

Chapter 3

INCOME AND POPULATION

A. INCOME

Global Economy

The outlook for the global economy continues to be uncertain. Despite the formal end of the war in Iraq, retreat of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic and reversal of persistent sell-offs in major equity markets, signs of recovery in major industrial economies are not significant. Interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank (ECB) in June 2003 have taken key international rates to all-time lows, reflecting a growing concern about possibility of deflationary trends emerging.

3.2 The estimated GDP growth rate of the major developing countries in years 2001 to 2003 and the projection for 2004 is given in Table 3.1

3.3 The growth of the Indian economy in 2002-03 although significantly lower than expected due to simultaneous impact of several adverse developments, including drought and lowered agriculture production was still among the highest in the world. Border tensions in the early months of the year were followed by the worst drought in fifteen years. The estimated fall of 29 million tonnes in foodgrains production was the largest in a year since independence.

National Income

3.4 World Bank estimated the combined GDP growth of India and other South Asian nations at 5.4 per cent this year compared to 4.2 per cent in 2002 and 4.9 percent in 2001. The projection was made close on

Table- 3.1
Real GDP Growth Rate of
Major Developing Countries

Countries	Real GDP Growth Rate			
	2001	2002	2003	Projection 2004
Selected African countries				
Algeria	2.6	4.1	5.9	3.8
Morocco	6.3	3.2	5.5	8.4
Tunisia	4.9	1.7	5.5	5.8
Cameroon	5.3	6.5	4	4.4
Cote d'Ivoire	0.3	-1.8	-3	3
Ghana	4.2	4.5	4.7	5
Kenya	1.2	1	1.3	2.6
Nigeria	2.8	0.5	5.2	2.8
Tanzania	6.1	6.3	5.5	6.3
South Africa	2.8	3	2.2	3
Uganda	5.5	6.6	5.4	6
Selected East European Countries				
Bulgaria	4.1	4.8	5	5.5
Cyprus	4.1	2.2	2	3.8
Czech Republic	3.1	2	1.7	2.6
Estonia	5	5.8	5	5.1
Hungary	3.8	3.3	3	3.5
Latvia	7.9	6.1	5.5	6
Lithuania	6.5	6.7	5.8	6.2
Poland	1	1.4	2.9	4.1
Romania	5.7	4.9	4.7	5
Slovak Republic	3.3	4.4	4	4
Slovenia	2.9	3.2	2.2	3
Commonwealth of Independent States				
Armenia	9.6	12.9	7	6
Azerbaijan	9.9	10.6	9.2	9.1
Belarus	4.7	4.7	4	3.2
Georgia	4.7	5.3	4.8	4.5
Kazakhstan	13.5	9.5	9	8
Kyrgyz Republic	5.4	-0.5	5.6	4
Moldova	6.1	7.2	6	5
Russia	5.0	4.3	6	5
Ukraine	9.2	4.8	5.3	4.8
Tajikistan	10.2	9.1	6	4
Uzbekistan	4.1	3.2	0.3	2.5

Source: Monthly Review of the Indian Economy, CMIE

the heels of RBI's annual report which portrays a growth significantly higher than 6 percent in this fiscal year. ADB's forecasts show a growth of 6 per cent. The latest RBI forecast is 7% in view of the growth of 8.4% in the last quarter.

3.5 As per the Statistics published by Central Statistical Organisation the Revised Advance Estimate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at factor cost at constant (1993-94) prices in 2002-03 has been estimated at Rs. 13,20,313 crores, as against Rs.1265429 crore in 2001-02 registering a growth rate of 4.3 percent during 2002-03 compared to the growth rate of 5.6 % during the previous year. At current prices GDP in 2002-03 is estimated at Rs. 22,42,463 crore as against Rs.2094013 crore in 2001-02 showing an increase of

7.1% during the year 2002-03.

3.6 The National Income (i.e. Net National Product at factor cost) at constant prices (1993-94) in 2002-03 is estimated at Rs.11,61,580 crore as against the previous year's Quick Estimate of Rs.11,15,157 crore. In terms of growth rates, the National Income is estimated to rise by 4.2 percent during 2002-03 compared with the growth rate of 6.2 percent of 2001-02. The National Income at factor cost at current prices is estimated at Rs. 19,86,027 crore during 2002-03 when compared to Rs. 18,64,292 crore during 2001-02 registering a rise of 6.5%.

3.7 The overall performance of the economy during the year 2002-03 has been positive (4.3 percent) but not impressive compared to the corresponding growth of 5.6 percent in the previous year. The growth of 4.3 percent in GDP during 2002-03 has been mainly due to fairly good growth in trade, hotels, transport and communication (7.8%), construction (7.2%) and community, social and personal services (6.8%) manufacturing and financing, insurance, real estate business services

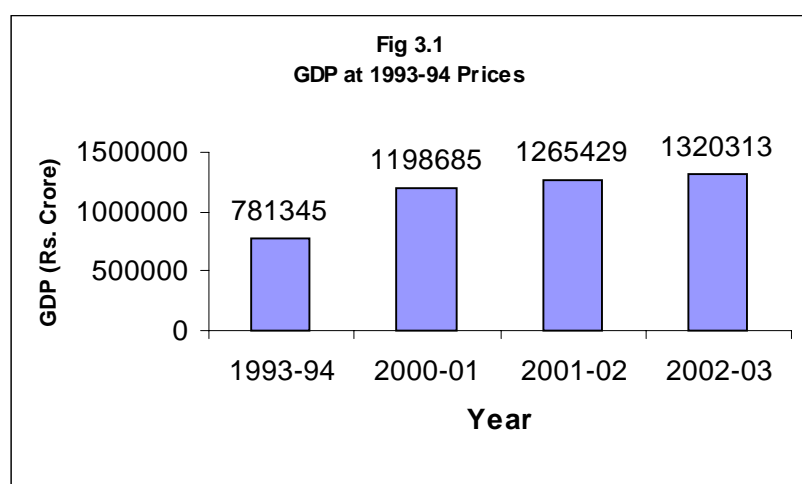


Table 3.2
National Product, Domestic Product & Per Capita
Income at Factor Cost (All India)

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. no.	Item	At current prices		At 1993-94 prices	
		2001-02@	2002-03*	2001-02@	2002-03*
1	Gross National Product (GNP)	20,81,350 (9.5)	2224151 (6.9)	1257043 (6.0)	1309531 (4.2)
2	Net National Product (NNP) i.e. National Income	1864292 (9.5)	1986027 (6.5)	1115157 (6.2)	1161580 (4.2)
3	Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	2094013 (9.2)	2242463 (7.1)	1265429 (5.6)	1320313 (4.3)
4	Net Domestic Product (NDP)	1876955 (9.1)	2004339 (6.8)	1123543 (5.7)	1172361 (4.3)
5	Per Capita National Income(Rs)	17978 (7.6)	18825 (4.7)	10754 (4.3)	11010 (2.4)

The figures within parentheses indicate percentage change over the previous year.

**: Revised Advance Estimate @ : Quick Estimates*

Source: Central Statistical Organization

(6.1%) and mining & quarrying (5.1%). However, Agriculture, forestry and fishing registered a growth rate of (-) 3.2 percent.

Per Capita National Income

3.8 The per capita income (per capita net national product at factor cost) in real terms, (at 1993-94 prices) during 2002-03 is estimated to attain a level of Rs.11010 as compared to the Quick Estimates for the year 2001-02 of Rs.10754. The growth rate in per capita income is estimated at 2.4 per cent during 2002-03 as against the previous year's estimate of 4.3 percent. The per capita income at current prices during 2002-03 is esti-

ated to reach a level of Rs.18825 as compared to the Quick Estimates of Rs.17978 for the year 2001-02 showing a rise of 4.7 percent.

3.9 An analysis of the percentage distribution of GDP shows that 23 percent of the GDP is from Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing followed by trade, hotels, transport and communication (22.5%) during 2002-03 at current prices. Moreover at constant prices for the same year (i.e., 2002-03), the maximum contribution to GDP is from trade, hotels, transport and communication (24.3%) followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing (22.1%). Sector-wise GDP at current and con-

Table 3.3
Sectoral Growth Rates in GDP (All India)
(At Factor Cost by Economic Activity - 2001-02 to 2002-03)

Sl.No.	Industry	Percentage change over the previous year			
		At Current Prices		At 1993-94 Prices	
		2001-02@	2002-03*	2001-02@	2002-03*
1	Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	9.2	-1.3	5.7	-3.2
2	Mining & Quarrying	1.9	4.6	1	5
3	Manufacturing	6.1	8.9	3.4	6.1
4	Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	7.3	10	4.3	3.9
5	Construction	7.7	10.9	3.7	7.2
6	Trade, Hotels, Transport & Communication	10.6	10.4	8.7	7.8
7	Financing, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services	11.8	9.6	4.5	6.1
8	Community, Social & Personal Services	10.1	10.7	5.6	6.8
	GDP at factor cost	9.2	7.1	5.6	4.3

*: Revised Advance Estimate, @: Quick Estimates

Source: Central Statistical Organization

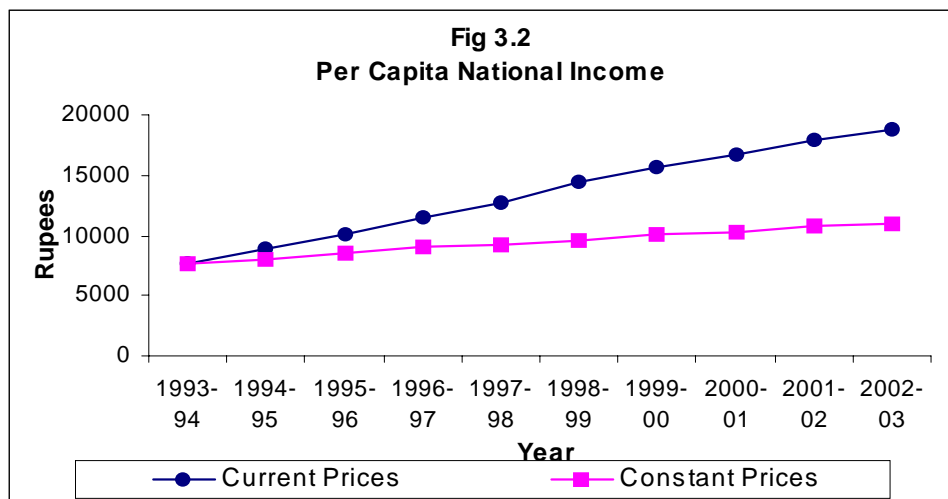


Table 3.4
Gross Domestic Product at Factor Cost - Percentage Distribution (All India)

Sl. No.	Industry of origin	Percentage Distribution of GDP			
		At Current Prices		At 1993-94 Prices	
		2001-02@	2002-03*	2001-02@	2002-03*
1	Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	25.0	23.0	23.9	22.1
2	Mining & Quarrying	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
3	Manufacturing	15.3	15.5	16.8	17.1
4	Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4
5	Construction	6.0	6.2	5.1	5.3
6	Trade, Hotels Transport & Communication	21.8	22.5	23.5	24.3
7	Financing, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services	12.7	13.1	12.5	12.7
8	Community, Social & Personal Services	14.6	15.1	13.5	13.8
	GDP	100	100	100	100

*Revised Advance Estimate @: Quick Estimate

Source: Central Statistical Organization

stant prices are given in Appendix 3.3 and 3.4.

State Income

3.10 The Kerala economy as per quick estimate registered a growth rate of 6.1 percent in 2002-03, a significant jump from the 4 percent growth of the preceding year.

3.11 State Income, i.e. Net State Domestic Product at factor cost at constant prices (1993-94) is estimated at Rs. 37031.33 crore during 2002-03 as against Rs. 34905.99 crore during 2001-02, registering a growth rate of 6.1 percent. At current prices the state Income is estimated at Rs. 83782.01 crore during 2002-03 as against Rs. 73048.95 crore during 2001-02 recording a growth rate of 14.7% compared to 14.6 percent in 2001-02. (see Table 3.5). The Advance Estimate of

State Income during 2003-04 at current prices is Rs. 5702179 lakh and at constant prices is Rs. 3970074 lakh.

3.12 The annual average growth rate of State Income during 1970's at current prices was 10.73% and at 1970-71 prices was 2.16 %. During 1980's it was 12.15% at current prices and 3.39 % at 1980-81 prices. The average growth rate during 1990's at current prices was 13.51% and at constant prices was 5.99 %. The computation of state income does not include remittances from outside the state. If remittances from outside the state were also added to SDP, the state income would 20% more than the present SDP. In the following account of percapita state and district income, this fact should be borne in mind.

Table 3.5
Net State Domestic Product and Per capita Income of Kerala

Sl. No	Item	Year			Growth rate	
		2000-01	2001-02 (P)	2002-03 (Q)	2001-02 (P)	2002-03 (Q)
1	Net State Domestic Product(Rs.in crore)					
	a) At current prices	63715.11	73048.95	83782.01	14.6	14.7
	b) At constant prices	33565.16	34905.99	37031.33	4.0	6.1
2	Per Capita Income (In Rs.)					
	a) At current prices	19951	22668	25764	13.6	13.7
	b) At constant prices	10510	10832	11388	3.1	5.1

P: Provisional, Q: Quick Estimate

Source: Department of Economics & Statistics.

Per Capita State Income

3.13 Per capita Net State Domestic Product at current prices increased from Rs.22668 in 2001-02 to Rs.25,764 in 2002-03 recording a growth rate of 13.7%. The per capita state income at constant prices (1993-94) was Rs.11388 in 2002-03 as compared to Rs.10,832 in 2001-02, showing a rise of 5.1 per cent during the year. At the same time the National Per capita Income at constant prices was Rs11010 during 2002-03.

Sectoral Distribution of State Income

3.14 The contribution from primary, secondary and tertiary sectors to the Net State Domestic Product at constant prices (1993-94) constitutes 17.5 %, 18.7% and 63.8% respectively during 2002-03. At current

prices, the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors contribute 17.6%, 24.2% and 58.2% respectively to the Net State Domestic Product during 2002-03. The details of sectoral contribution of State Income during the last three years is given in Table 3.6.

District-wise Income

3.15 District-wise distribution of Net State Domestic Product at factor cost at current prices shows that Ernakulam District continues to have the highest income of Rs. 10428 crore in 2002-03 as against Rs. 9046 crore in 2001-02 with a growth rate of 15.3 % over the previous year. At constant prices it comes to Rs.4567 crore in 2002-03 as against Rs.4277 crore during 2001-02. Thiruvananthapuram District stands second with an income of Rs. 9153 crore in 2001-02 at current prices

Table 3.6
Sectoral Share of Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) at Factor Cost
(Rs. Crore)

SL. No.	Item	At Current Prices						At Constant Prices ('93-94)					
		2000-01		2001-02(P)		2002-03 (Q)		2000-01		2001-02(P)		2002-03 (Q)	
		NSDP	%	NSDP	%	NSDP	%	NSDP	%	NSDP	%	NSDP	%
1	Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	1399680	21.9	13872.41	19	14508.6	17.3	675987	20.1	6680.98	19.1	6370.97	17.2
2	Mining & Quarrying	15752	0.3	190.47	0.3	239.67	0.3	8436	0.3	92.63	0.3	105.84	0.3
Sub-Total:Primary		1415432	22.2	14062.88	19.3	14748.27	17.6	684423	20.4	6773.61	19.4	6476.81	17.5
3	Manufacturing	603075	9.5	6821.5	9.3	6891.45	8.2	353129	10.5	3543.98	10.1	3597.33	9.7
4	Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	137799	2.2	1892.03	2.6	2949.35	3.5	82447	2.5	761.88	2.2	961.49	2.6
5	Construction	651710	10.2	8582.3	11.7	10450.75	12.5	266421	7.9	2296.74	6.6	2360.56	6.4
Sub-Total: Secondary		1392584	21.9	17295.83	23.6	20291.55	24.2	701997	20.9	6602.6	18.9	6919.38	18.7
6	Transport, Storage & Communication	448039	7	5241.8	7.2	6171.48	7.4	286707	8.5	3183.32	9.2	3577.33	9.7
7	Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	1534603	24.1	17923.77	24.5	20943.32	25	768898	22.9	8345.04	23.9	9150.86	24.7
8	Banking, Insurance & Real Estate	679693	10.7	7853.8	10.8	8945.58	10.7	437192	13	4826.85	13.8	5257.56	14.2
9	Public Administration and other services	901560	14.1	10670.87	14.6	12681.81	15.1	477299	14.3	5174.57	14.8	5649.39	15.2
Sub-Total-Tertiary		3563495	55.9	41690.24	57.1	48742.19	58.2	1970096	58.7	21529.8	61.7	23635.1	63.8
Total-NSDP		6371511	100	73048.95	100	83782.01	100	335616	100	34906	100	37031.3	100

P-Provisional, Q-Quick Estimate, Source:- Department of Economics & Statistics

followed by Thrissur (Rs. 8459 crore), Kozhikode (Rs. 7639 crore), Kollam (Rs. 6737 crore) and Malappuram (Rs. 6316 crore). The lowest income was recorded in Wayanad district (Rs. 1994 crore) in 2002-03 preceded by Kasaragod (Rs. 2894 crore) and Pathanamthitta (Rs. 3341 crore). The District-wise income at current and constant (1993-94) prices with growth rate is given in Table 3.7.

District-wise Per Capita Income

3.16 Among the Districts, Ernakulam stood first with the per capita District income of Rs. 32918 at current prices in 2002-03 as against Rs. 28826 in 2001-02 with a growth rate of 14.2%. Idukki District has the second largest per capita income of Rs. 31697 in 2002-03 followed by Kottayam (Rs. 28622), Thrissur (Rs. 27871), Thiruvananthapuram (Rs. 27686) and Pathanamthitta (Rs. 26901). The lowest per capita income was recorded in Malappuram District (Rs. 16766) in 2002-03 preceded by Palakkad (Rs. 22132), Kasaragod (Rs. 23414) and Kannur (Rs. 24369).

3.17 The highest rate of growth of per capita income of 15.2 percent was recorded in

Thiruvananthapuram District in 2002-03 followed by Pathanamthitta (14.6%) and both Ernakulam and Kozhikode districts 14.2%. The lowest growth rate was recorded in Wayanad district (10.3%) preceded by Kasaragod (10.7%) and Idukki (12.6%). The District-wise per capita income with growth rate is given in Table 3.8.

District-wise Rate of Growth of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors

3.18 At the State level, secondary sector recorded the highest rate of growth with 17.3% in 2002-03 followed by tertiary sector with 16.9% and primary sector with 4.9%.

3.19 Districts-wise analysis shows that rate of growth of primary sector ranged between 1.2 % and 7.9%, secondary sector between 10.9% and 31.1% and tertiary sector between 16.7% and 17.2%. The highest rate of growth of primary sector was recorded in Pathanamthitta District (7.9%), secondary sector in Idukki District (31.1%) and tertiary sector in Thiruvananthapuram District (17.2%). The District-wise and sector-wise details of income and growth rate are presented in Table 3.9.

Table 3.7
District-wise Distribution of Net State Domestic Product (Rs. Crore)

(Rs. Crore)	SI No	District	Net State Domestic Product at Factor Cost				Growth rate (%)	
			At 1993-94 Prices		At Current Prices		At 1993-94 Prices	At Current prices
			2001-02 (P)	2002-03 (Q)	2001-02 (P)	2002-03 (Q)	2002-03	2002-03
1	TVM	3798.99	4079.19	7873.54	9153.09	7.4	16.3	
2	KLM	2823.10	2978.05	5912.76	6737.12	5.5	13.9	
3	PTA	1384.81	1460.91	2904.90	3341.07	5.5	15.0	
4	ALP	2382.77	2541.71	4920.75	5635.86	6.7	14.5	
5	KTM	2430.21	2582.15	4946.61	5675.80	6.3	14.7	
6	IDI	1489.07	1521.12	3198.04	3616.67	2.2	13.1	
7	EKM	4277.23	4566.74	9045.64	10428.35	6.8	15.3	
8	TCR	3512.17	3746.72	7358.90	8458.88	6.7	15.0	
9	PKD	2490.59	2641.61	5167.67	5920.39	6.1	14.6	
10	MLP	2585.66	2743.01	5495.37	6315.81	6.1	14.9	
11	KKD	3115.53	3319.10	6628.37	7638.52	6.5	15.2	
12	WYD	866.52	895.31	1778.81	1993.63	3.3	12.1	
13	KNR	2483.96	2631.80	5231.68	5972.87	6.0	14.2	
14	KSD	1265.38	1323.91	2585.91	2893.95	4.6	11.9	
State		34905.99	37031.33	73048.95	83782.01	6.1	14.7	

P - Provisional, Q - Quick Estimate, Source: Department of Economics & Statistics

B. POPULATION**Demographic Factors**

3.20 Kerala's population as per Census 2001 is 318.39 lakh consisting of 154.69 lakh males and 163.70 lakh females with a decadal growth of 9.42%. Kerala has the lowest population growth rate compared to other States in India. The population of India as per 2001

Census was 102.7 crore (17% of global population) comprising of 53.13 crore males and 49.57 crore females with a decadal growth rate of 21.34%. Kerala's share in the population of India is 3.1%. Of the total population of Kerala, 74% live in rural areas. Projected population of Kerala during 2001-02 is 326.62 lakh while that of India is 103.7 crore.

Table 3.8
District-wise Per Capita Income at Current Prices

Sl No	District	2001-02 (P) (Rs.)	Rank	2002-03 (Q) (Rs.)	Rank	Growth rate (%) 2002-03
1	Thiruvananthapuram	24041	5	27686	5	15.2
2	Kollam	22663	9	25646	9	13.2
3	Pathanamthitta	23483	6	26901	6	14.6
4	Alappuzha	23211	7	26459	7	14.0
5	Kottayam	25110	3	28622	3	14.0
6	Idukki	28152	2	31697	2	12.6
7	Ernakulam	28826	1	32918	1	14.2
8	Thrissur	24456	4	27871	4	14.0
9	Palakkad	19501	13	22132	13	13.5
10	Malappuram	14824	14	16766	14	13.1
11	Kozhikode	22739	8	25964	8	14.2
12	Wayanad	22152	10	24432	10	10.3
13	Kannur	21485	11	24369	11	13.4
14	Kasaragod	21161	12	23414	12	10.7
	State	22668	-	25764	-	13.7

P - Provisional, Q - Quick Estimate, Source: Department of Economics & Statistics

Table 3.9
District-wise Rate of Growth of Sectoral Income during 2002-03 at current Prices

Sl No	District	Primary		Secondary		Tertiary	
		Income (Rs.crore)	Growth rate (%)	Income (Rs.crore)	Growth rate (%)	Income (Rs.crore)	Growth rate (%)
1	Thiruvananthapuram	1023.92	3.4	2230.78	20.4	5898.39	17.2
2	Kollam	1421.23	5.1	1698.51	15.7	3617.38	17.0
3	Pathanamthitta	948.06	7.9	596.13	22.8	1796.88	16.7
4	Alappuzha	571.17	2.8	1675.76	14.3	3388.93	16.9
5	Kottayam	942.71	1.2	1191.77	20.9	3541.32	16.9
6	Idukki	1850.99	6.7	530.89	31.1	1234.79	16.7
7	Ernakulam	1226.14	3.2	3222.22	17.7	5979.99	16.8
8	Thrissur	1062.21	5.9	2286.97	15.4	5109.70	16.8
9	Palakkad	1105.38	6.2	1264.39	16.3	3550.62	16.8
10	Malappuram	1127.76	6.0	1257.09	17.3	3930.96	17.0
11	Kozhikode	1172.99	4.9	1870.31	18.2	4595.22	17.0
12	Wayanad	781.00	5.0	181.69	19.1	1030.94	16.9
13	Kannur	912.89	4.4	1527.61	14.4	3532.37	16.9
14	Kasaragod	601.82	2.4	757.43	10.9	1534.70	16.7
	State	14748.27	4.9	20291.55	17.3	48742.19	16.9

Source: Department of Economics & Statistics

3.21 An analysis of the decadal growth rate of All India population shows that it increased from the year 1921 to 1981 and since then it started declining. In Kerala the decadal growth rate increased from the year 1941 to 1971 and from 1971 onwards it started declining sharply. The details on All India and Kerala population from 1901 are given in Table 3.10.

Table 3.10
Population and Its Growth from 1901 to 2001

Census Year	All India		Kerala	
	Population (In lakhs)	Decadal Growth Rate	Population (In lakhs)	Decadal Growth Rate
1901	2383.9	-	63.9	-
1911	2520.9	5.75	71.5	11.75
1921	2513.2	-0.31	78.0	9.16
1931	2789.8	11.00	95.1	21.85
1941	3186.6	14.22	110.3	16.04
1951	3610.9	13.31	135.5	22.82
1961	4392.3	21.64	169.0	24.76
1971	5481.6	24.80	213.5	26.69
1981	6833.3	24.66	254.5	19.24
1991	8433.9	23.86	290.9	14.32
2001	10270.2	21.34	318.4	9.42

3.22 Among the Districts in Kerala, Malappuram has the highest population of 36.3 lakh followed by Thiruvananthapuram (32.35 lakh) and Ernakulam (30.98 lakh). Wayanad is the least populated district in Kerala with a population of 7.87 lakh preceded by Idukki (11.29 lakh) and Kasaragod (12.03 lakh). Among the districts, Pathanamthitta had the lowest decadal (1991-2001) growth rate of population of 3.72% and Malappuram the highest growth rate of 17.22%.

3.23 The details of State-wise All India Population and District-wise Kerala population are given in Appendices 3.15 and 3.16

Population Density

3.24 As per 2001 Census, the density of population for India as a whole is 324 persons per sq. km. where as the density of population for Kerala is 819 persons per sq. km. Among the Indian States, Kerala is in third position in respect of density, the first being West Bengal and the second by Bihar. In 1881, Kerala's population density was 134 persons per sq. km. Dur-

ing the last 120 years the figure has gone up almost 6 times.

3.25 Among the Districts, Alappuzha has the highest density with 1489 persons per sq. km. closely followed by Thiruvananthapuram District with 1476 persons per sq. km. Idukki District has the lowest density of 252 persons per sq. km. Eight districts have densities higher than the State average and six Districts lower than the State average.

Sex Ratio

3.26 Kerala has a unique position in regard to sex ratio. In all the Censuses, females outnumbered males in Kerala, which is contrary to All India pattern. The sex-ratio of Kerala has gradually increased from 1004 in 1901 to 1028 in 1951 and then to 1058 in 2001. The 2001 Census reflects that the State of Kerala is the only state in India where sex ratio is above the equality ratio and is a 100 year high with 1058

females per 1000 males. District-wise analysis shows that the highest sex-ratio of 1094 is found in Pathanamthitta District and the lowest in Idukki District with 993 females per 1000 males.

Aged Population

3.27 India has the second largest number of elderly persons after China. There were about 43 million elderly, comprising 6.5% of the population in 1981; 57 million or 6.7% of population in 1991. The Planning Commission has projected the number of elderly to be around 113 million accounting for nearly 9% of the population by 2016. The proportion of elderly to the total population in rural areas is higher than that in urban areas for the Census years 1981 and 1991, while in rural areas it has shown a decline from 7.23% to 7.04%.

3.28 It is a noteworthy feature of Kerala that the aged population (above 60 years) is increasing year after year. During 1961 the aged population constituted only 5.9% of the total population in Kerala. It increased to 6.2% in 1971; 7.5% in 1981. The percentage of aged population to total population of Kerala further increased to 10.6% in 1991 and has been estimated to

Table-3.11
Work Participation Rate in India and Kerala for 1981-2001

Census Year	India			Kerala		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total						
1981	36.7	52.6	19.7	30.5	44.9	16.6
1991	37.5	51.6	22.3	31.4	47.6	15.9
2001	39.3	51.9	25.7	32.3	50.4	15.3
Rural						
1981	38.8	53.8	23.1	31.3	45.2	17.7
1991	40	52.5	26.7	32.1	47.9	16.9
2001	42	52.4	31	32.6	50.2	15.9
Urban						
1981	30	49.1	8.3	27.4	43.4	11.8
1991	30.2	48.9	9.2	29.6	46.8	13
2001	32.2	50.9	11.6	31.6	50.8	13.5

Source:- Directorate of Census Operations, Kerala

have reached about 15% in 2001.

3.29 In Kerala the highest percentage of old age population is in Alappuzha followed by Ernakulam, Kottayam, Thrissur and Thiruvananthapuram. The lowest is in Kozhikode and Wayanad Districts.

3.30 The relatively higher proportion of elderly persons in the population has several implications in relation to health needs, work participation rate, dependency rate and pension and Social Security requirements.

Total Workers

3.31 A comparison of the figure of the last four Census shows that though the percentage of total workers has increased, there has been a decline in the percentage of main workers. Simultaneously the percentage of marginal workers has increased considerably, particularly in the last 10 years. The figures also point to

the special problem of unemployment of women. (Appendix 3.17)

3.32 The Work Participation Rate in India and Kerala during the last three Census may be seen in Table 3.11. This shows that though overall the work participation rate has increased marginally the work participation rate of women has declined particularly in rural areas. In comparison with all India figures in rural areas the work participation of women is far less. Probably this can be attributed to the fact that after education women have withdrawn from manual labour; but have not yet obtained other kinds of job according to their changed preference and expectation.

Table 3.12

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1998	17.9	6.4	14
2000	18.01	5.42	7.1
2001	17.2	6.4	11

Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rate

3.33 The details of Birth Rate, Death Rate and IMR in Kerala are given in Table 3.12

3.34 In terms of life expectancy at birth, Kerala (more than 70 years in 1991) is at least ten years higher than the all India (close to 60 years). Under five years and infant mortality rates are also one of the lowest in Kerala outperformed by only two states viz., Mizoram and Nagaland.

3.35 Kerala's life expectancy for males is 69.1 and for females 76.1 in 1998.