

DETAILS OF KOLAR DISTRICT

Kolar is a district in the state of Karnataka, India. Kolar is the district headquarters. Located in southern Karnataka, it is the state's easternmost district. The district is surrounded by the Bangalore Rural district on the west, Chikballapur district on the north, the Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh on the east and the Krishnagiri and Vellore districts of Tamil Nadu on the south. The major sources of employment are agricultural: dairy farming, sericulture and floriculture. The district is popularly known as the land of **"silk & milk"**. Farmers in Kolar depend on borewell water for irrigation and drinking. The Kolar Gold Fields were closed in 2003 due to shrinking gold deposits and increasing production costs. Kannada is the major language, however a significant population speaks Telugu. Tamil is also spoken in few places like KGF.

Kolar is located at 13.13°N 78.13°E. It has an average elevation of 822 metres (2,697 ft). It is located at a distance of about 72 kilometres (45 mi) from Bengaluru and 32 kilometres (20 mi) from Kolar Gold Fields. The city is located on the southern maidan (plains) region of Karnataka. The Ammeralikere, a tank, forms its eastern boundary. To the north is the Kodikannur tank, the main source of water supply to the city. The nearest railway junction is Bangarpet at a distance of about 15 km. It is situated on the Bengaluru to Chennai National Highway-4.

Major farming systems/enterprises (based on the analysis made by the KVK)

Sl. No	Farming system/enterprise	
1	Irrigated (bore well)	Tomato- Polebeans, Potato, Ragi, Vegetables, Mulberry, Coconut, Sapota, papaya, Guava etc.
2	Tank Irrigated	Paddy
3	Rainfed	Ragi based mixed cropping, Groundnut based intercropping, Maize, Pigeon pea, Horse gram, Field bean, Mango, Cashew, Tamarind etc.
4	Enterprises	Sericulture, Dairy, Poultry, Sheep and Goat rearing

Description of Agro-climatic Zone & major agro ecological situations (based on soil and topography)

S. No	Agro-climatic Zone	Characteristics
1	Eastern dry zone	This zone consists of an area of 1.808 mha. The annual rainfall ranges from 679.1-888.9 mm. More than 50 % of it is received during the <i>Kharif</i> season. The elevation is 800-900 m and the soils are red loamy in major areas, lateritic in the remaining areas

S. No	Agro ecological situation	Characteristics
	Semi –arid climate	The district receives an annual rainfall of 744 mm received in 45 rainy days. The duration of the monsoon, however, seems to be shrinking with the first three months in the year receiving very little rainfall in recent times. The rainfall distribution has two peaks, one during May and another during September. It is characterized by erratic and uneven distribution. Predominantly the tube wells/bore wells are the major source of irrigation in the district. There are about 41,311 ha of land being irrigated through such bore wells. The number of irrigation pump sets existing in the district is 50,366. Tanks and open wells are the other sources of irrigation.

Soil types

S. No	Soil type	Characteristics	Area in ha
1	Medium deep, red clayey soil	Red to a bright reddish-orange in color. They are typically quite acidic, often having a pH of less than 5.	7026
2	Medium deep, red gravelly soil	Red in color which is mainly due to ferric oxides. They are usually poor growing soils, low in nutrients and humus.	17946
3	Deep, red clayey loam soil	Clay loam is a soil mixture that contains more clay than other types of rock or minerals. These soils contains a good amount of plant nutrients and supports most types of plants and crops	88400
4	Deep, red clayey soil	Soil mixture contains less clay component. Nutritionally poor.	119720
5	Deep, red gravelly clay soil	Same as clayey loam but gravelly in nature	20363
6	Deep, lateritic clayey soil	These soils are rich in iron and aluminum. Nearly all laterites are rusty-red because of iron oxides.	16813
7	Deep, lateritic gravelly clayey soil	Characteristically similar to the lateritic clayey but stony and gravelly nature less suitable for arable crop cultivation	10940
8	Deep, alluvial clayey soil (salt affected)	A soil deposit developed on floodplain and delta deposits. Soil supports good crop growth.	92843
9	Red gravelly clay soils (Rocky land)	They are less clayey and sandier and are poor in important minerals like lime, phosphorous and nitrogen. Red soil is acidic like that of the Lateritic soil.	11036

*NBSS & LUP, RS, Bangalore

Area, Production and Productivity of major crops cultivated in the district

S. No	Crop	Area (ha)	Production (Metric tons)	Productivity (t /ha)
Field crops				

1.	Ragi	58207	104582	1796 kg/ha
2.	Ground nut	10513	14187	1349 kg/ha
3.	Avare	8023	4028	502 kg/ha
4.	Tur	3401	4213	1238 kg/ha
5.	Maize	1133	4523	3992 kg/ha
6.	Cowpea	1600	139	274 kg/ha
7.	Horse gram	628	970	1544 kg/ha
Vegetable crops				
8.	Tomato	9695	547753	56.5
9.	Potato	6951	107928	15.53
10.	Beans	3299	34640	10.50
11.	Cabbage	1758	34039	19.36
12.	Knol-khol	1605	25680	16
13.	Green chilli	1441	29463	20.45
14.	Carrot	1387	27047	19.50
15.	Brinjal	1235	39520	32
16.	Radish	1029	12348	12
17.	Cauliflower	732	12078	16.5
18.	Onion	525	5522	10.51
19.	Capsicum	450	9000	20
20.	Ladies finger	322	2898	9
Fruit crops				
21.	Mango	46772	374176	8
22.	Banana	3720	123405	3317
23.	Sapota	3403	52320	15.37
24.	Guava	565	12400	21.95
25.	Papaya	367	27628	75.28
26.	Grapes	219	4284	19.56
27.	Citrus and its sps.	78	1558	19.90
28.	Pomegranate	42	1016	24.06
Plantation crops				
29.	Coconut	6657	691	0.10
30.	Cashewnut	2196	4246	1.93
31.	Arecanut	4	6	1.49
Aromatic crops				
32.	Davana	774.00	7660.00	9.90
33.	Geranium	65.00	924.00	14.22
Spice crops				
34.	Tamarind	3489	14656	4.20
35.	Coriander	233	153	0.66
36.	Ginger	163	1837	11.27
37.	Dry chilli	150	275	1.83
38.	Turmeric	43	397	9.22
39.	Garlic	29	224	7.71
Flower crops				
40.	Marigold	655.00	6395.00	9.76
41.	Rose	556.00	963.90 (Lakh flowers)	1.73
42.	Chrysanthemum	210.00	2995.00	14.26
43.	Aster	162.00	1567.00	9.67
44.	Jasmine	161.00	1101.00	6.87
45.	Crossandra	100.00	500.00	5.06
Sericulture				

46.	Mulberry	17889	715560	40000
47.	Cocoon production	18105 Farmers	12772	761

History of kolar

The Western Gangas sovereignty lasted from about 350 to 550 CE, initially ruled from Kolar as their Capital City. The founder of the Western Ganga dynasty was Konganivarman Madhava, who built Kolar as his capital around 350 and ruled for about twenty years. He succeeded by his son Madhava I. Kolar, the headquarters of the Kolar district, was earlier known as Kuvalalapura, also known as Kolahala Pura. Historically, Kolar is said to be associated with the epic age, which recalls many legends associated with Avani in Mulbagal Taluk, which was also called Avani Kshetra.

It was once known as Avantika- Kshetra, a sacred place in Kolar district in Karnataka State. It was famous for its religious establishments from ancient times. It was once known as Aavanya which was under the Ganga prince Madhava Muttarasa, who governed several districts. In about A.D 890, its earliest grant relates that Tribhuvana Kartara Deva, who held the title of Kali Yuga Rudra, ruled over the Avaniya Thana for 40 years. During this period he constructed 50 temples and two large tanks. Maharshi Valmiki, author of the epic Ramayana, lived here. The legend goes further to establish that Seetha Devi, after being sent to exile, gave birth to her twins Lava and Kusha at Avani. The Avani continued to survive as a religious establishment from the 9th to 11th centuries. There are temples dedicated to Lord Rama. Kolaramma Temple, Kolar, Antharagange

The hill to the west of Kolar, called the Shatasringa Parvata or 'Hundred-Peaked Mountain' is 'Antharagange', associated with the story of Parasurama and his fight with King Kartaviryarjuna over Surabhi, the divine cow. As the story goes, King Kartavirya Arjuna (Sahasrarjuna) and his army visited Jamadagni, Parasurama's father, when the king demanded the magical cow from Jamadagni. When Jamadagni refused, the King sent his soldiers to take the cow, but Parashurama killed the entire army and the king with his axe. In return, the prince beheaded Jamadagni. Thus, Parasurama took an oath to behead the entire Kshatriya race, which is said to have taken place on the hills. It is said that the 'kolahala' on the death of Kartaviryarjuna gave its name to the town, which later become Kolar. Kannada is the main languages spoken in the district of Kolar. Telugu is also spoken. Gangas built beautiful temple of Sri Uttameshwara temple in UttanurMulbagal Talluk

Geographical features

Kolar district is in a semi-arid, drought-prone region and covers an area of 8,225 square kilometres (3,176 sq mi). It stretches about 135 kilometres (84 mi) north to south and almost the same distance east to west. The district occupies the table land of Mysore,

bordering the Eastern Ghats. The plateau is interrupted by a hills and mountains of varying heights, particularly in the north. The Nandi Hills run north from Nandi towards Penukonda and Dharmavaram in Andhra Pradesh. Rivers are small and seasonal; the Palar, Uttara Pinakini and Dakshina Pinakini originate in the highlands. Borewel has reached level of 2000 ft. Water is contaminated from fluoride. People are fighting for drinking water. A protest 'Shashwata NEERAVARI HORATA' -people initiative is started before 250 days and still going on.

Taluks of kolar

- Kolar
- Bangarpet
- Malur
- Mulbagilu
- Srinivaspura

Educational institutes of kolar District

- C Byregowda Institute of Technology, Kolar-Srinivaspur Road, Kolar
- Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College, Kolar
- College of Horticulture, kolar
- Government Law College, Kolar
- Government College for Boys, Kolar
- Government PU College for Boys, Srnivaspur
- Methodist School and College, Kolar
- Government College for Women, Kolar
- Sri Devaraj Urs School of Nursing, Kolar
- Seventh Day Adventist High School, Kolar
- Mahila Samaja PU and degree college, Kolar
- St Anne's Convent High School, Kolar
- St. Joseph's Convent, Champion Reefs, KGF
- St. Mary's High School, Champion Reefs, KGF
- Parkinson Memorial School, KGF
- Sri Bhagawan Mahaveer Jain College, KGF
- Suvarna Central School, Kolar
- Sambhram Instiute Of Medical Sciences And Research, D.K. Plantation, BEML Nagar, Kolar Gold Fields, Karnataka – 563115

Transport

Road

National Highway 4 (NH-4) passes through Narasapura, Kolar and Mulbagal, and a state highway and district roads connect other taluks. NH-4 connects Bangalore, Narasapura, Kolar, Mulbagal, Chittor and Chennai, with a smaller connection to Thirupathi. Bangalore is about a 90-minute drive from Mulbagal

Rail

Kolar is in the South Western Railway zone of Indian Railways. The district has junctions at Kolar and Bangarapet and stations at Oorgam, Malur, Bisanattam, Byatrayana Halli, Champion, Cooromandal, Kamasamudram, Makali Durg, Marikuppam and Tyakal. They are on the Chennai-Bangalore main line or its branch line.

By Flight

Bangalore International Airport is the nearest airport followed by Chennai International Airport.

Tourism place at kolar Distrcit

Kolaramma temple

The Kolaramma temple is built and dedicated to Goddess Shakti. The temple is built in Dravida Vimana Style and dates back to the Ganga period. The temple has several Chola renovations and additions were made by them in the 11th century, followed by Vijayanagara rule in the 15th century. The Cholas made several inscriptions in the temple, the earliest inscription belongs to the period of Rajendra Chola I from 1012 to 1045 A.D.



The temple is built in typical South Indian architectural style using granite stones and is around 800 years old. The temple is L-shaped housing two shrines, one for Durga who is known as Kolaramma and another for Saptamatrikas. The main temple faces the east while the larger shrine faces the north. But both of them share a common vestibule. Though the temple resembles a mantapa, there are nearly 30 inscriptions in both Tamil and Kannada found in the temple complex.

Someshwara Temple



Someshwara Temple is located in the heart of the Kolar region and is one of the famous temples in this town. The temple was built by the Cholas who ruled this region in the 11th century who were then dethroned by the Chalukyas. The temple was later expanded by the Vijayanagara Empire and is a fine example of the Vijayanagara style of architecture. The carvings on the inner pillars of the temple have an international connection which depicts the importance and

value of trade to the King.

The temple is every architect's delight considering the beauty of Dravidian architecture. The huge gopura on the entrance stands testimony to the hand of the Cholas in the construction of this temple. The temple has heavy Prakara walls, a Kalyana Mantapa (Wedding hall), a Mukha Mandapa with massive pillars, a Vasantha Mantapa (Marriage Podium) and a shrine for goddess Parvati Devi. The Kalyana Mandapa has 64 - 16 sided pillars, a few depicting men, riding horses and others represent mythological stories.

Antharagange



Located 3 Kms from Kolar, Antharagange , a sacred stream, that pours sweet water from the mouth of a bull. This scenic spot, known as Shatha Shringa Parvatha, abounds in rocks of many shapes and rare flora and fauna. The hill top resembling a snakehood- (Havina Hede), gives a bird's eye view of seven towns. It is a trekker's delight, accessible from two routes, steep steps on one side and a motorabel route on the other.

The granite temple of Neelakanteshwara, at the foothills, is an attraction.

Avani



Avani Known as the Gaya of the south, Avani has a cluster of Ramalingeshwara temple all within one courtyard dedicated to Lakshmana, Bharata and Shatrugna as well as a Shankar Math built by the Nolamba dynasty. Legend has it, that the hill above was home to Valmiki's ashram, where Lava & Kusha were born and raised.

Kolar Gold Mines

K.G.F or kolar gold fields is a town in Bangarpet Taluk, in the Kolar District of Karnataka state, India. It includes the township of the same name, viz. KGF, where reside mainly the families of the employees of BGML. To the east of KGF is a ridge of hills of which Dod Betta hill, 3195 feet above sea level, is the most conspicuous point. KGF is about 30 kilometers from Kolar and 100 kilometers from Bangalore.



The gold mines of KGF were closed down by BGML in 2001 due to reducing deposits and increasing costs

Kotilingeshwara Temple

The Kotilingeshwara Temple is situated in Kammasandra Village in Kolar district, Karnataka State, India. The temple is about 6 km from Kolar Gold Fields also known as KGF. The main deity of this temple is Lord Kotilingeshwara.



There are millions of Lingas being installed surrounding the temple by the pilgrims since 1980 spread over an area of 13 acres (53,000 m²). There are more than 8.6 million Lingas installed as of 2008. The lingas installed vary between 1 foot (0.30 m) and 3 feet (0.91 m) tall. The temple was started with the intent of installing 1 crore lingas, hence the name "Kotilingeshwara". Koti means crore (10 million).

Bethamangala



around the sailing clubhouse.

Bethamangala is a small town in the Bangarpet Taluk of Kolar district in the state of Karnataka, India. It has a large man-made lake which is a popular picnic spot and supplies drinking water to the nearby mining city of Kolar Gold Fields ("KGF"), about 5 miles from Bethamangala. In the days of the British, prior to say 1957, Bethamangala was where the British workers of KGF went at weekends to sail and relax

Mulbagal



popular spots.

Twenty-nine Kms. from Kolar, is Mulbagal, a popular tourist stopover, enroute Tirupati. The **Anjaneya temple** and the **Someshwara temple**, with its exquisite bronze icon of the **Dancing Nataraja**, of the Vijayanagar period are a great draw. The tomb of **Haider Oulia**, a great muslim saint and 13 Kms. away, the tomb of the 15th Century Madhwa saint, **Shripadaraya** are also

Virupaksha Temple

Sri Virupaksheshwara Swamy Temple is also located in Virupakshi Village about 4 kilometres from Mulbagal. This temple was built in the 13th century by Vijayanagara Rulers and resembles the Virupaksheshwara Temple in Hampi. The Parvati shrine here has the figure of a lion on front of it just like Nandi in front of Siva temples. This is rather unusual.



Kurudumale



This place is located 12KM from Mulbagal, was the capital of the Hoysala Dynasty. The giant, thirteen and a half foot sculpture of kurudumale Ganesha and the Someshwara temple, attract thousands of visitors from the surrounding states.

Bangaru Tirupati / Chikka Tirupati



Its located 29 km from Kolar in place called Guttahalli. This is a very famous temple which resembles the famous Sri Venkateshwara Temple of Tirupathi in Andhra Pradesh. The temple is built on rocks which dates back to Brigu Maharushi's days. At Guttahalli, you'll find the temple on a hillock that is about 40 metres high. Just below the hillock is

Garuda, Vishnu's vehicle.

The temple itself has a very impressive gopuram. There is the kalyani or water tank near which a flight of steps leads us to the idol of Venkataramana, also called Srinivasa. This small attractive sculpture has to be viewed from a six-holed window. The temple attracts lots of devotes particularly during the month of Shravana (July/August) At a different level is the shrine for the consort Padmavathi, dating back to mid-19th century. This temple is thronged by pilgrims, particularly during the month of Shravana(July–August). Darshan of the deity is through a small window in the sanctum.

Budikote

This is a village, about 15 Kms. southwest of Bangarpet town, whose history dates to the 8th Century A.D. Budikote, meaning “fort of ashes”. Is said to derive its name from an immense holocaust, believed to have been performed there, in its hoary past. Budikote is the birthplace of Haider Ali and a spot among the boulders in the fort, is known to tourists as the place where his cradle was rocked. The important temples here are those of Venkataramana and Someshwara.



ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

Kolar's total GDP stands at INR 61.82 billion, contributing 2% to state GSDP and it's per capita annual income in the district being INR. 59,614. However, the GDDP trend has been

growing at 7% CAGR from 2007-08 to 2012-13; with the Agriculture and Allied industries as the highest contributors at 4.8% for 2012-13.

AGRICULTURE IN FOCUS

Kolar with its top rank in productivity and yields of horticulture crop has 49.95% of the net sown land under its cultivation. The district allots 33.34% for cereals and 10.58% for pulses. The horticulture crops in the region include Potato, Tomato, Onion, Beans, Green chilies, Khol crops, Carrot, Radish and Beetroot, Mango, Banana, Guava, Sapota, Grapes, Marigold, Jasmine, Chrysanthemum and Rose

INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE

Kolar vibrant agricultural base making it ideal destination for food processing and agro based industries. The district averages milk production of 7.65 litres per day, higher than the state average of 5.83 litres per day. Similarly Cocoon productivity in Kolar is 900 kg per hectare which is more than the state average of 601 Kg per hectare. The average annual income generated by sericulture in the district is US\$ 33.40 million, which is expected to grow by 28% in next 5 years.

Kolar has the biggest solar power unit in India with a 3MW capacity. These new resource exploitations for growth have led this well-connected district to look around for opportunity. The close connectivity to its neighbouring states is expected to add impetus for a thriving auto and aerospace sector here. A 600 acre of Industrial Township is earmarked for its development with the state government envisaging an auto zone. The Mahindra Aerospace 4, 10 and 20 seater aircraft manufacturing facility is the first step in this regard. The 2109.88 acres of the land bank, proposed free trade warehousing zone with huge investments is sure to add potency to growth here. The 5 industrial area and 5 industrial estates cater to 5 large and medium scale industries and the 8138 MSME. A dedicated apparel zone planned by Suvarna Karnataka Development Corridor coupled with a handloom cluster and readymade garment cluster, along with a dyeing and printing silk cluster in the district adds vibrancy to the sector here.