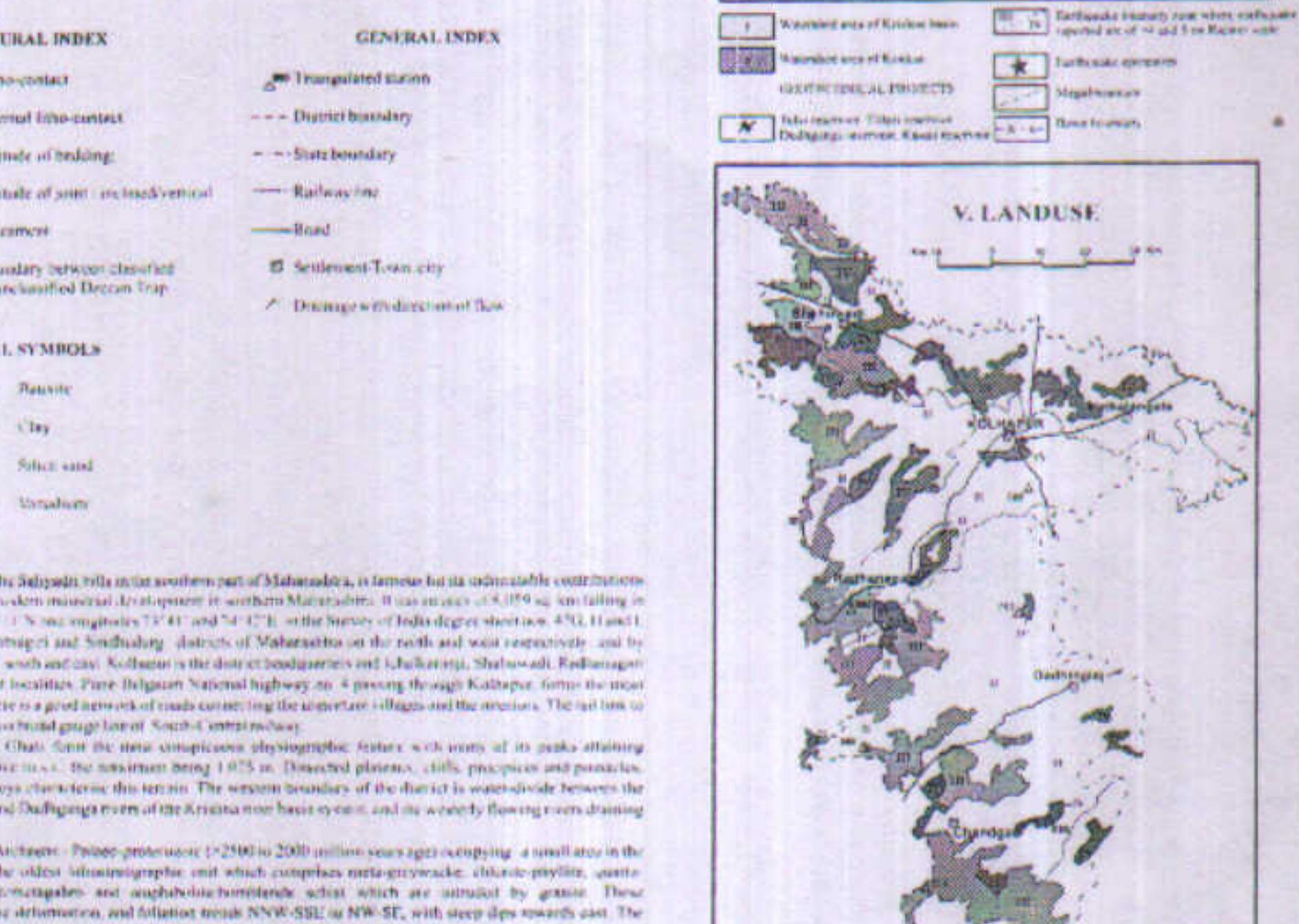
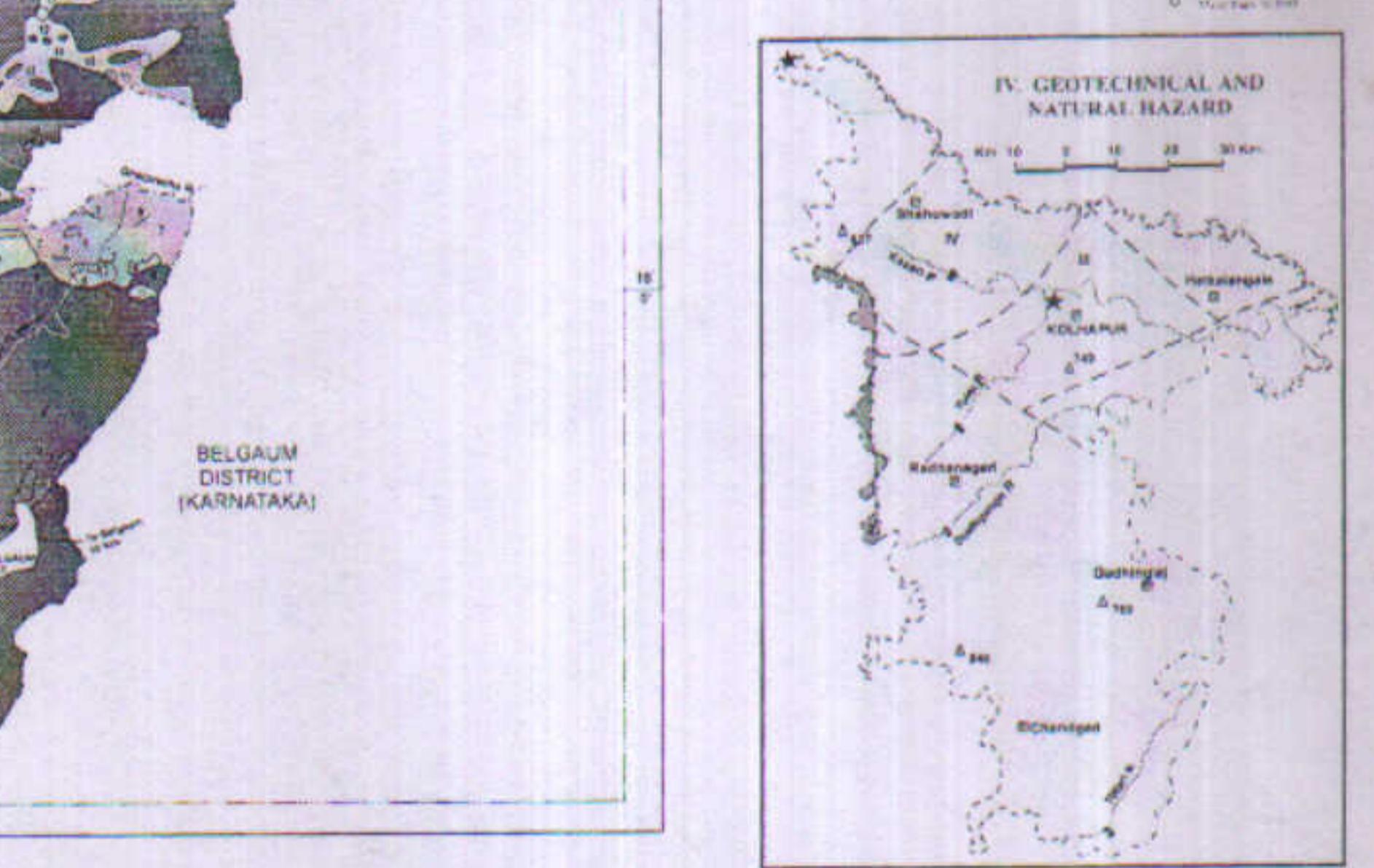
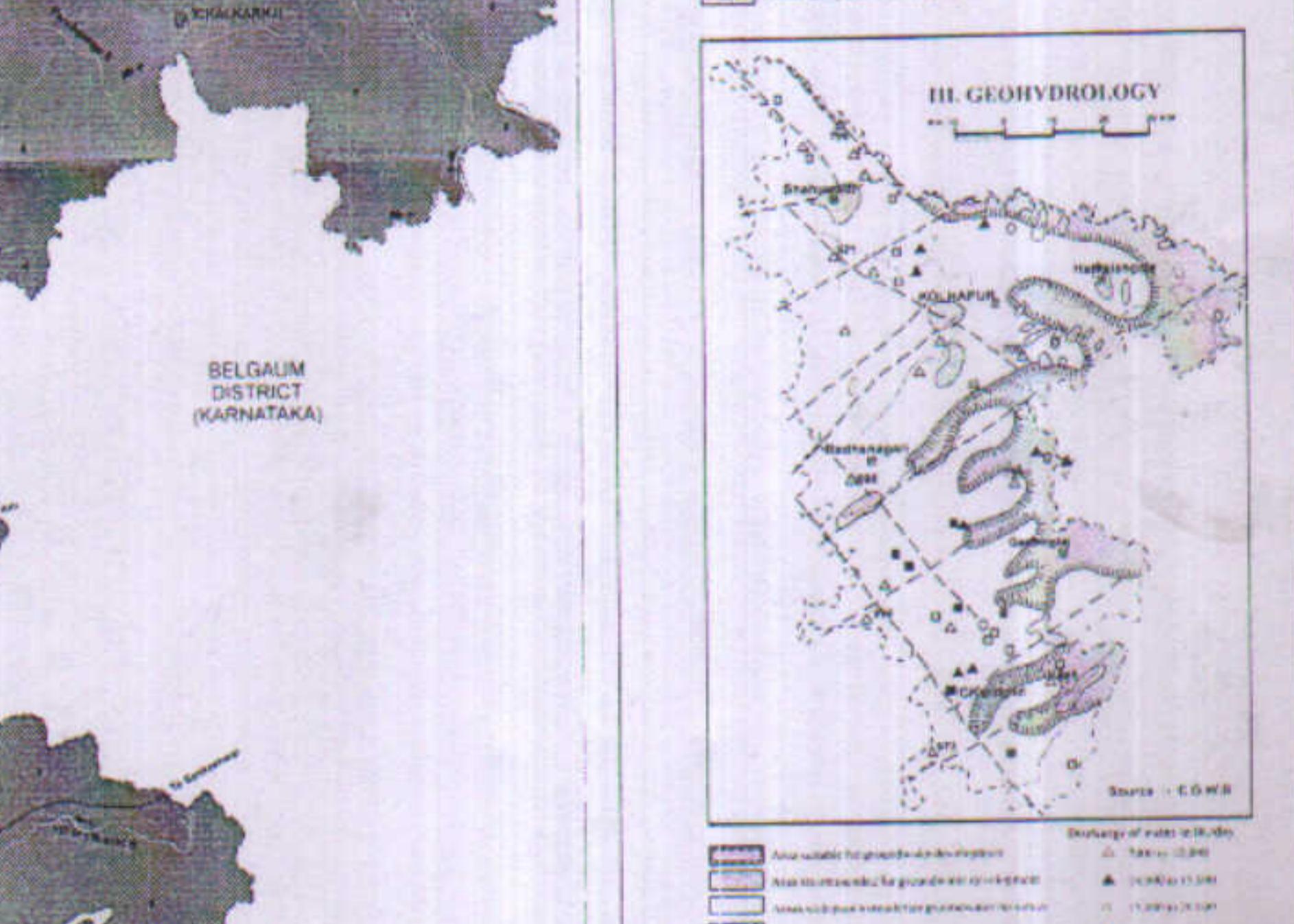
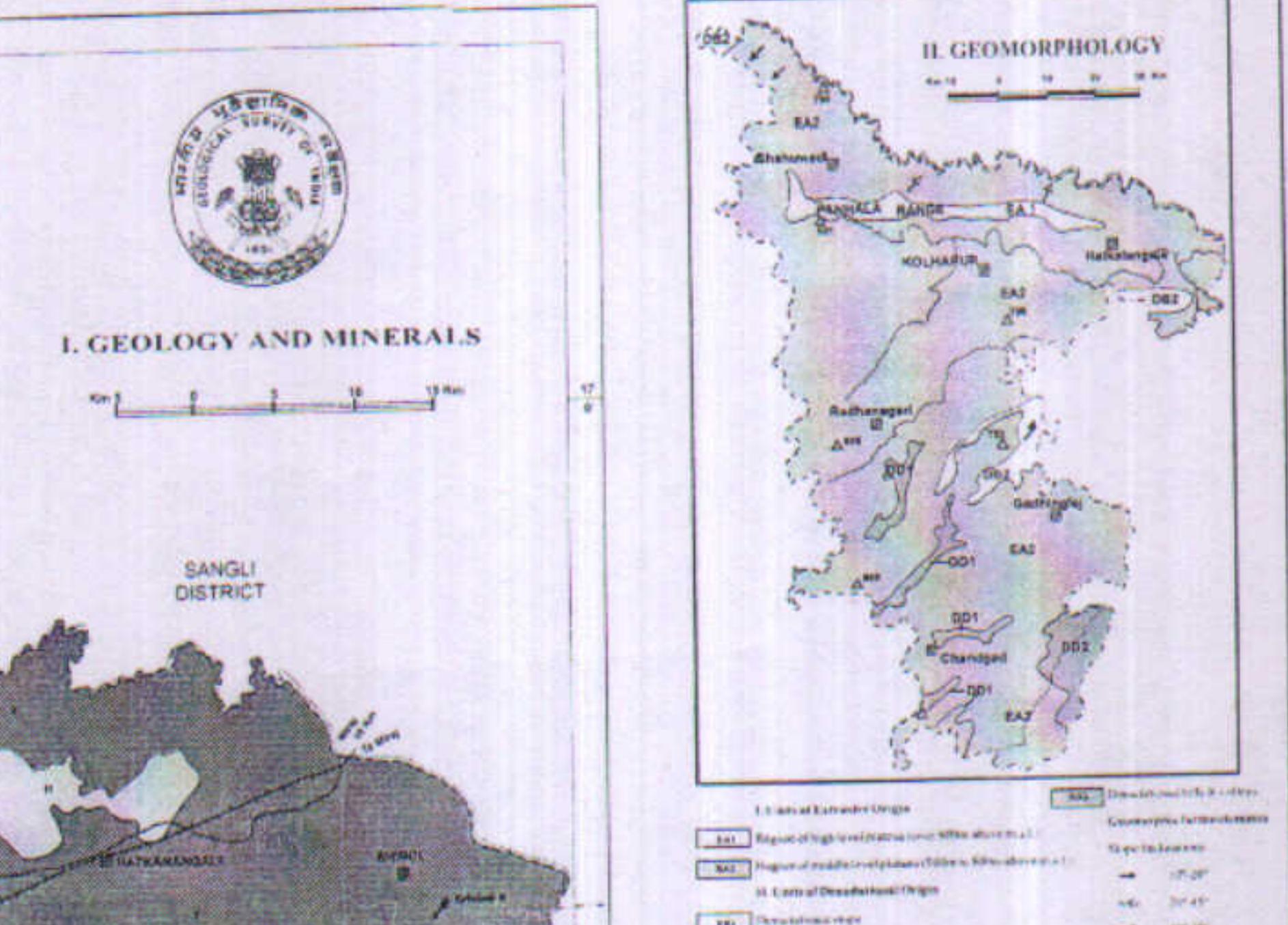


I. GEOLOGY		EXPLANATION	
LITHOLOGY	STRATIGRAPHIC STATUS	AGE	NATURE & CHARACTERISTICS
1. Alluvium	RECENT	QUATERNARY	Fluvio-deltaic, lacustrine, fluvio-deltaic
2. Lignite	CENOZOIC		
3. Economic Alluvium	Mesozoic-Cenozoic		
4. Major Alluvium	Pleistocene	LATE CRETACEOUS TO PLEISTOCENE	Fluvio-deltaic and lacustrine
5. Major Alluvium	Pleistocene	LATE CRETACEOUS TO PLEISTOCENE	Fluvio-deltaic and lacustrine
6. Undifferentiated			
7. Tectonic-sedimentary facies	KALAGADU SUPERGROUP	MESO-TO NEO-PROTEROZOIC	Sedimentation, tectonic-sedimentary
8. Igneous			
9. Metasedimentary facies with ferruginous intercalations and banded iron formations	DHAWAR SUPERGROUP (CHANDRABALLI GROUP)	ACROBATIC TO PALAEO-PROTEROZOIC	Sedimentation, tectonic-sedimentary
10. Upper metamorphic facies			
11. Metavolcanic facies			
12. Metavolcanic rocks			
13. Metamorphic			
14. Detrital quartzite and schist			



Kolhapur district situated in the Sahyadri hills in southern part of Maharashtra, is famous for its indomitable contributions to Indian history and is the cradle of modern material development in southern Maharashtra. It has an area of 8,189 sq. km falling in between two latitudes 17°45' N and 17°15' S and longitudes 73°41' E and 74°12' E, on the Slopes of Indo-gangetic range (73°E), Wardha and 14° E. It is bounded by Sangli, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra on the north and west respectively, and by Belgaum district of Karnataka on the south and east. Kolhapur with district headquarters at Kolhapur, Shirdi, Radhanagari and Gogabai are some of the important localities. Parte-Belpur National Highway no. 4 passing through Kolhapur forms the most important road link to this district. There is a good network of roads connecting the numerous villages and the areas. The rail link to Kolhapur is from Bhor in the Panvel-Borivali group of localities.

Sahyadri hills of the Western Ghats carry the most conspicuous physiographic feature with many of its peaks attaining elevations of more than 1,000 m above sea level. The maximum being 1,675 m. Dismayed plateaus, cliffs, precipices and parades, amphitheatre-like deep valleys and gorges characterize this terrain. The western boundary of the district is water-bound between the eastern Basavgarh, Parashuramgad and Dhulegaon rivers of the Krishna river basin system, and the westerly flowing rivers draining into the Arabian.

Dhawar Supergroup of the Archaean: Paleozoic protoliths 1,200 to 200 million years ago occupying a nucleus in the southern part of the district. Shows the oldest lithostratigraphic unit which comprises metagneisses, chlorite-phyllite, quartz-mica-schist, quartz-mica-schist, carbonaceous-schist, and amphibole-hornfels which are intruded by granite. These metasediments show polyphase deformation, and foliation trend NNE-SSE to NW-SE, with steep dips towards east. The Kalagadu Supergroup of Mesoproterozoic age (1,000 to 500 m.y.) juxtaposes the Dhawar Supergroup forming unconformable in the southern and western parts and comprises conglomerate, sandstone, quartzite and shale which show NWW-SEE to NNE-SSE trend with shallow subequal dips (10-20°). Basalt flows belonging to the Deccan Trap of Late-Cretaceous-Paleogene (66 to 62 m.y.) occupy major part of the district. In the areas where the basal flows have been classified, they have been grouped into two formations viz. the Parashuramgad Fm., and Mahadevshwar Fm. Parashuramgad Fm. is about 400 m thick and comprises simple Arkositic flows with a few conglomeratic flows. The top of this formation is marked by 40 m to 25 m thick magnetite flow containing large pyroxene phenocrysts. Mahadevshwar Fm. also about 400 m thick, mainly comprises eburnite. Arkositic flows containing plagioclase phenocrysts. Limestone belonging to the Cretaceous of Quarternary age (1,000 to 1,000 m) occurs as isolated plutons along with thickness varying from a few meters to as much as 30 m. Sarayuri limestone derived by the erosion of the high-level plateau limestone occupies hill-slopes and valleys floors.

Breccia occurring as rocks and lenses within the laterite profile, mimic the most important economic mineral in the district and is being exploited by agencies like HALCO (Bharat Aluminium Co.) and INDALECO (India's Aluminium Co.) for production of alumina and aluminium metal. The total estimated reserves of the order of 7.47 million tonnes with Al2O3 content varying from 40 to 60%. The major deposits of breccia are located at Uga, Dhangarwadi, Kinglewadi-Gorgas, Parame Fort, Mehet, Radhanagari, Ganap, Wark, Nagarewadi, Kusada, Mungalgad and Malipatna. Lithomylonite class useful for pigments and paint industries, are found occurring below the limestone at Parame, Sampurn, Seljavali, and near Gorgas. Vermiculite has been noted in Interturbidite with its content varying from 200 to 1500 ppm. Silica sand useful for glass industry, occurs at Dhangarwadi, Bhandare, Arja, Gelingaj and Gergat.

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