

SOME RURAL PROBLEMS OF MYSORE

A Study of Opinion

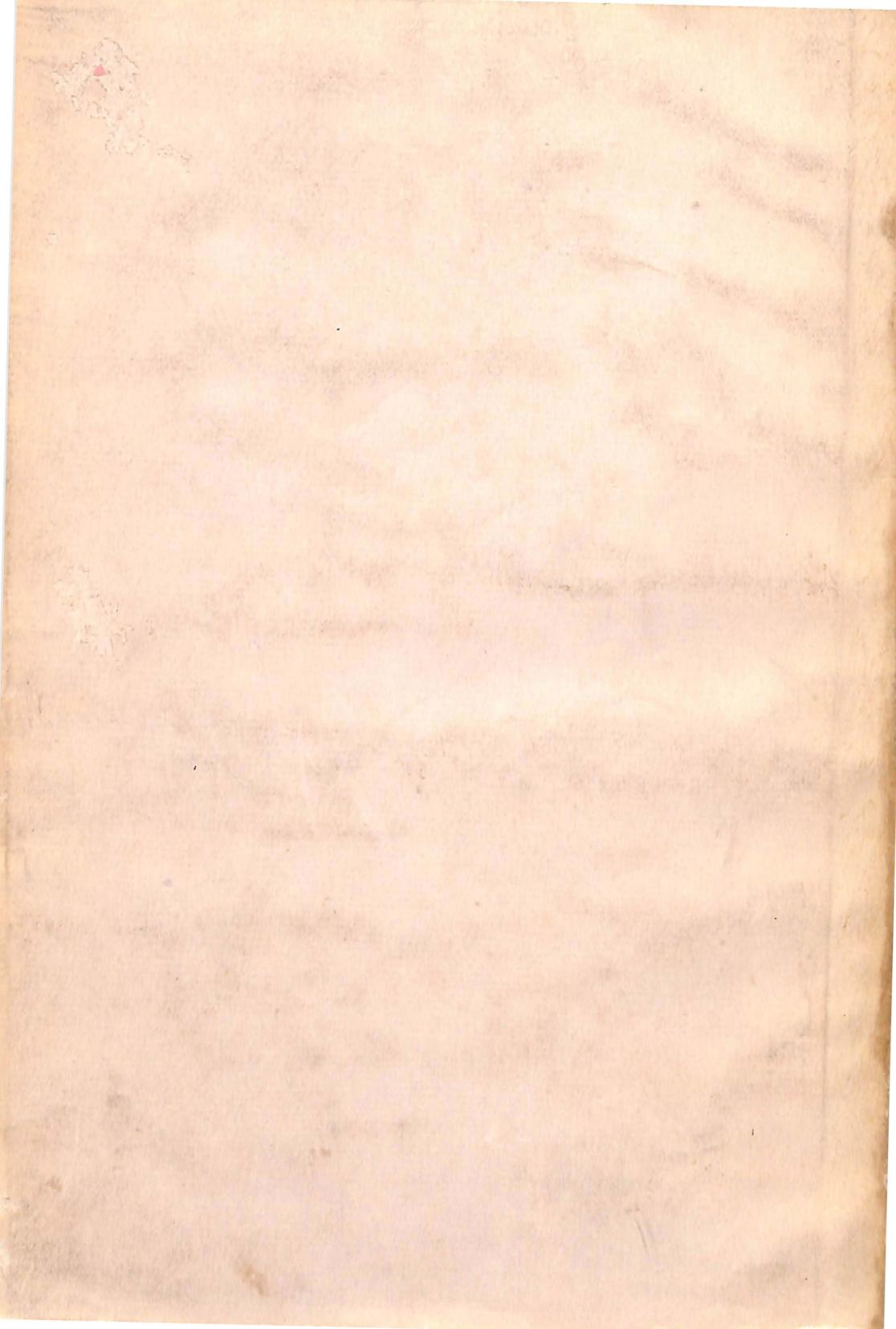
B. Kuppuswamy

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Since independence the aim of the state and society in India has been to bring about a substantial improvement in all aspects of rural life — economic, social and cultural.

A study of opinions and attitudes is basic for the proper planning of programs for social development. It is with this conviction that Professor Kuppuswamy made a study of the opinion regarding some basic rural problems. The study was confined to Mysore District. Altogether over a thousand and one hundred persons were interviewed, of whom 458 were rural people, 431 were urban people and 222 were college students. The study was made in 30 villages, 17 towns and the city of Mysore.

One outstanding feature of the results is that generally people are quite satisfied with the functioning of the Village Panchayats and cooperative societies. They were also fairly satisfied with the tenancy laws. It was felt that equal sharing of the produce between the tenant and landlord was fair. They desired that the absentee landlord should first offer his land for sale to the tenant. The general opinion was that the sale price of the land should be fifteen times the rent. The majority felt that the minimum holding should be ten acres for a family whether it is dry or wet. As for maximum holding it was felt that it should be 30 acres of dry land or 15 acres of wet land. In their opinion the annual income for a family of five should be between Rs. 1,000/- and Rs. 3,000/-. This is an indication of low level of aspiration generated by utter poverty prevailing.

More than two-thirds of the rural group had not heard of the five-year plans while nearly three-quarters of the urban group reported that they had heard of it. This is an indication of the failure of means of

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B. KUPPUSWAMY

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PREFACE

This study was undertaken with the financial support from the Research Programme Committee, Planning Commission, Government of India.

This investigation aims at studying the opinion of the people in villages and in urban areas regarding some basic rural problems. The study is limited to 30 villages, 17 towns and the one city in Mysore District.

The questionnaire method and interview technique were used to collect data. Altogether 1111 persons were interviewed of whom 458 were rural people, 431 were urban people; as a sub-enquiry, the opinion about the problems was collected from 222 college students studying in the final year degree classes in Mysore City.

The project was started on 1st September 1961. After finalising the draft questionnaire and translating it into Kannada, it was pretested in a number of nearby villages. The project terminated on 31st August 1962 with the completion of the collection of the data and the main tabulation. However, the task of preparing the report had to be postponed since I had to leave Mysore.

I am greatly indebted to Dr. M. N. Srinivas, Professor of Sociology of Delhi University and Dr. G. Raghava Rao of the Planning Commission for their help in designing the study as well as in drawing up the questionnaire. I am also grateful to Dr. K. B. Y. Thotappa, Professor of Political Science, Dr. G. T. Hutchappa, Professor of Economics, Dr. K. H. Venkatarayappa, Professor of Sociology, Professor S. K. Ekambararam, the late Sri Krishna Sastry and Dr. M. V. Jambunathan of the Statistics Department, all of the Mysore University for their critical and constructive comments on the design as well as the questionnaire. I am also grateful to Sri D. Krishna Iyengar, the author of many notable books on rural problems in Kannada for his great help in formulating the questions. My thanks are due to Dr. A. V. Shanmugam, and Sri K. M. Srinivas, who were at that time my research assistants in another project, for their ready help.

I am grateful to the authorities of the University of Mysore, where I was working at the time of the survey, and to the authorities of the India International Centre, where I was working at the time of drawing up of the draft report, for their co-operation and help.

I am indebted to the authorities of the Research Programme Committee for the financial grant to conduct the study. The author is, however, responsible for the views expressed in the study and this does not in any way reflect the opinion of either the Research Programme Committee of the Planning Commission or the Government of India.

To my Research Assistants Sri K. Seshagiri Rao and Sri B. S Chandrasekhar, I am deeply indebted. I acknowledge the help I received from many students who worked in the project. They cheerfully bore the burden of going to far away villages, live there and collect the data. I am also indebted to the authorities of the Orientation Training Centre of the Ministry of Community Development at Mysore for their valuable help in giving orientation lectures to the research staff.

It is impossible for me to express adequately my gratitude to Sri K. Seshagiri Rao who took endless pain to supervise the investigation in the villages and towns of Mysore District and later spent long hours in helping me to compile the report and get it ready for publication. He also helped me in revising the report.

I am grateful to the Research Program Committee for giving me a further grant to publish the work.

It is my fervent hope that this study will help the future investigators to study opinions and attitudes of village people and suggest practical steps so that the transition from the current stagnant economy and society to a modern and dynamic one is smooth and swift.

B. KUPPUSWAMY

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Since independence, various changes are taking place in India which are aimed at bringing about substantial improvement in all the aspects of life economic, social and cultural. Being predominantly an agricultural country, problems concerning land reforms naturally attracted the attention of the Government. There was also an increasing endeavour to bring about a new organisation in the village with the hope that it would be in a position to cope with the increasing day to day problems of the villages. Side by side villages were brought closer to the urban areas by the construction of roads and by the improvement of the communication system.

The Five-Year Plans were drawn by the Government of India to generate self-effort and self-improvement of the people with the help of the Government agencies. The most important prerequisite in the task of changing the economic, the social and the cultural life of the people is the intimate knowledge of the life in the village, the needs, the resources and the willingness of the people to improve their lot and their way of looking at the new things. As Krishnamachary put it “ what is emphasised is the change in the model outlook of the people, instilling in them of motivation for higher standard of living and the will and the determination to work for such standards.”

Though predominantly agricultural, India does not present a rosy picture of the village life. Nearly seventy per cent of the population of India depend for their livelihood upon the agricultural land of which only twenty per cent is irrigated.

Further the majority of land-holding was controlled by a few landlords. From generation to generation the land was inherited in fragments and the number of persons depending on the land considerably increased. Lack of alternative appointment opportunities have further contributed to the agony of the rural people.

To make the villages take over the responsibility of local development requires, on the one hand, the strengthening of the rural institutions and, on the other, proper education of the people regarding the way of doing things.

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To make the villages take over the responsibility of local development requires, on the one hand, the strengthening of the rural institutions and, on the other, proper education of the people regarding the way of doing things.

It would be interesting to study the opinion of the people regarding the problems facing them. How far are they aware of the actual problems they have to face and also the problems concerning the community as a whole? Further it could be studied how they intend to overcome these problems either by their own efforts or with the help of the government.

In the following pages an attempt will be made to report the results of the study of the opinion of the rural and urban people with regard to some of the rural problems. It was thought that it would be useful to make a comparison of the opinion of the rural people with the opinion of the urban people which would bring about a clear-cut picture regarding what has to be done to improve the situation. As a sub-inquiry the students studying in the final year degree class were also included. The results of the students inquiry has been appended (Appendix ' B ').

CHAPTER II

PROBLEM, PLAN AND PROCEDURE

Aim

The aim of the investigation is to study the opinion of the rural and urban people about the following problems:

- (a) village panchayat
- (b) cooperative society
- (c) tenancy laws
- (d) cooperative farming
- (e) food problem
- (f) five year plan
- (g) needs of the village
- (h) personal needs.

At the outset it may be pointed out that this is a survey of what the people are thinking about the various institutions and the problems concerning them. It is exploratory in nature and does not intend to cover all the facets of village life. It is assumed that it would unfold many areas for further exploration.

Method

Persons in the rural and urban areas were interviewed with the help of a questionnaire. Questions pertaining to the areas specified in the aim were drawn and pre-tested on a small rural and a small urban sample. It was found during the pre-testing that some of the questions were pertaining to the rural population only. These were excluded while studying the opinion of the urban people.

Selection of the Area

The investigation was conducted in Mysore District. While selecting the villages the following procedure was adopted. There were 1408 villages in the Mysore District spread over eleven Taluks. It was decided to select thirty villages at random. An effort was made to get these villages as evenly as possible from the eleven taluks. As the questionnaire intended to illustrate the opinion of the people about the village panchayat, cooperative society,

etc., it was thought that the frame of reference in selecting the villages could be the location of the village panchayats. The 1408 villages were organised into 509 village panchayats. These 509 villages were considered to be the 'universe' for our study, out of which thirty villages were ultimately selected. In order to have an even distribution of the sample for each taluk, the number of villages were selected in proportion to the total number of village panchayats in each taluk. Table No. 2: 1 gives the details regarding the number of villages selected from each taluk.

TABLE 2: 1

Showing the number of group panchayats and the number of villages selected in each Taluk of Mysore District.

S. No.	Taluk	Number of Group Panchayats	Number of villages selected.
1.	Mysore	50	3
2.	K. R. Nagar	47	3
3.	Hunsur	37	2
4.	Periapatna	39	2
5.	H. D. Kote	40	2
6.	Gundlepét	44	3
7.	Chamarajanagar	67	4
8.	Nanjangud	79	4
9.	T. Narasipur	48	3
10.	Yelandur	12	1
11.	Kollegal	46	3
<hr/>			
<hr/>		TOTAL ..	509
<hr/>			30

As regards the urban area all the towns and the one city in the Mysore District were included.

Sample

In order to have a cross section of rural people it was decided that the sample should be drawn from each of the specified categories of people on the basis of the type of occupation they pursued. In the village the following categories of people were included: (i) Patel (Village Chief) (ii) Shanubhog (Village Clerk) (iii) Land-

owners-Harijans and Non-Harijans (iv) Tenants-Harijans and Non-Harijans, (v) Labourers-Harijans and Non-Harijans, (vi) the Artisan and (vii) the Tradesman.

The different categories were classified into the following occupational groups:—

- (a) Land Owner—Patel, Shanubhog, Harijan and Non-Harijan Landowners.
- (b) Business—Tradesman
- (c) Skilled and Semi-Skilled Workers—Artisans.
- (d) Tenants—Harijan and Non-Harijan tenants.
- (e) Unskilled Workers—Harijan—Non-Harijan Labourers.

In each village there was only one Patel and one Shanubhog, a number of landless labourers and tenants, a few tradesmen and artisans and land-owners. So it was decided that not more than two persons should be selected from each category for interview.

The urban population in the seventeen towns and in the city of Mysore were selected from the following categories:

- (i) Professionals, (ii) Semi-professionals, (iii) Business,
- (iv) Landowners, (v) Skilled and semi-skilled workers and
- (vi) Unskilled workers.

It may be pointed out that strict statistical procedure could not be adopted for such a small number of people to be interviewed from each category. It is hoped that this deficiency in the study will be made up to some extent by the total number of persons interviewed in the two areas. It may also be pointed out that general conclusions based on the study are not conclusive but only indicative.

It appears that in adopting such surveys it is better to limit the geographical area rather than limit the number of persons to be selected from each area.

Lastly, it should be borne in mind that the numbers selected in each category are not representative of that category of people nor do they represent the geographical unit. They are persons selected on the basis of their occupation, etc., to ensure that there are people from different categories. For all practical purposes the rural and urban samples are treated as total numbers drawn from the rural and the urban areas on quota sample. Thus, 458 rural people and 431 urban people were interviewed.

Interview

The interview work was conducted by six investigators, one Statistical Assistant and one Research Assistant—all post-graduates from the Mysore University. In order to give them practical training in the technique of interviewing and the collection of data an orientation course was given at the Orientation Study and Research Centre, Mysore, which had been conducting social studies under Community Development Programmes. Besides this course, lectures were given by the Professors of Statistics, Economics, Psychology, Sociology and Political Science. There were also demonstration and discussion sessions.

An effort was made to ensure that the investigators would get the background training to undertake the task entrusted to them.

Finally they were given training to interview people in the rural and urban areas.

Place of Interview

In rural areas, usually the panchayat hall or a school room provided the place. The village officials were first interviewed. Other categories of people were interviewed afterwards. First the person to be interviewed was contacted and depending upon his convenience he was interviewed either in his home or at the village panchayat hall. Each interview was conducted by a team of two persons.

As regards the urban respondents they were interviewed at their place of work or in their homes.

CHAPTER III

PERSONAL DATA

Table No. 3: 1 gives the age distribution of the interviewees.

Table No. 3: 1

AGE OF THE INTERVIEWEES

<i>Age</i>	<i>Rural</i>		<i>Urban</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
21-35 years	121	(26)	165	(38)	286	(32)
36-45 years	143	(31)	133	(31)	276	(31)
46-55 years	106	(23)	78	(18)	184	(21)
56-65 years	59	(13)	34	(8)	93	(10)
66-75 years	29	(7)	21	(5)	50	(6)
TOTAL	458	(100)	431	(100)	889	(100)

The age distribution of the two groups was more or less similar. However, those in the age group 21-35 were more in the urban sample than in the rural. On the other hand those in the age group 56-65 were more in the rural than in the urban.

Table No. 2 gives the occupational distribution of the interviewees.

Table No. 2

OCCUPATION

Occupations	Rural		Urban		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
1. Professional workers.	0	(0)	47	(11)	47	(5)
2. Semi-professional workers	...	0 (0)	77 (18)	77 (9)		
3. Businessmen	...	42 (9)	98 (23)	140 (16)		
4. Landowners	...	200 (44)	61 (14)	261 (29)		
5. Skilled and semi-skilled workers	...	52 (11)	72 (16)	124 (14)		
6. Tenants	...	64 (14)	0 (0)	64 (7)		
7. Unskilled workers	...	100 (22)	76 (18)	176 (20)		
Total	458	(100)	431	(100)	889	(100)

The professionals and the semi-professional groups were only from the urban sample. The landlords, and tenants, were on the other hand mostly from the rural. The other groups, excepting the businessmen, were almost similar. As regards businessmen it was only nine per cent in the rural sample as against twentythree percent in the urban sample. However, the rural businessmen, namely, the tradesmen cannot be strictly compared with the businessmen in the urban areas because of their pattern of operation, the turnover and the money investment, the only similarity being that both of them were engaged in trade.

The following table gives the educational pattern of the interviewees.

Table No. 3: 3.

EDUCATION OF THE INTERVIEWEES AS COMPARED WITH THE
EDUCATION OF FATHER*Rural*

<i>Education of the inter- viewees</i>	<i>Education of father</i>				<i>Total</i>
	<i>Illiterate</i>	<i>Literate</i>	<i>High School</i>	<i>College</i>	
Illiterate ...	222 (67)	5 (4)	0	0	227 (50)
Literate ...	110 (33)	88 (74)	1	1	200 (44)
High School ...	1	22 (19)	4	0	27 (6)
College ...	0	4 (3)	0	0	4
	333 (100)	119 (100)	5	1	458 (100)

Urban

Illiterate ...	44 (34)	18 (8)	0	0	62 (15)
Literate ...	58 (45)	98 (43)	7 (15)	6 (21)	159 (37)
High School ...	15 (11)	65 (29)	11 (24)	3 (11)	94 (23)
College ...	13 (10)	46 (20)	28 (61)	19 (68)	106 (25)
	130 (100)	227 (100)	46 (100)	28 (100)	431 (100)

In the table the bottom total refers to the education of father and the right hand total refers to the education of the interviewees. Half of the rural respondents were illiterate as against fifteen per cent of the urban. Similarly fortyfour per cent of the rural as against thirty-seven of the urban were literate. On the other hand the high school and college educated were nearly half among the urban as against only six per cent of the rural.

Regarding the education of the father more than two-thirds of the fathers of the rural interviewees were illiterate and the remaining were literate. Those with high school education and above were hardly one per cent.

In the urban sample only one third had illiterate father.

A little less than half had literate fathers and the others were high school or college educated.

Further the analysis revealed that the education of father had not much effect in the case of rural where the bulk remained illiterate. The results, therefore, point out the effect of urban environment as regards the education of the interviewees.

The table below gives the annual income of the interviewees.

Table No. 4: 4
ANNUAL INCOME OF THE INTERVIEWEES

<i>Income per annum in Rupees</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Below 500/-	303 (67)	142 (32)	445 (50)
501—2,000/-	129 (28)	192 (45)	321 (36)
2,001—3,500/-	11 (2)	54 (13)	65 (7)
3,501—5,000/-	10 (2)	29 (7)	39 (4)
5,001 and above	5 (1)	14 (3)	19 (2)
	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Of the total sample half reported to be earning less than Rs. 500/- per annum. In this group were one-third of the urban and two-thirds of the rural. In the other half of the group also the urban sample was earning slightly more than the rural.

The following table gives the ownership of land of the interviewees.

Table No. 3: 5
OWNERSHIP OF LAND BY THE INTERVIEWEES

<i>Acres</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Not owning	176 (38)	237 (55)	413 (46)
Below 5	136 (30)	82 (19)	218 (25)
6—15	92 (20)	76 (18)	168 (19)
16—25	31 (7)	30 (7)	61 (7)
26—35	15 (3)	6 (1)	21 (2)
36 and above	8 (2)	0	8 (1)
	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

The table clearly reveals that more than half of the urban group did not own land and nearly twofifths in the rural group. However, the distribution of land in the case of the rest appears to follow a similar trend in both the cases. It is significant that 45% of the urban people owned land.

The table below gives the number of children of the interviewees.

Table No. 3: 6
NUMBER OF CHILDREN THE INTERVIEWEES HAD

<i>Number of children</i>	...	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
None		52 (11)	99 (23)	151 (17)
1—2		144 (31)	131 (31)	275 (31)
3—4		137 (30)	85 (19)	222 (25)
5—6		75 (16)	61 (14)	136 (15)
7—8		28 (7)	19 (4)	47 (5)
9—10		3 (1)	7 (2)	10 (1)
Not married		19 (4)	29 (7)	48 (6)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

There is close resemblance between the two groups regarding the number of children they had excepting that there were twice as many people without children among the urban respondents as compared to the rural. There is also a big difference among those having three to four children, the rural having more children than the urban group.

Thus we find a clear difference between the two groups in the personal data excepting in case of number of children they had. The rural group was considerably older, sticking to land, more or less illiterate and earning less than Rs. 500/- per annum. On the other hand the urban group was comparatively young, pursuing different occupations, considerably educated, earning slightly more than the rural and not owning much land.

It is interesting to note that while urbanization had brought about many changes in education, occupation, income etc., there was hardly any change regarding the number of children.

CHAPTER IV

Results

In this Chapter an attempt will be made to compare the opinions expressed by the rural and the urban respondents.

Occupation of the son

When they were asked whether they would like their sons to follow the parental occupation, it was found that the rural respondents were more in favour than the urban. The rural-urban differences were significant. Nearly half of the rural as against one third of the urban desired that their sons should follow their own occupation. It is interesting to note that this desire was mostly dependent upon land ownership among the rural respondents. This may be due to the desire that the successive generations should also keep up the prestige derived from the ownership of the land. Similarly the professional group among the urban respondents was also eager that their sons should become professionals. However, one third of the rural as well as the urban groups stated that their sons should not take up the parental occupations. It could also be noted that one third of the urban group and one fifth of the rural group did not respond to this question (Table No. 1 in Appendix A.)

Those who wanted their sons to take up occupations other than that followed by themselves were asked to specify the particular job they would like their sons to take up. About half of them did not specify; they went on to say that they should take up further education, etc. Among the other respondents, securing a government job was the first preference for both the groups. The urban group preferred also professional jobs. The other jobs referred to by the minority (less than 10%) of both the groups were agriculture, business and technical jobs. Thus the results indicate that there is lack of awareness about the possible occupations one could take up. At present both the rural and the urban respondents were eager that their sons should have secure jobs and so preferred government jobs (Table No. 2).

Opinion regarding Village Panchayats

Significant rural-urban differences were found in the opinion of the respondents regarding the working of the official village panchayats. Only half of the urban group as against nearly three-fourths of the rural stated that the official village panchayats were working properly. This indicates that the villagers who are actually acquainted with or involved in the working of the panchayats were in favour whereas the urban respondents who had an indirect knowledge were not quite clear though they were also slightly in favour (Table No. 3).

Only the rural group was asked whether the villagers were also cooperating with the official village panchayats. The majority responded that the villagers were extending their cooperation.

The next question asked was whether the panchayats should be given powers to settle disputes concerning the rent to be paid by the tenant. As high as eightythree per cent of the rural groups as against fiftyeight per cent of the urban were in favour of such powers being given to the panchayats. The rural-urban differences were significant (Table No. 4).

The rural group was also asked to specify the other powers that they thought should be given to the panchayats. Nearly three quarters did not give any suggestion, and four per cent declared that whatever the powers the panchayats had at present were sufficient. Nearly one-fifth suggested some additional powers such as full control over all the aspects of village life, judicial powers to deal with petty cases, both civil and criminal, with the power to levy fines ranging between Rs. 25/- and Rs. 50/-, power to deal with tenancy, power to deal with money-lending cases and power to distribute surplus land in the village. A few simply stated that some new powers should be given. Thus, the rural group indicated their belief in the institution of official village panchayat and also their belief in the ability of the panchayats to discharge its function. They further suggested that the panchayats should be given some more powers particularly those relating to settlement of dispute concerning money-lending and also judicial powers to deal with petty cases, thus indicating their eagerness to settle such matters within the jurisdiction of the village itself.

Opinion Regarding Cooperative Societies

When the respondents were asked whether the cooperative

societies were doing useful work, more than half of the rural group did not respond while the majority of the urban group stated that they were doing useful work. However, when the villagers were divided into two groups, *viz.*, those living in villages having cooperative societies and those where cooperative societies were not formed, it was found that half of the respondents of the villages having cooperative societies stated that they were working well; as high as eightyfour per cent of the respondents from the villages having no cooperative societies did not express any opinion. It may be mentioned that in all the urban areas where the study was made there were cooperative societies functioning. This may be the reason for the majority of the urban respondents having a favourable attitude towards them (Table No. 5).

When the reasons for the unsatisfactory working of the cooperative societies were sought 44 respondents (less than 10%) from the rural group and 93 respondents (21%) from the urban group gave their responses. The important complaints were that loans were not issued properly and that the officials or directors were corrupt. They also referred to casteism, etc. They further suggested some remedial methods such as educating the people, governmental control, change of officials or directors, etc. (Tables No. 6 and 7).

When questioned in what ways the cooperative societies could extend their activities, the majority of the respondents from both the rural and the urban groups did not specify. The suggestions were to start business in household requirements to increase the share capital, liberal loans to all members, supply of agricultural implements on credit, etc. Some others made the general statement that the cooperative societies should work according to the wishes of the people (Table No. 8).

When the rural respondents were asked whether the cooperative society was helping all the families in the village, fiftyfive per cent did not respond and only about one third responded favourably. Here also we find the same trend as that revealed in Table No. 5. Only fourteen per cent stated clearly that the cooperative societies were not helping all the families in the village and gave a number of reasons for such a situation. Among the reasons given were that there was no money to issue loans, that there was party and caste feeling, that agricultural impelments were not supplied, that there

was misunderstanding among members, that the members did not take interest, etc. They also pointed out that all the villagers were not members of the society. Only 100 persons out of 458 responded to the question as to how the society could increase its membership so that every household could become a member. Of the various suggestions given the important ones were that the loans should be issued in time, that there should be proper propaganda and that the society directors, etc., should work hard.

To the question how the society could increase its capital, three-fourths of the rural and half of the urban respondents did not answer. The suggestions given by the remaining respondents were that the number of shareholders should be increased, that interest in cooperative societies should be created by issuing loans, that the society should carry on business and that the Government should help the society by providing loans and subsidies. The respondents were particularly interested that the society should sell foodgrains and grocery.

Opinion Regarding Tenancy

The respondents were asked to state whether they found that the current tenancy laws were satisfactory. More than half of the urban and the majority of the rural respondents replied that the current tenancy laws were satisfactory. Thus, the rural group appeared to be more satisfied than the urban group. These differences were statistically significant. Only eighteen per cent of the rural and twentyseven per cent of the urban group were dissatisfied with the current laws (Table No. 9).

When those persons who were dissatisfied with the tenancy laws were asked to give suggestions so that the current tenancy laws could be modified, nearly half of the rural as well as the urban respondents (dissatisfied group) did not offer suggestions. The suggestions given by the other half were that the land-owner should have more freedom and that the land-owner as well as the tenant should be treated with equality.

The respondents were asked to state the proper rent that should be given by the tenant to the landlord. The responses provided were: one fifth, two fifths, half and three fifths, respectively. There was a very close resemblance between the rural and the urban responses; the majority of both the groups felt that the

tenant should pay half of the produce as rent to the land owner. The rural-urban differences were not statistically significant in this regard revealing a general agreement among the respondents, whether rural or urban, regarding the rate of tenancy (Table No. 10).

When the respondents were asked whether they were in favour of the tenant himself owning the land, only thirtyseven per cent of the rural respondents and fortyseven per cent of the urban respondents were in favour. This indicates that the rural group is more conservative than the urban group. The differences were highly significant (Table No. 11).

Further, the respondents were asked to state whether the absentee landlord should sell off his land immediately. While half of the respondents in both the groups were in favour of it the other half were against. However, some rural-urban difference was observed. Once again the rural group appeared to be more conservative than the urban group. The differences were significant (Table No. 12).

The next question was whether the tenancy laws should also be extended to the gardens. The results indicate that there is a clear-cut rural-urban difference. The majority of the urban group and only half of the rural group were not in favour. This significant difference further confirms the earlier finding that it was the rural group which was against bringing any change in the situation prevailing (Table No. 13).

Both the rural and the urban respondents were in favour of the absentee landlord first offering the land for sale to the tenant who would be actually cultivating the land in case he wants to sell it. However, the urban group was slightly more in favour than the rural. However, the rural-urban differences were not significant to draw any further conclusions (Table No. 14).

The respondents were asked to state through what agency they prefer the rent should be paid to the landlord, in the event of a dispute between the tenant and the landlord. Three alternative responses were given: (i) the cooperative society; (ii) the village panchayat and (iii) the tenancy court. The majority of the rural respondents as against half of the urban preferred village panchayats to the other two alternatives. Nearly one-third of the urban group as against onesixth of the rural preferred tenancy court. Clear-cut, significant, rural-urban differences were observed here. The

village group appeared to have faith in the institution of village panchayat more than in the tenancy court (Table No. 15).

The respondents were also asked to give the proper sale price of land in terms of the rent being paid by the tenant. Alternative responses given were, (i) ten times the rent, (ii) fifteen times the rent and (iii) twenty times the rent. The rate of selling land at fifteen times the rent was slightly favoured more than the other two alternatives. The urban respondents preferred this more than the rural. The rural urban differences were significant (Table No. 16).

Opinion Regarding Land Holding

A few questions concerning land holding were asked. To the question what should be the minimum acreage of dry lands owned by a family of five, two-thirds of the urban as against half of the rural stated that it would be alright if the family should own below ten acres of unirrigated dry lands, where crops like jawar and ragi were grown. On the other hand, the rural group was more eager than the urban group in having more than eleven acres as minimum acreage required. The differences were significant indicating that the rural group wanted more land for a family of five than the urban group.

Regarding the maximum acreage of dry land holding for a family of five also the urban group was satisfied with lesser acreage than the rural group (Table No. 17 & 18). Forty per cent of the rural and fifty per cent of the urban respondents indicated that the maximum should be below 15 acres per family of five.

When the respondents were asked about the size of the land holding for a family of five in regard to wet lands having irrigation facilities, the majority of the rural as well as the urban group stated that below ten acres of wet lands would serve the purpose. Regarding the maximum acreage, the majority of both the groups agreed that it should be below fifteen acres (Table No. 19 & 20).

There appears to be a tendency on the part of the urban group to wish for less land than the rural group whether dry or wet.

The respondents were asked to suggest various methods so that the problem of fragmentation of land might be solved. The majority of the rural as well as the urban groups were either unable to offer any suggestion to solve the problem or were certain that it would not be possible to solve it. Only fourteen per cent of the rural group and about one-third of the urban group gave some

suggestions such as: the land should be owned by the joint family, the owning of the land by the family should be increased, only one of the children should be in charge of looking after the lands, there should be cooperative farming, etc. The suggestions were given more by the urban than by the rural group (Table No. 21).

When the two groups were asked whether there should be any ceiling in the ownership of land, the majority considered that there should be. However, nearly one-fourth of the rural as against eleven per cent of the urban did not agree that there should be any ceiling (Table No. 22).

Those who desired the ceiling of land ownership were asked to state on what basis the ceiling of land ownership should be calculated. Two alternatives were given; (a) calculation on the basis of the income from the particular land or (b) on the basis of the acreage of land. The urban group was not clear about the basis on which ceiling should be calculated. On the other hand, the majority of the rural group stated that the ceiling of the land ownership should be calculated in terms of the acreage of land. This probably indicates that the rural group was aware that income on the land was a matter of one's interest and effort. Therefore, they probably felt that to fix the land ceiling would not have any objective basis if income were to be taken into account (Table No. 23).

The two groups were also asked to give their opinion about the minimum income required for a family of five to live comfortably. Slightly above half of both the groups thought that a family of five should have an annual income ranging between Rs. 1,001 to Rs. 3,000/- in order that they could live comfortably. One third of the rural group as against only one tenth of the urban thought that a family of five could live comfortably with less than Rs. 1,000/- per annum. On the contrary, more than a quarter of the urban group as against only eight per cent of the rural desired more than Rs. 3,000/- per annum. The rural-urban differences were significant. The point of reference of the two groups was 1961-62, the period of the interview (Table No. 24).

Opinion Regarding Cooperative Farming

A few questions were asked about cooperative farming and about its smooth functioning. Both the rural and the urban groups were highly in favour of cooperative farming. However,

one-fourth of the rural as against seventeen per cent of the urban were against cooperative farming. The urban group was more in favour of cooperative farming than the rural. The difference was significant (Table No. 25).

When they were asked to state whether they were willing to give their land to cooperative farming, the majority of the urban group stated that they were willing; less than half of the rural group was agreeable to do so. The significant rural-urban difference indicates that the rural group was not whole-heartedly willing to join cooperative farming; one third of them definitely refused to give their land (Table No. 26).

The rural respondents were asked whether each one of them would join the cooperative farming if the majority of the village people would join. To this question only half of them agreed to follow the majority. One quarter did not want to join and another quarter did not give their opinion. They were also asked to state when other people should be compelled to join the cooperative farming. The alternative responses were given in terms of annas (the coinage in use at the time of conducting the interview) since the rural people were more familiar with such a concept than the concept of percentage; the alternatives were ten annas in a rupee, twelve annas in a rupee and fourteen annas in a rupee. The result may be summed up as follows:

Twentyeight per cent of the rural respondents asserted that compulsion could be made if seven-eighths had joined, thirtyfive per cent when three-quarters had joined and ten per cent when five-eighths had joined. One quarter of the respondents did not give their opinion. Two per cent wanted that there should be no compulsion whatever. The results indicate that the resistance to join cooperative farming goes down with the increase in the proportion of people in the village joining it. A person will not join until three-fourths or even more of the 'others' join it. This may be due to the suspicion on the part of the villager regarding the 'new' method of working.*

Another question asked them to state what proportion of the village land should come into cooperative farming before others were compelled to join. Twentysix per cent wanted compulsion only when seven eighths of land is brought together; thirtyfour

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* The question referred only to rural; table not given.

per cent wanted compulsion when three quarters of the land and nine per cent when five-eighths of the land had come in. Two percent did not want the others to be forced at any stage. Twenty-nine per cent did not respond. Thus the village group has clearly stated that whether in terms of people joining or in terms of village land being brought together into cooperative farming, there should already be a majority of more than three fourths before the remaining people and remaining land could be brought into the movement.*

The rural group was also asked to state what effect cooperative farming would have on the yield. Fiftytwo per cent of the group were of the opinion that there would be increase in production; twentythree per cent thought that there would be decrease in production; and eleven per cent thought that there would be no effect. The remaining fourteen per cent did not respond. Thus there was no decisive opinion in favour of cooperative farming though half of the them thought that cooperative farming might increase the yield.*

Both the rural and the urban respondents were asked to state whether they felt that the working of cooperative farming would be smooth and efficient. The majority of the urban and more than half of the rural stated that the working would be smooth and efficient. These differences were statistically significant. Thus, the urban group appeared to have greater belief in the working of the cooperative farming than the rural group (Table No. 27).

To the question whether cooperative farming would make all members prosperous, the majority of the rural as against half of the urban were confident. The differences between the two groups was significant. Here we find that the urban group was doubtful about the prosperity of the members joining the cooperative farming while the rural group was confident (Table No. 28).

Opinion Regarding Foodgrains

The respondents were asked a few questions pertaining to foodgrains. When they were asked about the cost of foodgrains almost all (nearly 90 % of the both the groups) asserted that the cost of the foodgrains was too high. It may be pointed out that this result refers to the situation in 1961. No rural-urban difference was observed (Table No. 29).

* The question referred only to rural; table not given.

The respondents were given three alternative agencies of distribution, viz., (i) the merchants, (ii) the government depots and (iii) the cooperative societies and were asked to state which one would be better. The responses indicate significant rural-urban difference. Nearly half of the rural group was in favour of government depots, the merchants were preferred next and the cooperative societies the least. The urban group did not prefer any particular alternative, though the order of preference was the government depots, the merchants and the cooperative society. It is interesting to note that the cooperative societies as agencies of foodgrains distribution were the least preferred by both the groups (Table No. 30).

The respondents were asked to give their opinion about the collection of the food grains by the state and selling them directly to the consumers. Both the rural and the urban groups were in favour of the government taking up the task of collection as well as distribution of the food-grains. The rural-urban difference was, however, significant indicating that the rural people had greater faith in the government agency than the urban (Table No. 31).

Further, the respondents were asked to give their opinion about the government fixing the rates at which the foodgrains should be purchased and sold. The majority of both the groups were in favour of the fixation of rates by the Government. Here also the rural-urban difference was noticed which indicated that rural group had greater belief in the government than the urban (Table No. 32).

Both the rural and the urban respondents were asked to give their opinion about the rate of selling of the various foodgrains. Opinion was asked regarding rice—coarse and fine, jawar, ragi, togari (arhar dal), sugar, groundnut oil, ghee and milk.

Regarding the coarse rice half of the rural as well as the urban respondents preferred that it should be sold around three seers a rupee.* However, some rural-urban difference was observed. Eighty per cent of the rural people wanted that coarse rice should cost three to four seers a rupee while three quarters of the urban people were satisfied if they can get two to three seers a rupee. When they were asked about the cost of the fine rice, nearly

* The measures referred to here point out the situation prevailing in 1961 before the metric system was introduced.

half of the rural group and three fourths of the urban group did not specify and the remaining were not quite clear. It appears that fine rice is not important to the common man rural or urban; it is preferred only by the rich (Table Nos. 33 & 34).

As regards the rate of jawar; half of the urban group wanted that it should be available at three to four seers a rupee and another one third wanted it to be five to six seers. Here again it was found that the rural people were more in favour of cheaper grain than the urban people. The rural-urban difference was significant. (Table No. 35).

Nearly half of both the groups wanted ragi, another major foodgrain of Mysore State, to be sold at three to four seers a rupee. One third of both the groups wanted it to be sold at five to six seers. It is interesting to note that the opinions of the rural as well as the urban were more or less similar in regard to ragi, the foodgrain mostly consumed by the masses in the Mysore District (Table No. 36).

There was no difference between the two groups with regard to the rate of togari (arhar) dal; the majority wanted it to be sold at two seers a rupee. (At the time of enquiry the rate was Rs. 1.25 to Rs. 1.50 per seer (Table No. 37).

The responses regarding the rate of sugar varied from Rs. 0.50 to Rs. 1.50 per viss. When the responses were classified into two groups *viz.*, those for less than a rupee per viss of sugar and those for above a rupee per viss, the urban group was ready to buy even at more than a rupee whereas the rural preferred to buy at less than a rupee. (It is difficult to make an assessment regarding the number of persons in the rural areas who actually use sugar due to the fact that jaggery was easily available and mostly preferred as substitute for sugar in this area) (Table No. 38).

The rate of groundnut oil as stated by the two groups also varied from Rs. 0.25 a seer to more than Rs. 0.50 a seer. The rural group, however, indicated that it would be better if groundnut oil was sold at six annas or less. The urban group was ready to pay upto eight annas. (The rate prevailing at the time of enquiry was more than Rs. 0.50) (Table No. 39).

The majority of the rural group as against less than half of the urban was eager that the rate of ghee should be Rs. 0.75 or less. On the other hand, two-fifths of the urban group as against

a quarter of the rural were willing to have it at even more than a rupee (Table No. 40).

With regard to the rate of milk, while nearly half of the rural group wanted four seers per rupee, the majority of the urban were satisfied with two to three seers (Table No. 41).

Thus significant rural-urban differences were found with regard to the rates of foodgrains, the rural wanting it to be cheaper than the urban. This is according to the general expectation that the rural groups, being producers of foodgrains, always prefer the cost of the foodgrains, as consumers, to be at the low level. The urban group which is primarily the consumer of the goods would be ready to pay more.

Opinion Regarding Second Five Year Plan

The respondents were asked to state whether they had heard of the Second Five Year Plan, which had just come to a close at the time of the interview. Only the urban group revealed that it had heard of the Second Five Year Plan. Even among them nearly a quarter had not heard of it. The rural group, on the other hand, was mostly ignorant. Nearly a quarter had some knowledge of the Second Five Year Plan and the others clearly stated that they had not heard of it. Thus, the results indicated that the information about the plan had not reached the majority of the rural people (Table No. 42).

When they were asked whether the country had made any progress during the last few years, the majority of the urban group and less than half of the rural group agreed that the country had progressed. On the contrary, one fourth of the rural group as against only four per cent of the urban group was definite that there was no progress. One third of the rural group as against less than one fifth of the urban group did not give their opinion. The rural-urban differences were significant indicating that it was the urban group which had either experienced or observed the progress of the country but not the rural people (Table No. 43).

Those who stated that the country had made some progress in the last few years were asked to specify the areas where there was progress. The important areas mentioned by those who responded to this question were that the country had made progress in all aspects, in agriculture, in education, in starting new industries and in the construction and development of road and transport.

Other responses in a small measure covered areas like electricity, health, etc. However, one quarter of the urban group as against only one-eighth of the rural mentioned the progress of industries (Table No. 44).

Those who stated that the life in the country had become worse in the last few years were also asked to specify the areas. The rural group stated that the government had failed, the standard of living of the people had deteriorated and the party feeling had increased. However, the urban people were mostly concerned with the deterioration in the standard of living of the people. Nearly half of the urban group, who had stated that the country had become worse in the last few years, referred to the low standard of living. They were also concerned with the deterioration in the morality of the people (Table No. 45).

When the respondents were asked whether the village people were eager to improve their villages, seventy-seven per cent of the urban people as against fifty-eight per cent of the rural thought that the villagers were eager. Thus the village people themselves were not so positive. A clear rural-rurban difference can be observed here (Table No. 46).

The respondents were asked to state what they thought of the current position in the village concerning the production of foodgrains when compared to the last few years. Three alternative responses were given, *viz.*, (i) more production, (ii) less production and (iii) the same production. One half of the rural respondents thought that the production had become less during the last few years. On the other hand, the urban people did not find any difference in the production rate. Around a quarter of both the groups stated that there was improvement. The results indicate that both the rural and the urban groups were aware that the rate of production had not increased. The villagers thus appeared to be dissatisfied with the present rate of production of foodgrains in the village (Table No. 47).

When asked to state whether the Government was helping the village to become a better place to live in, three fourths of the urban group and a little more than half of the rural group stated that the government was helping the villages. However, more than one third of the villagers as against one sixth of the urban stated that the government was doing nothing (Table No. 48).

To the question whether the village people could improve the

living conditions in the village by their own efforts, the majority of the rural group and nearly half of the urban group stated a clear 'no'. Less than a quarter of the rural group and nearly two fifths of the urban group thought that it would be possible to improve the living conditions in the village by the self-help of the people. Thus, while those living outside the village considered that the people in the village could improve the condition of the village by their own efforts the villagers themselves were quite sure that by their own efforts they could not improve the situation and indicated a tendency to depend upon others (Table No. 49).

A few questions were put to the rural group only as these questions were pertaining to village life.

The rural group stated that they were not getting improved seeds from either the Cooperative Society or the Government Depot; only one fourth said that they were getting the improved seeds. They were convinced that better seeds would improve the yield. They were also convinced that fertilizers would help in increasing the production.

When the question of getting the fertilizers came, once again less than a quarter stated that they were getting the fertilizers while the majority said that they did not.

Thus their attitude toward improved seed and fertilizers had changed and they wanted to use them, but the supply could not meet the demand.

Only less than half of the rural group said that they knew how to prepare a compost pit. When they were asked whether they were planning to dig a compost pit in their yard the proportion reduced to only a quarter. Similar was the state of affairs with regard to their knowledge of the village level worker. More than half had not heard of him. Even among them most were not aware of the functions of the village level worker. Nearly a one fourth stated that they did not know what the functions of the village worker were. Others stated that the village level worker gives advice to the people, that he gives information about agriculture, that he helps the villagers in their day to day affairs and that he helps to keep the village clean. Some of them remarked that he did nothing. One third of the rural respondents thought that it would be possible for the village level worker to help the villages to become a better place to live in. However, it is interesting that those who were aware of the working of the village level

worker considered him more as a person giving advice rather than a person cooperating in their endeavour to improve rural conditions.

When they were asked whether the officials of the agriculture department were meeting and helping them in their farm work, more than half stated that the officials were not coming to help them. The villages selected were covered under the Community Development Block and in most of the villages selected for the study, the village level worker was expected to stay at the village and the officials of the agricultural department were expected to meet them frequently (Table No. 50).

Aspiration of the Villagers—needs of the Village

When the respondents were asked to mention the minimum needs of the village, only four per cent of them failed to respond. The others (438 respondents) have given in all 1,076 responses which gives an average of 2.5 responses per respondent. This indicates clearly that the respondents were quite aware of the minimum requirements of the village. Roads, electricity, hospitals, facilities for agriculture and drinking water were the five important needs specified by the rural group. The other needs mentioned were education, village sanitation, cooperative society, etc. A few also referred to industries in the villages. The responses clearly indicated that the villagers were quite aware of the needs of the village (Table No. 51).

When they were asked how the needs of the village could be fulfilled more than three fourths stated that it could be done only with the help of the government. Only five per cent stated that the villagers could meet the needs by self help without seeking the aid from the government. The remaining seventeen per cent wanted that the villagers should initiate the work along with the help from the Government. This confirms the results of Table 49 above. (See page 25)

The village respondents were asked to state whether they were thinking about the improvement of the drinking water supply in the villages; nearly half stated that they were thinking and the other half stated that they were not. Those who stated that they were thinking of the improvement were asked to suggest the means to improve. Nearly one fifth of them did not respond; out of 458 only 167 respondents (37%) responded. Among them, half wanted that new wells should be dug; nearly one third wanted

repair of the existing wells so that they could have better drinking water; a few wanted water through taps and a few others through channels. Five per cent of the group did not specify but only stated that government should help in some way or the other (Table No. 52).

Personal Aspirations

Finally, a few questions were asked concerning the respondent's aspirations with respect to his house and his occupation. The majority of the urban respondents replied in the negative when they were asked whether they are planning to improve their houses. In contrast nearly half of the rural people replied that they are planning to improve their houses. The rural-urban differences were significant. As regards the requisites necessary to improve the house, asked of those who replied in the affirmative to the above question, most of them mentioned that they needed housing material. One fifth of the urban and one tenth of the rural group desired to build a new house. Few mentioned modernization or extension. A little over one fifths of the whole group responded to the question concerning the equipment they are planning to purchase for their house in the course of the year. While the majority of the urban respondents mentioned that they were planning to buy furniture and modern equipment, the majority of the rural respondents asserted that they were planning to buy housing material and articles of food and clothing. When they were asked how they expected to obtain the money to buy these things, the majority of the rural people said that they would take a loan to buy them and half of the urban respondents said that they could obtain additional income by working more. The whole group was asked whether they were planning to have some subsidiary occupation to increase their income. Only one third of the urban and one-eighth of the rural group replied in the affirmative. The rest gave a negative reply. The rural-urban differences were significant. Those who gave affirmative response were further asked to specify the subsidiary occupation. Half of the rural group specified agriculture and two-fifths of the urban group specified business (Table No. 53 to 55).

The results clearly reveal two significant areas of difference in personal aspirations between the rural and urban respondents: a) while the rural respondents desire to purchase housing materials,

food and clothing to satisfy the primary level needs, the urban respondents desire to satisfy the secondary level needs by purchasing furniture and modern household equipment and b) while the rural respondents expect to raise the money for this purpose by borrowing, the urban respondents expect to get the money by doing additional work, probably in their spare time.

SUMMARY

Introduction:

Since independence the aim of the state and the society in India has been to bring about a substantial improvement in all aspects of life—economic, social and cultural. As India is predominantly rural a big change has to come about in the villages. The most important pre-requisite in the task of changing the people is an intimate knowledge of the life in the village, their needs and resources and their willingness to improve their lot.

The Aim of the Study:

The aim of the present study is to ascertain the opinion of the people regarding the problems facing the rural people. An attempt was also made to see the differences, if any, between the rural and urban people regarding the rural problems. The opinion of the students of the final year degree class was also obtained.

A study was made regarding the following problems: village panchayat, cooperative society, cooperative farming, tenancy laws, food problem, etc.

The Method:

People in the rural and urban areas were interviewed with the help of a questionnaire.

Area of Study:

The study is confined to Mysore District. There were 1408 villages in eleven taluks. However, there were village panchayats only in 509 of these villages. Thirty of these villages with panchayats were selected for study. In order to have an even distribution of the sample in each taluk, the number of villages were selected in proportion to the total number of village panchayats in each taluk.

Sample:

In order to have a cross-section of rural people it was decided that the sample should be drawn from each of the specified categories of people on the basis of their occupation, *viz.*, Patel (village chief), Shanubhog (village clerk), Harijan and non-Harijan land-owners, Harijan and non-Harijan tenants, Harijan and non-Harijan labourers, artisans and tradesmen. Not more than two persons were selected from each category among the landowners, tenants, labourers, etc. The aim was to get a cross-section of the opinion.

As regards the urban areas there are seventeen towns and one city in the Mysore District. The urban respondents were selected from the following occupational categories: professional, semi-professional, business, landowners, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

In this manner 458 rural people and 431 urban people were interviewed and a cross-section of the opinion of people regarding rural problems was obtained.

It should be borne in mind that the numbers selected in each category are not representative of that category of people in the given geographical area. The aim was to ensure that persons from different categories of occupations in the rural and urban areas are included in the study.

There were six interviewers divided into three teams. They were post-graduates in Social Sciences. They were given an orientation course regarding the rural problems and training in interviewing the rural as well as the urban people.

Personal Data:

There is a clear difference between the two groups in the personal data excepting in case of number of children they had. The rural group was considerably old, sticking to land and, more or less illiterate and earning less than Rs. 500/- per annum and owning some land. On the other hand, the urban group was comparatively young, pursuing different occupations, considerably educated, earning slightly better than the rural group. Thus urbanization seems to have hardly any effect on the number of children in each family.

Results:

Occupation of the Son:

Nearly half of the rural respondents desired that their sons should follow their own occupation as against only one third of

the urban respondents; this desire was expressed mostly by those owning lands in the rural areas and those belonging to the professional groups in the urban areas.

When those who asserted that their sons should take up some occupation other than their own were asked to specify the occupation which they wanted their sons to follow, only about one half could specify. As for the rest, the general preference was that they should take up a Government job. Some of the urban respondents desired that they should take up professional work. We have here evidence of the change that is taking place in India where traditionally the sons had to follow the caste occupation.

This is an indication of the desire for social mobility for the sons; and this is more in evidence among the urban people than among the rural.

Village Panchayat:

While three fourths of the rural group stated that the official village panchayats were working satisfactorily, only one half of the urban group were of that opinion. The majority of the rural respondents asserted that the village people were extending their cooperation to the panchayats. As high as eightythree per cent of the rural group and fifty-eight per cent of the urban group asserted that the panchayats should be given powers to settle disputes concerning rent to be paid by the tenants. When the rural group was asked to specify any other powers which could be given to the panchayats, nearly three quarters did not specify. A few suggested that some additional powers such as full control over all the aspects of village life could be given to the village panchayats.

It appears that there is great faith in the rural as well as urban people that the village panchayats are working satisfactorily and that local disputes could be settled through the panchayats.

Cooperative Societies:

When the respondents were asked whether the cooperative societies were doing useful work, more than half of the rural group did not respond while the majority of the urban group stated that they were doing useful work. Further breakdown showed that as high as eightyfour per cent of those living in villages which did not have any cooperative societies did not express their opinion, while

half of those living in villages with cooperative societies stated that the societies were working well. One fifth of the urban group and only one tenth of the rural group gave reasons for the unsatisfactory working of the societies; the important complaints were that the loans were not issued properly or that the directors and officials were corrupt. Some also referred to casteism. Among the remedial methods suggested were educating the people, government control, change of officials or directors, etc.

The study shows that even in the villages with village panchayats there do not exist cooperative societies. Further, the study indicates that the people are not quite satisfied with the functioning of the cooperative societies.

Tenancy Laws

The majority of the rural and more than half of the urban respondents replied that the current tenancy laws were satisfactory. The majority of the rural as well as the urban group felt that the tenants should pay half of the produce as rent to the landowner. Only thirtyseven per cent of the rural group as against fortyseven per cent of the urban group was in favour of the tenant himself owning the land. Fiftysix per cent of the rural group and forty-nine per cent of the urban group were not in favour of this. Thus the urban group appeared to be more radical in its outlook; it preferred that absentee landlord should sell immediately the land to the tenant and that there should be the extension of tenancy laws to the gardens.

Both the groups were in favour of the absentee landlord offering his land for sale first to the tenant.

The majority of the rural people were in favour of paying rent to the village panchayat in case of disputes.

As regards the sale price of the land the rural people preferred that it should be ten to fifteen times the rent while the urban people were more in favour of fifteen times the rent.

The position at the time of this study indicates that the people were quite satisfied with the tenancy laws that were existing and looked upon equal sharing between the landlord and the tenant as being fair to both. Nearly half of those questioned were not in favour of the tenant himself owning the land. Nor were they in favour of the landlord selling the land to the tenant immediately. The urban group was slightly more radical than the rural group.

These problems which, according to the economists and politicians need radical changes to increase agricultural production do not seem to agitate the people. They appeared to be content with things as they were.

Land Holding:

While the majority of the urban people felt that the minimum acreage of dry land owned by a family of five should be below ten acres, one third of the rural people asserted that it should be between 11 and 20 acres. Three quarters of the two groups were in favour of the maximum holding of dry land being below 30 acres.

With respect to wet land, the majority of the two groups felt that the minimum holding should be below 10 acres and that the maximum holding should be below 15 acres.

With respect to the solution of the problem of fragmentation of holdings the majority of the rural as well as the urban groups were either unable to offer any suggestion or were certain that the problem could not be solved. One sixth of the urban group thought that cooperative farming might be a solution; none of the rural respondents gave such a solution.

The majority of the two groups were in favour of ceiling of land ownership. However, nearly one quarter of the rural group was against any ceiling in contrast to a tenth of the urban group. The majority of the rural group was in favour of the acreage being the basis of ceiling while the urban group was not decisively in favour of either income or acreage being the basis.

As regards the minimum annual income for a family of five there was a significant rural-urban difference. While the majority of the two groups were in favour of the annual income being between Rs. 1,000/- and Rs. 3,000/- nearly one third of the rural group felt that it could be below Rs. 1,000/- while twentyseven per cent of the urban group felt that it should be above Rs. 3,000/-.

Thus the people in general were in favour of land holding of a maximum 30 acres of dry land and 15 acres of wet land. This is an indication of low levels of aspiration. This is confirmed by the opinion of the majority that the annual income should be between Rs. 1,000/- and Rs. 3,000/-.

Cooperative Farming:

The rural as well as the urban groups were largely in favour of cooperative farming. However, a significant difference between

the two groups was that a quarter of the rural group was against it as compared to seventeen per cent of the urban group. Similarly less than half of the rural group was willing to give all their land for cooperative farming in comparison to three fifths of the urban group. Only half of the rural group said that they would join cooperative farming if the majority of the village joined it while one quarter did not want to join even if the majority did so. As regards the stage at which people should be forced to join cooperative farming twentyeight per cent asserted that compulsion could be made if seven-eighths had joined, thirtyfive per cent when three quarters had joined and ten per cent when five-eighths had joined. Two per cent said that there should be no compulsion at all. Similar responses were given regarding the proportion of the village land coming under cooperative farming. However, only half of them thought that cooperative farming might increase the yield while nearly one quarter thought that there might be decrease. One half of the rural group as against two thirds of the urban group thought that work on cooperative farms would be smooth and efficient.

Thus on the whole the urban group appeared to be more in favour of cooperative farming than the rural group.

Foodgrain Distribution and Cost:

An overwhelming majority of each group asserted that the cost of foodgrains prevailing at that time was too high. As regards the distribution agencies, while the rural group was well in favour of government depots as against the merchants and cooperative societies, the urban group did not indicate any preference. The cooperative societies were the least preferred by both the groups.* The rural as well as the urban group was in favour of the government taking up the task of collection and distribution of foodgrains, the rural having greater faith in the government than the urban group. The majority of both the groups were in favour of the fixation of price by the government. In general the rural people were more in favour of low-cost of food items than the urban people.

* *In their opinion about cooperative societies the urban group had indicated satisfaction. (See pages 30-31).*

Plan and Progress

More than two-thirds of the rural group had not heard of the five year plan while three quarters of the urban group had heard of it. More than three quarters of the urban group asserted that the country had progressed in the last few years as against only two-fifths of the rural group. When those who had asserted that the country had made progress were asked to specify the areas, they referred to agriculture, education, industries, transportation, etc. Those who had stated that the country had not progressed in the last few years pointed out that that the standard of living had actually deteriorated.

When the respondents were asked whether the village people were eager to improve their villages, only fifty eight per cent of the rural people gave an affirmative reply as against seventyseven per cent of the urban. Thus the rural people appeared to have a more realistic assessment of themselves.

Only one quarter of the rural as well as urban people said that production of foodgrains had improved in the last few years. While half of the rural people thought that the production was less, nearly half of the urban people thought that it was almost the same. Thus the villagers appeared to be dissatisfied with the rate of production of foodgrains.

Similar trend is noticed in the response regarding the role played by the government to improve the villages. Only fiftysix per cent affirmed that the Government is helping the village to become a better place to live in. In contrast as high as seventysix per cent of the urban people were satisfied with what the government was doing for the villages.

The village people were not confident that they could improve the village by their own effort. Nearly three quarters thought that it would not be possible. On the other hand, two-fifths of the urban group affirmed that the rural people could improve the village by their own effort.

Nearly two thirds of the rural group stated that production can be improved with better seeds and fertilizers. However, they were dissatisfied with the availability of good seeds and fertilizers either from the cooperative society or from the government depot.

Half of the rural group was aware of the methods of preparing a compost pit. However, only a quarter were planning to dig a compost pit in their yard.

More than half had not heard of the village level worker and two fifths did not believe that he could be of any help to improve the conditions in the village. More than half said that the officials of the agricultural department did not meet and help them in their farm work.

As regards the immediate needs of the village the rural people gave priority to roads, electricity, medical facilities, drinking water, agricultural facilities and education.

Less than half of the rural group said that they were thinking about the improvement of the supply of drinking water in the village. In other words, this did appear to be one of the pressing problems for them. When they were asked about the means to improve the supply of drinking water fortytwo per cent referred to the digging of new wells and twentynine per cent to the cleaning and repairing of the existing wells.

The rural as well as the urban people were asked whether they were planning to improve their homes. Nearly half of the rural people replied in the affirmative as against only one third of the urban. More than two-thirds of the latter said that they were not.

Half of the rural people said that they were planning to purchase housing materials to improve their houses in the course of the year. Another quarter referred to food and clothing. As against this more than four-fifths of the urban people were planning to purchase modern equipment, furniture, etc., for their homes. This clearly brings out the difference in aspirations of the standard of living between the two groups. Clear rural-urban difference also came out in their responses regarding the way in which they expected to raise the funds for this. Nearly three quarters of the rural people were thinking of borrowing while nearly half of the urban people wanted to get the additional income by working more.

However, when they were asked whether they were planning to have some subsidiary occupation to increase their income the majority of both the groups said that they were not. Among the few who said that they were, it was found on further questioning that the rural people were thinking of improvement in agriculture and the urban people of entering into business to improve their income.

Thus the responses regarding the awareness of the five year plan shows the great difference in communication facilities between the rural and urban areas. Most of the rural people had not heard

of the village level worker. They did not feel that the government officials are helping the villages to improve their condition.

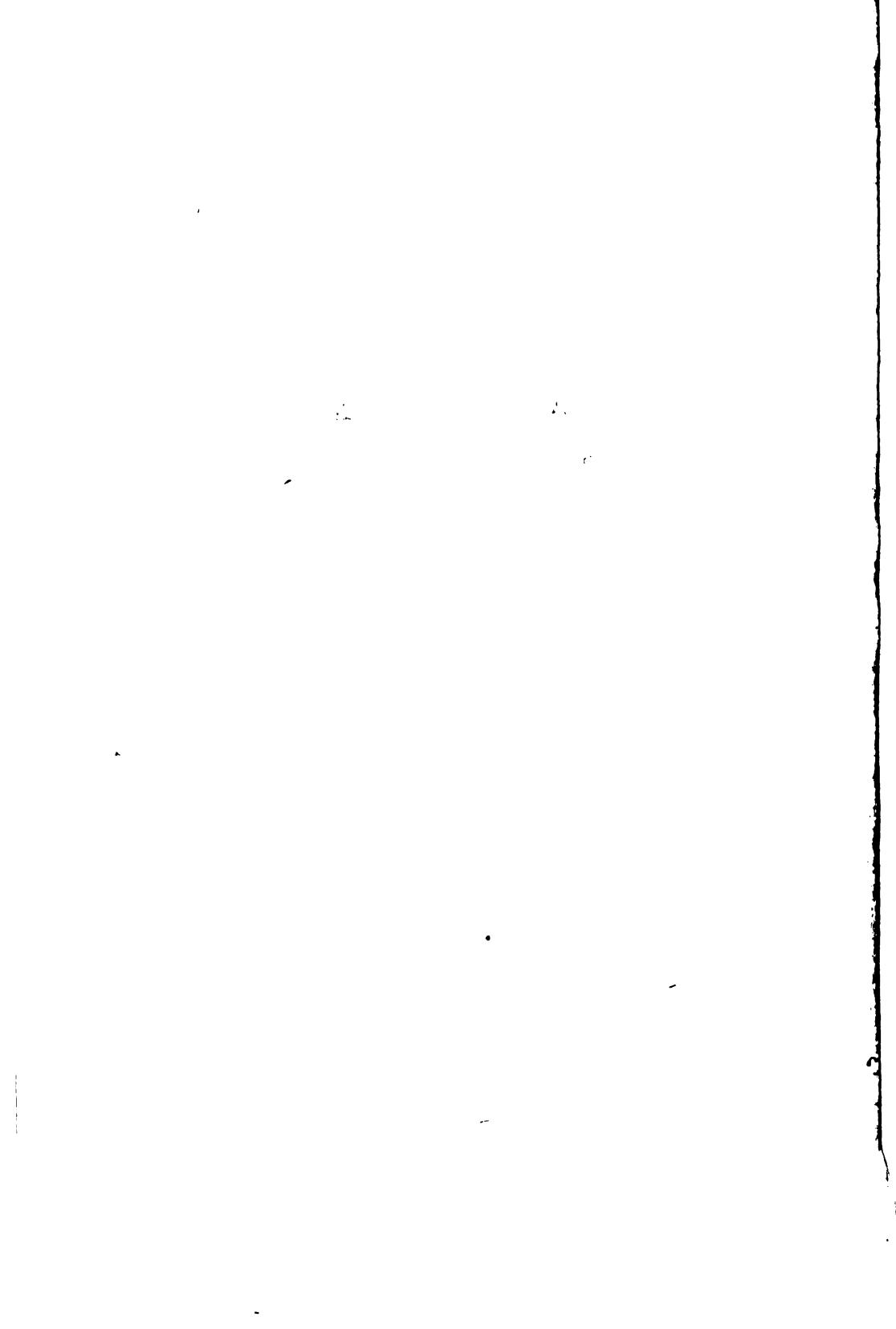
The rural group did not find that the country had made any progress in the last few years; nor were they optimistic. However, the villagers were eager to improve their villages.

The rural people were aware that production of foodgrains had not improved. They realised the effect of improved seeds and fertilizers on agricultural production, but they were dissatisfied with the distribution of these articles.

Thus the study shows that even though there was deficiency in communication, there was an awareness among the rural people regarding the possibilities of improving agricultural production and the amenities in the villages. However, there was lack of faith in themselves and also in their own effort. They were dependent on the government.

One of the great tasks to bring about rural reconstruction, or rather national reconstruction, would be to make the rural people develop confidence and faith in their self-effort.

APPENDIX



APPENDIX — A

TABLES FROM 1 TO 55

Table 1

1 (a) Would you like your son to take up your own occupation?

Responses		Rural	Urban
Yes	...	205 (45)	136 (32)
No	...	163 (35)	157 (36)
No Response	...	90 (20)	138 (32)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)

Test Chi square

 $\chi^2 = 25.35$ df = 2, significant at 1% level

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 2

1 (b) If not, what would you like him to do?

Responses		Rural	Urban
Government job	...	57 (35)	49 (31)
Agriculture	...	14 (8)	5 (3)
Business	...	2 (1)	3 (2)
Professional Work	...	2 (1)	26 (17)
Technical	...	3 (2)	7 (4)
Other responses	...	58 (36)	40 (26)
No response	...	27 (17)	27 (17)
Total	...	163 (100)	155 (100)

Table 3

2 (a) What is your opinion about the official Village Panchayat?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Good	...	325 (71)	224 (52)	549
Bad	...	69 (15)	69 (16)	138
Neither	...	64 (14)	138 (32)	202
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$$\chi^2 = 44.68 \text{ df} = 2 \text{ significant at 1\%}$$

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 4

Should the Village Panchayat have the powers to settle disputes regarding rent?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	380 (83)	251 (58)	631
No	...	28 (6)	55 (13)	83
No Response	...	50 (11)	125 (29)	175
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$$\chi^2 = 66.56 \text{ df} = 2 \text{ significant at 1\%}$$

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 5

Do you think that the Cooperative Society is doing useful work?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Doing Useful Work	...	163 (36)	260 (60)	423
Not Doing Useful Work	...	44 (9)	93 (22)	137
No Response	...	251 (55)	78 (18)	329
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test chi-square

$\chi^2 = 2.23$ df = 2 not significant.

The Rural-Urban differences are not significant.

Note.—(1) While calculating chi-square No-Response is excluded.

Table 6

Reasons for the unsatisfactory working of the co-operative society.

Responses	Rural	Urban
1. Loans not issued	22 (50)	16 (17)
2. Communalism/groupism	2 (5)	9 (10)
3. Officials/Directors are corrupt	9 (20)	33 (35)
4. Other responses	5 (11)	8 (9)
5. Not specified	6 (14)	27 (29)
Total	44 (100)	93 (100)

Table 7

What should be done to see that the society works properly?

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
1. Education of the people	...	11 (25)	11 (12)
2. Government Control	...	7 (16)	8 (9)
3. Change of officials/directors	...	5 (11)	23 (25)
4. Other responses (proper issue of loans etc.)	...	5 (11)	4 (4)
5. No response	...	16 (37)	47 (50)
	Total	44 (100)	93 (100)

Table 8

In what ways should the cooperative society extend its activities?

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>
1. Business in household materials...	34 (7)	51 (12)	
2. Increase the share capital	16 (4)	25 (6)	
3. Loans to all the members	13 (3)	22 (5)	
4. Work according to the wishes of the people	6 (1)	27 (6)	
5. Supply of implements etc. on credit	§	§	
6. Other responses	3 (1)	3 (1)	
7. No response	378 (83)	299 (69)	
	Total	458 (100)	431 (100)

§ less than one%

Table 9

Are the present tenancy laws satisfactory?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Satisfactory	...	280 (61)	232 (54)	512
Not Satisfactory	...	82 (18)	116 (27)	198
No response	...	96 (21)	83 (19)	179
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test chi-square

 $\chi^2 = 12.94$ df = 2 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 10

How much rent should the tenant give to the land owner?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
1/5 of produce		14 (3)	8 (2)	22
2/5 of produce		50 (11)	46 (11)	96
1/2 of produce		316 (69)	321 (74)	637
3/5 of produce		39 (8.5)	25 (6)	64
No Response		39 (8.5)	31 (7)	70
Total		458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test chi-square

 $\chi^2 = 4.52$ df = 4 not significant.

The Rural—Urban differences are not significant.

Table 11

Do you think that the tenant himself should own the land?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	170 (37)	204 (47)	374
No	...	256 (56)	211 (49)	467
No response	...	32 (7)	16 (4)	48
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test chi-square

$\chi^2 = 13.71$ df = 2 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 12

Do you think that the Absentee Landlord should immediately sell the land to the tenant?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	183 (40)	205 (48)	388
No	...	238 (52)	211 (49)	449
No response	...	37 (8)	15 (3)	52
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 11.13$ df = 2 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 13

Should the tenancy laws be extended to the gardens also ?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	...	224 (49)	300 (70)	524
No	...	138 (30)	91 (21)	229
No Response	...	96 (21)	40 (9)	136
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 43.07$ df = 2 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 14

If the Land Lord wants to dispose of the land should he first offer it for sale to the tenant ?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	...	334 (73)	345 (80)	679
No	...	92 (20)	67 (16)	159
No Response	...	32 (7)	19 (4)	51
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 5.10$ df = 2 not significant.

The Rural- Urban differences are not significant.

Table 15

If there is a dispute how should the tenant give the rent to the land lord? Should he give it through (i) cooperative society, (ii) tenancy court or (iii) Village panchayat?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Co-operative Society	18 (4)	27 (6)	45
Tenancy Court	73 (16)	152 (35)	225
Village Panchayat	344 (75)	235 (55)	579
No Response	23 (5)	17 (4)	40
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 50.16$ df = 3 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 16

What should be the sale price of land in multiples of the rent?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
10 times	124 (27)	77 (18)	201
15 times	183 (40)	211 (49)	394
20 times	64 (14)	72 (17)	136
No Response	87 (19)	71 (16)	148
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 13.31$ df = 2 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Note.—No response is excluded while calculating the chi-square.

Table 17

What is the *minimum* acreage a family of five should own to lead a comfortable life?

Dry-Lands (*in acres*)

<i>Responses</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Below 10	... 224 (49)	277 (64)	501
11-20	... 151 (33)	96 (23)	247
Above 20	... 18 (4)	31 (7)	49
No Response	... 65 (14)	27 (6)	192
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 24.88$ df = 3 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 18

What is the *maximum* acreage a family of five should own?

Dry Lands (*in acres*)

<i>Responses</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Below 15	... 183 (40)	217 (50)	400
16 to 30	... 156 (34)	112 (26)	268
Above 30	... 82 (18)	69 (16)	151
No Response	... 37 (8)	33 (8)	70
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 10.62$ df = 3 significant at 5%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant at 5% only.

Table 19

What is the *minimum* acreage of land a family of five should own to lead a comfortable life?

Wet Lands (in acres)

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Below 10	... 400 (87.3)	394 (91.5)	794
11 to 20	... 10 (2.4)	17 (3.9)	27
No Response	... 48 (10.3)	20 (4.6)	68
Total	... 458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 12.73$ df = 2 significant at 1%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant.

Table 20

What is the *maximum* acreage of land a family of five should own?

Wet lands (in acres)

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Below 15	... 367 (80)	303 (70)	670
16 to 30	... 64 (14)	81 (19)	145
Above 30	... 9 (2)	20 (5)	29
No Response	... 18 (4)	27 (6)	45
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 8.48$ df = 3 significant at 5%.

The Rural-Urban differences are significant at 5% only.

Table 21

What is your suggestion to solve the problem of fragmentation of holdings?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Joint family	...	23 (5)	33 (8)	56
2. One person should be in-charge	...	9 (2)	23 (5.3)	32
3. More lands to be given	...	2 (0.5)	23 (5.3)	25
4. Cooperative farming	...	0 (0.0)	64 (15.0)	64
5. Other Responses	...	30 (6.5)	10 (2.3)	40
6. Not possible to solve	...	248 (54.0)	117 (27.1)	365
7. No Response	...	146 (32.0)	161 (37.0)	307
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 49.80$ df 4 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 22

Should there be the ceiling for land ownership?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	...	326 (71)	361 (84.0)	687
No	...	105 (23)	50 (11.4)	155
No Response	...	27 (6)	20 (4.6)	47
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 21.51$ df 2 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 23

Should the ceiling be calculated in terms of income or in terms of acreage? *

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Income	116 (36)	175 (48)	291 (42)
Acreage	210 (64)	186 (52)	396 (58)
Total	326 (100)	361 (100)	687 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 11.56, df—1, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

* Note.—Only those persons who stated that there should be ceiling of land ownership (Table-22) were asked this question.

Table 24

What is the minimum annual income a family of five should have in order to live comfortably.

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Below Rs. 1,000	146 (32)	51 (12)	197 (22)
Rs. 1,000 to 3,000	266 (58)	243 (56)	509 (57)
Above Rs. 3,000	37 (8)	116 (27)	153 (17)
No Response	9 (2)	21 (5)	30 (4)
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 88.75 df 3 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 25

What is your opinion about the Co-operative farming?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Desirable	...	298 (65)	329 (76)	627 (70)
Undesirable	...	114 (25)	71 (17)	185 (21)
No Response		46 (10)	31 (7)	77 (9)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 13.68$ df 2 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 26

Would you like to give all your land for Co-operative farming?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	...	199 (44)	260 (60)	459 (52)
No	...	152 (33)	100 (23)	252 (28)
No Response	...	107 (23)	71 (17)	178 (20)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

$\chi^2 = 24.69$, df 2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 27

Do you think that the work on the Cooperative Farms will be smooth and efficient?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	247 (54)	288 (67)	535 (60)
No	... 133 (29)	97 (23)	230 (26)
No Response	... 78 (17)	46 (10)	124 (14)
Total	... 458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 17.12, df 2, significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 28

Will the Co-operative Farming make all members prosperous?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	270 (59)	211 (49)	481 (54)
No	115 (25)	65 (15)	180 (20)
No Response	... 73 (16)	155 (36)	228 (26)
Total	... 458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square — χ^2 .

χ^2 — 46.41, df 2, significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 29

Do you think the cost of food grains is too high, normal or too low?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Too high	408 (89)	391 (91)	799 (90)
Normal	41 (9)	36 (8)	77 (9)
Too low	0	0	0
No Response	9 (2)	4 (1)	13 (1)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)
			889 (100)

Test Chi-square — χ^2 .

χ^2 — 2.93 df 2, not significant.

The rural-urban differences are not significant.

Table 30

Will the distribution of food grains be better in the hands of (i) merchants or (ii) government depots or (iii) Cooperative Societies?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Merchants	137 (30)	150 (35)	287 (32)
Govt. Depot.	224 (49)	164 (38)	388 (44)
Cooperative Societies	83 (18)	110 (25)	193 (22)
No Response	14 (3)	7 (2)	21 (2)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)
			889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 14.67 df 3, significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 31

Do you think that all the food grains should be collected by the State and sold to consumers?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	348 (76)	286 (66)	634 (71)
No	...	96 (21)	132 (31)	228 (26)
No Response	...	14 (3)	13 (3)	27 (3)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 10.51 df 2, significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 32

Should the Government fix the rates at which the food grains are purchased and sold.

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	353 (77)	280 (65)	633 (71)
No	...	82 (18)	104 (24)	186 (21)
No Response	...	23 (5)	47 (11)	70 (8)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 18.50 df 2, - significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 33

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Coarse Rice?

<i>Seers per rupee</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Around 2 seers	...	75 (16)	111 (26)	186 (20)
Around 3 seers	...	227 (50)	206 (48)	433 (49)
4 seers and above	...	139 (30)	98 (23)	237 (27)
No Response	...	17 (4)	16 (3)	33 (3)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test: Chi-square

χ^2 — 14.42 df 3 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 34

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Fine Rice?

<i>Seers per rupee</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Around 2 seers	...	113 (25)	43 (10)	156 (17)
Around 3 seers	...	87 (19)	51 (11)	138 (15)
4 seers & above	...	48 (10)	20 (5)	68 (8)
No Response	...	210 (46)	317 (74)	527 (60)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 2.78 df 2, not significant.

The rural-urban difference are not significant.

Note:—While calculating Chi-square *No Response* is excluded.

Table 35

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Jawar?

<i>Seers per rupee</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
3 to 4 seers	...	192 (42)	209 (49)	401 (46)
5 to 6 seers	...	181 (40)	141 (33)	322 (37)
7 seers and above	...	67 (14)	49 (11)	116 (12)
No Response	...	18 (4)	32 (7)	50 (5)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 11.56 df 3 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 36

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Ragi?

<i>Seers per rupee</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
3 to 4 seers	...	201 (44)	223 (52)	424 (48)
5 to 6 seers	...	172 (37)	136 (31)	308 (34)
7 seers & above	...	73 (16)	52 (12)	125 (14)
No Response	...	12 (3)	20 (5)	32 (4)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 8.98 df 3 significant at 5%.

The rural-urban differences are significant only at 5%.

Table 37

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Togari Dal?

<i>Seers per rupee</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Around 2 seers	289 (63)	266 (62)	555 (63)
Around 3 seers	110 (24)	107 (24)	217 (24)
4 seers & above	36 (8)	29 (7)	65 (7)
No Response	23 (5)	29 (7)	52 (6)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)
			889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 —1.98 df 3 not significant.

The rural-urban differences are not significant.

Table 38

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Sugar?

<i>Cost per Viss</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Around 8 annas	12 (3)	18 (4)	30 (3)
Around 12 annas	67 (14)	38 (9)	105 (11)
Around Re. 1	144 (32)	135 (31)	279 (31)
Around Re. 1 and 4 annas	78 (17)	130 (31)	208 (25)
Above Re. 1 and 8 annas	54 (12)	70 (16)	124 (14)
No Response	103 (22)	40 (10)	143 (16)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)
			889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 —29.42 df 5 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 39

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Ground Nut Oil?

<i>Cost per Viss (measure)</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Around 4 annas	...	84 (18)	66 (15)	150 (17)
Around 6 annas	...	222 (49)	170 (39)	392 (44)
Around 8 annas		93 (20)	109 (26)	202 (23)
Above 8 annas	...	14 (3)	12 (3)	26 (3)
No Response	...	45 (10)	74 (17)	119 (13)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 — 18.93 df 4 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 40

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Ghee?

<i>Cost per seer</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Around 8 annas	...	116 (25)	73 (17)	189 (21)
Around 12 annas	...	146 (32)	119 (27)	265 (30)
Re. 1	...	106 (23)	144 (33)	250 (28)
Re. 1 and 4 annas	...	10 (2)	29 (7)	39 (4)
No Response	...	80 (18)	66 (16)	146 (17)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 35.16 df 4 significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 41

What, in your opinion, should be the cost of
Milk?

<i>Seers per Rupee</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
2 seers	...	54 (12)	119 (28)	173 (20)
3 seers	...	145 (32)	156 (36)	301 (34)
4 seers and above	...	206 (45)	112 (26)	318 (36)
No Response	...	53 (11)	44 (10)	97 (10)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 52.20, df 3, significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 42

Have you heard of the Second Five Year Plan?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	...	124 (27)	326 (76)	450 (51)
No	...	311 (68)	92 (21)	403 (45)
No Response	...	23 (5)	13 (3)	36 (4)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (10)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 211.58, df—2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 43

Has the country progressed or not in the last few years?

Responses		Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	197 (43)	335 (78)	532 (60)
No	...	110 (24)	19 (4)	129 (14)
No Response	...	151 (33)	77 (18)	228 (26)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 123.33, df—2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 44

In what ways has the country made progress in the last few years?

(Asked only of those who gave 'yes' response in Table 43)

Responses		Rural (N—197)	Urban (N—335))	Total (N—532)
In all aspects	...	103 (28)	89 (15)	192 (20)
Agriculture	...	103 (28)	135 (23)	238 (25)
Education	...	75 (20)	106 (18)	181 (19)
Industries	...	46 (12)	149 (25)	195 (20)
Road and Transport	...	15 (4)	23 (4)	38 (4)
Other responses; electricity, health etc.	...	31 (8)	88 (15)	119 (12)
Total	...	373 (100)	590 (100)	963 (100)

Note: Multiple responses.

Table 45

In what ways do you think life in the country has become worse in the last few years?

Note: Asked only of those who gave 'No' response in Table 43.

	Responses	Rural (N—110)
1. Failure of Government	31 (28)	
2. Standard of living has deteriorated ...	26 (24)	
3. Party feeling has increased ...	22 (20)	
4. Agriculture is ignored ...	5 (4)	
5. Educational standard has gone down ...	3 (3)	
6. Morality of the people has deteriorated ...	4 (4)	
7. Other Responses ...	19 (17)	
Total	...	110 (100)

Table 46

Do you think that the village people are eager to improve the village?

	Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	...	268 (58)	333 (77)	601 (67)
No	...	95 (21)	73 (17)	168 (19)
No Response	...	95 (21)	25 (6)	120 (14)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 49.99, df 2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 47

Do you think the village is now producing more/less/same amount of food grains as in the last few years?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Production is more	128 (28)	97 (23)	225 (25)
Production is less	238 (52)	134 (31)	372 (42)
Production is the same	78 (17)	200 (46)	278 (31)
No Response	... 14 (3)	0	14 (2)
Total	... 458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 86.54, df—2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Note.—No response is excluded while calculating the chi-square

Table 48

Is the Government helping village to become a better place to live in?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	256 (56)	327 (76)	583 (66)
No	170 (37)	73 (17)	243 (27)
No Response	32 (7)	31 (7)	63 (7)
Total	... 458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 46.54, df 2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 49

Do you think that the village people, by their own efforts, can improve the living conditions in the village?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	...	101 (22)	168 (39)	269 (30)
No	...	325 (71)	197 (46)	522 (59)
No Response	...	32 (7)	66 (15)	98 (11)
Total	...	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square.

χ^2 — 59.60, df 2, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Table 50

Rural Respondents Only

(N—458)

(Percentage)

<i>Question</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>NR</i>
1. Are you getting improved seeds from the Cooperative society or from the Govt. Depot? ...	27	58	15
2. Will the yield improve by sowing better seeds? ...	67	13	20
3. Will the yield improve by using fertilizers? ...	61	17	22
4. Are you getting fertilizers from the co-operative society or from the Govt. Depot? ...	22	65	13
5. Do you know how to prepare a compost pit? ...	44	45	11
6. Are you planning to dig one (compost pit) in your yard? ...	28	59	13
7. Have you heard of the village level worker? ...	40	54	6
8. Do you think that the village level worker can help the village to become a better place to live in? ...	34	40	26
9. Do the officials of the agricultural department meet you and help in your farm work? ...	30	56	14

Table 51

Rural Respondents Only

(N—458)

What are the immediate needs of the village?

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>%</i>
1. Roads	...	221	20.3
2. Electricity	...	171	16.0
3. Hospital facilities	...	145	13.5
4. Drinking Water	132	12.0	
5. Agricultural facilities	122	12.0	
6. Education	101	9.4	
7. Village sanitation	69	6.4	
8. Help to the poor and Harijans	37	3.0	
9. Cooperative society/fair price depot	18	2.0	
10. Post Office	15	1.4	
11. Rama Mandir	14	1.3	
12. V.P. Hall/Radio	12	1.0	
13. Village industries	8	0.7	
14. Other responses	...	11	1.0
Total responses	...	1076	100.0

Table 52

Rural Respondents only

(N—458)

(Percentage)

Question	Yes	No	NR
Are you thinking about the improvement of the drinking water supply in the village?	... 44	46	10
‘How can the drinking water supply in the villages be improved? §			
<hr/>			
S. No.	Responses	N	%
1. Digging new wells/tanks	84	42.0	
2. Repairing or cleaning wells/tanks	59	29.0	
3. Tap water supply	12	6.0	
4. Govt. should help in some way	8	4.0	
5. Channel Water	4	2.0	
6. No explanation	... 34	17.0	
Total	... 201	100.0	

§ Note:—Only those who had stated that they were thinking about the improvement of the drinking water supply in the village were asked this question.

Table 53

Are you planning to improve your house?

<i>Responses</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
Yes	214 (47)	137 (32)	351 (40)
No	201 (44)	294 (68)	495 (55)
No Response	43 (9)	0	43 (5)
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square χ^2 —35.04, df—1, significant at 1% level.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

Note:—While calculating the chi-square 'No Opinion' is excluded.

What are the requisites necessary to improve your house? §

<i>Requisites</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Housing material	150 (70)	76 (55)	226 (64)
2. New House	24 (11)	26 (19)	50 (14)
3. Modernization/extension	4 (2)	16 (12)	20 (6)
4. No explanation	36 (17)	19 (14)	55 (16)
Total	214 (100)	137 (100)	351 (100)

§ Only those who stated that they were planning to improve their house were asked to specify the requisites.

Table 54

What are the things you are planning to purchase for your house this year?

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Housing material	...	54 (49.5)	6 (7)	60 (31)
2. Food & Clothing	...	26 (23.5)	6 (7)	32 (16)
3. Land and House	...	7 (6.0)	0 (0)	7 (4)
4. Furniture	...	6 (5.5)	31 (36)	37 (19)
5. Modern Equipment	...	14 (12.5)	39 (46)	53 (27)
6. Facilities for Agriculture	...	3 (3.0)	3 (4)	6 (3)
Total	...	110 (100)	85 (100)	195 (100)

How do you expect to get the money to buy these things? §

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Rural</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Savings	...	22 (20)	10 (12)	32 (17)
2. Additional Income by working more	...	3 (3)	42 (49)	45 (23)
3. Loan	...	80 (73)	27 (32)	107 (55)
4. Govt. Grant.	...	5 (4)	6 (7)	11 (5)
Total	...	110 (100)	85 (100)	195 (100)

Note: § — the responses are of those who stated that they were planning to purchase for their house something during the year.

However, 21 rural and 23 urban respondents, who had not stated their plans for purchasing, also volunteered answer. They were as follows:

Rural—Savings (2), Loan (19).

Urban—Savings (6), Additional income (7), Loan (9) and Govt. Grant (1).

The figures in brackets are actual numbers.

Table 55

Are you planning to have some subsidiary occupation to increase your income?

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
Yes	54 (12)	80 (29)	134 (15)
No	404 (88)	351 (71)	755 (85)
No Response	0	0	0
Total	458 (100)	431 (100)	889 (100)

Test Chi-square

χ^2 —7.91, df 1, significant at 1%.

The rural-urban differences are significant.

If so what is it? §

Responses	Rural	Urban	Total
1. Agriculture	27 (50)	18 (22.5)	45 (34)
2. Business	8 (15)	32 (40.0)	40 (30)
3. Industry	5 (9)	10 (12.5)	15 (11)
4. Not possible in the village	6 (11)	0	6 (4)
5. Not yet decided	5 (9)	6 (7.5)	11 (8)
6. Other Responses	3 (6)	14 (17.5)	17 (13)
Total	54 (100)	80 (100)	134 (100)

Only those who have responded 'Yes' to earlier question were asked to specify.

APPENDIX B

OPINION OF STUDENTS

As a sub-enquiry, 222 students studying in the final year degree course in Mysore City were studied using the questionnaire that had been used to find out the opinion of the people in rural and urban areas. One class each of B.A. B.Sc., and B.Com., were selected and the students present on the day of the testing were given the questionnaire adopting the group method.

Aim

The aim of studying the opinion of students was to find out the extent to which the students were exposed to the problems concerning rural areas. No effort, therefore, was made to compare the opinions of the adults with that of the students as the purpose of the student's study was exploratory in its nature.

Sample

Out of the 222 students, 151 were boys (68%) and remaining were girls. The age range of the students varied from 17 to 26 years, the mean age being 19.9. Twentyone per cent of the students reported that they were born in a village. Out of 222 students only twentytwo per cent had studied in the rural primary schools; seventeen per cent had studied in rural middle schools; and eight per cent had studied in rural high schools.

The bulk of the students (70%) were from one caste group, viz, the Brahmins. The other castes were Vokkaligas (5%), Lingayats (5%), and other caste groups (12%). Eight per cent did not give their caste.

The education of the father of these students was generally high school and above. The distribution was thirtynine per cent college education, thirtysix per cent high school education bringing the total to seventyfive per cent. The fathers of twentytwo per

cent of students were literate and those of the remaining three per cent illiterate.

Regarding the profession of the father, seventeen per cent were professionals, twelve per cent semi-professionals, nineteen per cent clerical and other jobs, ten per cent business, twentytwo per cent landowners and five per cent skilled and unskilled workers. The remaining fifteen per cent of students did not mention the occupation of father.

Regarding their lodging in Mysore City, fiftyone per cent were living in their own houses, ten per cent in the homes of their relatives, thirteen per cent in hostels, nineteen per cent in rented rooms or rented houses; only two per cent were living as paying guests. The remaining five per cent did not give any response to this question.

Occupational Choice

The students were asked to state whether they were willing to follow the occupation of the father or not. Less than a quarter desired to follow the parental occupation and the majority did not wish; eighth per cent did not respond.

In all seventysix students had stated that they wanted to follow the parental occupation. Of them thirtysix wanted to continue as landowners, twenty per cent as businessmen, twentyone per cent as semi-professional and nine per cent as professionals. In the case of the remaining fourteen per cent though they had stated that they wanted to pursue the parental occupation, they had not given the occupation of the father.

No probe was made about the occupations the students wanted to pursue when they did not want to follow the parental occupation.

Village Panchayats

The students indicated that the village panchayats were working satisfactorily. Only a quarter disagreed. Nine per cent did not give any opinion. In similar proportions they stated that the panchayats should be given powers to settle disputes concerning tenancy.

Cooperative Society

A little more than half of the students considered that the cooperative societies were doing useful work. The following were the reasons given by the students who declared that the cooperative societies were not doing useful work.

Table 1

	Responses	Fr.	Percentage
1. No facilities to members	...	16	18.0
2. Not working according to principles...	13		14.2
3. There is communalism/groupism	...	11	12.0
4. Members are not cooperative	...	14	15.3
5. It is unsatisfactory in all respects	...	11	12.0
6. Corruption	...	3	3.3
7. Reasons not given	...	23	25.2
Total	...	91	100.0

The responses mostly refer to corruption, groupism and lack of opportunities. When questioned as to what should be done to see that the society works properly, only fiftyeight per cent responded and gave the following suggestions.

Table 2

	Responses	Total (N—120)
1. Government control	...	21.0
2. Cooperation of the people	...	21.0
3. Earnestness and morality among the officials	...	16.0
4. Directors should be changed	...	16.0
5. Education of the members	...	9.0
6. Eradication of communalism & groupism	...	8.0
7. Other responses	...	9.0
Total	...	100.0

When questioned about the ways the society could extend its activities, only forty per cent mentioned the following responses:

Table 3

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Total (N—90)</i>
1. Society should work efficiently	...	28.0
2. Cooperation of the people	...	26.0
3. Earnest and trained workers	...	19.0
4. Capital should be increased	...	12.0
5. Proper planning and propaganda	...	12.0
6. Open new branches	...	3.0
Total	...	100.0

However, the analysis of the responses show that there is lack of understanding of the question on the part of the students who have referred mostly to the present working or the improvement of its working rather than the extension of its activities. Only a few have referred to extension, opening of new branches etc.

The students were asked also to mention the ways by which the society could increase its capital. Fiftyfive per cent of the students responded to the question and the following were the suggestions:

Table 4

<i>Responses</i>		<i>Total (N—122)</i>
1. Proper economic measures	...	24.0
2. Increasing shares	...	24.0
3. Cooperation of the people	...	25.0
4. Govt. grants and loans	...	13.0
5. Attract deposits	...	10.0
6. Start small scale industries	...	4.0
Total	...	100.0

Tenancy

Only a quarter of the students stated that the current tenancy laws were satisfactory. Fiftyseven per cent were not satisfied and the remaining students did not respond. The reasons given for their dissatisfaction with the current tenancy laws were as follows:

Table 5

	Responses	Total (N—128)
1. More help should be given to tenants		15.6
2. The drawbacks should be corrected ...		11.7
3. The tenant and the landlord should be treated equally ...		7.8
4. More importance should be given to landowners ...		4.7
5. Law should be strictly enforced ...		4.7
6. Government should take all the lands		5.5
7. Cooperative farming should not be forced upon the people ...		0.8
8. Reasons not given ...		49.2
Total		100.0

It is very interesting to note that though a considerable number of students thought that the tenancy laws were satisfactory, when questioned to specify the reasons nearly half among them had nothing to offer in the form of explanation.

Concerning the rent to be paid by the tenant there was not a clear cut opinion. Fifteen per cent said that it should be one-fifth, a quarter that it should be two-fifths, nearly a third that it should be half and the remaining that it would be three-fifths. Thus the mode of the group appears to be half which was called by the term 'Vara' or 'Guttige' which was the most prevalent form of tenancy in the area at the time of the study. The students did not give a clear-cut response to the question whether the tenant himself should own the land. While fortynine per cent agreed, fortyfour per cent disagreed. There was similar distribution of

opinion when they were asked to state whether the absentee landlord should immediately sell the land to the tenant.

Nearly half of the students did not agree to the extension of the tenancy laws to the garden land, while forty per cent were in favour.

The majority of the students favoured that the landlord, if he wanted to sell the land, should first offer it for sale to the tenant; nearly one third were opposed to this.

In case of a dispute between the tenant and the landlord half of the students wanted that the rent due to the landlord should be paid through the tenancy court. One third wanted that it should be paid through the village panchayat and ten per cent wanted it through the cooperative society.

The students showed their ignorance about the sale price of land in multiples of rent. Three-fourths did not respond to this question; ten per cent said it should be ten times the rent, nine per cent preferred fifteen times and six per cent preferred twenty times.

A few questions were asked about the size of holdings of different types of lands. The following table gives the responses:

Table 6

<i>Below 5 acres</i>	<i>6-15</i>	<i>16-30</i>	<i>31 & above</i>	<i>NR</i>
<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Minimum</i>				
Dry	42	14	4	1 §
Wet	47	12	4	1 §
<i>Maximum</i>				
Dry	16	22	11	47
Wet	13	31	9	43

§ less than one per cent.

The students appear to be aware of neither the minimum nor the maximum requirements of a family of five in terms of the acreage of dry or wet lands. Regarding the minimum fortytwo per cent

thought that five acres of dry lands would be sufficient and forty-seven for cent thought that it would be sufficient in case of wet lands also. Regarding the maximum the no response increased and was nearly half. Of the others twentytwo per cent desired that the maximum should be 6 to 15 acres of dry land and thirtyone per cent in the case of wet land also.

The following were the suggestions given by the students to solve fragmentation of land holdings:

Table 7

<i>Suggestions</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Cooperative farming	21.2
2. Consolidation of land	11.3
3. Redistribution of land by Government	7.7
4. All lands to one person	1.8
5. Lands should be sold	1.3
6. Additional lands to small land holders	0.9
7. Not possible to change	2.2
8. No response	53.6
Total	100.0

The students appear to be rather indifferent to the rural problems, since fiftyfour per cent did not respond to this question.

More than three-quarters of the students wanted a ceiling for land ownership. It is interesting to note that the opinion against land ceiling was reported by as low as of seventeen per cent of students.

Similar trend was found when they were asked whether ceiling should be calculated in terms of income or in terms of acreage, seventyfive percent stated it should be calculated in terms of income, sixteen per cent preferred the calculation in terms of acreage.

The students were asked to state the minimum annual income required for a family of five. Table No. 8 shows the responses given by the students.

Table 8

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
1. Below Rs. 500	...	1	0.4
2. Rs. 501 to Rs. 1000	...	5	2.3
3. Rs. 1001 to Rs. 2000	...	46	20.7
4. Rs. 2001 to Rs. 3000	...	63	28.4
5. Rs. 3001 to Rs. 5000	...	55	24.8
6. Rs. 5001 and above	...	35	15.8
7. No opinion	...	17	7.6
Total		222	100.0

Thus according to the students the minimum income per family of five should be more than Rs. 1,000. More than half considered that it should be between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 5,000. Thus they appeared to be quite realistic.

Cooperative Farming

While the majority of the students favoured cooperative farming only eighteen per cent thought that it was undesirable.

However, only half of them were willing to give away their own lands for cooperative farming.

More than half thought that the work in the cooperative farming could be smooth and efficient.

Only half of the students thought that cooperative farming would make all the members prosperous.

Foodgrains

The students considered that the cost of the foodgrains was too high. Only two per cent considered the cost of foodgrains normal and nine per cent considered it low.

Nearly half of the students wanted the cooperative society to distribute the foodgrains. A quarter preferred the Govt. depots and another quarter preferred the merchants. It is interesting to note that the students had greater faith in cooperative societies than in Government depots.

However, when they were asked whether the Government should completely take over the collection and distribution system of foodgrains the majority preferred it. They also preferred that the rates at which the foodgrains should be purchased and sold must be fixed by the Government. Less than ten per cent opposed it. A few questions were asked about the rates at which some of the important foodgrains should be sold. Table No. 9 gives the responses of the students.

Table 9

S. No.	Measure for one rupee	Coarse Rice %	Fine Rice %	Jawar %	Ragi %
1.	2 Seers	...	19	55	0
2.	3 Seers	...	43	27	19
3.	4 Seers	...	17	5	20
4.	5 Seers	...	6	2	21
5.	6 Seers and above	...	5	1	21
6.	No Response	...	10	10	19
Total		...	100	100	100

The students had given a clear cut opinion about the rate of the fine rice, more than half wanted that it should be at least 2 seers per rupee. Regarding the other foodgrains a considerable number (43%) preferred 3 seers of coarse rice for a rupee and Jawar and Ragi the four or more seers per rupee.

With respect to sugar nearly three quarters of them desired that it should be between 0.75 and 1.25 rupees per viss. Most of them desired that groundnut oil should be two to two and a half seers per rupee. More than half of the group wanted ghee to be sold at 0.75 to 1.00 per seer. Two-thirds of the group felt that milk should be sold at 1.5 to 2.5 seer per rupee.

Five-year Plan

A few questions concerning the Second Five Year Plan which was coming to an end were asked. All the students had heard of

Second Five Year Plan with the exception of about five per cent. When they were asked whether the country had made any progress during the last few years the majority (78 %) of students considered that there was progress. Only eleven per cent did not consider that the country had made any progress and eleven per cent did not respond. Table No. 10 gives the responses of the students as regards the areas of progress in the country.

Table 10

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
1. Industries	...	122	42 %
2. Irrigation and Power	...	97	33
3. Education	...	21	7
4. Health	...	10	3
5. Transport	...	6	2
6. Employment	...	4	1
7. Production of Goods	...	5	2
8. No Improvement	...	4	1
9. Other Responses	...	25	9
Total	...	294§	100

§ Multiple responses.

The two important areas mentioned by the students were industries and irrigation and power.

The students were also asked to indicate the areas where the country had deteriorated. Only 140 students (63 %) responded to this question. Table No. 11 gives the responses.

Table 11

S. No.	Responses	N	%
1. Morality		26	15
2. Failure of Government		27	15
3. Food and Shelter		36	20
4. Unemployment		14	8
5. Poverty		27	15
6. Population		6	3
7. Industry		16	9
8. Education		12	7
9. Production of Goods		4	2
10. Other Responses	...	10	6
Total		178	§ 100

§ Multiple responses.

The three important areas mentioned were food and shelter, morality and poverty. They have also referred to the failure of Government. The percentage in this regard was on the basis of the total responses and not that of total number of students.

The students were not quite clear in their minds whether the rural people were eager to work for the improvement of the village. Slightly above half were positive in their responses and others were negative.

Regarding the production of foodgrains in the village the opinion was not definite. Almost equal number of students said that the production of foodgrains during the last few years was 'less', 'same', and 'more'.

Similarly the students were not definite whether the Government was helping the village to become a better place to live in. While half of them were positive the other half thought quite the opposite.

Concerning the influence of good seeds on agricultural production it appeared that the students were not aware of the problem. More than one third did not respond to this question and the half of the remaining were in favour and the other half were not.

There were near unanimity (84%) in the opinion of the students that there would be improvement in the yield by using fertilizers.

Only fiftyfive per cent of the students had heard about the village level worker and the others had not.

When they were asked to specify the functions of the Village Level Worker only 83 (37%) specified the following functions.

Table 12

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
1. To educate people	...	42	35.0
2. To help people in village improvement	45	37.5	
3. To help villagers to keep the village clean	13	11.0	
4. To serve the village	5	4.0	
5. Not working properly	15	12.5	
Total	...	120 §	100.0

§ Multiple responses.

'To educate people' and 'to help people' in 'village improvement' were the two important functions assigned by the students; the two together constituting nearly three-fourth of the responses.

There was a favourable opinion among the students (55%) that the village level worker could help the village to become a better place to live in.

Aspiration

Almost all the students (83%) stated that their fathers were contemplating to improve their houses.

When asked about their opinion concerning the decision of their fathers to improve the house, half were in agreement with the decision and only four per cent were not in agreement. The remaining did not specify either way.

When they were asked to specify the requisites necessary to improve their houses only 124 students (56%) responded to this question. Table No. 13 gives the responses.

Table 13

S. No.	Responses	N	%
1. Housing material	...	36	26
2. Money	...	36	26
3. Food and Clothing	...	24	18
4. Furniture	...	11	8
5. Radio etc.	...	8	6
6. Additional space	...	11	8
7. No opinion	...	11	8
Total	...	137 §	100

§ Multiple responses.

When they were asked to state their plans to purchase during the year 1961-62 only 83 students (37%) responded. Table No. 14 gives the responses.

Table 14

S. No.	Responses	N	%
1. Radio	...	41	42
2. Food & Clothing	...	8	8
3. Additional space	...	8	8
4. Furniture	...	18	19
5. Sewing machine	...	13	13
6. Cycle, Car etc.	...	10	10
Total	...	98 §	100

§ Multiple responses.

Thus the radio and furniture figure prominently.

The students were also asked to mention the source of income to fulfil their plans. Only 121 students (55%) responded. The responses are given in Table No. 15.

Table 15

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Responses</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
1. Savings	...	44	37
2. Additional Income	...	51	42
3. Loan	...	16	13
4. Other Responses	...	10	8
	Total	... 121 §	100

§ Multiple responses.

It is interesting to note that the students had referred to new (additional) income (42%) and savings (37%), as the major source of income. Reference to loan was very low (13%).

APPENDIX C

QUESTIONNAIRES

B1—Information regarding the Individual Interviewed

1. Name
2. Age.....
3. Caste or Creed.....
4. Education of father —Illiterate, Literate,
High School, College.
5. Education of self —Illiterate, Literate,
High School, College.
6. Occupation: (a) Principal
- (b) Subsidiary
7. Annual Income
8. Office held in village
or other institutions
(specify)
9. (a) Land owned (i) in this village
(ii) in other villages
- (b) Land held on lease (i) in this village
(ii) in other villages
- (c) Other property (i) House
- (ii) Flour Mill.....
- (iii) Rice Mill.....
- (d) Trade (i) Grocery
- (ii) Cloth
- (iii) Others
(specify)

10. (a) Sons	Age	Education
	(i)	
	(ii)	
	(iii)	
	(iv)	
	(v)	
	(vi)	
(b) Daughters		
	(i)	
	(ii)	
	(iii)	
	(iv)	
	(v)	

B2. Opinions

1. §(a) Would you like your sons to take up
your own occupation? Yes/No

(b) If not (i) What would you like him to do?
(ii) Why?

2. (a) Do you think the official panchayat is
good, bad, neither.

§§(b) Do the people of the village support the
official panchayat? Yes/No

(c) Should the panchayat have the powers
to settle disputes regarding rent (guttige
or vara)? Yes/No

§§(d) What are the other powers the pancha-
yat should have?

3. (a) Do you think the Cooperative Society
is doing useful work? Yes/No.

§ The students were asked:

Would you like to follow the occupation of your father?

- (b) If not, why are they not doing useful work?
- (c) What should be done to see that the society works properly?
- (d) In what ways should the society extend its activities?
- §§(e) Does the society help all the families in the village? Yes/No.
- §§(f) If not, why is it unable to help?
- §§(g) How can the society increase its membership so that every household becomes a member?
- (h) How can the society increase its capital?

4. (a) Are the present tenancy laws satisfactory? Yes/No.

- (b) If not, what are your suggestions to modify them?
- (c) How much rent should the tenant give? 1/5, 2/5, 1/2, 3/5 of the produce.
- (d) Do you think that the tenant himself should own the land? Yes/No.
- (e) Do you think that the absentee landlord should immediately sell the land to the tenant? Yes/No.
- (f) Should the tenancy laws be extended to the gardens also? Yes/No.
- (g) If the landlord wants to dispose off the land should he first offer it for sale to the tenant? Yes/No.
- (h) If there is a dispute should the tenant give the rent to the land owner through
 - (i) the cooperative society
 - (ii) the tenancy court
 - (iii) the village panchayat

§§ Used only in case of rural respondents.

(i) What should be the sale price of the land in multiples of the rent ? 10, 15 or 20

(j) What is the *minimum* acreage a family of five should own to lead a comfortable life ?
 (i) if all the land is wet
 (ii) if all the land is dry

(k) What is the *maximum* acreage a family of five should own ?
 (i) if all the land is wet
 (ii) if all the land is dry

(l) What is your suggestion to solve the present fragmentation of holdings ?

(m) Should there be a ceiling for land ownership ? Yes/No.

(n) Should the ceiling be calculated in terms of—
 (i) income
 (ii) acreage.

(o) What is the *minimum* annual income a family of five should have to live comfortably ?

5. (a) What is your opinion about cooperative farming ? Desirable/
Undesirable.

(b) Would you like to give all your land for cooperative farming ? Yes/No.

§§(c) Would you join cooperative farming if the majority of the village people join ? Yes/No.

§§(d) (i) When should the people be asked to join cooperative farming:
 When 10 as, 12 as, 14 as in the rupee of village people have joined or not at all ?

(ii) When 10 as, 12 as, 14 as in a rupee of the village land has come into cooperative farming or not at all?

§§(e) How would the cooperative farming affect the yield?

Increase

Decrease

No effect.

(f) Do you think that the work on a co-operative farms will be smooth and efficient?

Yes/No.

(g) Will the Cooperative farming make all the members prosperous?

Yes/No.

6. (a) Do you think the cost of food grains is too high, normal or too low?

(b) Will the distribution of food grains be better

(i) in the hands of the merchants,

(ii) the government depots, or

(iii) the cooperative societies?

(c) Do you think that all the foodgrains should be collected by the state and sold to consumers?

Yes/No.

(d) Should the Government fix the rates at which food grains are purchased and sold?

Yes/No.

(e) What in your opinion should be the cost of—

rice sugar

jola oil

ragi ghee

togari dal milk ?

7 (a) Have you heard of the second five-year plan? Yes/No.

(b) Do you think that the country has progressed in the last few years? Yes/No/
No Opinion.

(c) In what ways do you think there is progress?

(d) In what ways do you think life in the country has become worse in the last few years?

(e) Do you think the village people are eager to improve the village? Yes/No.

(f) Do you think the village is now producing more/less/same amount of food grains as in the last few years?

(g) Is the Government helping the village to become a better place to live in? Yes/No.

§ (h) Do you think the village people by their own efforts can improve the living conditions in the village? Yes/No.

§ (i) Are you getting improved seeds from the cooperative society or from the Government Depot? Yes/No.

§ (j) Will the yield improve by sowing better seeds? Yes/No.

§ (k) Will the yield improve by using fertilizers? Yes/No.

§ (l) Are you getting fertilizers from the cooperative society or from the Government Depot? Yes/No.

§ (m) Do you know how to prepare a compost pit? Yes/No.

§ Used only in case of rural.

§ (n) Are you planning to dig one in your yard? Yes/No.

§ (o) Have you heard of the village level worker? Yes/No.

§ (p) What is the nature of his work?

§ (q) Do you think that he can help the village to become a better place to live in? Yes/No.

§ (r) Do the agricultural department officials meet you and help in your farm work? Yes/No.

§8. (a) What are the immediate needs of the village?

(b) How can these needs be fulfilled?

(c) Are you thinking about the improvement of the drinking water supply in the village? Yes/No.

(d) How can it be improved?

(e) Are you planning to improve your house?* Yes/No.

(f) What are the requisites necessary to improve your house?

(g) What are the things you are planning to purchase for your house this year?

(h) How do you expect to get the money to buy these things?

(i) Are you planning to have some subsidiary occupation to increase your income? Yes/No.

(j) If so, what is it?

* The students were asked is your father thinking to improve your house? What is your opinion to this?

§ Not asked in case of students.

APPENDIX D

GENERAL INFORMATION

In this section an attempt is made to give a brief description of the thirty villages selected for our study.

Communication

Nearly two-thirds of the villages selected for our study were far off from the district headquarters to the extent of thirty miles and above and only one village was within the radius of ten miles. Thus the rural sample drawn from these villages were quite away from access to the urban influence. Only one-third of the villages were within a radius of ten miles from the Railway station. Nearly half of the villages were connected with the urban centres through 'kuccha' roads. Slightly more than one-third of the villages had direct bus connections and another quarter within the range of a mile from the bus route. In case of other villages, the distance to the nearest bus stop varied between three to six miles. Excepting three villages, all the others had bicycle as a means of transportation. In eight villages there were cycle shops with cycles on hire. Only one-third of the villages had been electrified and the electric pump sets were found in one fifth of the villages.

Two villages had dispensaries; nearly two-thirds of the villages had dispensaries within five miles distance; in other cases it varied from six to twenty miles. Only one village had a veterinary hospital.

All the villagers had to go a considerable distance ranging from five to twenty miles for weekly shandy, the regular market for the villagers to buy their essentials or to sell their commodities.

Nearly half of the villages had post offices and the other villages had post offices within a radius of five miles. There was daily delivery of mail in the former, and once in two days or once in a week in the latter.

Only a quarter of the villages had radio sets owned by individuals, and in another quarter either the village Panchayat or the

Young Farmers' Association owned them. In all, there were only forty four sets available in these thirty villages of which thirty six were owned by individuals.

Only half of the villagers were getting the newspapers. The newspapers were mostly in Kannada and a few English and Tamil papers were also in circulation. A quarter of the villages were subscribing to weekly magazines in Kannada and the libraries were found in half of the villages.

Population

In more than half of the villages the population between 1951 and 1961 showed a trend of increase and in other cases it was either the same or there was a slight decrease. Housing problem appears to be prevalent in the villages. In less than half of the villages the number of houses available for residence was less than the required number.

Occupation

Half of the population in all the selected villages were cultivators. A quarter were landless labourers working on the farms and some (17%) were tenants. Thus, ninetytwo per cent of the population of these villages were directly dependent upon agriculture. Of the remaining there were traders (3%), craftsmen (2%) and other services (3%) such as washerman, priest etc.

Irrigation

Only twelve per cent of the total cultivated land in these villages was under irrigation. Of the irrigated land, half were under channel irrigation, quarter under tank irrigation and the other quarter under well irrigation. Between 1950 and 1960, the land brought under irrigation was fortyeight per cent in case of channels, sixtyone per cent in case of well and five per cent in case of tanks respectively. Thus most of the cultivated lands in the selected villages were dry lands having no irrigation facilities. More than two thirds of the irrigated lands were used for the cultivation of foodgrains such as ragi, jola (jawar), etc. and the remaining land was used for cultivation of cash crops such as oil seeds, cotton, mublerry etc.

Land Ownership

The majority of the land owners in the selected villages owned less than ten acres of land. Nearly half were owning less than five acres of land. It was found that the maximum acreage owned by a family was thirty acres. In one-third of the villages, all the village lands were owned and cultivated by the villagers themselves. In the other cases they were cultivated by persons residing in other villages. Only a few cases of absentee landlords owning the land were reported. Two systems of tenancy were prevalent. In one system the expenditure as well as the income were divided equally between the tenant and the land owner; this was called the 'vara' or 'palu' system. The second type was a contract between the tenant and the land owner in which the share in the produce between landowner and tenant would be decided; this was called the 'guttige' system. The rate of guttige depended upon the fertility of the land, the competition among the tenants and the economic condition of the land owner. The daily wages paid to the agricultural labourers varied from village to village very considerably. The daily wages of an adult male varied from half a rupee to two rupees whereas that of an adult woman varied from six annas (37 paise) to 1.50 rupees. In nearly two thirds of the villages even boys and girls were employed who were getting daily wages between a quarter to half a rupee. (the period of reference is 1961-62).

Creeds

Most of the population in these villages were Hindus (87%); the Muslims (3%); and the Christians (10%) formed minority groups. The Hindus as well as Muslims were mostly engaged in cultivation whereas most of the Christians engaged themselves as tradesmen, washermen etc.

The Lingayats and the Vokkaligas were the two castes that were predominant in the selected thirty villages. They were powerful politically, economically and otherwise. The scheduled castes were nearly one-fifth of the total population.

Annual Income

The minimum annual income per family in these villages was stated to be ranging between Rs. 50 to Rs. 250. The bulk

were, however, in the range of Rs. 125 to Rs. 200 per annum. The highest annual income of Rs. 30,000 was reported from only one village. Nearly two thirds of the villages reported a maximum between Rs. 3,000/- to Rs. 6,000/-. The overall picture of the families was that half of them were earning an annual income of less than Rs. 360/- and the bulk (83%) less than Rs. 600/-.

Village Panchayat

All the villages under study had village panchayats; only half reported that they had done some work in the preceding year (1960-61) such as construction and repairs of drainage or school or the well for drinking water. In few cases the panchayat had shown interest in getting the village electrified, dispensaries started and community hall constructed.

However, the income and expenditure account of the village panchayats was available in only one-fifth of the villages. It is interesting to note that wherever the accounts were available there appeared to be surplus budget.

Cooperative Society

Cooperative societies were found only in seventeen villages (57%). Among them half had taken loans from the government which varied from Rs. 6,700/- to Rs. 27,800/-. The main functions of the societies was to grant short-term agricultural loans to the members. A few societies had also undertaken the sale of agricultural implements. However, only in case of half of the cooperative societies the members were prompt in repaying the loans taken by them. The accounts were not properly maintained in many cases; the accounts were available in case of only four cooperative societies out of the seventeen. In other cases the whole system was in some sort of a mess. The loans could not be recovered, further loans could not be granted and the loans to be paid to the government were kept pending.

Education

All the villages had schools. In all there were fortytwo schools, two nursery, thirtytwo primary and eight upgraded, or new-type middle schools. Among them five were private schools run by

Christian missionaries. There were three separate schools for the scheduled castes and two separate schools for Muslims — one for boys and one for girls.

Regarding the medium of instruction two were Urdu medium, four were Tamil medium and the rest were Kannada medium. Threethirds of the students on the rolls were boys. All the children of school-going age were on the rolls in only nine villages (30%). In another eleven villages (37%) more than fifty per cent were enrolled and in other villages it was less than fifty per cent. The literacy level in the selected villages was very low. Only sixteen per cent were literate in these villages as against twentyone per cent for the district as a whole, twenty-five per cent for the state as a whole and twentyfour per cent for the country as a whole at that time.

Other Information

Factions were found in only one-fourth of the villages. The various reasons for factions were stated to be politics, caste differences and groupism within the caste. The factions involving political parties had started recently with the specific purpose of winning elections. In some other cases involving the caste differences the factions had a history of more than a decade starting on the basis of land demarcation or priority in worship in the village temple etc. However, the factions were stated to have adverse effect on the daily life of the village in case of only five villages and in case of other villages it was stated that the factions were limited to only the persons involved and had no ill-effect on the village life as a whole.

APPENDIX E

VILLAGE INFORMATION

1. **Kuppagala:** It is situated on the banks of the Kaveri river. It is 18 miles from Mysore City. The approach road linking the village to the main road is three miles. The nearest Railway Station is Mysore. There is one regular bus service and the Patel of the village is the owner of the service. There is no Post Office and the nearest one is at Yedakole about $2\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs away. The mail is delivered daily. The nearest town is T. Narasipur which is six miles off. The nearest dispensary and hospital are at Megalapura which is three miles away. For veterinary hospital they have to go to T. Narasipur. There is no proper road to T. Narasipur. The villagers from Kuppagala go to T. Narasimpur every week for Shandy. There are three Kannada papers coming to the village either by post or by bus. There are three regular subscribers to "*Prajavani*" and two regular subscribers to "*Samyukta Karnataka*" which come from Bangalore. There are two subscribers to *Sadhwī*, a Kannada daily from Mysore City. The Raitha Yuvaka Sangha (Young Farmers' Association) subscribes for three papers and the other four are subscribed by individuals. "*Karmaveera*" is the only weekly that comes to the village and the Young Farmer's Association subscribes for it. The Young Farmer's Association and Shishu Vihar have been recently started. The Young Farmers' Association is running a village library and a free reading room. There are ten bicycles in the village owned by individuals. There is no cycle shop. If any minor repair is to be done, it is done by the person who owns it. For other things they have to go to T. Narasipur. Twenty houses of the village have been electrified. But there are no street lights. There are no pump sets in the village.

Geographical Area:

The village site of Kuppagala including its one hamlet is 22.20 acres (2.4 %); of the arable area 272.40 acres are wet lands (29.3 %).

603.50 acres (65.2%) are dry lands and 20.33 acres (2.2%) are gardens. The village has a common pasture of 7.08 acres (0.9%). There is no waste land. The revenue assessment is Rs. 3,272.89 per annum. According to 1961 census the population of the village is 1,809 which was 1,881 in 1951. Thus there is a slight decrease in the population. There are 957 men and 852 women including 464 boys and 374 girls. According to 1951 census there were 817 persons in the village belonging to the scheduled castes. There are 370 households in the village. The Shanubhog stated that it was very difficult to give the number of single and joint family units.

Principal Occupations:

There are 200 families (54%) of cultivators who own sufficient lands; 100 families (27%) are both cultivators and tenants. They have small land holdings and so they till the lands belonging to others. There are no tenants who do not own lands. There are 65 families (17.6%) which depend on the daily wages. They work in the fields whenever there is work. Of the remaining, (1.4%) there are two families who are cultivators as well as commission agents. In the harvest season they act as agents between the merchants and the cultivators. There are no craftsmen in the village. There is one barber family. There are two priest families belonging to Scheduled Caste. It is interesting to note that there is no washerman in the village. As the village stands on the banks of the river Kaveri, it seems they do not need the services of the washerman.

Irrigation facilities:

All the 272.40 acres of wet land are under 'nala' (channel) cultivation. It is also interesting to note that all the wet lands have been converted only after 1950. No land is under tank cultivation or well cultivation.

Crops:

Paddy is grown in 272.40 acres of land, (30.00%). Ragi is grown in 77.98 acres of land; this is about 9% of the total cultivated land. Jola is grown in 310.07 acres which constitutes nearly about 34% of the total cultivated lands. Pulses are grown in

22.85 acres. As second crop it is grown in an additional 300.00 acres. The average yield of paddy is 20 pallas (200 seers per palla) per acre. The average yield of Ragi and Jola are 6 pallas each. Among commercial crops mulberry gets the first place. Sixteen percent of the cultivated land is reserved for this crop. Tobacco is grown in 42.28 acres of land (5.1%). Groundnut is grown in 28.70 acres (3%).

Land Ownership:

The maximum acreage of wet land cultivated is 60 acres and the minimum is 0.90 cents. The average wet land holding is about three acres. The dry land, on the other hand, has greater variation. The maximum cultivated dry land is 140 acres and the minimum cultivated land is 0.18 cents. No land is left uncultivated. There are nine families who own more than 30 acres each. Another nine families own between 25 acres to 30 acres of land. There are three families who own lands ranging between 20 to 24.99 acres and four families between 15 to 19.99 acres. There are twelve families owning lands ranging between 10 to 14.99 acres, 45 families between 5 to 9.99 acres, 70 families between 2 acres and 4.99 acres and 148 families between 0.01 acres and 1.99 acres. Nearly about 218 families own about 358 acres of land which is nearly about 40 per cent of the total land.

About 86% of the land belong to the cultivators who live in this village. About 5% of the land is owned and cultivated by persons living in other villages. About 9% of the land is owned by persons who do not live in the village and who do not cultivate.

Caste and Creed Structure:

There are 368 families belonging to the Hindu community and two belonging to Muslim community. Among Hindus 365 families depend on agriculture. There are cultivators, tenants and coolies. Two families are Harijan priests. There is only one barber family. The two Muslim families are agents (dallals). They also work as land labourers on daily wages. At the time of harvest, they act as agents of the merchants and get some commission.

The important castes are Vokkaligas, Kurubas and Harijans.

Income groups:

Maximum income of a family is about Rs. 30,000 as against a minimum of Rs. 100/- per annum.

There are three families which earn more than Rs. 3,601/- per annum (0.9%). Ten families (2.7%) get an income of ranging between Rs. 1,201 and Rs. 3,600/- per month.

About 80 families earn between Rs. 601 and Rs. 1,200/- per annum. Between Rs. 360/- and Rs. 599/- is the earnings of about 200 families. Below Rs. 360 is earned by 77 families. In other words, about 54% of the village families earn an income between Rs. 360/- and Rs. 599 per annum and about 21% earn less than Rs. 360/- per annum. Thus 75% of the families earn less than Rs. 600/- per annum.

Tenancy:

In this village there is no 'vara' system. The rate of 'guttige' of paddy per acre of wet land and three pallas of ragi per acre of dry land.

Wages:

There is not much variation in the wages of the land labourers as it is not difficult to get men to work. As a result the wage system is more or less constant. A man labourer gets Rs. 1.25 per day; a woman gets 0.75 P per day and a boy gets 0.50 P. per day.

Panchayat:

There is an official group Panchayat in the village. But it has done actually no work during last year. It is not having any future plans either. The Panchayat gets its funds from both village Panchayat funds and revenue funds totalling to Rs. 1,484.00 per annum. The expenditure is not known because the accounts are not finalised.

Cooperative Society:

There is no cooperative society in this village.

Village Parties:

There are two village parties in each of the two castes *Vokkaligas* and *Kurubas*. In the first caste the strength of the families that support each group is 60 and 80 respectively. In the other, the strength is 22 and 60 respectively. There are 148 families, that is, 40 per cent of the total number of families, who do not belong to any party.

The reason for the starting of the parties mainly concerns the acquisition of some land, thirteen years ago. To start with, it had no caste colour. But gradually it took a new shape and caste considerations crept in. In the same caste, election for the Panchayat brought about two rival groups. They affect the day-to-day life of the village, though they do not have much difference of opinion in regard to the development programme of the village. It has a very deep root and personally the members hate the members of other party. The neutrals are being respected by the rival groups but they are powerless. Both the parties are willing that there should be village progress. But any lead by one party is not liked. That starts the trouble. As far as the youngsters are concerned, the hatred is not so much. They are hopeful of a bright future.

There are two mixed schools in the village. One is a separate primary school for the scheduled castes. All the children are from the village. The strength of the school for the scheduled castes is 52 of whom 32 are boys and 20 are girls. In the other school the strength is 84 of whom 54 are boys and 30 are girls. There are two teachers in each school. In the scheduled caste 21 out of 39 children of the school going age are enrolled. (54 per cent enrolment). Among other castes 59 out of 117 are admitted which is nearly 50%.

There is also one new type Middle School. The total strength of the school is 58 of whom 51 are boys and 7 are girls. All the girls belong to this village. Of the boys, 28 come from the nearby villages. The proportion of middle school boys to girls is nearly about 7:1. There are seven teachers in the Middle School. There is no adult education class but an attempt is being made by the youngsters of the village to open one. It is interesting to note that 20 villagers who have volunteered belong to rival groups. Eighty boys are going to another village for higher studies, that is, for High School education. No girl has gone for High School studies so far. There is no student from this village studying in the college.

Even though the number of persons studied upto and above High School is 20, the percentage of adults that are literate is only 70%. But no woman is literate.

Scheduled Castes and Tribes:

There are 140 families belonging to scheduled castes. Of them

80 families are both cultivators and tenants. The other 60 families are landless labourers. There are 100 persons belonging to scheduled caste who are under 'jeetha' system. There are only four persons belonging to other castes who are under jeetha. Their annual income in cash is Rs. 100/- plus food and clothing. In terms of kind the person under jeetha gets four pallas of paddy together with food and clothing. Medical treatment is given generally if it does not cost much.

Harijans are provided with short term loan, by the Government but only about 50% have made use of it. However, it is found that the money is not properly used for any beneficial purposes. The short term loan given to the Harijans is not yet recovered. They are not in a position to repay it because they have not invested it in a form which may bring them profits. The amount is just spent.

Indebtedness :

The produce is sold indirectly. The agency system is prevailing. Usually the cultivators get loans from merchants in the town for their immediate needs. Court fee is also an important item to raise loans. The other purposes for which loans are raised are for marriage, death etc. In return he will have to sell the produce at the market rate of the day which will be comparatively less because of fresh produce coming into the market. He cannot keep the stock and wait for a better value.

Village Officials:

The village Panchayat consists of 13 members of whom two are women. There are five Vokkaligas out of the 13 members. Of them two are owning 45 and 52 acres of land respectively and they are also powerful in the village. The man owning 45 acres of land is the Chairman of the Village Panchayat. The land ownership of the members ranges between 52 acres and 4 acres. One lady member of Vokkaliga caste owns no land as the property is in the name of her husband. She is also illiterate. Thus of the five Vokkaliga members one women and one man are illiterate; two men have primary education and one is an intermediate.

There are five Harijan members. Of them only one has primary education. He owns 3 acres of land. His monthly income is

roughly Rs. 25/-. The rest are all illiterate. Only one has $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land and the rest own one acre of land each.

There are two persons belonging to Kuruba caste. One has studied upto High School and owns eight acres of land. The other is a woman who is illiterate and she owns no land.

Of the 13 members, three members have studied upto High School and above, four members have primary education and six members, including the two women, are illiterate.

All of the 13 members belong to one or the other party of the village.

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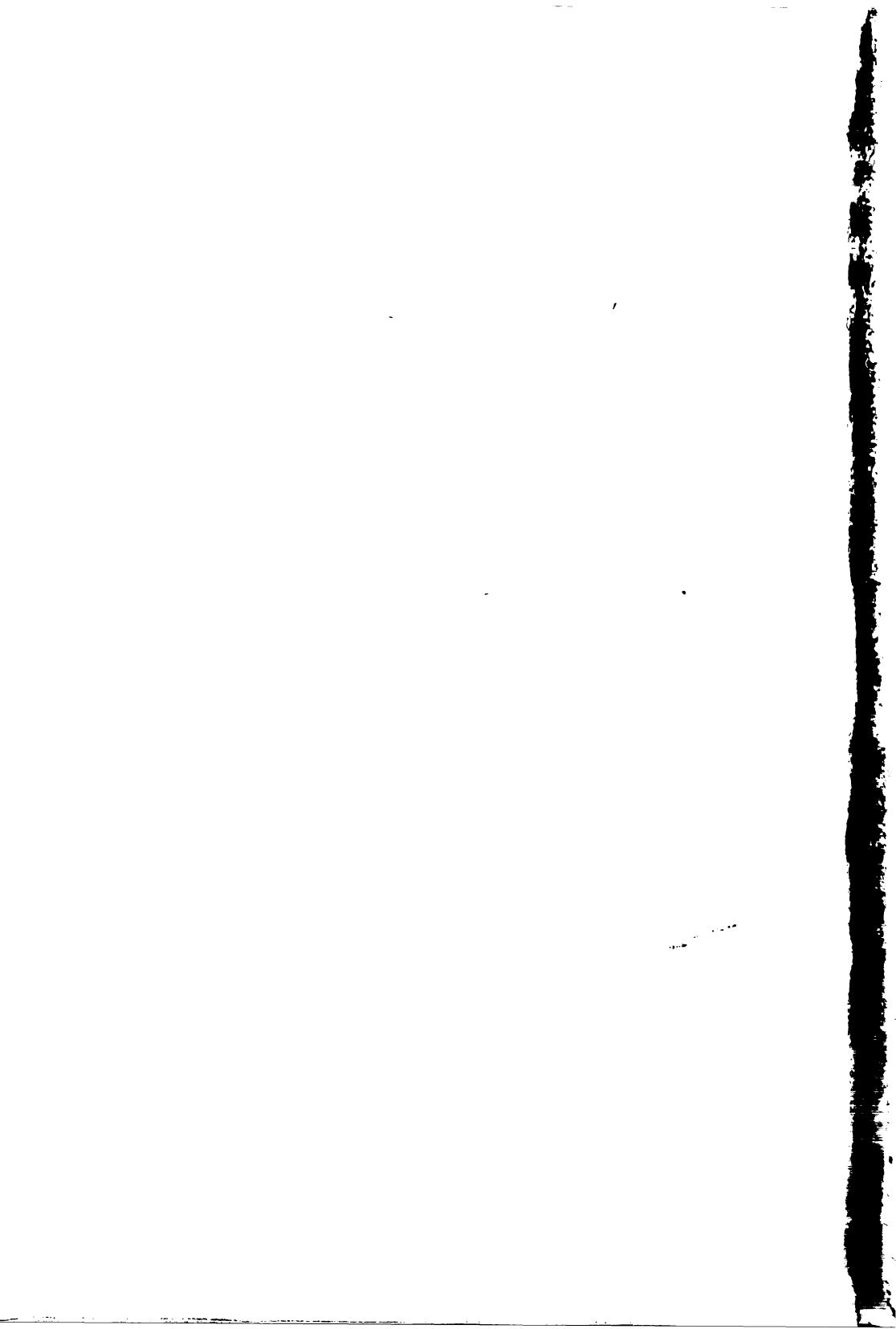
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ication to the rural people. More than half had not heard of the village level officer. Also more than half of the group reported that officials of the agricultural department did not meet them and help them in their farm work. As regards the immediate needs of the village the rural people gave priority to roads, electricity, drinking water, medical facilities, education and agricultural facilities.

There was lack of faith in the rural people to improve themselves and their village by their own effort. They were dependent on the Government. So one of the great tasks to bring about rural reconstruction, or rather, national reconstruction, would be to make the rural people develop confidence and faith in their self effort.

One of the leading psychologists of the country, **Dr. B. Kuppuswamy** was the Professor and Head of the Department of Psychology of the University of Mysore. He presided over the Psychology Section of the Indian Science Congress in 1945.

He has contributed extensively to the field of social research since 1950 when he started his investigations on social tensions. Later he conducted a large-scale investigation in Mysore State to study the opinion of people regarding marriage and divorce. In Delhi, while he was working at the Indian International Centre, he conducted a study on Industrialization and social change.

Among his publications are *A Study of Opinion regarding marriage and divorce*, *Industrialization and Social Change*, *Some aspects of Social Change*. Two of his books are to be published in 1971; *Social Change in India* and *Mass Media and National Development*.