



**Research Paper**

# Supply-demand analysis of agricultural labour in Dharwad district

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**ABSTRACT** : Over the past couple of years, there is a growing concern that the farm labour availability has been decreasing as a result of occupational changes, people's mindset, Government policies and reforms, making it imperative to investigate into the dynamics of scarcity of agricultural labour and the reasons contributing to this. A study was undertaken considering the status of labour scarcity in agricultural economy with special reference to Dharwad district of Karnataka. A Multistage random sampling procedure was adopted to select the sample respondents. A total of 120 farmers were interviewed for the study. It was found that the labour demand exceeded supply for almost seven months and reached its peak during the sowing and weeding operations in both *rabi* and *kharif* seasons. According to sample respondents migration of labourers to nearby villages for higher wages was the most serious problem leading to labour scarcity.

**KEY WORDS** : Agricultural labour, Garrett ranking, Labour scarcity, Supply-demand gap

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