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farming and the general income position of the Harijan vegetable growers who were initiated into this occupation recently. It also contains data collected during the course of two earlier surveys conducted by the Institute—both on vegetable cultivation—in the Jamia Development Circle and village Jasola.

The five selected families of Masihgarh form part of a group of landless labourers belonging to the Harijan (*Chamars*) caste, originally working with vegetable growing castes such as *Sainis*, *Malis* and *Kachchis* who had acquired a leasehold on the neighbouring land after it was irrigated by sewage water. The landless labourers who came to own a 2-acre plot each distributed by Christian missionaries, took to vegetable growing themselves. It is significant to note that the farmers are now able to earn almost Rs. 2,000 per annum and their assets have appreciated in value to the level of Rs. 12,000 on an average.

Data on the main aspects of vegetable growing, namely, employment provided, the various inputs made and the outputs obtained in vegetable growing as well as cattle-keeping which was an additional occupation of the selected families are given in the report. A study of their budgets shows, however, that their mode of living has not changed owing to lack of proper guidance. But the fact that there exists an excellent avenue of employment for landless labourers in vegetable production when sewage development takes place is sufficiently borne out by the enquiry.

Resurvey of Village Chimna, District Ludhiana, Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab (India), Economic and Statistical Organisation, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh, 1961. Pp. 77. Rs. 3.95.

This report presents the results of a resurvey of village Chimna in Jagraon tehsil of Ludhiana district of the Punjab, conducted in 1957-58. The object of the resurvey was to ascertain and analyse the socio-economic changes that had taken place during a period of 15 years since it was surveyed first in 1943-44. It studies the extent of development in respect of literacy, health and sanitation, occupational structure, cropping and cultivation practices, tenancy system, land holdings, indebtedness, mortgages and sales of land. It contains a brief summary of the findings of the resurvey.

During 1943-1957, the population of the village increased by 34 per cent or 2.4 per cent per annum from 1,146 to 1,540, the number of families increasing from 232 to 258. The average size of family increased from 5.5 to 6.2 persons during the same period. The percentage of literacy increased from 22.1 in 1943 to 31.7 in 1957. It is interesting to note that while in 1943, 78.4 per cent of the total families were wholly or partly dependent on agriculture, this proportion declined to 67 per cent in 1957. Cottage industries like shoe-making, tailoring, blacksmithy, carpentry, *ban*-twisting provide subsidiary occupations to the villagers. These industries supported 61 families or 23.6 per cent of the total families in 1957 as compared to 37 families or 11.6 per cent of the total in 1943. There was however an increase in the proportion of rent receiving families from 27 per cent to 37.5 per cent during the period. There was no landless tenant in the village during both the periods. Of the total area of 1,438 acres in the village, about 94.5 per cent was under cultivation in 1957-58. The percentage of irrigated

area to total cultivated area increased from 22.8 in 1943-44 to 36.6 in 1957-58. Canal irrigation has been mainly responsible for this increase. The study of the changes in cropping pattern in the village revealed that the proportion of area under *Kharif* crops declined by 7.7 per cent while there was a corresponding increase in the area under *Rabi* crops in the quinquennium ending 1955-56 against the quinquennium ending 1943-44. The decrease in area under *Kharif* crops was due to the decline in area under maize, Bajra and pulses while the increase in area under *Rabi* crops was due to the increased cultivation of wheat-gram. There was an increase in the area under commercial crops like sugarcane and cotton and discontinuation of cultivation of oilseeds during the period.

The average area per owner decreased from 5.4 acres in 1942-43 to 4.8 acres in 1950-51. The average size of cultivated holdings, on the other hand, increased from 9 acres to 10 acres during 1943-57. *Batai* rents shared on the basis of half the produce are generally preferred by the landowners and tenants. Terms of tenancy did not generally extend beyond an year.

The number of families in debt increased from 11 per cent of the total number of families in 1943 to 85 per cent in 1957. The average amount of loan per indebted family increased from Rs. 263 in 1943 to Rs. 359 in 1957. In 1943, about 73.6 per cent of the outstanding debt was owed to moneylenders and the rest to the co-operative societies. By 1957, the respective figures stood at 17.4 per cent and 82.6 per cent. It is thus obvious that co-operatives have come to occupy a predominant position in the system of agricultural finance by meeting the credit needs of the cultivators in an increasing measure. A disquieting feature is the high volume of debt incurred for unproductive purposes, though there has been some notable improvement in this direction. Loans for productive purposes such as capital investment in agriculture and purchase of cattle increased from 17.4 per cent in 1943 to 44 per cent in 1957.

F. A. O. Commodity Review 1961, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, 1961. Pp. x+136. \$ 1.50.

Being first in a series of annual commodity reviews prepared in the Commodities Division of F.A.O.'s Economic Department, this publication is essentially a continuation of a working document usually prepared for the session of the F. A. O. Committee on Commodity Problems as a basis for its review of the world agricultural commodity situation. Divided into two parts, Part I on General Situation and Outlook, contains a summary of developments in international commodity markets during 1960 and upto 15 March, 1961 and of the outlook for the remainder of the current year. Some special features of recent commodity developments relate to tropical tree crops, demand for rice and wheat in Asia, East-West trade and world commodity markets. Part II dealing with individual commodities, gives a more detailed analysis of the current situation and outlook for all major agricultural commodities, including fishery and forestry products. Most commodity notes contain a more detailed discussion of a special problem facing the commodity concerned or of a particular aspect of its current situation with long-term implications. Each note includes a brief description of the relevant inter-governmental commodity consultations and arrangements. The statistical appendix presents a systematic set of data on production, consumption, trade, stocks and prices of individual commodities.