

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ORGANISATION

Publication No. 153

**Survey of Waterlogged areas covered
under Anti-waterlogging Schemes**



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PREFACE

Waterlogging in some of the districts of the State developed in an acute form in the fifties. Various remedial measures such as link drains, shallow tube-wells etc. were adopted. In order to have an idea about the extent of eradication of Sem and Thur in the affected areas and to know the opinion of the cultivators about the adequacy of the anti-waterlogging measures and also to find out the changes in cropping pattern a survey was conducted in twelve affected tehsils of five districts covered by anti-waterlogging schemes launched by the Punjab Irrigation Department.

Out of the 2,706 total cultivators covered under the survey, the number of cultivators still affected by sem decreased with the implementation of the anti-waterlogging schemes from 944 (34.88%) to 450 (16.63%) and those affected by thur increased from 765 (28.27%) to 873 (32.26%). The extent of Sem in the areas where no crop can be grown or yield is low decreased from 7,523 hectares to 3,826 hectares forming 26.30 per cent and 1.388 per cent of the total area of sample selected villages respectively after the implementation of anti-waterlogging schemes. On the other hand the area under Thur where no crop can be grown or yield is below normal increased from 2,379 hectares to 3,206 hectares forming 8.32 and 11.21 per cent of the total area of sample villages respectively after the implementation of anti-waterlogging schemes. This increase in the area under Thur is attributed to the after-effect of the removal of excessive water from the surface of land by drains dug under anti-waterlogging schemes. The opinion of the cultivators about the programme was that the digging of drains had proved to be useful so far as problem of Sem was concerned but the area under Thur had increased on account of it. The problem of Thur could also be tackled by regulating the proper supply of canal water.

The field and compilation work was done by the staff of Irrigation and Power Cell of this Organisation under the guidance of Shri M. M. Bhardwaj, Joint Director. Acknowledgement is also made of the useful work done by Shri T. S. Bhasin, Research Officer, in bringing out this report.

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