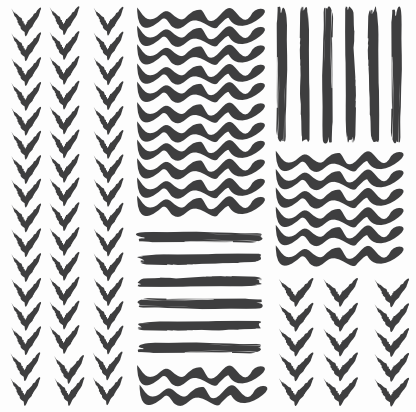




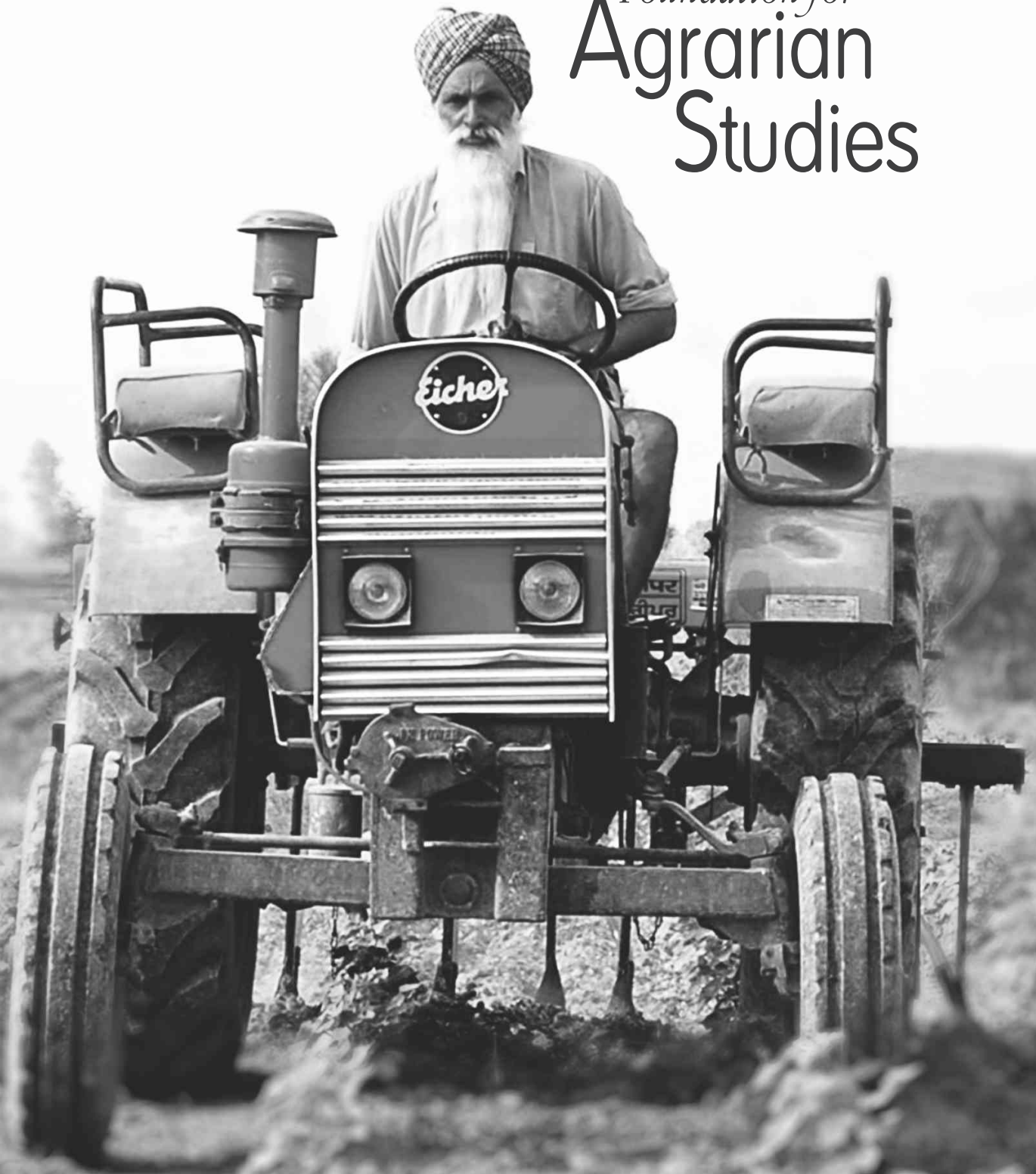
Foundation for
Agrarian
Studies



Annual Report
2022-23



Foundation for
**Agrarian
Studies**



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INTRODUCTION

The Foundation for Agrarian Studies (FAS) is a non-profit organisation engaged in the scientific study of socio-economic conditions in contemporary rural economies. FAS seeks to understand the interplay between agricultural science and technology and society in India.

We conduct our research activities in association with a wide section of people interested in the agrarian question, including persons associated with academic institutions, members of mass organisations working in the countryside, and other professionals and scholars.

In 2022- 2023, FAS ventured into some new partnerships and novel research areas.

We collaborated with the CGIAR Gender Platform led by the International Rice Research Institute, to explore two major research questions relating to the gender division of work in rural India, and trends in costs and prices of crop production.

In collaboration with the Archives at the National Center for Biological Sciences, we have taken up a unique project to conduct oral histories of senior agricultural scientists who were an integral part of the Green Revolution.

FAS initiated a Young Scholars' Seminar Series and provided a platform for doctoral and post-doctoral students to present work on rural India to their peers and eminent scholars. Nine seminars were held between April and December 2022, on every last Thursday of the month.

Another achievement of 2022-23 was the increased engagement and outreach in social media by presenting insights from our work in an accessible manner.



RESEARCH PROJECTS

A. TRENDS IN GENDER DIVISION OF WORK AND WAGES IN RURAL INDIA

FAS undertook a research project titled “Big Data Analysis to Understand Trends in Gender Division of Work and Wages in Rural India and Trends in Costs and Incomes from Crop Production in India,” in association with the Evidence Module of the CGIAR GENDER Platform led by the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI).

The project consists of two components.

The first component deals with the gender division of work and the difference between wages of male and female workers (gender wage gap), which are important features of the labour work process in rural India.

Developments like mechanisation and emergence of piece rates have altered many farming practices and, thus, altered the gender division of work over time and across the States. The Foundation has for some time been engaged in studies related to women’s work and wages in the rural labour market, and has brought out research pertaining to this subject in the past.

This study uses detailed gender-disaggregated data on labour absorption, forms of labour, and agricultural

operations for a diversity of crops from eight villages spread across five States in distinct agro-ecological regions of India to examine the effect of various factors like agro-ecology, cropping pattern, level of mechanisation and gender division of labour, on gender wage gap. The data used in the project comes from the primary database collected by the Foundation as part of its Project on Agrarian Relations in India (PARI).

The second component of the project analyses trends in costs and incomes from crop production in India. The incomes from agriculture have declined particularly after the 1990s in India, on account of increasing costs of cultivation for and low prices realised by a large share of farmers. This study is based on data from the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices to examine the component-wise and State-wise trends in costs of cultivation, prices, and incomes from 2000-01 to 2019-20 for a selection of agricultural commodities in India.

Draft Reports of the work on these projects have been prepared and is being finalised by the Evidence Module of the CGIAR GENDER Platform.

B. ORAL HISTORIES OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS IN INDIA: 1950-1990

FAS has taken up a project on oral histories of agricultural scientists in collaboration with the Archives at the National Centre for Biological Sciences. The objective of this project is to critically examine the contributions of the first few generations of Indian agricultural scientists to the science of agriculture and foodgrain production, and to the practice of agricultural production in the developing economies, through a series of oral history interviews with such scientists.

Agricultural productivity and production in India grew steadily in the post green revolution period. Public institutions of agricultural research and education, and the community of agricultural scientists, were at the forefront of the transformation of Indian agriculture. This facet of agricultural development has been recognised in scholarship. However, there has been limited work on the evolution of agricultural science, and its adoption

in actual production in independent India from the perspective of history of knowledge. The history of the science and the practice of agricultural production has not been adequately studied in the context of the global flow of knowledge, and the contemporary economic and political history. It is this gap in scholarship that the oral histories project aims to fill.

These oral histories collected through a series of interviews with retired agricultural scientists gain a special relevance in light of the fact that they are the last living voices of an independent agricultural research system that originated and developed along with their own academic career. These interviews will add new dimension to the history of agricultural research and education in India. They will also help in identifying other official archives, and personal collections to be explored subsequently, in future stages of the project.



C. AGRARIAN RELATIONS IN THE LOWER CAUVERY DELTA

FAS is in the final stages of the study titled “Agrarian Relations in the Lower Cauvery Delta.” The study aims to understand the nature and characteristics of agrarian relations in two villages, Palakurichi and Venmani, in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu, locating them in their unique historical context of agrarian struggle and change.

Venmani village contains Keelvenmani, the site of an atrocity that took place in 1968 where the Naidu landlords burnt alive 44 Dalit women and children in retaliation to a mounting agrarian struggle in the region. Palakurichi has a history of being the subject of multiple village studies over the last century, starting from 1916 by a student of Gilbert Slater, one of the

pioneers of the method of village studies.

The Foundation conducted census-type household level surveys in both the villages in 2019. The data from the surveys have been analysed, and preliminary findings were presented in a series of workshops. Subsequent research work has also been completed.

A book on the contemporary agrarian relations in the Lower Cauvery Delta Region, based on this data, is in the final stages of preparation. This book will be the seventh instalment of the Agrarian Studies Series published by FAS. A monograph on the political history of the Keelvenmani atrocity of 1968 is also in advanced stages of production.



D. VILLAGE-LEVEL SPATIAL INFORMATION USING GIS TECHNIQUE: PALAKURICHI, TAMIL NADU

FAS initiated a research project titled “Village-level Spatial Information using GIS technique: Palakurichi, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu” in 2020. It aimed to look at the potential use of digitised village maps, with the aid of GIS technology, in studying land use patterns, cropping pattern, and other socio-economic characteristics in Palakurichi village in Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu.

The first phase of the project was successfully completed recently. A publication based on this phase is underway.

In 2021, under Phase-II of this project, we aimed to study the land records systems in Palakurichi village, in collaboration with Yoshifumi Usami, retired Professor of Economics at the Osaka Prefecture University, Japan, and Daizo Sugimoto, Professor, Meijo University, Japan. As part of this project, a small team from FAS visited Palakurichi in September 2022. A publication based on these efforts is also underway.



E. PROJECT ON AGRARIAN RELATIONS IN INDIA (PARI)

The Foundation's longest ongoing project, the Project on Agrarian Relations in India (PARI) was initiated in 2005 with the following objectives:

- To characterise the nature of capitalism and class relations in the countryside;
- To conduct specific studies on the oppression of Dalits and Scheduled Tribe sections of rural working people, and of women within them;
- To report on the state of basic village amenities and the access of the rural masses to the facilities of modern life.

The villages studied under PARI represent a wide range of different agro-ecological regions in the country. Under PARI, 27

villages in 12 States of India have been surveyed, with re-surveys in three villages each in Karnataka and West Bengal, and two villages of Bihar.

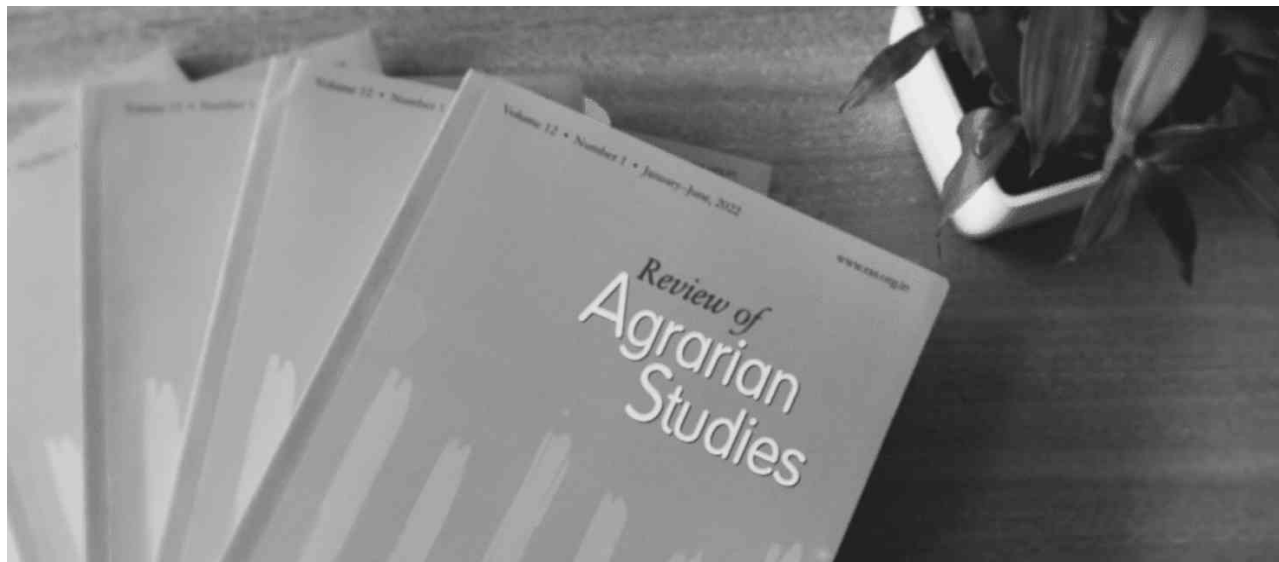
Results from survey data of PARI villages are published as books under the Socio-Economic Surveys Series by the Foundation. Five books have been published under this series, including the most recent "Socio-Economic Surveys of Three Villages in West Bengal," published in 2021.

Currently PARI is in advanced stages of planning new village studies that will take place in the 2023.



PUBLICATIONS

A. JOURNAL



The Review of Agrarian Studies is the peer-reviewed journal of FAS (www.ras.org.in). The journal publishes articles on agrarian studies - on the forces and relations of production in agriculture and in rural areas, on living standards, and on different aspects of social formations in the countryside. The Review carries theoretical and empirical articles on social, economic, historical, political, scientific, and technological aspects of agriculture and rural societies.

TNQ Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (www.tnq.co.in) has designed the web and print versions of the journal, and manages production of both versions. The print edition of the Review is published jointly by the Foundation for Agrarian Studies and Tulika Books, New Delhi, a noted publisher of books in the social sciences

(See Appendix I for the composition of the Editorial Board of RAS).

The Review of Agrarian Studies is on the list of journals recognised by the University Grants Commission and the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), India. It is indexed by Commonwealth Agriculture Bureau (CAB) Abstracts and Web of Science (Emerging Sources Citation Index). It has also been selected for indexing by Indian Citation Index (ICI) and AgEcon Search.

During 2022-2023 two issues of the journal – Volume 12, No. 1, and Volume 12, No. 2 – were published online, and in print.

Highlights of Volume 12, No. 1

The issue begins with an Editorial on the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report and its implications for developing countries. It features a Research Article, the first of a two-part article by Geof Wood on agrarian transition in Bangladesh since Liberation.

The issue carries Research Notes on wage rates in agriculture by A.V. Jose. This is followed by two articles on aspects of the year-long farmers' struggle that ended in November 2021, the first by Vijoo Krishnan, and the second, by Shamsher Singh. The issue also features a Tribute to Mallu Swarajyam (1930-2022), freedom fighter and leader of the Telangana peasant uprising, by Parvathi Menon.

There is an In Focus section on rural Bihar based on household surveys of two villages in the State conducted by FAS under the Project on Agrarian Relations in India (PARI). With an Introduction by John Harriss, the section includes articles on the identification of socio-economic classes by Niladri Sekhar Dhar, Mrityunjay Pandey and Awanish Kumar; on wealth inequality by Madhura Swaminathan and Shruti Nagbhushan; on the relationship between land and caste by Awanish Kumar; on the particular form of unfreedom caused by household landlessness by Sandipan Baksi and Rakesh Kumar Mahato; and on rural schooling and literacy by Fumiko Oshikawa and Sanjukta Chakraborty.

Highlights of Volume 12, No. 2

The issue has three editorials: on the implications of the recent commercial release of transgenic mustard in India; on the conflict in Ukraine and consequent disruptions in global agriculture; and an update on the global biodiversity framework with reference to the North-South divide.

This issue includes four Research Articles: on the caste system and agrarian relations in pre-modern India by Irfan Habib; on the factors affecting women's rural employment in India since Covid-19 by Fernanda Bárcia de Mattos, et. al.; on the question of financial inclusion in rural India by Pallavi Chavan and Ashish Kamra; and, the second of the two-part article on agrarian relations in Bangladesh by Geof Wood and M. A. Sattar Mandal

The issue features a Research Note on climate change policy in the agriculture, forestry, and other land uses sector by Sreeja Jaiswal, Goutham R, and Charu Chandra Devashali. It has two book reviews -- Sehar Iqbal's book *A Strategic Myth: 'Underdevelopment' in Jammu and Kashmir* has been reviewed by Madhura Swaminathan, and P. K. Michael Tharakan has reviewed Liam Campling and Alejandro Colas' *Capitalism and the Sea*.

The issue carries a Review Article on the intellectual legacy of the development economist P. J. Thomas by Amiya Kumar Bagchi; and a Tribute by Himanshu to the late Abhijit Sen (1950-2022), an eminent economist and expert on the Indian rural economy.

B. THESES PUBLISHED BY COLLABORATING SCHOLARS

Vijayamba, R. (2022), *The Role of Women in Livestock Economy*, Doctoral Thesis, School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

Abstract:

Rural women supply a predominant share of the labour in livestock-raising and constitute around 60 per cent of total workers in the livestock economy globally. In India, livestock-raising is an important source of employment for rural women, after crop production. Despite the critical role of rural women in the livestock economy, their contributions are under-reported and under-studied. This thesis addresses this gap in respect of three issues. First, the thesis examines inequalities in the ownership of livestock resources by class and gender. Secondly, the thesis attempts to provide a reliable estimate of women's labour contribution to the livestock economy of India. Thirdly, it explores factors relating to women's control over decision making in respect of the livestock economy.

The core data for the study comes from National Sample Survey Office's Employment and Unemployment Surveys and Time Use Survey, and primary data collected from two villages located in different agro-climatic zones of Karnataka. The former are used to estimate women's work participation in the livestock sector from 1993–94 to 2019. Official statistics continue to underestimate women's labour contribution to livestock raising. Calculating a modified or an augmented measure of work participation can address

this problem, as can use of time-use data. Inequalities in the ownership of livestock assets and women's decision-making are studied at the micro-level. Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index has been used to study aspects of women's decision-making with respect to livestock.

The study finds inequalities in the distribution of livestock resources by class and gender: rich farmer households owned livestock resources disproportionate to their population share. Women's pattern of ownership of livestock was distinct from that of men. Women performed specific tasks related to raising animals within a household. Women controlled decisions within the homestead, such as production decisions related to feeding animals, whereas men's labour participation and control over decisions were important for activities for the market. The study finds that the socio-economic characteristics of the women, and the agro-economic context of the village, influenced time spent in raising animals, participation in decisions, and outcomes.

While there is literature in India on some aspects of women's role in the livestock sector, this thesis brings a new perspective by linking issues of ownership of livestock assets, labour contribution, and decision making in specific context.

Satheesha. B. (2023), *Changing Rural Labour Markets in India: Evidence from Secondary Data and a Village in Karnataka*, Doctoral Thesis, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi.

Abstract:

The diversification of employment structure away from agriculture has been an integral feature of economic development across countries. However, in India, structural transformation of the economy has been much delayed, with agriculture and allied activities continuing to employ 44.2 per cent of the country's workforce in 2017-18.

The slow growth of employment opportunities in the non-agricultural sector has been an important factor behind the delayed structural transformation. At the same time, rural labour market changes in India have also been influenced by structural factors, which include agrarian conditions, ownership and distribution of land, historical factors, technology, agro-climatic conditions, cropping pattern, and social structure.

Given this background, the main objective of this thesis is to document and understand the changes in rural labour markets in India. Further, it attempts to understand how labour market changes have been associated with the structural and dynamic factors in the economy.

The thesis is partly based on an analysis of data from secondary sources, including the employment and unemployment surveys of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), and data from the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

The thesis is also based on data obtained from household surveys conducted in Alabujanahalli, a village located in the Mandya district in the southern part of Karnataka. The Foundation for Agrarian Studies (FAS) had conducted a survey in this village in 2008-09. It was resurveyed by this research scholar in 2018-19.

Bhattacharya, Soham (2022), *Agricultural Tenancy in Contemporary Rural India*, Doctoral Thesis, School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

Abstract:

This thesis is an inquiry into agricultural tenancy in contemporary rural India. A primary concern of this thesis is to analyse trends in the incidence of tenancy along with patterns of existing contractual arrangements in agricultural tenancy, and the ways in which these two (magnitude and form of contract) change with changes in productive forces in agriculture, rural production relations and legislative action taken in terms of tenancy laws.

The secondary data show a resurgence in tenancy in Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, two States where tenancy declined during the Green revolution period. In Punjab, this resurgence is primarily driven by large farmers leasing in land to reap benefits from the economies of scale, while a small section of the poor tenant farmers are subject to the huge burden of rent. In Coastal Andhra Pradesh, the resurgence in the incidence of tenancy alongside the persistence of exploitative forms of tenancy is an outcome of land hunger among the section of poor tenants; this tendency is further exacerbated by lack of labour absorptive capacity in both agriculture and non-agricultural sectors.

In both States, the paths of resurgence are linked to the larger crisis associated with the post-liberalisation phase of economic stagnation in the agrarian economy of rural India. In Punjab, a slowing down of yield growth, partly due to the lack of spending on research and development and crop

diversification in the agriculture sector induced the large farmers to lease in land to maintain the surplus. On the other hand in Andhra Pradesh, widespread distress in livelihoods tied the landless and land-scarce sections to their relations as tenant farmers. At this stage, the recent attempts of liberalisation of the lease market which assumes an equal bargaining power for both lessee and lessor households, would further accentuate distress.

This thesis critically evaluates the adequacy of the secondary sources of data/information available on agricultural tenancy in India, studies the changes in the socio-economic composition of lessee and lessor households in rural Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, attempts to explain the emerging forms of contracts for different socio-economic classes of tenants, and attempts to understand the economic processes that enabled the resurgence of tenancy in these two states. The study also examines at legislative norms that exist with regard to the lease markets in the two States to evaluate the viability of recent attempts at liberalisation of the lease market.

C. SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS BY STAFF AND RESEARCH COLLABORATORS

PRESENTATIONS

Baksi, Sandipan (November 17-20, 2022), “Indian Responses to the Application of Modern Science and Technology to Production under Colonialism : The Case of Agriculture,” online presentation at History of Science and Society Annual Meeting, Chicago.

Modak, Tapas Singh, and Basu, Ranjini (April 11-13, 2022), “Impact of Covid-19 on Migrant Agricultural Workers: A Study of Livelihoods, Employment and Labour Relations in a West Bengal Village”, 62nd Annual Indian Society of Labour Economics Conference, IIT-Roorkee.

Vijayamba, R. (May 14, 2022), “Role of Women in Dairy”, All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) Workshop of Dairy Farmers.

Vijayamba, R. (March 6-8, 2023), “The Role of Women in Livestock Economy”, Gender and Livestock: Evolving Research Strategies by Anthra, Indian Pastoralist Network and Indian Commoner, Pune.

Pandey, Mrityunjay, and Vijay, R. (March 1-3, 2023) “Coping Destitution: Livelihood Diversification a Survival Strategy: A study of landless manual labour households from a village in North Bihar”, 63rd Annual Indian Society of Labour Economics Conference, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar.

Swaminathan, Madhura (December 7-9, 2022), “Financial Inclusion and the Role of Microfinance”, Young Scholars’ Workshop, IIT Tirupati, and INET, Institute for New Economic Thinking.

RESEARCH ARTICLES

Bakshi, Aparajita (2022), “Inadequacy of Agricultural Incomes in India”, in R. Ramakumar (ed.) *Distress in the Fields: Indian Agriculture after Economic Liberalization*, New Delhi, Tulika Books, 2022, pp. 333-356

Bhattacharya, Soham (2022), “Is Extreme Poverty Declining: Findings from Agricultural Households” *Economic and Political Weekly*, December 2022.

Bhattacharya Soham and Dasgupta, Indraneel (2023), “Economics and Politics of Some Emerging Fault Lines in Rural West Bengal” *Economic and Political Weekly*, April 2023

Chavan, Pallavi and Ramakumar, R. (2022), “Trends in Agricultural Credit in India: An Account of Change and Continuity” in R. Ramakumar (ed.) *Distress in the Fields: Indian Agriculture after Economic Liberalization*, New Delhi, Tulika Books, 2022, pp. 357-384

Kumar, Awanish (2022), “Agricultural Insurance in India: History, Issues and Recent Performance” in R. Ramakumar (ed.) *Distress in the Fields: Indian Agriculture after Economic Liberalization*, New Delhi, Tulika Books, 2022, pp. 385-406

Modak, Tapas Singh (2022), “Transformation of Irrigation Economy in India: From Public to Private” in R. Ramakumar (ed.) *Distress in the Fields: Indian Agriculture after Economic Liberalization*, New Delhi, Tulika Books, 2022, pp. 225-256

Ramakumar, R. (2022), “India’s Agricultural Economy during the Covid-19 Lockdown: An Empirical Assessment” *Indian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, vol. 77, no. 1

Swaminathan, Madhura (2022), “Agrarian Inequalities in India” in R. Ramakumar (ed.) *Distress in the Fields: Indian Agriculture after Economics Liberalization*, New Delhi, Tulika Books, 2022, pp 71-89

EVENTS

A. PUBLIC EVENTS

CONSULTATION ON DATA FROM FAS VILLAGE STUDIES PROGRAMME, APRIL 7, 2022

FAS conducted an online data workshop to explore the possibilities for further utilisation of the data archive created as part of PARI, its ongoing village studies programme. The workshop was attended by more than 40 research scholars from various academic institutes including Azim Premji University, Banaras Hindu University, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore Centre, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, etc.

The workshop consisted of a series of presentations introducing the work of the Foundation under its PARI program, the data available with the Foundation through PARI, some findings from this data, and the possibilities of collaboration and data sharing. This was followed by a fruitful discussion between the attendees and the Foundation's researchers.

WORKSHOP ON AGRARIAN RELATIONS, JULY 30 – 31, 2022

FAS, along with Research Initiatives Bangladesh (RIB) and Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS) conducted a two-day virtual workshop on Agrarian Relations.

The workshop consisted of lectures and presentations by researchers and collaborators from FAS on a variety of

topics pertaining to agrarian studies, that was followed by a series of discussions chaired by researchers from RIB. The two-day workshop ended with a general discussion on the possibilities of collaboration between the two organisations.



*FAS ANNUAL LECTURE 4:
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM,
MARCH 29, 2023*



The Fourth FAS Annual Lecture was delivered by Cao Đức Phát, Chair, Board of Trustees of International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). The event was organised by the Foundation in association with IRRI and St Joseph's University, and was held at the De Nobili Hall, St Joseph's University, Bengaluru.

Cao Đức Phát delivered a comprehensive lecture outlining the history of agricultural development in Vietnam. He noted that agriculture continues to be the primary source of livelihood for more than 60 per cent of the rural population in Vietnam, and outlined comprehensive reforms that led to a spectacular agricultural growth in the country.

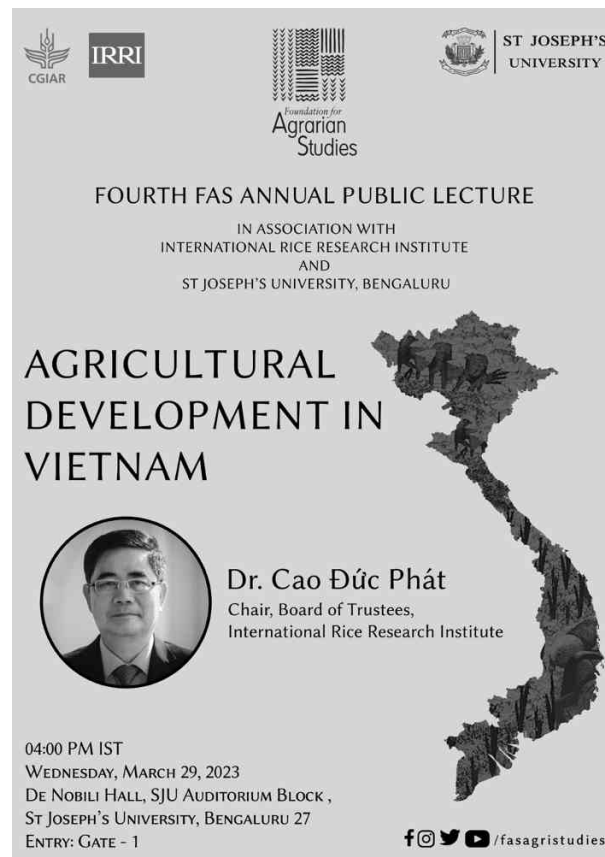
a leading exporter in several agricultural commodities and lifted a large number of farm households out of poverty. At the heart of this change Phát located the agricultural land policies brought about by the Vietnamese State that helped the farmers of the country gain access to land-use rights.

Phát also highlighted some of the challenges that characterise the development process in Vietnam today, such as the necessity to further improve productivity, increase farm incomes to arrest the widening rural-urban divide, and the looming risks from climate-change. He concluded by emphasising the necessity to fine-tune market mechanisms, and the role of modern technologies and innovations when looking towards the future.

From food shortage and a farm sector dominated by poor farmers four decades ago, the reforms transformed Vietnam into

Madhura Swaminathan presided over the event. Noted development economists Venkatesh Athreya and R. Ramakumar made short remarks after the lecture, which was followed by a question and answer session.

Senior researchers, young scholars, and students, from various parts of Bengaluru, and beyond attended the event.

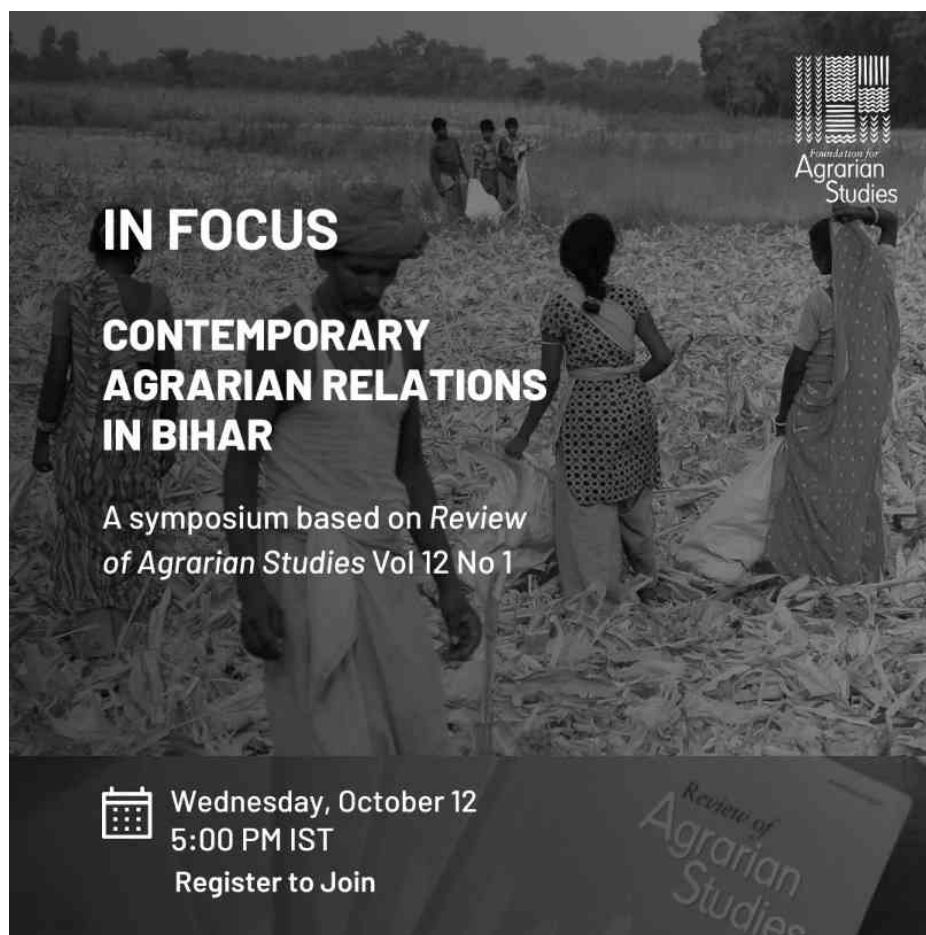


*CONTEMPORARY AGRARIAN RELATIONS IN BIHAR: A SYMPOSIUM,
OCTOBER 12, 2022*

In 2012 and 2018, FAS surveyed Katkuian village in West Champaran district in the far northwest of the State, and Nayanagar in the Samastipur district in Central Bihar, as part of PARI, its ongoing village studies programme.

Drawn from this data, a series of research articles and notes have been published in the Review of Agrarian Studies (vol 12, no 1) as a special In Focus section. To discuss the main findings and significance of these studies, the Foundation conducted an online symposium.

John Harriss, Emeritus Professor, Simon Fraser University, who is the editor of the “In Focus” section, chaired the symposium. The discussants for the symposium were Gerry Rodgers, Visiting Professor, Institute for Human Development, New Delhi, Praveen Jha, Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Chirashree Dasgupta, Associate Professor, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.



IN FOCUS

**CONTEMPORARY
AGRARIAN RELATIONS
IN BIHAR**

A symposium based on *Review
of Agrarian Studies Vol 12 No 1*

 Wednesday, October 12
5:00 PM IST
Register to Join

*Review of
Agrarian
Studies*

B. FAS YOUNG SCHOLARS' ONLINE SEMINAR SERIES 2022-23



FAS organised a Young Scholars' Online Seminar Series for researchers working in the fields of agrarian studies and on socio-economic life in rural India. Nine young scholars working on rural India presented their work in the seminars held between April and December 2022. Their work broadly covered themes such as agricultural production, agrarian and labour relations, rural economy, caste in rural India, and development of science and technology in agriculture.

Thematic experts appeared as discussants for each seminar. Barbara Harriss-White,

Emeritus Professor of Development Studies, University of Oxford, was the chair of the seminar series.

The first session of the seminar series, held on April 28, 2022, featured Juhi Chatterjee, Ph.D. scholar at the School of Habitat Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences. Juhi presented her research on energy use in agriculture.

The second session, featuring Srishti Yadav, Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Manitoba, was held on May 26, 2022. Srishti spoke about

her research, “Caste, Diversification, and the Contemporary Agrarian Question in India – A Field Perspective.”

The third seminar, by Raya Das, Fellow, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), was held on June 30, 2022. Raya spoke about her research, “Conditions of Accumulation and Survival: Development of Capitalism in Agriculture of West Bengal.”

The fourth seminar, featuring Aritri Chakravarty, Assistant Professor, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, Bengaluru, was held on July 28, 2022. She spoke on the topic, “Impact of Information on Technical Efficiency of Agricultural Production in India.”

The fifth seminar was by Kranthi Nanduri, Ph.D. scholar at the Indian Institute of Management Calcutta. Kranthi spoke about the “Patterns of Accumulation and Differentiation in Non-Agrarian Informal Sector in India.” The seminar was held on August 25, 2022.

The sixth seminar, featuring B Satheesha, Ph.D. Scholar, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, was held on September 29, 2022. Satheesha spoke on “Rural Employment Diversification in India.”

The seventh seminar, featured Soham Bhattacharya, Ph.D. Scholar at the Economic Analysis Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore Centre, was held on October 27, 2022. He spoke on his research on “Agricultural Tenancy in Contemporary Rural India.”

The eighth seminar, featuring Deepak Johnson, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Postdoctoral Researcher, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, was held on December 2, 2022. Deepak spoke on the topic of “Rice Incomes and Farm Policy,” with case studies from Vietnam and Kerala.

The ninth seminar of the series, by Athary Janiso, Ph.D. Scholar at the Birla Institute of Technology Pilani, Hyderabad Campus, was held on December 22, 2022. Janiso spoke about his work, “Accounting of Women’s Work in Rural India: Is there a Measuring Crisis?”

The recordings of all these seminars are available on the Foundation’s YouTube channel.

C. IN-HOUSE EVENTS

SEMINARS ON DATA VISUALISATION MAY 24, 2022, AND JULY 15, 2022

FAS organised two in-house seminars on the use of data visualisation in research. The seminars included a hands-on training session on the data visualisation tool, Flourish. Deepak Johnson and Subhajit Patra were the trainers for the sessions.

METHODOLOGY TO ANALYSE TENANCY AND MORTGAGE LAND DATA JUNE 10, 2022

An in-house seminar was held by FAS to critically discuss the methodology employed by PARI, the ongoing village studies programme of the Foundation, for processing the primary data on tenancy and mortgage of land collected from village studies. This seminar was part of a larger exercise undertaken by PARI to standardise its data matrices from 27 villages across 12 states in the country.

TRAINING SESSIONS ON GOOGLE WORKSPACE AND OFFICE DIGITAL NETWORKS JUNE 28, 2022 AND JULY 12, 2022

Gautham Nagendran of the Free Software Movement, Karnataka, and Deepak Johnson from the Foundation, conducted hands-on training sessions on the productive use of collaborative tools such as Google Workspace. They also conducted an introductory session on the digital networks that are facilitated at the Foundation's office.

WOMEN AND MIGRATION SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Rakesh Mahato presented his work on the gender dimension of migration in India. For this, he analysed data from Katkuian and Nayanagar, two villages in Bihar, that were surveyed by PARI, the Foundation's village studies programme, in his presentation.

*CONSULTATION ON
ANALYSIS OF COSTS AND INCOMES FROM CROP PRODUCTION
OCTOBER 13, 2022*

An online consultation was held with experts to present the findings from the study by the Foundation that examines the trends in costs and incomes from crop production in India. Deepak Johnson and Kulvinder Singh presented findings on profitability, costs, and incomes of paddy and urad for the time period from 2000-01 to 2019-20 at all-India and State levels. They used the data from the Comprehensive Scheme on Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India for their presentation.

*DISCUSSION ON THE MOVIE “DO BIGHA ZAMIN”
OCTOBER 21, 2022*

FAS organised an in-house discussion on Bimal Roy’s 1953 film, “Do Bigha Zamin.” The participants discussed the social and political significance of the movie.

*AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH
NOVEMBER 10, 2022*

Deepak Johnson presented some ideas for research on agricultural policy, that could be taken up by FAS in the future. In the presentation, Deepak discussed various definitions of agricultural policy, how it is seen in national and international contexts, and the databases that could help in examining the consequences of agricultural policy.

*IT SYSTEMS TROUBLESHOOTING
NOVEMBER 10, 2022*

Arumugham Nagendran, representative of the Free Software Movement, Karnataka, gave a presentation on standard operating procedures regarding troubleshooting various IT systems at the Foundation’s office. His presentation also included a general review of the current infrastructure at FAS.

*AGRARIAN CHANGE IN MAHARASHTRA
DECEMBER 27, 2022*

Kulvinder Singh presented a seminar titled “Agrarian Change in Maharashtra,” at the Foundation’s office. This presentation drew from his restudy of the village Gulumb in Satara district of Maharashtra. Kulvinder studied the village as part of his Master’s programme. He presented his findings on employment and incomes in the village.

SEMINAR ON PROJECT ON AGRARIAN RELATIONS IN INDIA
JANUARY 24, 2023

An in-house seminar was led by Arindam Das to discuss the changes that have occurred in various processes concerning PARI, the Foundation's village studies programme. Arindam explained the changes in the processes such as data collection, data processing, and analysis methods that has taken place over PARI's lifetime. Discussion on paths to optimise the village studies exercises followed.

SEVENTH ANNUAL RETREAT OF
THE FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES
FEBRUARY 11, 2023

The Foundation for Agrarian Studies organised its 7th Annual Retreat in Nileschwaram, Kerala. Over multiple sessions, detailed discussion ensued on the work of the Foundation in 2022-23, and a new work programme was proposed for 2023-24. The technical proceedings were followed by a day of fun-filled activities and sightseeing.

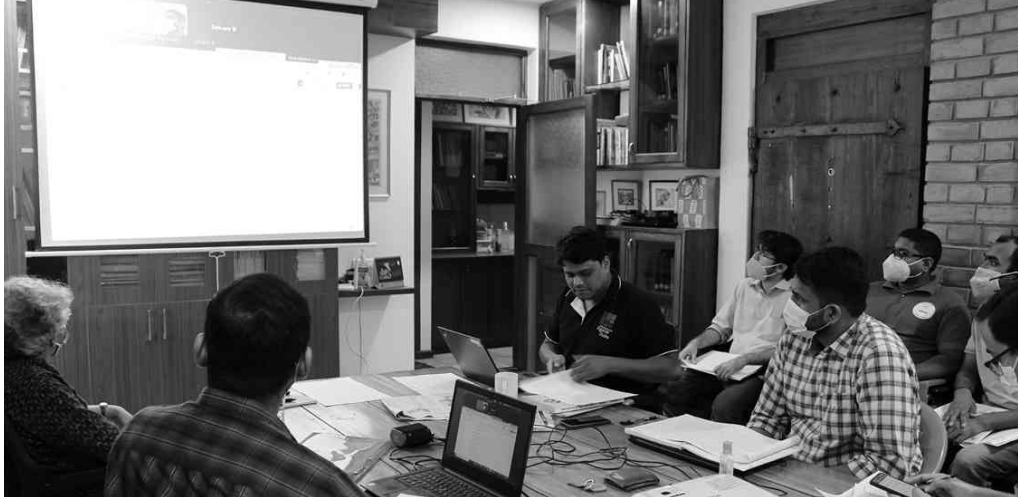
INTERACTION WITH PROFESSOR JUDITH HEYER
MARCH 02, 2023

Professor Judith Heyer visited the Foundation's office in Bengaluru. During her visit, she interacted with the scholars at the Foundation, discussing various topics such as the growing role of non-farm sector in rural India, and the possibilities of future research that FAS can undertake.

INTERACTION WITH PROFESSOR BARBARA HARRISS-WHITE
MARCH 13 – 17, 2023

Scholars at the Foundation and our young research collaborators got an opportunity to interact with Professor Barbara Harriss-White on various topics of interest, during her visit to Bengaluru. The association with Harriss-White has been the hallmark of the Young Scholars' Online Seminar Series that the Foundation hosted for nine months in 2022. Harris-White chaired all these seminars. She has kindly agreed to be the Chair to the second edition of the series that we wish to begin very soon.

Foundation for Agrarian Studies





D. FIELD VISITS

REVISITING PALAKURICHI WITH PROFESSOR YOSHIFUMI USAMI *SEPTEMBER 05 – 06, 2023*

A four-member research team from FAS re-visited the village of Palakurichi in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu for two days. The team consisted of Arindam Das, Tapas Singh Modak, Sethu C. A., and Professor Yoshifumi Usami, a long-time research collaborator of the Foundation. The visit was a part of Usami's visit to the Foundation between September 1 and 10, 2022.

This visit was part of the Phase II of the project titled "Village-level Spatial Information using GIS technique: Palakurichi, Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu," organised in collaboration with Professor Daizo Sugimoto, Meijo

University, Japan, in 2021. The specific objective of this phase was to study the land records systems in Palakurichi village. The purpose of the field visit was to get detailed information in this regard from Village Administrative Office (VAO) at Palakurichi and interview some key respondents in the village.

Palakurichi was first surveyed by the Foundation in May-June, 2019, as part of its project on "Agrarian Relations in the Lower Cauvery Delta."



LIBRARY

The Library of Agrarian Studies (LAS), located in Thrissur, is a specialised academic resource and reference library of roughly 12,000 publications with a primary focus on agrarian studies, including agricultural economics and rural development. It is a valuable resource for scholars working in the field of agrarian studies and rural development, and, more generally, in related social sciences.

The current collection of the library covers some 13,200 books, reports, working papers, and dissertations, back issues of journals, and other documents and publications. The library collection also includes publications on development studies (including development economics), history, politics and sociology. The library is a repository library for all publications of Left Word and Tulika publishers.

At the core of the collection is a gift to the Foundation of about 7,000 books and other publications by Professor Yoshifumi Usami. The library has also received a gift of 347 books on the Indian economy and polity from N. Ram, Director, THG Publishing Private Limited.

The collection has been duly catalogued, classified, and shelved. We have also digitised our library catalogue in OPAC (<https://libcatfas.informaticsglobal.com/>). The library could not function for a brief period in the recent past due to Covid-19 related restrictions, but is now open for all researchers. Interested scholars and researchers may contact Sandipan Baksi, Director, FAS.

The Foundation is seeking financial and technical assistance for preserving, and partially digitising the collection in its library.



OUTREACH

The Foundation's commitment to engage with a wider audience was pushed to new levels with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, as much of the world drew its focus to internet-based platforms. Systematic efforts to build our presence in various social media platforms since then have recently seen even more significant strides. As part of our evolving strategy, we are now active on multiple platforms, including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn, allowing us to connect with diverse audiences and communities.

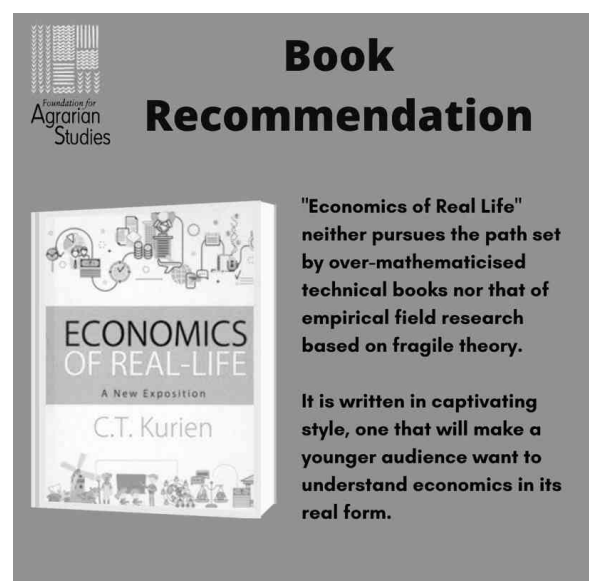
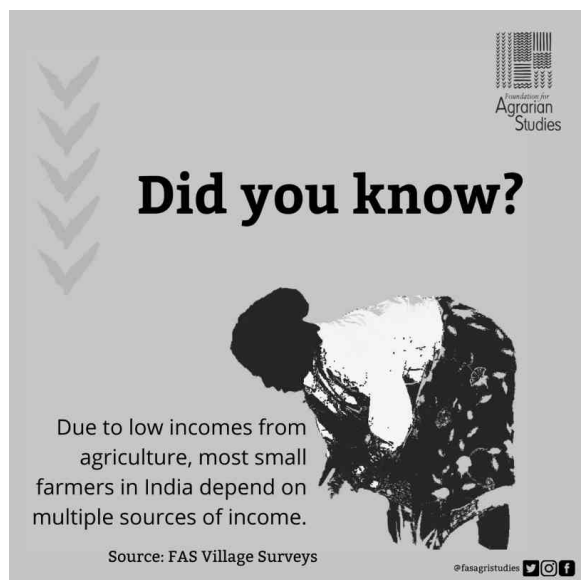
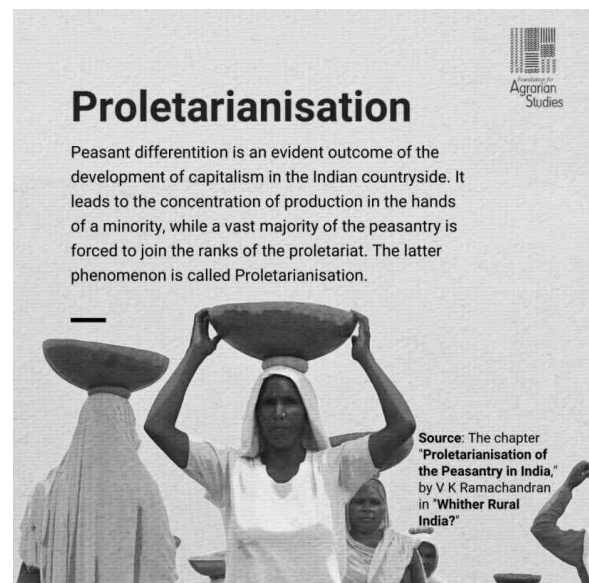
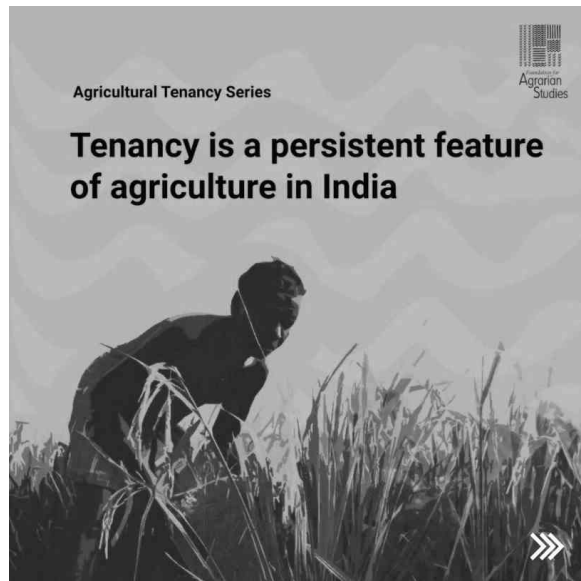
Our engagement on social media goes beyond announcements; it is a concerted effort to foster meaningful conversations and disseminate useful insights in the field of agrarian studies. We understand consistent interaction is crucial in inviting the attention of and building relationships with our community of audience. To this end, we have implemented a regular posting schedule across all platforms, through which our followers not only receive periodic updates on our research, initiatives, and events, but are also familiarised with our work in creative ways.

An example of such endeavours is the introduction of thematic campaigns, which revolve around pertinent subjects in agrarian studies. These campaigns, which focus on various and specific themes such as agricultural tenancy in India or small farmers in India, have garnered

wide appreciation. Similarly, we present complex concepts pertaining to rural development in an accessible manner. Our "Did-You-Know" series, for instance, introduces terms like "proletarianisation" in a manner that engages and educates simultaneously.

We take pride in our "Young Scholars' Seminars" series, a platform dedicated to emerging researchers exploring rural dynamics. These seminars provide a unique opportunity for young scholars to present their findings to globally renowned experts in the field. The sessions are subsequently made publicly accessible on our YouTube channel.

These collective efforts have yielded remarkable results, propelling the visibility of our work to new heights. As we continue to navigate the digital landscape, we remain dedicated to extending our reach, fostering meaningful connections, and amplifying the visibility of research surrounding agrarian issues and rural society.



PERSONNEL

The Foundation currently has 12 people on its rolls, of whom 5 are involved with research activities of the Foundation.

TRUSTEES

V. K. Ramachandran, Managing Trustee

V. Namasivayam

Madhura Swaminathan

Sarita Alexander

Parvathi Menon

THE TEAM

Sandipan Baksi - Director

Arindam Das - Joint Director

Pinki Ghosh - Manager (Accounts, Human Resources, and Administration)

Nihira Ram- Online Events Coordinator*

Sujan Nallapaneni – Coordinator, Communication and Events

Aaliya Sehar – Editorial Coordinator (RAS)

RESEARCH STAFF

Deepak Johnson - Associate Fellow*

Kulvinder Singh – Research Assistant

Komal Singh Chauhan – Associate Fellow

Rakesh Kumar Mahato - Senior Data Analyst

Sanjukta Chakraborty – Senior Data Analyst*

Sethu C. A. – Senior Research Assistant

Subhajit Patra - Senior Data Analyst*

Tapas Singh Modak - Associate Fellow

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION

Divya S. Devadiga - Administrative Executive*

Sudha N. - Administrative Assistant

J. Jayamary - Office Assistant

CATALOGUING ASSISTANT

Venkatesh K (Thrissur)

* Left during the year

STUDENT INTERNS

Aayush Kumar, *Ahmedabad University, Gujarat*

Sai Chandan Kotu, *Lund University, Sweden*

STUDENT COLLABORATORS

B., Satheesha, *Doctoral Scholar, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi*

Bansode, Nageshwar, *Senior Research Fellow, Indian Statistical Institute, Bengaluru*

Bhattacharya, Soham, *Research Fellow, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore*

Chatterjee, Juhi, *Doctoral Scholar, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai*

Devshali, Charu Chandra, *Research Associate, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai*

Dutta, Ritam, *Research Fellow, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore*

M., Isaac, *Ph.D. Candidate, University of Sussex*

Mandela, Nelson S., *National Institute of Urban Affairs, New Delhi*

Munjal, Kunal, *Research Fellow, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore*

Nagabhushan, Shruti, *Research Scholar, School of Oriental and African Studies, London*

Pandey, Mrityunjay, *Research Scholar, University of Hyderabad*

R., Vijayamba, *Research Fellow, Indian Statistical Institute, Bangalore*

Radhakrishnan, Goutham, *Research Assistant, M S Swaminathan Research Foundation*

Surya, Abhinav, *Ph.D. Candidate, Center for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram*

RESEARCH COLLABORATORS

Athreya, Venkatesh B., *Professor, Retired*

Bakshi, Aparajita, *Independent Researcher*

Barbara, Harriss-White, *University of Oxford, England*

Chandrasekhar, Indira, *Tulika Books, Delhi*

Chavan, Pallavi, *Mumbai*

Dhar, Niladri Sekhar, *Asian Development Research Institute, Patna*

Gopinath, R., *M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai*

Harshan, T. P. *Kerala State Planning Board, Kerala*

Heyer, Judith, *University of Oxford, England*

Jayaraman, T., *M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai*

Johnson, Deepak, *Hitotsubashi University, Japan*

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Oshikawa, Fumiko, *Professor Emeritus, Kyoto University, Japan*

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Singh, Shamsheer, *FLAME University, Pune*

Sridhar, V., *Bangalore*

Suresh, A., *Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Central Institute of Fisheries Technology*

Surjit, V., *National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad*

Thangaraj, M., *Raiganj University, West Bengal*

Thomas, Jayan Jose, *Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi*

Sakata, Daisuke, *Kanagawa University, Japan*

Sugimoto, Daizo, *Meiji University, Japan*

Usami, Yoshifumi, *Professor, Retired*

OTHER COLLABORATING INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Foundation is grateful to the following individuals and organisations for their support:

TNQ Books: The journal is rendered online, and the print edition typeset by TNQ Books and Journals.

Tulika Books: The print edition of the Review is published and managed by Tulika Books, New Delhi.

Varma, Noopur, provides HR support to the Foundation.

Gautham N, and Arumugham N, Free Software Movement, Karnataka (FSMK). FSMK provides technical support to the Foundation.

Financial and accounting support is provided by Sudeep Shetty & Co.

kCube Consultancy Services (P) Ltd provides technical support to the Foundation.

Informatics Publishing Ltd, provided technical support for online cataloging of Library of Agrarian Studies.

INDIVIDUAL AND INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

K. K. Menon

Madhura Swaminathan

N. Ram

V. Namasivayam

V. K. Ramachandran

The Kilvenmani Foundation

Rosa Luxembourg Stiftung

International Rice Research Institute



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APPENDIX

EDITORIAL BOARD OF REVIEW OF AGRARIAN STUDIES

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Sukhadeo Thorat, *Indian Institute Of Dalit Studies And Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi*

AUDITED ACCOUNTS



**KALYANASUNDARAM
& ASSOCIATES**

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

STATUTORY AUDIT
INTERNAL AUDIT
DIRECT TAXATION
INDIRECT TAXATION
START UP SERVICES
CONSULTING

Independent Auditors' Report

UDIN: 23219645BGZABG9765

To the Board of Trustees of FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES,

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES ("the Trust"), which comprise the Balance sheet as at 31st March 2023, the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year then ended, and a summary of significant policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Management is responsible with respect to the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the Trust in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility also includes the maintenance of adequate accounting records for safeguarding of the assets of the Trust and for preventing and detecting the frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial control, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing generally accepted in India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depends on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal financial control relevant to the Trust's preparation of the financial statements that give true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the Trust's Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.



36, Ground Floor, 5th Cross, 6th Main, KSRTC (E) Layout, JP Nagar - 2nd Phase, Karnataka, Bengaluru - 560 078.
Mob : +91.097403 82534, email : kmranjith@ksaca.com

CHENNAI | DELHI (NCR) | BENGALURU | KOLKATA | COIMBATORE www.ksaca.com

Opinion

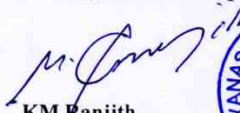
The Balance Sheet, the Statement of Income and Expenditure dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements, give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India;

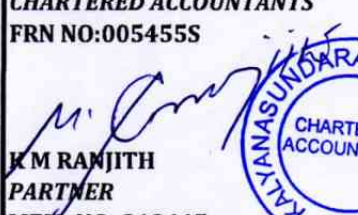
- a) in the case of Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Company as at March 31,2023;
- b) in the case of Statement of Income and Expenditure, of the Surplus for the year ended on that date.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 23rd August,2023

for Kalyanasundaram and Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No.005455S


KM Ranjith
(Partner)
Membership No.219645

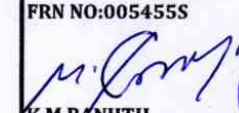
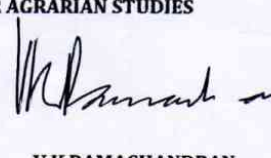


FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES No.677, 1st Floor, 9th A Main Road, Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560038 BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2023			
Particulars	Sch. No.	31/Mar/2023	31/Mar/2022
(I) SOURCES OF FUNDS			
(a) Corpus	1	55,625,000	55,225,000
(b) Reserves & Surplus	2	9,063,060	8,082,580
(c) Current Liabilities	3	110,285	130,508
TOTAL LIABILITIES		64,798,345	63,438,088
(II) APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
(a) Fixed Assets	4	728,198	616,692
(b) Investments	5	55,225,000	55,225,000
(c) Cash and Bank Balances	6	7,139,888	5,124,455
(d) Other Current Assets	7	1,705,259	2,471,941
TOTAL ASSETS		64,798,345	63,438,088
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS & SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES <i>Schedules referred to above and notes attached there to form an integral part of Balance Sheet</i> <i>This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our Report of even date.</i>			
FOR KALYANASUNDARAM & ASSOCIATES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS FRN NO:005455S		FOR FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES	
 K M RANJITH PARTNER MEM. NO: 219645 UDIN: 23219645BGZABG9765		 V NAMASIVAYAM TRUSTEE	
		 V K RAMACHANDRAN TRUSTEE	
PLACE: BANGALORE DATED: 23rd August 2023		PLACE : BANGALORE DATED: 23rd August 2023	
		PLACE : BANGALORE DATED: 23rd August 2023	

TRUSTEE
 Foundation for
**Agrarian
 Studies**
 677, First Floor, 9th A Main Road,
 Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bengaluru 560038

FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES No.677, 1st Floor, 9th A Main Road, Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560038 INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED ON 31ST MARCH, 2023				
Sr. No	Particulars	Sch. No.	1st April 2021- 31st March 2023	1st April 2021- 31st March 2022
			Amount	Amount
	Income:			
I	Grants & Donations	8	2,945,799	701,200
II	Interest Income	9	3,992,751	4,147,216
III	Project Receipts	10	5,885,113	5,619,616
IV	Review of Agrarian Studies (RAS) Journal Grant	11	-	130,000
V	Other Income	12	47,707	43,023
	Total Income		12,871,370	10,641,055
	Expenses:			
VI	Fellowships, Salaries & Honorarium	13	8,742,577	7,488,301
VII	Field Survey Expenses	14	115,034	181,905
VIII	Workshop /Seminar/ Research Meetings/ Other Events Expenses	15	641,269	-
IX	Review of Agrarian Studies (RAS) Journal Expenditure	16	347,223	464,148
X	Academic Collaboration Expenditure	17	299,616	874,550
XI	Administrative Expenditure	18	1,584,707	1,491,219
XII	Depreciation	4	160,464	129,012
	Total Expenses		11,890,890	10,629,135
	Surplus/(Deficit) carried over to Balance Sheet		980,480	11,920

Schedules referred to above and notes attached there to form an integral part of Income & Expenditure Statement
This is the Income & Expenditure Statement referred to in our Report of even date.

FOR KALYANASUNDARAM & ASSOCIATES CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS FRN NO:0054555  K M RANJITH PARTNER MEM. NO: 219645 UDIN: 23219645BGZABG9765  PLACE: BANGALORE DATED: 23rd August 2023	FOR FOUNDATION FOR AGRARIAN STUDIES  V NAMASIVAYAM TRUSTEE PLACE: BANGALORE DATED: 23rd August 2023	 V K RAMACHANDRAN TRUSTEE PLACE: BANGALORE DATED: 23rd August 2023
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TRUSTEE
Foundation for
Agrarian
Studies
677, First Floor, 9th A Main Road,
Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bengaluru 560038







Foundation for Agrarian Studies,
677, First Floor, 9th A Main Road,
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Foundation for Agrarian Studies

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