

### BREAK UP OF CHAPTERS

The subsequent chapters of this thesis are divided into four parts. Part-I deals with the introductory chapters. There are two chapters in this part.

In Chapter-I , various agro-economic, demographic, meteorological, climatic, administrative, educational and other peculiarities of the district of west Dinajpur have been dealt with.

Chapter-II; on the other hand, deals with the study of various indicators of economic backwardness of the district. These indicators include intensive demographic pressures, literacy level, backward class composition of population, occupational structure, excessive dependence on agriculture, lack of infrastructural facilities, underdeveloped credit-markets etc.

Part-II of the thesis deals with the study of the supply function of and the demand function for hired farm-labour with reference to some areas of the district of west Dinajpur. The various determinants of the demand function and the supply function of farm labour have been studied both theoretically and empirically with special reference to some areas of the district of West Dinajpur. This part also deals with the chapter relating to the study of new agricultural technology and concentration of land holdings resulting in the inequality in the distribution of income and wealth.

However, there are three chapters in this part. Thus, chapter -III is related to the study of farm-labour supply function, chapter-IV is related to the study of the demand function for farm-labour and chapter-V is related to the study of the adoption of new technology in agriculture and the resulting concentration of ownership-holdings and inequality in the distribution of income and wealth.

Part-III of the thesis deals with the study of some contractual relations arising out of the phenomena like employer-labourer relationships, credit-labour tie, leasing out of cultivable land etc.

Thus, chapter-VI of this Part deals with the study of employer-labourer relationship in which interlinkage of credit with labour has been studied. The various factors determining the credit-labour tie and the nature of exploitation associated therein have been studied.

In chapter-VII, the land tenure system, the terms and conditions of tenancy, the impact of tenurial insecurity and the impact of socio-economic status on contractual terms have been dealt with.

Part-IV of the thesis is related to the study of rural poverty with reference to the district of West Dinajpur. The concept and measurement of poverty have been studied both theoretically and empirically. In chapter-VIII of part-IV, agrarian class formation and class relations have been studied. The nature of these relationships among various agrarian classes and the impact of such relations on rural poverty have been studied both

theoretically and empirically, the frame of reference being the district of West Dinajpur.

In chapter-IX, the concept and measurement of rural poverty have been studied both theoretically and empirically. The empirical measurement has been done through class-wise and item-wise expenditures on various food items and non-food items in the context of some sample villages of West Dinajpur district.

Finally, chapter-X of part-IV deals with the study of the evaluation of policy-measures already adopted at the national, state, district and panchayat levels to eradicate and reduce the incidence of rural poverty. In this connection, some achievements and failures of various rural development programmes, viz. IRDP, NREP, RLSP etc. have been studied. Complexities in the procedures for identification and selection of beneficiaries, biasness, bureaucratic tendency, unusual delay etc. often stand in the way of effective implementation of the schemes. Increase in the number of defaulting cases in respect of repayment of loans, transfer of investible funds to unproductive consumption purposes etc. are some of the problems involved in the effective implementation of the rural development programmes.

However, for the object of empirical study, data were collected both from primary and secondary sources. The primary sources of data were some field surveys conducted by myself in collaboration with Dr. Manas Das Gupta, Professor of Economics, University of North Bengal. The secondary sources of data were the census reports and other official publications.