

GOKHALE INSTITUTE OF POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

Publication No. 17

ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF IRRIGATION

**Report of a Survey of the Direct and Indirect Benefits
of the Godavari and Pravara Canals**

BY

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Price Rs. 8 or 16s.

1948

Printed at the Aryabbushan Press, 915/1, Shivajinagar, Poona 4
by Mr. V. H. Barve and Published by Mr. D. R. Gadgil at the
Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona 4.

PREFACE

This publication comprises the report of a survey undertaken by the Institute for the Government of Bombay and conducted during 1939 and 1940, together with an introductory note. The report was submitted to Government in October 1942. As the survey had been undertaken on behalf of Government, it was expected that the report would, in due course, be published by Government. This did not, however, happen, and as it was felt that publication of the report would prove useful, government was approached last year to permit the Institute to publish the report in its own series of publications. This permission was duly granted by Government. Though the survey was undertaken on behalf of Government the Institute bore sole responsibility for its conduct and planning and the writing of the report. The Government of Bombay is, therefore, in no way responsible for the data, findings or opinions contained in the report.

The report of the survey is here printed almost in the same form in which it was submitted to Government in 1942. Occasion has, however, been taken to correct certain minor errors of calculation that were later discovered and to recast, in many instances, the phrasing of the comment. An introductory note has also been specially written for the publication. The note was written in the early months of 1948 but is based chiefly on materials gathered at the time of the planning and conduct of the survey and the writing of its report. As the introductory note makes clear, the report of the survey may be found useful not only because it contains the results of a particular enquiry but also because it deals with a subject connected with a wide group of investigational and analytical problems. It would, in addition, be found that the report throws a great deal of light on the quantitative relation between different economic activities in Indian rural economy and on important problems of the results of investments on employment and distribution of income. It would also be found to furnish data regarding not only many aspects of farm-

ing, dry and irrigated, but also a number of aspects of non-agricultural economic activity not usually covered by Indian rural surveys.

The Institute is thankful to the Government of Bombay for granting permission to publish the report. I would also place on record our gratefulness to the authorities of many Government departments, central, provincial and local and of many private companies and to the many officials who actively cooperated in the work of the survey. The conduct of the survey would not have been possible but for the ready welcome and the ungrudging help given by leaders of public opinion and a host of others, engaged in all walks of life, in the tract surveyed. To all these our heartfelt thanks are due.

Gokhale Institute of Politics }
 and Economics, Poona 4. }
 15th June 1948.

D. R. GADGIL.

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