PREFACE

The deteriorating food situation the world over is a matter of serious concern to all. More than half of the world's population is hungry or undernourished or both. The rapidly growing population, especially in the developing regions, has made the problem still more serious and urgent. The present world population of 340 crores is likely to increase to 644 crores by the year 2000. For feeding this population, World's food production would have to go up at least by 123% by that time. Taking the developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America separately, the food production in these countries would have to increase by 150% by the end of the present century. In India alone, with a population of nearly 51 crores, additional provision has to be made every year for feeding 1 crore and 25 lakhs of people. The task is difficult, and the various national and international agencies and organizations and researchers engaged in the work have not yet succeeded in finding a solution to the problem. Nevertheless, the efforts have to continue because the situation is desperate.

By providing technical assistance, advice and resources to member-States, the Food and Agriculture Organization aims at creating conditions in which the basic needs of world's rural community could be satisfied. The present study has been undertaken to assess and evaluate the projects, assistance activities and performance of this organization.
At present there are 18 projects in operation in different parts of India, executed by the Food and Agriculture Organization and financed by United Nations Development Programme. Such data as are available with India Government and the FAO's regional office at New Delhi, relating to these projects are given in Chapter VI.

I take this opportunity to express my grateful thanks to my teacher and Head of the Department of Commerce, Dr. R. P. Roy without whose inspiration and sustained interest this work would not have completed. I also thank Shri R. K. Bharti, Assistant Professor of Commerce in the University of Saugar who helped me at various stages in the preparation of this study.

(Suresh Chandra Jain)

SAGAR, M.P.
The Republic Day '68