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INDIAN JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS





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The article on Non-manual Workers in India deals with the conditions of life and work of non-manual employees in Government Offices, including Posts and Telegraphs and Railways, Life Insurance Corporation, banks, shops and commercial offices, as also of journalists, teachers and nurses. It considers the questions of unemployment, training and standard of living of all non-manual workers. This is followed by a study of problems concerning hours of work, weekly rest and leave facilities, salaries and earnings, industrial relations, social security, health and hygiene and housing and welfare of the various categories of workers.

An Assessment of Investments in Land Reclamation: A Study from the point of view of the National Economy, issued by the International Institute of Land Reclamation and Improvement, H. Veenman and Zonen, N. V., Wageningen, The Netherlands, 1960. Pp. 65. \$1.50.

This is an English version of the original Report in Dutch on "A Specimen of National Economic evaluation of investments applied to the reclamation of Eastern Flevoland" (1958), prepared by the Dutch Agricultural Investment Commission. The Commission was set up in 1949 with a view to studying the theoretical bases of the evaluation of agricultural investment and working out a concrete method of calculation for them with particular reference to the reclamation of the polder of Eastern Flevoland, a part of the former Zuider Zee. After a brief description of the layout for Eastern Flevoland, Chapter 2 deals with the theoretical aspects of allocating priorities to investment projects on a macro-economic level. It is assumed that the quantities of labour, land and capital for investment purposes are already fixed. The problem then becomes how to use these quantities. This means a choice has to be made from among a number of projects. An important factor in making this choice is the rate of return on investment. of calculating this return is discussed next. In this method, use has been made of accounting prices wherever the prevailing prices differed from the economic equilibrium prices and also of accounting units for wages, rates of exchange and rates of interest in appropriate cases. The discussion also takes into consideration the primary indirect returns and costs which include the effects on the supply industries. In the determination of the rate of return on investment, the Commission has expressed the results of its calculations as a percentage of the average annual costs and not as a proportion of the invested capital and this policy is explained. No allowance has been made for the trend increase in productivity in agriculture and for the multiplier effect; detailed reasons are given for this. A micro-economic analysis of the calculations on the capital invested in and the annual returns and costs relating to Eastern Flevoland is attempted in Chapter 3. In the last chapter, an attempt is made to investigate the influence of the imponderable factors relating to the project under study and to arrive at a quantitative evaluation of the factors.

Local Administration of Water Control in a Number of European Countries, F. Hellinga, issued by International Institute for Land Reclamation and Improvement, H. Veenman and Zonen, N. V., Wageningen, The Netherlands, 1960. Pp. 55. \$1.00.

This publication embodies the results of a survey of the various types of local bodies for the administration of water control prevailing in many European coun-