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chapter of the book deals with the basic facts of Indian agriculture. An estimate of the requirements and availability of food for the population at the end of the First and Second Plan periods and of foodgrains production in 1985-86 is provided in Chapter II; while Chapter III examines the different dietary allowances recommended in terms of calorific values by the different nutritional experts for the people of India, and analyses the results of various dietary surveys conducted under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research during 1935-1948. Chapter IV presents an estimate of the total food requirements of the population on the basis of calorific and other values of diet, analyses the essential constituents of balanced diets and their food values. An analysis of the trend of inter-relationship between population, area under cultivation and irrigated area for each decade beginning from 1891 to 1951 and for each year from 1949-50 to 1957-58 is given in chapter V. It also analyses the trends of population growth and production of food and non-food crops in U.P. and Madras during 1911-1958 and in Punjab, Assam, Central Provinces and Berar during 1911-1942 and in the Indian Union during 1938 to 1959.

The problem of balance between population and food resources is discussed in chapter VI. The recommendations of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee (1957) and of the Ford Foundation Team (1959) are examined in brief in chapter VII while the last chapter contains a few suggestions to improve Indian agriculture and its structural basis. A select bibliography is appended at the end.

Cost of Production of Crops in the Punjab for the years 1951-52 to 1955-56, The Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab, Publication No. 77, Economic and Statistical Organization, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh, 1961. Pp. xiii+ii+133. Rs. 6.

In this report the data collected in connection with the "Farm Accounts" inquiry in the Punjab during the First Five-Year Plan period (1951-52 to 1955-56) have been analysed for arriving at the cost of production of crops. The report compares the relative economics of the different enterprises in crop raising. The data collected under the cost accounting method relate to 21 holdings which are widely scattered over the twelve important districts of the State. The crops for which the cost of production has been worked out are wheat, wheat-gram, gram, American cotton, *Desi* cotton, maize, rice, sugarcane, *Kharif* fodders and *rabi* fodders which are commonly grown in the different parts of the State. All the items of cost that enter into the production of a crop, namely, human labour (actually paid plus imputed value of family labour), bullock labour, seed, implements, artisans, wells and persian wheels, water rates, manures and fertilizers, rent (actually paid plus imputed rental value of owned land), land revenue, etc., have been taken into account in working out the cost of production of each crop.

In the course of the four chapters, the report (1) describes briefly the scope of the inquiry and the general agricultural conditions of the holdings studied as having a direct bearing on returns and costs of crops; (2) describes the method used in computation, allocation of different items of crop costs, and the concepts and terms used in the study; (3) deals with the costs and returns of the crops studied individually; and (4) gives a summary of the findings and the main conclusions.

The different crops have been listed up according to their profitability per acre. It is seen that the cultivation of commercial crops like sugarcane (if sold in the form of cane to sugar mills) and cotton is more paying than that of cereal crops; while cultivation of sugarcane crop for producing *gur* is least profitable. Fodder cultivation is found to be quite high in the order of profitability. The cost of production for irrigated wheat worked out to Rs. 12.88 per *maund*, that for unirrigated wheat Rs. 14.98, for unirrigated gram Rs. 10.88, for irrigated rice Rs. 10.70, for irrigated American cotton Rs. 27.95, for irrigated *desi* cotton Rs. 24.58, and it was Rs. 1.43 per *maund* of irrigated sugarcane.

Report on the Survey of Rural Unemployment in the Punjab (October-December, 1955), Board of Economic Inquiry, Punjab, Publication No. 76, Economic and Statistical Organisation, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh, 1961. Pp. vi + ii + 64. Rs. 3.55.

The report presents the results of a survey conducted in October-December, 1955 with a view to assessing the extent and form of unemployment in the rural areas of Jullundur and Karnal Districts of the Punjab State. The survey covered in all 1,198 rural households from 120 villages, both the households and the villages having been selected on a random sampling basis. The problem of unemployment has also been studied in the light of demographic particulars in the sense that the incidence of unemployment has been examined with reference to certain demographic characteristics, *viz.*, age, sex, educational and professional attainments, marital status, etc.

The report is divided into four chapters. The introductory chapter describes the methodology of the study and deals with the concepts and definitions used. The general characteristics of the population surveyed are presented in chapter 2. The next chapter deals with the various characteristics of the labour force and the last chapter presents the results of the survey. The findings reveal that the labour force constituted 35 per cent of the total population—31.9 per cent males and 3.1 per cent females. Of these 73.52 per cent were earners and the remaining earning dependents. 3.6 per cent of the labour force were children in the age group 6—14 years. Sex-wise, the labour force comprised of 91 per cent males and 9 per cent females. 8.03 per cent of the labour force or 2.81 per cent of the whole population were unemployed. Among male members of the labour force, unemployment was to the extent of 8.68 per cent; it was only 1.34 per cent among the female members. The largest incidence of unemployment, *i.e.*, 50 per cent, was in the age group 21—50 years. The incidence was 45 per cent in the age group 11—20 years which accounted for a relatively higher proportion of new entrants to the labour force. A study of the distribution of the unemployed according to the literacy standards of the population revealed that illiterate persons and those with education upto the primary standard accounted for more than 75 per cent of the unemployed. Another interesting phenomenon revealed by the survey was that the incidence of unemployment was lower on the households having one earner each and it was higher in the case of households having larger number of earners. The following findings of the survey throw some light on the problem of labour mobility. More than 81 per cent of the unemployed were willing to migrate from their villages if jobs were made available to them elsewhere. However, the number of willing migrants was more among new entrants to the labour force.