

# IMPACT OF CONSOLIDATION ON LAND HOLDINGS—A FIELD STUDY

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THE OBJECTIVE of this paper is to analyse the effects of consolidation of holdings on the number and size of plots both in respect of 'ownership' and 'operational' holdings. For this purpose, 165 cultivators proportionately randomized from five 'consolidated' villages (viz., Tikra, Sadrapur, Baghauna, Maghwan and Tamoria) on the basis of their cultivated area were selected from Mohanlal Ganj Tahsil of Lucknow District.\* Information about the number and the size of plots, along with other relevant information utilized in this paper, was collected for a period just before the start of this scheme (1954-55) and at the time of the enquiry (1962-63). The enquiry included all the plots of the sample cultivators.

It might be useful to explain the context in which the two words 'ownership' and 'operational' have been used in this paper. While ownership holding includes all *bhumidhari* and *sirdari* lands owned by a cultivator, the 'operational' holding comprises all land, which a cultivator actually cultivates himself or with the help of hired labour; it excludes that part of the holding which is sublet to others, but includes that part of the holding which has been taken on lease. On this basis, the area held or cultivated by the sample cultivators was as under :

	Before consolidation	After consolidation
	(in acres)	
A. Area of owned land, i.e. ownership holdings	479.8	490.9
B. Area of land taken on lease	32.9	22.0
C. Area of land sublet to others	31.0	14.2
D. Area of land actually cultivated	481.7	498.7

\* In the other two tahsils of the district, the work was completed after the commencement of this study.