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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

ABSTRACT OF AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS OF INDIA.

1936-37 to 1945-46

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## P R E F A C E

The object of this publication is to make available to the general public in a handy form the more important statistical data in the field of Agriculture properly co-related to each other and set against the perspective of world conditions. An abstract by its very nature involves a certain amount of selection and consequent leaving out of material which might be considered important by some. Any suggestions therefore for making the abstract more complete and self-contained will be most welcome and they will be given effect to as much as possible in the next edition.

Since the completion of the Abstract, the events in Kashmir and Hyderabad have created a need for inclusion of relevant statistical data pertaining to these States. These have been in-corporated in a Supplement which also includes more recent data in respect of the entire Indian Union.

The detailed work involved in the preparation of this publication was done by the Development Branch of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics under the supervision of Sri. J. S. Sarma.

The manuscript of the Abstract was sent to the press in April 1948. Publication has however been delayed considerably due to printing bottle-necks.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

The Agricultural Statistics presented in the main body of the Abstract relate to the Indian Provinces, acceding Indian States and the figures for India represent their totals. Data of a general character relating to the Indian Union, excluding Hyderabad and Kashmir are given in Part I, Summary Tables. The Supplement given at the end contains figures for the States of Hyderabad and Kashmir and more recent information relating to Indian Union as a whole while all the necessary data relating to each province of the country are included in Part II, Provincial Tables. The statistics relate generally to the period 1936-37 to 1945-46.

The procedure adopted in arriving at the estimates :— the partitioned provinces of the Indian Union (upto 1946-47 only) is given below:—

### (i) East Punjab

*Classification of Area:*—The area under each head of classification in East Punjab has been estimated by adding up the district-wise areas supplied by the Provincial Government, for each of the years 1936-37 to 1942-43. For subsequent years for which district-wise figures of classification of Area are not available, the estimates are based on the corresponding pre-war average (1936-37 to 1938-39) ratios.

*Irrigated Area:*—These figures have been arrived at by adding the district-wise figures of areas under the respective heads reported in the Provincial Season and Crop Reports.

*Estimates of area under Crops:*—The revised estimates of area under each Crop in Punjab released by the D.O.I. & S. have been divided in the ratio of the total district-wise area for East Punjab to the total area in Punjab as given in the Season and Crop Reports for each year.

*Estimates of Production:*—The production figures of the important producing districts for which separate figures are given in the Season and Crop Reports and the estimated production in the other districts, based on the acreage and average yield per acre for the non-reported districts have been added to arrive at the ratio which the production of East Punjab bears to the total. The revised estimates of yield released by the D.C.I. and S. Calcutta, have been divided in the same ratio, for each year.

In the case of Gurdaspur and Lahore, where a part has gone to Pakistan and a part to the Indian Union, figures for the sub-divisions were not readily available. Hence for the purposes of these calculations, the tehsil of Shakargarh from the Gurdaspur District which has gone to Pakistan and the Tehsil of Kasur which has come to the Indian Union are assumed to balance each other. The figures for the whole of Gurdaspur District have been added to the figures of East Punjab, and the figures for Kasur omitted altogether.

## (ii) West Bengal.

**Classification of Area:**—The district-wise areas under the respective heads of classification for the undivided districts now forming part of West Bengal as given in the Provincial Season and Crop Reports have been added together in the first instance. As for the divided districts of Nadia, Jessore, Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri and Malda, the ratio between the geographical area of the two parts of the districts has been utilized in obtaining the areas for the portions of the districts included in West Bengal. These have been added to the totals of undivided districts.

**Irrigated Area:**—Estimates of irrigated area according to the different sources of irrigation and under different crops have been obtained as the sum of district-wise figures given in the Season and Crop Reports for the undivided districts and those for the divided districts, reduced in proportion to the geographical area.

**Estimates of Area under Crops:**—The districtwise areas under the various crops for the undivided districts, as given in the Season and Crop Reports, have been added up in the first instance. For the divided districts, the proportion of the area under the crop in the portion included in West Bengal to the total, has been worked out, utilizing the Thanawise figures under Rice, Wheat, Barley, Gram, Maize, Sugarcane, Jute, Rape and Mustard, Sesamum and Tobacco given in Ishaque's Report "Agricultural Statistics by plot to plot enumeration in Bengal, 1944-45." The acreage figures for these districts have been obtained by dividing the district-wise figures given in the Season and Crop Reports in the same ratio. For other crops, viz. Jowar, Bajra, Linseed and Tea, for which Thanawise figures are not available in the Ishaque's Report, the geographical ratios have been utilised in arriving at the reduced figures for the divided districts. These have been added to the totals of undivided districts to get the figures for West Bengal.

**Estimates of production:**—The production of crops in West Bengal has been estimated by dividing the revised estimates of D.C.I. & S. for Bengal as a whole in the ratio in which the acreage under the crop is shared between the two parts of Bengal, as calculated above.

In case of Balurghat (Dinajpur) and Dolatpur (Nadia) thanas which have been divided between the two Bengales, the portions of these thanas thus separated have been assumed to have balanced each other and the whole of Balurghat thana has been taken in West Bengal, for purposes of all the calculations mentioned above.

## (iii) Assam

The figures of classification of Area, Irrigated Area, Estimates of Area and Production of principal crops for Assam have been obtained by

subtracting 85% of the corresponding figures for the Sylhet district as given in the "Tables of Agricultural Statistics for Assam", from the figures for total Assam before partition, for each year.

(iv) Indian States.

So far as the main body of the abstract is concerned the figures for Indian States relate to the States which have acceded to India.

The figures for Hyderabad which has not acceded to India and those for Kashmir whose accession is provisional have been shown separately.

The Statistics presented herein have been compiled from various sources, official and non-official and are not all of the same accuracy. Statistics of area relating to permanently settled Provinces and Indian States, for instance, are not as reliable as those relating to temporarily settled Provinces. The harvest or wholesale prices quoted do not always refer to the same quality in the different Provinces. Similar discrepancies exist in other cases. The limitations of each item of data need, therefore to be steadily kept in view.

The data have been generally compiled from the relevant portions of the following publications :—

Agricultural Statistics of India Vol. I.

Agricultural Statistics of India Vol. II. )

British India Agricultural Statistics (Provisional).

Estimates of Area and Yield of Principal Crops,

Indian Tea Statistics.

Annual Statement of Sea-borne Trade of British India Accounts relating to Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India.

Trade Statistics relating to the Maritime States in Kathiawar and the State of Travancore.

Trade at Stations Adjacent to Land Frontier Routes.

Review of Trade of India.

The India Trade Journal.

Marketing Reports on the various commodities published by the

Agricultural Marketing Adviser.

In cases where other sources have been resorted to, these have been indicated in the foot notes.

For latest estimates of acreage and yield of principal crops, the reader is referred to a later publication of the Directorate, "Estimates of Area and Yield of Principal Crops in Undivided India, 1936-37 to 1945-48, (June 1949)".

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