

STATEWISE GROWTH-RATE IN AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT—AN ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS

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REGIONAL GROWTH-RATES require a close and careful study at the present stage of agricultural development in India. The study of growth-rate by components, namely, the extension of irrigation, extension of area, increasing use of chemical fertilizers and other technical inputs, enables one to assess the progress of agricultural development. Such a study helps in locating the weaknesses of the existing programmes and assists the policy-makers in formulating their investment-plans for the future. In this study, it is proposed to analyse the growth components for different states over the decade 1952-53 to 1961-62. The componentwise break-up is attempted in two ways : (i) contribution of area, productivity and of changes in cropping-pattern is isolated one by one from composite measure of aggregate agricultural production; and (ii) the factorwise contribution such as extension of irrigation, extension of area and chemical fertilizers, is isolated from the aggregate agricultural production, and its relative contribution to the growth in agricultural output is assessed. Its quantitative significance will be useful for providing a view of the future in the perspective of the past. In this paper, a study of the growth-rates for eight states is undertaken. These states are : (i) Bihar, (ii) Kerala, (iii) Madhya Pradesh, (iv) Madras, (v) Mysore, (vi) Rajasthan, (vii) Uttar Pradesh, and (viii) West Bengal. A similar study has been done for the Punjab and Andhra Pradesh elsewhere.¹ For Maharashtra, Gujarat, Orissa, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, and other Union territories, reliable data on chemical fertilizers are not available.

In Section I, the data and general methodology are discussed, while

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¹ PARIKH, A., 'Growth in Agricultural Output in Punjab, 1952-53 to 1961-62', *Arthaniti*, Vol. VIII, No. II, July, 1964 and

VENKATESWARLU, V., 'Growth in Agricultural Output in Andhra Pradesh, 1952-53 to 1961-62' (mimeo.) 1965.