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DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS
MINISTRY OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE, GOVT. OF INDIA

INDIAN LAND REVENUE STATISTICS
1947-48

सत्यमेव जयते

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PREFACE

This is the first time that " Indian Land Revenue Statistics " is being brought out as a separate publication. Previously these statistics formed part of the Indian Agricultural Statistics.

The information contained in this publication relates to the year 1947-48 and the Statewise data have been arranged according to the new administrative set-up of the country. In cases where information for 1947-48 is not available, data for the previous years have been utilised.

The detailed work involved in the preparation of the statistical tables in this publication was done by the Statistics Compilation Branch of the Directorate under the supervision of Shri S. Thotapali.

S. R. SEN,

Economic and Statistical Adviser,
Ministry of Food & Agriculture.

NEW DELHI;
February, 1951.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Upto 1946-47, land revenue statistics formed part of the Indian Agricultural Statistics, Vols. I & II. Consequent on rationalization of the different publications containing data on agricultural statistics, it has been decided to put all statistics relating to land revenue in a separate publication.

The present volume on Indian Land Revenue Statistics which is the first issue under the revised arrangement brings together in a single compass the available information in respect of all States except Manipur, Tripura, Kutch and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The statistics of land revenue are collected annually in Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab among the Part (A) States and also in the States falling under Parts (B) and (C). They are collected quinquennially in Bihar, Bombay, Madras, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The statistics contained in this publication naturally cover only the reporting parts in each State and relate to the latest year for which they are available in each case. The year covered by the data is the Agricultural Year, which generally ends on the 30th June in most parts of the country. The important exceptions are:

Assam ..		31st March.
Madhya Pradesh ..		31st May.
Hyderabad ..		5th October.
Jammu & Kashmir ..	(i) Jammu ..	16th September.
	(ii) Kashmir ..	12th April.
Rajasthan ..	(i) Bharatpur and Kota ..	30th June.
	(ii) Jaipur ..	31st August.
	(iii) Bundi, Dholpur and Jhalawar.	30th September.
	(iv) Alwar, Bikaner and Tonk	31st October.
Bhopal ..		31st May.
Bilaspur ..		22nd September.

The statistics covered for a year generally include both the Kharif (autumn) and the Rabi (summer) crops and therefore relate to the year ended with the harvesting of the Rabi crops.

The types of land tenure in the different States have been grouped under the following three heads:

(1) Zamindari and village communities (temporarily settled),

(2) Zamindari (permanently settled) and

(3) Raiyatwari.

Under the Zamindari or village community, temporary or permanent, the revenue is assessed by the State, temporarily and permanently as the case may be, on an individual or community owning an estate and occupying a position identical with or analogous to that of a landlord. Under the Raiyatwari system, the revenue is assessed on individuals who are the actual occupants or are accepted as representing the occupants of the holdings. Under either system there may be rent paying sub-tenants.

The following table shows the position as regards the forms of land tenure in the surveyed areas of Part A States according to the latest statistics available, the figures roughly indicating the extent to which the different systems prevail:—

	Zamindari (Individual proprietors or village communities) settled.		Raiyatwari	Total
	Temporarily	Permanently		
	('000 acres)	('000 acres)	('000 acres)	('000 acres)
Assam ..	1,478	1,879	29,259	32,616
Bihar ..	4,574	39,753	..	44,327
Bombay ..	3,965	..	46,878	50,843
Madhya Pradesh ..	51,465	..	11,293	82,549*
Madras ..	..	20,946	59,924	80,870
Orissa ..	6,363	9,849	3,930	20,142
Punjab ..	22,968	..	..	22,968
Uttar Pradesh ..	59,186	9,101	..	68,287
West Bengal ..	3,835	14,707	..	18,542
Total ..	153,834	96,235	151,284	421,144*
Percentage ..	38	24	38	100

*Including 19,791 thousand acres of Govt. forests.

The following table shows the total land revenue assessment, the total population for the year of assessment and the assessment per head of population in each reporting State* :—

	Land Revenue	Population	Land Revenue per head of Population	Period covered
	('000 Rupees)	('000 persons)	Rs. A. P.	
Assam	15,610	7,556	2 1 0	1946-47
Bihar	13,235	33,943	0 6 0	1941-42
Bombay	41,594	19,984	2 1 4	1945-46
Madhya Pradesh	31,566	19,641	1 10 0	1947-48
Madras	83,600	49,875	1 11 0	1943-44
Orissa	5,070	8,206	0 10 0	1941-42
Punjab	19,545	12,387	1 9 0	1945-46
Uttar Pradesh	72,513	54,551	1 5 0	1946-47
West Bengal	15,611	15,329	1 0 0	1937-38
Hyderabad	36,717	16,339	2 4 0	1945-46
Jammu & Kashmir	6,246	3,819	1 10 0	1943-44
Madhya Bharat	20,164	5,318	3 13 0	1947-48
Mysore	14,130	6,660	2 11 0	1947-48
PEPSU	9,949	3,786	2 10 0	1947-48
Rajasthan[1] [4]	20,811	7,938	2 10 0	..
Saurashtra[2]	3,009	618	4 14 0	1947-48
Travancore-Cochin	3,652	6,447	0 9 0	1947-48
Ajmer	303	389	0 12 0	1947-48
Bhopal	4,927	785	6 4 0	1947-48
Bilaspur	200	129	1 9 0	1947-48
Coorg	384	169	2 4 0	1947-48
Delhi	380	918	0 7 0	1947-48
Himachal Pradesh	1,392	864	1 10 0	1947-48
Vindhya Pradesh[3]	1,246	486	2 9 0	1947-48

[1] Excludes Kishangarh.

[2] Relates to Bhavnagar only.

[3] Relates to Nagod and Orchha State.

[4] In respect of different units of Rajasthan data is available as follows :—

Bharatpur	1947-48
Bikaner, Bundi, Jhalawar and Marwar	1946-47
Tonk	1945-46
Jaipur	1943-44

The above figures represent only the assessment that is the actual realizable demand in respect of the year concerned and do not take account of either the collection of arrears for past years of realizations for the year concerned or the amounts remaining uncollected at the end of the year.

It may be seen from the above table that the data for all the States do not refer to a uniform period and therefore inter state comparisons are vitiated. Roughly speaking, the incidence of land revenue is the highest in Bhopal followed by Bhavnagar in Saurashtra and Madhya Bharat. On the other scheme are such states as Bihar, Orissa, Travancore-Cochin, Ajmer and Delhi where it is less than Re. 1 per head. In the other states it varies between Re. 1 and Rs. 3.

*Statistics of incidence of land revenue assessment dealt with in this table show only the *average* amount, contributed by each acre of land or per head of population in each State or district towards land revenue. They cannot be used for comparing the burden of land revenue on land in the different districts or States as no valid comparison is possible without taking into account such factors as the nature of the soil, climate, facilities for irrigation etc.

APPENDIX

INDIAN TERMS USED IN INDIAN LAND REVENUE STATISTICS

Gorait (United Provinces).—Village watchman.

Gountiai (Orissa).—A form of village headman tenure in which the land revenue assessed on a village is collected and paid to Government by the village headman. As remuneration for the work of collection of the land revenue, the village headman receives in revenue-free home-farm land or, in cash, 25 per cent of the rents settled as payable by the raiyots. He possesses no proprietary rights in the village except on the home-farm lands. He has certain rights of management over the whole village and can alienate his tenure if accompanied by a transfer of the home-farm land.

Inam (Madras).—Alienated villages or lands granted rent-free. Whole inam villages are entire villages held on such tenure; minor inams are portions of villages, generally a number of fields, held on inam tenure.

—— (Coorg).—A grant of land by Government as a reward for services rendered or for religious or charitable purposes.

Isafat (Bombay).—A form of service tenure.

Istamrari (Punjab, Ajmer-Merwara).—A tenure which, though the revenue is assigned, is charged with a permanently fixed quit-rent.

Izara (Berar Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—Land leased under the waste-land rules on stipulated terms.

Jagir (Berar Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—Alienated villages or lands granted as rewards for service either rent-free or on payment of a quit-rent such lands are hereditary.

Jagir (Ajmer).—Land granted revenue free on condition of military service or as a charitable endowment.

—— (Bombay).—Estates held hereditarily or for one or more generations on political considerations, no condition of service being attached to them.

—— (Coorg).—Lands granted rent-free (1) to individuals on account of services rendered to the State by themselves or their ancestors, and (2) to some religious institutions.

Khalsa (Bombay).—Government occupancy or raiyatwari tenure.

—— (Central Provinces Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—Areas settled on malguzari or thekadari tenure, in contradistinction to zamindari.

—— (Berar, Ajmer-Merwara).—Land paying full revenue to Govt.

Khatedar (Berar Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—A registered occupant whose name is entered by authority in the Government records as holding unalienated land.

Khoti (Bombay).—A farm of tenure, found chiefly in the Konkan, the holder of which is in return for certain semi-proprietary rights, held responsible for payment of assessment on the area held.

Malguzari (Central Provinces Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—A form of tenure, the holder of which is responsible for the payment of the revenue assessed on a village.

—— (Orissa).—A form of proprietary tenure, where the estate is held either revenue free or at a nominal quit-rent. The holder possesses full proprietary rights in the estate.

Mehwasi (Bombay).—A proprietary tenure assessable to revenue at a lump sum.

Muafi (Manpur).—Any kind of land held revenue free either for a fixed period or in perpetuity, but the term does not ordinarily apply to jagirs.

Narvadari, Bhagdari (Bombay).—Forms of proprietary tenure involving joint responsibility for the assessment: the revenue in the former case being fixed in the lump and in the latter distributed by rates over fields.

Palampat (Berar Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—Land held on payment of a quit-rent, but not necessarily hereditary.

Peshkash (Madras).—The fixed land revenue payable to Government on all permanently settled estates.

Porambok (Madras).—Land reserved for public or village communal purposes.

Pot inams (Bombay).—Plots of alienated land in Khalsa village.

Pot Kharat (Berar Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—The unculturable area included in a survey number.

Rayatwari.—State lands leased to cultivators for a fixed term. A form of tenure in which the settlement of revenue is made by Government with each individual occupant or cultivator of the land for a given term, without the intervention of a third party.

Talukdari (Bombay).—A form of proprietary right in force in the northern districts of Bombay.

Thekadar (Central Provinces Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—A farmer, a leaseholder, a middleman one who receives the rents from the cultivators and pays stipulated sum to the proprietor.

Udhad-jamabandi (Bombay).—A proprietary tenure subject to fixed assessment.

Zamindar.—The holder of an estate on a fixed assessment under a deed of permanent ownership granted by Government.

—— (Central Provinces Unit of Madhya Pradesh).—A chief of minor importance who, while usually holding a large and compact estate on privileged tenure, has been restricted to the rank of an ordinary subject.

Zamindari.—An estate held on a fixed assessment under a deed of permanent ownership granted by Government.

—— (United Provinces).—An undivided estate held in joint tenure.

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