

Contents

Foreword	
<i>V. K. Ramachandran</i>	v
Acknowledgements	
<i>Aparajita Bakshi and Tapas Singh Modak</i>	vii
List of Tables and Figures	xii
I THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF PRODUCTION AND AGRARIAN RELATIONS	
1 Introduction	
<i>Aparajita Bakshi and Tapas Singh Modak</i>	3
APPENDIX 1: Sampling Methodology for 2015 Surveys	21
APPENDIX 2	22
2 The Contemporary Agricultural Economy of West Bengal	
<i>Aparajita Bakshi and Tapas Singh Modak</i>	24
3 Nature of Classes in Rural West Bengal, with Insights from Three Villages	
<i>Aparajita Bakshi, Tapas Singh Modak, and Arindam Das</i>	50

Box 1: Case study of the largest landlord household in Panahar <i>Ranjini Basu</i>	60
Box 2: Case studies of peasant households in Panahar	61
Box 3: Case studies of peasant households in Amarsinghi	65
Box 4 Case studies of peasant households in Kalmandasguri	70
Box 5 Case study of fishing businesses run by SHGs in Kalmandasguri	72
APPENDIX NOTE 1: Characterisation of Classes in Contemporary Rural India (Extracted from Ramachandran 2017)	78
APPENDIX NOTE 2: Classification of Households in the Three Villages	81
 4 The Impact of Land Reforms on the Ownership and Distribution of Land <i>Ranjini Basu</i>	 91
 II THE CROP ECONOMY	
 5 Household Crop Incomes among Small Farmers: A Study of Three Villages in West Bengal <i>Biplab Sarkar</i>	 143
POSTSCRIPT: Changes in Farm Incomes, 2010–2015 <i>Tapas Singh Modak</i>	161
 6 Fertilizer Use in West Bengal: A Case Study of Three Vilages <i>Kamal Kumar Murari</i>	 171
 7 Development of Groundwater Irrigation in West Bengal since 1990: With Special Reference to Water Markets in Two Villages <i>Tapas Singh Modak</i>	 197
 8 Climate and Agriculture in West Bengal <i>T. Jayaraman, Sandeep Mahato, and Dibyendu Sen</i>	 246

III INCOME, EMPLOYMENT, AND CREDIT

9	A Contemporary Study of Rural Credit in West Bengal <i>Pallavi Chavan, with Ritam Dutta</i>	275
10	The Nature of and Changes in Labour and Employment in Rural West Bengal <i>Niladri Sekhar Dhar, Shruti Nagbhushan, and Subhajit Patra</i>	343
11	Wage Rates in Rural West Bengal: Insights from Three Villages <i>Arindam Das</i>	377
	Box 1	381
	Box 2	383
	Box 3	384
	Box 4	385
	Box 5	389
	APPENDIX NOTE: Trends in Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Wages in Rural West Bengal	395
12	Income Diversification in West Bengal Villages <i>Aparajita Bakshi and Tapas Singh Modak</i>	399
	APPENDIX NOTE 1: Methodology of Income Calculation (Extracted from Bakshi and Modak 2017)	425
	APPENDIX NOTE 2: Decomposition of GE(2) by Sources of Income	427
IV POVERTY		
13	Aspects of Poverty in the Three Villages <i>Aparajita Bakshi and Shamsher Singh</i>	437
	List of Contributors	481