PREFACE

The land utilization in Upper Ganga Yamuna Doab is an attempt to study and interpret the utilization of land in the selected villages in the area, by recording actual land use and crop distributions on the maps. The carrying capacity and potential productivity have been ascertained, on the basis of land use maps and population data collected by field inquiry and finally an attempt has been made to compute the caloric intake per head per day.

The sample land use study is not a substitute to field to field survey of the area as a whole but considering the cost and time involved in the field to field study, sampling appears to be the only suitable method of estimating the carrying capacity of the agricultural lands of the area.

The work is divided into three parts. The first part deals with the physical setting of Upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab and includes four chapters, namely; structure and relief, climate, soils and irrigation.

Part II is based on the field inquiry. In this part attempts have been made to study the utilization of land and pressure of population in fourteen selected villages in Upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab, for the year 1960-61. This part is divided into six chapters (V to X). The first of these, namely; Chapter V deals with the
selection of villages and some preliminary clarifications which are necessary in respect of land use interpretation; Chapter VI is an account of the land utilization, population and potential production units in six villages, situated in the well-drained, irrigated areas of Upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab, Chapter VII deals with three villages located in the well-drained, irrigated sandy-loam soil; Chapter VIII deals with three villages situated in the ill-drained areas; Chapter IX takes into account the village of Padli-Garunt located in the submontane tract. Chapter X is concerned with a village situated in the Ganga khadar.

The third part is the conclusion of the findings and presents a few suggestions about the agricultural planning of the area. This part also includes Tables showing the caloric consumption per head per day, computed to ascertain the standard of nutrition and general health of the inhabitants living under the varying physical conditions in Upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab.

The sources of information available to the writer in undertaking this work may be grouped under two heads: (a) Published Books, Articles, Reports and Statistical records; and (b) Field work. So far as the published books and articles on the land utilization in Upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab are concerned, there is hardly any standard work of reference on the land use problems of the area. For the second group of information I have conducted an intensive land use survey of fourteen selected villages which were typical of their regions, differentiated on the basis of types
of soil, availability of water facilities to the crops and a consequent varied range of crops. The base maps of these villages with field boundaries and their areas were obtained from the Revenue Departments of different Tahsils and a plot to plot knowledge of the fields was recorded on the base maps, by visiting the fields on the spot in the kharif season of 1960 and rabi season 1960-61. The cultivators in all these villages were consulted and information regarding the per acre yield, tillage practice, rotation of crops, manuring, irrigation and marketing problems were obtained.

For a study of occupational structure of the villagers an enumeration of the population in each village was undertaken. The population was divided into three groups (i) the primary rural which depends on the cultivation of crops exclusively; (ii) the secondary rural which serves the primary rural population through ancillary services and (iii) the adventitious, which includes people who live in the villages by choice rather than by necessity. In none of the villages, adventitious population was noted.

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— Majid Husain