAPATTANAM

Name of the Post Office	Postal stationery	No. sold during 1971-72	Total sale proceeds during 1971-72
1	2	3	4
Total			51,167.65
Sub-Post Office, Valapattanam	Post Card	12,000	1,200.00
	Inland-cover	39,000	5,850.00
	Envelope	28,800	5,760.00
	Stamp	-	38,357.65

(contd....84)

Educational facilities and Educational Institutions

Prior to the independence of India, this region was under the British administration. After independence and upto the State Re-organisation, it formed part of Madras State. During both the periods, the literacy level of this region is found to be less than what is obtained in other parts of the state. For instance, the princely States of Travancore and Cochin had higher literacy rates during the same period. It is stated that the rulers who were generally liberal patrons of art and literature had been encouraging literacy by the opening of schools even in remote areas. The literacy rate of these three regions from 1901 to 1961 is as follows:

Table 3.10

PERCENTAGE OF LITERATES AMONG THE REGIONS FROM 1901 TO 1961 (FULL COUNT)

Regions	1901	1911	1921	1931	1951	1961
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cannanore Dt.	11.12	14.09	15.58	19.47	40.15	48.45
Cochin	13.99	16.65	22.69	31.42	51.18	58.34
Travancore	15.06	18.00	29.66	31.04	56.97	61.47

(contd...85)

One of the unique features of the State is its advancement in the field of literacy. More than half of the State's population are literates. The literacy advancement is neither localised nor commercialised as was the case in olden days. Education has made remarkable progress especially after the independence of India. Facility for free education upto secondary stage has been granted by the Government and most of the villages and towns have schools in their own habitation or within a walkable distance. Persons of all communities and from all the areas of the State are very much conscious about education and so also the town Valapattanam and its people. There are four schools in the town and more than 75 per cent children of school-going age-group will be able to receive education. At present, over 600 persons for every 1000 persons are literates in the town. The male and female literacy of the town constitute respectively, 59.03 and 40.97 per cent of the total literacy. The general percentage of literacy increased from 46.15 in 1961 to 60.39 in 1971. The percentage of literate males increased from 59.90 to 69.96, while the rate of the literacy of females increased from 31.92 per cent to 50.45 per cent. Years ago, the Muslims and the depressed

(contd..86)

people were not interested to send their children, especially girls, to schools. The orthodoxical attitude of the Muslims, Scheduled Castes and Tribes towards education is changed and the lumpsum grant given by the Government to them enriched their awareness about education. As a result, they have also joined the main stream of literates by educating their children of both sexes.

There are about 1,963 persons in the school going age of 5 to 15 in the town. At the same time, the number of students studying in all the schools located in the town itself comes to 2,199 comprising of 1,201 boys and 998 girls. It shows that the educational facilities are good enough in the town upto secondary stage. At present, there are two Primary Schools, one Upper Primary School and one High School in the town. One Primary School is intended only for Muslim students. The Primary and Upper Primary Schools are managed by private agencies and High School is run by the Government.

However, for higher education, there is no institution in the town and the students of the town have to go for their higher education elsewhere

(contd...87)

which is possible only for the rich and the high class people of the town. The people having limited income find it difficult to give higher education to their children. Most of these who pursue college education have to go to the colleges located at Cannanore, Taliparamba and Tellicherry.

In 1972-73, 2,199 pupils attended various educational institutions in the town. Out of these, 1,332 are in the Primary (Std. I to IV), 555 are in the Middle (Std. V to VII) and 312 are in High School sections. The teaching staff consisted of 42 males and 39 females. There is one teacher for every 27 pupils. The educational institutions located in the town are delt with below:

Government High School

It was an elementary school upto 1964 and was known as Valapattanam Elementary School under the control of the Malabar District Board. During 1964-65, it was upgraded as a High School and now it is managed by the Government of Kerala. In the beginning, it had three buildings constructed by the District Board at a cost of Rs.12,000/-. Four additional buildings were put up during 1964, 1966 and 1968. Among these, one building at a cost of Rs.20,000/- was constructed and donated to the Government by the High School Committee of the town

(contd...88)

and the remaining 3 were constructed by the Government at a total cost of Rs.133,000/-.

There are three sections of Primary, Middle and Secondary classes. The medium of instruction in all the sections is Malayalam. In Primary Sections, Malayalam, Arithmetic, General Science, Social Studies and English are taught. The subjects for middle and secondary sections are Malayalam, Arabic, English, Hindi, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. The children are also encouraged to study drawing, painting and music.

The strength of the High School in 1973-74 was 891 consisting of 252 in Primary, 327 in Middle and 312 in Secondary sections. Of the total pupils, 717 are Muslims and the rest are Hindus. Among Hindus, 24 students belong to Scheduled Castes and 20 of them are in receipt of lumpsum grant. 18 Muslim girls have also received scholarship.

There are 40 teachers in the school consisting of 27 males and 13 females. At the time of survey, the post of one Junior Arabic Teacher was vacant. Among the 40 teachers, 14 belong to Thiyya community and 12 belong to Nair or Nambiar community. Others are 1 Pitarar,

(contd...89)

1 Kanisan, 1 Saliya, 1 Velakkathala Nair, 1 Veluthedan, 1 Jogi and 8 Muslims.

During 1972-73, the total expenditure for running the school was Rs.194,332.00, of which, Rs.187,190/- was spent on salary for the staff, Rs.700/- as medical re-imbursement, Rs.500/- as travelling allowances, Rs.1,800/- for office expenses, Rs.1,242/- as lumpsum grant and scholarship and Rs.2,900/- for equipment and books.

Kamala Nehru U.P. School

It is a private school which was established in 1914 in Kalarivathukkal ward. There are two sections of primary and middle classes. The classes are conducted in two pucca buildings constructed in 1914 and 1940. The estimated cost of the buildings is Rs.15,000/-. There are 7 classes from Standard I to VII with Malayalam as the medium of instruction. Malayalam, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies are taught in all classes and in middle classes English and Hindi Languages are also taught. 401 students consisting of 184 boys and 217 girls studied in the year 1973-74. Out of these, 356 are Hindus, 41 Muslims and 4 Christians. Among Hindus, 12 belong to Scheduled Caste and 1 belongs to Scheduled Tribe and all of them are in receipt

(contd...90)

of lumpsum grant. Even though it is a co-education school, all the teachers are females. Altogether, there are 14 teachers consisting of 7 Thiyya, 3 Nairs, 1 Vishwakarma, 1 Saliya and 2 Christians. In the year 1972-73, the total expenditure of the school was Rs.57,600/-. Of this, Rs.56,550 is salary of the staff, Rs.800/- is the maintenance charge and Rs.250/- is miscellaneous expenditure.

Ramayilasam L.P. School

This is the first school in Valapattanam, established a hundred years ago in Kalarivathukkal ward by the side of the West Coast road. Formerly, it was known as Baliapattam Elementary School but later, the school was named after the house name (Ramavilas) of the School Manager. Now the management of the school vests in the hands of Smt. M. Ammalu Amma, the retired Headmistress of this school. This is a Primary School with classes I to V and the medium of instruction is Malayalam. Malayalam, Arabic, Arithmetic, General Science and Social Studies are taught in Standards I to V. In Standards IV and V, English and Hindi are also taught as additional subjects. Arabic language is taught only upto IV standard. Drawing and music are also taught here.

(contd...91)

312 pupils (150 boys and 162 girls) who attend the school include 196 Hindus, 115 Muslims and 1 Christian. The strength of the teachers is 10 consisting of 2 males and 8 females. In the year 1972-73, the total expenditure of the school was Rs.35,269/- of which Rs.34,536/- was spent on salary of the staff, Rs.600/- used for maintenance and Rs.133/- spent on miscellaneous expenditure.

Subulussalam L.P. School

This school was established in 1968 by the Subulussalam Madrasa Committee to impart education to Muslims. It is managed by the elected members from the committee. It is a Muslim School and only Muslim students are studying there. The classes are conducted in a pucca building constructed in 1958 at a cost of Rs.25.00₹-. Before the starting of the school, this building was used to conduct classes of Government High School.

There are four classes from Standard I to IV with Malayalam as medium of instruction. Malayalam, Arabic, Arithmetic, Science and Social Studies are taught in all classes. Besides, English is also taught in the IV standard.

The strength of the pupils and teachers in 1973-74 is 595 and 17 respectively. Out of 595 students, 293 are boys and 302 are girls. Eventhough

(contd...92)

it is a Muslim School, 2 female teachers are non-Muslims, one being a Hindu-Velan and the other a Christian. Among the Muslim teachers, two are females.

The total expenditure for running the school in the year 1972-73 was Rs.58,600/-. Of this, Rs.57,600/- was spent on salary, Rs.700/- for maintenance and Rs.300/- for miscellaneous items.

Nataraja-Natya Kalanilayam

This is a dance school established in 1961 in Kalarivathukkal ward. A building taken on rent at Rs.15/- per month houses this school. The head office of the institution is at Azhikode. Fostering of dance and music is its main object.

The management and control of the institution is vested in a committee consisting of 13 members. The administration is carried on by the President and Secretary elected by the committee. At the time of survey, there are 80 students consisting of 72 Hindus, 6 Christians and 2 Muslims. Bharathanatyam, Kathakali, Manipuri dances etc. are taught here. The working hours are from 4 to 6 in the evening. An average of 60 programmes are conducted in a year by this institution. A sum of Rs.600/- is charged for each programme. The following are the dances they have enacted.

1) Panchavadi
2) Sree Ayyappa Jananam
3) Rajasooyam
4) Kumarasambhavam
5) Pasupathasthram
6) Supriya
7) Lehari and
8) Ankulima

Medical facilities and Medical Institutions

The medical facilities and general sanitation of the town are unsatisfactory. There is no medical practitioner except a L.I.M. doctor in this town. However, a Government hospital has been established recently. Two Family Welfare Centres are also functioning here. But still, most of the people from the town go to Cannanore 8 km. away, where district headquarters' hospital and many other private hospitals are located.

Government Hospital, Valapattanam

It was established in 1969 in Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward. It is very close to the Panchayat Office and is accessible to the majority of the town dwellers. It has a single storeyed concrete building constructed and donated by

(contd...94)

Valapattanam Hospital Welfare Committee. The estimated cost of the building is about Rs.170,000/-. The building is divided into male ward, female ward, maternity ward, operation theatre, office, store and kitchen. The hospital is owned and run by the Health Department of the State Government.

The departments of the hospital are General, Maternity and Child Welfare, Family Planning, Filaria Clinic and Minor Operations. The number of beds sanctioned by Government is only 30. But the number of in-patients is increasing day by day. Recently, the number of in-patients is found to be 46 at a time. As a result, the patients lie on the floor for want of beds. On an average, 136 out-patients from the town and surrounding areas visit this hospital daily. The total number of patients treated by this hospital during 1972 and the types of diseases treated are given below:

(contd...95)

Table 3.11

NO. OF PERSONS AND INCIDENCE OF DISEASES TREATED IN VALAPATTANAM GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL IN THE YEAR 1972

Sl. No.	Category of disease	No. treated	
		In-patients	Out-patients
1	2	3	4
	Total	2,523	49,724
1)	Neoplasms	1	-
2)	Allergic, Endocrine System, Metabolic and Nutritional Diseases	132	2,214
3)	Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs	475	6,711
4)	Mental, Psychoneurotic and Personality Disorders	2	415
5)	Diseases of the Nervous System and sense organs	3	827
6)	Diseases of the circulatory system	114	3,889
7)	Diseases of the Respiratory System	530	12,489
8)	Diseases of the Digestive System	515	12,135
9)	Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	24	185
10)	Deliveries and complications of Pregnancy, Child Birth, and the Puerperium	433	270
11)	Diseases of the Skin and Cellular Tissue	12	215
12)	Diseases of the Bones and Organs of Movement	27	352

(contd...96)

1	2	3	4
13)	Certain Diseases of early Infancy	5	5
14)	Accidents, Poisoning and Violence	212	3,524
15)	Filarial infection	12	2,618
16)	Inflamatary diseases of eye	26	3,875

A sum of Rs.35,000 is spent for medicines in the year 1972-73. All the medicines are supplied by Government. An amount of Rs.38,977.33 is spent for diet and Rs.38,066.94 is spent as salary of the staff. Miscellaneous expenditure works out to Rs.27,998.30/-.

At present, the hospital has two medical, 11 para medical and 3 non-medical staff. Among the medical staff, Dr. K.T. Mandakini B.Sc.,M.B.B.S., D.G.O. is the Medical Officer-in-charge of the hospital and Dr. C. Kunhiraman Nair, B.Sc., M.B.B.S. is the Assistant Surgeon. Among the 11 para medical staff, 3 are Staff Nurses, 3 Nursing Assistants, 1 Pharmacist, 1 Mid-wife and 3 Hospital Attendants. Out of three non-medical staff, one is a Clerk, one a Cook and the other is a part-time Sweeper.

(Contd....97)

Filaria

A brief Filaria Survey in Valapattanam Panchayat was carried out in the year 1948 by the Regional Malaria Organisation, Coimbatore and a small scheme of Antifilaria measures was formulated at an estimated cost of Rs.1,200/- per annum. Since then, the Panchayat was carrying out larvicidal operations on the lines suggested by the Regional Malariologist, Coimbatore.

Subsequently, as per the instructions of the Director of Public Health, Madras, more detailed survey was carried out in May, 1957 and a more comprehensive scheme was formulated at an estimated annual expenditure of Rs.2,800/- per annum. Since then, the area was included in the National Filaria Control Unit Scheme of Cannanore. Observations made during this survey are as follows:

Filaria disease

Number of persons examined all age-groups	516
Number of persons with filaria diseases	106
Disease rate	20.54%

Filariasis detection in blood

Number of persons examined	122
Number of persons found positive	27
Percentage	22.13%

(contd...98)

The endemicity rate worked out to 26.1 per cent for Valapattanam Panchayat. The incidence of diseases was found to be the highest in the wards where Muslim population is predominant. Besides, the survey also indicated the following:

I. Valapattanam is highly endemic Filariasis, the endemicity rate being 26.1 per cent. Disease rate is 20.6 per cent and infection rate is 22.1 per cent.

II. Filariasis in Valapattanam is due to the Ban crofti, infection carried out by Culex fatigrans. The infectivity rate among Culex fatigrans worked to 4 per cent.

Since the introduction of National Filaria Control Programme in December, 1957, mass survey was discontinued. Instead, vertical survey ie. survey among children within the ages 1 to 15 years was introduced. All positive cases detected during the survey are being treated with the D.E.C. tablets.

Time to time, several measures based on the results of the surveys are adopted to control the spread of filaria.

(contd...99)

The following are the control programmes already carried out.

1. Mass Hetrazan therapy in the year 1960
2. Two rounds of adult mosquito spraying with Bonzyno Hexachloride in the years 1960 and 1961
3. Antilarval operations with the mosquito larvicidal oil. This is being continued in collaboration with the local body.
4. A regular weekly Filaria night clinic is started functioning from 21-11-69 onwards
5. The total attendance in the clinic so far is 3,067 persons, of whom, 243 are found to be cases of Micro Filaria in ~~their~~ blood. All positive cases are being given treatment from hospital itself.

During investigation, a special survey of the residents was arranged with a view to assess the incidence of Filaria. This shows that there are 51 Filaria cases in a population of 1,490. This shows that out of every 1,000 persons, 34 are affected by filaria. Among 51 persons who ~~were~~ are suffering from this disease, 17 are males and 34 females. It is also noted that 82 per cent of the total affected persons are of the age 40 and above. There was no patient in the sample whose age is 20 and below. The following

(contd...100)

table shows the total number of affected persons in different age-groups.

Table 3.12

TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH FILARIA IN EACH AGE-GROUP (SURVEY DATA)

Age-group		Total number of persons
1		2
All ages	..	51
0-20	..	Nil
21-29	..	5
30-39	..	4
40-49	..	18
50-59	..	11
60 and above	..	13

It is an infectious disease and its duration of infection lasts for years. It is found that about 67 per cent of the total diseased persons have been suffering for the last 20 years and above. The distribution of Filaria patients by duration of infection is as follows:

(contd...101

Table 3.13

DISTRIBUTION OF DISEASED PERSONS BY DURATION OF INFECTION (SURVEY DATA)

Duration of infection		No. of persons
1		2
0-4	years ..	4
5-9	" ..	6
10-14	" ..	1
15-19	" ..	6
20-24	" ..	8
25-29	" ..	9
30 years and above	..	17

An analysis of the result of the survey revealed that the antifilaria measures, such as establishments of filaria clinic for the detection and treatment of positive micro filaria and oil spraying undertaken by the Health Department and Panchayat has now brought the Filaria effectively under control.

Majority of the persons with filaria are non-workers. Out of 17 males and 34 females, only 8 males and 2 females are working. Filaria does not affect the working force except in very rare cases. Among the workers who are affected

(contd...102)

by the disease, elderly males of all religions and females of the Muslim Community are found to be predominant.

Dr. Kumaran's Clinic

It is a private dispensary started in 1952 by Dr. Kumaran L.I.M. and is housed in a rented building. The Clinic is located in the first floor. There are three rooms used as Consulting, Dispensary and Waiting Rooms respectively.

The working hours of the Clinic are from 11 AM to 8.30 PM. The Doctor is assisted by a Compounder. On an average, 8 patients are coming to the Clinic daily and the common diseases treated here ~~fever~~ are fever, cold, dysentery, scabies etc.

Family Welfare Centre

It was established in 1970 in Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward, very near to the Government Hospital. It is now located in a concrete building constructed in 1971 at an estimated cost of Rs.15,000/-. A small portion of the Clinic is used for the residence of the Mid-wife. The Welfare Centre is run by the Kerala State Health Department and it is under the control of the

(contd...10%)

Doctor-in-Charge of the Primary Health Centre, Azhikode. There are two staff members in the centre of whom one is Auxiliary Nurse-cum-Mid-wife and the other is a Voluntary worker. The former belongs to Pulaya Community (ST) and the latter belongs to Thiyya Community. The main activities of the centre consist of attending to delivery cases, giving advice in matters pertaining to Family Planning, Promoting PPS(Post-Partem Sterilization), IUCD, Vasectomy, Administering Triple Vaccine etc. The jurisdiction of the centre is the whole Panchayat area of Valapattanam. The Mid-wife visits some houses daily and advises on matters of Family Planning. On an average, Rs.3,600/- was spent for medicines, Rs.4,200/- was paid to the staff as salary, Rs.75/- spent on uniform, Rs.180/- spent for PTA of the staff and Rs.250/- for miscellaneous items.

There is also one Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, established in 1957, under the control of the panchayat. It is located in a rented building. The rent for the building is Rs.15/- per month. There are two staff members,

(contd...104)

one, a Maternity Assistant and the other an 'Ayah'. The main activities of the centre are the same as those of the Family Welfare Centre. The Panchayat is alloting an amount of Rs.6,800/- per year for pay, uniform of the staff, medicine, equipment, rent etc.

Hotels and Restaurants

According to the houselist prepared for the Census 1971, there are 10 hotels, 32 restaurants and one canteen of a factory. In the hotels, rice meals, tea, coffee and other food-stuffs are served, but in restaurants, tea, coffee and food-stuff except meals are available. 5 hotels employed 5 or more persons, while the remaining 5 employed below 5 persons. About 55 per cent of the total restaurants are very small and are managed without engaging any employee. In these cases, the proprietors are assisted by the other members of the family. Maximum number of employees in a restaurant is noted to be 10. Eventhough it is a Muslim centre, 50 per cent of the total hotels and restaurants are owned by Hindus.

There is no rest house or other lodging facilities in the town. However, in Cannanore Municipal town where the district headquarters is

(contd...105)

situated, modern facilities of lodging and boarding are available. As the distance between the two towns is less than 10 kms. and bus services are frequently available, none of the visitors is interested to stay in this town. Details of some hotels canvassed in connection with special studies are dealt with below:

Jayabharathi hotel

This is the largest hotel in Valapattanam and was established in 1958 in Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward by the side of West-Coast road and is very close to the Panchayat Office and Government Hospital. It is purely a vegetarian hotel working from 6 AM to 10 PM.

The hotel is housed in the ground floor of a two storeyed building taken on rent at Rs.140/- per month from the Panchayat Board President of Valapattanam, the owner of the building. The first floor of the building is rented out to timber traders. The hotel has two big and 3 small dining rooms including one family room. The kitchen of the hotel is at the rear of the building. The front hall is furnished with modern furniture and others with ordinary tables and stools or benches. The floor is cemented and the halls are

(contd...106)

provided with electric lights and ceiling fans. Food-stuffs are kept in a glass almirah. There is one Refrigerator, a Radio, a Wall clock and an Automatic emergency light. Mirrors are also fitted on the walls of the rooms. Mostly, meals are served in plantain leaves. The utensils and serving dishes are of glass, aluminium and stainless steel.

Local people, office and factory staff, visitors, excursion parties and people who get down here to go to the famous temple "Shree Muthappan" located in Parassinikkadavu are the normal customers of the hotel. During summer, many excursion parties, especially students and teachers, come here to visit Western India Plywood Factory, Hard Board Factory and Fibre Foam etc. and most of them take food from this hotel. About 200 persons take refreshments and meals from the hotel daily.

The Proprietor of the hotel is a Hindu Nambiar hailing from Azhikode, the adjoining village. He is also a partner of a medical shop and is also a partner in a rubber factory at Mangalore in Karnataka State. There are 10 paid employees who are all Hindus. All the employees

(contd...107)

are from outside the town. Of them, 6 are migrants in the sense that they are presently residing in the town itself. The other 4 are staying outside the town. Out of the ten employees, six are for preparing and supplying food and side dishes, one for mashing ingredients like chilli, rice, blackgram etc., one for preparing drinks like tea, coffee etc. and the rest two are for cleaning. The workers are paid wages according to the length of service and the nature of work they perform. Three of the employees get daily Rs.4.50/- each, four get Rs.3.50/- each and two get Rs.3.00/- each a day. The Cleaner boy is paid Rs.2.50 per day. All the employees are given free food from the hotel.

Al-Aman Hotel

It started functioning in 1935 in Kakkulangara ward, a business centre. This was originally established by Shri Eramullan Kutty. He managed the hotel for about 10 years and in 1945 he transferred the ownership to the present owners due to loss in business. The hotel is housed in a portion of their own building. It is a non-vegetarian hotel and the working hours are from 5 AM to 11 PM. The hotel is provided with modern furniture, electric lights and fans. A refrigerator

(contd...108)

wall clock and mirror are also kept in the hotel. The food-stuffs are kept in a glass almirah. The utensils and serving dishes are of glass, porcelain and china clay.

Most of the customers are local Muslim people and neighbouring villagers. Till recently Hindus, especially the Hindu females, did not take food from Muslim hotels. But now-a-days, all persons take food from Muslim Hotels irrespective of caste or religion. On an average, 175 persons take meals/tea from this hotel every day.

The Proprietors of the hotel are two brothers who belong to Muslim Community. They are residing in the same town. There is a timber business also under the same management. So, one of them manages the hotel and the other the timber business. There are 6 employees who are all Muslims. They are all dwellers of the same town. All the employees are given free meals in addition to wages.

Bar, Arrack and Toddy Shops

It was a prohibited area prior to the year 1967. It is only after the lifting of prohibition by the Government in the year 1967, liquor, toddy and arrack shops were opened in the town. Separate

(contd...109)

licences are issued by the Government to the successful bidders after the annual public auction to open toddy, arrack and foreign liquor shops. The shop keepers are obliged to observe certain special conditions, one such condition being that they serve only that liquor which they received from authorised sources. The licensee can open shops at any place approved by the authorities within the area allotted to him.

The town being a Muslim centre, there is less scope for liquor shops. So the arrack and toddy shops are only very few in number. There is no foreign liquor shop. An arrack shop and a toddy shop are located in Kalarivathukkal ward where the Hindus are predominantly residing. Even-though custom prohibits Muslim Community from consuming liquor, at times some members used to alcoholic drinks are found to be taking arrack or toddy.

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C.S.A.20.10.81

CHAPTER IV

ECONOMIC LIFE OF THE TOWN

There has been noticeable improvement in the urbanised economic life of the people in the town between 1961 and 1971. The economy of the town as derived from the work participation of the working force reveals that industry and trade are the mainstay of the living of the people of the town. Paddy cultivation around the town being rare, the persons engaged in cultivation and agriculture are small in number. The town has neither any forest area nor any coastal belt. Though it is located about 5 km. away from the sea-shore, only a few persons are engaged in fishing. No one from the town is found engaged in forestry and hunting and allied activities.

Manufacturing other than household industry and trade plays a prominent part in the economy of the town. There are industrial and manufacturing establishments such as Plywood factories, Hard board factory, Fibre foam, Saw mills etc. Many persons of the town are engaged in trading of agricultural products like pepper, cocoanut, cashewnut, arecanut etc. collected from the villages and hilly areas far and near. As such, the town is an agro-industrial centre. Transport also provides employment to some people.

(contd..111)

As per 1971 census, most of the workers are engaged in manufacturing activities, trade and commerce, transport and 'other services'. The workers constitute only 24.34 per cent of the total population of the town. The proportion of workers in this town to the total population is not much different from what is obtained from the State, as a whole. Of the State population of 213.47 lakhs, only a little over 29 per cent is found to be economically active.

The male and female break-up of workers in the town reveals an universal feature of male workers being the highest in number in the total working force. The male workers of the town constitute as high as 93.47 per cent of the total workers. As compared to the proportion of the workers in the district to the total population, the work participation rate of the people in the town is also very low.

For census purpose, the workers are classified into 9 major industrial categories. The distribution of workers among the nine major industrial categories shows that the largest number of workers (586) forming 32.99 per cent of the total workers in 1971 are engaged in manufacturing

(contd...112)

other than household industry as against 32.25 per cent in 1961. Similarly, the persons employed in trade and commerce constitute the next higher percentage of workers and have also registered an increase of about 5½ per cent from 1961 level. Since very early times, the town was very famous for trade in pepper, arecanut etc., which attracted persons both from within and outside the country. Besides, majority of the people of the town are Muslims whose main occupation is business. These facts account for the increased activities of trade and commerce in the town. The third largest group is engaged in 'other services' which include administrative and educational services and all kinds of personal services. The town being a trade centre, the number of persons employed in transport and communication is also more. The increase in the volume of employment under this category is to the tune of 2.26 per cent between 1961 and 1971. Conversely, there is a reduction in the proportion of workers employed in the primary sectors of the economy. The table below indicates workers by industrial category and by sex during 1961 and 1971.

(contd...113)

Table 4.1

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS BY SEX, VALAPATTANAM 1961 AND 1971

Industrial categories		1961			1971		
		Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
Total		1,600 (100.00)	1,471 (100.00)	129 (100.00)	1,776 (100.00)	1,660 (100.00)	116 (100.00
I	Cultivators	9 (0.56)	6 (0.41)	3 (2.33)	6 (0.34)	6 (0.36)	.. ..
II	Agricultural Labourers	16 (1.00)	6 (0.41)	10 (7.75)	3 (0.17)	3 (0.18)	.. ..
III	Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting & plantations, orchards & allied activities	18 (1.13)	17 (1.16)	1 (0.77)	12 (0.68)	12 (0.72)	.. ..
IV	Mining and quarrying	Not separately classified in 1961			..	..	
V(a)	Household Industry	6 (0.38)	4 (0.27)	2 (1.55)	5 (0.28)	5 (0.30)	.. ..
V(b)	Other than Household Industry	516 (32.25)	493 (33.51)	23 (17.83)	586 (32.99)	563 (33.92)	23 (19.83
VI	Construction	10 (0.62)	10 (0.68)	.. ..	15 (0.84)	15 (0.90)	.. ..
VII	Trade and Commerce	322 (20.13)	322 (21.89)	.. ..	455 (25.62)	452 (27.23)	3 (2.59)
VIII	Transport, Storage & Communications	262 (16.38)	259 (17.61)	3 (2.33)	331 (18.64)	329 (19.82)	2 (1.72)
IX	Other Services	441 (27.55)	354 (24.06)	87 (67.44)	363 (20.44)	275 (16.57)	88 (75.86)

(contd...114)

The participation rate of male population is high in manufacturing. As much as 33.92 per cent of the total male workers are employed in manufacturing as against 19.83 per cent of the female workers. Females, however, dominate in 'Other Services'. 75.86 per cent of the total female workers are engaged in that category as against 16.57 per cent of the total male workers engaged in "Other Services". None is engaged in Mining and Quarrying and there is no female worker in Primary Sector. Under Secondary Sector as well, except in manufacturing industries where bulk of the workers are employed, no one is engaged in other types of work. In the town, 1.18 per cent of the workers are engaged in Primary Sector consisting of categories I, II, III and IV, 34.12 per cent in the ~~Sectory~~ Secondary Sector which includes categories V(a), V(b) and VI and 64.70 per cent in the Tertiary Sector comprising of categories VII, VIII and IX.

The reason for the low work participation of the female population is one of religion. As mentioned elsewhere, the town is a Muslim centre. About 74 per cent of the total females of the town belongs to Muslim Community. Traditionally, Muslims do not allow the female folk to be employed.

(contd...115)

Age-group of workers and non-workers

The population of the town can broadly be divided into three age-groups, viz. those within the ages of 0-14, 15-59 and 60 and above. The first group is made up of infants and school-going children, the second group is the work force and the third group is of old persons. 41.71 per cent of the total population in Valapattanam are persons below 15 years of age and 4.67 per cent are old persons of above 60 years of age. Both these groups are generally considered as non-workers. But in Valapattanam, some persons from these age-groups are also found to be economically active. There are 31 persons in the age-group 0-14 and 49 persons in the age-group 60 and above found to be workers. In other words, 1.02 per cent of the total persons in the age-group 0-14 and 14.37 per cent of the total persons in the age-group 60 and above are economically active. The number of young girls compelled to work is a little more than the number of boys working. The number of male workers of 60 years and above of age are much more than female workers in the same age-group. Even among persons who belong to the age-group 15-59, there are quite a large number of non-workers. Their distribution in the intermediate age-groups is examined below:

(contd...116)

Table 4.2

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS IN DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS

Age-group	Total population			Total workers			Total non-workers		
	Persons	Males	Fe-males	Persons	Males	Fe-males	Persons	Males	Fe-males
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	7,296	3,718	3,578	1,776	1,660	116	5,520	2,058	3,462
0-14	3,043	1,501	1,542	31	14	17	3,012	1,487	1,525
15-19	750	404	346	124	117	7	626	287	339
20-24	652	359	293	294	279	15	358	80	278
25-29	512	290	222	277	268	9	235	22	213
30-39	943	477	466	468	440	28	475	37	438
40-49	643	348	295	354	327	27	289	21	268
50-59	412	207	205	179	168	11	233	39	194
60+	341	132	209	49	47	2	292	85	207

Out of 3,043 persons in the age-group 0-14, 31 are engaged in work. Among 750 persons in the age-group 15-19, only 124 are workers. The low rate of participation from among the persons in the age-group 15-19 may be due to the fact that the boys and girls above the age of 14 continue their study. Even in the age-group 20-24, there will be a good number of students attending colleges or undergoing technical trainings. As such, out of 652 persons

(contd...117)

in this age-group, only 294 are workers. Of whom, 279 are males and 15 females. In the age-group 25-29, about 46 per cent is found to be non-workers. The highest number of workers are in the age-group 30-39 followed by those in the age-group 40-49. In the age-group 50-59, the number of workers is less. On the whole, it is found that unemployment problem in the town is high.

The number of female workers in all the age-groups excluding 0-14 is much less than that of males in the corresponding age-groups. Though it is illegal to employ children below the age of 14, the reasons for the comparatively higher proportion of female workers within this age is that the employment of these girls for certain types of works in handloom and in other household industries is more advantageous. They are engaged in spinning and winding the threads in handloom weaving industries. They are also engaged in beedi making which is a household industry. Besides, the girls of this age-group are employed in large scale as domestic servants. The sex-wise percentage distribution of workers in each age-group to the total workers is given in the table below:

(contd...118)

Table 4.3

PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS IN DIFFERENT AGE-GROUPS TO TOTAL WORKERS IN VALAPATTANAM

Age-group	Total workers		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
0-14	1.75	0.84	14.66
15-19	6.98	7.05	6.03
20-24	16.55	16.81	12.93
25-29	15.60	16.14	7.76
30-39	26.35	26.51	24.14
40-49	19.93	19.70	23.28
50-59	10.08	10.12	9.48
60+	2.76	2.83	1.72

According to 80 per cent sample slips of 1971 Census, there are 5,836 persons in the town, comprising of 2,989 males and 2,847 females. Among them, 1,466 are workers. Of whom, 1,373 are males and 93 females. The detailed classification of the sample population into occupational divisions is given below:

(contd...119)

Table 4.4

CLASSIFICATION OF WORKERS EXCLUDING CULTIVATORS AND AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS INTO OCCUPATIONAL DIVISIONS

	Occupational Divisions	Total workers		
		Persons	Males	Females
1		2	3	4
	Total	1,457 (100.00)	1,364 (100.00)	93 (100.00)
0-1	Professional, Technical and related workers	50 (3.43)	36 (2.64)	14 (15.05)
2	Administrative, Executive and Managerial workers	13 (0.89)	13 (0.95)	.. ..
3	Clerical and Related workers	76 (5.22)	76 (5.57)	.. ..
4	Sales workers	264 (18.12)	263 (19.28)	1 (1.07)
5	Service workers	183 (12.56)	125 (9.17)	58 (62.37)
6	Farmers, Fishermen, Hunters, Loggers and related workers	27 (1.85)	27 (1.98)	.. ..
7-8-9	Production and related workers, Transport equipment operators and labourers	844 (57.93)	824 (60.41)	20 (21.51)

Figures in brackets indicate the percentage to the total

The highest percentage of workers to the tune of 57.93 is in the occupational divisions of production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers. The other three predominent occupational divisions are sales workers (18.12%)

(contd...120)

Service workers (12.56%) and Clerical and related workers (5.22%). Persons from other occupational divisions excluding cultivators and agricultural labourers do not make even 7 per cent of the total workers.

As far as female workers are concerned, more than 60 per cent are engaged as service workers followed by those engaged as production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers and professional, technical and related workers. There is no female worker in the division 2-Administrative, Executive and Managerial workers, in division-3-Clerical and related workers and in division-6-Farmers, Fishermen, Hunters, Loggers and related workers.

Working force in the sample households

The household schedules canvassed in the town throw some light on the strength of workers of the households in different age-groups. 160 households with a population of 1,770 consisting of 906 males and 864 females were canvassed for the purpose of the study. Out of them, 469 persons consisting of 443 males and 26 females are workers whereas the rest are non-workers. The distribution of workers in sample households by broad age-group is given below:

(contd...121)

Table 4.5

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLD BY BROAD AGE-GROUP (SURVEY DATA)

Age - group	Total workers		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	469	443	26
0-14	5	1	4
15-59	446	425	21
60+	18	17	1

It may be seen from the above table that in the sample households 26.50 per cent of the total population are workers. As much as 95 per cent of the total workers are in the age-group 15-59. There are 5 workers among children below 15 years of age and among them, 4 are females. Among old persons of 60 years and above, there are 18 workers, 17 males and one female. The survey data also confirms the general pattern of employment of male dominations. Out of 906 males from 160 households covered under the study, as much as 48.90 per cent are workers. Female participation in economic activity is found to be extremely low both according to general census and survey.

(contd...122)

According to 1971 census, only 3.24 per cent of the female population of the town are workers. This low participation of females in the economic activity is also highlighted by the survey which covered 864 females of 160 households. In other words, the female workers of the sample household are very few in number and constitute only 3.01 per cent of the female population surveyed.

The household schedules canvassed in the town give an idea of the strength of workers in each of the households. Out of 160 households, there is no worker in 5 households. The five households wherein no person is economically active, constitute 3 per cent of the total households studied. The persons of these households include dependants and persons of independent income. In some cases, the earning members are stated to have been residing outside the town. The distribution of households with reference to employment depth is as follows:

Table 4.6

DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY EMPLOYMENT DEPTH
(ie. NUMBER OF WORKERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD)

Number of workers	Number of households	Percentage to total households
1	2	3
Total	160	100.00
Households without employment	5	3.12

(contd...123)

1	2	3
1	43	26.88
2	27	16.88
3	29	18.12
4	23	14.38
5	16	10.00
6	9	5.62
7	5	3.12
8	3	1.88

Majority of the households are having two or more workers. Only about 27 per cent of the households are having only one worker each. Nearly 17 per cent have 2 workers each. A little more than 18 per cent of the households have 3 workers each and 14.38 per cent have 4 workers each. The households having 5 or more workers form 20.62 per cent.

An analysis of the working force by religion and caste may provide some reflection of the socio-economic structure of the town. Among Christians, maximum number of persons are workers. More than 57 per cent of the total Christian population is economically active. It is, however, noticed that only three Christian families are residing in the town and they are migrants. Their migration to the town is stated to have been effected consequent on the absorption of one or two members of their family

(contd...124)

in the industrial and manufacturing concern in the town. Among the Hindus and Muslims, the percentage of workers is almost the same as it works out to 26.28 and 26.25 respectively. The proportion of workers by caste to their respective total population, exclusive of workers from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, shows that large number of workers are among Vaniyans constituting 44.83 per cent, followed by those from Asaris with 33.33 per cent and Thiyyas with 28.57 per cent. The Marars and Peruvannans contribute 14.29 per cent each, while the workers from Nair Community form only 13.33 per cent of its population. The Vaniyans and Asaris are mostly found to be engaged in their traditional work of extracting edible oils in country chakku (oil-press) and carpentry works respectively. 40 per cent of the Scheduled Castes and 31.43 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes population are workers in the town. There seemed to be some marked progress in the number of persons of these communities employed in private and public sectors. The caste-wise population and the number of workers is given below:

(contd...125)

Table 4.7

TOTAL NUMBER OF POPULATION AND TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKERS BY CASTE IN SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS

Religion/ Caste	Total popu- lation	Total workers	Percentage of workers to total popula- tion in each caste
1	2	3	4
Total	1,770	469	26.50
Hindu Vaniyan	29	13	44.83
Asari	6	2	33.33
Thiyya	126	36	28.57
Vannathan	25	7	28.00
Ambalavasi	4	1	25.00
Pitarar	47	8	17.02
Gowder	6	1	16.67
Pulluvan	12	2	16.67
Marar	21	3	14.29
Peruvannan	21	3	14.29
Nair	30	4	13.33
Malayan S.C.	6	3	50.00
Parayan S.C.	24	9	37.50
Pulayan S.T.	35	11	31.43
Muslim	1,364	358	26.25
Christian	14	8	57.14

Out of 469 workers, 12 and 11 belong respectively to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. All the workers from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, excepting one Scheduled Tribe worker, are in the age-group 15-59. One Scheduled Tribe worker is in the age-group 0-14.

The female population in the sample households include 16 Scheduled Caste females, 21 Scheduled Tribe females and 827 females of other communities. Of these, 2 Scheduled Caste females, 5 Scheduled Tribe females and 19 other community females are returned as workers. In other words, while 12.50 per cent of Scheduled Castes and 23.81 per cent of Scheduled Tribes females participate in economic activities, only 2.30 per cent females of the other communities are workers. Among the Hindus, excluding Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, more percentage of female workers are found to be in Vaniyan Caste with 21.43 followed by Pitarar with 13.04 per cent. In Thiyya community, 5.56 per cent of the females are workers. In all other castes, there is no female returned as worker. Among Muslim females, 1.36 per cent is engaged in economic activities whereas among Christians, none of the females is engaged in any economic activities.

Of the 469 workers, 357 are born in the town itself and the rest are migrants. Out of the 112 migrants, 81 are migrated from places within the district, 26 from other districts of the state and 5 from other states in India. The distribution of these workers by their occupational status is as follows:

Table 4.8

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS BY OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

Occupational status	Persons		
	Total	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total ..	469	443	26
Employer ..	9	8	1
Employee ..	358	334	24
Single worker ..	94	93	1
Family worker ..	8	8	..

Non-workers

According to 1971 Census, 75.66 per cent of the total population are non-workers as against 72.15 per cent in 1961. Non-workers ~~as against 72.~~ are more among females than males. As much as 96.76 per cent of the female population was returned as non-workers whereas among males it is only 55.35 per cent. The corresponding figure for 1961 is 49.67 per cent for males and 95.43 per cent for females. Moreover, among the non-workers, females constitute as high as 62.72 per cent. Of the total non-workers, as much as 66 per cent are within the age-group 0-19. The sex-wise distribution of non-workers within the age-groups also shows that a maximum of more than 86 per cent among males and 54 per cent among

(contd..128)

females are within the age-group 0-19. The distribution of non-workers in different age-groups and percentage of non-workers in each age-group to total non-working population are tabulated below:

Table 4.9

NON-WORKERS BY AGE-GROUP

Age-group	Total non-workers			Percentage to population in each age-group		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	5,520	2,058	3,462	100.00	100.00	100.00
0-14	3,012	1,487	1,525	54.56	72.25	44.05
15-19	626	287	339	11.34	13.95	9.79
20-24	358	80	278	6.49	3.89	8.03
25-29	235	22	213	4.26	1.07	6.15
30-39	475	37	438	8.60	1.80	12.65
40-49	289	21	268	5.24	1.02	7.74
50-59	233	39	194	4.22	1.89	5.61
60+	292	85	207	5.29	4.13	5.98

The non-working population within the working age-group of 15 to 59, constitutes as much as 56.65 per cent of the work force in the town. The working force of the town consists of more males than females. The proportion of non-working females to total females in the working age-group

(contd...129)

is remarkably high at 94.69 per cent. On the other hand, the proportion of male non-workers to the total male population in the working age-group is considerably low at 23.31 per cent. The age-group-wise classification of non-working males and females also shows that the proportion of non-working females in each age-group is higher than the proportion of non-working males in the corresponding age-groups. Especially, the non-working male population is found to be very low in the age-groups 25-29, 30-39 and 40-49.

About 99 per cent of the total population in the age-group 0-14 and 83.47 per cent in the age-group 15-19 are non-workers. It is probably due to the fact that infants and students contribute more to these two age-groups. Besides, the non-workers in the age-group 60 and above also form as much as 85.63 per cent of the population in that age-group. It is also noticed that there are large number of unemployed or economically inactive persons to the tune of 50 per cent and above, in all the age-groups except among those in the age-groups 25-29 and 40-49. The age-group-wise classification of non-workers to the total population is given in the table below:

(contd...130)

Table 4.10

PERCENTAGE OF NON-WORKERS IN EACH AGE-GROUP TO TOTAL POPULATION

Age-group	Total population			Total non-workers			Percentage to total		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	7,296	3,718	3,578	5,520	2,058	3,462	75.66	55.35	96.76
0-14	3,043	1,501	1,542	3,012	1,487	1,525	98.98	99.07	98.90
15-19	750	404	346	626	287	339	83.47	71.04	97.98
20-24	652	359	293	358	80	278	54.91	22.28	94.88
25-29	512	290	222	235	22	213	45.90	7.59	95.95
30-39	943	477	466	476	37	438	50.37	7.76	93.99
40-49	643	348	295	289	21	268	44.95	6.03	90.85
50-59	412	207	205	233	39	194	56.55	18.84	94.63
60+	341	132	209	292	85	207	85.63	64.39	99.04

According to the 80 per cent sample, 4,370 persons out of 5,836 are returned as non-workers. Among them, 1,616 are males and 2,754 females. Distribution of non-workers in the town by sex and type of activity is given below:

(contd...131)

Table 4.11

NON-WORKERS IN THE TOWN BY SEX AND TYPE OF ACTIVITY

Type of activity	Total persons	Percentage distribution	Males	Percentage distribution	Females	Percentage distribution
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total Non-workers	4,370	100.00	1,616	100.00	2,754	100.00
Students	1,273	29.13	739	45.73	534	19.39
Household duties	1,315	30.09	37	2.29	1,278	46.40
Dependents	1,695	38.79	760	47.03	935	33.95
Retired persons	23	0.53	20	1.24	3	0.11
Others	64	1.46	60	3.71	4	0.15

Bulk of the non-workers come under the categories of dependents, students and persons in household duties. Among the non-workers, 29.13 per cent are students. Male students are more than female students. Among male non-workers, students form the second largest group next to dependents which consists of infants and very old persons. On the other hand, female students constitute less than 1/5th of the female non-workers. Moreover, the proportion of female non-workers

(contd...132)

engaged in household duties is the highest. This shows that female education has not made much headway in the town and that large number of females, irrespective of age, like to look after their household activities. Dependents form 38.79 per cent of the unemployed persons. 0.53 per cent are retired persons and persons of independent means.

Only 1.46 per cent of non-workers are returned as 'Others'. 'Others', according to census, are those who are basically unemployed but are reported to have been seeking work. It is, therefore, logical to find these persons from among those non-workers who are of 14 years and above in age. According to 80 per cent sample individual slips, there are 62 unemployed persons whose age is above 14 years. All are stated to have been job seekers. The literacy ratio of these job seeking unemployed persons is quite high. In other words, as much as 95.16 per cent of them are literates. Again, the persons with the literacy qualification of Primary, Middle or Matriculation are more in number. Sex-wise distribution of these persons shows that the number of females is only 4 and all of them are literates, while the illiterates among males

(contd...133)

number only 3. The table below indicates sex-wise unemployed persons above 14 years of age.

Table 4.12

JOB SEEKERS ABOVE 14 YEARS OF AGE IN THE 80% SAMPLE POPULATION IN THE TOWN BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL

Educational level	Unemployed persons		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	62	58	4
Illiterate	3	3	..
Literate (without educational level)	6	6	..
Primary	16	16	..
Middle	22	21	1
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	12	10	2
Technical diploma or certificate not equal to degree	1	1	..
Graduate degree other than technical degree	1	..	1
Engineering & Technology	1	1	..

Among the non-workers in the sample households, 76.03 per cent of the males and 42.36 per cent of the females are in the

(contd...134)

age-group 0-14. The non-working males and females within the age-group 15-59 are found to be 19.65 and 50.48 per cent respectively to the total male and female non-workers. Among the male non-workers, 51.62 per cent are students whereas among females, students form 22.20 per cent only. Majority of the males in the age-group 15-19 are students. In the same age-group, 81.25 per cent of the female non-workers are engaged in household duties. In the age-group 25-29, most of the females are also engaged in their own household duties but among males majority of them are dependents.

Out of 1,301 non-workers of the sample household, 37 persons consisting of 28 males and 9 females are seeking employment. Among them, 17 persons are in the age-group 15-19, 14 persons in the age-group 20-24, 5 persons in the age-group 25-29 and one person is in the age group of 30-34. Religion-wise distribution shows that 24 persons are Hindus and 13 Muslims. One of them has primary education, 16 have middle education, 17 have passed matriculation or higher secondary and 3 are graduates. Of the non-workers, 30 persons have registered their

(contd...135)

names with the Employment Exchange for jobs. One male and one female are married and the rest of the non-workers are unmarried.

According to the 1971 census, there are 6 cultivators who are all males. The main seasonal crop cultivated is paddy. The total area under paddy cultivation in the town is 11.58 acres (4.67 hectares). Cocoanut is cultivated in the garden lands. The river side is impregnated with salt and hence cocoanut cultivation is more profitable than paddy. So, some of the cultivators used paddy fields for cultivation of cocoanuts. Majority of the cultivated lands belongs to Muslims and the fields are mostly in small segments. Almost all the land owners cultivate the lands themselves without hired workers. The number of agricultural labourers in the town is only 3. The number of workers engaged in Livestock, Forestry, Fishing etc., put together, are found to be only 12. All of them are males. There is no forest area in and around the town. Though the sea is located about 5 km. away from the town, only a few persons are engaged in coastal fishing or inland water fishing. No worker engaged in mining and quarrying is residing in the town. In household industry, only 5 male workers are

(contd...136)

engaged. The types of household industries located in the town relate to the manufacture of food products, manufacture of polythene and tarpaulin rain coats, hats etc. and manufacture of jewellery and related articles.

Manufacturing other than household industry is the major source of employment in the town. The important industrial establishments in the town are Western India Plywoods, the second largest Plywood factory in Asia, and the Hard Board Factory, Fibre Foam, Handloom Weaving Establishments and many Saw Mills. The town has the second biggest timber basin next to the one located in Kallayi near Kozhikode. The location of the town is favoured with good transport facilities. In bringing of timber from outside and sending the finished goods to various places Rail and Road Transport and Valapattanam river play a major role. Today, there are about 17 registered factories and a number of unregistered workshops located here. The type of manufacturing establishments in the town are given below:

(contd...137)

Table 4.13

NUMBER OF MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS BY TYPE

Sl. No.	Type	No. of establishments
1	2	3
	Total ..	82
1.	Plywood ..	1
2.	Hard Board ..	1
3.	Fibre Foam ..	1
4.	Saw Mills ..	10
5.	Handloom Weaving ..	5
6.	Press ..	2
7.	Wooden Furniture ..	4
8.	Cane Furniture ..	1
9.	Beedi ..	7
10.	Jewellery ..	6
11.	Radio repair ..	2
12.	Shoes repair ..	1
13.	Photo framing ..	1
14.	Flour Mills ..	5
15.	Tailoring ..	7
16.	Bakery ..	1
17.	Tyre retreading ..	1
18.	Sewing machine repair ..	1
19.	Iron and Steel casting tools and dye-making institute etc.	9
20.	Motor repairing ..	3
21.	Oil Mill ..	1
22.	Watch repair ..	8
23.	Others ..	4

(contd...138)

Out of the 82 manufacturing establishments, 26 numbers representing 31.70 per cent are single worker units. 21 or 25.61 per cent have two workers. 8 units or 9.76 per cent have 3 workers and 2 units are with 4 workers. 9 units or 10.98 per cent have 5 to 9 employees and 7 units or 8.54 per cent employ 10 to 19 workers. 2 establishments employ between 20 to 29 workers and only 7 or 8.54 per cent establishments have more than 30 employees.

According to 1971 census, 586 persons consisting of 563 males and 23 females are engaged in these manufacturing industries. In 1961, the number of these workers was 516 comprising of 493 males and 23 females. It shows that there is no change in the number of female workers during the last 10 years. Though the 1971 census records show that there are 586 persons in the town engaged in manufacturing other than household industries, on-the-spot study indicates that the Western India Plywoods and the Hard Board Factory, both put together, employed 987 persons. It is, therefore, evident that majority of the persons working in the manufacturing establishments come from outside the town.

(contd..139)

Both males and females are employed in these manufacturing establishments. The largest number of workers of this category are in the age-group 30-39, followed by those in 40-49 and 20-24. 3 boys below the age of 15 are also engaged in manufacturing and allied services. 45 males and 1 female belongs to the age-group 15-19 and 7 males are above 60 years.

According to 80 per cent sample individual slips of 1971 census, there are 486 persons consisting of 468 males and 18 females engaged in manufacturing other than household industry. The type of industries and number of persons in each industry are given below:

Table 4.14

TYPE OF INDUSTRY AND PERSONS ENGAGED IN EACH INDUSTRY BY SEX

Code No.	Type of industry	No. engaged		
		Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
	Total	486	468	18
20-21	Manufacture of food products	6	6	...
22	Manufacture of Beverages, Tobacco & Tobacco products	52	52	..
23	Manufacture of cotton textiles	57	54	3
24	Manufacture of wool, silk and synthetic fibre textiles	1	1	..

(contd....140)

1	2	3	4	5
25	Manufacture of Jute, Hemp and Mesta textiles	16	16	..
26	Manufacture of Textile products (including wearing apparel other than footwear)	7	6	1
27	Manufacture of wood and wood products, furniture and fixtures	317	309	8
28	Manufacture of paper and paper products & printing, publishing and allied industries	4	4	..
29	Manufacture of leather, leather & fur products (except repair)	1	1	..
31	Manufacture of chemical and chemical products	6	1	5
32	Manufacture of Non-metallic mineral products	2	1	1
34	Manufacture of metal products and parts except machinery and transport equipment	2	2	..
36	Manufacture of electrical machinery apparatus, appliances and supplies and parts	5	5	..
37	Manufacture of transport equipments and parts	1	1	..
38	Other manufacturing industries	6	6	..
39	Repair	3	3	..

It may be seen from the above table that 65.23 per cent of the total employees are engaged in manufacture of food and wooden products. Other important industries relate to the manufacture of cotton textiles and beverages.

(contd...141)

Majority of the industrial workers are literates. The proportion of literates among the males and females are 87.18 per cent and 61.11 per cent respectively.

11 industrial establishments are canvassed for special studies. A few aspects based on the canvassed schedules are discussed below:

Western India Plywoods Ltd.

The founder of the Western India group industries was late Shri A.K. Kunhi Mayin Haji, a well known industrialist in Malabar. The Kohinoor Saw Mills at Valapattanam,which runs in good condition even now, is the first attempt of Mr. Haji in this field. The Western India Plywood Ltd. is located on the southern bank of Valapattanam river at Murukandikkal ward and it has the advantage of bringing down timber by river and also facility for storage. It is also very close to the Railway Station. It was incorporated as a joint stock company in 1945 with Shri A.K. Kaderkutty as Managing Director, his brother Shri A.K. Kunhalikutty Haji and his uncle Shri Kunhi Mayin Haji as two of its Directors. In the beginning, it had a paid-up capital of Rs.11.50 lakhs. All that the company had in terms of machinery was a small pealing lathe, clipper

splicer and other minor implements. The production in the year 1945-46 reached only 6,765 c.ft. of finished goods whereas the production in 1972-73 is 2,85,103 c. ft.

At present, the capital of the company is about Rs.256 lakhs including share capital of about Rs.103 lakhs and secured and unsecured loans of about Rs.59 lakhs. With a reserve and surplus funds of about Rs.31 lakhs and current liabilities and provisions of Rs.63 lakhs, it stands as one of the largest timber based industries in the country with complex units of Plywoods and Hard Board factories.

This is the first of its kind, though not the biggest, in South East Asia. It has qualified, trained and highly skilled technicians. In view of the increasing importance of research in import substitution, a separate Research and Development Department with qualified technical personnel has been established for improving the quality of the products and diversification. It is supervised by Dr. Kumar, a Chemical Engineer and Shri A.S. Anand, the Development Manager, who is an expert in the manufacture of compreg and allied articles.

(contd...143)

Compreg is generally used for manufacturing of picking sticks, shuttle blocks etc. for textile industry. These materials were imported till recently. The Plywood Company itself has about half a dozen Chemical Engineers under the control of Chief Chemist, Shri T.K. Rajagopal. The quality of the products is verified at different stages starting from timber to finishing and is tested in the laboratory during drying, pressing etc. Shri N. Venkataraman, the Work Manager of the factory is in overall control of the unit. Shri John Thomas Chirayath, in his study on the Plywood industry in Kerala, has observed that *"The Western India Plywoods Ltd. has perhaps the most modern plant in India, manufacturing many types of plywood. The company which started production mainly with ordinary tea-chest and commercial plywood today produces a wide range of plywood and converted wood materials both engineered wood and reconstituted wood". The factory manufactures hundreds of items to be used in various industries. Besides, several items produced for use in the furniture industries,

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the factory also produces some items for jute, electrical, railway and sports industries.

The factory supplies moulded compreg chair seats to Integral Coach Factory, Perambur and to other railway factories. Special grade table tops for X-ray tables are supplied to hospitals and other clinics. Laminated picking sticks are manufactured for use in the jute and textile industry. The factory is also producing melamine laminaters for table tops and for other interior decorations.

The factory is getting the required timber from the forests in Kerala and Karnataka States. For the manufacture of Plywood only certain types of soft woods are being used. These include Vella, Pine, Poli, Kalpine, Pandapine, Red ~~cader~~ Cedar etc. Formerly, they were having large forest areas, taken on lease, in Wynad region. The "coups" (group of forests) taken by the company on long and short term lease in Karnataka State are Dayanamelai, Kadamullur (Private forests for one year), Cheekad and Nadumalai (Government forest on long term). Similarly, the 'coups' taken from within the Kerala State are Panot, Attappadi and Vazhachal, which are all Government forests. Since all the private

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forests have been taken over by Government, the factory now depends solely on Government, for its raw materials. Some quantity of woods are,however, imported from Mangalore, Mysore and Virajpet. Besides, the factory is also getting C.P. teak from Madhya Pradesh. It is blackish in colour without any natural designs. The timber is brought by river, road or by rail. The company also owns 7 lorries for transporting purposes.

The assets of the company in the year 1973 stood at Rs.25,619,089/-. It consists of Rs.4,881,301/- fixed assets, Rs.1,161,835/- in investments, Rs.16,843,135/- current assets and Rs.2,732,818/- loans and advances. During the previous year, the fixed assets in gross block and net block of the company were Rs.21,384,796 and Rs.5,085,553 respectively.

Due to non-availability of raw materials and also spare parts of imported machineries, they have been able to utilise only 78 per cent of the total production capacity of machines in plywood. Licensed and installed capacity of plywood is 27.98 million sq. ft. on 3-ply 4 mm basis but the actual production in 1972-73 is 21.70 million sq.ft. At the same time, the Hard Board Factory, by shift system, produced as much as 8,316.96 metric tonnes

(contd...146)

in the same year, though its licensed and installed capacity stood at 7,500 metric tonnes. In 1972-73, both ~~prkx~~ plywood and hard board production was far above the level of 1971-72. In 1971-72, it was 14.69 million sq. ft. and 5,406.09 metric tonnes respectively. In 1972-73, the company manufactured about 285,103 c.ft. plywood valued at about Rs.22,808,240/-. In the same year, the total income and expenditure of the company was Rs.31,433,896/- and Rs.2,700,750/- respectively. As a result, the company has got a profit of 44.26 lakhs of rupees before taxation.

Altogether, the company employs 987 persons. Out of these, 741 are engaged in plywood company and 246 in Hard board factory. Out of the 987 employees, 5 are executives, 14 in clerical services, 59 supervisors, 185 skilled workers and 724 unskilled labourers. The employees excepting 3 from Tamil Nadu and 2 from Punjab are Malayalees. 58.97 per cent of the total employees are Hindus. 582 employees are Hindus, 369 Muslims, 34 Christians and 2 Sikhs. 12 employees excluding the Managing Director are receiving emoluments of Rs.2,000/- and above each per mensem. All the staff and workers of the

(contd...147)

company have been covered under gratuity insurance scheme. The company spent an amount of Rs.3,731,889/- for the staff salaries, wages and bonus, Rs.105,564/- as gratuity and a sum of Rs.914,664/- towards payment of gratuity insurance to Life Insurance Corporation.

Expansion:- The company has obtained a licence for the manufacture of articles out of densified wood. Necessary foreign exchange loan for the import of machinery and equipment is stated to have been under issue. The company has also received a letter of indent from the Government of India for the manufacture of Glass Ruin Force plastics.

Trade Unions:- There are two registered trade unions of workers functioning in the factory. Of these, the Western India Plywood and Hard Board Workers' Union is a Pro-congress(R) and is affiliated to INTUC. The other one by name "the Western India Plywood Workers' Union" is sponsored by the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and is affiliated to CITU. Similarly, there are also two trade unions among staff and both are affiliated to INTUC. Besides, one independent trade union

(contd...148)

without affiliation to any of the Central Trade Union Organisations is also functioning in the factory. In 1971-72, the Western India Plywood Worker's Union went on strike for about 86 days demanding revision of wages.

Manufacturing Process

The company brings the wood in the form of logs and keeps in the company's big yards for a few months in water. The logs are then taken for peeling after cutting them into required size. Then, it is taken to the rotary lathes and kept in position between the two spindles and against a sharp knife with full length which is fitted in the rotary lathes. When the power is transmitted, the log revolves round against the knife at a steady speed and the knife peels of the wood around the log. A continuous sheet of thin wood with uniform thickness comes out. While it is cut by the machine, an adjustable pressure bar prevents cracking of the wood. The position of the pressure bar and the knife is carefully adjusted according to the required thickness in the veneers. The wood may be sliced with any thickness between 0.6 mm. to 2.5 mm. After the veneer is cut into pieces, according to required size, they are dried in different driers so as to eliminate the moisture

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content in the veneer before they are processed further. Drying of the veneers under the sun is not at all adopted by the factory because, by doing so, the moisture content is not eliminated completely and evenly. If the veneer is not dried well, it is difficult to mix well. Drying is done by passing the veneer through a chamber in which hot air circulates with automatic controls for regulating humidity and temperature.

After drying, the veneers are sent to splicer section for splicing into different thicknesses. Edging is also automatically done here. First the adhesive has been spread on the veneers and assembled in crosswise direction and loaded into the press. Generally, commercial type of plywood are of two varieties. One type is known as B.W.R. grade (boiling water resistant or water proof) and the other type is W.W.R. grade (warm water resistant). The former is used for body building and shuttering purposes and the latter is used for general purposes.

P.F. (phenol formaldehyde) resin glue is being used for the manufacture of B.W.R. grade plywoods, marine & air craft plywoods etc. and for the manufacture of W.W.R. grade plywoods UF

(contd...150)

(urea formaldehyde) resin is being used.

The pressed plywoods are allowed for conditioning at least for 24 hours and after this, sheets are being sent for trimming of edges and for final finishing touch. Now, the plywoods are being inspected for quality control. The finished material is being stamped according to the grade and the product is ready for despatch either packed in wooden crates or in loose.

Hard Board Factory

It was established in 1960 by the management of the Western India Plywoods Ltd. in their own compound. With latest techniques obtained from West Germany, the factory is stated to have cost about Rs.60 lakhs. The plant is fully automatic and has a capacity of 12.7 metric tonnes per day. The main purpose for which the factory was established is to utilise the entire timber waste from the plywood factory and Saw Mills for conversion into Hard board which is a useful product. At present, about 50 per cent of the solid wood could be used in the plywood factory, while the remaining goes as waste. It is stated that before the setting up of this factory, thousands of tonnes

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of tops, branches, twigs etc. cut from the logs were left in the forest as waste because it was neither usable in the factory nor profitable if brought to the market for sale. Now, all these wastes are used for the manufacture of hard boards and the Western India Plywoods Ltd. is stated to be the only factory which utilises the entire waste.

N.K. Brothers Weaving Establishment

Handloom Weaving Industry is very famous in Cannanore District. The industry has provided employment to a large number of persons, both males and females. Majority of the workers engaged in weaving and related works are Hindus and the establishments also are set up mostly in the places where Hindus are residing. Eventhough Valapattanam is a Muslim centre, two big and three small weaving establishments are located here. Most of the employees in the establishments are the residents of Chirakkal village. Weaving and spinning is stated to have been started by the Jerman Basal Mission with a view to provide job to the persons who got converted into Christianity. It was originally known as "Maggam Neithu" or "Mission Neithu" (Neithu means weaving). But

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later on, several weaving and spinning establishments were started by individuals. The N.K. Brothers Weaving Establishment was established in 1917 under the partnership of two persons of the same family. The establishment continued to have 14 looms till the year 1933. At this time, ~~the~~ one partner had withdrawn his partnership and had left with half of the looms and other property. As a result, the remaining seven looms were the only initial fixed assets of the establishment. After 1933, the progress of the concern was tremendous as the owner was able to establish three weaving and spinning units in three different centres viz. Puzhathi, Chirakkal and Valapattanam. These three centres are under one management. It is a concern owned jointly by five members of the same family and the present managing partner is Shri N. Sreedharan. The Valapattanam Branch is located in Kalarivathukkal ward on the south-east boundary of the town. It is a registered small scale industry engaged in manufacturing of the handloom fabrics, shirtings, bed sheets, towels etc. and factory functions in its own buildings.

The total investment of the company is Rs.144,000/- representing the share capital of the

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five partners. For financing the company, they have availed bank facilities such as key loans and Mundy type loans granted to the maximum of Rs.25,000/- and Rs.1½ lakhs respectively. Under both types of loans, the company has to mortgage the raw materials, finished products and machinery to the bank. The loan granted to the company by the bank is based on the value of these items so mortgaged and other rules and regulations of the bank in this regard. At present, the company has Rs.89,313/- as fixed asset and Rs.1,171,708/- as current asset consisting of produced goods, raw materials, bank balance etc.

The company's most important customers are Handi Craft and Handloom Export Corporation and State Trading Corporation to whom, 75 per cent of the finished goods are sold. 5 per cent of the goods is directly exported to New York. The remaining 20 per cent is sold to Transport International Madras, Metropolitan Trading Company, Bombay, Chandra Banprahalath Kumar, Delhi, Artrath Traders, Delhi. The N.K. Brothers are also members of the All-India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Ltd,, Bombay, Export Promotion Council, Madras, Chamber of Commerce and Handloom Factory Owners' Association.

(contd..154)

In the year 1972-73, the company manufactured about 406,046 metres of fabrics valued at Rs.2,700,000/-. The net profit during the year is Rs.61,560/- and is divided among the partners according to the proportion of shares. An amount of Rs.41,332/- has been given to employees as bonus and an amount of Rs.1,000/- each to Football Association and temple festivals.

The important machinery of the company are looms which are made locally. At present, there are 328 looms, out of which, 139 looms are in the three centres of the establishment and 189 looms are given to different individuals to work on it in their own houses. There are 165 employees in the three centres consisting of 2 administrative, 4 clerical, 3 supervisory staff and 156 skilled labourers. In addition to this, 189 skilled labourers are working in the same establishment. About 95 per cent of the total workers belong to the Thiyya community to which the owner himself belongs. In Valapattanam centre, there are 67 employees,of whom, 64 are Hindus and the rest Muslims.

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Problems of the industry

The important raw materials are yarn, dyes and chemicals. The yarn is purchased from local mills and the Kerala Handloom Finance Corporation while the dyes and chemicals are purchased from Indokem at Madras, Cibea at Bombay and from Local dealers as well. The company is stated to have been facing difficulty in getting yarn. Another problem confronting the industry is said to be the frequent increase of prices of dyes and chemicals. Frequently occuring labour trouble and lack of well experienced workers are also problems of the industry.

There are two Trade Unions by names "N.K. Brothers' Weaving Establishment Workers' Union and the Cannanore District Handloom Factories Staff Association. Former is established in 1971 and it is confined to the weavers. The latter is established in 1973 by the clerical and supervisory staff and is affiliated to All-India Regional Organisation of International Trade Union Congress. Both unions are regognized by the management.

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Manufacturing process

The yarn is first boiled in a large tank for about 3 to 8 hours. Then, it is washed in cold water and dried in the sun. After washing and drying, the yarn is bleached or dyed as per the requirements and dried again. The next step in the process is the bobbin winding. The yarn is wound in small bobbins using small winding wheels. Bobbins are then placed in wooden frames for warp winding. (The winding of the yarn from bobbins in the wooden frames of any required shape is called warp winding and the process is called warping). Then the warp is given to the looms for making actual warp in the looms. When it is ready, the cloths are woven using shuttles consisting of pirns. After weaving, the cloths are cut into pieces. Usually the length of one piece is 40 meters. In certain cases, the length may exceed upto 45 meters. It is then packed for despatch.

Fibre Foam Ltd.

The company, though set up in 1964, started its production in October, 1965 with a share capital of about Rs.20 lakhs. It is situated within the premises of 'Vivek Nagar' on the eastern side of the West-Coast road. The plant was set up under the

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technical supervision of M/s DOA of Austria and is completely automatic for the manufacture of rubberised coir. The factory is engaged in the production of Mattresses, Pillows, Cushions, Back rests for Car, Bus and Railways, Travel kits, Furniture racks, Air filler for air conditioning and for refrigerators etc.

54 per cent of the total share capital of the company is owned by the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation. The working of the company had been unsatisfactory for years together and in the year 1972-73 the company has a net loss of Rs.80,050.99/ At present, the company has Rs.1,611,689.54/- as fixed assets consisting of land and building, plant and machinery, furniture and fixtures, laboratory equipments, vehicles etc., and about Rs.10 lakhs as current assets. Altogether, the company employs 7 clerical, 1 supervisory staff, 24 skilled and 8 unskilled labourers.

Manufacturing process

To start with, the cocoanut husks are crushed and soaked. A defibering machine separates the long strong fibres from the crushed husks. These 'pucca' fibres are dried and passed through several ~~skearning~~ ~~mac~~ cleaning machines. The cleaned fibres

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are placed on a conveyor and automatically twisted into ropes. The ropes are aged for 15 to 20 days, so that the fibres retain the spring like characteristics when the rope is uncurled. After proper aging when the coir ropes are decurled by the machine strong resilient coir fibres are created.

The spring-like coir fibres are passed into a blower chamber. There are several automatically controlled blowers within the chamber which position the fibres in such a way that proportionate number of fibres go side-wise, length-wise and breadth-wise. This process is called three dimensional effect which is responsible for the interspaced ventilation of Fibre Foam. By making the fibres go in all directions, separation into layers or fibres coming out is avoided. This also prevents mattresses or cushions from shifting to one end when weight is applied.

On the exit of the fibres from the blower chamber, they are formed into continuous sheets. The sheets are then sprayed with a liquid latex rubber and chemical adhesives. These rubberised coir sheets are then passed through a series of electrical drying chambers. This process completely settles the rubber and the chemical adhesives

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permanently with the fibres. The sheets are then vulcanised and compressed.

Standard Engineering Works

This industry was set up in 1961 at Kalarivathukkal ward. This concern is owned jointly by 5 members of a Hindu-Kammalan family. They are brothers and were formerly working in different private industrial firms in various places. The managing partner is Shri K. Kunhambu. The industry is engaged in welding the grills, gates etc. according to the orders received.

It is a registered workshop functioning in a rented building. The rent for the building is Rs.215/- per month. The building is built of laterite stone and roofed with tiles. The total investment of the workshop is Rs.57,500/-. Rs. 50,000/- in the form of equity shares and Rs.7,500/- in the form of loans repayable in 10 equal instalments with 3½ per cent interest. In the year 1972-73, the company had a fixed asset of Rs.54,000/- in the form of machinery, tools etc. and a current asset of Rs.32,000/- as raw materials, finished goods etc. During the same year, the

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company manufactured grills gates, tresses etc. valued at about Rs.1,500,000 and got a net profit of Rs.14,000/-.

22 employees are working in this industry; of whom, one is administrative staff and the rest are skilled labourers. The managing partner is in-charge of administration and 4 other partners are working in the same industry as skilled labourers. All the employees belong to the same caste and all of them are from outside the town. The working hours of the industry are from 9 am. to 6 pm. There is not much problem for obtaining raw materials and the only problem is the lack of finance.

Hashim Bux Printers

It is one of the two establishments in the town in the field of printing. The press was established in 1920 by the side of market road. In the beginning, only book binding was undertaken. The printing was started only in 1955. In 1958, the present management bought the press and now it is run as a joint concern by 7 partners of which 4 are males and 3 are females belonging to the same family.

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It functions in a building taken on rent at Rs.45/- per month. The press is engaged in the manufacture of Note books, Account books, Bill books, Wedding cards etc.

The investment in the press is Rs.16,500/- in the form of equity shares of its partners. The male partners contributed Rs.3,000/- each, while the 3 female partners contributed Rs.1,500/- each. At present the press has a fixed asset of Rs.16,000/- in the form of printing, ruling and cutting machines etc. and an amount of Rs.3,000/- as current assets in the form of paper, ink, finished goods etc. In the year 1972-73, the press has got a net profit of Rs.800/-. At present, the press has the following machines which were bought from Madras on cash payment.

Printing machine	1
Cutting machine	1
Stitching machine	1
Posture machine	1
Hand press	2
Cross cutting machine	1
Lathing machine	1
Back rounding machine	1
Numbering machine	3
Ilet machine (for making holes)	1
Ruling machine	1

(contd...162)

The working hours of the press are from 9 am. to 6 pm. in all week days except Friday. The number of employees in the press is very small and consists of 3 partners who manage the administration and 3 skilled labourers. The managing partners and 2 skilled labourers follow the Muslim religion and the other one is a Hindu. All the members are dwellers of the town and no labour problem or industrial dispute was reported.

National Saw Mill

The Saw Mill was established in 1963. It is located on the bank of Valapattanam river towards the north-east boundary of the town. The location of the factory is very advantageous to bring down timber by river. The panchayat road connects the factory with the west-coast road. It is a registered factory owned jointly by 5 persons and the factory undertakes only sawing work. It functions in its own building built of wooden pillars and tiled roofs.

The total investment of the mill was rupees one lakh. Out of this, about Rs.28,000/- was utilised for the purchase of machines and a sum of Rs.18,000/- for the construction of building.

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At the time of survey, there are 10 skilled and 15 unskilled labourers. The administrative matters are looked after by the managing partner. Out of the 25 employees, 8 are Hindus and the remaining 17 Muslims.

Eventhough the number of employees is not large, they are enrolled under the banner of three Trade Unions of INTUC, CITU and Swatantra Thozhilali Union. In March 1973, all the employees went on a strike demanding increase in wages. The dispute was settled by giving a nominal rise of 52 paise per head per day.

The Saw Mills of Valapattanam, as a whole, are stated to have been facing crisis due to shortage of raw materials, credit squeeze and labour unrest. The owners of the Saw Mills complained that the units could not get sufficient timber even though the timber is produced in the State in large quantity and so in most cases, they had to buy their requirements from outside the State.

Manufacturing process

Usually, a Saw Mill is established on the edge of the river bank with the crane house projecting to water. This would make bringing of timber to

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the mill easy and convenient as well. Various other machineries are installed on the wooden platform.

First, the timber to be sawn is brought right below the crane house and lifted from water using a crane and then placed on a trolly which can freely move along two rails laidoon the wooden platform. Now this trolly with the timber on it is pushed along the rails and brought directly below another trolly, known as overhead trolly. As the very name of this trolly suggests, it runs above the head along two rails laid on two iron beams. These iron beams are supported by pillows at their two ends and are about 12 ft. above the platform. After bringing the timber below the overhead trolly, it is fastened at the lower end of a chain block hanging from the overhead trolly using hooks and moved to the Bandsaw carrier by pulling a rope attached to the overhead trolly. Now the timber is transferred to the bed of the Bandsaw carrier and clamped there, so that it will not fall down while sawing is on. The timber gets sawn into planks when the carrier is moved to and from on its rails against the band-saw which is rotating at a very high speed about its wheels.

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The movement of the carrier is effected by operating the lever on it. The thickness of the planks can be suitably adjusted by means of a device called the sizing pully. The circular saw is used to cut the planks into still smaller in thickness.

Paris Beedi Making Company

Manufacture of beedi is a major industry in Cannanore district and thousands of persons, both males and females, are engaged in this work. Many brands of registered trade mark beedis are manufactured in the district. It has an important role in the State and the national economy. It has a good foreign market and is exported to Singapore, Malaysia, United States, Switzerland, Afganistan, Canada, Indonesia, Kuwait etc. The raw materials viz. Kendu leaves and tobacco are not cultivated in Kerala and so are brought from Gujarat, Mysore, Bihar etc. In Valapattanam, 7 brands of beedis are manufactured. Some of them have registered trade marks.

The Paris beedi manufacturing at Valapattanam was set up in 1944 with a capital of Rs.2,500/-. It is not a large scale industry and most of the beedis are sold within the town and neighbouring areas. The raw materials are purchased from the wholesale

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shop located at Valapattanam itself.

This unit employs 15 labourers, of whom, 11 are Muslims and 4 Hindus. Majority of them are coming from Pappinissery and Kattampally, the neighbouring areas. In the year 1972-73, this unit manufactured 48 lakhs of beedis worth Rs.51,600/-.

The wages are paid weekly according to their output. For 1,000 beedis that they make, they get an amount of Rs.5.20. However, a worker earns on an average Rs.6.50 per day.

Beedi is made by a simple process of wrapping the tobacco in a Kendu leaf. At first, the leaves are cut in size. A model tim plate is used for cutting the leaves. Then, cold water is sprayed over them for smoothening the leaves. A small quantity of tobacco is placed on the leaf and rolled into size and then a bit of thread is tied round it. Then the mouth of the beedi is closed either using the finger nail or small splinder end. Beedis are, then, dried up and wrapped in the printed paper carrying the company's trade mark. This is mostly done by female workers. After that, larger packages of 20 bundles each are made and despatched to the sales agents.

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Trade and Commerce

According to the 1971 census, 455 persons are engaged in Trade and Commerce which constitute 25.62 per cent of the total workers in the town. The data collected during the field work also more or less coincides with the census data. The field investigation data shows that the percentage of workers who are engaged in Trade and Commerce is 27.29 of the total workers. The town is a wholesale centre for pepper, cashewnut, arecanut etc. which are brought from the hilly areas of Taliparamba taluk and other high lands of Cannanore and Tellicherry taluks. Besides, all such essential goods that are not available in the rural areas are marketed in the town. 250 establishments are dealing in wholesale and retail trades.

Majority of the shops in the town are dealing in grocery and, except one, all others are working on retail basis. The second largest number of shops deal in timber logs. 45 out of 49 are doing wholesale business and the remaining 4 are run on retail basis. There are 20 pepper shops, of which, 19 are wholesale shops and one is a retail shop. Among the other wholesale shops in Valapattanam

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3 are engaged in tea-dust, 5 in leather, one each in cotton, cement, tapioca (dried) and grocery. There are six wholesale shops engaged in the purchase and sale of gunny bags.

The wholesale and retail establishments excepting hotels and restaurants are tabulated below:

Table 4.15

CLASSIFICATION OF TRADE AND COMMERCE ESTABLISHMENTS

Type of shops	Approximate number		
	Whole-sale	Retail	Total
1	2	3	4
Total	83	167	250
Timber logs ..	45	4	49
Pepper ..	19	1	20
Grocery ..	1	65	66
Textile ..	..	8	8
Stationery ..	..	2	2
Sweets ..	..	1	1
Bakery ..	..	4	4
Vegetables ..	..	4	4
Fruits ..	..	5	5
Cool drinks ..	..	1	1
Pan/beedi/cigar/soda water	..	11	11
Tea-dust ..	3	1	4
Tobacco ..	..	1	1
Firewood ..	..	2	2
Ayurvedic medicine ..	..	6	6

(contd...169)

1	2	3	4
Medical Shop (Allopathic)	..	6	6
-do- (Homoeopathic)	..	1	1
Cotton	..	1	..	1
Tiles	..	..	6	6
Cement	..	1	1	2
Hardwares	..	..	1	1
Jewellery	..	..	3	3
Furniture	..	..	4	4
Utensils	..	..	2	2
Snuff	..	..	1	1
Leather	..	5	..	5
Tapioca	..	1	5	6
Gunny bags	..	6	..	6
Cashewnut	..	1	2	3
Electric goods	..	..	2	2
Pickles	..	..	1	1
Shoe/leather goods	..	..	3	3
Petrol	..	..	3	3
Agarbathis	..	..	1	1
Fish	..	..	1	1
Meat	..	..	1	1
Mats	..	..	1	1
Ration Shop	..	..	2	2
Fire works	..	..	1	1
Butter milk, ghee etc...	..	1	1
Milk	..	..	1	1
Others	..	..	1	1

Most of the shops are located on either sides of the West-Coast road and market road.

(contd...170)

Some shops, especially very small ones, do not have any name boards and they are known after the names of their proprietors. Majority of the shops are owned by Muslims. Among the Hindus who have shops, Thiyyas and Nairs are in majority. One the other hand, there is no Christian who owns a shop in the town. Friday is the weekly holiday for the shops run by Muslims. Almost all the essential goods are available in the town.

According to 80 per cent individual sample slips of 1971 Census, there are 361 persons, consisting of 358 males and 3 females, engaged in Trade and Commerce. Their break-up into various kinds of services is given in the following table.

(contd...171)

Table 4.16

TYPE OF TRADE AND NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EACH TYPE BY SEX

Code No.	Type of trade	Total persons		
		Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5
	Total	358	3	361
60	Wholesale Trade in Food, Textiles, Live animals, Beverages and Intoxicants	1	..	1
62	Wholesale Trade in Wood, Paper, Other fabrics, Hide and skin and Inedible oils	26	..	26
64	Wholesale Trade in Food and Miscellaneous manufacturing	1	..	1
65	Retail trade in Food and Food Articles, Beverage, Tobacco and Intoxicants	97	2	99
66	Retail Trade in Textiles	6	..	6
67	Retail Trade in Fuel and Other Household utilities and Durables	10	..	10
68	Retail Trade in others	124	..	124
69	Restaurants and Hotels	72	1	73
80	Banking and similar type of Financial Institutions	3	..	3
82	Real Estate and Business Services	17	..	17
83	Legal Services	1	..	1

(contd...172)

From the above table, it would be seen that 66.20 per cent of the total persons engaged in trade and commerce are employed in retail trades followed by 20.22 per cent in hotels and restaurants, 7.76 per cent are whole sale dealers, 4.71 per cent are employed in real estate and business services and 1.11 per cent are employed in bank and legal services. Only 3 females are engaged in trade and commerce, of whom, 1 is employed in a grocery shop, one in a hotel and the third one is in a toddy shop to prepare the curry and other eatables.

Among the males engaged in Trade and Commerce, 79.78 per cent are literates. There is no literate woman among the females. The distribution of workers by educational level is given below:

(contd...173)

Table 4.17

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND OF PERSONS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN TRADE AND COMMERCE

Educational level	Total workers		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	361	358	3
Illiterate	73	70	3
Literate (without educational level)	47	47	..
Primary	122	122	..
Middle	88	88	..
Matriculation or higher secondary	28	28	..
Graduate Degree other than Technical Degree	3	3	..

It would appear from the above table that though higher level education is not necessary, some amount of education is unavoidable to those who are engaged in trade and commerce. Bulk of the persons have only primary education. In the sample there are only 28 matriculates and three graduates.

Details regarding the items traded, length of business etc. are tabulated below:

(contd...174)

Table 4.18

DURATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO COMMODITIES DEALT WITH

Type of shops	Number of shops established				
	Within 3 years	4–9 years	10–19 years	20–49 years	50 years and above
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total	1	1	4	5	..
Grocery	1	1	..	1	..
Plantain/fruit	..	..	1	..	..
Ayurvedic medicine	..	..	..	1	..
Tea-dust	..	..	..	1	..
Spices & Cash crops	..	..	2	..	..
Tile	..	..	..	1	..
Gunny bags	..	..	1	..	..
Beedi/Pan/Gigar	..	..	..	1	..

It is obvious from the above table that majority of the shops were established more than 20 years ago. 45.46 per cent of the total shops were set up before 20 years but within 49 years, 36.36 per cent were established between 10 and 19 years and 9.09 per cent each between 4 and 9 years and within 3 years respectively. The table below shows the religion, mother tongue and place of origin of the owners.

(contd...175)

Table 4.19

PARTICULARS OF SHOP OWNERS

Type of shop	Religion		Mother tongue	Area of origin	
	Hindu	Islam	Malayalam	Inside	Outside
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total	2	9	11	9	2
Grocery	..	3	3	3	..
Plantain	..	1	1	1	..
Beedi/Cigar	..	1	1	1	..
Ayurvedic medicine	1	..	1	..	1
Stationery (Tea-dust)	..	1	1	1	..
Spices and cash crops	..	2	2	2	..
Tile	1	..	1	..	1
Gunny bags	..	1	1	1	..

Major portion of the trade in the town is concentrated in the hands of Muslims of the same town. There are only 2 Hindus who own their shops in the town. Both of them hailed from places outside the town. Details of some of the shops are given below:

(contd...176)

K.V. Kunhimoideen Haji's Grocery Shop

It was established in 1942 by Shri K.V. Kunhimoideen Haji. It is run in a building taken on a rent of Rs-55/- per month. The building is constructed with laterite stone and tile roof. Floor is plastered with cement and is provided with electric lights and fans. It is a wholesale shop with a total investment of Rs.15,000/-. At the time of canvassing, various provisions such as Sugar, Onion, Chilli, Black gram, Oil, Ghee etc. were sold.

The commodities are mainly purchased from Mangalore and Coimbatore. The customers are mostly from the town and from the hinterland surrounding the town. The opening of the bridge on Valapattanam river and availability of frequent transport facilities enabled many customers to purchase directly the goods from Cannanore town or other places according to their convenience. This led to the fall in the sales in the shops located in the town. In 1969-70, approximate sales per day came to Rs.300/- but in 1971-72 it fell down to Rs.230/- per day. The shop is owned by a Muslim and only one employee who is also following the same religion assists the owner.

(contd...177)

K.M.S.I. Trading Company

It is a clearing house of pepper, rubber, cashewnut, ginger, tapioca etc. which are cultivated in the hilly areas. This unit buys the commodities on both wholesale and retail basis. It was established in 1956 with an investment of Rs.5,000/- in a rented building. It is occupying a portion of a building built of laterite stone and tile roof and pays a sum of Rs.75/- per month as rent. The shop is kept open on all days, except Sunday, from 10 am. to 9 pm. The commodities are purchased from Taliparamba, Tellicherry, Cannanore, Hosdurg, Payyannur, Nileshwar etc. At the time of survey, the sale price of pepper and rubber per quintal was Rs.700/- and Rs.500/- respectively. Cashewnut, tapioca, ginger etc. were not in stock at that time. The sources for obtaining rubber has considerably increased whereas for other items there is no change of sources. In 1970-71, the volume of business was Rs.75 lakhs. The corresponding figure for 1971-72 and 1972-73 was Rs.80/- lakhs and Rs.1 crore respectively. The important customers of the shop are Kishore Spices, Dunlop India and Gandhi Sons, all from Bombay.

(contd...178)

There are three paid employees consisting of one clerk and two unskilled labourers. The administration is managed by the owner who belongs to Muslim community. Among the employees, one is a Hindu and the rest are Muslims. All of them are the residents of the town.

Abdul Rehiman's Stationery Shop

It is a small stationery shop established in 1950 in a portion of a building taken on a rent of Rs.10/- per month. The working hours of the shop are from 8 am. to 9 pm. throughout the week, except Friday. The main commodities sold here are sweets, toilet soaps and powder, tooth paste, pen, pencils, beedi, soft drinks etc. There has been a slight increase in the volume of business ~~was~~ recently. In 1969-70, the volume of business was estimated at Rs.4,800/-. In the year 1970-71 and 1971-72, it had increased to Rs.5,000/- and 5,400/- respectively. It is a single member establishment and there is no employee other than the owner.

L.P. Moosankutty's Plantain Shop

It was established in 1961 in a rented building. The rent is Rs.20/- per month. Only fruits, mainly plantains are sold here. It is a

(contd...179)

single worker establishment. The owner belongs to Muslim Community. The plantains are brought from Cannanore, Taliparamba and Tellicherry and majority of them are sold to the tea-shops, restauranta and beedi/cigar shops located at Valapattanam and nearby villages. Plantains such as Banana, Mysore Poovan, Mannan and Poovan are sold here. At the time of survey, the cost of Banana, Mysore Poovan, Mannan and Poovan was Rs.16/-, Rs.5/-, Rs.8/- and Rs.10/- per 100 respectively.

There has been a slight increase in business during the last three years. The approximate volume of business during 1969-70, 70-71 and 71-72 was Rs.3,000/-, Rs.3,500/- and Rs.5,000/- respectively.

Ananthan Sons Tile Shop

It was set up in 1943 with an investment of Rs.5,000/- by late Shri Ananthan, a Hindu Thiyya, who hailed from the neighbouring village of Chirakkal. After his death in 1967, his wife Sarojini shouldered the responsibility of running the establishment. It is housed in a rented building by the side of market road. The rent per month is Rs.75/-. Eventhough there is a tile factory known as Baliapattam Tile Factory, located at Pappinisseri on the other side of

(contd...180)

Valapattanam river, its production is not sufficient to meet the demand of the town, Pappinisseri and other neighbouring villages. So the people who want tiles are approaching the tile shops located at Valapattanam. This establishment is working as an agent of Eastern Tile Factory, Feroke. At the time of survey, the sale price of the tiles was Rs.350/- per thousand. Approximate sales per day is calculated at about Rs.500/-. There has been a great demand for tiles in 1972-73. The volume of business in 1972-73 has gone up to Rs.176,000/- from Rs.73,402/- in 1970-71.

Besides the shops already explained, there is a small Panchayat market located by the side of the market road. There are no seasonal markets or weekly markets in the town. Some shops are constructed by the Panchayat and have been given on rent by auction for a year. The right for selling the commodities continuously in these shops has not been guaranteed due to the annual auction. Only meat, fish, vegetables etc. are kept for sale in the market.

Construction

Only 15 male workers are engaged in construction work in the town, eventhough the volume of

(contd...181)

construction work in the town has gone up. The number of persons from Muslim Community engaged in construction work is negligible, if not nil. In Cannanore District, as a whole, the construction of buildings was a traditional work of a particular community and persons from other communities are engaged only as Helpers. But now-a-days, persons from other Hindu communities are also engaged in this work.

Transport, Storage and Communication

Transport and allied activities are the 4th major avenue of employment in the town. According to 1961 census, 262 workers are accounted under this category and by 1971 census, it has increased to 331 registering a growth of 26.34 per cent in a decade. The participation of women is rare. There were 3 females in 1961 which decreased to 2 in 1971.

There is no workshop of road or rail transport. Many Saw Mills and wholesale shops, engaged in purchase and sale of timber logs, offer maximum opportunities to hand-cart pullers, coolies etc. There are 277 persons engaged in transport, storage and communication according to 80 per cent sample. The particulars of these employees are given in the table below:

(contd...182)

Table 4.20

DESCRIPTION OF WORK AND NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN EACH TYPE OF WORK BY SEX

Code No.	Type of work	Total workers		
		Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
	Total	277	275	2
700	Railway transport ..	5	5	..
701	Passenger transport by tramway and bus service ..	9	9	..
702	Passenger transport by other motor vehicles ..	7	7	..
703	Freight transport by motor vehicles	29	29	..
706	Transport by man (including rickshaw pullers, hand-cart pullers, porters coolies etc.)	211	209	2
711	Inland water transport ..	9	9	..
712	Supporting services to water transport ..	4	4	..
750	Postal, telegraph, wireless and signal communications ..	3	3	..

From the above table, it is clear that majority of workers are hand-cart pullers and coolies. 76.17 per cent of the total number of workers who engaged in transport, storage and communication are hand-cart pullers, coolies etc. followed by 10.47 per cent in freight transport by motor vehicles. 3.25 per cent each is engaged in inland water transport and passenger transport by bus service,

(contd....183)

1.44 per cent is engaged in supporting services to water transport, 2.53 per cent is engaged in passenger transport by other motor vehicles. The persons engaged in Railway and in Post and Telecommunication is only 1.81 and 1.08 per cent respectively.

Majority of the workers are literates. According to 80 per cent sample individual slips of the town, only 35.02 per cent of these workers, both males and females are illiterates. Among the literates, persons with primary education are more and constitute 46.67 per cent. The next highest group is made up of literate persons without educational level. They form as much as 38.89 per cent. 12.78 per cent have got middle education, while only 1.66 per cent are matriculates or above matriculates.

According to 1971 Census, there are 363 persons engaged in other services. Among them, 275 are males and 88 females. The jobs such as teacher, nurse, domestic servant and those in Government and the offices are supposed to be safest and also suitable for females. Therefore, more than 75 per cent of the total female workers are employed in these services. In the 80 per cent individual slips taken up for analysis, there

(contd...184)

are 306 persons, 236 males 70 females in this category. Details of employees in individual jobs are given below:

Table 4.21

DESCRIPTION OF WORK AND NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO ENGAGED IN EACH TYPE OF WORK BY SEX

Code No.	Type of work	Total workers		
		Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
	Total	306	236	70
40	Electricity	5	5	..
90	Public Administration & Defence Services	39	38	1
92	Education, Scientific and Research Services	27	16	11
93	Medical & Health Services	9	7	2
94	Community Services	11	11	..
95	Recreational & Culture Services	1	1	..
96	Personal Services (ie. Domestic Service, Laundries, Hair dressing etc)	106	57	49
98	International and other Extra Territorial Bodies	1	1	..
99	Service not elsewhere classified (persons without any affiliation to any particular industry)	107	100	7

(contd...185)

Bulk of the persons, especially males, are engaged in personal services and as casual labourers. Among females also, majority are engaged in personal services followed by those in educational services. 40.7% per cent of the total persons engaged in educational services are females.

Livestock

The town has not shown much improvement in animal wealth. According to the livestock census 1972, the total livestock in the town is only 649, consisting of 274 cattle, 14 buffaloes and 361 goats. The total poultry was 2,607. It shows that for every 1,000 population, there are 38 cattles, 2 buffaloes and 49 goats. All the animals reared in the town are indigenous ones with poor field. There is no veterinary hospital or even a Key-Sub-Centre.

Majority of the cattles except goats are found in Hindu households, while most of the goats are in Muslim households. There is no grazing land in the town or nearby. The cattle has to be fed on straw, cocoanut cake or other fodders purchased from the market. The disposal of milk is

not a problem as there is great demand for milk for local consumption which is left unmet and so, larger quantity of milk is brought to the town from Cannanore and Azhikode. There is no milk society but the cattle owners supply the milk to hotels and restaurants directly.

Among the bovine, 26.04 per cent are below 1 year of age and 61.46 per cent are above 3 years of age. The remaining are within the ages one and three. Their details are given below:

Table 4.22

CATTLE AND BUFFALOES ACCORDING TO AGE-GROUP AND SEX 1971

Name of Bovines	Age group						Total		
	Under 1 year		1-3 years		Over 3 years				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	T	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	23	52	17	19	34	143	288	74	214
Cattle	20	51	14	19	34	136	274	68	206
Buffaloes	3	1	3	..	..	7	14	6	8

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Kerala

(contd...187)

74.31 per cent of the total cattles are females and the remaining 25.69 per cent are males. Majority of the male cattles over 3 years of age are used for ploughing and cart-pulling. There is no male buffalo over three years. The break-up of cattles and buffaloes over 3 years old and the purpose for which they are kept are given below:

Table 4.23

USES OF CATTLE AND BUFFALOES OVER THREE YEARS BY SEX

Name of Bovines	Male over 3 years				Female over 3 years			
	Used for breeding only	Used for breeding and work	Used for work only	Not in use for breeding or work	Yielding milk	Dry	Not calved even once	Not in use for work or breeding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Cattle	..	..	26	8	92	41	2	1
Buffaloes	..	..	..	..	4	2	1	..

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Kerala

76.47 per cent of the total male cattles of over 3 years of age are exclusively used for work and others are not in use for work or breeding. Among the female cattles of over three years of age, 67.65 per cent are yielding milk, 30.15 per cent are dry and the remaining are not calved even once.

(contd...188)

Among the she buffaloes, the corresponding percentages are 57.14, 28.57 and 14.29 respectively. It is interesting to note that according to the 80 per cent sample, there are 9 persons returned to have engaged in Livestock, Forestry, Fishing and Allied activities. However, all of them are found to be engaged only in fishing. No one is engaged in Livestock. It is, therefore, clear that the livestock are kept for domestic use and that the heads of cattle in each household are limited to one or two and as such not exploited for commercial purpose. As all the cattles are of native type, the owners do not get sufficient milk to sell to others. Among the goats, 92 are males and 269 females. Out of these,164 are less than one year old and 197 aged one year and above.

As mentioned earlier, the total poultry in the town is 2,607. In other words, on an average, there are 4 fowls for every household in the town. The details of them are given below:-

(contd...189)

Table 4.24

POULTRY

Fowls/Ducks	Desi	Improved	Total
1	2	3	4
Total	2,194	413	2,607
Cocks	329	48	377
Hens	1,149	267	1,416
Chicken	684	98	782
Ducks	25	..	25
Drakes	7	..	7

Source: Department of Animal Husbandry, Kerala

84.16 per cent of the fowls belong to desi varieties, while 15.84 per cent are of improved and cross breeds.

Land, Land Revenue/Land Tax and other particulars

A considerable portion of the land in Malabar was owned by Namboodiries followed by Nairs by what is known as 'Jenmam right'. Different theories have been put forward about the origin of 'Jenmam right', and most popular is that Parasurama created Keralabhumi and handed over it to Brahmins. Dr. Buchanan, a careful

(contd..190)

*. Buchanan's Journey through Mysore, Malabar and Canara, Vol.II, Page 360

enquirer, wrote in 1800 that "I have already mentioned that the Namboodiries pretend to have been possessed of all the landed property of Malayala ever since its creation; and in fact it is well known that before the conquest by Hyder, they were the actual lords of the whole soil, except some small parts appropriated to the support of religious ceremonies, and called Devastanam, and other portions called cherical, which were appropriate for supporting the families of the Rajas. All the reminder, forming by far the great part was the Jenmam or property of the Namboodiri Brahmins; and this right was, and by them is, still considered as unalienable; nor will they allow that any other person can with propfiety be called a Janmcar or Proprietor of land".

Major Walker's Report on the Land Tenures of Malabar, 1801 ~~was~~ also stated that "In no country in the world is the nature of this species of property better understood than in Malabar, nor its right more tenaciously maintained. It is probable that the possession of Jenmam land was originally unalienable and confined to one or two castes. At present, however, any person possessed of money may become a purchaser of Jenmam".

(contd..191)

From this, it is obvious that all the lands were once owned by one or two castes and others were their tenants. These castes used to let out their Janmam land for cultivation to others enjoying themselves only the benefit of annual rent. Later, however, the Jenmam right could be purchased and sold as property deals effected in any part of the country. As the town, Valapattanam, was a portion of Chirakkal dynasty, the Rajahs rented out a portion of the lands to tenants while they sold the 'Jenmam right' of acres of land to others as well. All the tenants except those who held 'Jenmam right' depended upon the Jenmi's mercy as their right on the land could be terminated whenever the Jenmi wanted. This practice had been in existence for decades together. However, after the dawn of independence, the Government took several steps to ameliorate the Kudiyans and other tenants. Land Reforms were enacted from time to time so as to confer permanent right on the tenants. This is more so especially after the formation of the Kerala State in 1956.

The State Government has enacted a most progressive Land Reform Legislation in 1963 and brought into force from 1st April 1964 with the

(contd...192)

object of abolishing certain intermediary rights in land between the State and the tenant cultivator and also imposed a ceiling on the possession of land. But the objects could not effectively be achieved due to certain loop holes in the legislation. So, the Act has been amended in 1969 in favour of the cultivating tenants and the hut dwellers. With effect from 1st January 1970, on which date the Amended Act came into force, the actual cultivators were brought into direct relationship with the Government. From the same date onwards, persons were prohibited from holding lands in excess of the ceiling limit. According to this Act, every cultivator or occupant of the land is eligible to purchase the ownership rights by an amount payable to the landlord as purchase price. The amount is to be determined in accordance with the formula in the schedule appended to this Act. On transfer of ownership right, the tenant becomes the absolute owner subject to the liability of payment of land revenue to the State.

Land Revenue

In North Malabar, the land revenue was assessed on different principles at various times. For deciding the quantum of revenue, the land was

(contd...193)

divided into different categories based on the fertility of the soil and taxed accordingly. However, with the introduction of basic tax on lands, this system of assessment of land revenue has been abolished. Basic tax is a uniform rate of land tax levied at Rs.2/- per acre irrespective of the nature and fertility of the land.

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CHAPTER V

ETHNIC AND SELECTED SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

Caste-wise details of population, except for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, have not been collected in the census. According to the 1971 Census, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam are the three major religions in this state. Hinduism is the most predominant religion, as its followers constitute 59.41 per cent of the total population of the State. Christianity is the 2nd largest religion with 21.05 per cent of the total population. The persons of Islamic faith form 19.50 per cent of the population. However, at district or town level, the pattern of distribution of persons with these religious affiliation differs from what is obtained for the state as a whole. For instance, in Cannanore District, Islam is the second largest religion with a percentage of 24.34. Hinduism and Christianity constitute 66.23 per cent and 9.40 per cent respectively of the district population. The pattern of ethnic composition and caste constitution are still different in Valapattanam town. Muslim population out-number the population of Christians and Hindus put together. The town is mainly a Muslim centre. More than 3/4th of the

(contd...195)

population are Muslims. Hindus constitute a little over 24 per cent, while only 4 in 1,000 are Christians. The distribution of population by religion is given in the following statement.

Table 5.1

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY RELIGION

(Full Count)

Religion	Total population			Percentage to total population
	Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5
Total	7,296	3,718	3,578	100.00
Christianity	29	19	10	0.40
Hinduism	1,767	853	914	24.22
Islam	5,500	2,846	2,654	75.38

Mother-tongue

Malayalam is the mother-tongue of majority of the population of the town. As much as 99.70 per cent of the total population of the town speaks Malayalam. Of the remaining population of the town, some are Tamil speaking and a few others are Telugu speaking persons. There is also a person whose

(contd...196)

mother-tongue is Kannada. Persons whose mother-tongue is not Malayalam are migrants from the neighbouring states. They have migrated to the town on account of employment of the head or other members of the household in the manufacturing establishments such as Western India Plywood Factory, ~~Hear~~ Hard Board Factory etc. One Telugu household has, however, migrated to the town for rearing milch animals and selling milk in the town. The following table shows the population by mother-tongue in the descending order in the town.

Table 5.2

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY MOTHER-TONGUE

(Full Count)

Mother-tongue	Total population			Percentage to total population
	Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5
Total	7,296	3,718	3,578	100.00
Malayalam	7,274	3,708	3,566	99.70
Tamil	14	7	7	0.19
Telugu	7	3	4	0.10
Kannada	1	..	1	0.01

(contd...197)

[1]"Malayalam is a Dravidian language closely akin to Tamil; but it is still a matter of dispute whether it should be regarded as an 'old and much altered off shoot' of Tamil as Dr. Goldwell considered it, or as a sister language 'both being dialects of the same member of the Dravidian family', as Dr. Gundert suggests in his dictionary. Modern Malayalam has a softer and less nasal sound than Tamil, but its main difference from the latter is that its verbs are not inflected to denote persons number or gender".

Castes and Tribes

As mentioned, there is no caste-wise data except for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But the Sample Survey conducted for this study gives an insight into the caste structure of the town. According to the survey data, bulk of the town dwellers are Muslims followed by Hindus and Christians. There are many castes among Hindus. The Thiyya forms the predominant caste among them in the town. The persons of other castes in the town are Pitarar, Pulayan, Nair, Vanian, Vannathan etc. Among the Christians, there are

1. Page 93-94 Madras District Gazetteer, Malabar, Volume I

(contd...198)

Protestants of CSI (Church of South India) and Roman Catholics and all of them have migrated to the town from Trichur and Ernakulam for job. Majority of the Muslims in the town belong to Shafi sub-sect of the Sunni sect of Muhammadans. Distribution of population by religion and caste are given in the statement below in the descending order.

Table 5.3

SEX-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY RELIGION AND CASTE (SAMPLE HOUSEHOLD) (Survey Data)

Religion/Caste	Population		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Total	1,770	906	864
Islam-Shafi	1,364	704	660
Hinduism-Thiyya	126	65	61
Pitarar	47	24	23
Pulayan (ST)	35	14	21
Nair	30	13	17
Vanian	29	15	14
Vannathan	25	12	13
Parayan (SC)	24	11	13
Peruvannan	21	10	11
Marar	21	11	10
Pulluvan	12	3	9
Gowder	6	4	2
Malayan (SC)	6	3	3
Asari	6	5	1
Ambalavasi	4	1	3
Christianity-			
Roman Catholics	14	11	3

(contd..199)

1,770 persons consisting of 906 males and 864 females have been covered for the study. Among them, 77.06 per cent are Muslims, 22.15 per cent Hindus and 0.79 per cent Christians. Among Hindus, Thiyyas are more in number and constitute 32.14 per cent of the total Hindu population. They are found concentrated in Kalarivathukkal Ward which is mainly a Hindu area. They are known as 'Ezhavas' in Travancore and Cochin areas in the State. Their traditional occupation was the cocoanut cultivation and toddy tapping. The prohibition of toddy tapping imposed in Malabar till 1967 diverted the population of this caste completely from their traditional occupation to other occupations. Though prohibition was lifted in 1967, there is not even a single Thiyya found engaged in toddy tapping in the town at the time of survey. At present, this community is engaged in various kinds of occupations such as weaving, tailoring, workshop mechanics, beedi making, government service, trading, domestic service etc. Thiyyas are included in the list of backward communities of Kerala and are given such privileges as any other backward community enjoys by the statute of the State.

(contd...200)

Pitarars form 11.99 per cent of the total Hindu population of the town. They are mostly engaged in performing poojas in temples. In olden days, the pooja occupation and other connected works of the temples were very much profitable and the persons engaged in those activities enjoyed very high social status. So, all the male members of this caste were directly or indirectly engaged in these activities. But, nowadays, the situation has changed and earnings from these activities have become meagre. According to the Kerala Land Reforms Act, all the landed properties of temples which have so far been given on lease have become the absolute properties of the tenants and so the temple has no income except the offerings. Presently, the number of worshippers in the temples in which they do poojas is stated to be declining. In such circumstances, the priests and the persons connected with temple work ought to find out other occupations. At present, many members of Pitarar community are working in match factory, weaving mills, plywood factory, railway etc. in addition to pooja work.

Nairs are the fourth largest group in the town. Their traditional occupation is military.

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It is noted in the Madras District Gazetteer, Volume I, Page-116, that "The Nairs are the gentry and have no other duty than to carry on war, and they continually carry their arms with them, which are swords, bows, arrows, buklers and lances. They all live with the kings and some of them with other lords, relations of the kings, and lords of the country, and with the salaried governors; and with one another. They are very smart men, and much taken up with their nobility". There are many subdivisions among Nairs viz. Nambiar, Kurup, Adiyodi etc. They are the best educated and most advanced next to Brahmins among the Hindu Communities. The Nairs residing in Valapattanam town are mainly engaged in Railway and Police Service, Weaving, Tailoring and as petty shop owners.

There are 29 persons who belong to Vanian community. They are also known as Vettekadan or Chakkingal Nairs. Their traditional occupation is extraction of and trading in oil. They extract oil from copra using a wooden Chakki. The Chakki is rotated by hand or by bullocks. Now-a-days, as a result of the establishment of power driven oil mills, the traditional way of oil extraction is very much discouraged. Those who still work

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with the out-moded implements do not get the customers. At present, Vanians are working in Weaving Mills, Saw Mills etc. and some of them have also turned to be Teachers, Casual Labourers, Drivers and the like, while one of them is a timber merchant.

The traditional work of Vannathan is the washing of cloths of the higher caste Hindus such as Brahmins, Nairs etc. But, now-a-days, the persons who belong to Vannathan Community in the town are engaged in weaving, beedi making, spinning and in white collared services.

There are also persons in the town who belong to Marar or Drummer caste. Their main occupation was to beat drum in temples daily at the time of poojas and at processions in which deities are taken around. At present, however, persons belonging to this caste are engaged in weaving, tailoring etc. Similarly, persons of Ambalavasi (temple servant) Caste are engaged in white collared jobs. The persons of Asari caste are engaged in their traditional work of carpentry. People belonging to Peruvannan & Pulluvan castes are engaged in beedi making, weaving, plywood factory etc. There is only one Gowder family

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engaged in rearing of milch animals and selling of milk.

From the above, it is clear that the members of all the Hindu castes are employed in a varieties of jobs and majority of them are engaged in weaving (handloom), saw mills, plywood factory and beedi making which are the major sources of employment in the town.

Muslim

Dr. Bhagwan Das has rightly pointed out that the word Islam "is, indeed, by itself, the very essence of religion derived from salam (peace, shanti), it means peaceful acceptance of God".

The followers of Islam - the Muslims settled hundred of years ago in several places of the Malabar region. Valapattanam is one such place where their settlement is said to be antiquity. It was stated that there had been considerable trade between Arabia and Malabar in the eighth and nineth centuries which enabled the spread of Islam in Malabar. The traders are stated to have come lonely without their spouses and stayed here for months to regulate the purchase and shipping of the commoditics. During their stay here, they are

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said to have proselytized the women who belonged to the lo..er classes of Hindus and married them. The Indian women so converted by Arab traders and their children are said to form the origin of Islam settlement in the town. As such, the present generation of Muslims are the descendants of Arab traders and women of this country converted to Islam. This is authenticated as [2]"The Zamorin of Calicut, who was one of the chief patrons of Arab trade, definitely encouraged conversion in order to man the Arab ships on which he depended for his aggrandizement; and he is said to have directed that in every family of fishermen in his dominion one or more of the male members should be brought up as Muhammadans". Afterwards, under the regime of Muslim rulers who captured Malabar, they tried to spread Islam by the sword. It is especially so at the time of Tippu Sultan when a large-scale conversion of all caste Hindus took place.

In Malabar, the Muslims are known as Mappillas. [3]"The name Mappilla has been variously interpreted to mean 'Mother's son' or 'bridegroom', in allusion to the supposed union between the early Arab traders with women of the country; but it is

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2. Page 186, Madras District Gazetteer, Malabar Volume I

3. Page 185 -do-

(contd...205)

perhaps merely a title (Ma-great and pilla-child)".

The Muslims of the town are mostly engaged in business, casual labour etc. A good number of Muslims have migrated to foreign countries, particularly to Singapore, Kuwait and other Arabian countries. Their custom to have their heads shaved is fast disappearing and the young generation does not generally observe this practice. After a particular age, the Muslim women are not allowed to mix up with others except with their close relations. The Muslim women are engaged only in their household duties. When the Muslim women go outside, they strictly observe the custom of covering their whole body by wearing a particular dress known as 'Purdah'. Till recently, the Muslims did not allow their children to receive modern education as they were afraid that such education may turn their children irreligious.

Distribution of population by Age, Sex and Marital status:

The population, as per the 80 per cent sample individual slips of the 1971 census, come to

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5,836 persons consisting of 2,989 males and 2,847 females. Among males, 64.57 per cent are never married, 34.66 per cent are married and others are widowed, divorced or separated. The corresponding figures among females are 30.90, 34.70 and 14.40 per cent respectively. Distribution of population by sex, age and marital status are given in the table below:

Table 5.4

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE-GROUP, MARITAL STATUS AND SEX

(80 per cent sample)

Marital status		Age-group							
		All ages	0-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 and above
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	P	5,836	1,655	765	593	515	426	402	1,480
	M	2,989	813	387	316	282	248	219	724
	F	2,847	842	378	277	233	178	183	756
Never married	M	1,930	813	387	314	236	104	37	39
	F	1,449	842	374	158	39	15	4	17
Married	M	1,036	..	..	2	45	143	181	665
	F	988	..	4	118	188	154	151	373
Widowed	M	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
	F	365	..	..	..	2	5	21	337
Divorced or Separated	M	7	..	..	..	..	1	1	5
	F	45	..	..	1	4	4	7	29
Unspecified	M	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	F	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(contd....207)

From the above table, it may be noted that child marriage is still practised eventhough such marriages are prohibited by law. There are 4 married females in the age-group 10-14. There is, however, no married male in the age-group below 14. Unmarried males and females are found in all the age-groups. Above the age of 35, there are 39 males and 17 females remaining ~~mm~~ unmarried. About 31 per cent of the married women are in the age-group 15-24 whereas among males in the same age-group it is only about 4.5 per cent. Married men are found to be from the age-group 15-19 and onwards. There are only two married males in the age-group 15-19 whereas, among females there are 118. The largest percentage of married women with 19.03 is found in the age-group 20-24 followed by 15.59 per cent in the age-group 25-29. Among males, higher percentage of married males with 17.47 are in the age-group 30-34, followed by 14.96 per cent in the age-group 35-39.

The proportion of widowed, divorced or separated males is, however, lower than that of females. There are 365 widows as against 15 widowers in the town. Like-wise, the divorced males are 7 whereas, female divorcées come to 45. Even in the age-group 20-24, there are two widowed

(contd...208)

females and 4 divorced females which shows that divorce or separation and widowhood occurs even to young females. Among the females in the age-group 35 years and above, there are as many as 337 widows. There are only 5 divorced or separated males in the age-group 35 years and above whereas, the divorced or separated females come to 29. It is, therefore, clear that the percentage of widowed and divorced is considerably higher among females than among males. The maximum number of widows are, however, in the higher age-group. The females widowed in the age-group 35 years and above are 22 times larger than that of males. The high incidence of widowhood among females is partly attributed to the vast difference in the ages of husbands and wives. The difference in the ages of husband and wife is greater among Muslims. In many cases, it may be 15 years or more.

Literacy

Kerala leads other states in literacy rate. However, within the state, the literacy rate varies from district to district. Malabar region is generally backward when compared to Travancore and Cochin ~~regions~~ regions. While the percentage of literacy in the state is 60.42, it is only 54.84 in

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Cannanore district. The urban literacy rate of this district is also low. Against the urban literacy rate of 66.31 per cent in Kerala, urban literacy rate in Cannanore district is 60.11 per cent. Valapattanam town in Cannanore district also has comparatively low literacy rate. The backlog in literacy accumulated prior to the dawn of independence and the formation of Kerala is stated to have been the reason for low literacy rate in Malabar region, as a whole. It is said that persons of poor classes who could not afford to send their children to school and the high percentage of Muslim population in the town and their custom have been the reasons for the low literacy rate in the town all along.

However, since the formation of Kerala State, there has been a rapid progress in the literacy rate of the district. Compulsory education in the primary classes, free education upto matriculation and lumpsum grant for backward classes etc. have improved the rate of literacy in the district as well as in the town under study.

In 1961, the percentage of literacy in the town was only 46.15. It went upto 60.39 in 1971. Similarly, the male literacy rate increased from

(contd...210)

59.90 in 1961, to 69.96 per cent and female literacy from 31.92 in 1961 to 50.45 per cent in 1971. The table given below shows the total number of literate persons and percentage of literates by sex in the town.

Table 5.5

LITERATE AND EDUCATED PERSONS IN VALAPATTANAM TOWN, 1961 AND 1971 (Full Count)

Year	Total population			Literate and educated person		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1961	5,746	2,923	2,823	2,652	1,751	901
	100.00	100.00	100.00	46.15	59.90	31.92
1971	7,296	3,718	3,578	4,406	2,601	1,805
	100.00	100.00	100.00	60.39	69.96	50.45

For calculation of effective literacy rate, children under five years of age have been excluded. In the census, children under five years of age were considered as illiterate eventhough they were attending schools and could read or write a few words. Consequently, the literate persons of 5 years of age and above constitute as high as 58.33 per cent of the State's population. The percentage of literates in each age-group will also show whether illiteracy is due to non-enrolment of children in

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schools or due to the high percentage of illiterates among the elderly persons. The table below based on 80 per cent sample ~~of~~ the slips of the 1971 Census brings to light ~~of~~ some of these aspects.

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Table 5.6

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND EDUCATION (80 PER CENT SAMPLE)

Age-group	Total population			Illiterate			Literate		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All ages	5,836 (100.00)	2,989 (100.00)	2,847 (100.00)	2,432 (41.67)	927 (31.01)	1,505 (52.86)	3,404 (58.33)	2,062 (68.99)	1,342 (47.14)
0-4	811 (100.00)	390 (100.00)	421 (100.00)	811 (100.00)	390 (100.00)	421 (100.00)	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
5-9	844 (100.00)	423 (100.00)	421 (100.00)	328 (38.86)	150 (35.46)	178 (42.28)	516 (61.14)	273 (64.54)	243 (57.72)
10-14	765 (100.00)	387 (100.00)	378 (100.00)	77 (10.07)	24 (6.20)	53 (14.02)	688 (89.93)	363 (93.80)	325 (85.98)
15-19	593 (100.00)	316 (100.00)	277 (100.00)	74 (12.48)	37 (11.71)	37 (13.36)	519 (87.52)	279 (88.29)	240 (86.64)
20-24	515 (100.00)	282 (100.00)	233 (100.00)	88 (17.09)	34 (12.06)	54 (23.18)	427 (82.91)	248 (87.94)	179 (76.82)
25-34	828 (100.00)	467 (100.00)	361 (100.00)	225 (27.17)	72 (15.42)	153 (42.38)	603 (72.83)	395 (84.58)	208 (57.62)
35 +	1,480 (100.00)	724 (100.00)	756 (100.00)	829 (56.01)	220 (30.39)	609 (80.56)	651 (43.99)	504 (69.61)	147 (19.44)

(contd...213)

Among the persons in the school-going age-group of 5 to 14, 61.14 per cent in the age-group 5-9 and 89.93 per cent in the age-group 10-14 are literates. In the age-group 5-9, the percentage of literacy is lower than that in the age-group 10-14. The proportion of literacy rate among adults especially among females over 35 years of age is low. One of the reasons may be that they did not get the benefits of compulsory primary education when they were within the ages 5 to 14. It is also seen that the highest literacy rate is in the age-group 10-14 and in the remaining age-groups the literacy rate is decreasing as the age-group proceeds upwards.

In all age groups, literacy rate among females is less than that of males. The disparity is less among children and higher among adults. Among males of above 35 years of age, 69.61 per cent are literates whereas, among females the literates form only 19.44 per cent. This shows that the female education was badly neglected during past years. Table given below shows the educational level by age and sex.

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Table 5.7

EDUCATIONAL LEVELS BY AGE GROUP AND SEX (80 PER CENT SAMPLE)

Age-group	Total literates		Literate without educational level		Primary		Middle		Matriculation and above	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All ages	2,062 (100.00)	1,342 (100.00)	701 (34.00)	533 (39.72)	793 (38.46)	607 (45.23)	399 (19.35)	172 (12.82)	169 (8.19)	30 (2.23)
5-9	273 (100.00)	243 (100.00)	265 (97.07)	231 (95.06)	8 (2.03)	12 (4.94)	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
10-14	363 (100.00)	325 (100.00)	148 (40.77)	121 (37.23)	189 (52.07)	175 (53.85)	25 (6.89)	29 (8.92)	1 (0.27)	.. ..
15-19	279 (100.00)	240 (100.00)	36 (12.90)	48 (20.00)	116 (41.58)	121 (50.42)	87 (31.18)	65 (27.08)	40 (14.34)	6 (2.50)
20-24	248 (100.00)	179 (100.00)	43 (17.34)	41 (22.91)	98 (39.52)	102 (56.98)	67 (27.01)	29 (16.20)	40 (16.13)	7 (3.91)
25-34	395 (100.00)	208 (100.00)	78 (19.75)	48 (23.08)	174 (44.05)	122 (58.65)	97 (24.56)	29 (13.94)	46 (11.64)	9 (4.33)
35+	504 (100.00)	147 (100.00)	131 (25.99)	44 (29.93)	208 (41.27)	75 (51.02)	123 (24.41)	20 (13.61)	42 (8.33)	8 (5.44)

(contd...215)

34.00 per cent of the total literate men and 39.72 per cent of the total literate women are literates without educational qualifications. Among male and female literates with educational qualification, larger number of persons have got only primary education. 38.46 per cent among male literates and 45.23 per cent among female literates come under this group. As regards persons with higher education, there is a wide gap between men and women literates. Highly qualified men generally outnumber women and so males with matriculation and above account for about 4 times larger than women with such qualifications. 8.19 per cent among male literates and 2.23 per cent among female literates have matriculation or higher qualification. However, it is noticed that the proportion of highly qualified persons in the town is low both among males and females.

Religion and Age at Marriage

According to 80 per cent sample, there are altogether 988 married women in the town consisting of 191 Hindus, 793 Muslims and 4 Christians. Age at first marriage and total number of married women in each religion are tabulated below:

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Table 5.8

AGE AT MARRIAGE AND TOTAL NUMBER OF MARRIED WOMEN BY RELIGION AND AGE-GROUPS AND THEIR PERCENTAGES
(80 per cent sample)

Age at Marriage	All religions	Hinduism	Islam	Christianity	Percentage to All religions	Hinduism	Islam	Christianity
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
All ages	988	191	793	4	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Less than 13	29	2	27	..	2.94	1.05	3.40	..
13-17	590	59	530	1	59.72	30.89	66.84	25.00
18-22	323	104	217	2	32.69	54.45	27.36	50.00
23-27	26	17	8	1	2.63	8.90	1.01	25.00
28+	10	7	3	..	1.01	3.66	0.38	..
ANS	10	2	8	..	1.01	1.05	1.01	..

It may be seen from the table that there are 2 Hindu women and 27 Muslim women who were married before the age of 13 but among Christians there is no woman who was married at the age of less than 13. Among Hindus and Muslims, the females generally get married at an early age. 30.89 per cent of the Hindu married women and 66.84 per cent of Muslim married women got married between 13 and 17 years of age whereas, only 25 per cent of the Christian women got married when they were in this age-group. Majority of the Christian women got married when they were in the ages between 18 and 22. It is, thus, obvious

(contd...217)

that the Christian females marry at right ages. In general, the custom for the women of all communities is to get married before they are 23 years of age. For Hindus and Muslims, the most favoured age for marriage is 18 to 22 and 13 to 17 respectively. Though Hindus are conscious about the marriage and get the women married before it is too long, the Muslims are much more particular about it. More than 97.60 per cent of the married Muslim women were married before the age of 22. The corresponding figure for Hindus is less at 86.39 per cent.

Out of two Hindu married women who had married before the age of 13, one is now between 18 and 22 years of age and the other one is between 43 and 47 years of age. Out of 27 Muslim married women in this category, 3 are between 13 and 17 years, 4 between 18 and 22 years and others above 22 years of age.

The sample households canvassed for this study also reveal that early marriage is common, especially, among Muslims of the town. Out of 316 married Muslim women, 103 or 32.59 per cent got married when they were below the age of 15 but among Hindus only 5 out of 98 or 5.10 per cent got married before the age of 15. Among Hindu castes

(contd...218)

early marriages are practiced by Ambalavasi, Thiyya, Peruvannan and Parayan (SC). Most favoured age for marriage is found to be 15 to 19 for both Hindus and Muslims. But for Christians it is between 20 to 24. The age at first marriage of 59.49 per cent of the total Muslim married women and 64.29 per cent of the total Hindu married women is between 15 and 19. 40.24 per cent of the total married women who belong to the age-group 55 and above got married when their ages were below 15. At the same time, only 20.24 per cent of the total married women who belong to the age-group 15-24 got married before the attainment of 15 years of age. It would, therefore, be clear that the age at marriage has advanced somewhat in recent years.

Age at marriage, mostly, depend upon their economic and social status and is the fundamental factor of the society for settling marriage even today. Almost all the marriages are arranged by the parents in the town and their daughters had no identity of their own and most of the females had no freedom to select their better halves. Under these circumstances, the education at the age of a woman at marriage does not have telling effect.

This may be seen in the table below which indicates that most of the literates upto matriculation got married within the ages 13-17 and 18-22 as is the case with illiterates.

Table 5.9

DISTRIBUTION OF MARRIED WOMEN BY EDUCATION AND AGE AT MARRIAGE
(80 per cent sample)

Age at Marriage	Total married women	Illiterate	Literate upto matriculation	Matriculation	University graduate	Percentage to			
						Illiterate	Literate upto matriculation	Matriculation	University graduate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All ages	988	440	538	7	3	44.54	54.45	0.71	0.30
Less than 13	29	15	14	..	..	51.72	42.28	..	..
13-17	590	258	331	1	..	43.73	56.10	0.17	...
18-22	323	143	176	3	1	44.27	54.49	0.93	0.31
23-27	26	12	9	3	2	46.15	34.62	11.54	7.69
28+	10	8	2	..	..	80.00	20.00	..	..
ANS	10	4	6	..	..	40.00	60.00	..	..

Besides, most of the matriculate females also married within these ages. However, of the three graduate females, two married when they were between 23 and 27 years old while only one married when she was between 18 and 22 years old. While the marriage of two graduates at the age after 22 is attributable to the time taken to complete the studies, the marriages of 3 matriculates after 22 years of their age might have been due to socio-economic condition of their family.

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On the whole, it is, however, noted that irrespective of the literacy standard of the unmarried females, their parents are keen to get them married as early as possible. Not doing so, may, according to them, mean first rate negligence of parental duty towards their daughters. Nevertheless, they are also afraid that their daughters may not have a partner, if she is over-aged. Over age according to most of the parents is 20 and above. An important humanitarian aspect attached to the early marriage of daughters is that while the elder brother in the family or a female of equal age in the neighbourhood leads a married life, their daughter, if remains unmarried, will tend to see her life deserted and be sorry. Another factor leading to early marriage is the petty wishes of the parents that their children, male or female, should get married early and have children before they die.

Currently married women and related birth during one year by religion, duration of marriage and age at marriage

In the 80 per cent sample, there are altogether 988 married women consisting of 191 Hindus, 793 Muslims and 4 Christians. Among them, the duration of marriage for 14 women is less than one year and

(contd...221)

there is no birth reported in these cases. The total live births that had occurred in 1971 was 183. More than 89 per cent of the births occurred to women whose duration of marriage is between 1 to 14 years. Of this, 32.24 per cent, 31.15 per cent and 25.68 per cent births occurred to those whose duration of marriage is 1 to 4 years, 5 to 9 years and 10 to 14 years respectively. It, therefore, appears that in general, more births take place in the early years of marriage. The table given below shows the distribution of married women by duration of marriage and related births during last year.

Table 5.10

DISTRIBUTION OF CURRENTLY MARRIED WOMEN BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE AND RELATED BIRTHS (80 per cent sample)

	All durations	Duration of Marriage								
		Less than 1	1 - 4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30+	Unspecified
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
omen	988	14	170	182	178	152	121	58	103	10
	100.00	1.42	17.21	18.42	18.02	15.38	12.25	5.87	10.42	1.01
irths	183	..	59	57	47	12	5	1	2	..
	100.00	..	32.24	31.15	25.68	6.56	2.73	0.55	1.09	..

Among Hindus, on an average, 16 live births had occurred per hundred married women per annum. But among Muslims, there are ~~19~~ 19 births

(contd...222)

per annum for every hundred married women. There was no birth among Christians during last one year. Again, among Hindus no birth was reported from those whose duration of marriage is more than 24 years. On the other hand, among Muslims two births were reported from those women whose duration of marriage is 30 years and above. It is, however, noted that the age at marriage of these women was between 13 and 17. From the above it would appear that, of the married women in the town who gave birth last year, the oldest Hindu woman is of age below 43 years while the Muslim woman is of age above 43 years. However, both among Hindus and Muslims the minimum age of a mother who gave birth during last one year is above 13. Out of the 191 Hindu married women, 51 are illiterates, 132 are literates upto matriculation, 6 are matriculates and 2 are graduates. During the last one year, 5 births were reported among the illiterate married Hindu women while the corresponding figure among literates upto matriculation, matriculation and graduates were 22, 2 and 1 respectively. In other words, for every hundred illiterate married women 10 births had occurred in a year while for every 100 literate upto matriculate women there were 17 births and for every 100 matriculate women there were 33 births. From this it is seen that among Hindus more children are born to the educated women. The

(contd..223)

reported birth among the graduate women may be misleading as there are only 2 Hindu graduate women who got married recently and among them one gave birth last year whose present age and age at marriage is between 23 and 27. Out of the 793 Muslim married women, 388 are illiterates, 404 literates upto matriculation and one a graduate. During the last one year, there were 55 births among the illiterate Muslim married women and ~~among the illiterate Muslim married women and~~ among the literates upto matriculation there were 98 births. The graduate Muslim married women is more than 48 years old. In other words, for every 100 illiterate married women there were 14 births whereas, among literates there were 24 births. *From this it is seen that even among Muslims* more children are born to literate women.

Inter religious or inter caste marriage

No case of inter religious or inter caste marriage is noted at the time of survey. The people of the town have not yet reached the advanced stage of social development and it is, therefore, the reason that none of the town dwellers approves inter religious or inter caste marriages. However, remarriage of widows within the caste is practised. Among Hindus excepting

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Brahmins, remarriage of widows is freely allowed. There is also no law against the remarriage of widows among Muslims and it is common among them.

Education among young generation by religion

As regards education of the persons, by religion the sample reveals that out of 1,529 persons above the age of five, 425 consisting of 239 males and 186 females are undergoing various courses of studies. Out of 239 males, 57 are Hindus, 181 Muslims and one a Christian. The corresponding figures among females are 39,146 and one respectively. 80 per cent of the total persons in the age-group 5-9, 78 per cent in the age-group 10-14, 23 per cent in the age-group 15-19 and 3 per cent in the age-group 20-24 are studying in the town. Among Hindus, 46 males and 36 females are in the age-group 5-14, of whom 40 males and 31 females are studying. In other words, 86.96 per cent among males and 86.11 per cent among females in the age-group 5-14 are studying. Among Muslims, the percentage of males and females studying in the same age-group are 82.20 and 73.33 respectively. Among Christians, out of 3 in the age-group 5-14, two are studying. 45.28 per cent of the Hindus and 15.33 per cent of the Muslims who belong to the age-group 15-19 are studying in the town. Among Christians, there is no student in

(contd...225)

this age-group. 5 members are studying in the age-group 21 and above, of which, one is a Hindu and others are Muslims. Above the age of 19, there is no female student in the town. This shows that while there is no vast difference in the percentage of Hindu males and females in the age-group 5-14 studying, among Muslims, there is a considerable difference in the proportion of males and females studying in the same age-group. Like-wise, there is vast difference between Hindu and Muslim students in the age-group 15-19. Even among females, there is a difference in educational level based on religion. While there are 32 per cent Hindu females in the age-group 15-19 studying, among Muslims, it is only 4.23 per cent. It means that the proportion of Muslim females going for higher education is small when compared to Hindus in the town. This would also show that in the field of higher education Muslim women are still lagging behind. The reason is not only the financial condition but also the religion and its connected systems.

Out of the 5,836 persons covered by 80 per cent sample, the mother-tongue of 5818 persons is Malayalam. Among them, 773 persons have the knowledge of subsidiary languages as given below:

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Total	773
English	479
Hindi	55
Tamil	12
Arabic	126
Kannada	2
Urdu	3
Telugu	8
Sanskrit	1
English, Hindi	84
English, Arabic	3

Of the persons whose mother-tongue is other than Malayalam, there are 11 Tamil speaking persons, 6 Telugu speaking persons and one Kannada speaking person. Out of 11 Tamil speakers, 7 persons have knowledge of Malayalam. Similarly, 4 of the Telugu speakers have the knowledge of Kannada also. The only female with Kannada mother-tongue has the knowledge of English and Malayalam.

Non-enrolment in school and discontinuation of stu y

Out of 160 household canvassed for special study, 134 households have children of school-going age of 5 to 14. Among them, 13 households or 9.70 per cent of the total households did not send their children to school and 39.55 per cent of the households send some of their children to school.

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Out of the 134 households with children of school going age, 26 had only boys, 27 had only girls and 81 had both boys and girls. Out of 26 households having male children only, 5 households failed to send their children to school and 2 households did not send some of their children. Similarly, out of 27 households who have only female children, 8 households failed to send their children to school and 4 households did not send some of their children. In the case of 81 households having both male and female children of school going age, 47 households failed to send all their children to school. Besides, 6.38 per cent of these households failed to send all their male children, 25.53 per cent failed to send some of their male children, 8.51 per cent failed to send their female children, 27.66 per cent failed to send some of their female children and 31.92 per cent failed to send some of both male and female children to school.

According to the households canvassed for special study, altogether 47 persons consisting of 11 boys and 36 girls discontinued their studies. Most of them discontinued after the primary classes, either due to economic hardship, or indifference of parents or sickness of their family members. However, these instances show that there is generally

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less enthusiasm to send the female children to the school for higher studies.

The parents of children who discontinued the studies of their children were uneducated or educated upto low standards and were engaged in unskilled labour, small business etc. or as casual labourers who have no fixed income and their livelihood depended upon the availability of work.

CHAPTER VI

MIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT OF FAMILIES

The settlement history of the town is difficult to trace out. All the communities claim that they have been the residents of this town for many generations. The town was once formed part of Kolathunad dynasty, ruled by the kings of Kolathiri Rajahs. So, it can be presumed that like any other part of the state, this town also might have been originally inhabited by the Hindus. But today, more than 75 per cent of the total population are Muslims. It is not possible to state exactly as to when and under what circumstances the town has become the centre of Muslim settlements. According to recorded history, since very early years Malabar as a whole where spices like pepper, cardamom, cashewnut etc. are grown in abundance, had attracted foreigners. The Arab Muslim males who were trading in pepper, cardamom, cashewnut etc. came to this town around 710 AD and some of them settled here. During their stay they are stated to have proselytised Hindu women and married them. The kings of Malabar also gave them all sorts of encouragements to spread Islam in the land. Thus the present Muslim generation is said to be successors of Arab traders. The location of the town by the side of a navigable river have accelerated the growth of the town into a commercial centre and

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many Arab, Dutch, Portuguese and European traders were engaged in trade and commerce in the town.

Though the town is an industrial-cum-trading centre, the migration status as compared to the other towns in the state is very low. To study the migration aspect, persons who were born outside the town but were living temporarily in the town at the time of enumeration were considered as migrants. All the members who came to the town are on account of marriage, occupation, business etc. The 80 per cent sample slips tabulated for studying the migration aspect of the town covered a total number of 5,836 persons, of whom, 2,989 are males and 2,847 females. Of the population studied, as many as 5,191 persons or about 89 per cent were born within the town. As such, only 110 persons out of every thousand population of the town are migrants. In other words, only a little over 1/10th of the population are from outside the town. The migrants who thus form a minority came mostly from the same district and the neighbouring districts of the state. The migrants from within the district are found to be more than the migrants from other districts. As many as 82 persons for every hundred migrants are from within the district. The persons from

(contd...231)

other districts of the state who migrated to the town form only a little over 15 per cent. Similarly, the migrants from the neighbouring states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are quite few numbering only 15. No person born in foreign country is found to have migrated to the town. Among the total migrants of the town, 386 are males and 259 are females. Persons who were born in the town are more or less of equal number in both the sexes. The low sex ratio among the migrants is stated to have been mainly due to the fact that a number of male migrants employed in different industries and persons with business dealings are living alone, leaving their families in their native places. The table below indicates sex-wise population of the town classified by place of birth.

Table 6.1
NUMBER OF PERSONS BORN WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE TOWN
(80 Per cent sample)

Birth place	Total population			Percentage to total		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	5,836	2,989	2,847	100.00	100.00	100.00
Born in the town	5,191	2,603	2,588	88.95	87.08	90.90
Born elsewhere in the district	530	323	207	9.08	10.81	7.27
Born in other districts of the State	100	54	46	1.71	1.81	1.62
Born in other states of India	15	9	6	0.26	0.30	0.21
Born in other countries	..	..	..	..	..	..

(contd...232)

Most of the migrants are found to be from rural areas. The number of persons who migrated from rural areas are 454 as against 191 migrants from urban areas. The rural population of the same district migrated to the town, is more than the urban population of the district migrated to this town. On the other hand, the urban population of other districts and neighbouring states migrated to the town is more than the rural population of those districts and states migrated to this town. Thus, while 403 persons are rural immigrants from within the district, only 127 persons are from the urban areas of the district. On the other hand, the urban immigrants from other districts and other states are 64 as against 51 rural immigrants from those districts and states. Besides, it is also noted that the migrants from other states are mostly from urban areas.

Migrants classified by place of last residence and duration of residence in place of enumeration

Classification of migrants based on last residence includes persons born outside the town and those born in the town but stay in other places permanently or temporarily but present in the town at the time of the enumeration. The number of migrants according to place of last residence is

(contd...233)

found to be 652 while there are only 645 migrants based on place of birth. This means 7 members who were born in the town had gone to other places and were back at the time of enumeration. The table below shows that these seven persons had been to neighbouring districts and states. Besides, it also shows that the migration of people into the town has been taking place since long.

Table 6.2
MIGRANTS CLASSIFIED BY PLACE OF LAST RESIDENCE AND DURATION OF RESIDENCE IN VALAPATTANAM
(80 per cent sample)

Duration of residence in the place of enumeration		Total migrants	Last residence			
			Elsewhere in the district of enumeration	Other districts of the state	Other states in India	Other countries
1		2	3	4	5	6
All migrants	P	652	529	104	19	..
	M	390	323	57	10	..
	F	262	206	47	9	..
Less than 1 year	P	51	30	16	5	..
	M	30	20	7	3	..
	F	21	10	9	2	..
1-4 years	P	171	145	24	2	..
	M	103	90	13	..	..
	F	68	55	11	2	..
5-9 years	P	139	117	20	2	..
	M	81	68	11	2	..
	F	58	49	9	..	..
10-19 years	P	147	121	20	6	..
	M	89	73	13	3	..
	F	58	48	7	3	..
20 years and above	P	127	103	21	3	..
	M	70	59	10	1	..
	F	57	44	11	2	..
Period not stated	P	17	13	3	1	..
	M	17	13	3	1	..
	F	..	..	..	..	..

(contd...234)

Out of the 652 migrants according to place of last residence, 127 persons or 19.48 per cent have been residing in the town for 20 years or more. 147 immigrants or 22.54 per cent have been staying in the town for a period of 10 to 19 years. Duration of stay of 139 persons or 21.32 per cent of the migrants is 5 to 9 years. Duration of stay of majority of the migrants in the town is 1 to 4 years. 171 persons or 26.23 per cent of the total migrants are residents of the town for a period of 1 to 4 years and 51 persons or 7.82 per cent of migrants are immigrated to the town recently. From this it would appear that the migration to the town has not much risen. The places from where these persons had migrated to the town are indicated in the table below:

Table 6.3

PERCENTAGE OF MIGRANTS ACCORDING TO DURATION OF LAST RESIDENCE

Last Residence	Migrants (all durations)	Duration of residence in the place of enumeration					
		Less than 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-19 years	20 years & above	Period not stated
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	100.00	7.82	26.23	21.32	22.54	19.48	2.61
Elsewhere in the district of enumeration	100.00	5.67	27.41	22.12	22.67	19.47	2.46
Other districts of the state	100.00	15.38	23.08	19.23	19.23	20.19	2.89
Other states of India	100.00	26.31	10.53	10.53	31.58	15.79	5.26

(contd...235)

Particularly, there has been no appreciable increase in the rate of migration from other states. 15.79 per cent of the total migrants from other states migrated to the town before 20 years and 31.33 per cent between a period of 10 to 19 years. However, migration of population from other states in recent years has declined remarkably as can be seen from the fact that only 10.53 per cent migration had been effected during last 1 to 4 years. There is a small increase, recently, among migrants both from this and other districts. While there are 127 persons (19.48 per cent) whose period of stay in the town varies from 20 years and above, the number of persons who stay in the town for the last 1 to 4 years is 171 (26.23 per cent). This shows that though the influx of persons of the same state into the town has increased in recent years, the economic activities of the town have not so much extensively progressed to attract people from other states on a large scale.

Industrial category of workers and non-workers among migrants

Having studied the migrants based on their place of origin, last residence and duration of stay in the town, it would certainly be interesting

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to know about the part played by them in the economic activity of the town. More than 51 per cent of the immigrants are found to be economically active. This proportion of Economically active population among migrants is very high compared to 21.82 per cent among the non-migrants. In the following table migrants are classified according to the place of origin and economic activity.

Table 6.4

WORKERS AMONG MIGRANTS ACCORDING TO PLACE OF LAST RESIDENCE AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Area from where migrated	Total migration	Total workers	Percentage of workers to total workers
1	2	3	4
Total	652	335	51.38
Elsewhere in the district	529	281	53.12
Other districts of the state	104	48	46.15
Other states of India	19	6	31.58

From the table, one can see more or less a pro-rata contribution of workers from the three areas where-from migration to the town is effected. The largest number of migrant workers are contributed by the group which came from elsewhere in the district of the town followed by that from other

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districts of the state. There are 19 members migrated from other states and among them, only 6 persons or 31.59 per cent are workers.

This being an industrial-cum-commercial town, majority of the immigrant workers are engaged in industrial and allied activities such as manufacturing, communication, trade, transport and other services. However, maximum participation of these persons is noted in other services which mean engagement of persons in any of the services such as Public Administration, Education, Health Services, Community services, Personal services etc. In the following table, migrant workers are classified according to the industrial category.

Table 6.5

DISTRIBUTION OF MIGRANT WORKERS AMONG THE INDUSTRIAL CATEGORY (80 per cent sample)

Categories	Workers	Percentage to total workers
1	2	3
Total ..	335	100.00
Cultivators	3	0.90
Agricultural Labourers	1	0.30
Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities ..	3	0.89
Mining and Quarrying ..	..	..
Household Industry	1	0.30
Manufacturing other than Household Industry	91	27.16
Construction	3	0.90
Trade and Commerce	80	23.88
Transport, storage and communications ..	55	16.42
Other Services	98	29.25

(contd...238)

From the above table, it may be seen that 'other services' manufacturing other than household industry, trade and commerce and transport are the main activities in which the migrants have got engaged. 96.71 per cent of the total migrant workers are engaged in these four categories of work. No significant contribution is made by migrant workers to the workforce in other industrial categories of work. However, it is interesting to note that among the 6 cultivators of the town, 3 are migrant persons. The distribution of migrant workers among the occupational divisions by last residence and sex is given below:

Table 6.6

DISTRIBUTION OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN OCCUPATIONAL DIVISIONS BY SEX AND LAST RESIDENCE

Last residence		Details of occupation						
		0-1	2	3	4	5	6	7-8-9
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	P	20	4	16	46	83	8	158
	M	15	4	16	46	55	8	155
	F	5	..	..	..	28	..	3
Elsewhere in the district of enumeration	P	15	1	13	40	78	6	128
	M	13	1	13	40	51	6	125
	F	2	..	..	..	27	..	3
In other districts of the state of enumeration	P	5	3	3	6	5	2	24
	M	2	3	3	6	4	2	24
	F	3	..	..	..	1	..	..
States in India beyond the states of enumeration	P	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
	M	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
	F	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

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0-1 Professional, technical and related workers

2 Administrative, Executive and managerial workers

3 Clerical and related workers

4 Sales workers

5 Service workers

6 Farmers, Fishermen, Hunters, Loggers and related workers

7-8-9 Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers.

Among the migrant workers, largest number are engaged as Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers followed by service and sales workers. The migrant female workers are poorly represented in all the occupations except in service works. Almost all the migrant females who are engaged in service works are migrants from within the district of the town. Male immigrants from within the district of the town and from other districts of the state are found to be engaged in all types of occupations. On the other hand, the migrant workers drawn from other states are engaged only in production and related works, transport equipment operations and as labourers as well.

The participation in work by the migrants according to broad age-group obtains the same pattern as non-migrants. There are 316 workers within the age-group of work force 15-59.

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Of these, 32.59 per cent are in the age-group of 15-29 and the remaining are within the age-group 30-59. There are only 36 females among the migrant workers and most of them are within the ages 15 to 59. The table below indicates occupational pattern of the migrants in age-groups and by sex.

Table 6.7

NUMBER OF MIGRANT PERSONS BY OCCUPATIONAL DIVISION AND BROAD AGE-GROUP BY SEX

Occupational Divisions	Broad age - groups										
	Total			0-14		15-29		30-59		60+	
	P	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Total	335	299	36	3	2	88	15	194	19	14	..
0-1	20	15	5	..	..	5	2	8	3	2	..
2	4	4	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	1	..
3	16	16	..	..	..	4	..	12	..	..	..
4	46	46	..	..	..	14	..	28	..	4	..
5	83	55	28	2	2	15	12	36	14	2	..
6	8	8	..	..	..	3	..	5	..	..	..
7-8-9	158	155	3	1	..	46	1	103	2	5	..

Persons in the age-group of 60 years and above constitute 4.18 per cent of the migrant workers and they are engaged in all the occupations except in clerical and related works, fishing, hunting & logging and related works. There are

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5 persons of 0-14 years age and most of them are engaged as service workers.

The literacy rate among migrants is higher than the literacy rate of the town. The males out-number females in all the educational levels and there is a wide gap between the literacy rates of the migrant males and females. While 23.33 per cent of the male migrants are illiterates, among female migrants it is 45.42 per cent. The table below indicates literacy and occupations of the migrants.

Table 6.8

LITERACY AND OCCUPATION OF MIGRANTS

Educational level		Occupational Divisions								
		Total	0-1	2	3	4	5	6	7-8-9	Non-worker
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
TOTAL	P	652	20	4	16	46	83	8	158	317
	M	390	15	4	16	46	55	8	155	91
	F	262	5	..	..	..	28	..	3	226
Illiterate	M	91	..	..	..	8	16	3	39	25
	F	119	..	..	..	..	27	..	1	91
Literate without educational level	M	72	1	..	1	7	7	..	30	26
	F	31	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	30
Primary	M	132	..	1	2	18	22	3	63	23
	F	72	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	69
Middle	M	49	3	2	7	10	7	1	13	6
	F	33	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Matriculation or Higher Secondary	M	36	4	1	5	3	3	1	9	10
	F	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Graduate and above	M	10	7	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
	F	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

(contd....242)

It is also noted that 22.07 per cent of the male workers and 77.78 per cent of female workers are illiterates. Though the percentage of illiteracy among female workers is very high about 78 per cent of the migrant female workers are engaged in service works such as cooks and cook bearers, maid servants, house keepers etc. which, of course, do not require any educational qualification. Among the male workers, 26 have matriculation or technical diploma. The corresponding figure among females is 2. Among 10 graduate workers, 1 is a female and all others are males. The one graduate female and about 78 per cent of the male graduates are employed in professional, technical and other related fields. Although nearly half of the migrants are non-workers, literates among them are more than those found among the workers.

Two-third of the non-working migrants are literates. Besides, it is interesting to note that female literates among migrant non-workers are more than their counterparts among workers. Further, among the non-workers, female literates without educational qualification, with primary and middle are more than the male literates of these type

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Age-group and marital status of migrants

Out of 652 migrants, 33.28 per cent are never married while 59.51 per cent are married and 7.21 per cent are widowed or divorced. The corresponding figures for 5,184 non-migrants are 60.99 per cent, 31.56 per cent and 7.43 per cent respectively. 0.02 per cent of the non-migrants have not reported their marital status. Among migrants, the proportion of never married persons is very low when compared to the never married persons among non-migrants. Among the male migrants, 263 or 67.44 per cent are married whereas, among female migrants, married persons constitute only 47.71 per cent. The highest percentage of married persons are found among the migrants whose duration of stay is 10 years and above and the least among those with duration of stay of less than one year. The table given below shows the duration of stay and marital status of migrants.

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Table 6.9

DURATION OF RESIDENCE AND MARITAL STATUS OF MIGRANTS

Duration of residence	Total migrants	Never married	Married	Widowed or Divorced
1	2	3	4	5
Total	652 (100.00)	217 (33.28)	388 (59.51)	47 (7.21)
Less than one year	51 (100.00)	27 (52.94)	23 (45.10)	1 (1.96)
1 to 9 years	310 (100.00)	135 (43.55)	160 (51.61)	15 (4.84)
10 years and above	274 (100.00)	52 (18.98)	191 (69.71)	31 (11.31)
Period not stated	17 (100.00)	3 (17.65)	14 (82.35)	.. ..

Unmarried males and females are found in all the age-groups. Above the age of 50, there is only one female remaining unmarried. The corresponding figure among male migrants are 8. In 0-14 age groups, excepting one female, all others are unmarried.

Among married males, 0.38 per cent are in the age-group 15-19, 6.09 per cent are in the age-group 20-24, 71.86 per cent are in the age-group 25-49 and 21.67 per cent are in the age-group 50 and above. Likewise, among females, the married

(contd....245)

members constitute 0.80 per cent in the age-group 0-14, 5.60 per cent in the age-group 15-19, 19.20 per cent in the age-group 20-24, 67.20 per cent in the age-group 25-49 and 7.20 per cent in the age-group 50 and above. Among the migrants, the married males are found in all the age-groups except in the ages 0-14 whereas, among females, it is found in all the age-groups without any exception. Both among males and females, majority of the married persons belong to the age-group 25-49.

Survey Data

The Survey data relating to 160 sample households canvassed for special studies throw more light on the various aspects of the migrants to the town. The head of household usually has complete control over the movement of the household from its original place. When a person gets employment or transfer to other places he would like to shift the household to his working place. Out of 160 sample households, heads of 34 families have migrated to the town. The classification of heads of migrants household according to place of birth shows that the heads of 20 households were born within the district of enumeration and heads of 12 households were born in other districts of

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the state. The head of one household who migrated to the town from outside the State was born in Karnataka State. The head of another household who was born in the town itself but emigrated to Tamil Nadu State was immigrated at the time of survey. Of the migrants who were born in other districts of the state, as much as 75 per cent are from the neighbouring district of Kozhikode and others are from Malappuram and Ernakulam districts. The birth places of majority of the heads of migrant households (70%) are rural areas. Among the 34 migrant households, 2 are single member households, 7 have 2 to 5 members each, 18 have 6 to 10 members and 7 have more than 10 members. According to place of last residence of heads of households, the heads of all the 34 households have reported themselves to be immigrants from outside the town. About 38 per cent of the total migrants of those who shifted to the town are from the rural areas of the district of enumeration. Among those migrants who had their last residence in other districts of the state, the largest number are from Kozhikode district. The last residence of one head of household was stated to be Karnataka and that of another was

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Tamil Nadu. The classification of these households with reference to the duration of stay at the present residence is as follows:

Table 6.10

MIGRATION STATUS OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD AND DURATION OF STAY (Survey data)

	Total house-holds	Less than 1 year	1-5 years	6-10 years	11-20 years	21 years and above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total	34	1	6	4	5	18
Last residence in rural area	22	..	3	4	4	11
Last residence in urban area	12	1	3	..	1	7

It may be seen from the above table that 52.94 per cent of the total households had settled down in the town 21 years ago. The percentage of households which settled over a period of 11 to 20 years, 6 to 10 years and 1 to 5 years is 14.71, 11.76 and 17.65 respectively. Only 2.94 per cent of the migrant households has settled down in the town very recently. This shows that more households had migrated to the town 21 years ago. It is also seen that the households who stayed long in the town are those migrated from the rural areas.

Out of 1,770 persons covered by the survey, 30 persons have their last residence different from the place of birth and they include 2 persons who were born at the place of enumeration but resided elsewhere and again came back at the time of survey. Among 176 migrants from the same district, 13 persons moved to other places before coming to Valapattanam. Similarly, among 54 migrants who migrated from other districts, 40 persons migrated to the town directly from their place of birth and others have migrated from places other than from their birth place. Out of 8 persons who migrated from other states one had moved elsewhere before reaching Valapattanam and 7 have migrated directly from their birth place. More details are available in the table given below:

Table 6.ii

Place of last residence as related to place of birth

Place of birth	Place of last residence: Same place of birth			Different from place of birth			Total		
	P	M	F	P	M	F	P	M	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total	1,740	889	851	30	17	13	1,770	906	864
In the same place	1,530	770	760	2	2	..	1,532	772	760
In the same district	163	93	70	13	8	5	176	101	75
Other districts of the state	40	22	18	14	6	8	54	28	26
Other states	7	4	3	1	1	..	8	5	3

(contd...249)

As mentioned earlier, 33 households included in the sample have their place of birth outside the town. There are 238 persons in these households, including 165 persons originally belonged to rural areas and 73 belonged to urban areas. Among 165 persons who were born in rural areas, 130 persons belonged to places within a distance of below 50 km., 17 belonged to places within a distance of 51 to 100 km, 7 hailed from places at a distance of 101 to 200 km. and 11 persons from a distance of 201 to 500 km. As regards the persons born in urban areas, the birth places of 53 out of 73 are within a distance of 0-50 km. and those of 11 persons are within a distance of 51 to 100km., 3 persons are from a distance of 101-200 km., 2 persons are within a distance of 201 to 500 km. and 4 persons are 501 km. away from the town. It is clear from the above that 78.79 per cent of those born in rural areas and 72.60 per cent of those born in urban areas are migrated to the town from places located within a distance of below 50 km.

According to the place of birth, heads of 33 households have migrated to the twon. Of this, only 18 households have migrated to the town with their whole family members. As regards the characteristics of the place of origin of these households at the time of enumeration, it is noted

(contd....250)

that the places of 12 households were villages and those of 2 household each were small towns, medium size towns and cities. All these households migrated to town for employment purpose.

Majority of the migrant families had no property at their former homes. Out of 18 households, only 3 households who migrated recently have lands in the place of their origin which are within a maximum distance of 100 km. The properties of two households are looked after by the parents and that of another by the brothers and sisters.

Among the migrant households, 1/4 have their close relatives such as parents, brothers, sisters etc. at the place of origin. The table below gives an idea regarding close relations of the households who stay in the places where from the households have migrated to the town.

Table 6.12

HOUSEHOLDS HAVING THEIR CLOSE RELATIVES IN PLACES WHERE FROM THEY ARE MIGRATED TO THE TOWN

Details of relatives	No. of households
Father ..	5
Mother ..	6
Married brother ..	6
Unmarried brother ..	2
Wife's father ..	2
Wife's mother ..	1
Married sister ..	1
Wife's married sister ..	1

(contd...251)

Out of these 24 households, at least one member of each of the four households visited the relatives at the places from where they have migrated, more than six times during the last three years and members of 3 households visited their relatives 4 to 6 times during the same period. Majority of the households (6) have visited their relatives ~~in~~ 1 to 3 times during the last three years. Members of one household did not visit their relatives even once during the last three years. Almost all the visits of these households are to the places of origin of migration to meet their kith and kin. The relatives of migrants are also stated to have come to the town on visits. Among the relatives of the migrant households, married brothers and the fathers-in-law of the heads of the households are the frequent visitors to this place.

No one has reported that he has received any help from any source on their migration to the town. They are also stated to have no problem during or after migration to the town.

Thus, more than 80 per cent of the migrants in the town are from places elsewhere within the district and majority of them originally

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inhabited in rural areas. The migrants from other states are very limited in number. Besides, they are found to be the migrants from the neighbouring states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The purpose for which these persons migrated cannot be assessed precisely. However, most of them are said to have come to the town for employment and trade purposes.

There is a vast difference between census data and survey data in so far as workers are concerned. According to census, only 591 persons are recorded as workers in manufacturing (including household) industry whereas, survey data reveals that there are 1,293 workers (including employers) in the 11 industrial establishments. This shows that most of the workers do not stay in the town. It is also noticed during the field work that almost all the employees in Government, and local body offices and, other private establishments stay outside the town. For instance, even in the Panchayat Board office, all employees except one Bill Collector and the Panchayat Board President are residing outside the town. The main item that should require the attention of the authority concerned is the highly insanitary condition of the town. People do not like to stay in the town

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as the streets and open areas are very much filthy and the roads are very narrow and over-crowded. It is a place of filaria, a disease contageous by nature. One could see persons affected by this disease all through the year and in all places of the town. Besides, basic amenities are not available in time and in adequate quantity.

CHAPTER - VII

NEIGHBOURHOOD PATTERN

Neighbourly contacts whether in an urban or in a rural area are characterised by physical proximity and mutual helpfulness. Having granted physical proximity, the mutual helpfulness may find expressions in varied forms. For instance, borrowing and lending of money, helping a person who is sick or in any other adversity and so on. It is said that the process of urbanisation is actually opposed to the preservation of neighbourhood life because urban life is wholly impersonal and devoid of primary group intimacy. Many people think that urban life is wholly sophisticated and that the fellow feeling among neighbours does not go beyond a polite expression of good-will and any aid given to others is channelised through organisations. Hence some students of sociology have tried to draw a distinction between neighbourhood in the city and in the rural areas by designating the group relationship in the rural area as 'Primary' or "intimate face to face association and co-operation" characterised by the "we" feeling and the group relationship in the city as 'secondary' and characterised by the "me" feeling.

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The concept of the neighbourhood as a sociological entity is quite meaningful. "The most distinctive characteristics of a neighbourhood are" according to Carpenter, "Its relation with a local area, sufficiently compact to permit frequent and intimate association and the emergence out of such association of sufficient homogeneity and unity to permit a primary face to face social grouping endowed with a strong sense of self consciousness and capable of influencing the behaviour of its several constituents". Neighbourhood is only a sub-section of the city and its position in the urban structure cannot be overlooked. Even the most unplanned town does not grow in a completely random fashion though it is not controlled by a 'master plan'. Neighbourhood is not to be conceived as a physical entity alone, it is a social and moral entity as well. Hence in considering neighbourhood pattern we have to consider the social class of any given area, its functions, and the behaviour that constitutes neighbourhood life.

N. Carpenter - Encyclopaedia of the Social Science, New York - 1933

(contd...256)

The town under study though considered as an urban area according to the census criterion, administratively it is a rural area under the jurisdiction of a Panchayat. Typically urban institutions and voluntary organisations for social service are conspicuous by their absence. Under the conditions generally prevailing, the neighbourhood is not strictly segregated into social, cultural or economic groups. Valapattanam, being a small town, the geographical and social elements may not go together, but both have to be considered when neighbourhoods are marked in the town.

As mentioned earlier, the town which has an extent of 2.04 sq. km. is situated on both sides of the National Highway (West Coast Road) with some institutions of private and public in the centre. The place where institutions of private and public are situated is the nucleus of urbanisation. Hence, people living in all parts of the town have to depend on this central place to meet most of their day-to-day requirements. There is, therefore, no specially named area in the town other than wards which could be considered as the basis for the formation of neighbourhoods. As already stated the town is divided into 7 wards

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for administrative purpose. The principle of homogeneity or unity among the people has not been given due importance while carving out these administrative units. However, the people of neighbouring areas, irrespective of this administrative division, exhibit a sense of unity. The location of the area in which they live, their standard of living and their dependence on each other for various purposes are some of the factors that contribute towards this sense of oneness. Some of such neighbourhoods in the town are discussed below:

Kakkulangara:

The name is derived from the famous mosque 'Kakkulangara' located in this area. It is bounded on the north and east by National Highway, South by Chirakkal village and West by Mangalore-Shoranur railway line. The residents are mostly Muslims. As the Kakkulangara mosque is a very old institution, the year of its actual establishment could not be ascertained. Another important mosque by name Kunnathupally is also located in this area. It is a business centre and most of the administrative offices of Valapattanam are in this area. There is no medical or educational

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institution in this ward. The people of this locality avail themselves of these facilities from the neighbouring wards of Kalarivathukkal and Thottaru and Thottinakkara where there is a school and hospital respectively.

Murukandikkal:

This is an industrial area on the western side of the town. Western India Plywood, the second largest plywood factory in Asia, a Hard Board factory and many other saw mills are located here. The persons interviewed mentioned that the improvements of the town, as a whole, are due to the construction of the Western India Plywood factory. Many persons of the town as well as from neighbouring villages find employment in this factory. When compared to other areas, the number of households in this area are less and scattered as well. There is no big shopping centre here. Only a few items of vegetables, stationeries etc. are available in this area and for purchase of all kinds of other commodities, the people of this area have to depend on shops in other wards of the town. Medical and educational facilities are also not available in this area. Majority of the residents are Muslims and most of them are

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engaged in manufacturing and sale of wood and wooden products.

Nagaram:

This is an area where mainly Muslims are living. None of the persons interviewed could definitely state the circumstances under which they had come to settle down here. It is located on the eastern side of market road (Ferry road). It is a thickly populated area and most of the buildings are adjacent to each other. The most famous mosque of Valapattanam, Juma Ait and a Muslim Upper Primary School are located in this area. It was a commercial centre in the past, but now-a-days, it is not as important as the other commercial centres in the town. In this area of the town, several ware-houses were constructed during the period of British rule to store pepper. This area has, within it, no facilities of High Schools or Hospitals, but it is in an advantageous position as the Hospitals, High Schools, Bus Stand etc. are located in close proximity.

Thottaru and Thottinakkara:

This lies in the heart of the town bounded by Valapattanam river on the north, by National Highway on the south and west and by Market road

(contd...260)

(ferry road) on the east. It has a plain topography. The main inhabitants are persons of Muslim community whose chief occupations are business and casual labour in saw mills and other manufacturing establishments. It is also a business centre and the market is situated to the east of this neighbourhood. The North-east corner of this neighbourhood is an industrial area. The Government Hospital, Panchayat Office, Panchayat reading room and library, Telephone Exchange, Bus Stand etc. are located in this area. People from all neighbouring areas have to depend on the Panchayat library located here for reading and borrowing books. The persons interviewed have opined that this part of the town is very conscious of sanitation and public hygiene. They also observed that eventhough the protected water supply scheme is introduced in the town, it meets only 1/10th of the total needs of the town. They, further, stated that the 'thodu' which runs through the ward is very dirty, especially, in summer and that it should, therefore, be covered by slabs. Though history and trade make the place rich, its look is still that of an under-developed area. Roads are narrow and stinky.

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Kalarivathukkal:

The area around the famous Kalarivathukkal temple seems to constitute a separate unit by itself. It is located in the extreme south-east corner of the town. The name is derived from the temple 'Kalarivathukkal' located in the area. This was the most important temple of Kolathiri dynasty. The Gymnasium of Kolathiri Rajas' where physical exercises called 'Kalaripayat' and sword practice were imparted was also located in this area. This is the only area where majority of the inhabitants are Hindus. It is almost rural in character and most of the residents belong to low income groups. The inhabitants are mainly depending on spinning and weaving, casual labour etc. There are no public institutions. Only one Lower Primary School and one Upper Primary School are located here. For purchase of all kinds of commodities, the people of this area have to depend on shops in other areas of Valapattanam or Puthiyatheru located in Chirakkal village. Medical facilities are available in the Government Hospital located in Thottaru and Thottinakkara ward of the town.

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Particulars of cultural and social activities

All persons interviewed from the neighbourhoods have stated that they used to participate in the annual festivals of the religious institutions celebrated in their localities. Among the Muslims, only male members visit the religious institutions while among the Hindus all members of their family visit the religious institutions located even outside the locality. As regards worship inside the mosque, only Muslims are allowed to enter the mosque to pray. Similarly, only Hindus are allowed to enter into the temples. But all people irrespective of religion participate and witness the various festival programmes performed outside the temple or mosque. The annual festival celebrated in Kalarivathukkal Bhagavathy temple attracts thousands of people from various places outside the town. Similarly, the Hindu people of the town participate in the annual festival celebrated in the Katalayi Sreekrishna Temple located in Chirakkal village. Some of them also go to Taliparamba temple, one of the ancient and most important temples of North Kerala dedicated to Lord Krishna. Annual pilgrimage to Sabarimala is also undertaken by some Hindus in the town.

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There being only one cinema hall in the town, all the interviewed persons, irrespective of their religions affiliations, said that most of their family members attend film shows regularly. Many people who can afford, go to Chirakkal, the neighbouring village where two cinema theatres are located.

The Panchayat Library, Reading room and some clubs located in the town are utilized by most of the people. There is no town hall, park or public stadium in the town, except the open ground available in front of the Panchayat Office. It is used to play foot ball and to hold public meetings of political parties and others.

CHAPTER - VIII

FAMILY LIFE IN THE TOWN

The number of persons per household in the town is comparatively high. According to the 1971 Census, Valapattanam town tops the list of non-municipal towns of Cannanore district with an average of 8.40 persons in a family. Besides, the family size of this town is larger than the State's as well as Cannanore district's urban family sizes. The comparative strength of the households is given in the following table:

Table 8.1

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD IN THE URBAN AREAS OF KERALA STATE, CANNANORE DISTRICT AND OTHER NON-MUNICIPAL TOWNS OF CANNANORE DISTRICT
(Full count)

Name of State/ District/Town	Total Number of persons	Total Number of households	Average number of persons per households
1	2	3	4
Kerala (Urban)	3,466,449	542,093	6.39
Cannanore district (U)	324,904	47,865	6.79
Manjeshwar	12,967	2,046	6.34
Kumbla	8,812	1,375	6.41
Kanhangad	31,869	5,146	6.19
Nileshwar	25,297	4,274	5.92
Payyannur	26,524	4,057	6.54
Taliparamba	16,227	2,690	6.03
Pappinisseri	21,952	3,178	6.91
Valapattanam	7,296	869	8.40
Kuthuparamba	10,305	1,407	7.32

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The reason for the large size of household in this town is stated to have been the practice of joint family system prevalent in the town. Marumakkathayam is also in practice both among Hindus and Muslims. Under Marumakkathayam (matriarchy), the bride after marriage should live in her own house with her mother and sisters, and her husband visits her there. Married women living in the husband's house are very rare among Muslims and many other Hindu communities also follow this practice.

The Census data available on the basis of four per cent sample from population record of 1971 Census do not provide a comprehensive picture about the family life in the town. So, an analysis of family size based on the tables prepared from the schedules canvassed for special studies is attempted below:

Altogether, 160 household schedules have been canvassed among 1,770 persons. According to this, the average number of persons in a household is 11.06. The maximum number of persons in a household is seen among the Christian household but it is not taken into account as there is only one household in the sample.

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Among the Muslim households, the average number of persons per household is found to be 12.29. Among Hindus also, the size of the family is larger than the State urban as well as Cannanore district urban household sizes. On an average, there are 8.17 persons per household. The classification of the sample households by number of members and age of head of household is given in the table below:

Table 8.2

COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLDS BY NUMBER OF MEMBERS

(Survey Data)

Age of head of household	Number of members							
	Single	2-3	4-5	6-7	8-9	10-12	13+	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	3	4	17	26	34	27	49	160
Below 20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21-30	1	..	3	4	6	1	..	15
31-40	..	..	5	5	4	8	8	30
41-50	1	..	4	7	11	8	11	42
51-60	1	3	3	9	6	7	18	47
61 and above	..	1	2	1	7	3	12	26

It may be seen from the table that largest number of households have highest number of members of 13 and above, followed by households with 8 to 9 members. These two groups of households constitute

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51.88 per cent of the total sample households. 10 to 12 member families constitute 16.88 per cent while 6 to 7 member families constitute 16.25 per cent of the sample households. 10.62 per cent sample households have 4 to 5 members. Households with 3 and less members are less in number and as such, they form only 4.37 per cent of the sample households. In the sample, there is no head of household below the age of 20 years. Majority of the heads of households to the tune of 55.63 per cent belong to the age group 41 to 60. However, 16.25 per cent of the households are managed by persons who are above 60 years of age. Household consists of husband, wife and their minor children. But this type of households constitutes only 15.63 per cent of the total households studied. There are single member households and households with more than one family. Among both migrant and non-migrant households, a large number of households have adult males and females and minor males and/or minor females.

Nature of relation of members to head of household

According to the table 3.1 (Household Schedule) appended elsewhere in the report, it is found that the family system in the town is

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very complicated. 45 types of households by nature of relation of members to the head of household is recorded in~~the~~ the table. Some of them are given below:

1. Self only
2. Self, spouse, unmarried sons and/or daughters.
3. Self, spouse, married son and son's wife with or without unmarried sons and/or daughters.
4. Self, spouse, married brother and brother's wife with or without unmarried son and/or daughters.
5. Self (Male), unmarried sons and/or daughters
6. Self (Female), unmarried sons and/or daughters
7. Self, spouse ~~and~~ with or without unmarried sons and/or daughters and widowed mother.
8. Self, spouse, married daughter and daughter's husband with unmarried sons and/or daughters
9. Self, spouse with unmarried sons and/or daughters, widowed mother and sister's unmarried son.
10. Self, spouse, married daughters and daughter's husbands with unmarried sons and/or daughters.
11. Self, spouse, married daughter and daughter's husband, married sister and sister's husband with unmarried sons and/or daughter.
12. Self (female), married daughter and daughter's husband with unmarried son and/or daughter
13. Self (female), married daughters and daughter's husbands with unmarried sons and/or daughters.
14. Self (female), married daughter and daughter's husband, daughter's married daughters and their husbands with unmarried sons and/or daughters.

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15. Self, (female), married daughter and daughter's husband, married sisters and sister's husband with unmarried sons and/or daughters.

16. Self (female), married son and son's wife with unmarried sons and/or daughters.

There are 3 single member households and in respect of 63 households, the head of the household has no spouse. The heads of 53 such households are females and of the remaining 10 are males. The largest number of households come under the composition of "self, spouse, unmarried sons and/or daughters". Out of 25 households of this category, 10 are migrants to the town. The second largest group among the households has self (female), married daughter and daughter's husband with unmarried sons and/or daughters. Majority of the households of the town follow the joint family system and 51.25 per cent of the total households in this sample come under this type of family system. The distribution of the sample households by type is given below:

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Table 8.3

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE
(Survey data)

Type of household		Number
Total	..	160
Nuclear	..	25
Supplemented nuclear	..	42
Sub nuclear	..	4
Single person	..	3
Supplemented sub nuclear	..	4
Collateral joint	..	2
Supplemented collateral joint	..	27
Lineal joint	..	14
Supplemented lineal joint	..	5
Lineal collateral joint	..	16
Supplemented lineal collateral joint		18

The table shows that the joint family system is common in the town among all communities except Gowder, Ambalavasi and Asari. A significant difference is noticeable between the Hindus and Muslims in the case of joint family system. 58.56 per cent of the Muslim households live under joint family system whereas, only 33.33 per cent of the Hindu households are following

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the joint family system in the town. The one Christian household found in the sample is also a joint family. Joint family system is not followed by most of the migrants. Among the migrants, more than 80 per cent have individual family households. It is interesting to note that the heads of all joint families are either illiterate or have an educational level upto middle class only.

Composition by Country, State, Religion, Caste and Language

Most of the heads of households belong to Cannanore district. The heads of 149 out of the 160 households covered by the special survey belong to Cannanore district, that is, the district of enumeration, those of 7 households belong to Kozhikode, 2 heads of households belong to Ernakulam and one belongs to Malappuram district. The only household which belongs to other states is from Karnataka. Regarding the place of birth of the heads of households, it is noted that heads of 147 households were born in the same district of enumeration. Of this, 14 were born in rural areas and the remaining 133 in urban areas.

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Heads of 12 households were born in other districts of the state. 8 of them were born in rural areas while 4 were born in urban areas. The head of a household who belongs to other State was born outside the State. According to classification based on religion, 48 sample households are noted to be Hindu households with 191 males and 201 females and 111 Muslim households with 704 males and 660 females. There is only one Christian Household with 11 males and 3 females. In other words, 30.00 per cent of the total households included in the sample are Hindus, 69.38 per cent are Muslims and the remaining 0.62 per cent are Christians.

As is elsewhere in the country, Malabar is also a caste ridden ~~rakkgiam~~ region. The Hindus in the small town belong to as many as 14 castes of Pitarar, Gowder, Nair, Marar, Ambalavasi, Thiyya, Vanian, Asari, Vannathan, Peruvannan, Pulluvan, Parayan, Malayan and Pulayan. Among Muslims, only the Shafi school of the Sunni sect is found. The Christian household belongs to Roman Catholics.

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Majority of the people's mother-tongue in the sample households is Malayalam. The Malayalam speaking households constitute 99.38 per cent of the total households. The remaining persons are those who speak Tulu as mother-tongue. Among the 1,764 persons whose mother tongue is Malayalam, 141 persons or 7.99 per cent have knowledge of subsidiary languages such as English, Hindi, Sanskrit and Kannada. All the Tulu speakers know Malayalam as well.

Members staying outside reason, nature of link with the household

Out of the 160 households covered by the special study, close family members of 24 households are staying outside. Of them, 10 are Hindu households and 13 are Muslim households. Close family members of the Christian household are also residing elsewhere outside the town. The 10 Hindu households whose family members are staying outside comprise of 2 each of Nair, Thiyya and Vannathan and one each of Marar, Vanian, Asari (Carpenter) and Parayan communities. Of the 24 households whose family members are staying outside, the heads of 16 households are

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natives of the town itself, 2 each have come to stay in the town from a place within a distance of below 50 km. and between 101 to 200 km. respectively. 3 households had their last residence at a distance of 51 to 100 km. and one households' last residence was at a distance of 201 to 500 km. Considering by religion, out of 10 Hindu households whose family members are staying outside, the place of last residence of the heads of 6 households is the town itself and the corresponding figure among Muslims is 10 out of 13. Among Myslims who came from other places, the maximum distance to their last residence is between 51 to 100 km. Among Hindus, it is from 101 to 200 km. and among Christians it is from 201 to 500 km.

The heads of 7 out of 10 Hindu households whose family members are staying outside the town, are engaged in economically active life and the heads of the remaining 3 households are non-workers. Similarly, among Muslims, ~~of 13~~ out of 13 households heads of 2 are workers and all others are non-workers The disparity is due mainly to the fact that the heads of Muslim households, especially, in the case of a joint family, are females by the traditional

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practice of 'Marumakkathayam'. Besides, as has been explained elsewhere, the Muslim women, being custom-bound, are not much in favour of taking to economic activities. The head of the only one Christian family, whose family members are living outside, is a worker in the town. Among the heads of the above mentioned 7 Hindu households who are engaged in work, two each are merchants and weavers. One each is a sweeper, ~~carpenter~~ carpenter and electrician. Of the heads of two Muslim households who are economically active, one manages his restaurant while the other is engaged in wood preparation, paper making etc. The head of the Christian family is a fisherman in the deep sea. From this, it is evident that most of the households whose family members are staying outside belong to low income groups.

Altogether, 32 persons of the households studied are staying outside the town. They include both out-migrants of the household in the town or the family members of the migrant households to the town. Of them, 9.38 per cent belong to 0-14 age-group and 90.62 per cent are in the age-group 15-59. There is no person in the age-group 60 and above. Study of the relationship

(contd...276)

of these persons to heads of households shows that 10 persons are sons, 2 each are brothers, sisters and husbands, one each is mother, daughter and wife, 7 are daughters' husbands, and 6 persons are related in some other way. As far as the duration of residence outside the town is concerned, majority of the persons have stayed away from the town for 1 to 4 years. Persons who have been outside the town for less than one year constitute 15.62 per cent. 59.38 per cent have been away for 1 to 4 years, 12.50 per cent each for 5 to 9 years and 10 to 19 years. 84.38 per cent of the total persons are staying outside for employment purposes, 6.25 per cent each for studying and to look after ancestral property and 3.12 per cent are for other purposes. Particulars of family members staying outside by nature of occupation and relationship with head of household is given in the table below:

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Table 8.4

PARTICULARS OF MEMBERS STAYING OUTSIDE BY NATURE OF OCCUPATION (Survey Data)

Occupational Division (NCO)	Relationship to head of household						
	Son	Brother	Sister	Husband	Daughter's husband	Other kins	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total	8	2	2	2	7	6	27
0-1	1	1	..	1	..	1	4
2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	2	1	..	..	..	2	5
4	1	..	..	1	2	1	5
5	1	..	2	..	3	2	8
6	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
7-8-9	2	..	..	..	2	..	4

Majority of the workers staying outside are related to head of household as sons followed by those as daughter's husband and sons. They are engaged in all types of occupation except Administrative, Executive and Managerial works. Majority of the family members are working as service workers followed by those in clerical and related works and sales works.

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Remittance

Out of the 27 members of the sample household who are employed in other places, 4 do not send any money to their relations at home. Out of the remaining 23 members, 4.35 per cent each are in a position to send an amount of Rs.300/- and between Rs.200/- to 300 respectively per month. 21.74 per cent remit between Rs.100 to Rs.200 and 60.87 per cent send between Rs.50 to 100. 8.69 per cent belongs to the lowest income group and they are in a position to send only Rs.25 to 50 per month. Higher remittances are from those who are residing in other countries and those who are in highly paid jobs.

Only two sample households from the town are stated to have sent money to their absentee members who are staying outside. Last year, an amount of Rs.3,750/- was sent by one household to their son who is studying in the Medical College for M.B.B.S. and an amount of Rs.750 was sent by another household to his wife and infant daughter.

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Frequency of visit to rural areas during the last year by members of household and distance of the places visited

Out of 160 households canvassed for special studies, 49 households visited rural areas during the last year. Above 50 per cent of them visited places located at a distance of below 10 kms. The second largest group with 38.78 per cent visited places located between 11 to 20 kms. Only 7 households visited places located between 21 to 200 kms. and no one visited places situated above 200 kms. Most of them are stated to have paid good-will visits to rural areas and there is no special significance attached to their visits.

Among the 49 households who visited rural areas, 34 or 69.39 per cent are non-migrants. In other words, most of these persons were born in the town but visited their ancestors' home village. The remaining households who visited the rural areas are migrants.

CHAPTER IX

HOUSING AND MATERIAL CULTURE

As a preliminary step to the 1971 Census, a separate list called 'houselist' was prepared in 1970 by numbering all the houses in the town as well as in other parts of the state. According to this list, there are altogether 1,453 census houses in the town, of which, 636 are used exclusively for residential purposes and 2 each for shop-cum-residence and workshop-cum-residence. All others,with a few exceptions, are used as shops, hotels or restaurants, factories, workshops, hospitals, schools, places of entertainment places of worship etc. The occupied residential houses have, however, increased from 640 to 666 at the time of census. Besides, a good number of census houses were vacant at the time of houselisting and it constituted 20.23 per cent of the total houses. It means that every 5th census house was kept unutilised at the time of houselisting. It may be worth pointing out that when compared to other districts, the highest number of vacant houses to the tune of 10.09 per cent of the total houses was found in Cannanore district in which the town under study is located. As mentioned earlier, it was a leading centre in international

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trade hundreds of years back from now and so, many commercial shops and godowns were set up there. But, in course of time, the trade activities of this place have gradually declined. And, now, there are no international trade activities worth mentioning except the Western India Plywood Factory, the Hard Board Factory and the Fibre Foam industry. Under these circumstances, it is but natural that many godowns and shops are not required now and hence kept vacant.

The people of the town live either in their own houses or in rented houses and so, there is no houseless population in the town according to census terminology. Shortage of accommodation is not felt much by the dwellers of the town. It is mainly because, in most cases, the houses are bigger in size and joint family system is common here. Besides, influx of population to this town from outside is considerably less. However, it is noticed in a few cases that more than one household are living in one house. At the time of census, there are 130 households for every 100 houses. In several of such cases, the households are of brothers and sisters. After the death of the parents,

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they partitioned the house and each branch took up residence in the portion of the building allotted to him. In the remaining cases, portions of a house are rented out to other families. Nevertheless, the poor people whose houses are small in size and people who accommodate more than one household in their house really, feel the pinch of accommodation problem. Each poor household likes to have independent roof over the head. But they cannot afford to have one. Realising the difficulties of such poor people, the State Government have come out with a bold scheme of providing houses for economically weaker sections of the population. The scheme is known as "Leksham Veedu Paddhadi" (One lakh housing scheme). According to this housing scheme, the Government will build one lakh houses in all parts of Kerala State for distribution among various Panchayats which, in turn, allot the houses to individuals of economically weaker sections residing under their jurisdiction. 50 hou under the One lakh housing scheme have been earmarked for Valapattanam Panchayat and the construction work was in progress at the time of survey. It is worthwhile to mention that the

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Railway and Police Departments are doing their best to provide accommodation to their staff in the town. But still, there is a lot to be done in this direction. As against 22 employees working in the Railway, there are only 9 quarters in the town.

Like the houses in other parts of the district, almost all residential houses in the town are rectangular in shape. However, the size of the house and the quality of materials used vary according to the financial capacity of the owner. But, it is quite common among the people of the town to build the wall with laterite stone and roof with tiles. So, besides the financial capability of house owners, the availability of laterite stone and tiles plays a vital role in the construction of houses in the town. The laterite stone, quite suitable for house construction, is excavated in many places in the neighbouring areas of the town. Tile is available in plenty and at a comparatively low price as well, from the factory which is located on the other side of the Valapattanam river. Houses having mud wall and roofed with cadjan leaves are very rare. The reason for the

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conspicuous absence of this type of houses is stated to have been the nearness of the river which, when over flowed, washes away these houses. A good number of residential houses, especially those of Muslims, are double storeyed and both floors are used by the same household for living purpose. The houses, in general, are well ventilated and almost all houses have an open or closed varandah in the front.

Though there are good residential houses, all are old fashioned and there is no residential house of modern type with concrete roof. But of late, the front portion of some of the houses are reconstructed with concrete wall and roof to make them appear modern. There are only 4 or 5 concrete buildings found in the town. They belong to Western India Plywoods, Government Hospital and Government High School.

According to the houselist, 80.39 per cent of the total houses have pucca walls built with laterite stone and 15.42 per cent have kachha walls built with unburnt bricks. The saw mills, many sales depots, the store rooms as well as office rooms connected with timber business are

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constructed with wooden walls. This type of buildings constitutes 4.06 per cent of the houses in the town.

As far as the material of the roof is concerned, it is found that 97.66 per cent have tiled roofs, 1.24 per cent of the houses are thatched with plaited cocoanut leaves, 0.07 per cent are roofed with corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets, 0.62 per cent have asbestos or cement sheet roofs and 0.41 per cent have concrete roofs.

As regards the materials of walls and roofs in respect of residential houses, it is noted that 34.06 per cent of the total families are living in houses which are built with unburnt bricks, woods etc. and 65.94 per cent families live in houses which have pucca walls built with laterite stones. However, all the houses with kachha walls do not have kachha roofs. Only 5.50 per cent of the total households whose houses are built with unburnt bricks or woods have kachha roofs whereas, others have pucca roofs.

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Only 1.88 per cent of the total families live in houses which have both kachha walls and kachha roofs. The families who live in houses having pucca walls and pucca roofs constitute as much as 65.78 per cent while the dwellings of 32.19 per cent of the total families have kachha walls and pucca roofs. Those household, whose houses have pucca walls but kachha roofs constitute only 0.16 per cent.

Time and cost of construction

Details of the time and cost of construction of the houses have been gathered only from the sample houses of 160 selected for this study. Accordingly, 36.87 per cent of the total houses were constructed more than 40 years ago, 47.50 per cent between 20 to 39 years ago, 11.25 per cent between 10 to 19 years, 3.13 per cent between 5 to 9 years and only 1.25 per cent were constructed recently. This shows that above 80 per cent of the total houses were constructed 20 years ago. According to the data collected at the time of field work, 4.38 per cent of the total residential houses were constructed within 9 years but according to the general census the residential houses have increased from 614 to 1961 to 666 in 1971.

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In other words, the growth of residential houses during the last decade was 8.47 per cent. It is, therefore, clear that there is very little interest for constructing new houses and also that the genuine demand for houses is lacking in the town. The time,cost of construction and present value of houses are given in the table below:

Table 9.1

TIME AND AVERAGE COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND AVERAGE VALUE AT PRESENT (Survey Data)

Time of construction	Total number of houses	Average cost of construc-tion per house	Average value per house at present
1	2	3	4
4 years or less	2	11,500	13,000
5 to 9 years	5	10,600	13,200
10 to 19 years	18	6,347	8,714
20 to 39 years	76	4,782	8,529
40 years and above	59	3,223	8,533

The cost of construction of houses has gone up year after year due to the abnormal rise in the cost of materials and labour charges. However, laterite stone, wood, tiles and plaited cocoanut leaves available in the town and neighbouring

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areas are used to construct the buildings. As a result, construction of a house in the town is cheaper when compared to other places.

According to the houselist prepared in 1970, there are 640 households in the town with 6,951 persons and these households occupy a total number of 4,143 rooms, that is, every household uses on an average, 6.47 rooms in addition to varandah, kitchen, store room, garage etc. (in the definition of a room adopted in the census, varandah, kitchen, storeroom, garage, cattle shed, latrine and rooms in which household industry such as handloom is located and those which are normally not usable for living or sleeping are excluded). As much as 63.12 per cent of the total households live in houses which have five or more rooms. It is worth noting that the largest number of houses are covered under this category. Households having 4 living rooms constitute 17.19 per cent, those having three living rooms form 10.16 per cent, those having two living rooms make 3.44 per cent, and the remaining have only one room. On an average, there is one room for every 1.68 persons in the town. The survey data also revealed that majority of the households of the town have more than five rooms and there are very few who have

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one room accommodation. If two persons per room is considered a satisfactory norm to judge the housing condition, then the town under study has no serious accommodation problems.

When constructing a house, the minimum floor space required to accommodate all the members of that house has not been taken into consideration by majority of the people. The poor classes care, subject to their financial condition, only for a roof over their heads. The size of the building is limited by the amount that they can afford to spend for its construction. On the other hand, the rich families constructed huge buildings as their status symbol, eventhough the family members are less. An analysis of data on floor area of the houses in the town reveals that 8 households having 158 persons have a per capita floor space of 2.3 sq. metres, 30 households with 395 persons have 4 to 5 sq. metres, 56 households with 690 persons have 6 to 9 sq. metres, 40 households with 364 persons have 10 to 15 sq. metres and 26 households with 163 persons have 16 sq. metres and above. On the whole, the per capita floor area for the sample households canvassed ranged from 2.3 sq. metres to 16 sq. metres. It is not possible to prescribe

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uniformly, a specific standard of accommodation for a person as it may call for variations from place to place. There is also wide disparity between the per capita floor area required for poor and rich persons. Besides, their living conditions also differ. On the whole, however, the per capita floor area of accommodation in the town is satisfactory. In this connection, it may be worth noting that Sri M.V. Sovani in his book "Urbanisation and Urban India" has proposed "that 40 to 50 sq. ft. (3.79 to 4.73 sq. metres) per person may be a more realistic standard to aim at". Considering the standard unit of accommodation per person as suggested by Sri Sovani, only 158 persons of 8 households constituting about 9 per cent of the total population have a per capita floor space below the standard level of 3.79 to 4.73 sq. metres. It would, therefore, be apparent that a higher percentage of households possess spacious accommodation.

As regards the availability of amenities, it is noted that out of 160 households, 139 or 86.88 per cent have separate kitchens and 12.50 per cent are sharing with other households. A single member household does not have kitchen and he does not also prepare food. Most of the houses

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were not having outlets for smoke. While 84 or 52.50 per cent have separate bath rooms, 14 or 8.75 per cent share common bath rooms with others and 62 or 38.75 per cent have no bath room at all. As regards lavatories, 70 households or 43.75 per cent have no such facilities, 74 or 46.25 per cent have separate latrines in their house and 16 or 10.00 per cent are sharing with others.

Though the town is provided with pipe water, it is limited to public taps only and so, the households have no taps at all. Majority of the households still depend on wells for drinking water. 90 or 56.25 per cent of the total households have their own water facilities and all others are sharing with other households. Almost all the households use well water to wash their clothes. Some of them go to the ponds and tanks for washing the clothes. The river water is not used for washing because it is impregnated with salt.

Tenural status

Out of 160 households covered by this survey, as much as 83.13 per cent of the total families live in their own houses, 14.37 per cent live in rented houses and 2.50 per cent are living in those houses which are allotted by their employers on rental basis.

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Furniture

All the households in the town have the essential items of furniture. Among them, majority of the households have ordinary furniture while some have costly modern furniture. The statistics collected from the 160 households show that 86.25 per cent have chairs, 79.38 per cent have tables, 88.13 per cent have cots, 30.00 per cent have benches and 32.50 per cent have stools. A few households have new cots, sofa-cum-bed, almirah etc. and one household has a granary. The type and number of furniture that the households have is one of a telling factors of their economic condition.

Utensils

Almost all the households belonging to different communities, irrespective of their occupation and economic status, use earthern pots and aluminium utensils for cooking. Earthern pots are cheap in the area and the food cooked in earthern pots is considered to be more tasty than that cooked in metallic vessels. 99.38 per cent of the total households have earthern wares for cooking purposes. However, 98.13 per cent also use aluminium utensils. A few families use brass,

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copper, and steel vessels also for cooking. For serving food, almost all the households use china clay plates. A few households use steel plates, enamelled plates, aluminium plates etc.

Fuel and light, dress, ornament and luxury goods

As in other parts of the State, fire wood is the main fuel in the town and all the households use it. The town itself is a centre of timber business and many saw mills are located here. So, firewood can be had easily and also at cheaper rate. Many households in the town do not purchase the firewood, instead, the women of these households collect the bark from the places where the timber logs are stored by the timber merchants or factory owners. Nearly 42 per cent of the households covered by the survey do not have electric lights. They use Kerosene lamps. More than 58 per cent of the total households use electricity for lighting. Of them, 88.17 per cent have separate connections while others share with them. About two-third of the total houses belonging to non-migrants are electrified whereas, only below 50 per cent of the migrants' houses are electrified. From this, it is seen that many of the migrant families belong to the low income groups and they are not in a position

to live in rented buildings on high rent which have electric connections.

Out of 160 households covered by the study, 96 households have members who own wrist watches and 13 households have wall clock. Radio or transistor is found in 52 households and two households have record players. 2 households have ceiling fan and one household has table fan. 4 households have telephone arrangements. 5 households have cameras and two households have cars. Articles which are no longer considered as luxuries are owned by persons of all communities except Scheduled Castes. The only Scheduled Caste household included in the survey has members having wrist watches. Among Hindus, Thiyyas and Vanians have more items of these articles than other communities. In general, however, the persons who are engaged in business, production and related works invariably have almost all these items.

The dress of the people in the town is the same as found elsewhere in the State. Almost all wear a white cloth known as 'mundu' (dhoti) and shirt. A vast majority of men, particularly

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in the lower income groups, use coloured shirts. The kaili or lunki is also common especially among the casual labourers. Very rarely, some persons wear an upper cloth over their shoulder. All the Muslim men wind the dhoti around the waist in the anti-clock-wise direction. Some Muslim priests and old men shave their heads and wear a white cap or ties a turban on the head. The young and educated ones have been influenced by the change in fashion of dress. Most of the boys in all communities except Muslim wear shirt and shorts whereas, the Muslim boys use white dhoti and shirt. Very young children up to the age of 2 or 3 hardly wear anything when they are in the home. Some of the students studying in high school classes or colleges and some grown up men generally wear shirts and pants. Some officials also wear pants and shirts. The factory labourers mostly wear shirts and shorts which are more convenient to work in the factories. The Hindu women generally wear dhoti, otherwise called half saree, and blouse while they are in the house. When visiting places outside, or on festive occasions and in social gatherings such as marriages etc. Majority of them wear blouse and saree. The young female children belonging to all communities wear

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blouse and skirt, but young women put a half saree over the full skirt and blouse while going to school or outside. The Muslim women do not use half saree but they use a white cloth for head dress. The peculiarity among Muslim women in the town is that except the aged persons others do not wear the loose blouses which have loose sleeves reaching up to the waist. This type of blouse is common among the Muslim wome in the southern part of Malabar. Muslim women use saree also. While going outside the house, some of them cover the body completely with a 'purdah' and some others cover the head with their sarees. Shoes and chappals are used by men and women of all communities.

Ornaments

Normally, the males from all communities do not wear any ornament except, perhaps, a ring in the finger. A thin gold chain around the neck is found among some boys and some Hindu men in the town. But women of all communities are fond of ornaments. Majority of them use gold ornaments and the poor family use imitation jewellery. Now-a-days, the chain (Mala) made of imitation perls is very common among girls.

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Majority of married Hindu women put on a gold chain to which "thali", the token of marriage bond is tied. The Muslim women do not put many items of ornaments while they are at home. But, when they go outside, they wear more items of ornaments. Most of them tuck a silver chain, known locally as 'Ottiyanam', round the waist over the dhoti. Ear studs, rings and bangles are the other common ornaments used by women of the town.

Food

All the Muslims and majority of Hindu households except Brahmin community are non-vegetarians. The staple food of all communities is rice. The vegetarians take vegetable curries, pappadam, butter milk etc. with their rice whereas the non-vegetarians take fish, meat etc. in addition to vegetable curries. Irrespective of castes and religion, all of them drink tea and coffee. Some Hindu members are in the habit of taking alcoholic beverages. It is by custom that Muslims are strictly prohibited from drinking but, rarely, some of them use alcoholic drinks such as toddy, arrack etc. Smoking is very common among the people in the town.

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CHAPTER-X

ORGANIZATION OF POWER AND PRESTIGE

The organisation of power and prestige has undergone a radical change due to the transformation of the social and political set up in the country. It is said that as elsewhere in Malabar, the Cannanore district as a whole was under the exclusive monopoly of the Brahmin community. All the lands were surreptitiously controlled by them. They were the lords of the land possessing large power for oppression of and domination over the lower castes. But, so far as Valapattanam town is concerned, the canker of casteism had disappeared from very early days due to the cosmopolitan nature of the area, a resultant factor of international trade that flourished in that town from good olden days. The immigration of Muslims, rather Arabs also helped the process. On the other hand, a few individuals due to their philanthropic outlook, specialised profession and wealth were respected and so they had a say in the socioeconomic matters of the area.

The political changes expedited the social revolution. With the dawn of independence, the power to elect their rulers passed on to the hands

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of the governed, irrespective of their economic and social status. Besides, there is no bar against anybody becoming a leader. All communities and all classes can produce leaders. As popular support is now required for political parties, the politicians closely associate with the people of all communities to win their confidence.

From the information gathered by canvassing of 'Neighbourhood and Community life schedule' it is noted that only a few individuals, especially, industrialists, politicians and trade union leaders are powerful and influential. They are in the forefront of socio-political activities of the town as a whole. They are actively involved in the political, social and cultural activities of the town. Their influence is not adjunct to any official position they occupy. They are special invitees for almost all social and cultural functions in the town. Their opinion on matters connected with town life is considered valuable.

At the time of field work, information regarding the most respected and most influential persons in the town were also gathered. Particulars of the same are tabulated below:

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Table 10.1

PARTICULARS OF THE MOST RESPECTED AND INFLUENTIAL PERSONS IN THE TOWN

Name	Age	Sex	Religion	Caste	Education	Occupation	Occupational address
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
.K. Kader-kutty	50	Male	Muslim	-	M.A.	Managing Director W.I.P.Ltd.	W.I.P. Ltd.
.N. Kunhahamed Hajee	58	"	"	-	S.S.L.C.	Panchayat Board President and owner of the C.N. Plywood	C.N. Plywood company
K.K.Abdulla	48	"	"	-	VIIth Std.	Politician	--
V.K. Hassan Hajee	68	"	"	-	VIIth Std.	"	--
K. Kunhambu	52	"	Hindu	Pulaya	VIIIth Std.	"	--
K.P.S. Koyamu Thangal	65	"	Muslim	-	VIIIth Std.	Religious work	--
N. Sreedharan	50	"	Hindu	Thiyya	S.S.L.C.	Managing Director, N.K. Brothers Weaving Establishment	N.K. Brothers Weaving establishment
V. Karthiayani	47	Female	"	Nair	S.S.L.C.	Teacher	Mamala Nehru U.P. School
K.T. Mandakini	38	"	"	Thiyya	B.Sc., M.B.B.S. DGO	Doctor	Govt. Hospital, Valapattanam
K.K. Khalid	58	Male	Muslim	-	Xth Std.	Saw Mill owner	--
N. Sreedharan	54	"	Hindu	Thiyya	B.A. B.T.	Teacher	Govt. H.S., Valapattanam.
C. Kunhiraman Nair	32	"	"	Nair	B.Sc. M.B.B.S.	Doctor	Govt. Hospital, Valapattanam.
K.S. Abdul Kader	58	"	Muslim	-	VIth Std.	Politician	-

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According to the opinion of the persons interviewed, Sri A.K. Kaderkutty is the widely accepted person of higher reputation. In the industrial fields, he has made outstanding contributions. He is the Managing Director of the Western India Plywoods Ltd., the most modern plant in India, located in the town. Sri A.K. Kaderkutty is one of the founder members of the Federation of Plywood Industry. An Indian Plywood delegation led by him visited 13 countries in West Asia, East Africa, United Arab Republic and the United Kingdom and did much valuable service in assessing the export potentialities of Indian Plywood. Under his management, a Hard Board factory, well equipped with modern machinery is also set up within the premises of Western India Plywoods. Due to his untiring efforts, Kerala State has attained a foremost position in the manufacture of quality plywoods in India. He is also the Convener of Valapattanam Development Citizen's Committee.

Sri C.N. Kunhahammed Hajee is referred to by most of the persons interviewed as the most popular figure, wielding much influence in the town. He has been associated with the Panchayat Board administration for many years and still

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continuing as Panchayat Board President. He is also an industrialist and the C.N. Plywood Factory is functioning under his management. He is the Chairman of Valapattanam Development Citizen's Committee. He is in the forefront of all social and cultural activities of the town and his leadership in providing more and more amenities to the town has won him popularity.

The name of Sri K.K. Abdulla who worked hard for the welfare of the Muslim community is referred to by some people as a prestigious person having much influence in the town. He has been associated with administration of Valapattanam Panchayat as Panchayat Board member and he is the Secretary of the Muslim League, Valapattanam.

Sri V.K. Hassan Hajee, the Panchayat Board Vice President is also referred to by some, as a very popular person in the town. He is also associated with the administration of Valapattanam Panchayat Board for many years. Eventhough he is an aged man, he is always in the forefront of all social activities and works hard for the improvement of the town. This is stated to be the reason for his popularity.

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Another influential person in the town is Sri K. Kunhambu who belongs to Scheduled Tribe. Politically, he is a congress man. He was once elected to the State Legislative Assembly as a congress candidate and was the Minister for Harijan Welfare. He works hard for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. He is the Chairman of the Harijan Development Corporation and the Financial Development Corporation.

Sri K.P.S. Koyamu Thangal, a religious worker, is stated to be enjoying much respect in the town. He is a most popular man among Muslims. He enjoys a very high social status because of his profession connected with mosque and worship. All Muslim people regard him as their priest.

The name of Sri N. Sreedharan is referred to by some people as a very popular person in the town. He is aged 50 years and belongs to the Thiyya community. He is also a well known industrialist. He is the managing partner of N.K. Brothers Weaving Establishment which provides employment to many persons of the town and neighbouring areas.

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Smt. V. Karthiayani is also having much reputation in the town. She is aged 47 and belongs to Nair Community. By profession, she is a teacher.

Smt. K.T. Mandakini, B.Sc., M.B.B.S., DGO is also referred to by some as a respected person in the town. She belongs to Thiyya community. Aged 38, she is a doctor in the Government Hospital, Valapattanam. Her profession as a doctor is stated to be the reason for her popularity in the town.

Shri K.K. Khalid, aged 58 is stated to be a respected personality in the town. He is engaged in timber business. He is also the Secretary of Timber Merchants Association, Valapattanam.

The names of Shri N. Sreedharan, Headmaster, Government High School, Valapattanam, Shri C. Kunhiraman Nair, Doctor of the Government Hospital, Valapattanam and Shri K.K. Abdul Kader, the Panchayat Board member of the town are mentioned by some informants as having much respect in the town.

According to the opinion of the persons interviewed, there are 13 persons who enjoyed respect at the locality level and town level.

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Of them, 7 are Muslims and others are Hindus. Among the Hindus, Thiyyas top the list with 3 persons followed by Nairs with 2 persons. One belongs to Pulaya Community of Scheduled Tribe. The study has also revealed that higher educational qualifications as such have not contributed much to the influence and prestige of these people. The distribution of these persons by literacy shows that 30.77 per cent of the total persons are graduates, 23.08 per cent have secondary education, while the remaining persons had not studied even upto matriculation. The town being an industrial centre, industrialists are regarded as most popular persons. The opinion of interviewed persons shows that 30.77 per cent of the respected and influential persons in the town are each from industrialists and political leaders.

No voluntary organisation of any type could be found in the town. But an 'Abhaya Niketan' for the Cannanore district, as a whole, is situated at Thottada, Cannanore. It is an institution to rehabilitate destitutes. The aim of the institution is to minimise the beggars' problem. The institution was started at the time

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when beggars from neighbouring districts swarmed Cannanore district, especially the urban areas, due to the introduction of the prohibition of Begging Act in those districts. The main objective was to provide food, clothing and shelter to the helpless, sickly and starving beggars.

The Trade Union Act governs the organisation and working of trade unions for employees. Trade Union Movement is very strong in the area and there are several unions working in various factories. The increased social and political awareness among the industrial labourers is mainly due to the functioning of these trade unions. The trade unions have been able to obtain many benefits for the labourers. The major establishments such as the Western India Plywoods Ltd., Hard Board Factory and some saw mills in the town have trade unions. Major trade unions in the town are (1) The Western India Plywoods Workers' Union, (2) The Western India Plywoods and Hard Board Workers' Union, (3) Western India Plywoods Staff Association, (4) Cannanore District Timber, Plywood and Matches Workers' Council, (5) Swatantra Thozhilali Union and (6) Timber Merchants' Association. Among these, the Western India

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Plywood Workers' Union is under the banner of Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the Swatantra Thozhilali Union is under the Muslim League. Timber Merchants' Association has no open political affiliations. The remaining three unions are ~~the~~ under the Congress party. The Western India Plywood Workers' Union is affiliated to the all India Regional Organisation of CITU. The Western India Plywoods and Hard Board Workers' Union and Western India Plywood Staff Association are affiliated to INTUC. All the Trade unions are having their own offices. The trade unions draw their strength from the political parties to which they are affiliated and the office bearers of the trade unions are the political leaders.

Since the introduction of elections based on adult franchise, more than a dozen recognised political parties are functioning in Kerala. Muslim League seems to be the strongest political party in the town and it has the largest number of active supporters.

The Muslim League began to play an important role in the political affairs of Malabar from late thirties. Eventhough the league was started before

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1917 in some parts of Malabar, it was in a dormant state till 1934. Muslim League started functioning in the town from 1937. Abdul Rahiman Ali Rajah was elected as its first President. Muslim League is a powerful partner in the coalition Ministry of Kerala.

The Communist Party (Marxist) has sizeable followers in the town. The leftist group in the then Congress Party known by name Congress Socialist Group became the Communist Party of Malabar in 1939 and was affiliated to Communist Party of India. In 1964, it broke away from the parent body of the Communist Party of India and formed a separate party called Communist Party (Marxist). This party has built up a base among the peasant and industrial labourers.

The Indian National Congress (R), the oldest political party, has also a good number of followers in the town. In so far as its relation with trade union is concerned, this party in the town is as active as the CPI(M). The split in the Congress Party at the national level in 1969 had not affected its strength in the town. Supporters of RSP, PSP, ~~CIP~~ CPI etc. are also found in the town. The Congress Party, Muslim League, Communist Party (Marxist) and the RSP have their own offices in the town. The

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exact number of members enrolled in each party could not be ascertained. However, party membership cannot be equated with party supporters. It was stated that getting membership in the CPI(M), Congress and CPI is not easy, as the membership is given only after watching the person's conduct and activities for years together. Similar restrictions on membership are also stated to be followed by other political parties.

So far as the last general elections to the State Assembly and the Parliament are concerned, the town area as such was not a separate constituency, but, formed part of a larger unit. In other words, the town, Valapattanam, formed part of Cannanore constituency. In the last Assembly elections there were two candidates, of whom, one was an independent candidate supported by (CPI Marxist) and the other was sponsored by Muslim League and was also supported by Congress (R), CPI, RSP, PSP etc. The last Panchayat election was conducted in 1962. No political party is stated to have played any notable role in that election though the candidates have strong party affiliations. All the candidates contested as independents. The election to the Panchayat is now long due and the members elected in the last election do not seem to reflect the present strength of political parties in the town.

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Under such circumstances, it is not possible to study the political aspects of the town based on general Assembly election or Panchayat election of the town.

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CHAPTER XI

LEISURE AND RECREATION, SOCIAL PARTICIPATION, SOCIAL AWARENESS, RELIGION AND CRIME

Particulars of various cultural and recreational centres and activities

Valapattanam is a small town and has preserved most of its rural characteristics. As a result of reorganisation of villages in Kerala, it became a separate village. The reorganisation is stated to have deprived Valapattanam of many religious institutions, recreational centres and the palace of Kolathiri Rajahs which are included in Chirakkal village. Only one temple, dedicated to the family goddess of Kolathiri Rajahs remains in the town. It is situated in an elevated ground above the Muslim habitation. Since very early times, the Muslims constructed mosques, from time to time, separately as a symbol of their individual or group status. At present, about 19 mosques are situated in the small town. The temple and the mosques in the town attract devotees at all times. Many persons visit them on festive occasions. The recreational facilities in the town are very limited. There are a few recreation clubs, reading rooms, a cinema talkies and a play ground. Also, there are two cinema theatres within a walkable distance of below

1 km., located in Chirakkal, the neighbouring village.

Almost all the saw mills and the Western India Plywood Factory are located on the bank of Valapattanam river and the river side is used to store the timber logs. As a result, the river bank is usually dirty and insanitary. Hence, no one chooses the river bank to spend their leisure time. It is said that there had been a children's park by the side of west coast road, but it was demolished for the purpose of constructing a bus stand, the Panchayat Board Office and some shops as per the rural development scheme.

There is no public play ground. But a maidan belonging to the Panchayat is used by the public to play foot ball in the evening. It is situated in front of the Panchayat Office by the side of west coast road and very near to the Railway Station. It is used for playing foot ball and conducting school sports. Public meetings are also conducted here. The compound where the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is located is also used as play ground by the youngsters to play games like badminton. It is actually a paddy field

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but in summer season it is not used for cultivation due to the scarcity of water. There are also small play grounds attached to the high school and primary schools for the exclusive use of the pupils. The sports club in the town conducts foot ball tournament every year which attracts large crowds. Occasionally, circus is also conducted in the town. The circus by name 'Great Indian Circus' had come to the town and halted for about 14 days in January, 1974.

Clubs

A few small organisations of sports and arts have sprung up in the town. These are formed by the local youths. At the time of survey, there were 8 sports clubs in the town.

The Strange Brothers Club was the first club organized in the town in 1951 by some youths for promoting sports spirit in young men. It is functioning in a rented building and pays a rent of Rs.11/- per month. Altogether, there are 69 members in the club and each member gives an amount of Rs.24/- per year as subscription.

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The recreational activities consist of both indoor games such as playing cards, carroms etc. and outdoor games, mainly foot ball. The club remains open from 4 pm to 8 pm. The management is vested in a committee consisting of President, Secretary, Treasurer and 16 members elected by the members of the general body. Once in every year, the club conducts foot ball tournament during the months of January and February in the Panchayat Board's Play ground. Last year, the club got an income of Rs.15,000/- from the tournament collections. Of this, an amount of Rs.6,000/- has been donated to the Government Hospital, Valapattanam, for its development. Rs.4,000/- has been distributed among High School and college students as scholarship and Rs.1,000/- is used to purchase sports materials. The total expenditure to conduct the tournament including honorarium given to players is Rs.5,000/-.

Another club by name Town Sports Club was set up in 1973 with the object of encouraging sports spirit and reading habit among local people. It is housed in a rented building. The rent is Rs.40/- per month. Both indoor games and outdoor games are conducted by the club. In addition

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to the indoor games, they are maintaining a small reading room here. A good number of dailies and weeklies are also available in the reading room. The club remains open from 4 pm to 8 pm. They have planned to conduct both league tournament and open tournament for badminton and foot ball in the coming years. The fund is raised through donations from the public and subscriptions from the members. A sum of Rs.1,000/- has been donated by the public at the time of its inception. A sum of Rs-3/- per head was collected from the members as subscription for a year. At present, there are 56 members in the club. 19 members, elected from among them for the honorary posts of President, Secretary and Treasurer etc., are managing the club affairs.

Libraries

Besides the Panchayat Library and reading room, there are two other libraries and reading rooms which have been organized by the local people. All the important dailies and weeklies are available in these reading rooms. Persons who cannot afford to purchase newspapers avail the facilities provided by these reading rooms.

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The Panchayat Library-cum-reading room was started functioning from the year 1946, in the same building in which the Panchayat Board Office was located. But in 1960, it was shifted to the present building situated by the side of west coast road, within the same compound of the Panchayat Board Office. The news paper available here are the Mathrubhumi, Malayala-manorama, Chandrika, the Deshabhimani, the Janayugam, (all Malayalam dailies) and the Indian Express, the English daily. The periodicals received by the library are the Illustrated Weekly of India, Blitz, Readers Digest, Film Fare, Radiance, Mathrubhumi, Malayalamanorama, Chandrika, Janayugam, Deshabhimani, Kumkumam, Narmada, Malayala Rajyam, Kerala Sabdam, Prabhodanam, Sanmargam, Yugaprabhath, Janapatham, Arrogyabandu and Poombatta. There are, altogether, 1,647 books in the library consisting of Novels (996), Short Stories (269), Critical Essays (92), Books on History (36), Science (18), Religion (46), Biography (72), Children's Literature (89), Humour and satire (14) and others (15).

On an average, 350 persons come to this Library and reading room daily for reading newspapers and periodicals. The reading room

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is kept open from 7 am to 8 pm but the distribution of books from the library is effected from 7 am to 11 am and 4 pm to 8 pm. The number of members in the library is 318 comprising of 313 males and 5 females. The library and reading room are managed by a Librarian who is an employee of the Panchayat Board. The only income of the library is the admission fee from the members at the rate of 25 paise. No grant has yet been received from the Government. Last year, a sum of Rs.3,428.21 was spent by the Panchayat for the maintenance of the library by way of salary to the librarian (Rs.2,132.20/-), for purchase of journals (Rs.869.73/-) for rebinding of old books (Rs.150) and for miscellaneous items (Rs.276.28). On the other hand, the income of the library during the same period is only Rs.4.90.

The United Sports Club and Reading Room was formed in 1964 by some enthusiastic members of the Hindu Community in a rented building located in Kalarivathukkal ward where majority of the Hindu Population is residing. The jurisdiction of the club and reading room includes both Valapattanam and the neighbouring village, Chirakkal.

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Both indoor games and outdoor games are conducted by this club. Chess, Carrom and Cards playing are the main indoor games and foot ball is the only outdoor game. Last year, the club received cups for chess, carrom, foot ball and tug-of-war. Almost all the important news papers and some periodicals are available in the reading room and about 1,382 books in various languages like Malayalam, English, Hindi, Tamil and Sanskrit are also kept in the library. A radio with loud-speaker is also installed in this club. The dailies Mathrubhumi and Chandrika and Mathrubhumi Weekly are supplied by the Panchayat and all others are donated by a few individuals. The only daily which is bought by the club at its expense is the Deshabhimani. The American Reporter, Soviet Samiksha, Soviet Land and Nava Germany are also received by the library from the concerned Embassies free of charge.

The reading room and library remain open from 8 am to 8 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm respectively. The club is controlled by a committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and 6 Committee members.

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All of them are elected by the members of the club. All the office bearers, except one committee member, belong to Thiyya community and among them, one is a female. The two unemployed persons among the male office bearers attend to the day-to-day functions of the club. One does the work of Librarian and he is responsible for the safe custody, issue and collection of books while the other operates and maintains the radio. Only the Radio Operator gets an amount of Rs.5/- per month from the Panchayat.

At the time of survey, the club and reading room had a total membership of 229. The monthly subscription from members is 10 paise per head. The main source of income is the subscription from the members and a grant of Rs.275/- from the Government which was utilised for the purchase of books for library.

Cinema Theatres

The only one cinema theatre in the town by name 'Vanaja Talkies' is located in the extreme north of the Panchayat maidan on the land taken on rent. It was established in 1964 with a floor area of 50 x 100 feet. The projection length of

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the theatre is 100 feet. This is a temporary thatched theatre supported by teak wood pillars and walls covered with plaited cocoanut leaves. The hall provides accommodation for 875 persons. The types of accommodation and number of seats available by rate are indicated below:

Table 11.1

DISTRIBUTION OF SEATS BY CLASS AND RATES

Type of accommodation	Ticket Rate in Rs.	Seating capacity
1	2	3
Reserved	1.50	75
1st Class (Chair)	1.00	150
2nd Class (Back bench)	0.75	300
3rd Class (Bench)	0.50	350

The theatre is not of any standard. Daily two shows are conducted in the theatre. The first show begins at 6.30 pm and the second show at 10 pm. On Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, matinee show is at 2.30 PM. The matinee show is also conducted also conducted on all the days when a popular picture is newly released. Mostly, Malayalam pictures are exhibited in the theatre. However, Hindi and Tamil pictures are also screened occassionally.

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On an average, 200 tickets are sold per day. The people of the town generally go to Cannanore or Chirakkal where new films are screened first. Stunt films and films of religious significance attract more persons among adults and aged ones respectively. Muslim women are stated to have been not interested to see films.

Newspapers, Journals etc. sold in the town

Except the periodical 'Alankar' no other news paper or periodical is published from the town. The most widely read Malayalam newspapers sold in the town are Mathrubhumi, Malayalamanorama, Chandrika, Deshabhimani, Janayugam. Except Janayugam, all others are published from Calicut which is about 98 km. away from the town. The papers are brought to the town by train or van in the early morning. Among the English newspapers, the Hindu and the Indian Express are distributed. There is no sub-office of any newspapers but there are agents for all the papers and they deliver the dailies and periodicals to the houses of the subscribers. There is no book-stall in the town exclusively for the sale of newspapers, journals or other periodicals. However, almost all the papers

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and periodicals are found available in some pan shops. The name of newspapers and periodicals and the number of copies in circulation in the town are given below:

Table 11.2

NAMES OF NEWSPAPERS, PERIODICALS AND NUMBER OF COPIES IN CIRCULATION IN THE TOWN

Type	Name	Language	Place of publication	Number in circulation
1	2	3	4	5
Daily	Mathrubhumi	Malayalam	Kozhikode	175
	Malayalamanorama	"	"	175
	Chandrika	"	"	176
	Desabhimani	"	"	...
	Janayugam	"	Quilon	NA
	Indian Express	English	Cochin	75
	The Hindu	"	Madras	NA
Weekly	Malayalamanorama	Malayalam	Kottayam	125
	Mathrubhumi	"	Kozhikode	50
	Janayugam	"	Quilon	30
	Chandrika	Malayalam	Kozhikode	150
	Desabhimani	"	"	25
	Kumkumam	"	Trivandrum	10
	Malayala Nadu	"	Quilon	10
	Nana	"	Trivandrum	10
	Chithra Kaumudi	"	Ernakulam	25
	Manorajyam	"	Kottayam	5
	Deepika	"	"	10
	Balarama	"	"	30
	Balayugam	"	Quilon	10
	Cinerama	"	"	10

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1	2	3	4	5
Weekly	Geetha	Malayalam	Cochin	10
	Chithrarama	"	Kottayam	15
	Blitz	English	Bombay	10
Monthly	Cinema masika	Malayalam	Kottayam	40

Most of the periodicals are in Malayalam.

Religious Institution

The town being a Muslim centre, it is natural that more mosques are there than temples or churches. There are 19 mosques in this small town extending to 2.04 sq. km. Among the mosques, most important are Juma masjith, Kakkulangara palli, Kunnathupalli, Kulangara palli, Alur palli, Moideen palli and Pollilakath palli. It is interesting to note that many mosques were built by individual households. It is stated that individuals ~~constituted~~ constructed the mosques separately to parade their status within the community. The only one temple in the town is Kalarivathukkal Bhagavathi temple. It is an important temple for Hindus of the town and of the neighbouring areas. There is no church in

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the town. The christians from the town go to churches situated elsewhere outside the town. The details of some religious institutions are given below:

Juma masjith palli

This is one of the most important mosques in the town located in Nagaram ward and is very close to the market road. It is believed that the mosque was built during the tenth century and was reconstructed in the year 1900. Though the mosque is ~~one~~ of thousand years old, there is not much history behind the establishment of the same. It is stated that the worshipping places for Muslims during those periods were inadequate and that some leading members made a concerted attempt and established this mosque in the town.

This mosque is a rectangular two storeyed building with a sloping tiled roof having a large hall which could accommodate 1,500 persons at a time. Both the ground floor and 1st floor are used for prayers on Fridays. In the remaining days, ground floor is used for prayers and the 1st floor is used to conduct religious classes.

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The main entrance to the mosque is from the east. There is a tank in the eastern side very close to the mosque from where the devotees wash their face and legs. The call to prayer 'Vanku' is made by the mukri and daily prayers are chanted at 5.30 am, 12.30 pm, 3.50 pm, 6 pm and 7.30 pm. The prayer at 5.30 am is known as 'Subah' and other prayers as 'Luhar', 'Assar' 'Maharif' and 'Isha' respectively. It is said that "Prayers five times a day is one of the five pillars of Islamic faith. Prayers can be said with equal validity anywhere, at home, in the open, in the office or the factory. It can be said individually or in congregation, but once in a week on Friday and on ~~Eid~~ ID the devotees gather to pray together. Such corporate worship is led by an Imam (prayer leader) who is expected to deliver a sermon". The Quran says that "To every people have we appointed ways of worship which they observe. Therefore, let them not dispute this matter with thee". On Fridays almost all the Muslims of the town assemble in the mosque for prayer before the 'Jumanamaskar' begins at 1 pm. The average number of participants at the mosque in each prayer is 50 but on Friday there is a mass prostration and about 1,000 persons attend this function. Only the members of the

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Muslim community are allowed to enter the prayer hall for prostration.

The important festival celebrated in the mosque is 'Edimubark' (Id-Mubarak) in the month of October and 'Aaju Perunnal' in January. It is worth-noting that about 200 years ago these festivals were conducted in a place known as Perunnaparamba very near to Valapattanam.

The management and control of the mosque is vested in a committee consisting of 7 trustees, of whom, 5 are permanent trustees who get the trusteeship only by mere succession and the remaining two are elected for a period of three years.

At present, the mosque has landed properties extending to 15 acres (6.07 hectares) including 11 acres (4.45 hectares) donated by the Chirakkal Rajah and 4 acres (1.62 hectares) purchased by the management. The landed property is worth about Rs.450,000/- according to the present market rate. The present money value of the mosque is calculated at about Rs.100,000/-. The main source of income to the mosque is from the mosque property including buildings given on rent. The total income comes to Rs.6,000/- per annum. In the year 1972-73, an amount of Rs.5,520/-

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has been spent by the mosque for purposes such as pay for Mukri, Katheeb and Arabic teachers. A Madrassa managed by the mosque is located in the same compound. An amount of Rs.400/- was spent by the mosque last year for feeding the poor people. Usually, the poor people are given a token from the mosque and they can have meals from the directed hotels by surrendering the token to the hotel authorities. The small mosques which are suffering from acute financial stringency are receiving some amount from this mosque. Panchayat tax, maintenance cost etc. are the other expenditures of the mosque.

Kulangara palli

It has not been possible to trace out the exact year and the circumstances under which the mosque came into existence. But it is believed that it was built by the Attukoya Thangal by about 1895. Attukoya Thangal was one of those pious persons who used to spend a lot of time for prayer. It is said that, initially, he was conducting prayers in his house. But there were difficulties in conducting prayers in home and he also could not concentrate fully in prayers. Finally he decided

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to build a mosque out of his own funds and thus paved the way for the emergence of the Kulangara Palli. Formerly only the family members of the Attukoya Thangal were allowed to use the mosque, but later on, the mosque was opened to other Muslims too.

It is a two storeyed tiled building with cemented floor and wall made of laterite stone. The ground floor is a large hall used for prayers and it can accommodate 50 persons. The first floor is occasionally used for secret prayers whenever anybody wants to conduct it so. The functionaries are the same as in other mosques of the town.

The important festivals in the mosque were 'Id-Mubarak' and Maju Perunnal conducted in October and January respectively. Since the last two years these two festivals were stopped in the mosque. According to the public opinion, it is better to conduct these festivals in a common place rather than celebrating them separately at different places. It is, therefore, in favour of the public opinion that these festivals are stopped in Kulangara Palli and are now conducted

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in Juma Masjith mosque, which has been explained earlier.

The management and control of the mosque is with the family of the founder and all the expenses are met by the family itself.

Kakkulangara Mosque

It is located in Kakkulangara ward near West Coast road. It is said that this institution is a very old one and was constructed about 1,000 years ago. About the history of the mosque, Shri V.K. Musthafa has observed in his Vernacular 'Valapattanam oru Charithra Padanam', that Sayed Jalaluddin and his brother set out from Bugara with the aim of propagating religion and started functioning at Kunnathu mosque of Valapattanam. Their work received so much importance in the religious and cultural fields that they have become two of a few architects among Muslims in the town. Step by step it gave birth to the famous Kakkulangara tharavadu (family) and later on Kakkulangara mosque. The present form of this mosque is quite different from others in several respects. And specially, it has been well decorated with 'Kubba' (the crown) and 'Minaram'

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and is very attractive. There is a 'Kabar' (grave) within the compound and it is said that the founder of the mosque is resting in this grave. It is a building in rectangular shape with tiled roof. In the centre, there is a dome covered with copper plates. On the northern side, there is a tank very close to the mosque and a gate house.

The religious activities are the same as in other mosques. There is also a common practice to celebrate 'Ithamath'. It is the special function to which Imam like persons are invited for conducting religious activities during the fasting period of Bakrid, Ramzan etc. The management and control of the mosque is vested in the Kakkulangara family and it continues to be a family mosque. There is no special income and all the expenditure are naturally met by the family itself.

Kalarivathukkal Temple

Kalarivathukkal temple dedicated to the Goddess Bhagavathi (Bhadrakali) is one of the most famous temples of the Kolathiri dynasty and is situated in Kalarivathukkal ward of Valapattanam Panchayat. The temple stands on the eastern side

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of West Coast road, on an elevated ground gradually rising from west to east.

The word Kalarivathukkal, literally means the gateway of gymnasium. This name is of historical significance. The people of the town are unable to say when this temple was built and by whom. But, according to legend, the shrine was founded by Parasurama, the creator of land. The temple was renovated by the Vallabha of Moosika dynasty who built the great Valapattanam Fort. It is said that about two and a half centuries ago the Kalarivathukkal temple was surrounded on north, south and east by a thick forest full of trees, creepers etc. The famous gymnasium called 'Valerperum Kalari', the biggest gymnasium in Ancient Kolathunad, is stated to have been situated on the north of the temple.

The temple is facing west and all the sides of the temple are protected by walls. There is a 'Gopuram' on the western entrance of the temple which is roofed with tiles. The 'Gopuram' and 'Chuttambalam' are connected by a passage paved with laterite stones. The chuttambalam is facing 'Mandapa' in rectangular shape supported by

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4 wooden pillars. The scenes from the 'Daruka Vadam' (death of Daruka, a giant) are beautifully carved on this Mandapa.

The 'Chuttambalam' is roofed with tiles and the north and south-east corners are divided into rooms for preparing, 'Nivedium' and feasts. There is a well in the north-east corner from which water is drawn for use in the temple.

There are four separate shrines and a sacred roofed platform called 'Sree Mandapam'. The main sanctum of the temple is the shrine of Sree Bhadrakali, facing west. The shrine is of great architectural sanctity. Within it, stands the Daruvigrah (Wooden statue) of the ferocious Bhadrakali, beautifully carved as standing in prayer. The sanctum has also the silver 'Siveli thittambu' of the goddess which is taken out in procession during festival occasions. There is also Panchaloha statue of the goddess within it. Besides these, there is also the sacred silver sword called 'Nandakam' kept in the shrine. The sword is of particular value since it is specially worshipped. In front of the shrine, there is 'Muganandapa' from where devotees can

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have 'darsan' of the deity.

Just to the north of the shrine of the goddess, there stands the shrine of Sree Parameswara facing east and a few feet to the east of this shrine stands the shrine of Kshetrapala. Both idols are installed in a separate Srikovil, roofed with tiles. On the southern side of the Bhagavathi shrine, there is another shrine called 'Mathrubhavan' wherein seven goddesses, the incarnation of Bhadrakali are installed. They are Brahmi, Maheswari, Kumari, Vaishnavi, Varahi, Indrani and Chamundi. There is also the statue of Vighneswara in it.

Just to the South-west of this shrine and to the south of the shrine of Bhadrakali is the copper roofed platform called Sree Mandapa which is of special sanctity. The traditional ritual of 'Kalathilaripattu' is conducted here.

The routine religious activities of the temple commence from about 4.30 am. The Durga Lokshmi pooja is performed at 6.30 am. followed by Saraswathy pooja at 7 am. Vanadurga pooja starts at 10.30 am and ends at 12 Noon. After

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this, the temple is closed and it is again opened at 5 pm. Parasakthi pooja is performed between 5 pm & 6 pm and Deeparadhana from 6.45 to 7.15 pm. The temple is closed at 8pm after the Bhadrakali pooja. The daily poojas and offerings are performed by the 'Keezshanti' (Junior priest) and the 'Melshanti' (Senior priest) will participate in poojas only on special occasions. At the time of poojas, the 'Kazhakam' plays drums and pipes.

There are three notable festival celebrations in the temple. They are the Kalathilaripattu festival conducted in the month of Makaram, (January - February) lasting for ten days, the Pooram festival celebrated in the month of Meenam (March-April) and the Perumkalasam also called Perumkaliyattam in the month of Edavam (May-June).

The Kalathilaripattu though very expensive, is purely a ritual offering to the goddess with much devotion and strict religious observations. It is a great 'Tantric' offering. The Pooram festival of 'Meenam' is a very spectacular function lasting for 10 days. There are special offerings made to the goddess and the other

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dieties within the temple. Procession with the 'Siveli thidampu' of the goddess and the 'Nandakam' (sword) are taken out in procession during the nights, of the festival days to the old site of the Fort and in two such days the procession goes to the family residence of the Chirakkal kovilakom. The Pooram festival ends with 'pooramkuli' of the goddess in the big Chirakkal tank and the 'arat' of the goddess that takes place the next day at the same place. The two processions of the goddess to Chirakkal for 'pooramkuli' and Arat' are of great importance and thousands of people participate in the procession and worship.

The Perumkalasam is the festival of a day. The main feature in the procession of 'Kalasam' is that thousands of persons gather to pray the goddess. Big clay jars filled with pure cocoanut toddy are taken to Kalarivathukkal temple from different parts of villages in procession. In the evening, the 'Teyya Kolams' of five goddess and Kshetrapala are presented by Vannans on the western courtyard of the temple. The whole function ends at about 9 pm. The festival is, perhaps, an expensive one. It requires plenty of money and materials. For the last few years,

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the perumkaliyattam has not been conducted due to paucity of funds.

Kalarivathukkal temple is said to be the richest Devaswom owned by the Chirakkal kovilakom. The rent that the temple was getting every year from its land and other property is said to be about 2,200 paras (about 170 quintal) of paddy and nearly Rs.15,000/-. But now all the properties of the temple have been lost due to the implementation of the Land Reforms Act.

The temple which was owned by Chirakkal Kovilakom is now under the Management of an Executive Officer appointed by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment (administration) Department. The other employees consist of 1 Supervisor, 2 Priests, 4 Kazhakakkars, 2 Musicians, 1 Clerk, 1 Sweeper and 1 Washerman.

The temple activities are managed with an annual sum of money set apart by the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment. Last year it has an income of Rs.17,150.20 in the form of Annuity, Vazhipadu, Hundial, Interest on savings bank account and fixed deposit account and miscellaneous. In the same year, the expenditure

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of the temple was Rs.13,038.56.

Crime

There is a police station in the town. As already indicated, its jurisdiction extends to the villages of Azhikode, Chirakkal, Narath, Kannadiparamba, Kolacheri, Kairalam and Mayyil and the non-municipal towns of Valapattanam and Pappinisseri. The staff of the Police Station consists of 1 Sub-Inspector, 1 Asst. Sub-Inspector, 4 Head Constables and 25 Constables. Since the town does not constitute a single unit for police administration, details of crimes exclusively relating to the town are not available. However, according to figures given by the Sub-Inspector, Valapattanam Police Station, the following cases are registered in the town during the year 1970 to 1972.

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Table 11.3

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL CASES BY TYPE DEALT WITH DURING 1970 TO 1972

Sl. No.	Type	Number registered
1	2	3
	TOTAL	29
1	Rioting and unlawful assembling and causing hurt	2
2	Unnatural death ..	2
3	House breaking and theft by night	4
4	House theft ..	2
5	Motor accidents causing death ..	2
6	Robbery ..	1
7	Under Telegraph Act ..	1
8	Under Census Act ..	1
9	Trespass and hurt ..	2
10	Ordinary theft ..	2
11	Rash and negligent driving, causing hurt and mischief ..	5
12	Wrongful restraining and causing hurt	2
13	House breaking ..	1
14	Under kerosene control Act ..	1
15	Kidnapping ..	1

(contd...339)

The table shows that only 29 cases were registered in the town during the last three years and theft and simple hurts are the main cases. One robbery and one kidnapping case are also registered in the police station but communal riot or breach of law on political, industrial relations etc. are not recorded. According to the figures, 2 persons had lost their lives in road accidents in the town.

There is no criminal or civil court in the town but a Central Jail is located at Puzhathi village, about 4 km. away from the town. It was established in the year 1869 to accommodate 1,062 prisoners. But later on, it has been considerably ~~x~~ enlarged and, now, it provides accommodation for 1,654 prisoners. There are special wards for women prisoners also. This jail receives long term convicts from all over Kerala. In the year 1971-72, a total number of 1,788 prisoners were accommodated in the jail consisting of convicts 1,139, those under Remand 576, Civil detention (C.D.) 63 and Detenus 10. Number of prisoners accommodated during 1971-72 by nature of crime is as follows:

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Table 11.4

NUMBER OF PRISONERS ACCOMMODATED DURING 1971-72 BY NATURE OF CRIME

Sl. No.	Nature of crime	Total numbers
1	2	3
	TOTAL	1,788
1	Sec. 302 IPC read with 34 IPC	625
2	Sec. 304 IPC ..	295
3	Sec. 55 of Abkari Act ..	202
4	Security Act ..	10
5	Sec. 326 IPC ..	198
6	Sec. 366 and 376 IPC ..	194
7	Sec. 380, 461 IPC ..	85
8	Sec. 112 and 120 IPC ..	47
9	Sec. 120, 108 and 121 IPC ..	69
10	Civil detention (C.D.) ..	63

It may be seen from the table that more persons have courted imprisonment for serious offence of murder followed by persons whose act was culpable homicide not amounting to murder (without intention to kill). Majority of the prisoners whose duration of imprisonment is long-term (ie. more than 10 years) constitute

(contd...341)

34.96 per cent. The duration of imprisonment for 16.50 per cent prisoners is 4 to 10 years, 10.85 per cent is within 2 to 3 years, for 22.37 per cent is within 6 months to 1 year and for 14.76 per cent is less than 6 months. 0.56 per cent of the total prisoners are imprisoned under the Security Act.

A printing press has been set up in the jail. Carpentry, weaving, book binding, gardening and cooking are the main vocational trainings given to prisoners in the jail. Facilities for reading, writing and preparing for University examinations are also extended to the prisoners.

There are 55 Naxalite prisoners confined in the closed prison. Out of these, 2 naxalites have been classified as 'B' class prisoners. Special guard is sanctioned by the Government for the Naxalite prisoners.

Out of the nine Borstal Schools in India, one is located within the Central Jail compound.

CHAPTER XII

LINKAGES AND CONTINUA

Demographic and Economic characteristics of the district

The district topographically stands divided into three regions of seaboard area, midland and hilly areas. There are 13 towns including 3 Municipalities and 178 villages in the district. The Headquarters of the district is Cannanore, a municipal town. The other towns in the district are Manjeshwar, Kumbla, Kasaragod, Kanhangad, Nileshwar, Payyannur, Taliparamba, Pappinisseri, Valapattanam, Cannanore Cantonment, Tellicherry and Kuthuparamba.

The district has an area of 5706.0 sq. km. and is the 2nd largest district in the State. According to 1971 census, the total population of the district is 2,365, 164 consisting of 1,172,338 males and 1,192,826 females and accounts for 11.08 per cent of the State's total population. It ranks third among the districts in so far as its contribution to State's total population is concerned. The population of the district has gone up by 32.85 per cent during the last 10 years

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as against 26.29 per cent in the State. The high and difficult terrain, large tracts of uninhabited hilly areas and inadequate communication facilities contributed to the low density of 415 persons per sq. km. However, the concentration of population is more in urban areas than in rural areas. As a result, the density of urban population is as high as 1795 persons per sq. km. as against only 369 in rural areas. The females of the district, as a whole, outnumber the males. There are 1017 females for every 1,000 males. The same is the case among rural and urban population considered separately. For every 1,000 males in the rural area, there are 1,019 females. In urban area, there are 1,008 females for every 1,000 males. Turning to taluk level figures, it is noted that in all the taluks excepting Kasaragod and North Wynad, females outnumber males.

Among the 13 towns of the district, Cannanore has the highest density of population with 5,001 followed by Tellicherry with 4,479, while Kumbla has the lowest density of population with 657 per sq.km. Valapattanam, the non-municipal town under study has 3,576 persons

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per sq.km. and in this respect it stands third among the towns of the district. In so far as sex ratio is concerned, Payyannur, a non-municipal town, ranks first among the towns of the district. There are as many as 1,102 females for every 1,000 males. Lowest sex ratio of 675 females is found to be in Cannanore Cantonment. The table given below gives the area, the sex ratio and the density of population of each town.

Table 12.1

AREA, DENSITY OF POPULATION, POPULATION BY SEX AND SEX RATIO OF EACH TOWN IN CANNANORE DISTRICT (full count)

Name of town	Area in sq.km.	Density of population	Total population			Sex ratio (No. of females per 1000 males)
			Persons	Males	Females	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Manjeshwar (NM)	9.38	1,382	12,967	6,439	6,528	1,014
Kumbla (NM)	13.42	657	8,812	4,437	4,375	986
Kasaragod (M)	16.68	2,097	34,984	17,595	17,389	988
Kanhangad (NM)	32.34	985	31,869	15,971	15,898	995
Nileshwar (NM)	26.23	964	25,297	12,220	13,077	1,070
Payyannur (NM)	23.63	1,122	26,524	12,620	13,904	1,102
Taliparamba (NM)	8.02	2,023	16,227	8,135	8,092	995
Pappinisseri (NM)	15.24	1,440	21,952	11,039	10,913	989
Valapattanam (NM)	2.04	3,576	7,296	3,718	3,578	962
Cannanore (M)	11.03	5,001	55,162	27,907	27,255	977
Cannanore Cantonment	1.79	2,654	4,750	2,836	1,914	675
Kuthuparamba (NM)	5.88	1,753	10,305	5,136	5,169	1,006
Tellicherry (M)	15.35	4,479	68,759	33,738	35,021	1,038

(contd...345)

Majority of the population of the district follows Hinduism - Muslims and Christians form respectively, the second and third largest communities of the district. The followers of Hinduism, Islam and Christianity constitute 66.23 per cent, 24.34 per cent and 9.40 per cent respectively. There are also persons following other religions and persuasions but their numerical strength is very low. The distribution of the population of the district by religion is given below:

Table 12.2
RELIGION-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY SEX IN CANNANORE DISTRICT
(full count)

Religion	Total population		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
TOTAL	2,365,164	1,172,338	1,192,826
Buddhism	6	6	..
Christianity	222,288	113,885	108,403
Hinduism	1,566,382	773,323	793,059
Islam	575,652	284,615	291,037
Jainism	462	237	225
Sikhism	113	103	10
Other religions and persuasions	237	156	81
Religion not stated	24	13	11

(contd...346)

The literates of the district constitute 54.84 per cent of the district's population as against 60.42 per cent literacy rate of the State. The literacy rate of the district has been lower all along and its contribution to total literates of the State is only 10.06 per cent. Getting to Taluk level, it is seen that Cannanore taluk has the highest literacy rate of 63.44 per cent whereas, Kasaragod taluk has the lowest literacy rate of 40.89 per cent. The urban area of the district has a considerable lead over the rural area in the field of literacy. Among the urban population of the district, 60.11 per cent are literates while in rural areas only 54.00 per cent are literates. While Cannanore Cantonment leads all other towns of the district in literacy rate, Kumbla, a non-municipal town, ranks the last. The percentage of literacy in each town of Cannanore district is given in the following table.

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Table 12.3

LITERATE AND EDUCATED PERSONS IN EACH TOWN OF CANNANORE DISTRICT

(full count)

Name of the towns	Literate and educated persons			Percentage of literacy to total		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Manjeshwar ..	6,392	3,931	2,461	49.29	61.05	37.70
Kumbla ..	4,219	2,513	1,706	47.88	56.64	38.99
Kasaragod ..	19,606	11,298	8,308	56.04	64.21	47.78
Kanhangad ..	15,732	9,462	6,270	49.36	59.24	39.44
Nileshwar ..	12,794	7,523	5,271	50.58	61.56	40.31
Payyannur ..	16,043	8,639	7,404	60.48	68.45	53.25
Taliparamba ..	8,237	5,089	3,148	50.76	62.56	38.90
Pappinisseri ..	12,907	7,523	5,384	58.80	68.15	49.34
Valapattanam ..	4,406	2,601	1,805	60.39	69.96	50.45
Cannanore ..	36,552	20,122	16,430	66.26	72.10	60.28
Cannanore Cantonment	3,544	2,249	1,295	74.61	79.30	67.66
Kuthuparamba ..	6,134	3,384	2,750	59.52	65.89	53.20
Telicherry ..	48,741	25,467	23,274	70.89	75.48	66.46

After the formation of Kerala State, there has been much improvement in the matter of transport and communication facilities in the district. New roads were constructed in the remote areas of the district and the existing roads were improved. The main and important road passing through the district is the West-Coast road which forms the main artery of communication

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to all the important towns of Kerala and to places in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka States. The Government also give aid for the development of certain arterial roads, such of those include the road connecting Cannanore to Coorg and Cannanore to Mysore. There are many small roads connecting the main road and they solve the problem of communication of the villagers. The district is well served by railway as well and the railway line passes through all the taluks of the district except North Wynad. About half of the total rivers in Kerala are located in Cannanore district. These rivers and other canals help considerably in the inland water transport and Tellicherry, Cannanore, Azhikkal and Kasaragod ports of the district handle coastal and overseas traffic.

Out of the ten districts of the State, Cannanore is the second in so far as its contribution to the State's working force is concerned. 30.21 per cent of the total population are economically active in the district. Sex-wise data reveals that male and female workers constitute 45.97 and 14.73 per cent respectively to the district's male and female population. The main economic resources of the district are

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agriculture, industry and fishing. The natural vegetation varies according to the climate and the soil of a place. Cannanore district which is receiving heavy rainfall throughout the year is very favourable for production of a variety of crops and so the district has been very famous for its spices and various hill produces even from very early times.

Paddy, tapioca, vegetables, plantations, tobacco etc. are the important agricultural commodities cultivated in the district and cocoanut, arecanut, pepper, rubber, cashewnuts etc. are the main cash crops. 18.31 per cent and 33.92 per cent of the total workers are engaged in cultivation and as agricultural labourers respectively. The longest sea coast of the district is very favourable for fishing and the main occupation of those people who live in coastal areas is fishing and allied activities. At present, poultry industry is only a small-scale industry in the district. 5.29 per cent of the workers are engaged in Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and allied activities. 0.70 per cent are engaged in Mining and Quarrying. 3.91 per cent find work in household industry and 12.49 per cent are in other

(contd...350)

industries, such as cotton textiles, both powerloom and handloom, beedi making, saw mills, plywood factory, tile factory, automobile, carpentry etc. 1.43 per cent of workers are engaged in construction work, 9.93 per cent are in trade and commerce, 2.96 per cent in transport, storage and communication and 11.06 per cent are in other services.

Special Economic, Social and Cultural relations, if any, with other towns of the region

Cannanore municipal town where the taluk and district Head-quarters are located is only 8 kms. away from Valapattanam town and there is frequent bus service between these two towns. People of the Valapattanam town fully depend on Cannanore and other areas for their daily requirements especially for foodstuffs.

People from the town go to Cannanore for purchase of almost all items of necessity. They also visit the district hospital for better treatment. The district and taluk Revenue Offices, Employment Exchange, State Public Service Commission's District Office, Munsiff Court etc. are located in Cannanore and so people not only from Valapattanam but also from all over the district

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have to visit Cannanore town for all purposes connected with these offices. Institutions of higher education especially colleges are not located in Valapattanam town and so the boys and girls from the town have to go either to Cannanore or other places like Tellicherry, Taliparamba etc. for college education as well as technical education; The handloom weavers co-operative stores located at Cannanore is visited by the weavers not only for the raw materials required for their industry but also for the sale of their finished goods. The long-distance running trains viz. Madras Mail, West-Coast Express and Jayanthi Janatha Express do not stop at Valapattanam. So the persons who are to travel by the above trains will have to go to Cannanore to board these trains. Many people especially the young men visit Cannanore to see cinema, sports and other games. The Taliparamba non-municipal town located about 14 kms. away from Valapattanam on the West-coast road is also a marketing centre for hill produces. Persons who deal with hill produces visit this town. Tellicherry town is another business centre visited by the merchants and their agents to purchase commodities like plantains, arecanut,

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vegetables, pepper etc. Many retail traders visit Calicut, a big marketing centre and Mangalore in Karnataka State to purchase various items on wholesale basis at competitive rates. Nevertheless, the Valapattanam town itself is visited by those from neighbouring villages and from far off places as well. The industries located in the town employ many persons who are living outside the town. Besides, other persons of neighbouring villages come to this town for purchasing day-to-day requirements. Many traders or their representatives visit Plywood factory, Hard board factory, Fibre foam and other saw mills located in the town for business purpose. Many excursion parties also come to this town to visit the Plywood, Fibre foam and other factories.

Besides, there are mutual visits of persons living in the town and those living outside on religious festivities and social celebrations. On such of these occasions, people from this town go to other neighbouring places and people from other places do come to this town.

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Travel index of the population

According to the statistics collected from 160 households, about half of the population of the town travels from place to place for work, business, study, pilgrimage etc. Several persons visit places which are located outside the State. There is, however, no person who visited foreign countries. Among the places visited by the town dwellers outside the State, Mangalore, an important business centre of Karnataka State, is stated to have been visited often and for important purposes. Among the persons who travelled outside the State, about 21 per cent went to Mangalore. The other popular centres visited are Madras, Mysore, Coorg, Bombay, Bangalore and Delhi. Inside the State, the more important places visited are Tellicherry, Calicut, Cannanore, Trivandrum, Cochin, Ernakulam, Kasaragod, Kuthuparamba, Kanhangad, Payyannur, Tirur, Guruvayur etc. The towns Tellicherry, Cannanore, Calicut etc. are visited frequently for business and other transactions.

The travel index, that is, the average of the maximum distance travelled by the members

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of the sample household aged 5 and above is found to be 143.42 kms. in general and 179.65 kms. for males and 91.96 kms. for females. The caste-wise travel index shows that the persons of Nair Community have travelled longer distance whereas, the persons from Pulluva caste travelled lesser distance. On an average, the distance per person travelled by Nairs is 483.81 kms. Corresponding figure for Pulluvas is only 40.63 kms. When compared with Hindus, as a whole, the travel index of Muslims is found to be very low at 108.62 kms. Similarly, when the occupation status of the persons is considered, the persons who are engaged in highly professional and salaried jobs travelled on an average of 1004.67 kms. followed by pensioners and those engaged in intermediate professional and salaried posts. Small merchants and unskilled manual labourers travel less.

Particulars of places from/to where people commute for earning livelihood

The town being an industrial centre, several persons from outside the town are employed here. On the other hand, the people of the town going outside to earn their livelihood is smaller in proportion. The Western India Plywood factory, Hard board factory, Fibre foam

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and many saw mills give regular employment to a large number of villagers and town dwellers. Of the total number of workers employed in the industrial establishments of the town, more than half are from outside the town, especially, from the neighbouring villages of Azhikode, Chirakkal, Puzhathi, Pallikunnu, Kalliasseri etc. and from the towns of Pappinisseri, Taliparamba and Cannanore. Transport facilities, especially, bus services are available at all times to persons who come for work in the town from outside. Azhikode and Chirakkal villages and Pappinisseri town are located within a walkable distance and other villages and towns are within a distance of 15 kms. Some shop owners, timber merchants and some employees of Government offices, Schools and Railway Station etc. come to the town daily from places like Chirakkal, Azhikode, Kannapuram, Payangadi, Payyannur, Trikkaripur, Cheruvathur, Kasaragod and Cannanore. Persons from other districts of the State or from other States who are employed in the town reside either in the neighbouring villages or towns according to their own convenience.

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Some persons of the town go to places outside the town in connection with employment and business. Cannanore, Tellicherry, Pappinisseri, Kozhikode and Mangalore are the main places to which they go regularly.

Marketing of commodities like milk, vegetables etc.

Valapattanam town is not a big marketing centre but the daily requirements of the people can, however, be had from the shops and the small market. Most of the requirements of the people such as grocery, stationery, textiles, vegetables, plantains etc. are brought from other areas. For large scale purchase, the merchants of the town go to Camp Bazaar, the most important business centre in Cannanore, and also to Tellicherry, Calicut, Mangalore etc. Cannanore being a business centre, having transport facilities to all the villages located close to Valapattanam, the commercial activities of villages are carried over to Cannanore. Taliparamba is the chief marketing centre of the hill produces and some retail merchants from the town bring hill produces such as pepper, rubber etc. and sell at Valapattanam. Some merchants or their agents collect cashewnuts, arecanuts etc. from the

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villages of Kannadiparamba, Narath, Kalliasseri, Kolacheri etc. and are taken to markets in other towns.

There is no milk society in the town and the Cannanore Co-operative Milk Supply Scheme and Azhikode Co-operative Milk Society, meet the entire demand for milk in the town. The two societies bring milk by van daily and distribute it to tea-stalls, hotels and households.

Participation in cinema and other entertainments, availability of medical and other facilities

There is no entertainment activity in the town worth mentioning except a cinema theatre and a sports club. Eventhough there is only one cinema talkies in the town, the people from Azhikode, Pappinisseri, Kalliasseri and Chirakkal patronize the theatre. The people of the town also go to see cinema at Chirakkal and Cannanore. There is a sports club in the town and some sports meets are organized by the club. Among the members of the sports club, a good number are from Chirakkal village. The library and reading room of the town are also male use of by persons of the town and those from Pappinisseri and Chirakkal.

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The Government hospital of the town serves the town dwellers as well as the rural population of Azhikode and Chirakkal villages. For more serious ailments, patients from the town and from neighbouring villages are admitted in the district hospital at Cannanore. Advanced medical facilities available in the Medical College Hospital at Calicut are also availed of by some persons of the town.

Taxi cars are available at any time in the town. Pappinisseri, Kalliasseri, Chirakkal, Azhikode and Cannanore are the places to which taxi services are availed of. There are no auto-rickshaws in the town but one or two come rarely carrying passengers from Cannanore.

The jurisdiction of the Electricity Board, Public Works Department, Police Station, Telephone Exchange etc., located in the town, extends beyond the town to include some villages also and the staff have to go outside the town for collection of revenue, maintenance of roads, and for protective services.

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Demographic and other characteristics of the villages

Ten villages in different routes within a radius of 3 miles, 6 miles, 9 miles and 12 miles from Valapattanam town were studied to find out the penetration of urbanisation. The details of these villages are given below:

Table No.12.4

THE NAMES OF THE VILLAGES STUDIED AND THEIR DISTANCE AND ROUTES FROM THE TOWN

Sl. No.	Name of villages	Distance from the town in kms.	Route
1	2	3	4
1	Chirakkal	2	West-Coast road and Mangalore-Shoranur railway line
2	Puzhathi	4	-do-
3	Kalliasseri	4	West-Coast road
4	Azhikode	5	Mill road
5	Pallikunnu	7	West-Coast road and Mangalore-Shoranur railway line
6	Kannapuram	9	Cannanore-Payangadi road and Mangalore-Shoranur railway line
7	Mattool	10	Valapattanam river
8	Kannadiparamba	10	Cannanore-Kannadiparamba road and river
9	Narath	13	Cannanore-Chelod road
10	Valiyannur	13	Cannanore-Coorg road, Valapattanam river

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All the villages except Mattool are connected to the town by roads and, among them, four are connected by rail also. The west-coast road passes through Chirakkal, Puzhathi, Pallikunnu and Kalliasseri villages. The former three villages are located on the southern side and the latter one is on the northern side of the Valapattanam town. The villages which are connected by rail are Chirakkal, Puzhathi, Pallikunnu and Kannapuram. The villages Chirakkal and Kannapuram have railway stations. Azhikode is connected by road and river. Kannadiparamba and Narath villages are connected by Cannanore-Kannadi-paramba road and Cannanore-Chelod road respectively which pass through Chirakkal villages. Valiyannur is connected by Cannanore-Coorg road and river whereas, Mattool, the village which is surrounded by water on almost all the sides, is connected only by Valapattanam river. Either State transport or private bus-services are available from Cannanore to all villages except Mattool. However, there are no direct bus services from Valapattanam to the villages of Kannadiparamba, Narath and Valiyannur. Mattool and Valapattanam are connected by boat service in all seasons.

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Before we go into an analysis of urban influence on the selected villages located on each transport route from Valapattanam town, it is necessary to understand the location of the 10 villages in relation to the town under study. Valapattanam town is located 8 kms. north of Cannanore municipal town. On the northern side of Valapattanam, there is another non-municipal town by name Pappinisseri, The towns are separated by Valapattanam river. Another non-municipal town Taliparamba is located at about 12 km. away to the north-east of Pappinisseri. Among the 10 villages selected for this analysis, the villages Chirakkal, Puzhathi and Pallikunnu are located in between Valapattanam town and Cannanore Municipal town and the village Azhikode is on the western side of Valapattanam and lies stretched upto the sea-shore. These four villages were towns in 1961 census but in 1971 census they have been declassified as rural areas as they did not satisfy the criterion laid down for towns in the 1971 census. Under these circumstances the villages are likely to be influenced by more than one town.

Normally, villages with high urban influence tend to have larger population, higher literacy rate, greater density, higher ratio of

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persons in the Secondary and Tertiary sectors etc. viewed from this angle, among the 10 villages linked with the town under study, Azhikode has the highest population and Kannadiparamba has the lowest. Besides, it is also noted that seven out of 10 villages have two to four times population of the town. The population of the villages, density of population, area etc. are given in the table below:

Table 12.5

AREA, POPULATION, DENSITY OF POPULATION, OCCUPIED CENSUS HOUSES, NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS AND NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS PER 100 CENSUS HOUSES BY VILLAGE (full count)

Names of the villages	Area in sq. km.	Population	Density of population	No. of occupied census houses	No. of households	No. of households per 100 census houses
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chirakkal	13.48	29,956	2,222	3,727	4,057	109
Puzhathi	9.11	20,436	2,243	2,518	2,697	107
Kalliasseri	15.74	16,397	1,042	2,439	2,479	102
Azhikode	15.94	30,439	1,910	3,733	3,795	102
Pallikunnu	6.85	19,033	2,779	2,450	2,518	103
Kannapuram	14.34	14,406	1,005	2,256	2,306	102
Mattool	12.84	15,501	1,207	1,949	2,358	121
Kannadiparamba	8.94	7,301	817	952	1,041	109
Narath	8.30	7,878	949	966	1,285	133
Valiyannur	9.81	8,774	894	1,101	1,130	103

(contd...363)

The influence on these villages is mainly from Cannanore town and not from Valapattanam. Pallikunnu village is located very near to the boundary of Cannanore municipal town and it is about 6 km. away from Valapattanam. Hence, it is natural that Pallikkunnu should be under the influence of Cannanore Municipal town. This is revealed by the density of population of this village vis-a-vis the density of population of Chirakkal and Azhikode villages which are nearer to Valapattanam town. The population density of Pallikunnu village is 2,779 persons per sq.km. as against 2,222 and 1,910 persons per sq.km. respectively of Chirakkal and Azhikode villages. Puzhathi village which is located between Cannanore and Valapattanam with equal distance on either side has a density of 2,243 persons per sq.km. These four villages where more persons per sq. km. are found, were non-municipal towns in 1961. Even-though the village Mattool is situated 10 km. away from the town, its density of population is 1,207 persons per sq. km. Kalliasseri and Kannapuram, located 4 km. and 9 km. respectively away from the town, have a density of population of only 1,042 and 1005 respectively. Besides these, two villages are nearer to Pappinisseri non-municipal town than to Valapattanam town. In this context, it is worth

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noting that both these towns are more or less equal in so far as urbanisation is concerned. Kannadiparamba at 10th km., Narath at 13th km. and Valiyannur at 13th km. are the only three villages which are located away from all the towns mentioned above. They have a density of population of below 1,000 but above 800 per sq.km.

As far as the ratio of household to census houses is concerned, there is a great variation between these villages under review. The highest ratio of households to census house is found in Narath village followed by that in Mattool village which are 13 and 10 km. away from the town respectively. The ratio of the two villages are 133 and 121 per 100 houses respectively. This is followed by 109 in Kannadiparamba and Chirakkal villages located 10 km. and 2 km. respectively away from the town.

There is no clear-cut allocation of land for agricultural purposes, industrial activities, residential purposes, commercial use etc. The residential places are found scattered all over the villages. Most of the cultivable area in these villages have been brought under cultivation and paddy, cocoanut, tapioca, vegetables, pulses, pepper, cashewnut etc. are cultivated. There is no forest

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area in any village. The topography of the village is almost similar to that of the town.

Cannanore taluk, as a whole, especially, the Cannanore Municipal town and the surrounding areas are very famous for handloom weaving in which large number of households are engaged. Many persons, including females, are engaged in this industry and a section of the population completely depends on it for livelihood since immemorable past. While the males are engaged in weaving, dyeing etc., the females are doing the job of spinning, winding and other allied works. Another main industry of the district is beedi making which gives employment to thousands of people residing both in villages and towns. These and some other factories are located in Cannanore, Valapattanam and Pappinisseri towns. Under these circumstances, the people of the adjoining villages of these three towns are naturally engaged in secondary and tertiary activities of the town. While 98.82 per cent of the total workers of the town under study are engaged in the secondary and tertiary sectors, the persons from four villages of Chirakkal, Puzhathi, Azhikode and Pallikunnu account for above 84 per cent of the total workers. The ratio of workers in secondary and tertiary sectors in each village is given below:

(contd..366)

Table 12.6

TOTAL WORKERS IN SECONDARY AND TERTIARY SECTORS AND PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL WORKERS IN EACH VILLAGE
(full count)

Name of the village	Total workers	Workers in secondary sector V(a) V(b) & VI	Percentage to total workers	Workers in tertiary sector VII, VIII & IX	Percentage to total workers	Percentage of workers both in secondary and tertiary sector (col.4 + 5)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chirakkal	8,098	4,745	58.59	2,633	32.51	91.10
Puzhathi	5,825	3,666	62.94	1,509	25.91	88.85
Kalliasseri	4,821	1,759	36.49	1,020	21.16	57.65
Azhikode	8,246	4,631	56.16	2,300	27.89	84.05
Pallikunnu	4,848	2,414	49.79	2,170	44.76	94.55
Kannapuram	4,500	1,234	27.42	891	19.80	47.22
Mattool	4,840	891	18.41	1,528	31.57	49.98
Kannadi-paramba	2,340	966	41.28	363	15.51	56.79
Narath	2,439	734	30.09	635	26.04	56.13
Valiyannur	2,634	1,003	38.08	373	14.16	52.24

Pallikunnu village has the highest percentage of workers in secondary and tertiary sectors with 94.55 per cent followed by Chirakkal village with 91.10 per cent. 88.85 per cent of the total workers in Puzhathi village and 84.05 per cent of the total workers in Azhikode village

(contd...367)

are engaged in secondary and tertiary sectors. These four villages which are located very near to the towns of Cannanore and Valapattanam got maximum opportunity for employment in manufacture and allied activities and, service occupations. These villages, therefore, cannot be considered as having the influence of Valapattanam town only as they are located within a distance of 6 km. from Cannanore Municipal town. Kannapuram village which is located 10 km. away from the town has the lowest percentage of workers engaged in secondary and tertiary sectors.

There is no significant difference in the literacy rate of the selected villages. The influence of the town on the literacy rates of the villages is negligible as the town cannot be considered as a centre for learning. The literacy rate of all the 10 villages, except 3, are higher than that of Valapattanam town. Most of the villages have facilities for Primary and Secondary education. However, the Cannanore town where more educational institutions are located is a convenient place for students from all these villages. Primary Schools are located in all the villages whereas, High Schools are found in six villages of Chirakkal, Kalliasseri, Azhikode, Puzhathi, Kannapuram and

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Mattool. The literacy rate of Pallikunnu, Azhikode and Chirakkal villages, located 7 km, 5 km and 2 km away from the town, are 75.26, 68.13 and 66.56 per cent respectively. The Pallikunnu village, although away from Valapattanam, is located on the border of Cannanore municipal town. As such, this village is subject more to the urban influence of Cannanore municipal town than of Valapattanam. Total number of educated persons and percentage to total population in each village are as follows:

Table 12.7
LITERATE AND EDUCATED PERSONS
(full count)

Name of the villages	Total population	Literate and educated persons	Percentage of literacy
1	2	3	4
Chirakkal	29,956	19,940	66.56
Puzhathi	20,436	13,397	65.56
Kalliasseri	16,397	9,928	60.55
Azhikode	30,439	20,737	68.13
Pallikunnu	19,033	14,325	75.26
Kannapuram	14,406	9,367	65.02
Mattool	15,501	8,211	52.97
Kannadiparamba	7,301	4,192	57.42
Narath	7,878	4,225	53.63
Valiyannur	8,774	5,422	61.80

(contd...369)

Like Valapattanam, Mattool village is also a Muslim centre whereas, in all other villages, majority of the people are Hindus.

Either Sub Post Office or Branch Post Office functioning in each village caters to the needs of the people in postal transactions such as acceptance of saving deposits, issue and payment of money orders etc. Telephone facilities are also available in these villages but telegraph facilities are available only in six villages of Chirakkal, Kalliasseri, Azhikode, Kannapuram, Puzhathi and Mattool. For telegraph facilities, Pallikunnu and Valiyannur villages depend on Cannanore Municipal town and Narath and Kannadiparamba depend on Chirakkal village. Medical facilities are available in all villages. There are primary health centres in four of the villages viz. Azhikode, Pallikunnu, Puzhathi, Kannapuram and Mattool.

The villages selected for study are all electrified. However, the number of connections varies from village to village. Among the 10 villages, more households in Azhikode village are using electricity. 32.15 per cent of the total number of houses are electrified in the village followed by Mattool with 28.48 per cent. Number of house connections are very low in the villages of

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Narath and Valiyannur with 10.35 per cent and 8.54 per cent respectively. All the villages use electricity for non-residential and non-agricultural purposes as well. As regards electricity for industrial purposes, there are 7 connections in Mattool village, 17 in Kannapuram, 15 in Kalliasseri, 22 in Azhikode, 17 in Chirakkal, 5 in Narath, 9 in Kannadiparamba, 10 in Puzhathi, 33 in Pallikunnu and 4 in Valiyannur. No household uses electricity for cooking purposes. They all use fire wood, dried twigs, cocoanut husks etc.

It has, however, been observed that persons from these villages are going to the town daily for work or business. So these surrounding villages are benefited directly or indirectly of the industries located in the town. Almost all the villages have varying number of persons employed in the industrial establishments, Govt. offices or schools located in the town. However, Azhikode, Chirakkal, Pallikunnu and Puzhathi villages located nearer to the town have a large number of persons engaged in various activities in the urban area.

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From the foregoing observations, it is clear that villages which are very closer to the town are subject to a greater amount of urban influence than the distant villages. Among the neighbouring villages, Chirakkal and Azhikode are influenced by the town under study. However, the urban influence exerted by Valapattanam town over these villages is less than that of Cannanore town due mainly to their nearness to Cannanore and its greater importance.

CHAPTER XIII

CONCLUSION

The towns in Kerala do not present a uniform socio-economic pattern. There bound to be difference in the size and composition of the population, occupational status, literacy rates, standard of living etc. Besides, there are great variations in land size, climate, topography, landuse pattern and the like.

Valapattanam is a small town with a population of 7,296. Though it has been recognized as a census town since 1961, it is yet to acquire the status of a municipal town. It has not touched the fringe of urbanisation of any standard town. Eight characteristics are often given to distinguish between rural and urban areas. They are *"occupations, environment, size of community, density of population, heterogeneity of population,social differentiation or stratification, mobility and system of interaction". In modern cities, the sites for industry, commerce, residential colonies etc. are regulated by a master plan so that the functional areas can be clearly demarcated. In

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Valapattanam, such planning is unknown and the urban area, as such, is not an administrative unit. Hence sporadic developments and resultant urbanisation has been taking place unsystematically. Though there are shops, factories, schools, hospitals etc.,majority of the area is still showing up the rural characteristics completely.

The origin of urbanisation can clearly be traced to the establishment of some industries based on timber. The industries are the real stepping stone to pave way for the urbanisation of the town and to change the economic and social outlook of the people of the town. So the development of the town rests on the development of the industries. Establishment of wood-based industry in the town is not at all a matter to run risks. For the development of an industry, availability of inputs, location, marketing and transport facilities are very important. The special advantage in the town is that it is provided with transport facilities by rail, road and river. However, the raw materials for the wood industries have to be brought from distant places. But there is not much trouble faced by the industries in bringing timber as they utilize to

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the maximum, the river transportation system. Both for procuring raw materials and for sending the finished products to the markets, road, rail and river transport facilities play a crucial role. Electricity and labour are available in plenty.

However, of late, the timber industry is stated to have been facing a crisis due to the non-availability of woods consequent on nationalisation of forests in Kerala. The possibility of further expansion of wood industries is, therefore, doubtful.

One of the notable features of these industries in the town is the quantum of employment that they provide to the people of the town and the neighbouring areas. Of the total working force of the town, as much as 98.82 per cent is engaged in the secondary and tertiary sectors.

The proportion of those engaged in primary sector is the lowest. In this context, it is worth noting that the percentage of workers engaged in primary sector in Cochin and Trivandrum, the two biggest cities in Kerala, is 4.57 and 14.83 respectively.

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According to the 1961 Census, the functional category of the town was "Industrial-cum-service" whereas in 1971, the functional category of the town is found to be "Industrial-cum-commercial-cum-service". In 1961, largest percentage of workers were engaged in industries followed by those in service, but in 1971, the second largest group of persons are those who are engaged in trade and commerce. This change in the functional category of the town is due to the change in the definition. In 1961 services of those engaged in hotels, boarding houses, eating houses, cafes, restaurants and similar other organizations, business services and legal services were considered as personal services and were, therefore, included in the category of 'other services'. But in 1971, they are included in trade and commerce.

In Valapattanam, the overall picture of occupational distribution since 1961 has not shown much change. The proportion of workers engaged in industries in 1971 is more or less the same as what it was in 1961. However, the agricultural sector of the town is also gradually losing importance. There seems to be a feeling that now-a-days, agriculture is not a profitable business as compared to trade or industry which is considered to be

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very lucrative. The town illustrates this point very well. The number of persons engaged in primary sector in 1961 has decreased more than 50 per cent during the last 10 years.

Insanitary condition is the most imprecation of the town. Due to this, persons who came from other areas in connection with employment or other business are not interested to live in the town and hence are residing elsewhere outside the town. This is one of the very few towns in Kerala where there is no lodging facility. While cleanliness seems to be foreign to the town, as a whole, certain localities in the town are in a very deplorable condition. Arrangements for the drainage of water is insufficient. It was a filaria centre. Although anti-filaria measures are adopted by the Health Department, the menace of filaria is still lingering on considerably among the people. Supply of good drinking water is the most important requisite and it should receive the immediate attention of the Panchayat Board. The construction of improved type of latrines for each household and provision of public comforts in the town are other important aspects which need the attention of the persons concerned. Provision of better drainage

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facilities is also equally important. Some people attempt to keep their houses and surrounding areas neat and clean but many others pay less attention to this aspect.

Though history and trade made the town rich, it is still an underdeveloped area. The roads are narrow, dirty and curvilinear with danger lurks in the corners. The Government have taken steps to construct a roadbridge over Valapattanam river to minimise the traffic on the rail-road, but its execution has been inordinately delayed. Though several buses pass through the town, there is neigher a bus-stand nor even a waiting shed.

Facilities for primary and secondary educations are available within the town. Besides, the pupils go to Cannanore about 8 km. away from the town for higher education. The literacy rate is higher in the urban areas of the State than in the rural areas. However, as far as Valapattanam town is concerned, the literacy level is lower than that of Chirakkal and Azhikode, the two neighbouring villages. The Muslim Community is a predominant section in the town. The advancement made by this community in the educational field is still

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unsatisfactory. The progress made in the education of Muslim females has been very tordy. But, it is only by educating the Muslim women on large scale that the pace of social progress of the community would be accelerated.

There are no defined areas in the town specifically allotted for the residence of a particular caste or community. But majority of the Hindus are living in the south-east part of the town which is adjacent to Chirakkal village. Housing condition of the town is, on the whole, ~~xxxx~~ satisfactory. The residential houses are found scattered all over the town and are mingled with administrative, industrial and shopping establishments.

Although Muslims are powerful in the town, there is no grave criticism regarding the social relations or disharmony between Muslims and Hindus or between Muslims and Christians.

As has already been indicated, there is no scope for further development without starting some large scale industrial units. But, in view of the smallness of the town area and over congestion, it is impracticable to attempt any

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further industrial development. In other words, so long as the town remains as an independent unit, there seems to be no scope for economic, social and cultural progress in the near future. It is, therefore, advisable to bring this town under the Cannanore Municipality and to extend such facilities as required by the area so that rapid industrialisation, economic betterment and social progress may be achieved sooner than later.

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