Abstract

It is not my intention to give a full account of the development of agriculture in Indonesia since the Second World War, but to conduct a brief survey, through the materials available locally, of the aspects of agricultural development in Indonesia between 1945 and 1970.

The contents of this study covers the following few aspects, viz: physical background, historical background, distribution of crops in relation to population, a review of the First-Year Plan (1956 - 60), the Eight-Year Development Plan (1961 - 68) and the present Five-Year Plan (1969/70 - 1973/74), land reform and irrigation schemes and the exports of the main crops.

The agricultural development in Indonesia has not been very successful over the period studied though the government has set out a few development plans. The main reasons are due to the unstable political and economic situations over the period.

It is not easy to improve the agricultural production unless the whole socio-economic situation, the cultivation techniques, crop varieties, productivity, educational standard, and living standard of the rural population are improved. So, in order to raise the productivity of farm workers and land per acre, the present need is to raise the living standard of the rural population through the introduction of education, new techniques of cultivation, new varieties of crops, and fertilizers.

What the government should do at present is to concentrate her capital and training of personnel more on agriculture than on industrial fields.