

The large tanks are maintained by the Public Works department, while the smaller ones, as well as the *kuntas*, are in charge of Revenue officers; but since the introduction of the *dastband* system, *zamindars* and local officials and others have taken up some of the breached tanks, receiving a certain percentage for their maintenance after reconstruction. These, however, are mostly tanks of no very large size.

Most of the tanks- such as the Husain Sagar, the Ibrahim patan, the Mir Alam, the Afzal Sagar, the Jalpalli, and many other large tanks, as well as irrigation channels - were constructed by the former rulers or ministers of the State. The minor tanks are the work of *zamindars*. No complete record is available as to the actual capital outlay, but those constructed in recent years will be described in dealing with Public Works.

Wells

The land served by wells is irrigated by the primitive method of lifting the water by means of large buckets drawn by bullocks. The total number of wells in the State is 123, 175. Where any supply channels from a river or a perennial stream are constructed to carry water to tanks, the ryots sometimes bail out water on either side of the channel by means of hand buckets called *bhurki* or *guda*, and so get a constant flow. Masonry wells cost between Rs.400 and Rs.600, and those lined with stone without any mortar between Rs.200 and Rs.300; such wells have two bullock runs and two buckets, and are capable of irrigating 4 to 5 acres of rice or sugar-cane and 10 acres of garden land.

**Rents, wages
and prices,
Rents**

As *ryotwari* is the prevailing revenue system throughout Hyderabad, the sum paid by the cultivator represents the land revenue, which will be dealt with later. In the case of deserted villages, which have been leased by the State, the holder is

free to charge his tenants what rent he pleases, provided the rates do not exceed those previously paid to the State. The *pattadars* or *ryots* who hold directly from the state, sometimes sublet the whole or a part of their lands or take partners called *shikmidars*. The latter cultivate land in partnership with the *pattadars*, and divide the produce and expenses in proportion to the cattle employed by each, the *pattadar* receiving from his co-sharer a proportionate amount of the State dues. If he sublets, the occupant frequently receives from his sub-tenant an enhanced rental for the land in money or in kind. *Inamdars* and non-cultivating classes usually let their lands. The non-cultivating occupant, if he be a money-lender and had purchased the occupancy right of the land, generally obtains a larger rent or share from his sub-tenant than the *inamdar*, who, having no cattle of his own, is obliged to let his land for a small share. The money-lender, on the other hand, supplies his sub-tenant with funds to purchase cattle and implements, and either charges interest or lets his land at rates far higher than he himself pays to the State. The latter system is very common in the Maratha Districts, where land has acquired a much higher value since the settlement, and where the non-cultivating classes, mostly comprising money-lenders, form a much larger proportion of the population than in Telingana.

Wages

No official returns of the prevailing rates of wages are available. Agricultural labourers and domestic servants may be taken as types of unskilled labour, and carpenters, blacksmiths, and masons as those of skilled labour. The former are paid from Rs. 30 to Rs. 36 per annum, besides receiving one meal a day and a blanket and a pair of sandals every year. Sometimes the labourer borrows two or three years'

wages from his employer for marriage expenses and undertakes to serve for a stipulated period at a reduced rate, the reduction representing the amount of interest on the sum borrowed. Wages are some times paid partly in cash and partly in kind. To persons hired by the day, wages are generally paid in grain, but in the case of cotton-picking the labourer gets a certain proportion of the quantity picked. Village artisans are usually paid in kind, and in some few instances partly in cash and partly in grain. When grain is dear, cash wages are substituted by the employer.

In the vicinity of towns cash wages are the rule; and wherever cotton-ginning and pressing factories are established, or mining industries developed, such as coal-mining and stone-quarrying, or railway and road construction are started, high cash wages are demanded, varying from Rs. 7 to Rs.10 per month.

In times of scarcity wages fall considerably below the average, owing to the large number of labourers thrown out of employment. The favourable rates of assessment introduced since the last settlement have been conducive to much agricultural activity and a greater demand for labour, whereby wages have risen, and the laborer who got Rs.30 per annum now demands Rs.36. The same may be said of all other labourers, artisans, and domestic servants. The higher prices of foodgrains have also contributed towards enhancement in the rates of wages.

Prices

In the absence of any regular record of prices, information specially collected has been embodied in Table III (p.84) No records exist of prices prior to the construction of railways; but it is certain that prices were then much lower than now, because, owing to the absence of means of transport, only a

small quantity of the grain produced was exported. The railways have made prices of grain uniform over large tracts; and in times of famine and scarcity in the neighbouring Provinces the surplus grain of the country is exported, thus causing a rise in prices. During the famines of 1897 and 1899-1900 prices of grain were extraordinarily high, though, while grain was being imported for the relief of the affected areas, it was being largely exported for the relief of the affected areas, it was being largely exported from the other parts of the State to Provinces where large profits were probable. During the famine of 1899-1900, *jowars* sold at 5 seers per rupee in Aurangabad, at $3 \frac{3}{4}$ seers in Bhir and Nander, at $4 \frac{1}{4}$ seers in Parbhani and Osmanabad, and at $5 \frac{1}{4}$ seers in Bidar. In Table III the price of salt is given for Hyderabad city only, the prices in the country being almost the same.

Forests

A total area of nearly 18,000 square miles is under forests, which are divided into three classes: the 'reserved' (5, 184 square miles), the protected (4, 408 square miles), and the open or unprotected (8, 387 square miles). In the 'reserved' and protected forests, trees are under the control of the Forest department; but in the open forests only sixteen species are 'reserved': namely, sandal (*Santalum album*), teak (*tectona grandis*), *shisham* (*Dalbergia Sissoo*), *Eboni* (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), satin-wood (*Chloroxylon Srvieteneia*), *eppa* (*Hardrvickia binata*), *nallamadi* (*Terminalia tomentosa*), *bijasal* (*Pterocarpus Marsupium*), *batta-gunam* (*Step hegyne parvifolia*), *somi* (*Soymida febrifuga*), *dhaura* or *tirman* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *kodsha* (*Cleistanthus collinus*), *sandra* (*Acacia Catechu*), *bhandara* (*Adina cordifolia*), *mokab* (*Schrebera srvietenioides*), and *chinnangi* (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*). The forests from six divisins - Warangal, Indur, Nirmal,