



सत्यमेव जयते

**Government of West Bengal**

Department of Agriculture and Co-operation

**Final Report of Enquiry into the  
Condition of Agricultural Labourers  
in West Bengal, 1946-47**

Carried out at the instance of the  
Government of Bengal

*By*

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## PREFACE.

Manual labour constitutes a large factor in agricultural operations in this country and there is little doubt that it will continue to do so for a long time to come. Unfortunately, however, the specific conditions under which this factor operates were not the subject of any scientific investigation in the past.

A Wage Census was taken in December, 1925, which gave some information about the level of agricultural wages then prevailing. In 1939-40, the Land Revenue Commission collected some information about average wage rates prevailing in different seasons in certain districts of undivided Bengal. Apart from the fact that the steep rise in wages since 1943 has rendered these statistics out of date, the data collected did not throw any light on the economic and working conditions of agricultural labour or the seasonal variations in their employment in different parts of Bengal. Reliable information on these and connected matters is essential for a proper appraisal of the place of agricultural labour in a scheme of future agricultural development by promoting the efficiency and welfare of these workers.

It was for this reason that in the year 1945-46, the then Government of Bengal entrusted to the Indian Statistical Institute the task of conducting a survey of the economic conditions of agricultural labourers in Bengal. The present report, which deals with the position in regard to the West Bengal portion of undivided Bengal, contains the results of that survey.

S. K. DEY,

*Secretary to the  
Government of West Bengal.*

CALCUTTA,

*The 28th May 1951.*

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# Final Report of Enquiry into the Condition of Agricultural Labourers in West Bengal, 1946-47

## INTRODUCTION.

### History of the Survey.

0-1. In 1945-46 the Indian Statistical Institute was entrusted by the Agriculture Department of the Government of Bengal with the task of conducting a survey of the economic conditions of agricultural labourers in the Province. The requirements of the Government of Bengal covered practically every aspect of the economic life of agricultural labourers, including their conditions of work, wages and employment, assets and liabilities and similar matters.

### Design of the Survey.

0-2. The enquiry was carried out by interview in two phases supplemented by a year of fortnightly interrogation of a number of agricultural labour families in selected centres all over the State. In the first stage of the enquiry the entire undivided Bengal was divided into 1,247 square zones, each approximately 64 square miles. Out of these, 476 were selected at random with the help of random numbers and each selected zone was divided on the map into 64 cells of one mile square. One such cell from each zone was again picked up at random, and all households falling within these cells were surveyed according to a brief schedule of basic items such as sex and age composition of the family, caste and community, occupation, agricultural and other land, etc. The number of families covered was 80,710 and the nett area coverage was 476 square miles from a total of about 64,000 square miles of the inhabited rural area of the Province, the whole of the Darjeeling district and the very sparsely inhabited forest areas of the Sunderbans being excluded. Cooch Behar which was not included in Bengal at the time of survey is also naturally excluded.

0-3. *Phasing of the survey.* In the second phase, two samples (A and B) selected from among the families interviewed in the first phase of survey were enumerated by two independent parties. These two samples were interpenetrating, the drawing being from each one-mile-square cell, care being taken at the same time that the families in the two sub-samples were mutually exclusive.

0-3-1. **SAMPLE A** represents a general sample of families drawn at random in a proportion of 1:8 out of all families enumerated in the first phase, agricultural labour families and families of other types coming out freely in their existing proportions.

0-3-2. **SAMPLE B** was drawn initially as two sub-samples, the first being drawn approximately in the proportion of 1:16 out of agricultural labour families, and the second in the same proportion out of families other than agricultural labour, the families within each individual one-mile-square cell being first stratified into two sets, agricultural labour families and the rest.

0-3-3. The object of having two separate samples from the second phase enquiry was—

- (a) to arrive at two independent estimates based on surveys made by two separate parties of investigators; and
- (b) to collect, in addition, data relating to families other than agricultural labourers for purposes of comparison.

In some of the 476 cells, the number of agricultural labour families was quite small. It was, therefore, considered necessary to secure a minimum quota from each of these cells. This was effected by a method of stratified sampling as stated above in the case of one of the samples.

0.3.4. SUB-SAMPLE C. Out of the schedules in samples A and B, a sub-sample of roughly 50 per cent. was selected at random over all zones by each district. This smaller sample was selected for analysis of wage rate and employment period during the year. In the selection of this smaller sample, 18 zones out of the total of 163 had to be left out for various reasons. It is believed, however, that the Provincial figures will not be substantially altered because of this exclusion as the proportion of zones left out has been comparatively small.

0.4. In addition to these single-interview surveys, a continuous fortnightly survey for a year was conducted in 42 centres in the rural area of undivided Bengal. A number of agricultural labour families were interviewed every fortnight in the year in these selected centres. Information relating to daily employment and wages, fortnightly family budgets and a number of other details were collected in this enquiry. For want of adequate personnel and resources, the families for this continuous study had to be selected from areas adjoining field camp offices where a whole-time clerk-investigator was available. Most of these camps were however located in or near mufossil towns. Thus the results do not correctly give the average conditions of agricultural labour in the State, and the tables presented in this connection must be accepted with corresponding limitations.

#### **The Field Work.**

0.5. The first phase of the survey was conducted in the whole province of Bengal during the period 15th February to 17th April 1946 and the second phase during the period 2nd February to 19th March 1947. The fortnightly survey was carried out throughout the year 1946-47. The staff employed consisted of 232 investigators, 59 inspectors, 20 chief inspectors and supervisors, and 87 clerical and other overhead staff in both the phases. For the fortnightly survey camp clerks of the field camps near the 42 selected centres were engaged throughout the year. The field work was conducted under the supervision of Sri N. C. Chakravarti, M.A., B.C.S., Superintendent of Statistical Surveys, Indian Statistical Institute, and Assistant Secretary to the Government of West Bengal.

#### **Cost of the Survey.**

0.6. The field expenditure amounted to Rs. 46,062 and the statistical analysis cost Rs. 49,938 the total cost of the project being Rs. 96,000 which is a very low figure compared to the work involved. The staff primarily engaged in the Bengal Crop Survey conducted the field work of this project during periods of slackness in their normal work. The overhead charges of the present enquiry were thus reduced to a minimum.

#### **Arrangement of Reports.**

0.7. Reports drawn up on the most important aspects of the first two stages of the survey were submitted in two interim reports on 7th February 1947 and 17th October 1947, respectively. The partition of the Province, which took place between the submission of the interim reports, raised difficulties, as it became necessary to prepare estimates for West Bengal, part of the divided Province with new district boundaries in several cases. Obviously, the original proportion of families as also the sampling fractions in the sample designed for undivided Bengal, could not be maintained for the West Bengal domain and necessary adjustments had to be made.

The present report deals with the West Bengal portion of our material. The zones and families falling in the West Bengal sample are detailed by districts in Table 0-1 separately for the different phases and sections of the survey.

**Table 0-1.—Number of zones and families covered in West Bengal.**

Districts.	First phase, 1946.			2nd phase, 1947.						Fortnightly Survey, 1946-47.	
	Zones.		Families.	Zones.			Families.				
	2	3		Sample (A, B) 4	Sample C. 5	Sample A. 6	Sample B. 7	Total. 8	Sample C. 9		Centres. 10
1											
1. Bankura ..	19	1,625	18	8	183	109	292	29	1	10	
2. Birbhum ..	14	1,973	12	5	214	132	346	69	2	12	
3. Burdwan ..	20	3,333	20	10	335	119	454	53	2	10	
4. West Dinajpur ..	11	1,015	10	4	97	55	152	12	..	..	
5. Hooghly ..	9	1,319	6	6	126	55	181	..	1	10	
6. Howrah ..	7	1,516	4	4	178	9	187	..	..	..	
7. Jalpaiguri ..	7	964	8	8	119	14	133	..	1	10	
8. Malda ..	10	1,806	10	5	191	108	299	89	1	8	
9. Midnapore ..	36	4,890	35	17	557	245	802	132	4	38	
10. Murshidabad ..	15	2,067	14	6	239	104	343	73	1	18	
11. Nadia ..	12	752	8	4	85	28	113	32	..	..	
12. 24-Parganas ..	19	3,391	18	6	306	72	378	35	1	10	
West Bengal	179	24,741	163	65	2,630	1,050	3,680	524	14	126	

0.7.1. It may be mentioned that data collected in 16 out of 179 zones were not complete in all respects for tabulation. This was mainly because data for full period was not available as some of the staff (which was all temporary) left their posts during the year and sometime elapsed before substitutes could be recruited and trained for the work. This left some gaps. For this reason, Table 0.1 gives the number of zones entering into tabulation as 163.

0.7.2. The case of fortnightly surveys, over the year, records of all the families could not be kept towards the end of the year and thus the results for the fortnights towards the end of the year are based on only a small number of families.

0.8. The present report is divided into five sections as follows:—

- (1) Demographic character.
- (2) Socio-economic composition.
- (3) Employment and wages.
- (4) Income and expenditure.
- (5) Assets and liabilities.

In the appendix will be found a comparison of the estimates derived from the two independent samples, e.g., Samples A and B in Table 0.1. Specimen copies of the various schedules used in the field investigation will also be found at the end of the report.

## SECTION 1—THE DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTER.

## Regional Distribution.

1.1. Agricultural labourers in Bengal form a heterogeneous group including not only landless wholtime labourers but also classes who are not wholly dependent on agricultural labour but take to it only as a subsidiary source of income. It will be worthwhile to examine the proportion of these two groups in the population under survey. Again, the number of agricultural labourers in a region compared to the total population will depend on whether agriculture is or is not supplemented by non-agricultural activities. The percentage of families following agricultural labour as primary and subsidiary occupations is shown below for the districts of West Bengal.

Table 1.1.—Percentages of rural families with agricultural labour as primary and subsidiary occupations (first phase, 1946).

District.	Number of zones surveyed.	Number of families interviewed.	Percentage of families with agricultural labour.			
			As only occupa <sup>n</sup> . tion.	As princi- pal occupa- tion.	As only or principal occupation (Cols. 4+5)	As subsidi- ary occupa- tion.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bankura ..	19	1,625	1.42	6.22	7.64	12.25
Birbhum ..	14	1,973	10.90	3.65	14.56	6.94
Burdwan ..	20	3,333	4.23	3.54	7.77	4.59
Dinajpur ..	11	1,015	2.56	5.12	7.68	11.33
Hooghly ..	9	1,319	6.14	3.26	9.40	8.49
Howrah ..	7	1,516	0.86	0.59	1.45	0.40
Jalpaiguri ..	7	964	0.41	0.93	1.34	2.90
Malda ..	10	1,896	6.33	6.28	12.61	6.91
Midnapore ..	36	4,890	1.51	5.32	6.83	8.77
Murshidabad ..	15	2,067	3.82	6.05	9.87	7.55
Nadi ..	12	752	5.72	1.73	7.45	1.60
24-Parganas ..	19	8,391	1.18	3.33	4.51	3.18
West Bengal ..	179	24,741	3.47	4.18	7.65	6.41

1.1.1. It will be seen that while 7.7 per cent. of the rural families in West Bengal depend on agricultural labour as the primary occupation, for another 6.4 per cent., this is a secondary occupation and thus 14.1 per cent. of the total families are connected with agricultural labour.

1.1.2. Coming to districts, the percentage of families with agricultural labour as primary occupation varies from 1.3 to 14.6, the percentages engaged in it as a subsidiary occupation varying from 0.4 to 12.2. Birbhum, Bankura and Malda have a very high percentage of agricultural labour families, while Howrah and Jalpaiguri have a very low percentage; and this is as can be expected from the fact that the three former districts have few non-agricultural activities, while the latter two have substantial non-agricultural industries.



### Estimated number of Agricultural Labour Families.

1.2. A more detailed analysis of agricultural labourers, but for the province as a whole, is shown below, according to the position of this occupation in the economy of the family, i.e., whether it is the primary occupation or a subsidiary occupation.

**Table 1.2.—Classification of "agricultural labour" families in West Bengal according to importance of their occupation in the family economy (1st phase, 1946).**

Position of agricultural labour in the family economy.	Number of families interviewed.	Percentage to total.	Estimated No. of families in the State in lakhs as in 1946.
1	2	3	4
Only occupation .. .. .	865	3.47	1.28
Principal occupation .. .. .	1,043	4.18	1.54
Primary occupation .. .. .	1,908	7.65	2.82
Secondary occupation .. .. .	1,306	5.22	1.92
Tertiary occupation .. .. .	284	1.19	0.44
Total subsidiary occupation .. .. .	1,600	6.41	2.36
Total .. .. .	3,508	14.06	5.18

1.2.1. The estimated total number of families which refers to 1946 has been obtained as 3,676,000 with a standard error of 6.0 per cent. and compares quite well with the corresponding figure of 3,655,000 according to the 1941 census for this part of Bengal. i.e., rural West Bengal *minus* Darjeeling district. It will be seen that for the Province as a whole 14 per cent. of the families in rural area depend on agricultural labour, 8 per cent. of the families taking to this as the primary occupation and 6 per cent. as a subsidiary one.

1.2.2. The percentage of agricultural labour families for the undivided Bengal was 19 per cent. as given in the first interim report. This shows that the proportion of agricultural labourers to total population in rural area was smaller in West Bengal than in the other part. This appears to be due to wider industrialisation in West Bengal, particularly in areas like Howrah, eastern part of Hooghly, northern part of 24-Parganas, western part of Burdwan district and the existence of the plantation employment in Jalpaiguri. The estimate of number of families with agricultural labour as primary occupation is 2.82 lakhs and of the families with agricultural labour as subsidiary occupation is 2.36 lakhs.

1.3. Up to this stage we have only dealt with the number of agricultural labour *families* under different categories. It is, however, necessary to have estimates of the actual number of agricultural labourers. Table below gives such an estimate on the basis of the actual number of labourers in our sample families:—

**Table 1.3.—Estimated number of agricultural labourers in West Bengal (1st phase, 1946).**

Individual occupation.	No. of persons in the sample.	Percentage to total.	Estimated No. in lakhs for the State
1	2	3	4
<b>Agricultural labour—</b>			
(1) Only occupation .. .. .	1,934	1.57	2.87
(2) With other agricultural occupations .. .. .	2,163	1.76	3.22
(3) With non-agricultural occupations .. .. .	973	0.79	1.45
<b>Total agricultural labourers .. .. .</b>	<b>5,070</b>	<b>4.12</b>	<b>7.54</b>
<b>Others (including dependants) .. .. .</b>	<b>1,18,098</b>	<b>95.88</b>	<b>175.46</b>
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>1,23,168</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>183.00</b>

1.3.1. The estimated population of 183 lakhs of persons for West Bengal in 1946 with a standard error of 6.1 per cent. compares well with 162 lakhs of 1941 arrived at on the basis of the 1941 census for the rural area of West Bengal excluding Darjeeling district. It can be seen that 4.12 per cent. of the rural population are agricultural labourers wholly or partly, and 1.57 per cent. are purely agricultural labourers having no other occupation. The total supply of pure agricultural labourers is 2.67 lakhs and of labourers connected with agricultural occupation wholly or partly, is 7.54 lakhs.

1.4. The provincial estimates of the total number of families mentioned in section 1.2 and of persons in Table 1.3, along with their standard errors, have been based on the area sample units of size one mile square, with the total area of rural (West) Bengal as the multiplier. It should be noted here that the sample distribution was designed to conform to the distribution pattern of the staff then operating on crop survey work over the whole of undivided Bengal, so as not to disturb that work seriously. With this object, one cell (one-mile-square) was allotted to a zone, of which a total of 476 was selected. Strictly speaking, this distribution does not readily allow of a correct estimation of the standard errors, but a calculation ignoring this peculiarity of distribution will at the worst show up a larger error than actual, though the mean will remain unbiased.

## SECTION 2.—SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMPOSITION.

2.0. An attempt has been made in this section to estimate the percentage of agricultural labourers coming from families of different occupational and economic strata.

### Agricultural labourers in different occupational strata.

2.1. The percentages of agricultural labourers from families with different agricultural and non-agricultural occupation are shown below—

**Table 2.1.—Percentages of agricultural labourers in families with different principal occupation (1st phase, 1946).**

Coming from families with principal occupation.	No. of persons engaged as agricultural labourers in the sample.	Percentage of persons engaged in agricultural labour.				Of total in column 2.
		As only occupation.	With subsidiary occupation.			
			Agricultural.	Non-agricultural.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Cultivation .. ..	1,756	13.4	65.8	7.6	34.6	
Agricultural labour .. ..	2,598	76.7	31.2	45.0	51.2	
Other agricultural operation .. ..	68	0.6	1.2	3.2	1.5	
Non-agricultural occupation .. ..	648	9.3	1.8	44.2	12.7	
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>5,070</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	

2.1.1. It will be seen from the last column of the above table that out of 5,070 agricultural labourers found in the survey more than half belong to families with agricultural labour as principal occupation and the rest from families with whom other occupations predominate. The bulk of such part-time agricultural labourers come from the cultivator classes, the remaining coming almost entirely from families depending on occupations other than agriculture.

### Agricultural labourers in families classified by land ownership.

2.2. The percentages of agricultural labourers from families classified according to land ownership are shown in the following table, for examining the economic status of the families supplying agricultural labourers.

Table 2.2.—Percentage of agricultural labourers in families classified according to land ownership (1st phase, 1946).

Cultivable land owned by family in acres.	Percentage of agricultural labourers from families with principal occupation.			
	Cultivation.	Agricultural labour.	Non-agricultural labour.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
0 .. .. .	31.5	71.0	73.3	57.9
Less than 2 .. .. .	36.8	26.0	20.4	28.9
2 to 5 .. .. .	23.7	2.5	5.3	10.1
5 to 10 .. .. .	7.1	0.1	0.7	2.6
10 and above .. .. .	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.5
Total .. .. .	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

2.2.1. It will be seen that 57.9 per cent. of the agricultural labourers come from families having no land at all and 28.9 per cent. from families with less than 2 acres. Thus about 87 per cent. are from families with less than 2 acres and there is every justification for the popular belief that agricultural labourers belong, in general, to the landless classes.

## SECTION 3.—EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES.

## Labourers employed in the cultivation of different crops.

3.1. In order to study the conditions of employment of agricultural labourers, it is necessary to study the over-all requirement of labour for crop production in the Province. The consumption of labour days in the cultivation of different crops is shown below, separately for lands cultivated by the owner and by the share-cropper. The term cultivation here covers all operations from the preliminary ploughing to harvesting.

Table 3.1(a).—Labour days spent in the cultivation of different crops (2,630 families, 2nd phase, 1947, Sample A).

Crop.	Area cultivated in the sample in acres.		Labour days spent per acre.					
			Cultivated by owner.			Cultivated by share-cropper.		
	Cultivated by owner.	Cultivated on share-cropping basis.	Family labour.	Hired labour.	Total.	Family labour.	Hired labour.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Aman paddy ..	37,764	30,102	40.3	13.6	53.9	43.3	4.9	48.2
Aus paddy ..	11,904	3,984	44.0	10.1	54.1	45.8	4.4	50.2
Jute ..	1,380	306	68.6	15.2	83.8	79.6	5.8	85.4
Other crops ..	8,622	2,585	55.3	10.8	66.1	30.3	3.0	33.3

3.1.1. The provincial acreages in 1946-47, as ascertained from the Bengal Crop Survey for that year, in the case of *aman*, *aus* and jute and as taken from the official estimates of the Provincial Government in the case of other crops are shown below—

		Acres.
<i>Aman</i>	.. ..	8,316,000
<i>Aus</i>	.. ..	1,387,000
Jute	.. ..	187,000
Other crops	.. ..	1,375,000

3.1.2. If we assume that of the acreages cultivated proportion cultivated by the owner and by the share-cropper are the same as found in our sample, the labour days actually used in 1946-47 may be calculated as follows:—

Table 3.1(b).—Estimated labour days required for cultivation in West Bengal (2,630 families, 2nd phase, 1947, Sample A).

Crop.	Sample percentage of land cultivated by—		Acreage (000) in 1946-47.			Hired labour days (000) required for cultivation.		
	Owner.	Share-cropper.	Cultivated by owner.	Cultivated by share-cropper.	Total.	Owner.	Share-cropper.	Total.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Aman paddy ..	55.64	44.36	4,627	3,689	8,316	62,927	18,076	81,003
Aus paddy ..	74.92	25.08	1,039	348	1,387	10,494	1,531	12,025
Jute ..	81.85	18.15	153	34	187	2,326	197	2,523
Other crops ..	76.93	23.07	1,058	317	1,375	11,426	951	12,377
Total ..	61.74	38.26	6,877	4,388	11,265	87,173	20,755	107,928

3.1.3. It has been seen from Table (1.3) that there are 2.87 lakhs and 4.67 lakhs of whole-time and part-time agricultural labourers in West Bengal. It will also be seen from Tables (3.5) and (3.5a) that the average

percentage of days of employment of these labourers vary 63 to 67 with average employment in agricultural work in pure rural areas is about 54.5. Unfortunately, the distribution of this percentage over whole-time and part-time workers are not easily available.

3.1.4. On the assumption, however, that even for whole-time workers days of employment in agriculture does not exceed 66.6 per cent. on an average the following results emerge:—2.87 lakhs of whole-time labourers can give or probably give 689 lakhs of labour days out of the total of 1,079 lakhs needed. This leaves 390-lakh labour days to be supplied by 4.67 lakhs of part-time workers, giving 83.5 days per labourer per year.

3.1.5. The above calculations are based on the requirement of agricultural labour as found in the systems of agricultural operation in vogue. Whether or not this is the optimum requirement for carrying out the operations efficiently is of course another matter.

### Occupation groups and labour requirements.

3.2. An attempt has been made in the table below to show the proportions of family labour and hired labour employed by families of different occupations, the various occupation being specified as follows:—

- (1) **Proprietors.**—Families whose main income is derived from rent or revenue.—This group has become somewhat heterogeneous, containing very poor and indigent families who rent out their land as they cannot afford to cultivate it for lack of working capital, as well as well-to-do rent receiving classes.
- (2) **Farmers.**—Families tilling their own land in their own possession but generally with hired labour.
- (3) **Cultivators.**—Families tilling their own land and sometimes land taken on lease or share-cropping system, mainly with family labour and only partly with hired labour.
- (4) **Share-croppers.**—Families who live mainly by cultivating other peoples' land on a share-cropping basis.
- (5) **Agricultural labourers.**—Families whose livelihood is derived mainly from wages earned as hired labourers.
- (6) **Craftsmen.**—Rural artisans like carpenters, potters, blacksmiths, weavers.
- (7) **Liberal professions.**—Lawyers, school-masters, professionals, etc.
- (8) **Trade.**
- (9) **Other occupations.**—Those not specified above.

**Table 3.2.—Percentage of land cultivated by family labour and hired labour (1st phase, 1946).**

Principal family occupation.	No. of families interviewed.	Land cultivated (in acres.)	Percentage to total.	Percentage of total area cultivated.			
				By family labour.	Partly by hired labour.	Fully by hired labour.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Proprietor ..	714	5,818	1.4	13.08	75.25	11.67	100.00
Farmer ...	530	21,083	5.1	32.87	23.20	43.93	100.00
Cultivator ..	10,700	352,102	85.6	69.68	26.13	4.19	100.00
Share-cropper ..	1,908	3,194	0.8	89.38	9.51	1.11	100.00
Craftsmen ..	957	3,516	0.9	82.40	16.03	1.57	100.00
Trade ..	1,332	8,947	2.2	67.32	22.89	9.79	100.00
Liberal profession ..	336	2,193	0.5	52.20	22.85	24.95	100.00
Others ..	8,264	14,325	3.5	39.30	23.32	37.38	100.00
Total ..	24,741	411,178	100.0	66.70	26.49	6.81	100.00

3-2-1. It will be seen that though the services of agricultural labourers are needed most by proprietors, farmers, and the miscellaneous classes of employers, they own but 10 per cent. of the total cultivable land and the volume of employment provided by them is small.

3-2-2. It is the cultivator classes who, owning nearly 86 per cent. of the total cultivable land, provide the bulk of employment to agricultural labourers even though only 30 per cent. of the total land is cultivated fully or partly by hired labour.

### Employment of "Kishan" labourers.

3-3. It may be worthwhile to examine the position of the permanent type of agricultural labour, usually known as "kishan", who are employed on a yearly, monthly or a daily payment basis, either residential or non-residential. The relative proportion of "kishan" labour and their number employed per family by different classes of employers are illustrated by the table below—

**Table 3-3.—Relative proportion of employment provided to "kishan" labourers by employer of different classes (1st phase, 1946).**

Principal occupation of employer.	Total No. of families in each class.	Total employing "agricultural" labour.	No. of "kishans" employed.	Percentage of "kishans" employed.
1	2	3	4	5
Proprietor .. ..	714	161	143	3.01
Farmer .. ..	530	370	368	7.76
Cultivator .. ..	10,700	8,865	3,891	82.02
Share-cropper .. ..	1,908	498	8	0.17
Craftsmen .. ..	957	235	39	0.82
Trade .. ..	1,332	381	162	3.41
Liberal profession .. ..	336	106	52	1.10
Others .. ..	8,264	1,449	81	1.71
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>24,741</b>	<b>12,065</b>	<b>4,744</b>	<b>100.00</b>

3-4. In the rural areas "kishans" are engaged on daily as well as on monthly basis. Some of the latter are again required to live in, others are not. The percentages of these categories of labour are shown below, distributed between different classes of employers—

**Table 3-4.—Percentage of "kishan" labourers of different types (2,630 families, 2nd phase, Sample A).**

Principal occupation of the employers.	Percentage of labourers engaged.			
	Monthly pay basis		Daily pay basis.	Total.
	non-resident.	resident.		
1	2	3	4	5
Proprietor .. ..	75.52	22.38	2.10	100.00
Farmer .. ..	67.11	28.81	4.08	100.00
Cultivator .. ..	65.15	27.99	6.86	100.00
Share-cropper .. ..	37.50	62.50	..	100.00
Craftsmen .. ..	56.41	33.33	10.26	100.00
Trade .. ..	65.44	24.07	10.49	100.00
Liberal professions .. ..	69.23	30.77	..	100.00
Others .. ..	61.73	14.81	23.46	100.00
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>65.49</b>	<b>27.66</b>	<b>6.85</b>	<b>100.00</b>

3-4-1. It will be seen that the employment of "kishan" labour in agricultural operations is mainly on a monthly wage basis, about 93 per cent. of labourers coming under this category, of this only 27 per cent. are resident labour.

### Employment position of agricultural labourers.

3-5. Next we pass on to a study of the extent of employment of agricultural labourers as a whole. The table below shows the percentage of days in the year for which the labourer is employed and that for which he is unemployed.

3-5-1. These estimates are based on two parallel surveys carried out in two different ways. The first estimate is based on a sub-sample from A and B samples (called sub-sample C) of the second phase, 1947, selected on a strictly random basis over zones. The second estimate is based on the investigations of a small number of labourers in a number of selected centres. The number of centres in each district is too small for estimating for the district and in five of the districts there was not even a single centre. Thus, though the percentage figures are shown by districts, strictly they correspond to the centres chosen in the district. In the estimate for the province also these figures for employment represent the condition of urban and semi-urban day labour who spend more time in non-agricultural work than in agricultural work. Between the two estimates, however, we get a good idea of all types of labourers in our rural and semi-urban areas.

**Table 3-5.—Employment and unemployment of agricultural labourers in agricultural and non-agricultural work.**

Districts.	No. of labourers surveyed.		Percentage of days in the year.					
			2nd phase 1947, Sample C.			Fortnightly Survey.		
	2nd phase, 1947, Sample C.	Fort-nightly Survey.	Employed.	Un-employed.	Total.	Employed.	Un-employed.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Bankura ..	74	17	51.8	48.2	100.0	78.1	21.9	100.0
2. Birbhum ..	97	13	67.4	32.6	100.0	81.4	18.6	100.0
3. Burdwan ..	78	16	61.6	38.4	100.0	46.1	53.9	100.0
4. Dinajpur ..	19	..	75.1	24.9	100.0	..	..	..
5. Hooghly ..	..	20	..	..	..	58.9	46.1	100.0
6. Jalpaiguri ..	..	19	..	..	..	66.9	33.1	100.0
7. Malda ..	162	8	72.9	27.1	100.0	80.8	19.2	100.0
8. Midnapore ..	209	48	53.2	46.8	100.0	66.0	34.0	100.0
9. Murshidabad	89	27	63.8	36.2	100.0	65.5	33.5	100.0
10. Nadia ..	38	..	68.5	31.5	100.0	..	..	..
11. 24-Parganas	52	11	63.0	37.0	100.0	61.7	38.7	100.0
West Bengal ..	818	179	63.0	37.0	100.0	67.7	32.3	100.0

3-5-2. Comparison of the estimates by district is not feasible due to smallness of the new sample but over the province it may be seen that employment for the year for both the types is on the same level with perhaps a little more employment for the urban labour. Excepting Bankura and Midnapur where a low employment figure has been obtained due probably to the more undeveloped type of economy in these regions employment in as obtained in the 2nd phase is over 60 per cent.



3-5-3. For the Province, therefore, we may say that labourers are employed between 63-68 per cent. of the days in the year. Employment by different types of work for both the surveys is shown in Table 3-5(a) (a detailed analysis for the semi-urban group has been supplied in the Appendix).

**Table 3-5(a).—Employment in different types of work.**

Type of employment.			Percentage of days.	
			Second phase.	Fortnightly.
(1)			(2)	(3)
Agricultural work	..	..	54.5	29.3
Non-agricultural work	..	..	8.5	38.4
Total employment	..	..	63.0	67.7
Unemployment	..	..	37.0	32.3
Total	..	..	100.0	100.0

3-5-4. It will be seen that non-agricultural employment in rural sector is almost insignificant coming only to 8 per cent. out of their total employment of 63 per cent. of the days in the year. On the other hand agricultural employment for labour in or near semi-urban areas is quite important being 29 per cent. out of a total of 68 per cent. or slightly less than half of their total employment. Agriculture thus still supplies the bulk of employment for rural and semi-rural labourers.

3-5-5. The following table gives a detailed analysis of employment by different type of work from fortnightly surveys:—

**Table 3-5(b).—Employment in different types of work (fortnightly survey of 179 labourers in special centres, 1946-47).**

Type of work.			Percentage of days employed in the year.	
(1)			(2)	
Ploughing	..	..	..	2.0
Sowing	..	..	..	4.3
Weeding	..	..	..	4.2
Harvesting	..	..	..	6.8
Thrashing	..	..	..	2.5
Washing Jute	..	..	..	0.1
Agricultural work	..	..	..	29.3
Skilled <i>majuri</i>	..	..	..	10.0
Unskilled <i>majuri</i>	..	..	..	28.4
Non-agricultural work	..	..	..	38.4

3-5-6. As demand for agricultural labour depends to a large extent on the time-span available for different stages of operation according to the climatic condition of the season, one year's data cannot give any conclusive idea about per cent. employment in different types of work. The above, however, gives a good indication.

3-5-7. It will be seen that of the 29·3 per cent. days of employment in agricultural work, harvesting, sowing and weeding are the major items and accounts for 6·8, 4·3 and 4·2 per cent. days of employment, respectively. Ploughing offers employment for only 2 per cent. of the days and this may be due to the fact that ploughing is done generally by the cultivator himself. In the case of non-agricultural work, unskilled labourer account for 28·4 per cent. of days out of a total of 38·4 per cent. of days of employment in non-agricultural work.

3-5-8. The following table gives some details about the causes of unemployment:—

**Table 3·5(c).—Unemployment with reasons (fortnightly survey of 178 labourers in special centres, 1946-47).**

Reasons for unemployment.	Percentage of days unemployed in the year.
(1)	(2)
Want of work .. .. .	8·2
Household work, ceremonials, etc. .. .. .	6·9
Sickness .. .. .	3·1
Inclement weather .. .. .	0·8
Cultivation of own land .. .. .	4·2
Miscellaneous .. .. .	9·1
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>32·3</b>

3-5-9. The above shows that genuine unemployment or unemployment due to want of work is only 8·2 per cent. of the total labour days over the year. This low figure is undoubtedly due to the urban background of the centres studied, where the scope of employment is much wider than in the interior.

#### Seasonal variation in employment.

3-6. **Seasonal variation in employment.**—The following table gives a comparative study of the seasonal variation in employment of the two types of labourers described earlier. The days of employment have been expressed as percentage of days in a two-monthly period:—

**Table 3·6.—Seasonal variation in employment of agricultural workers.**

Season.	Percentage of days employed on 2nd phase, 1947.			Fortnightly survey.		
	Agri-cultural.	Non-agri-cultural.	Total.	Agri-cultural.	Non-agri-cultural.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January and February .. .. .	67·8	8·5	76·3	29·5	33·7	63·2
March and April .. .. .	50·8	21·8	72·1	12·5	50·6	63·1
May and June .. .. .	54·1	9·8	63·9	25·8	45·4	71·2
July and August .. .. .	59·7	3·2	62·9	39·6	29·0	68·6
September and October .. .. .	45·9	4·9	50·8	26·8	39·2	66·0
November and December .. .. .	49·2	3·8	52·5	33·4	34·8	68·2
All seasons .. .. .	54·5	8·5	63·0	29·3	38·4	67·7

3-6-1. The comparative study of the seasonal variation is subject to several limitations.

The 2nd phase data, though the sample was a representative one have been collected at one point of time. As such it is liable to be only a good approximation as seasonal variation is being studied relying on the memory of the informant though in its correlation to the experience and actual work, such memory might not have failed him to any appreciable extent.

The fortnightly survey again consists of a very small sample and towards the end of the year due to certain difficulties investigation could not be continued in some of the centres. Subject to this limitation some general remarks are made here.

3-6-2. It will be seen that the seasonal variation in semi-urban labour's total employment is almost insignificant. To the urban labour agriculture is more a stop-gap to cover fluctuation in non-agricultural employment. As a result it may be seen that the slack period of non-agricultural employment is precisely the period of higher agricultural employment—the total employment is, however, not subject to such fluctuations.

3-6-3. In the 2nd phase data which is more representative of agricultural labour total employment shows a higher seasonal fluctuation being at the highest during January-February the month of harvest and slowly declining till it reaches the lowest point during September-October when the sowing is also over.

3-6-4. It is to be noted that rural labour gets non-agricultural employment immediately after harvesting period when there is a steep decline in agricultural employment. Non-agricultural employment shows less seasonal variation except during March-April when there is a sudden demand of non-agricultural labour immediately after the peasantry derives its major income from agriculture after harvest. This is also the season when employers of labour of all categories can afford to use hired labour for excavation, house repairs and a part of other non-agricultural work. The role thus of non-agricultural employment to agricultural labourers is not so important as agriculture is to semi-urban labourers.

#### Wage rates.

3-7. Next we pass on to wage rates for different types of work in different regions. The average wages per day received by the labourers in different centres of the districts in the two surveys are given below. Wages here include both cash and non-cash payments:—

**Table 3-7.—Wage rates in different regions for different types of work.**

Districts.	Average wage rate in rupees per day.					
	Second phase, 1947.			Fortnightly.		
	Agri-cultural.	Non-agri-cultural.	Total.	Agri-cultural.	Non-agri-cultural.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Bankura .. .. .	0-85	0-64	0-79	0-65	0-77	0-75
2. Birbhum .. .. .	0-98	0-89	0-97	0-90	0-72	0-82
3. Burdwan .. .. .	0-88	0-72	0-85	0-97	0-88	0-96
4. Dinaipur .. .. .	1-04	0-78	0-98	..	..	..
5. Hooghly .. .. .	..	..	..	1-36	1-34	1-35
6. Jalpalguri .. .. .	..	..	..	1-21	1-05	1-10
7. Malda .. .. .	0-81	1-06	0-84	1-78	0-99	1-67
8. Midnapore .. .. .	0-70	0-65	0-69	0-89	0-88	0-89
9. Murshidabad .. .. .	1-06	1-12	1-06	0-91	0-68	0-77
10. Nadia .. .. .	0-99	1-02	0-99	..	..	..
11. 24-Parganas .. .. .	1-06	1-00	1-05	1-60	1-40	1-52
West Bengal .. .. .	0-87	0-79	0-86	1-01	0-83	0-91

3-7-1. It will be seen that agricultural wage rate is slightly higher than non-agricultural unskilled wage rate. Further as may be expected wage rates in the urban areas is higher than in rural areas. But on the whole the wage rates do not differ considerably.

3·8. An attempt has been made to examine the seasonal variation in wage rates for the two samples over the year. The figures below give by two-monthly periods the wage rates as obtained from the two samples for agricultural and non-agricultural works:—

**Table 3·8.—Seasonal variation in wage rates for agricultural and non-agricultural work.**

Season.	Wage rate (cash and kind) in rupees, per day.					
	Second phase, 1947.			Fortnightly survey.		
	Agri-cultural.	Non-agri-cultural.	Total.	Agri-cultural.	Non-agri-cultural.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
January-February .. ..	0·86	0·76	0·84	0·94	0·84	0·88
March-April .. .. .	0·90	0·76	0·85	0·92	0·98	0·98
May-June .. .. .	0·90	0·80	0·87	1·02	0·88	0·93
July-August .. .. .	0·88	0·88	0·88	1·02	0·72	0·90
September-October .. ..	0·83	0·84	0·84	0·95	0·82	0·88
November-December .. ..	0·88	0·78	0·87	1·03	0·82	0·93
All seasons .. .. .	0·87	0·79	0·86	1·01	0·88	0·91

3·8·1. Subject to the limitations already stated some comments are made here on seasonal variation in wage rates.

Variation in wage rates in rural areas is almost insignificant for the total though by type of work some variation may be seen. It is seen that in the 2nd phase sample agricultural wage rate remains higher than non-agriculture wage rates up to June enticing workers to agriculture. During July-August the two wage rates are identical and during September-October the slackest period in agriculture the wage rate for agriculture goes lower than in non-agriculture. During November-December with approach of harvest it again increases and exceeds non-agricultural wage rate.

3·8·2. For the urban sample it is hazardous to make any such comparative study. But generally it may be said that employment offers a fairly stable rate and this may be due to a more stable level of employment which is offered in urban centres with agriculture playing a less important part.

3·8·3. But as pointed out before, the sample size being small, it is not possible to calculate a quantitative measure of this seasonal variation. However, broadly it may be said that there is very little variation in the wage rate from season to season.

## SECTION 4.—INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR FAMILIES.

### Occupation groups and income distribution.

4.1. With a view to compare the economic position of families with agricultural labour as principal occupation with other occupational groups in the rural economy, the income-distributions of families with different principal occupations are being shown in the following table:—

**Table 4.1.—Income distribution of families in different occupation groups (2nd phase, 1947, Sample A).**

Occupation groups.	No. of families interviewed.	Percentage of families with annual income in rupees.				
		Below 600.	600—1,200.	1,200—1,800.	1,800 and above.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Proprietors and farmers	140	24.3	31.4	15.0	29.3	100.00
Cultivators ..	797	18.2	41.2	20.2	20.4	100.00
Share-croppers ..	190	35.3	49.5	10.5	4.7	100.00
Agricultural labourers ..	698	67.2	29.2	3.2	0.4	100.00
Others .. ..	805	55.8	31.2	7.9	5.1	100.00
All occupations ..	2,630	44.3	35.0	11.0	9.7	100.00

4.1.1. It will be seen that very few of the agricultural labour families have an annual income above Rs. 1,200. The income of about 67 per cent. of these families are below Rs. 600 per year. From the point of view of income distribution, the agricultural labour families form the poorest group in the rural area.

### Sources of income.

4.2. The following table shows the average annual income by sources for families of different income levels:—

**Table 4.2—Per capita annual income by sources (agricultural labour families, 2nd phase, 1947, Samples A and B).**

Annual income level in rupees.	No. interviewed.		Average size of family.	Per capita income in rupees from—				Percentage to total.			
	Families.	Persons.		Wages.	Home produced commodities.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Wages.	Home produced commodities.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Below 600 .. .. .	869	3,266	3.76	73.73	14.68	19.74	108.15	68.2	13.6	18.2	100.0
600—1,200 .. .. .	349	1,967	5.64	90.71	26.47	22.49	139.67	64.9	19.0	16.1	100.0
1,200—1,800... ..	38	319	8.39	85.77	48.40	27.59	161.76	53.0	29.9	17.1	100.0
1,800 and above .. ..	7	75	10.71	66.01	87.82	18.09	171.92	38.4	51.1	10.5	100.0
All income levels .. ..	1,263	5,627	4.45	80.20	21.62	21.14	122.96	65.2	17.6	17.2	100.0

4.2.1. It may be noted that for most of the families more than 60 per cent. of the income is derived from wages (cash and kind) but that increase of income is due increasingly to the contribution from home-produced commodities, i.e., from land owned or cultivated by these families. In the income ranging above Rs. 1,800 per annum more than 51 per cent. of the income is derived from home produced commodities including crops and only 38.4 per cent. is derived from wages. These sections thus gradually merge into the cultivator class with agricultural labour in an almost equal proportion with direct cultivation of the land, owned or share-cropped.

4.2.2. It may also be noted that the total per capita income increases from Rs. 108.15 in the lowest group to Rs. 171.92 in the highest, a rise of about 60 per cent., while the average per family income along the same range increases by more than 350 per cent. This is due to larger size of family in the higher family-income groups.

4.3. **Distribution of expenditure.** Per capita annual expenditure of agricultural labour families under broad heads are shown in table 4.3 below. For comparison, annual per capita income has also been shown against annual per capita expenditure and their differences have also been shown alongside:—

**Table 4.3.—Per capita annual expenditure by item (agricultural labour, 2nd phase, Samples A and B).**

Annual income in rupees of the family.	No. interviewed.		Per capita annual expenditure in rupees on—									
	Families.	Persons.	Food.			Clothing.	Fuel and light.	Intoxicants.	Others.	Total.	Average income.	Difference (12)–(11).
			Purchased.	Home grown.	Total.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Below 600 .. ..	869	3,266	57.95	20.51	78.46	4.78	1.49	3.61	11.59	99.33	108.15	8.82
600—1,200 .. ..	349	1,967	70.33	25.89	96.22	4.87	1.56	4.64	16.53	123.82	139.67	18.85
1,200—1,800 .. ..	38	319	59.86	39.82	99.68	6.09	1.43	5.67	22.37	135.24	161.76	26.52
1,800 and above .. ..	7	75	30.18	63.87	94.05	6.21	1.72	4.37	37.27	143.62	171.92	28.30
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>5,627</b>	<b>62.02</b>	<b>24.06</b>	<b>86.08</b>	<b>4.56</b>	<b>1.51</b>	<b>4.10</b>	<b>14.27</b>	<b>110.52</b>	<b>122.96</b>	<b>12.44</b>

4.3.1. It is seen from this table that per capita annual expenditure in rupees for agricultural labour families is Rs. 110.5, i.e., Rs. 9.2 per month inclusive of all items of expenditure. If the value of home-grown commodities which have been included here is deducted the per capita annual expenditure comes down to Rs. 86.5 or Rs. 7.2 per month.

4.3.2. The differences between annual income and annual expenditure in all the classes are found to be positive. This excess of income, which includes loans and all sundry receipts, over expenditure, comprises—

- (i) the value of cash and goods carried over to the next year, unadjusted with opening balance for same which was not taken into account, and
- (ii) the unaccounted-for components of the budget or discrepancies therein, either on the income or on the expenditure side or both. It has to be recognised that an account elicited from memory for the whole year must necessarily be an approximate one, and an exact balancing of income with expenditure would have been rather surprising and certainly suspicious.

4.3.3. The carry over at the end of the year cannot be said to constitute a surplus or saving because, as stated, the opening balance of cash and value of goods in stock was not taken into account in collecting the budgets and unless the positive balance found exceeds the value of the opening balance.

4.4. **Fortnightly Family Budgets.** The same tendency is also found if we look into the fortnightly incomes and expenditures given in the table below. The family budgets after the 20th fortnight could not be collected and here the table gives figures up to the 20th fortnight:—

**Table 4.4.—Fortnightly family budgets of agricultural labour families (fortnightly survey of 179 labourers in special centres, 1946-47).**

Month.	Fortnight No.	Income per family in rupees.	Expenditure per family in rupees.	Difference (2) — (3) in rupees.
1	2	3	4	5
April 15th to 30th .. ..	1	24	18.5	3.9
May .. ..	2	22.0	17.4	4.6
	3	22.4	17.9	4.5
June .. ..	4	24.7	19.8	4.9
	5	21.8	17.7	4.1
July .. ..	6	23.6	19.3	4.3
	7	22.2	18.1	4.1
August .. ..	8	24.2	18.4	3.8
	9	23.1	17.8	5.3
September .. ..	10	23.2	17.9	5.3
	11	22.3	18.6	3.7
October .. ..	12	20.0	16.4	3.6
	13	19.2	15.8	3.4
November .. ..	14	18.1	14.9	3.2
	15	21.0	16.4	4.6
December .. ..	16	22.5	17.4	5.1
	17	28.6	18.2	10.4
January .. ..	18	27.5	19.8	7.7
	19	24.8	17.8	7.0
February 1st to 15th .. ..	20	31.2	17.4	13.8

4.4.1. Here also it is found there is some surplus at the end of each fortnight and it is of the order of Rs. 4, which represents at best 2 or 3 days' household expenses. The figures after the 17th fortnight, when the principal harvest (of aman crops) gives some considerable income to all agricultural workers show a heavier carry over while the carry over is lowest in the 2nd fortnight of July and 1st fortnight of August. This, perhaps, clearly establishes the "hand-to-mouth" living character of this class of workers.



### Income-expenditure position by districts.

4.5. To examine the income-expenditure position of agricultural labour families indifferent districts, per capita income and expenditure of such families have been given below :—

**Table 4.5.—Per family annual income and expenditure of agricultural labour families by districts (2nd phase, 1947, Samples A and B).**

District.	No. of families interviewed.	Average size of family.	Per family income in rupees.	Per family expenditure in rupees.	Difference per family.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bankura .. ..	110	4.88	541.16	496.51	44.65
Birbhum .. ..	129	4.41	577.56	495.57	81.99
Burdwan .. ..	152	4.44	586.96	531.86	55.10
Dinajpur .. ..	33 <sup>e</sup>	4.30	586.51	501.39	85.12
Hooghly .. ..	70	4.22	595.97	537.74	58.23
Howrah .. ..	44	4.22	448.98	419.64	29.34
Jalpaiguri .. ..	27	3.07	485.89	463.85	22.04
Malda .. ..	109	4.74	642.30	590.60	51.70
Midnapur .. ..	312	4.29	473.08 <sup>f</sup>	401.39	71.69
Murshidabad .. ..	125	4.71	534.60	502.85	31.75
Nadia .. ..	40	4.75	609.42	586.10	23.32
24-Parganas .. ..	112	4.50	581.64	542.77	38.87
West Bengal .. ..	1,263	4.45	547.18	491.82	55.36

4.5.1. Here also a surplus is found to remain at the end of the year for agricultural labour families in all the districts without exception. Average saving works out to about 10 per cent. of the total income and about Rs. 12 per head, though the margin is appreciably lower and higher than the average in several districts. Highest margin is found to be in Birbhum and West Dinajpur districts, commonly known as backward areas with surplus food production. Same is the position with Midnapore, Burdwan and Malda. Hooghly is the only district not in the above category where surplus is as large as Rs. 53.23. Lowest margin is in Jalpaiguri, Nadia and Howrah.

4.5.2. As regards per family income, Malda and Nadia give highest and Howrah, Midnapore and Jalpaiguri the lowest figures, the remaining districts giving a more or less even level. Malda and Nadia, it may be stated, grow the largest variety of crops in all three seasons and probably for this reason give larger periods of employment.

### Pattern of expenditure.

4.6. The pattern of expenditure or the proportion of total expenditure spent on different items has given in the following table. For comparison similar figures for industrial labour families, obtained from a sample survey of jute mill workers of Jagaddal, near Calcutta by the Institute in 1944-45 are also shown:—

**Table 4.6.—Percentage expenditures by items (agricultural labour family, 2nd phase, 1947, Samples A and B).**

Items.	Percentage expenditure of—		
	Agricultural labour families—		Industrial labour families.
	Including home-grown commodities.	Excluding home-grown commodities.	
1	2	3	4
Food .. .. .	77.9	71.7	64.1
Clothing .. .. .	4.1	5.3	7.7
Fuel and light .. .. .	1.4	1.8	8.7
Intoxicants .. .. .	3.7	4.7	2.6
Miscellaneous .. .. .	12.9	16.5	16.9
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

4.6.1. It will be seen that the agricultural labour families spend the major portion of income on food, leaving no scope for much to spend for other items such as clothing, education, medicine, etc. If the cost of home-grown commodities are excluded, percentage expenditure on food declines from 77.9 per cent. to 71.7 per cent. and this indicates a substantial portion of the home-grown commodities are food articles.

4.6.2. A comparison with the industrial labour families will show that agricultural labour families are to spend larger proportion of their income on food, and thus can spend less proportion on non-food items. The industrial labourers have to pay much more on fuel and light and also on clothing, but this reduces his capacity to pay for food. Whether or not this means a higher standard of living naturally depends on comparative income.

## SECTION 5.—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

## Landed properties.

5.1. Most important assets for rural families are landed properties. Land owned by agricultural labour families is given by district in the following table:—

Table 5.1.—Land owned by agricultural labour families (2nd phase, 1947, Samples A and B).

District.	No. of families interviewed.	Average size of family.	Land owned per family in acres.
1	2	3	4
Bankura .. .. .	110	4.88	0.59
Birbhum .. .. .	129	4.41	0.38
Burdwan .. .. .	152	4.44	0.41
Dinajpur .. .. .	33	4.30	0.47
Hooghly .. .. .	70	4.22	0.48
Howrah .. .. .	44	4.22	0.29
Jalpaiguri .. .. .	27	3.07	0.26
Malda .. .. .	109	4.74	0.76
Midnapur .. .. .	312	4.29	0.62
Murshidabad .. .. .	125	4.71	0.62
Nadia .. .. .	40	4.75	0.72
24 Parganas .. .. .	112	4.50	0.54
West Bengal .. .. .	1,263	4.45	0.54

5.1.1. It will be seen that in every district the land owned by an agricultural labour family is, on the average, less than an acre. In the districts of Malda, Nadia, Midnapore and Murshidabad, land owned is found to be a bit higher while in the districts of Howrah and Jalpaiguri it is very low.

## Indebtedness.

5.2. Loan in rural areas are of three types—interest-bearing cash loans, interest-free cash advances, and crop loans. The percentage of agricultural labour families in debt, and the average amount of loan in cash are shown in the following table. For the purpose of comparison, similar figures for other occupation groups are also shown side by side:—

Table 5.2.—Indebtedness of agricultural labour and other occupation groups (2nd phase, 1947, Sample A).

## (a) Percentage of indebted families.

Principal occupation.	No. of families interviewed.	Indebted for cash loans.		Indebted for crop (paddy) loan.
		Interest bearing.	Interest free.	
1	2	3	4	5
Proprietors .. .. .	35	28.6	14.3	2.9
Farmers .. .. .	105	41.0	13.3	6.7
Cultivators .. .. .	797	36.3	18.3	10.5
Share-croppers .. .. .	190	34.2	23.2	25.9
Agricultural labourers .. .. .	698	30.1	20.6	12.9
Craftsmen .. .. .	68	27.9	23.5	4.4
Liberal profession .. .. .	188	29.8	21.3	8.0
Trade .. .. .	240	22.9	15.8	7.9
Others .. .. .	309	21.4	14.9	7.8
All occupations .. .. .	2,630	30.9	18.7	11.1

## (b) Average loan per family.

Principal occupation.	No. of families interviewed.	Cash loans in rupees.		Crop (paddy) loan in maunds.
		Interest bearing.	Interest free.	
1	2	3	4	5
Proprietors .. .. .	35	719.9	136.6	3.0
Farmers .. .. .	105	254.6	78.1	14.8
Cultivators .. .. .	797	181.0	104.8	14.8
Share-croppers .. .. .	190	77.7	62.4	15.1
Agricultural labourers .. .. .	698	54.3	35.7	6.6
Craftsmen .. .. .	68	82.9	87.7	4.0
Liberal professions .. .. .	188	105.2	90.4	6.2
Trade .. .. .	240	125.8	95.3	7.1
Others .. .. .	309	73.5	63.7	7.0
All occupations .. .. .	2,630	131.2	74.1	10.6

5.2.1. It will be seen 30.1 per cent. of agricultural labour families are in debt in respect of interest-bearing loans, 20.6 per cent. in respect of interest-free cash advances and 12.9 per cent. in respect of paddy loan, these percentages not being exclusive.

5.2.2. The average amount of cash loan per family is less in the case of agricultural labour families compared to other occupation groups. In the case of paddy loan also the average loan per family is less than the average for all occupation groups. This seems primarily due to these families having little credit for obtaining larger loans.

5-2-3. The reasons for borrowing, and the source from which the agricultural labour families get their loans, are given below—

Table 5-2(c).—Reasons of borrowing by agricultural labour families (2nd phase, 1947, Sample A, Number of families interviewed—698).

Reasons.						Percentage of total amount borrowed.
(1)						(2)
Food	..	..	..	..	..	71.70
House repair	..	..	..	..	..	5.71
Social and religious	..	..	..	..	..	5.82
Litigation	..	..	..	..	..	0.27
Arrear rent	..	..	..	..	..	4.18
Cultivation	..	..	..	..	..	3.15
Others	..	..	..	..	..	9.17
Total						100.00

5-2-4. It will be noted that 71.7 per cent. of the amount borrowed by agricultural labour families is for food and the other reasons are insignificant compared to this.

Table 5-2(d).—Sources of loan incurred by agricultural labour families (2nd phase, 1947, Sample A, Number of families interviewed—698).

Source of loan.						Percentage of total amount borrowed.
(1)						(2)
Money-lenders	..	..	..	..	..	18.29
Proprietors	..	..	..	..	..	10.88
Cultivators	..	..	..	..	..	37.36
Traders	..	..	..	..	..	9.23
Liberal profession	..	..	..	..	..	1.38
Co-operative	..	..	..	..	..	2.69
Government	..	..	..	..	..	17.08
Others	..	..	..	..	..	3.19
Total						100.00

5-2-5. The cultivators supply 37.36 per cent. of the loan incurred by agricultural labourers, other important sources of loan are village money-lenders, Government and the proprietor classes.

## SECTION 6—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

6.1. This, so far as our knowledge goes, is the report on the first systematic enquiry on the economic condition of agricultural labourers in West Bengal on factual basis. The agricultural labourers are an important class in the rural economy of West Bengal. They form 4.12 per cent. of the population, and belong to a heterogeneous group, a certain percentage coming from families of various other principal occupations such as cultivators, share-croppers, etc., and from families possessing landed properties of various dimensions.

6.2. Economically, they apparently form the poorest class of rural population, at the lowest level of subsistence.

During slack seasons of agriculture they take to non-agricultural pursuits for their subsistence. Even then they are not fully employed.

### APPENDIX.—COMPARISON OF ESTIMATES FROM INDEPENDENT SAMPLES.

As stated in the introduction, two independent samples were chosen in the second phase of the survey and these samples were surveyed by two independent parties of investigators. The agreement between the estimates regarding agricultural labour families based on these two independent samples is an indication of the reliability of the estimates. The estimates of the characters (a) size of family, (b) per family income and also (c) expenditure and (d) land owned per agricultural labour family obtained from the two independent samples are compared below:—

**Table 1.—Estimates of size of family, per family income and expenditure and land owned based on two independent samples of agricultural labour families (2nd phase, 1946-47).**

District.	Number of zones.	Number of families interviewed.			Estimate $\pm$ S. E.		"t"	
		Sample A.	Sample B.	Total.	Sample A.	Sample B.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
		<b>(a) Size of family.</b>						
Bankura ..	18	47	63	110	4.70 $\pm$ 0.43	5.02 $\pm$ 0.44	0.52	
Birbhum ..	12	57	72	129	4.79 $\pm$ 0.32	4.12 $\pm$ 0.25	1.65	
Burdwan ..	20	100	62	162	4.42 $\pm$ 0.20	4.60 $\pm$ 0.64	0.12	
Dineapur ..	10	15	18	33	4.13 $\pm$ 0.58	4.44 $\pm$ 0.54	0.39	
Hooghly ..	6	33	37	70	4.18 $\pm$ 0.40	4.27 $\pm$ 0.33	0.17	
Howrah ..	4	39	5	44	4.08 $\pm$ 0.25	5.40 $\pm$ 0.77	1.63	
Jalpaiguri ..	8	21	6	27	3.17 $\pm$ 0.47	2.67 $\pm$ 0.41	0.83	
Malda ..	10	48	61	109	4.69 $\pm$ 0.41	4.79 $\pm$ 0.55	0.15	
Midnapur ..	35	181	131	312	4.34 $\pm$ 0.18	4.33 $\pm$ 0.55	0.21	
Murshidabad ..	14	58	67	125	4.52 $\pm$ 0.29	4.88 $\pm$ 0.59	0.55	
Nadia ..	8	21	19	40	4.86 $\pm$ 0.75	4.63 $\pm$ 0.86	0.20	
24-Parganas ..	18	78	34	112	4.56 $\pm$ 0.22	4.38 $\pm$ 0.31	0.47	
West Bengal ..	163	698	565	1,263	4.43 $\pm$ 0.09	4.49 $\pm$ 0.12	0.40	

District.	Number of zones.	Number of families interviewed.			Estimate $\pm$ S. E.		“y”
		Sample A.	Sample B.	Total.	Sample A.	Sample B.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>(b) Per family annual income in rupees.</b>							
Bankura	18	47	63	110	558.02 $\pm$ 72.43	528.59 $\pm$ 68.13	0.30
Birbhum	12	57	72	129	650.98 $\pm$ 61.62	519.43 $\pm$ 51.19	1.64
Burdwan	20	100	52	152	584.44 $\pm$ 28.88	591.81 $\pm$ 90.56	0.08
Dinajpur	10	15	18	33	510.13 $\pm$ 65.42	650.17 $\pm$ 92.41	1.24
Hooghly	6	33	37	70	633.15 $\pm$ 56.88	562.81 $\pm$ 53.49	0.90
Howrah	4	39	5	44	454.00 $\pm$ 34.82	409.80 $\pm$ 97.18	0.43
Jalpaiguri	8	21	6	27	484.38 $\pm$ 107.59	491.17 $\pm$ 44.87	0.06
Malda	10	48	61	109	653.25 $\pm$ 80.62	633.69 $\pm$ 95.86	0.16
Midnapur	35	181	131	312	476.27 $\pm$ 23.35	468.65 $\pm$ 90.15	0.08
Murshidabad	14	58	67	125	540.76 $\pm$ 39.34	529.27 $\pm$ 48.96	0.18
Nadia	8	21	19	40	635.33 $\pm$ 82.46	580.79 $\pm$ 46.70	0.58
24 Parganas	18	78	34	112	568.81 $\pm$ 43.15	611.09 $\pm$ 79.96	0.46
West Bengal	163	698	565	1,263	551.23 $\pm$ 16.88	542.16 $\pm$ 21.80	0.33

## (c) Per family annual expenditure in rupees.

Bankura	..	18	47	63	110	516.17 ± 65.73	481.84 ± 66.93	0.37
Birbhum	..	12	57	72	129	534.00 ± 64.29	465.15 ± 40.50	0.91
Burdwan	..	20	100	52	152	531.93 ± 31.55	531.71 ± 27.60	0.01
Dumajpur	..	10	15	18	33	452.00 ± 51.78	542.56 ± 65.90	1.08
Hooghly	..	6	33	37	70	567.03 ± 48.58	511.62 ± 53.68	0.77
Howrah	..	4	39	5	44	409.72 ± 27.75	497.00 ± 105.82	0.80
Jalpaiguri	..	8	21	6	27	462.43 ± 102.90	468.83 ± 56.78	0.05
Malda	..	10	48	61	109	583.06 ± 51.70	596.52 ± 46.69	0.19
Minnapur	..	35	181	131	312	409.69 ± 21.26	389.87 ± 32.89	0.51
Murshidabad	..	14	58	67	125	612.16 ± 36.12	494.79 ± 40.10	0.33
Nadia	..	8	21	19	40	612.57 ± 80.55	556.84 ± 43.80	0.61
24-Parganas	..	18	78	34	112	527.64 ± 36.61	577.47 ± 70.80	0.63
West Bengal	..	163	698	565	1,263	494.06 ± 12.65	489.05 ± 20.13	0.21



District.	Number of zones.		Number of families interviewed.			Estimate $\pm$ S. E.		"t"
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Bankura	..	18	47	63	110	0.38 $\pm$ 0.12	0.74 $\pm$ 0.29	1.16
Birbhum	..	12	57	72	129	0.56 $\pm$ 0.22	0.24 $\pm$ 0.11	1.28
Burdwan	..	20	100	52	152	0.42 $\pm$ 0.01	0.38 $\pm$ 0.12	0.33
Dinajpur	..	10	15	18	33	0.46 $\pm$ 0.19	0.47 $\pm$ 0.21	0.04
Hooghly	..	6	33	37	70	0.55 $\pm$ 0.18	0.42 $\pm$ 0.14	0.57
Howrah	..	4	39	5	44	0.27 $\pm$ 0.04	0.46 $\pm$ 0.11	1.70
Jalpaiguri	..	8	21	6	27	0.22 $\pm$ 0.07	0.37 $\pm$ 0.20	0.71
Maldas	..	10	48	61	109	0.96 $\pm$ 0.42	0.60 $\pm$ 0.18	0.78
Midnapur	..	35	181	131	312	0.62 $\pm$ 0.13	0.62 $\pm$ 0.21	0.01
Murshidabad	..	14	58	67	125	0.52 $\pm$ 0.11	0.71 $\pm$ 0.11	1.19
Nedias	..	8	21	19	40	0.75 $\pm$ 0.16	0.69 $\pm$ 0.38	0.15
24-Parganas	..	18	78	34	112	0.50 $\pm$ 0.46	0.63 $\pm$ 0.25	0.29
West Bengal	..	163	698	565	1,263	0.54 $\pm$ 0.02	0.56 $\pm$ 0.07	0.29

(d) Land owned in acres per family.

It will be seen that there is satisfactory agreement between the estimates based on the two independent samples for all the four characters dealt with here.

For all the above four characters the values of "t" is less than 2 in all the cases, indicating that there is no significant difference between the independent estimates.

**Enquiry into Rural Indebtedness and Economics of  
Agricultural Labour, 1946**

**GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL :- CROP AND ECONOMIC SURVEYS.**  
**Enquiry into Rural Indebtedness and Economics of Agricultural Labour, 1946.**

I. সরকারী ইউনিট			II. মাসপত্র ইউনিট			III. পরিবারের বর্তমান পেশা			IV. পরিবারের জাতি ধর্ম		
ইউনিট	নাম	নম্বর	ইউনিট	নম্বর	স্থান	নাম	নম্বর	পর্ধ্যায়	নাম	নম্বর	
(১)	(২)	(৩)	(৪)	(৫)	(৬)	(৭)	(৮)	(৯)	(১০)	(১১)	
মহকুমা ..			জোন ..		প্রধান ..			ধর্ম ..			
থানা ..			সেব্ ..		দ্বিতীয় ..			জাতি ..			
মৌজা ..			পরিবার ..		তৃতীয় ..						
দাগ ..			কর্তার নাম ..								

V. পরিবারের জমি (একর)

- (১) বাড়ী ইত্যাদি অনাবাদী জমি ..  
অবাদী জমি ..
- (২) নিজের জমি নিজে চাষ ..
- (৩) নিজের জমি আংশিক যজুর চাষ ..
- (৪) নিজের জমি সম্পূর্ণ যজুর চাষ ..
- (৫) নিজ দেওয়া .. (৬) ভাগ দেওয়া ..
- (৭) নিজ নেওয়া .. (৮) ভাগ নেওয়া ..
- (৯) নিজ-ভাগ মীর থেকে নেওয়া তাহার পেশা ..

VI. গৃহপালিত পশু ইত্যাদি

- (১) ঘাঁড় .. (৫) মহিষ ..
- (২) বল্ল .. (৬) মহিষী ..
- (৩) গাভী .. (৭) মহিষের বাচ্চা ..
- (৪) বাছুর .. (৮) ছাগ, ভেড়া ..
- (৯) মোট হালের পশু ..
- (১০) গরু বা মহিষের গাড়ী ..

VII. ১৯৪৬ সালের ১লা জানুয়ারী পরিবারের মোট ঘে

ঘেনার পরিমাণ :-

(বকপাঘের ঘেনা ঘেনা বলিয়া ধরা হইবে)

.....টাকা  
 .....(ঘণ) ধান





XI. পৰ্শনকাৰীৰ মন্তব্য.....

X. পৰিবাৰে কৃষাণ ণিকিলে তাহাৰ বিৱৰণ :—

নং	পুং/স্ত্ৰী	বয়স	এই বাৰ্ছতে		বেতন টাকা	
			ৰোজ কত বেলা ণায়	৪	৫	মাসিক
১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭

স্বাক্ষৰ.....

তপস্বকাৰীৰ নাম..... ইউনিট.....

তাং.....







III. ১৯৪৬ সালে পরিবারভুক্ত উপার্জনকারীগণের পেশা :—

- |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| (১) II. (১) নং ঘরের ক্রমিক নং                            |  |  |  |  |
| (২) প্রধান পেশা  |  |  |  |  |
| (২ক) কত মাস নিযুক্ত ছিল                                  |  |  |  |  |
| (২খ) উক্ত সালে গড়ে মাসিক আয়                            |  |  |  |  |
| (৩) দ্বিতীয় পেশা  |  |  |  |  |
| (৩ক) কত মাস নিযুক্ত ছিল                                  |  |  |  |  |
| (৩খ) উক্ত সালে গড়ে মাসিক আয়                            |  |  |  |  |
| (৪) তৃতীয় পেশা  |  |  |  |  |
| (৪ক) কত মাস নিযুক্ত ছিল                                  |  |  |  |  |
| (৪খ) উক্ত সালে গড়ে মাসিক আয়                            |  |  |  |  |
| (৫) ১৯৪৬ সালে কতদিন বেকার ছিল                            |  |  |  |  |
| (ক) অসুস্থতা হেতু  |  |  |  |  |
| (খ) মন্দ আবহাওয়ার জন্য                                  |  |  |  |  |
| (গ) কাজের অভাব হেতু                                      |  |  |  |  |
| (ঘ) অন্য কোন কারণে                                       |  |  |  |  |
| (৬) কত দিন নগদ উপার্জন সম্পর্কিত কার্য করিয়াছিল         |  |  |  |  |
| (৭) অবশিষ্ট দিন যাহা পুয়োজনীয় পারিবারিক কার্য করিয়াছে |  |  |  |  |

IV. পরিবারে কয়টি আছে	সংখ্যা	IV. পরিবারে কয়টি আছে	সংখ্যা	IV. পরিবারে কয়টি আছে	সংখ্যা
(১) বলা		(৪) মহিষী		(৭) হাস, মুরগী, প্রভৃতি	
(২) গাভী		(৫) ষোভা, প্রভৃতি		(৮) গরু মহিষের গাড়ী	
(৩) মহিষ		(৬) ছাগল, ভেড়া বা শূকর		(৯) মাছ ধরা জাল	

V. ১৯৪২-৪৬ সালে উল্লেখযোগ্য সম্পত্তি (জমি, বাড়ী, গরু, গহনা, প্রভৃতি) ক্রয় ও বিক্রয়

সম্পত্তির বিবরণ	বিক্রয়			ক্রয়			ক্রয়ের টাকা কিসে পাইয়াছ
	মাস ও বৎসর	সংখ্যা বা পরিমাণ	মূল্য	মাস বা বৎসর	সংখ্যা বা পরিমাণ	মূল্য	
গবাদি পশু							
জমি							
গহনা							
বাড়ী বা ঘর							
অন্যান্য							

নিজ জমির বিবরণ	একর	(১) নিজ আবাদ	পাট	ক্রাউস ধান্য	আমন ধান্য	আখ	তৈল বীজ	অন্য ফসল
(১) বসন্ত বাটী		(ক) কত ডেসিমেল জমিতে						
(২) ডোবা, পুকুর ইত্যাদি		(খ) পরিবারের মজুর রোজ						
(৩) বাগান ইত্যাদি		(গ) বাহিরের মজুর রোজ						
মোট		(ঘ) মজুরী ছাড়া নগদ খরচ						
(৪) নিজের জমি খাস চাষ		(ঙ) উৎপন্ন ফসলের পরিমাণ (মণ)						
(৫) ভাগে দেওয়া জমি চাষ		(চ) উৎপন্ন খড় প্রভৃতির মূল্য (টাকা)						
(৬) পরিবারে মোট নিজ চাষের জমি (একর)		(২) ভাগে দেওয়া জমির আবাদ						
(৭) নিজ জমি ভাগে দেওয়া		(ক) কত ডেসিমেল জমিতে						
(৮) নিজ জমি নিজ দেওয়া		(খ) পরিবারের মজুর রোজ						
(৯) মোট নিজস্ব জমি		(গ) বাহিরের মজুর রোজ						
(১, ২, ৩, ৪, ৭ ও ৮ দফার মোট)		(ঘ) মজুরী ছাড়া নগদ খরচ						
		(ঙ) উৎপন্ন ফসলের পরিমাণ (মণ)						
		(চ) উৎপন্ন খড় প্রভৃতির মূল্য (টাকা)						

VII. ১৯৪৬ সালের পরিবারস্ব মজুরগণের কার্য ও উপার্জনের বিবরণ :—

কি মাস (১৯৪৬)	II. (১) নং ঘরের ক্রমিক নম্বর			II. (১) নং ঘরের ক্রমিক নম্বর			II. (১) নং ঘরের ক্রমিক নম্বর		
	কি কাজ	কত দিন	দৈনিক মজুরীর হার	কি কাজ	কত দিন	দৈনিক মজুরীর হার	কি কাজ	কত দিন	দৈনিক মজুরীর হার
জানুয়ারী ও ফেব্রুয়ারী									
মার্চ ও এপ্রিল									
মে ও জুন									
জুলাই ও আগষ্ট									
সেপ্টেম্বর ও অক্টোবর									
নভেম্বর ও ডিসেম্বর									

VIII. ১৯৪৬ সালে পরিবারের আয় ব্যয়।

কি উপায়ে আয় হইয়াছে	১৯৪৬ সালে (টাকা)	ব্যয়										
		ক্রীত দ্রব্যের নাম	গত মাসে		১৯৪৬ সালে		নাম	টাকা		প্রাপ্ত ও সংগৃহীত দ্রব্যাদি	মূল্য (টাকা)	
			পরিমাণ	টাকা	পরিমাণ	টাকা		গত মাসে	১৯৪৬		গত মাসে	১৯৪৬
(ক) নগদ মজুরী ..		চাউল (সের)					আনা ইত্যাদি ..			নিজ কসল খরচ ..		
(খ) খাদ্য ও জিনিষ মজুরীর মূল্য		আটা, মরনা প্রভৃতি (সের)					কাপড় ইত্যাদি ..			ধান্য ..		
(গ) চাকুরী ঘরা ..		চিড়া, বড়ী প্রভৃতি (সের)					বিছানা ইত্যাদি ..			ডাল ..		
(ঘ) কুটির শিল্পে লাভ ...		ডাল (সের) ..					বাঁজনা ..			ডরকারী ..		
(ঙ) ব্যঙ্গায়ে লাভ ..		ডরকারী ..					বাসন ও আসবাব পত্র			অন্যান্য (দুগ্ধ, ডিম ইং)		
(চ) জাতীয় ব্যবসা বা পেশা ঘরা		মাছ, মাংস ..					বাড়ী সেরামত ..			৫।' বোট		
(ছ) অন্যান্য পেশা ঘরা ..		ডিম (সংখ্যা) ..					চামের নগদ ব্যয়			সংগৃহীত দ্রব্যাদি ..		
বোট ..		দুগ্ধ (সের) ..					পেশা সংক্রান্ত ব্যয়			শাক শস্জি ..		
(জ) ঋণ ঘরা ..		ঘি (সের) ..					পড়াশুনা ..			আলানী কাঠ ..		
(ঝ) আর্জীর সাহায্য ..		অন্যান্য দুগ্ধজাত দ্রব্য ..					অস্থখে ব্যয় ..			মৎস্য ..		
(ঞ) সম্পত্তি বিক্রয় ঘরা ..		নবণ (সের) ..					উৎসব পর্ব ইত্যাদি			চ।' বোট		

(ট) সংগৃহীত মাছ, শাক, শজি প্রভৃতির মূল্য	মশলা ..				বেড়ান ও আবোদ শুসোদ	ব্যয় (ক)	
(ঠ) সংগৃহীত কার্টের মূল্য ..	সঃ তেল (সেুর) ..				নারিকেল তৈল ..	(খ)	
	চিনি, গুড় (সের) ..				সৌখীন দ্রব্যাদি ..	(গ)	
মোট ..	অন্যান্য খাদ্য দ্রব্য ..				সেনাপোষ ..	(ঘ)	
(ড) ফসলের মূল্য ..	ক। মোট খাদ্য দ্রব্য				সম্পত্তি ক্রয় ..	(ঙ)	
(১) ১৯৮৬ তাং মজুত এবং ১৯৮৬ সালে প্রাপ্ত)	পান, স্থপারী ইত্যাদি ..				ধার দেওয়া ..	(চ)	
(১) আমন ধান্য.....মণ	ভানাক, বিড়ি ইত্যাদি ..				সাহায্য করা ..	মোট ব্যয়	
(২) আউশ ধান্য.....মণ	চা (পাউণ্ড) ..				অন্যান্য ধরত ..	মোট আয়	
(৩) পাট.....মণ	অন্যান্য নেশা দ্রব্য ..				খ। মোট	উদ্ভূত	
(৪) ভানাক.....মণ	খ। মোট নেশা দ্রব্য						
(৫) আধ.....মণ	আলানী কাঠ (মণ) ..						
(৬) আল.....মণ	কয়লা ,, ..						
(৭) অন্যান্য ফসল ..	কেরোসিন, দেশলাই ও অন্যান্য						
মোট ..	গ। মোট আলানী কাঠ ইত্যাদি						
সর্ব মোট ..							

উদ্ভূত মধ্যে ১৯৮৬ তারিখে মজুত ফসলের মূল্য

IX. দেনার বিবরণ।

বর্ণনা	১১১১৯৪২ তারিখে পূর্বেকার অপরিশোধিত বোট দেনা	১৯৪২ হইতে ১৯৪৬ সালে করা দেনা							
		১নং দেনা	২নং দেনা	৩নং দেনা	৪নং দেনা	৫নং দেনা	৬নং দেনা	৭নং দেনা	বোট দেনা
কোন সালে নেওয়া .. ..									
মহাজনের পেশা .. ..									
কেন করা হইয়াছিল .. ..									
কি ষড়ক দেওয়া হইয়াছিল .. ..									
আসল ঋণ কত টাকা ছিল .. ..									
শতকরা বাৎসরিক সুদের হার .. ..									
১৯৪২ সালে শোধ (সুদ ও আসল টাকা)									
১৯৪৩ " " .. ..									
১৯৪৪ " " .. ..									
১৯৪৫ " " .. ..									
১৯৪৬ " " .. ..									
মাপ বন্ধ (টাকা) .. ..									
১১১১৪৭ তারিখে বোট কত টাকা শোধ দিতে বাকী ছিল									

X. ধানের দেনা ও ছাওলাতি দেনার বিবরণ।

	ধানের দেনা (মণ)	সুদহীন ছাওলাতি দেনা (টাকা)	তদন্তকারীর পূর্ণ স্বাক্ষর.....
১১১১৪২ তারিখের পরিমাণ .. ..			ইউনিট নং..... ভাস্করের তারিখ.....
১১১১৪৭ তারিখের পরিমাণ .. ..			পরিদর্শনকারীর মন্তব্য :.....
১৯৪৬ সালে করা দেনা .. ..			.....
১৯৪৬ সালে দেনা শোধ .. ..			.....
সুদের হার .. ..			স্বাক্ষর..... তারিখ.....

## Government of Bengal Enquiry into the Economic Condition of Agricultural Labourers.

(To be filled up once in the beginning of the work and again in March 1947.)

জেলা.....সাব্‌ডিভিসন.....থানা.....  
 ইউনিয়ন.....মোজা.....জে, এল, নং.....  
 পরিবারের কর্তার নাম.....

১৩৫৩ সালের বৈশাখ মাসে পরিবারের অবস্থার বিবরণ :—

	১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭	৮	৯	১০
১। পরিবারের লোকদের ক্রমিক নং	কর্তা									
২। কর্তার সহিত সম্পর্ক										
৩। বয়স										
৪। কোন ক্লাস অবধি পড়িয়াছে										
৫। বাংলা পড়িতে, লিখিতে ও নাম সহি করিতে পারে কিনা (প, ল, বা স, লিখিতে হইবে)										
৬। বর্তমানে পড়ার জন্য গড়ে মাসিক খরচ কত										
৭। নিম্নলিখিত জিনিষগুলি কত মাস আগে কেনা হইয়াছে (ক) যে বস্ত্র বর্তমানে পরিয়া আছে (খ) দ্বিতীয় যে বস্ত্রখানা পরে (গ) যে গামছা ব্যবহার করিতেছে										
৮। নিম্নলিখিত জিনিষ কয়খানি আছে (ক) প্রথম দুইখানি ছাড়া অতিরিক্ত বস্ত্র (শাড়ি, ধুতি, লুঙ্গি প্রভৃতি) (খ) গামছা (গ) জানা বা গেঞ্জি (ঘ) রূপায়ান, চাদর, আলোয়ান										

৫নং দফায় শুধু পড়িতে পারিলে "প", লিখিতে পারিলে "ল", সহি করিতে পারিলে "স", লিখিতে ও পড়িতে পারিলে "ল প", এই ভাবে লিখিত হইবে।



## উপার্জনকারীগণের বিবরণ :--

৯। ১নং নাইনের ক্রমিক নম্বর						
১০। বর্তমান বৃত্তি বা পেশা (ক) প্রধান পেশার নাম প্রধান পেশা হইতে ১৩৫২ সালে আনুমানিক আয় (খ) দ্বিতীয় পেশার নাম ২য় পেশা হইতে ১৩৫২ সালে আনুমানিক আয় (গ) তৃতীয় পেশার নাম ৩য় পেশা হইতে ১৩৫২ সালে আনুমানিক আয়						
১১। গত ২৫ বৎসরের মধ্যে বৃত্তি বা পেশার পরিবর্তন হইয়া থাকিলে, পূর্বে কি কি পেশা ছিল এবং কেন পরিবর্তন হইয়াছে তাহার সংক্ষিপ্ত বিবরণ।						
১২। (ক) ১৩৫২ সালে কতদিন মজুরি করিবার সময় থাকা সত্বেও মজুরি করিতে পারে নাই। (খ) কি কারণে কত দিন পারে নাই।						
১৩। বাড়ীতে ঘরের ক্রমিক সংখ্যা (ক) দৈর্ঘ্য ও প্রস্থ (ফুট X ফুট) (খ) ভিত্তি পাকা না কাঁচা (গ) বেড়া কিংবদন্তি তৈরী (ঘ) চাল কিংবদন্তি তৈরী (ঙ) ঘরের অবস্থা (ভাল, পুরাতন, জীর্ণ, ভগ্ন) (চ) ব্যবহার (শয়ন, রান্না, গোশালা ইত্যাদি)						

সংখ্যা	সংখ্যা	সংখ্যা	সংখ্যা
<p>১৪। পরিবারের কয়খানা আছে :—</p> <p>(ক) লেপ (খ) তোষক (গ) কাঁথা, বিছানার চট (ঘ) বালিশ (ঙ) পাটি (চ) হোগলা, চাটাই (ছ) খাট, খাটিয়া, তক্তপোষ (জ) কাঁসা, পিতল, তামার বাসন (ঝ) এলুমিনিয়ম ও কলাইকরা বাসন (ঞ) ছাতা (ট) চেয়ার, টেবিল (ঠ) </p>	<p>১৫। পরিবারের কয়টি আছে :—</p> <p>(ক) বলদ, হাঁড় (খ) গাভী (গ) মহিষ (ঘ) মহিষী (ঙ) গরু ও মহিষের বাচচা (চ) বোড়া, গাধা, খচর (ছ) ভেড়া, শকঁঠা, খাসী, ছাগল (জ) হাঁস, মুরগী (ঝ) কুকুর (ঞ) (ট) (ঠ)</p>	<p>১৬। পরিবারের কয়টি আছে :—</p> <p>(ক) নৌকা (খ) গরু বা মহিষের গাড়ী (গ) লাঙ্গল (ঘ) সেচের দুর্নী (ঙ) কোদালী, কুঠার (চ) মাছধরা জাল (ছ) বাসায় (জ) মাছের পুকুর বা ডোবা (ঝ) ইঁদুর বা কঁয়া (ঞ) (ট) (ঠ)</p>	<p>সংখ্যা</p>

১৭। পরিবারের নিজ দখলী বাগিচা ও নিকটবর্তী জমিতে ফল গাছের সংখ্যা।		১৮। বাড়ীতে ও নিজ জমিতে কি কি তরকারী গত একবছরে জন্মাইয়াছে।		১৯। নিজের চাষের জমির ফসলের বিবরণ (১৩৫২ সালে যে ফসল উঠিয়াছে)।		২০। ভাগে নেওয়া জমির ফসলের বিবরণ (১৩৫২ সালে যে ফসল উঠিয়াছে)।	
নাম	সংখ্যা	নাম	জমির পরিমাণ ডে: ১ ডে: = আদর্শ ১৪ X ১৪ বর্গহাত	ফসলের নাম	জমির পরিমাণ ডেসি (ক)	ফসলের নাম (খ)	জমির পরিমাণ (ডেসি)
(ক) আম		(ক) কুমড়া					
(খ) কাঁঠাল		(খ) ডাটা					
(গ) তাল		(গ) লাউ					
(ঘ) সুপারী		(ঘ) বিঙ্গা					
(ঙ) নারিকেল		(ঙ) আনু					
(চ) জাম		(চ)					
(ছ) তেঁতুল		(ছ)					
(জ)		(জ)					
(ঝ)		(ঝ)					

সূত্রঃ—(ক) ডেসিমেন এইরূপ লিখিতে হইবে :—৫ ডেসিমেন = .০৫ ;

২৮ ডেসিমেন = .২৮ ;

১ একর ১৪ ডেসিমেন = ১.১৪ ;

১ ডেসিমেন = আধকাঠার একটু কম।

(খ) একই জমিতে বিভিন্ন সিজনে বিভিন্ন ফসল করিয়া থাকিলে পর পর লাইনে ফসলের নাম লিখিয়া ব্রাকেট দিয়া জমির পরিমাণ একবার মাত্র লিখিতে হইবে।

২১।	দেনার বিবরণ				
(ক)	কাহার নিকট দেনা (গ)				
(খ)	কোন বছর কোন মাসে নেওয়া				
(গ)	নেওয়ার সময়কার পরিমাণ				
(ঘ)	বাৎসরিক শতকরা হার				
(ঙ)	এ পর্যন্ত কত শোধ হইয়াছে				
(চ)	বর্তমানে দেনার পরিমাণ (হ্রাসসহ)				
(ছ)	কি বন্ধক রাখিতে হইয়াছে				
(জ)	বন্ধকী দ্রব্য বা জমির আনুমানিক মূল্য				

২২। ১৩৫০, ১৩৫১ এবং ১৩৫২ সালে সম্পত্তি (জমি, বাড়ী, ধর, গরু, গহনা প্রভৃতি) বিক্রয়:—

(ক)	বিক্রয়ের মাস ও বৎসর				
(খ)	সম্পত্তির বিবরণ				
(গ)	সংখ্যা বা পরিমাণ				
(ঘ)	মূল্য				
(ঙ)	ক্রয়ের পেশা				

(গ) কাহার নিকট দেনা লিখিতে কাহারো নাম লিখিতে হইবে না। মহাজন, কো-অপারোটিভ সোসাইটি (কো: সো:), জমিদার, মোকাদ্দার, আদায়, এই ভাবে লিখিতে হইবে।

তদন্তকারীর পূর্ণ স্বাক্ষর.....

তারিখ নং.....

উদ্যোগ পরিচালনা.....

## Government of Bengal Enquiry into the Economic Condition of Agricultural Labourers.

জেলা.....খান্দা.....ক্যাম্প.....  
 পরিবারের কর্তার নাম.....সাকিন.....  
 তারিখ.....হইতে.....তারিখের পাক্কিক রিপোর্ট

	১	২	৩	৪	৫	৬	৭	৮
১। পরিবারের লোকদের ক্রমিক নং	কর্তা							
২। কর্তার সহিত সম্পর্ক								
৩। বয়স								
৪। গত ১৫ দিনে কত বেলা								
(ক) ভাত খাইয়াছে								
(খ) ডাল "								
(গ) তরকারী "								
(ঘ) মাছ "								
(ঙ) মাংস "								
(চ) দুধ "								
(ছ) চিনি, বাতাসা বা গুড়								
(জ) মুড়ি, চিড়া প্রভৃতি জলখাবার								
৫। গত সপ্তাহে কতদিন								
(ক) অল্পধে ভুগিয়াছে								
(খ) কি অল্পধে								
(গ) বাড়ীতে চিকিৎসক আনিয়াছে								
(ঘ) ডাক্তারের নিকট গিয়াছে								
(ঙ) হাসপাতালে রাখিয়াছে								
(চ) ঔষধ কিনিয়া খাইয়াছে								
(ছ) দাতব্য ঔষধ খাইয়াছে								
(জ) পথ্য খাইতে পারিয়াছে								

৬। গত ১৫ দিনের জমা খরচের বিবরণ (কেবল টাকা ও আনায়; পয়সা লিখিতে হইবে না)

আয়—	টাকা	খাদ্যাদির ব্যয়	মূল্য	অন্যান্য ব্যয়	টাকা	মন্তব্য
হস্তান্তরিত জমা						
১। মজুরী হইতে—		(ক) চাউল খরিদ	(ক) গো-খাদ্য			
(ক) নগদ		(খ) ধান খরিদ	(খ) কাপড়, জামা ইত্যাদি ক্রয়			
(খ) প্রাপ্ত শস্যের মূল্য		(গ) ঝই, মুড়ি, চিড়া খরিদ	(গ) বিছানা, বাসন ইত্যাদি ক্রয়			
(গ) খোরাকির মূল্য		(ঘ) আটা, ময়দা	(ঘ) বাড়ী নির্মাণ বা নোন্নামত			
		(ঙ) ডাল	(ঙ) পূজাদি ধনুর্কার্য			
		(চ) গোল আলু	(চ) বিবাহাদি সামাজিক কার্য			
		(ছ) অন্যান্য তরকারী	(ছ) সৌখিন দ্রব্যাদি ক্রয়			
২। শস্যাদি বিক্রয় দ্বারা		(জ) মাছ	(জ) প্রসাধন দ্রব্যাদি ক্রয়			
		(ঝ) মাংস	(ঝ) সম্পত্তি ক্রয়			
৩। ব্যবসা হইতে		(ঞ) তিল	(ঞ) ঋণ শোধ			
		(ট) মশলাদি	(ট) দাতব্য			
৪। কুটির শিল্প দ্বারা		(ঠ) তৈল	(ঠ) ঔষধ ও চিকিৎসা			
		(ড) নুন	(ড) শিক্ষার ব্যয়			
৫। জাতি ব্যবসা দ্বারা		(ঢ) কেরোসিন, দেশলাই	(ঢ) যাত্রায়ত ইত্যাদি			
		(ণ) জ্বালানি কাঠ, কয়লা ইত্যাদি	(ণ) মামলা মোকদ্দমা			
৬। চাকুরী দ্বারা		(ত) দ্রব, দরি ইত্যাদি—	(ত) অন্যান্য			
		(থ) ষি				
৭। ঋণ দ্বারা		(দ) চিনি, গুড়, বাতাসা ইত্যাদি				
		(ধ) পান, তামাক, বিড়ি ইত্যাদি				
৮। অন্যান্য		(ন)				
(ক)						এই ঘরের মোট—
(খ)						পূর্ব ঘরের মোট—
						সর্ব মোট—
						উদ্ধৃত—



৩									
৪									
১০									
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১৩									
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১৫									
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১৭									
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২১									
মোট	দিন ×			দিন ×				দিন ×	

দ্রষ্টব্য :--১। উপরোক্ত অর্ধ মাসের মধ্যে কোন দিন কাজ না করিয়া থাকিলে যে তারিখে কাজ করা হয় নাই, সেই তারিখের বরাবর লাইনে কি কারণে কাজ করা হয় নাই তাহা লিখিতে হইবে। (যথা--নিজের বাড়ীর বা নিজ জমির কাজ, অসুখ, বৃষ্টি, কাজ পাওয়া যায় নাই ইত্যাদি।

২। উক্ত ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে যে যে তারিখে ইউনিয়নের বাহিরের লোকের অধীনে কাজ করা হইয়াছে সেই সেই দিনের কাজের বিবরণ পেন্সিলে গোল দাগ দিয়া চিহ্নিত করিতে হইবে।

অনুসন্ধানকারীর স্বাক্ষর.....তারিখ নং.....

তারিখ.....