



GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

**REPORT OF THE
ECONOMIST FOR ENQUIRY INTO
RURAL INDEBTEDNESS**

1946

**RAO BAHADUR DR. B. V. NARAYANASWAMI NAIDU,
M.A., PH.D., B.COM.; Bar.-at-Law.**

**PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT
GOVERNMENT PRESS
MADRAS
1946**

[ON, 12 annas]



GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

**REPORT OF THE
CONOMIST FOR ENQUIRY INTO
RURAL INDEBTEDNESS**

1946

RAO BAHADUR DR. B. V. NARAYANASWAMI NAIDU
M.A., PH.D., B.COM., Bar.-at-Law

CONTENTS



CHAPTERS—	PAGES
I Introductory	1—3
II General description of the Madras Presidency	4—13
III Homogenous Economic Divisions	14—23
IV Debt surveys past and present	24—33
V Debt position in 1939 and 1945	34—45
VI War time prices and indebtedness	46—50
VII Reduction in debt and its causes	51—56
VIII General observations and Recommendations	57—80
IX Summary of Recommendations	81—84

APPENDICES.

A. QUESTIONNAIRES—

I Questionnaire issued to competent non-officials, officials, associations, etc.	85
II Questionnaire issued to Sub-Registrars	85—86
III Questionnaire for the use of investigators	86
IV Schedules issued to Civil Courts for collection of data regarding—	
(a) Insolvency petitions	87
(b) Working of the Agriculturists' Debt Relief Act	87
(c) Working of the Debt Conciliation Boards	87
V Schedules issued to the Co-operative Department for data pertaining to—	
(a) Working of the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies	87
(b) Working of the Land Mortgage Banks	88
VI Family Schedule for Investigators	88—91

B. STATEMENTS—

I List of villages investigated in each zone	92—94
II Statement showing number of families investigated in each class in the ten zones.	94
III Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone I.	95
IV Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone II.	95—96
V Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone III.	96
VI Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone IV.	97
VII Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone V.	98
VIII Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone VI.	98—99
IX Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone VII.	99—100
X Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone VIII.	100—101
XI Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone IX.	101
XII Statement showing details about population, area, rainfall, etc., Zone X.	101
XIII Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone I.	102
XIV Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone II.	102

B. STATEMENTS— <i>cont.</i>	PAGES
XV Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone III.	102
XVI Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone IV.	103
XVII Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone V.	103
XVIII Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone VI.	104
XIX Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone VII.	104—105
XX Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone VIII.	105
XXI Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone IX.	105
XXII Statistics relating to population, area, forests and incidence of land revenue, Zone X.	106
XXIII Statement showing variation in the area cultivated, irrigated and lying fallow during 1939-45 in the province.	106
XXIV Statement showing the number of families which have partially or fully cleared their debts and families which have incurred debts.	106—107
XXV Per family and per capita debt for each zone in 1939 and 1945	107
XXVI Per family debt of each class in each zone in 1939 and 1945	108
XXVII Per capita debt of each class in each zone in 1939 and 1945	108
XXVIII Per capita debt in 1939 and 1945 in each zone	108
XXIX Per capita income and debt in each of the ten zones in 1945	108
XXX Per capita debt in 1939 and 1945 for the five classes in the province ..	109
XXXI Agricultural income per family of the five classes in each zone	109
XXXII Agricultural income per capita of the five classes in each zone	109
XXXIII Statement of purchases by different classes between 1939 and 1945 ..	109
XXXIV Statement showing income and expenditure on different items of each class.	109
XXXV Data Supplied by the Co-operative Department; Working of the Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks.	110
XXXVI Data Supplied by the Co-operative Department; Working of the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies.	110
XXXVII Statement showing the working of the Madras Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1938, during the quarter ending 31st December 1945, and during the period of 94 months ending 31st December 1945.	110
XXXVIII Statement of sales by different classes between 1939 and 1945	110

ILLUSTRATIONS—

	<i>To face</i> <i>page</i>
1 Map showing the zonal divisions in the Presidency	14
2 Diagram showing per capita debt in 1939 and 1945 in each of the ten zones ..	35
3 Diagram showing per capita income and debt of the five classes in 1945 ..	42
4 Diagrams illustrating the distribution of debt among the five classes in 1939 and 1945.	43
5 The graph showing the trend of prices of food and non-food crops between 1939 and 1945.	47
6 Diagrammatic illustration of family budgets	50