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Vol XVII
No. 3

ISSN 0019-5014

JULY-
SEPTEMBER
1962

INDIAN JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

INDIAN SOCIETY OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
BOMBAY

unit area of land will be recovered many times over the resulting higher yield and better quality of the produce.

Community Development and Economic Development, Part II-A, A Case Study of the Ghosi Community Development Block, Uttar Pradesh, India, Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, Bangkok, 1960. Pp. ix + 100. $1.00.

Community Development and Economic Development, Part II-B, A Study of Farmers' Associations in Taiwan, Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, Bangkok, 1960. Pp. viii + 95. $1.00.

The first publication embodies the results of a case study conducted to ascertain through intensive field investigations the impact of community development programme on agricultural development in particular and to throw light on the contribution of this programme to economic development in general. The field investigations were carried out by the Planning Research and Action Institute, Lucknow, under the sponsorship of the Secretariat of ECAFE, in six selected villages of Ghosi Community Development Block and six selected villages from a similar area not covered by the programme in U.P. during March-June, 1958. Data were collected from 97 households in the block area and 107 households in the non-block area and also from 12 agricultural labour households in each of the selected block and non-block areas as also from 15 households of craftsmen from the block area.

The study of the impact of the programme has been made with reference to the following indicators, namely, (1) growing of new crops and adoption of improved practices of cultivation; (2) increases in productivity; (3) levels of living of the population and their indebtedness; (4) capital formation; and (5) development of village industries. Some improvement on all these fronts has been reported, credit for which can be claimed by the community development programme. At the same time, the study has revealed that agricultural extension work in the selected villages needs improvement, particularly with a view to building up the confidence of the cultivator in the ability of the extension worker to advise him in regard to the adoption of improved agricultural practices.

Besides aiming at improving the material side of life, the community development programme also has as one of its objectives the changing of the outlook of the village community, and their all-sided development. From this angle, the study has reported solid gains in that the attitudes of the people are changing in directions that favour progress, namely, reduction in expenditure on social ceremonies, increase in productive investment and a greater appreciation of the need for educating children. The study has concluded that the community development programme is essentially a sound programme, but to ensure significant results, sustained work over a long period, say, over ten years, is necessary.

The object of the second publication is to throw light on the role of the farmers' associations in the agricultural development of Taiwan in recent years, so as to be of interest to countries contemplating establishment of institutions for rural

development. The farmers' associations, established originally in about 1900 by tenant farmers to secure a guaranteed right to till the land, developed gradually into an effective institution for undertaking a variety of functions bearing on agricultural development, and cover at present all the 317 townships in Taiwan and nearly 85 per cent of the rural population.

The study relies both on the national data and the findings of a special field enquiry conducted in 1958 in nine rural townships—three each from northern, central and southern Taiwan—on the basis of random sampling. In all, 243 households of cultivators were selected for interview. For assessing the impact of the farmers' associations on agricultural development, it compares the results of this investigation with those of preceding enquiries, besides making a comparative assessment of the changes in the selected rural areas between 1956 and 1958. This method of measuring changes over a given period had to be resorted to in the absence of areas not covered by the farmers' associations, which rendered the technique of instituting comparisons with a "control" area impossible.

The main findings of the study are briefly summarised below. The farmers' associations render a variety of useful services to the farmer—partly on behalf of the Government and partly on their own. Thus, they have handled on behalf of the Government 4,90,000 tons of chemical fertilizer for paddy, and the sale to farmers of about 1,00,000 tons of beancake and large quantities of pesticides. Further, they have been collecting for the Government rural land taxes and surtaxes in kind, making proportional purchases of paddy and recovering the instalments due on the sale of land to the tillers. Among the other activities of the farmers' organisations are: (1) running a co-ordinated extension education programme (initiated in 1955) in collaboration with Government extension staff whose aim in recent years has been to increase the areas under the superior *ponlai* variety of rice and also to increase the production of wheat, soyabeans, cotton, etc., through an increase in area sown and/or an increase in per hectare yields; (2) provision of deposit (including time deposits at attractive rates of interest) and loan facilities—about half of the total volume of institutional credit is channelled through these associations; and (3) helping farmers in increasing the intensity of land use through technological improvements, better seeds, improved cultural techniques, etc. In the post-war years, the farmers' associations have been reorganised as multi-purpose co-operatives and their activities though still mainly concerned with agricultural development have been somewhat widened in scope. These activities have been instrumental in facilitating the recovery of high pre-war levels of productivity which have, in some cases, been surpassed.

Dutch Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, The Hague, Netherlands, 1959. Pp. 219.

This handbook presents in brief basic information on the various aspects of Dutch agriculture such as land and people, development of intensive agriculture, agricultural policy, land tenure legislation, agricultural organizations, co-operatives, dairy and grass land farming, livestock, fertilizers, plant protection service, advisory services, education, forestry, etc. Data have been presented upto the year 1957-58. The share of agriculture in the national income was estimated at