

DRUG



Bemrose, Collo., Derby.

OLD TEMPLE FROM NORTH-EAST, DEO-BALODA.

CENTRAL PROVINCES
DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

DRUG DISTRICT

VOLUME A
DESCRIPTIVE

EDITED BY A. E. NELSON, I.C.S.



CALCUTTA
PRINTED AT THE BAPTIST MISSION PRESS

1910

PREFATORY NOTE.

In the compilation of this Gazetteer considerable use has been made of Mr. E. R. K. Blenkinsop's Settlement Report of the Drug Tahsīl (1903). The Chapter on Land Revenue Administration has been omitted, as the Drug District had, prior to the 1st January, 1906, no separate Land Revenue history, and the necessary information may be found in the Raipur and Bilāspur Volumes. Mr. Russell, I.C.S., has written the greater portion of Chapter I, Chapters III, V, VI, VII and the Appendix (except the articles on the Zamīndāris). A brief sketch of the history of the District has been given by Rai Bahādur Hīra Lāl, Assistant Superintendent of Gazetteer. For a more detailed account a reference is invited to the Raipur and Bilāspur Volumes. The article on Geology has been contributed by Mr. Vredenburg of the Geological Survey and that on Botany and Wild Animals by Mr. Lowrie of the Forest Department. The Chapter on Forests is also based on notes supplied by the latter. The Chapter on General Administration has been supplied by Mr. Chitnavis, Deputy Commissioner. Notes for the section on Leading Families, the Chapter on Agriculture, and for the account of the Zamīndāris have been submitted by Mr. Ratanpārkhī, Extra Assistant Commissioner. The whole book has been read by Mr. Mehdi Hasan, Deputy Commissioner.

NAGPUR,
30th June 1909.

A. E. N.

DRUG DISTRICT GAZETTEER.

CONTENTS.

LIST OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS WHO HAVE HELD CHARGE OF THE DISTRICT ..	<i>Facing page</i> I
---	--------------------------------

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

	<i>Page</i>
BOUNDARIES AND PHYSICAL FEATURES ..	1-6
GEOLOGY	6-8
BOTANY	8-23
WILD ANIMALS, ETC.	23-32
RAINFALL AND CLIMATE	32-34

CHAPTER II.—HISTORY AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

HISTORY	35-48
ARCHÆOLOGY	48-49

CHAPTER III.—POPULATION.

STATISTICS OF POPULATION	50-55
RELIGION	55-56
CASTE	56-58
SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS	59-62
LEADING FAMILIES	62-66

CHAPTER IV.—AGRICULTURE.

SOILS	67
STATISTICS OF CULTIVATION	67-69
CROPS	69-83
IRRIGATION	83-87
CATTLE	87-93

CHAPTER V.—LOANS, PRICES, WAGES,
MANUFACTURES, TRADE AND
COMMUNICATIONS.

	<i>Page</i>
LOANS	94-99
PRICES	100-101
WAGES	101-103
MANUFACTURES	103-106
TRADE	106-109
COMMUNICATIONS	109-111

CHAPTER VI.—FORESTS AND MINERALS.

FORESTS	112-114
MINERALS	114-116

CHAPTER VII.—FAMINE	117-120
-----------------------------	---------

CHAPTER VIII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	121-133
--------------------------------------	---------

APPENDIX.—Gazetteer of Tahsils, Zamindaris, Towns, important Villages, Rivers and Hills	137-210
---	---------

LIST OF MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

1.	Old temple from north-east, Deo Balodā ..	Frontispiece
		<i>Facing page</i>
2.	Map of the District	I
3.	Geological Map	6
4.	Old temple from south-east, Deo Balodā ..	49
5.	Map of railways and roads	109
6.	District Office, Drug	127
7.	Interior of old temple, Deo Balodā ..	153
8.	Side view of Drug tank	164

PARAGRAPH INDEX.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

Page

Boundaries and Physical Features—

1. Position and boundaries	..	1
2. The open country	.. ..	2
3. Hill tract of Sanjāri	.. ..	3
4. The northern zamīndāris	..	<i>ib.</i>
5. The south-western zamīndāris	..	4
6. Rivers	.. ..	<i>ib.</i>
7. Elevations	.. ..	5

Geology—

8. Geology	6
------------	-------	---

Botany—

9. General	.. ..	8
10. Trees of waste lands	.. ..	<i>ib.</i>
11. Trees of open fields	.. ..	9
12. Village trees	.. ..	11
13. Forest trees	.. ..	14
14. Smaller trees and shrubs	..	17
15. Climbers	.. ..	18
16. Parasites	.. ..	19
17. Grasses	.. ..	20

Wild animals, etc.—

18. Wild animals	.. ..	23
19. Birds	.. ..	29
20. Fish	.. ..	30

Rainfall and Climate—

21. Rainfall	.. ..	32
22. Climate	.. ..	33

CHAPTER II.—HISTORY AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

	<i>Page</i>
<i>History—</i>	
23. Early history—The Imperial Guptas	35
24. The Sirpur kings	36
25. The Shail kings	<i>ib.</i>
26. Shivadeva	37
27. The Haihayas	<i>ib.</i>
28. The Rājim inscription	38
29. Places mentioned in the Rājim inscription identified	40
30. Division of the Haihayas ..	43
31. Inclusion of part of the District in Kānker	44
32. The Sahaspur and other chiefs ..	45
33. The Marāthās	<i>ib.</i>
34. British administration	46
35. Reintroduction of the Marāthā rule..	47
36. Introduction of the British rule in 1854 and subsequent administration	<i>ib.</i>
<i>Archæology—</i>	
37. Archæological remains	48

CHAPTER III.—POPULATION.

Statistics of population—

38. Formation of the District ..	50
39. Tahsils	51
40. Density of population	52
41. Movement of population ..	<i>ib.</i>
42. Diseases	53
43. Occupation	54
44. Language	<i>ib.</i>

Religion—

45. Religion—Village gods and priests ..	55
--	----

Caste—

46. General notice 56

Social life and customs—

47. Marriage, birth and death .. 59
48. Houses, clothes and food .. 60

Leading families—

49. The zamīndāris 62
50. Brāhmar families *ib.*
51. Kurmī families 63
52. Baniā families 64
53. Rājputs, Marāthās and others .. 65

CHAPTER IV.—AGRICULTURE.

Statistics of cultivation—

54. Principal statistics 67
55. Fallow *ib.*
56. Double-cropping 68
57. Statistics of crops 69

Crops—

58. Rice *ib.*
59. Rice varieties *ib.*
60. Transplanted rice 70
61. *Biāsi* system *ib.*
62. Other methods of rice cultivation .. 71
63. Weeding or *nindai* 72
64. Harvesting and threshing *ib.*
65. Seed and outturn 73
66. Diseases of rice *ib.*
67. Kodon-kutkī 74
68. Urad, mūng and *moth* 75
69. Til *ib.*
70. *San*-hemp and other fibres 76
71. Cotton *ib.*
72. Arhar *ib.*

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Crops—contd.</i>	
73. Sugarcane	77
74. Tobacco and other minor crops ..	<i>ib.</i>
75. Fruit trees	<i>ib.</i>
76. Spring crops. Wheat	78
77. Varieties	<i>ib.</i>
78. Diseases	79
79. Linseed	<i>ib.</i>
80. Gram	80
81. Pulses—Masūr, tiurā and <i>batrā</i> ..	81
82. Garden crops	<i>ib.</i>
83. Total value of crops	<i>ib.</i>
84. Manure	83
<i>Irrigation—</i>	
85. Tank irrigation	<i>ib.</i>
86. Works constructed	84
87. Works proposed	85
88. Prospects of irrigation	86
<i>Cattle—</i>	
89. Cattle breeds	87
90. Grazing	88
91. Bulls, bullocks and cows	89
92. Buffaloes	<i>ib.</i>
93. Sheep and goats	90
94. Ponies and small stock	91
95. Diseases	<i>ib.</i>
96. Cattle fairs and markets.. .. .	92
 CHAPTER V.—LOANS, PRICES, WAGES, MANUFACTURES, TRADE AND COMMUNICATIONS.	
<i>Loans—</i>	
97. Loans and moneylenders	94
98. Castes of proprietors	95
99. Condition of the proprietors	96
100. Tenants	98

Prices—

101.	Rice and wheat	100
------	----------------	----	----	-----

Wages—

102.	Agricultural wages at last settlement			101
103.	Village servants	..	..	102
104.	Miscellaneous wages	..	..	<i>ib.</i>

Manufactures—

105.	Manufactures—Cloth, silk, etc.	..		103
106.	Weights and measures	..	..	104
107.	Markets	..	..	105
108.	Fairs	..	..	106

Trade—

109.	Exports	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
110.	Imports	..	..	109

Communications—

111.	Railway and roads north of the railway	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
112.	Roads south of the railway	..		110
113.	Statistics	..	..	111

CHAPTER VI.—FORESTS AND MINERALS.

Forests—

114.	Government forests	..	..	112
115.	Private forests	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
116.	Arboriculture	..	..	113

Minerals—

117.	Iron-ores	..	..	114
118.	Other minerals	..	..	115

CHAPTER VII.—FAMINE.

119.	Early famines	..	..	117
120.	The famine of 1897	..	..	118
121.	The famine of 1900	..	..	119
122.	Seasons subsequent to 1900	..		120

CHAPTER VIII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

	<i>Page</i>
123. Administrative Subdivisions and Staff	121
124. Land Record Staff	122
125. Crime and litigation	<i>ib.</i>
126. Registration	123
127. Statistics of revenue	<i>ib.</i>
128. Excise	124
129. Opium	125
130. Gānja	<i>ib.</i>
131. District Council and Local Boards ..	126
132. Municipalities	<i>ib.</i>
133. Village Sanitation	127
134. Public Works	<i>ib.</i>
135. Police	<i>ib.</i>
136. Kotwārs	128
137. Jail	<i>ib.</i>
138. Education	129
139. Medical relief.	131

APPENDIX.—GAZETTEER OF TAHSILS, TOWNS,
IMPORTANT VILLAGES, RIVERS AND HILLS.*Name of Place—*

Ambāgarh-Chaukī	137
Arjundā	140
Aundhī Zamīndāri	141
Bālod	143
Banbarad	144
Barbaspur Zamīndāri	<i>ib.</i>
Bemetarā Tahsīl	147
Bemetarā Village	152
Chandkhurī	153
Chaurel	<i>ib.</i>
Dallī Hills	<i>ib.</i>
Deo Balodā	<i>ib.</i>

Name of Place—contd.

Deokar	..	..	..	154
Dhamdā	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Dondi-Lohāra Zamīndāri	..	..	..	155
Drug Tahsil	..	..	..	160
Drug Town	..	..	..	164
Gandai Zamīndāri	..	..	..	166
Gandai Village	..	..	..	171
Gundardehī Zamīndāri	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Gurur	..	..	..	175
Khārun River	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Khujjī Zamīndāri	..	..	..	176
Korācha Zamīndāri	..	..	..	179
Malighori	..	..	..	182
Nagpurā	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Nawāgarh	..	..	..	183
Pānabāras Zamīndāri	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Parporī Zamīndāri	..	..	..	189
Pātan	..	..	..	192
Sahaspur-Lohāra Zamīndāri	..	..	..	193
Sahaspur Village	..	..	..	195
Sanjāri Tahsil	..	..	..	196
Sanjāri Village	..	..	..	201
Sātpurā Hills	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Seonāth River	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Silhetī Zamīndāri	..	..	..	203
Sorar	..	..	..	205
Tandulā River	..	..	..	206
Thākurtolā Zamīndāri	..	..	..	<i>ib.</i>
Warārbāndh	..	..	..	209

*List of Deputy Commissioners who have held charge of
the Drug District since its constitution, viz., from
1st January 1906.*

NAMES.	PERIODS.	
	From	To
Mr. H. M. Laurie, I.C.S. ..	1-1-1906	23-1-1906
Mr. S. M. Chitnavis, S.C.S. ..	24-1-1906	30-4-1906
Mr. M. D. Ratanpārkhī ..	1-5-1906	21-5-1906
Mr. S. M. Chitnavis, S.C.S...	22-5-1906	24-10-1907
Mr. Mehdi Hasan, M.A., Bar- at-Law	25-10-1907	10-9-1908
Mr. S. M. Chitnavis, S.C.S...	11-9-1908	10-5-1909
Mr. M. D. Ratanpārkhī ..	11-5-1909	20-5-1909
Mr. Mehdi Hasan, M.A., Bar- at-Law	21-5-1909	..