

INTRODUCTION

The 'Graduation Exercise' is entitled 'TANJONG KARANG SURVEY-PHASE II'. The study was made in Sawah Kempadan, Tanjong Karang in the District of Kuala Selangor. This area was chosen for two practical reasons. Firstly, it is the 'youngest' padi area in the whole of the Federation of Malaya, said by Professor Unku Aziz during the briefing session in Kuala Selangor.

Secondly, it is the nearest padi area from the Economics Department of the University of Malaya which is the 'headquarters' of the Students engaged in the Survey.

The Survey was planned to be carried out in five stages projected over a period of five years. The period may be extended over ten to fifteen years or even twenty years as said by the head of the Economic Department. However, this is not very certain, but definitely it would cover a minimum period of five years.

The first stage of the Survey was conducted in 1962 by Students of the Economics Department. The team consisted of all males under Dr. H.C. Agarwal. The team was divided into two. One was stationed in Sekinchan under a Supervisor, and the other was stationed in Tanjong Karang with Enche' A. Hashid as the Supervisor.

The second stage of the Survey was conducted in early 1963. This time the field workers consisted of both male and female students. All the students were stationed in Kuala Selangor. The Sekinchan team was under Mr. Lo Sum Yee and the Sawah Kempadan team was supervised by Enche' Kokhsani. The two teams were under Dr. H.C. Agarwal.

The main purpose of the Survey is to study the Economics of Padi Farming in this area in particular. It looks into the production side in relation to Land Ownership and Operation. In short it is to study the economy of the area as a whole. However, attached to the main objective of the Survey is another purpose which is also important in one sense, and that is to give field experience to Students of Economics. In a way, it would bring the students closer to the rural people, and to understand their ways of life, their living conditions and difficulties and their economy. It would enable the students, to a certain extent, to understand their social life and customs.

In short, the Survey would benefit three parties. The people, the Department and the students concerned.

For my study, I am concerned with the second stage (even though I participated in the field-work for the study in the first stage.)

So the whole of my exercise would revolve around the analysis of the data collected during the second stage of the survey.

Historical Background

Approximately 6% of the immigrants from Indonesia settled in Selangor. A significant percentage settled permanently in Sawah Sempadan as far back as 1925. This is reflected in the fact that about 54.03% of the population living in Block K, C, R and U are Javanese. This approximation is generally true in the other blocks. The Irrigation Scheme was started by the Government in 1939. From then onwards proper allocation of land to the people began, and thus proper settlement. TOL and AA licenses were issued. (TOL - Temporary Occupation Licence; AA - Approved Application.) Each settler was supposed to get a three-acre lot for padi and a one-acre plot in the Kampong. With the passing years, the lands were handed down from the parents to the children, subdivision of the lot between father and son also took place. Later renting out, or, selling of half the lot followed. To-day, it is not uncommon to see the lot being shared between father and son, or, to see that half of the lot is owned by another farmer, or, to see that half of the lot is rented out to another farmer. Officially, the selling, renting or subdividing of the lot is not permitted.

The Padi Area in Sawah Sempadan

The padi area is about 6,100 acres divided into various blocks ranging from A - W making a total of 23 blocks. The blocks are further subdivided into lots of 3-acre each generally, with few exceptions ranging from 3-5 acres each.

For my analysis, I am concerned with four blocks. Block K, C, R and U as shown in the Sawah Sempadan map. I shall focus my analysis on the economy of the area as a whole with emphasis on Population, Households, and Land Ownership and Operation, and Occupation.

The whole analysis is divided into four parts. In Part I, I shall deal with Population; Part II - Households; Part III - Occupation and Part IV - Land Ownership and Operation. I shall conclude the analysis with a part in which I shall present my own views. For each Part, appropriate tables have been drawn up for the purpose of analysis. The data involved are all from the four blocks I am dealing with.

At this juncture, I would like to note that the analysis is not centred strictly on the economy, but, also the social aspect

of the area. But since the data are inadequate for any lengthy discussion of the social aspect and that they have been collected for the purpose of economic analysis, I shall only deal with it wherever feasible.

My analysis will be based strictly on the data and information obtained from the tables presented in this 'exercise'. The analysis will be by row, block and all blocks taken together.