

hydrologic ones. The administration must keep abreast of the technology. However, undue interference with agricultural markets can be self-defeating. Price control by fiat, for example, is more likely to hinder than to stimulate the desired increase in agricultural production. For example, sufficient price flexibility must be retained so that farmers will respond to the shifts in demand patterns that increased prosperity entails. There is evidence, indeed, that excessive reliance on official channels for the manufacture and distribution of fertilizer and other agricultural requisites has been harmful in the past.

If the farmer's cooperation is to be elicited he must be free to choose the cropping pattern that he deems to be in his own best interest. He may be provided with advice and positive incentives for planting the crops that the agricultural planners advocate, but the decision must ultimately be his. It is for this reason that an overall crop plan, like that of table 5.11, can be no more than a goal to work toward. This table, however, is not presented even as such a goal, but only as a tool to help foresee what is possible. Overall cropping patterns for the individual project areas and programs for achieving them will have to be worked out in the light of detailed studies of the technical conditions and the marketing outlook in each area.

Prospects in Former Sind

Possible Effects of Reorientation Toward a Market Economy

The purpose of this section is twofold: (1) to illustrate another method for evaluating new agricultural production patterns in the project areas of West Pakistan, and (2) to analyze the results given by the method for the Khairpur region in southern West Pakistan. The data for this illustration were taken, for the most part, from the excellent Khairpur Project Planning Report⁽⁶⁾ prepared by Hunting Technical Services (hereafter referred to as the "Khairpur Report"). The intention is not to assess the value of that document, but rather to develop further the implications of certain information contained in it.

In more specific terms, the discussion and models presented here are designed: (1) To outline methods for determining the most profitable production patterns for the area commanded by the Khairpur Feeder West, (2) To indicate the major impediments that cause the value of the present output to be less than

(6) West Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority, Sukkur-Gudugulam Mohammed Drainage and Salinity Control Project, Khairpur Command, Volume I, (Hunting Technical Services), London, 1961.