

QUESTIONNAIRE

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PART 1 1980's AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

1.1 Yes.

(a) In 1982.

(b) Department of Census and Statistics.

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1.2 Only initial steps such as preparation of expenditure estimates, development of the frame of large operators, have been undertaken and the work on the preparation of a publication "An outline of the scope and content of the Census of Agriculture, 1982" have been started.

1.3 No.

PART 11 ON PREVIOUS CENSUS.

2.1 1975 July.

2.2 Preliminary Release. No. 1

Final Tables - Stage 1 (Small Holdings) on 8th December 1977

2.3 Copies of the publications have been sent to you.

2.4 The last Agricultural Census results were used in assessing the improvement achieved in the Agricultural sector during the intercensal period, in formulating development programmes with an Agricultural base, and specially to decide on matters relating to the rural-agrarian population, and generally to use the statistical data collected as bench mark information.

The frame of holdings prepared at the Census have been used in the selection of sample holdings for several surveys conducted by other organizations.

Un-published data have been extracted at lower levels and released to users for specific purposes.

2.5 Machine processing using electronic computers have been used for the general schedules and hand tabulation was done in the estate sector which was covered by postal enumeration. Specific data have been extracted subsequently from the computer tapes as and when requested by the users.

2.6 As the Census was canvassed through the operators, their residences were taken in to consideration for the tabulation at various regional levels. This was seen as a general difficulty when using regional level data, This difficulty was partly over-comeed, by analysing the results according to the location of the largest parcel of the respective holdings.

2.7 The processing of the second stage which was a sample survey was delayed due to the comprehensiveness of the schedule. As such a sub-sample was used in the processing and tabulation.

The publication of the final report have been delayed due to the heavy work load undertaken by the department and due to some operational shortcomings.

PART 111 PROSPECTS

3.1 With the experiences gained on these matters it has been well noted that in future Censuses the schedules should be simplified so that the army of casual enumerators could handle the enumeration easily, and to enable processing less laborious, Also, the analysis and the publication of the results will be well organized so that timely publications will be put out in stages.

3.2 (a) The file of all the operational holdings will be maintained in the form of recordings in magnetic tapes with suitable identifications so that, any user can have easy access to the frame.

3.2 (b) and 2.2 (c)

The forth coming Agricultural Census will be planned to generate statistical information, meeting primarily the national needs while at the same time confirming the requirements of the world Census programme. Specifically it will be geared to produce statistical data necessary to evaluate the impact on the agrarian sector of the large development programme now being implemented.

3.3 A training in the efficient techniques that can be utilized in identifying and eliminating the errors on the schedules and getting them processed in a very short period of time, short-cut and time saving methods and means of analysis will be most beneficial.