

## CHAPTER V

### OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION

The final part of this study brings us into the area of greatest interest.....the economic aspects of ownership and operation.<sup>1</sup>

In the questionnaires that were used in 1962, six tables have been drawn up for the purposes of examining into the area of ownership and operation. The interviewee was asked whether that household owned the sawah pieces that it operated, and whether the household owned any piece that it did not operate and whether it owned other pieces outside the three blocks, in Tanjong Karang and outside Tanjong Karang. Pieces of land outside Sawah Sempadan area are in most cases operated by that household or in most other instances by the relatives who occupy the land free or share the crop with the owner. Operation of the pieces in this nature provides additional source of income for that household, and neglecting them would hence forth result in gross distortion of the actual conditions prevailing. <sup>2</sup>

TABLE 16

#### OWNERSHIP OF LAND IN & OUTSIDE TANJONG KARANG BY BLOCK

Block	C		J		O		Combined (7)
	No. (1)	% (2)	No. (3)	% (4)	No (5)	% (6)	
	63	41.2	56	36.6	34	22.2	153

<sup>1</sup>The difficulty faced in this part of the study centres around the necessity of finding an approach that is most appropriate.

<sup>2</sup>This step could have been taken because it was felt that merely confining the study to the sawah pieces operated or held and operated is inadequate as a basis for examining into the condition of living of 1017 persons in blocks C, J, O.

Table 16 shows the number of households that owns at least a piece of land. Sixty three of the landholders are in block C, 58 in block J, and 34 in block O. In percentage terms these are 41.3 %, 36.7 % and 22.1 % respectively. The total number of landholders is 153. But in all the three blocks there are 125 households as noted earlier in the study on household. This means that 32 households or families are without any holding at all. Be it a sawah piece or a kampong piece. <sup>1</sup> A further breakdown of those households (operators) without any single piece of land holding is given in Table 17 below:

TABLE 17

HOUSEHOLDS (OPERATORS) WITHOUT ANY P  
PIECE OF SAWAH OR KAMPONG HOLDING

Block	C		J		O		Combined
	No. (1)	% (2)	No. (3)	% (4)	No. (5)	% (6)	
	8	4.2	12	6.5	12	6.5	32

The number of those households which do not own any piece of sawah or kampong land is 3. <sup>2</sup>

An examination into Table 18 shows that the Javanese group has a larger share in the ownership of the total pieces of land held by persons who reside in the three blocks namely C, J, O.

<sup>1</sup>By a 'sawah piece' is meant land cultivated or most suitable for padi growing. By 'kampong piece' is meant that piece suitable or cultivated with crops other than padi.

<sup>2</sup>In Table 22 is only 7. This is because in one instance one house contained two households.

No Malay household has any holding of greater than 8 acres. This could be compared with the total of 7 in the case of the Javanese group.<sup>1</sup> Of these seven cases three are in block J, and two each in the remaining blocks.

TABLE 18

OWNERSHIP OF LAND IN AND OUTSIDE TANJONG KARANG  
BY BLOCK, ETHNIC GROUP AND ACREAGE

(1)	C				J				O			
	Malay		Javanese		Malay		Javanese		Malay		Javanese	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	
> 0-1½	2	1.3	4	2.6	4	2.6	2	1.3	2	1.3	2	1.3
> 1½-3	14	9.2	17	11.1	10	6.5	21	14.0	3	5.2	13	8.5
> 3-4½	4	2.6	1	0.7	3	2.0	2	1.3	1	0.7	2	1.3
> 4½-8	9	5.9	10	6.5	3	2.0	8	5.2	1	0.7	3	2.0
> 8	-	-	2	1.3	-	-	3	2.0	-	-	2	1.3

An inter row comparison with respect to land ownership in blocks C, J, O, is given by Table 19. The conclusion drawn from this table is that the households in the outer rows have on the average larger holdings. Moreover the number of households owning pieces of land is far greater in the outer rows than in the inner rows. Larger holdings mean larger size scale of operations is possible. And a larger input of land resources would, following the production theory result in larger output than if the input of land resources had been smaller. This distinction in the pattern of ownership between the households in the outer and the inner rows could partly indicate that those in the outer rows are slightly better off than those in the inner rows.

<sup>1</sup>This could partly serve as an explanation as to why Malay households on the average has a smaller family size than the Javanese.

A total of 21 Javanese households own pieces of land greater than  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres but not more than 8 acres. This represents about 14 % of the total number of households with land holdings. In contrast there are only 13 Malay households which come under this category of landholders. This number represents only about 3 % of the total land-owners in the three blocks.

The bulk of the households which own at least a piece of land is made up of those households which own a piece greater than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  but not greater than 3 acres. Out of a total of 153 landholders in blocks C, J, O, 83 households come under this category of landowners. It should also be pointed out here that most of the pieces owned which in total exceed  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres to a household are made up mainly of kampong pieces rather than the sawah pieces. But the landholders classified as owning more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  but not greater than 3 acres are holders (owners) of solely sawah pieces.

TABLE 19

OWNERSHIP OF LAND IN AND OUTSIDE TANJONG KARANG BY  
ETHNIC GROUP ROW AND ACREAGE  
(C, J, O)

Acreage	Row 1		Row 2				Row 3				Row 4					
	Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%								
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
> 0- $1\frac{1}{2}$	3	2.0	3	2.0	3	1.3	-	-	1	0.7	3	2.0	2	1.3	2	1.3
> $1\frac{1}{2}$ -3	9	5.9	7	4.6	7	4.6	12	7.3	5	3.3	15	9.3	11	7.1	17	11.1
> 3- $4\frac{1}{2}$	3	2.0	3	2.0	2	1.3	1	0.7	2	1.3	1	0.7	1	0.7	-	-
> $4\frac{1}{2}$ -8	3	5.2	2	1.3	2	1.3	5	3.3	-	-	10	6.5	3	2.0	4	2.6
> 8	-	-	3	2.0	-	-	2	1.3	-	-	1	0.7	-	-	1	0.7

The facts relating to ownership of land by households in the area under blocks C, J, O, seem to indicate that the landholders on the average, own pieces of land ranging between 2½ & 4 acres.

About one-third of the total landholders own pieces which in total exceed 3 acres. In almost all instances landholders classified under this group own both the sawah pieces and the kampong pieces.

So far as ownership of sawah pieces is concerned the average holding does not exceed 3 acres. There are two broad groups of landholders in this particular case. 1 One accounts for those households which own pieces not exceeding 1½ acres each. The other broad group refers to those households which own a 3-acre piece. 2 The 1½-acre piece could have been secured in two main ways. Firstly it could have been purchased from another owner. 3 Secondly, since a lot is made up of three acres it could have been handed over from father to sons. Subdivision through customary and religious practices is not uncommon among the two ethnic groups. However it could also have been the result of selling one-half of the lot by the original owner. But the selling of one-half of the lot often ended up with the selling of the remaining one half. 4 Be it so it was revealed in the answers to the questions during the interviews that where the land has been purchased from the original owner, the title to it has in most cases not been transferred.

Those who own a 3-acre sawah piece own the entire one lot. Most of these holders are the original settlers who were allotted one lot each by the Dato Sidang in that area, when the settlement was started. 5 Since then many processes of selling and buying of sawah pieces have taken place resulting in the conditions that we see to-day.....'households

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1Ownership of sawah pieces in Sawah Sempadan only.

2Normally the 1½-acre holding and the 3-acre holding consist only of one piece.

3The sale of half a lot is more prevalent here.

4It was felt convenient to subdivide lots owned into halves as it involved no complicated procedure and problems arising therefrom. This was agreed upon by the interviewees.

5Each household was allotted one lot each. The information was contained in the answers to the questions directed to the farmers.

owing one-half of a lot, one lot, two lots and even three lots and those not having any holding at all, and those who rent in half a lot, one lot, two lots or more'. The prevailing conditions are best described by the tables that follow.

The aspect on operation however, is best discussed in the context of those pieces operated in Sawah Sempadan only, that is in blocks C, J, O.

There are 131 operators in all: 70 in block C, 60 in block J, and 41 in block O. As there are more Javanese households than the Malays, the number of Javanese operators need necessarily be more, in relation to the Malay operators.<sup>1</sup> This is evident from Table 20 presented below:

TABLE 20

HOUSEHOLD OPERATION OF SAWAH LAND IN SAWAH SEMPADAN BY BLOCK AND ETHNIC GROUP.

Ethnic group (1)	C		J		O		(8)
	No. (2)	% (3)	No. (4)	% (5)	No. (6)	% (7)	
Malay	35	19.0	31	16.8	21	11.5	87
Jav.	35	19.0	37	20.1	25	13.6	97

Pieces of sawah land operated by a household make up a farm. The most predominant type of farm operated on in blocks C, J, O, is one where the acreage does not fall below 1½ acres and at the same time does not exceed 3 acres.

By the term 'operator' is meant here the household that is involved in the operation of the sawah pieces that make up a farm. It therefore refers to the family unit.

This is given in Table 21. On the basis of acreage operated on the sawah pieces in the three blocks in Sawah Sempadan, the farms in the area under study could be divided into five types. The first type would consist of those farms not exceeding 1½ acres. The second type are those with an acreage of more than 1½ acres but not exceeding 3 acres. The third type refers to those with acreage greater than 3 but not exceeding 4½ acres. The fourth type relate to those farms with acreage exceeding 4½ acres but not greater than 6 acres. The fifth type of farm will be that which has an acreage of greater than 6 acres.

TABLE 21

TOTAL HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS OF SAWAH LAND IN SAWAH SEMPADAN BY ETHNIC GROUP ROW AND ACREAGE (ALL BLOCKS)

Acreage	Row 1				Row 2				Row 3				Row 4				
	Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
0-1½	5	2.7	4	2.2	2	1.1	-	-	1	0.5	3	1.6	3	1.6	2	1.1	
1½-3	16	3.7	8	4.4	10	5.4	13	7.1	9	4.9	15	8.2	17	9.2	17	9.2	
3-4½	4	3.2	4	2.2	3	1.6	1	0.5	2	1.1	1	0.5	1	0.5	-	-	
4½-6	7	3.3	2	1.1	2	1.1	7	3.3	-	-	10	5.4	3	1.6	4	2.2	
> 6	1	0.5	3	1.6	-	-	1	0.5	-	-	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	

The above tells us that the second type of farm (acreage greater than 1½ but not exceeding 3 acres) predominates in the area under blocks C, J, O. It also points out very significantly that the bulk of the operators operate on a 3-acre piece. With an average household size of 6 persons, returns from a 3-acre sawah piece could not suffice to support a fairly high level of living, what more when the nutritional value of various food products is often unknown and henceforth neglected. When this ignorance and neglect prevail what matters in respect to the food intake will be centred around tastes rather than as to whether it is 'filling' or not.

Added to this is the fact that padi farming forms the predominantly pursued and the vital means of their livelihood. Operation of one piece of sawah became a fundamental issue in this study, and total operation does not imply ownership of the total piece of sawah, since operation can also be done on a 'rented in' basis. It is therefore felt necessary to focus attention on the nature and extent of the 'rented in' type of operation.

The 'rented in' type of operation could be divided into two major classes. One class relates to that type of operation where the operator does not own any sawah piece operated on but merely rents in a piece of sawah and derives his living solely from it. The second class relates to that type of operation where the operator has a sawah holding and operates it but in addition rents in other piece/pieces and combines the operation of these. The second class could further be divided into two, on the basis of acreages owned by the operators. On the one hand there would be those operators who own not more than 1 1/2 acres of sawah holding each but still rent in other pieces to enlarge the size of their operations. On the other, there are those operators with sawah holdings of more than 1 1/2 acres each but not exceeding 5 acres who rent in other pieces and thus increase the scale of their operations. The former type is given in Table 22 and Table 23. The latter is given in Tables 24 and 25.

TABLE 22

OPERATING IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS NOT OWNING ANY SAWAH PIECE BY BLOCK AND ETHNIC GROUP

(1)	C		J		O		C, J, O Combined	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Malay	6	3.2	11	6.0	9	4.9	26	14.1
Javan.	1	0.5	1	0.5	3	1.6	5	2.7

The case where the operator does not own any sawah piece operated on and merely rents in is referred to as tenant operator, or tenant farmer if it be extended to all farm workers. In most cases, this area in particular, the concern revolves around the "bagi-dua" system. The issue

issue term implies the sharing of the crop, half to the operator, the other half to the landlord.

in concern is ..... 'Is it really bagi-dua? '. Such replies like..... 'kita ambil sa-tengah, dia ambil sa-tengah, kadang2 dia juga dia dapat lebih...' and '..... tengok keadaan lah, ada masa nya kita beri dia lebih.....', seem to indicate that the 50 - 50 sharing as we expect it to be, is not the practice always.1

Operation based on the "bagi-dua" system works contrary to the interest of the operator. Firstly, there is no security. If it happens that the year's crop is poor due to the poor health condition of the operator, then it would mean that the landowner's share would be relatively lower than otherwise. More likely the owner of the piece/pieces would prefer to rent it out to another operator who would assure him of a better crop. The former operator would be deprived of his occupation and the sole means of his livelihood. At best he would be reduced to the status of an odd-job worker which could help him to maintain the level of living that the family or household unit formerly enjoyed. Secondly the tenant operator has had to bear the whole series of cost involved in the process of production. Thirdly there has seldom been complete understanding, and complete harmony between the landowner and the operator.2

The number of cases where the operator does not own any piece of sawah land and therefore totally rents in are 7 in block C, 15 in block J, and 12 in block O. The total (31 operators) represents about 17 % of the total number of operators. Twenty one operators in this particular class, are found in the outer rows, largely Malays. The bulk of the operators in this class rents in piece/pieces with acreage greater than 1½ acres but not exceeding 3 acres, each. No operator rents in greater than 6 acres. Table 23 tells us that only two operators, one a Malay and the other Javanese rent in greater than 4½ acres of sawah land. This corresponds to only 1 % of the total operation.

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1 ... 'we get one-half, they get the other half, at times they get more.....'

'.....sometimes they get more.....'

2 The information was the outcome of the interviews. In most instances there have been a lack of reasonable amount of toleration on the part of the landowner when circumstances particularly call for such toleration. There is thus strong ground for deep concern.

TABLE 23

'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS NOT HOLDING ANY SAWAH PIECE BY ROW, ETHNIC GROUP AND ACREAGE (RENTED IN) .

No. of operators (1)	Row 1				Row 2				Row 3				Row 4			
	Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	
0-1	2	1.1	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	-	-
1-3	7	3.3	1	0.5	3	1.6	1	0.5	4	2.2	-	-	6	3.2	-	-
4-6	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	-	-
10-12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE 24

'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS WITH HOLDINGS NOT EXCEEDING 1 1/2 ACRES EACH (SAWAH PIECES) BY BLOCK AND ETHNIC GROUP

	C		J		O		C,J,O,combined	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Malay	2	1.1	5	2.7	-	-	7	3.8
Jav.	4	2.2	1	0.5	1	0.5	6	3.2

Tables 24 and 25 relate to the second class of the rented in operation. But in this instance the operators have each a holding not exceeding  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Each rents in other piece/pieces of varied acreages. Certain inferences could be made from the tables. Generally, those operators who own not more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of sawah piece/pieces rent in another 3 acres on the average to increase their operations. Out of a total of 13 households that operate the sawah piece/pieces under this class of 'rented in' type of operation, 8 households come under the category of those which rent in more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of sawah piece/pieces but at the same time not exceeding 3 acres. From the interviews carried out, it has been noted that the operators in this category, either rent in one-half or one lot each.<sup>1</sup> It is also evident from the tables that 62% of those who own the sawah pieces of not more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres rent in another 3 acres each to enlarge their operations.

TABLE 25

'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS WITH HOLDINGS GREATER THAN 0-ACRE BUT NOT EXCEEDING  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -ACRES EACH BY ROW ETHNIC GROUP AND ACREAGE (RENTED IN)

(1)	Row 1				Row 2				Row 3				Row 4			
	Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	
> 0- $1\frac{1}{2}$	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	-	-
> $1\frac{1}{2}$ -3	2	1.1	-	-	1	0.5	-	-	1	0.5	2	1.1	-	-	2	1.1
> 3- $4\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
> $4\frac{1}{2}$ -6	-	-	1	0.5	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
> 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup>A lot approximately equals 3 acres;  $\frac{1}{2}$  a lot is equivalent to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. The information given in the questionnaires indicates that relatively few rent in an acre or one-half acre.

Tables 26 and 27 also relate to the second class of the rented in type of operation. However, the operators in this particular group have each a sawah holding of more than 1½ acres but not exceeding 3 acres. They also find it necessary to rent in other piece/pieces. This may be an indication of the inadequacy of a '2 acre or a 3 acre' sawah holding to a household with an average of 6 persons. There are 19 cases of those operators classified under this group of operators. Eleven of these are to be found in the block C, and 4 each in blocks J and O. The total number represents about 10 % of the number of operators in the area under the three blocks. Out of the 19 cases prevailing, ten are in the outer rows. Of these 6 cases pertain to the Malay group. More important is the fact that under this particular group no operator rents in more than 3 acres of sawah piece/pieces. This fact could perhaps give a useful guide as to the appropriate size of the sawah farm and hence sawah holding, that conforms to the common aspiration of the padi farming community in the area under blocks C, J, O.<sup>1</sup>

TABLE 26

'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS WITH HOLDINGS GREATER THAN 1½ ACRES BUT NOT EXCEEDING 3-ACRES EACH BY BLOCK AND ETHNIC GROUP (C, J & O)

Ethnic Group	C		J		O		C, J, O, Combined	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Malay	8	4.4	1	0.5	-	-	9	4.9
Jav.	3	1.6	3	1.6	4	2.2	10	5.4

<sup>1</sup> The information as contained in the questionnaires are still inadequate to facilitate determining the farm size that is felt appropriate.

Table 27 is presented below:

TABLE 27

'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS WITH HOLDINGS GREATER THAN 1 ACRES BUT NOT EXCLUDING SACRES EACH BY RACE ETHNIC GROUP AND ACREAGE (RENTED IN)

(1)	Row 1				Row 2				Row 3				Row 4			
	Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	
10-1	2	1.1	1	0.5	3	1.6	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5
11-3	2	1.1	1	0.5	-	-	2	1.1	1	0.5	2	1.1	-	-	2	1.1
12-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14-6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The important aspects of the 'rented in' type of operation are summarised in tables 28 and 29.

TABLE 28

SUMMARY OF 'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY BLOCK AND ETHNIC GROUP

(1)	C		J		O		C,J,O, Combined	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
10-1	16	8.7	17	9.2	9	4.9	42	22.3
11-3	3	4.4	5	2.7	3	4.4	21	11.5

There are altogether 63 cases of operators classified under the 'rented in' type of operation. Of these 42 pertain to the Malay group. These 63 cases represent about 84% of the total number of operators in blocks C, J, O. Thirty eight of the 63 cases relate to those operators who reside in the outer rows.

It was also noted in the beginning that the average size of the sawah piece/pieces rented in by both the ethnic groups combined, and for all three blocks, and in all rows does not exceed 2 acres. No operator rents in more than 6 acres of sawah piece/pieces.

TABLE 29

SUMMARY OF 'RENTED IN' TYPE OF OPERATION BY OPERATORS 'WITH' AND 'WITHOUT' SAWAH HOLDING IN SAWAH SEMPADAN BY ROW ETHNIC GROUP AND ACREAGE ( RENTED IN ).

(1)	Row 1		Row 2				Row 3				Row 4					
	Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.		Malay		Jav.	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	
0-1½	5	2.7	2	1.1	3	1.6	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	3	1.6	1	0.5
1½-3	11	6.0	2	1.1	4	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-4½	1	0.5	2	1.1	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4½-6	-	-	1	0.5	1	0.5	1	0.5	-	-	-	-	1	0.5	-	-
> 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

In addition it was also noted that a total 154 operators operate on those sawah piece/pieces that they own and at the same time also rent in other piece/pieces to increase the scale of their operations.

It was also noted that 122 operators operate only

on those sawah piece/pieces that they own or held under the ownership title A/A or approved application. This number corresponds to about 66 % of the total number of operators in the area under blocks C,J,O.

These then portray the situation prevailing in the area under our study, with respect to both the ownership and operation of land. Ownership has been extended to cover the kumpang pieces held as well. As regards operation only the sawah piece/pieces operated on in blocks C,J,O, has/have been accounted for.

To recapitulate, there are altogether 1017 persons who make up 135 households classified into Malay and Javanese groups. About 61 % of the population are in the ages below 20 years. It is a young population. But in spite of this it was earlier noted that 53 % of the total population comes under the category of the 'economically active' members of the community. Female labour resources are greatly channeled into the farming activities. Two hundred and sixty persons representing about 54 % of the total female population are absorbed in the farming activities as full time workers. Also it was noted that formal education has always been focussed on the 'primary type' of education with no inclination whatsoever towards making them better would be farmers or or achieve a higher level of academic knowledge.

It was also implied earlier that the prevailing acreage owned, on the average could not suffice the needs of the average household consisting of 6 persons.

This is only one sector of the nation's economy. ....generally known as the agricultural sector. The other sectors, notably industry, commerce and trade are expanding and each/they are contributing a bigger share to the gross national product of the country. These other sectors are dynamic and experiencing rapid and sustained growth. The result is that these sectors have managed to keep up with the tempo of rising prices, and hence the economically active members of the society(nation) directly associated with the activities in these three sectors have not been worse off relatively to those directly associated with the farming activities, that prevailing in Sawah Sempadan in particular, which are enveloped within the agricultural sector.<sup>1</sup> The development of the three other sectors at the expense of the peasant agricultural sector is exerting a very strong influence on the level of living in the rural areas.

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<sup>1</sup> peasant agricultural sector which denotes the small scale nature of each operating unit within that sector.