

EAST INDIA (PROGRESS AND CONDITION).

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

I N D I A

DURING THE YEAR 1914-15.

FIFTY-FIRST NUMBER.

(Presented pursuant to Act 5 & 6 Geo. V. c. 61, s. 26.)

India Office,
3 July 1916. }

T. W. HOLDERNESS,
Under Secretary of State for India.

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P R E F A C E .

The Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India is presented to Parliament in accordance with the requirements of the 26th section of the Government of India Act (5 and 6 Geo. V., cap. 61), which provides as follows:—"The Secretary of State in Council shall, within the first fourteen days during which Parliament is sitting next after the first day of May in every year, lay before both Houses of Parliament an account for the financial year preceding that last completed of the annual produce of the revenues of India The account shall be accompanied by a statement, prepared from detailed reports from each Province, in such form as best exhibits the moral and material progress and condition of India."

The Statement is prepared in the India Office from a large number of annual reports received from India. Many of these reports are compiled from information furnished by District and Political Officers, and are submitted to the Governments of the respective Provinces and to the Government of India for consideration and review before transmission to England; and some of them are not received at the India Office till about a year after the close of the period to which they refer. It is, therefore, seldom possible to present the Statement to Parliament earlier than the date mentioned in the statute, i.e., about thirteen and a half months after the close of the official year.

This year, owing to the war, the arrival of many reports and returns from India has been considerably delayed.

The Statement has been greatly curtailed in accordance with the general policy of effecting economies in regard to parliamentary publications.

I N D I A N C U R R E N C Y A N D W E I G H T S A N D M E A S U R E S .

Currency.—The silver rupee (containing 165 grains of fine silver and 15 grains of alloy and weighing in all 180 grains troy or 1 tola) was the sole standard of value until the 26th June 1893, when the Indian mints were closed to the unrestricted coinage of silver into rupees and it was notified that gold coin and bullion would be received at the mints in exchange for Government rupees at the rate of 7·53344 grains of fine gold for one rupee, being equivalent to a rate of exchange of 15 rupees per £1. In 1899 British gold coins were made legal tender side by side with rupees at that rate.

The Indian denominations with their British equivalents are—

Pie	=	$\frac{1}{12}$ penny.
Pice (3 pies)	=	1 farthing.
Anna (12 pices)	=	1 penny.
Rupee (16 annas)	=	1s. 4d.

A lakh (lac) is 100,000 rupees and a crore is 100 lakhs.

Weights and Measures.—The weights adopted in Government transactions and by the railway companies are as follows:—

1 tola	=	180 grains	=	11·66 grams.
1 chittak (5 tolas)	=	900 "	=	58·32 "
1 ser (16 chittaks)	=	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ troy lb. (or 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. avoird.)	=	933·10 "
1 maund (40 sers)	=	100 " " (or 82 $\frac{1}{2}$ " ")	=	37·32 kgms.

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CHAPTER I.—ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATION.

Administration.

The following were the holders of the most important appointments connected with the administration of India at the end of the year under review :—

I. In London.

Secretary of State.—The Most Hon. the Marquess of Crewe, K.G., P.C.
Permanent Under Secretary of State.—Sir T. W. Holderness, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State.—Mr. Charles Roberts, M.P.
Members of the Council of India.—Lieut.-Col. Sir D. W. K. Barr, K.C.S.I.; Sir F. O. Schuster, Bart.; Sir T. Morison, K.C.I.E.; General Sir C. C. Egerton, G.C.B., D.S.O.; Sir S. W. Edgerley, K.C.V.O., C.I.E.; Mirza Abbas Ali Baig, C.S.I.; L. Currie; Sir F. W. Duke, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.; Sardar Daljit Singh, C.S.I.

II. In India.

Governor General of India.—The Right Hon. Baron Hardinge of Penshurst, P.C., G.C.B., G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.L.E., G.C.V.O., I.S.O.
Members of Council.—General Sir Beauchamp Duff, G.C.B., K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O., C.I.E., Commander-in-Chief (extraordinary); Sir R. W. Carlyle, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.; Sir S. H. Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.; Sir Syed Ali Imam, K.C.S.I.; Sir W. H. Clark, K.C.S.I., C.M.G.; Sir R. H. Craddock, K.C.S.I.; Sir W. S. Meyer, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.
Governor of Madras.—The Right Hon. Baron Pentland, P.C., G.C.I.E.
Members of Council.—Sir Pazhamanheri Sundaram Sivaswami Aiyar, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.; Sir H. A. Stuart, K.C.V.O., C.S.I.; A. G. Cardew, C.S.I.
Governor of Bombay.—The Right Hon. Baron Willingdon of Ratton, G.C.I.E.
Members of Council.—Sir R. A. Lamb, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.; C. H. A. Hill, C.S.I., C.I.E.; Prabhaskar Pattani, C.I.E. (temporary).
Governor of Bengal.—The Right Hon. Baron Carmichael of Skirling, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G.
Members of Council.—P. C. Lyon, C.S.I.; Nawab Saiyid Shamsul Huda; N. D. Beatson Bell, C.S.I., C.I.E.
Lieutenant Governors.—United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, Sir J. S. Meston, K.C.S.I.; Punjab, Sir M. F. O'Dwyer, K.C.S.I.; Burma, Sir H. Adamson, Kt., K.C.S.I.; Bihar and Orissa, Sir C. S. Bayley, K.C.S.I., I.S.O.
Members of Council of Lieutenant Governor of Bihar and Orissa.—Sir E. A. Gait, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.; Sir E. V. Lvinge, K.C.S.I.; Maharaja Bahadur Sir Rameswar Singh, K.C.I.E., of Darbhanga.
Chief Commissioners.—Central Provinces, Sir B. Robertson, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., C.I.E.; North-West Frontier Province, Lieut.-Col. Sir G. O. Roos-Keppel, K.C.I.E.; Assam, Sir Archdale Earle, K.C.I.E.; Delhi, W. M. Hailey, C.I.E.

Creation of a Legislative Council for the Central Provinces.—The first meeting of the newly constituted Council took place on the 17th August 1914.

Public Services Commission.—The Royal Commission on the Public Services in India completed its inquiries during the year under review.

Legislation.

I. In England.—Nil.

II. In India.

Between the 1st April 1914 and the 31st March 1915 the following enactments received the assent of the Governor-General of India :—Fifteen Acts passed by the Council of the Governor-General for making laws and regulations, eight by that of Madras, nine by that of Bombay, five by that of Bengal, two by that of the Punjab, four by that of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, three by that of Burma, two by that of Bihar and Orissa, one by that of Assam, two by that of the Central Provinces. One regulation was passed by the Governor-General in Council on the recommendation of the Local Governments of the provinces affected by them in accordance with the provisions of 33 Vict. c. 33.

(Governor-General's Council.)

The following are the measures referred to :—

Acts of the Governor-General's Council.

The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act (No. XII. of 1914) further amended the Act of 1878.

The Indian Life Assurance Companies (Amendment) Act (No. XIII. of 1914) amended the Act of 1912.

The Indian Post Office and Telegraph (Amendment) Act (No. XIV. of 1914) further amended the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, and the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, in view of the amalgamation of the offices of Director-General of Telegraphs and Director-General of the Post Office.

The Indian Army (Amendment) Act (No. XV. of 1914) enacted certain rules respecting the disposal of the property of deceased persons and deserters.

The Indian Aircraft Amendment Act (No. XVI. of 1914) granted powers to prohibit or regulate the navigation of aircraft over or the entry of aircraft by flight into British India or Indian waters.

The Second Repealing and Amending Act (No. XVII. of 1914) made formal amendments in certain enactments and repealed others which had become obsolete.

The Emergency Legislation Continuance Act (No. I. of 1915) was passed to enable the provisions of certain ordinances to continue in force during the war and for six months thereafter.

The Sir Sassoon Jacob David Baronetcy Act (No. II. of 1915) settled certain securities, the property of Sir Sassoon Jacob David, Baronet, so as to support the dignity of a baronet lately conferred on him.

The Foreigners (Amendment) Act (No. III. of 1915) provided that a foreigner as defined may be apprehended and detained pending removal.

The Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act (No. IV. of 1915) provided for special measures to secure the public safety and the defence of British India, and for the more speedy trial of certain offences.

The Indian Paper Currency (Temporary Amendment) Act (No. V. of 1915) temporarily amended further the Act of 1910.

The Indian Patents and Designs (Temporary Rules) Act (No. VI. of 1915) extended the powers of the Governor-General in Council during the war to make rules under the Act of 1911.

The Delhi Laws Act (No. VII. of 1915) declared the law in force in certain territory added to the Province of Delhi.

The Assam Labour and Emigration (Amendment) Act (No. VIII. of 1915) further amended the Act of 1901 and abolished the system of recruitment by licensed contractors.

The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act (No. IX. of 1915) amended the Act of 1878 as to removal of goods from warehouse.

Acts of the Provincial Legislative Councils.

Madras.—*The Madras Land Revenue Assessment (Amendment) Act (No. II. of 1914)* authorised any officer specially empowered by Government to exercise the functions of a District Collector under the Act of 1876 in respect of alienated portions of a permanently settled estate.

The Madras Proprietary Estates' Village-Service (Amendment) Act (No. III. of 1914) made amendments to the original Act mainly consequential on the abolition of the cess and separate fund from which estate village servants were previously paid.

The Madras Medical Registration Act (No. IV. of 1914) provided for the optional registration of qualified medical practitioners in Madras Presidency.

The Canals and Public Ferries (Amendment) Act (No. V. of 1914) empowered the Local Government to exempt vessels from being licensed or registered under section 5 of the Act of 1890.

The Tirupati Devasthanam Schools Act (No. VI. of 1914) removed doubts as to the legality of the maintenance of certain schools out of Devasthanam funds and confirmed past expenditure.

The Madras Deputy Collectors Act (No. VII. of 1914) defined more clearly the powers of Deputy Collectors appointed under the Madras Uncovenanted Officers Act.

(Provincial Legislative Councils.)

The Madras Decentralization Act (No. VIII. of 1914) facilitated the administration of certain enactments.

The Madras Abkari (Amendment) Act (No. I. of 1915) defined more clearly the term "denatured" spirit occurring in the Madras Abkari Act, I. of 1886.

Bombay.—*The Karachi Port Trust (Amendment) Act (No. I. of 1914)* further amended the Act of 1886.

The Bombay Irrigation (Amendment) Act (No. II. of 1914) added a new part to the Act of 1879 to apply to second-class irrigation works.

The Bombay Tramways (Amendment) Act (No. III. of 1914) provided further for housing, storage, maintenance, and repairs, and added a new schedule to that of 1874.

The Aden Port Trust (Amendment) Act (No. IV. of 1914) amended two sections of the Act of 1888, and specified where moneys should be deposited.

The Bombay Civil Courts (Amendment) Act (No. V. of 1914) further amended the Act of 1869.

The Bombay Port Trust (Amendment) Act (No. VI. of 1914) reorganized the constitution of the Board and repealed section 31 of the Act of 1879.

The Bombay Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Act (No. VII. of 1914) granted suspensions or remissions to inferior holders when payment of the whole or part of the Government land revenue by the superior holder is suspended or remitted, but allowed the superior holder to take the crop-share fixed by custom or agreement. It explained the meaning of assessment, and excluded Sind from the operation of the Act.

The Bombay District Municipal (Amendment) Act (No. VIII. of 1914) specified persons qualified as candidates and voters, and enacted that enrolment in the Municipal Election Roll should be necessary for qualification as an elected councillor. It made several further amendments and added a new chapter on the powers and duties of the Municipal Commissioner.

The Bombay Town Planning Act (No. I. of 1915) regulated the making and execution of town-planning schemes, as well as their cost, and provided for the appointment and duties of an arbitrator and tribunal of arbitration.

Bengal.—*The Chittagong Port Act (No. V. of 1914)* consolidated and amended the law relating to the Port of Chittagong.

The Bengal Medical Act (No. VI. of 1914) provided for the registration of medical practitioners in Bengal.

The Bengal Excise (Amendment) Act (No. VII. of 1914) extended the Act of 1909 to Eastern Bengal, and made numerous amendments to that Act.

The Calcutta Port (Amendment) Act (No. I. of 1915) provided for the grant of a pension to the Vice-Chairman.

The Bengal Steam-boilers and Prime-movers (Amendment) Act (No. II. of 1915) empowered the Local Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of the Act of 1879 and made certain other amendments.

Punjab.—*The Punjab Courts Act (No. III. of 1914)* amended and consolidated the law relating to Courts in the Punjab.

The Punjab Courts (Amendment) Act (No. IV. of 1914) defined the period of limitation for an appeal.

United Provinces.—*The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Act (No. III. of 1914)* defined "intoxicating drugs" and amended the Act of 1910.

The United Provinces Excise (Amendment) Act (No. I. of 1915) further amended the Act of 1910 and gave the present Act retrospective effect for the purpose of validating things done.

The United Provinces District Boards (Amendment) Act (No. II. of 1915) amended the Act of 1906 and empowered the Local Government to make rules to regulate offensive trades.

The United Provinces Steam-boilers Act (No. III. of 1915) amended the law providing for the inspection and management of steam-boilers and prime-movers, and enabled provision to be made for the inspection and management of internal combustion engines and certain other machinery.

Burma.—*The Burma Village (Amendment) Act (No. I. of 1914)* provided for the surrender of offensive weapons to the headman on demand at a *pwe*.

The Burma Outports Act (No. II. of 1914) provided for the levy of dues upon goods in the outports of Burma.

(Provincial Legislative Councils.)

The Burma Canal (Amendment) Act (No. III. of 1914) amended the Act of 1905 in respect of Village Canals and Drainage Works.

Bihar and Orissa.—*The Jharia Water Supply Act (No. III. of 1914)* provided for the construction and maintenance of waterworks, and for the supply of water for domestic purposes to the Jharia Coal Fields, and for the constitution of a Water Board invested with powers for carrying out the objects of the Act.

The Bihar and Orissa Public Demands Recovery Act (No. IV. of 1914) consolidated and amended the law relating to the recovery of public demands.

Assam.—*The Assam Local Self-Government Act (No. I. of 1915)* made better provision for local self-government.

Central Provinces.—*The Central Provinces General Clauses Act (No. I. of 1914)* facilitated the interpretation and shortened the language of Central Provinces Acts.

The Central Provinces Court of Wards (Amendment) Act (No. I. of 1915) amended the Act of 1899.

Regulation.

The Excise Regulation (No. I. of 1915) consolidated and amended the Excise Law in force in Ajmer-Merwara, Coorg and British Baluchistan.

CHAPTER II.—JUSTICE AND POLICE.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 24 to 42.*)

Civil Justice.

Bengal.—The number of original suits instituted in the mufassal courts in 1914 was smaller than in 1913. There was no improvement in the average duration of suits. Out of 14 appeals to the Privy Council seven were affirmed and seven reversed.

Assam.—The number of original suits instituted showed a decrease, the number of suits pending an increase, in spite of an increase in the number disposed of. There was a general increase in the average duration of suits.

North Western Provinces.—The number of suits instituted somewhat increased. The average duration for all courts was 83 days for contested, and 45 for uncontested, suits, as compared with 89 and 44 days respectively in 1913. There was a decrease in the number of cases pending at the end of the year.

Oudh.—There was a slight decrease in the number of institutions.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The number of suits instituted decreased. There has been a further satisfactory reduction in the number of pending suits. The average duration of suits was less.

Punjab.—The old Divisional system was abandoned during the year and District and Sessions Judges were introduced. The number of suits instituted was rather above the average. There were eight appeals to every 100 suits decided. The average duration of suits was less. It is proposed to amend the Insolvency Act, in the working of which there are various defects:

Bombay.—The number of suits instituted in all the Courts showed an increase, with a much greater increase in aggregate value. There was a slight decrease in the number of suits left pending at the close of the year. The average duration of contested suits fell from 210 to 191 days, but that of uncontested suits rose from 95 to 101.

Madras.—The number of suits instituted was slightly larger. In the suits disposed of in 1914 the percentage of plaintiffs who succeeded in obtaining decrees for the whole or part of the relief claimed was 76. The total number of appeals preferred was somewhat greater than in 1913. The average duration of suits was generally higher. The proportion of suits for money or movable property to those for immovable property was larger.

Burma.—The number of original suits instituted rose slightly. The average duration of suits was much the same as in 1913. Difficulties occurred in the working of the Insolvency Act.

Bihar and Orissa.—The number of original suits instituted showed a decrease. There was a general increase in the duration of suits tried. The pending file of original suits at the close of the year was considerably reduced.

North-West Frontier Province.—The number of suits instituted was the largest yet recorded. The average duration of original contested suits was 36 days, as compared with 46 days in 1913.

Coorg.—The number of suits decreased, while the average value rose.

Crime and Police.

Madras.—Food grains were somewhat cheaper in 1914 and there was a fall in crime, especially grave crime, though the number of murders rose from 689 to 704. Two serious riots arose from ill-feeling between Muhammadans and Hindus, and two small riots in Jeypore from the seditious preachings of German missionaries. Dacoities increased. Six new gangs were declared criminal tribes.

The total sanctioned strength of the police increased to 32,937. Recruiting continued difficult, pay and prospects being insufficiently attractive to men of the requisite character, physique and literacy. Casualties were again less numerous. The decrease in punishments continued. The cost of the Department rose from £610,713 to £633,511. The cost is twice as great as in 1905 when police reform

(Crime and Police.)

Bombay.—There was a general marked diminution of crime in 1914, the number of cognisable cases reported amounting to 32,876, as compared with 36,950 in the previous year. Murders declined by 61 to 406 and dacoities by 13 to 186.

There was an increase in the police force, but the total provided for by the reorganisation scheme has not yet been reached. The cost of the police rose to £475,170.

It was discovered by the police that various companies had made considerable fortunes from the cotton fires in Bombay.

Bengal.—Political crime was again an important feature of the year. The number of cases of revolutionary crime was 12, including 7 dacoities, 2 bomb cases, and 3 assassinations of police officers by shooting. Murder cases increased by 102 to 588. Two were due to the anarchist group. Dacoity cases increased by 74 to 425 owing to unrest ascribed to the war. With regard to crime generally, the number of true cases reported decreased in spite of disturbing conditions.

The number of recruits was less than in 1913 and difficulty in recruitment still obtains. Higher rates of pay have been brought into force. Discipline has improved and that of the battalion of military police—which has been reorganised—was excellent. The actual expenditure for the financial year 1914-15 was £622,466 as against £522,867 in 1913-14. The increased cost was largely due to reorganisation and reforms in Eastern Bengal. The sanctioned strength of the subordinate police, excluding the Criminal Investigation Department, was, on 31st December 1914, 21,028 as against 20,146 in the previous year. The force is undermanned as compared with the forces in other important provinces.

United Provinces.—Bad agricultural conditions giving rise to scarcity and high prices, and unrest consequent on the war, were reflected in the crime statistics, and the rise in the volume of reported crime was substantial. There was an increase of 11,583 in burglaries and murders rose from 641 to 710. Kidnapping cases increased by 65 to 550. In 323 out of 767 dacoities arms were used. There was no further political trouble. An unsatisfactory feature of the year's work was the decline to 38·8 in the percentage of convictions in cases investigated by the police. A special Criminal Tribes section of the Criminal Investigation Department has been established. The rise in prices has rendered the pay of the police inadequate and recruiting is therefore difficult. The total cost of the police in 1914 was £578,470.

Punjab.—The decrease in crime, which was first noticed in 1913, was maintained, the number of true cognisable cases (excluding the figures for the new Delhi province) being 47,375, a decline of 501. A satisfactory feature was the decline in murders from 625 to 538. Revolutionary crime, due to external propaganda, was a novel feature. Two police officers were shot by returned emigrants. The people have cordially co-operated with the police. There was a substantial increase in the sanctioned strength of the force, and a rise in police expenditure of £17,100 to £390,000.

Assam.—The number of true cases rose from 11,771 in 1913 to 12,350 in 1914.

The total sanctioned strength of the police force rose during the year from 3,418 to 3,555, and the cost of the Department from £154,952 to £155,474. Gurkhas form 80 per cent. of the recruits for the military police. It is hoped that the recent increase of pay will attract more recruits for the civil police. Recruitment was still difficult.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Unfavourable economic conditions resulting from bad crops and the outbreak of war led to a marked increase in crime, mainly under theft and house-breaking. Murders increased from 225 to 245 and dacoities from 49 to 55. There was a considerable increase in the total number of reported cases.

The sanctioned strength of the force was slightly increased during the year and the cost of the Department was £227,477. Recruiting was still not satisfactory.

Burma.—There was a slight decrease in cognisable cases and a marked decrease in the number of violent crimes. The force was 1,129 below sanctioned strength and recruiting was difficult. The reorganisation of the police has not improved the personnel, as pay and other conditions are insufficiently attractive. The total cost in 1914 was £104,121.

Bihar and Orissa.—The total number of cognisable crimes reported during the year 1914 was 62,363, representing a slight increase on the corresponding figures for 1913. There were two cases of political crime. The Criminal Investigation Depart-

(Crime and Police.)

ment was reorganised. The number of serious offences generally increased, though there was a decline in murders and dacoities.

The sanctioned strength of the police force was 13,866 against 13,522 in 1913. The cost rose from £306,880 to £323,453.

North-West Frontier Province.—The fall in cognizable crime, especially serious crime, was marked. In spite of the war there were no political offences. Cases of murder, attempts at murder and culpable homicide numbered 433 and there were 62 dacoities. Kidnapping cases decreased from 48 in 1913 to 39.

As regards the working of the ordinary police better results have been obtained than in any year since 1908. The force was increased during the year. The difficulties of recruiting have been much increased by the war. The wastage among the men is still great.

Coorg.—The number of cognizable offences reported (576) was the highest yet recorded. The number of murder cases, 13, was high. There were 6 convictions for murder and 3 for culpable homicide.

Criminal Justice.

Bombay.—There was a trifling decrease in the number of criminal cases disposed of during 1914, and the total number of offences reported also showed a decrease. 62 persons were sentenced to death as compared with 65, while 204 as against 251 were condemned to transportation. In 43 per cent. of the appeals, the appeals were rejected and in 18.3 per cent. the sentences were reversed.

Madras.—The number of original cases instituted in criminal courts in 1914 showed a considerable decline, but the number of appeals rose slightly. The jury system is reported to have worked with only moderate success. There were 48 sentences of death and 218 of transportation.

Bengal.—There was a decrease in the number of criminal offences reported. Forty persons, 30 in Bakarganj and 10 in Calcutta, were under trial for offences against the State. Of these 12 were convicted, 17 acquitted, and 11 remained under trial. There were 6 death sentences and 176 sentences of transportation.

Assam.—During the year 44,819 offences were reported to the criminal courts, against 41,767 in 1913. 19,746 cases were brought to trial as compared with 19,520 in the previous year. In the High Court, 4 appeals were pending, 91 appeals were preferred during the year, and 89 disposed of, leaving 6 pending at the close. In only 8 of the appeals disposed of were the original convictions varied.

Punjab.—There was an appreciable reduction in 1914 in the number of reported offences and true cases, and an improvement in the proportion of cases which were actually brought to trial. The time of the courts is still greatly wasted by false cases supported by false witnesses. The number of persons dealt with by the Chief Court on appeal rose by 641 and on revision fell by about 300. In 250 of the appeal cases the original sentence was reversed. The number of murder references disposed of by the Chief Court rose from 165 to 212. The sentences on 150 out of the 242 persons involved were confirmed.

North-West Frontier Province.—The number of offences admitted to have occurred in 1914 showed a very satisfactory decrease. The highest percentage of serious crime is in Kohat. Capital sentences were passed by the Sessions Judges on 40 persons, against 59 in 1913, and in 30 cases the sentences were confirmed by the Judicial Commissioner.

North-Western Provinces.—Under the Indian Penal Code the total number of offences reported was 111,452 as against 109,887 in 1913, and of cases returned as true 80,591 as against 79,917. The number of persons under trial was 158,296 as against 147,863 in 1913. The increase is ascribed to the unfavourable agricultural conditions. There was an increase in the number of appellants before the High Court.

Oudh.—There was a considerable increase in the offences reported and returned as true and brought to trial. Eight appeals were filed by Government from orders of acquittal against 14 persons. With regard to 4 persons the appeals were dismissed, 2 were convicted, and in the case of the remaining 8 a retrial was ordered.

(Criminal Justice.)

Coorg.—The number of cases brought to trial showed little variation, and the number of offences reported decreased by 16. Fifty persons were found guilty of heinous crime, and eight of them were convicted of murder, one being hanged and seven transported for life.

Central Provinces and Berar.—According to the new method of calculation introduced in 1913 the total number of offences reported fell by one per cent. to 43,896, the first decrease since 1910. As regards original jurisdiction, the percentage of persons convicted to the total number whose cases were disposed of increased from 39·2 to 41·5. The number of appeals by convicted persons to the Superior Court rose from 388 to 412; in 86·6 per cent. of the appeals disposed of the finding, and in 71·3 per cent. the finding and sentence, of the Lower Courts were confirmed.

Burma.—There was a very satisfactory decrease in the number of cases reported and classified as true in Lower Burma under the Indian Penal Code. In Upper Burma the number of offences reported rose, chiefly owing to the greater activity displayed in prosecutions under the Municipal Act. Dacoities declined from 181 to 126, and the number of cases affecting life from 490 to 435. The percentage of convictions in cases committed to the Chief Court was 54 per cent.

Bihar and Orissa.—There was an increase to 114,053 in cases reported, of which 80,888 were found to be true and 63,891 were brought to trial. In the appellate jurisdiction the High Court decided 288 appeals against sentences of Courts of Session. It upheld in 217, and reversed in 20, instances the orders passed. The percentage of appellants entirely unsuccessful was 75, against 71 in 1913.

Jails.

The number of admissions to jails during the year was 516,093, and 509,638 persons were discharged, leaving a population on the 31st December 1914 of 112,015.

The number of convicts admitted was 168,723; 159,668 were released, and 1,319, as against 1,566 in 1913, transported beyond the seas, leaving a population on the 31st December 1914 of 98,963.

The daily average number of prisoners, which had steadily decreased since 1908, rose in 1914 to 108,181 from 103,090.

More than one-half of the total number of convicts received in jails during the year came from the classes engaged in agriculture and cattle-tending, and over 141,000 out of 169,000 were returned as illiterate.

The percentage of previously convicted prisoners was 19·82 as against 17·29 in 1913, while the number of youthful offenders fell from 626 to 505. The marginal table shows the nature and length of sentences of convicts admitted to jails in 1914.

Not exceeding one month	-	43,685
One month to six months	-	66,113
Six months " one year	-	31,284
One year " five years	-	21,989
Five years " ten "	-	2,619
Exceeding ten years	-	250
Transportation beyond seas :—		
(a) for life	-	1,308
(b) for a term	-	720
Sentenced to death	-	831

The number of offences committed by convicts increased.

The total daily average population for 1914 was 95,260; the total offences dealt with by criminal courts was 192, and by Superintendents 176,277. The corresponding figures for 1913 were 90,282; 176, and 180,369 respectively.

The total number of corporal punishments again showed a decrease, viz., from 361 to 352. The total number of cases in which penal diet (with and without solitary confinement) was prescribed was 7,594 as compared with 7,568 in the preceding year.

Total expenditure rose from £571,364 to £618,588, and total cash earnings increased from £97,819 to £109,845; there was, consequently, an increase of £35,198 in the net cost to Government.

The death rate increased from 15·52 per mille in 1913 to 17·93 in 1914. The admissions to hospital were somewhat higher, and the daily average number of sick rose slightly. The chief causes of death were tubercle of the lungs, dysentery and pneumonia.

(Form of Accounts.)

CHAPTER III.—FINANCE.

(For further details, see *East India Financial Statement; Accounts and Estimates, Explanatory Memorandum; Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 44 to 89.*)

Form of Accounts.

The accounts of the Government of India show the transactions in India in rupees; the totals of these transactions are then converted into pounds at the rate of Rs. 15 = £1; the sterling transactions in England are next stated; and the last two sets of figures are added together, so as to show in pounds the combined transactions in India and in England. The comparatively small sums which have to be brought to account owing to the fact that the remittances to defray the net expenditure in England are not effected at exactly sixteenpence to the rupee are included in a single line under the head of Exchange.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The Gross Revenue and Expenditure in 1913-14 and 1914-15 were as shown in the margin. In these figures all receipts are included in the total of revenue and all outlay in the total of expenditure, except that the working expenses of railways and the surplus profits paid to certain railway companies are treated not as expenditure but as a deduction from Revenue. Net Revenue and Expenditure are arrived at after deducting

	1913-14.	1914-15.
	£	£
Revenue	85,207,175	81,157,666
Expenditure	82,894,752	82,942,936
Surplus	£2,312,423	Deficit £1,785,270

the interest charges as well as the working expenses of the railways, the interest charges and working expenses of irrigation works, the cost of the cultivation and manufacture of opium, and the charges against other revenue-earning departments (excluding cost of collection) from revenue, and the receipts of spending departments from expenditure.

The net revenue of 1913-14 and 1914-15 and the expenditure charged against the revenue of those years were divided into Imperial and Provincial as follows:—

	1913-14.			1914-15.		
	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.	Imperial.	Provincial.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net Revenue	31,791,279	26,054,785	57,846,064	27,951,570	25,231,859	53,183,429
Net Expenditure	29,478,856	26,054,785	55,533,641	29,736,840	25,231,859	54,968,699

The equilibrium between Provincial Revenue and Provincial Expenditure, which is shown in these figures, is due to the fact that, if the Provincial Governments spend less in any year than their income, the saving is added to their balances and treated in the general accounts prepared by the Government of India as though it had been spent, and that similarly excess expenditure by Provincial Governments, being met from their balances, is not charged in the accounts prepared by the Government of India against the revenues of the year. In 1913-14 the Provincial Governments drew on their balances to the extent of £282,886, in 1914-15 to the extent of £2,190,152.

(For fuller information regarding Provincial Finance, see Decennial Report, 1911-12, pages 145-8.)

Home Charges.

The net expenditure in England chargeable to revenue was as follows:—In 1913-14, £19,455,055; and in 1914-15, £19,525,856.

(Capital Outlay on Public Works.)

Capital Outlay on Public Works.

The total capital outlay on railways, irrigation works, and the new capital of Delhi during the two years was as follows:—

	1913-14.	1914-15.
Capital not charged against the Revenue of the year:—	£	£
Railways	10,483,200	10,509,858
Irrigation	1,282,262	1,123,180
New capital of Delhi	447,134	360,361
Defrayed from Revenue:—		
Railways	9,990	— 852
Irrigation	590,288	570,509
Outlay by companies	2,002,303	1,342,253
Total Capital Outlay on Railways, Irrigation, and Capital at Delhi	14,815,177	13,905,309

Debt.

Amount of Debt.—The total debt of India outstanding on the 31st March 1914 and the 31st March 1915 amounted to:—

	1914.	1915.
(a) Permanent debt* :—	£	£
Total of Public Works debt	261,992,337	275,245,288
Balance, being ordinary debt	12,196,099	1,926,083
Total permanent debt	274,188,476	276,541,371
(b) Temporary debt	Nil.	14,333,333
Total debt (permanent and temporary) on 31st March	£274,188,476	£280,874,704

1914-15.—In England £500,000 India bonds were discharged during the year. No sterling loan was raised, but £7,000,000 sterling bills were issued in September and November 1914 (£4,500,000) for twelve months and £2,500,000 for six months). In addition £2,318,248 was raised by means of Railway debenture stock and £998,750 by means of Railway debenture Bonds.

In India a 3½ per cent. rupee loan of 5 crores (£83,333,300) was issued in July at an average price of Rs. 95 : 9 : 7.

The borrowing powers of the Secretary of State for India in Council are regulated by Acts of Parliament, the last being the East India Loans (Railways and Irrigation) Act, 1910, under which powers were granted to borrow in the United Kingdom, as and when necessary, up to £25,000,000 for the purposes of Indian public works.

Currency and Exchange.

The rupee (180 grains of silver, eleven-twelfths fine) and the half rupee are full legal tender for the payment of debts. The coinage of rupees is restricted to the amounts that are from time to time decided by Government to be sufficient to meet the requirements of the public. The English sovereign is also legal tender in India, at the rate of one sovereign to fifteen rupees (*i.e.*, 1s. 4d. to the rupee).

* The total permanent debt is classified in the accounts as (1) Public Works Debt, (2) Ordinary Debt. The amount entered as belonging to the former category is the equivalent of the total capital expenditure which has been incurred on public works by the State, together with the amounts advanced to railway companies for capital expenditure; the "Ordinary Debt" consists of the remainder of the debt. In any year in which, owing to the use of surplus revenue or deposits for the construction of public works, the capital expenditure of the year exceeds the amount of debt incurred in the year, the effect is to cause a decrease to be shown in the amount of the Ordinary Debt.

(Currency and Exchange.)

Gold Standard Reserve.—From the 1st April 1900 the net profit from the coinage of rupees has been held as a special reserve, apart from the ordinary revenue, to secure the maintenance of exchange at the rate of *1s. 4d.* to the rupee. It may serve this purpose either (1) by providing the Secretary of State with funds enabling him to dispense with sales of Council drafts when the demand for these is weak, or (2) by enabling him to meet drafts sold on London by the Government of India for the support of exchange. The constitution of the Reserve on the 31st March 1915 was as follows :—

	£
Sterling securities held in England (estimated value)	12,148,746
Cash held in England on account of the Reserve	8,322
Gold held at the Bank of England	1,250,000
Sovereigns held in India on account of the Reserve	5,238,184
Temporary loans to Treasury balance, India	7,000,000
Due to the Fund from Treasury balances in India	69,957
Total	£25,715,209

(Further information regarding Currency, Exchange, and the Gold Standard Reserve will be found in the Decennial Report, 1911-12, pages 164-9, and in the Report of the Royal Commission on Indian Finance and Currency, Cd. 7068, 1913.)

Exchange and Remittance.—During the years 1912-13, 1913-14, and 1914-15 the sale by the Secretary of State of bills and telegraphic transfers on India was as shown in the margin.

	Amount.	Average Rate.
	£	Per rupee.
1912-13	25,743,710	<i>1s. 4.058d.</i>
1913-14	31,200,827	<i>1s. 4.070d.</i>
1914-15	7,748,111	<i>1s. 4.005d.</i>

The regular demand for the bills and telegraphic transfers sold by the Secretary of State is due to the fact that they enable merchants and bankers to make the payments in India which are required mainly in consequence of the normal excess of India's exports over her imports. During the last eight months of 1914-15 the demand was greatly reduced by the disturbing influence of war conditions upon India's trade and upon exchange. Reverse drafts on London were sold to the amount of £8,707,000 in the months August 1914 to January 1915.

Paper Currency.—Under the Indian Paper Currency Act, 1910 (II. of 1910), which consolidated and amended the law relating to paper currency, notes of the following denominations, viz., Rs. 5, Rs. 10, Rs. 50, Rs. 100, Rs. 500, Rs. 1,000, and Rs. 10,000 are issued to the public. The issue of 20-rupee notes has been discontinued.

There are seven-currency circles having their headquarters at Calcutta, Cawnpore, Lahore, Bombay, Karachi, Madras, and Rangoon respectively.

Prior to the passing of the Paper Currency Act of 1910 the 5-rupee note alone was legal tender throughout India and payable at any office of issue in the country; notes of higher value were legal tender only within the currency circles in which they were issued. The Act of 1910 "universalised" notes of a denominational value of 10 and 50 rupees, and thus marked an important stage in the development of the paper currency system of India. The 100-rupee note was also made universal from the 1st April 1911. A reserve is held against the notes equal to their full value in (1) gold, (2) silver, and (3) securities (value taken at cost price). The law in force at the end of the year under review provided that securities of the Government of India and of the British Government might be held as part of the reserve up to a limit of £13,333,333 (Rs. 20,00,00,000), of which the British Government securities might not exceed £2,666,667 (Rs. 4,00,00,000); the remainder of the reserve must be held in gold or silver coin or bullion. On the 31st March 1915 the note issue amounted to Rs. 61,63,00,000. The constitution of the Paper Currency Reserve was as follows :—

	£
Gold	10,193,333
Silver coin	21,560,000
Securities of the Government of India	6,666,667
Securities of the British Government	2,666,667
	£41,086,667

(Land Tenures.)

CHAPTER IV.—LAND REVENUE.

*(For further details see Statistical Abstract of British India, Tables 45 to 49 and 120.)***General.**

From time immemorial a share of the produce of the land has been the chief source of public revenue in India, and the land revenue now constitutes more than one-third of the total net revenue that accrues to the Indian Exchequer.

The early settlements of land revenue were permanent, but at length over the greater part of India a system of periodical settlements was established, under which the State demand is revised at recurring periods of 20 to 30 years, the latter period prevailing in all the larger provinces except the Punjab, the Central Provinces, and Burma, where settlements are usually made for 20 years. No alteration in assessments may be made during the term of a settlement, though the amount leviable year by year may vary according to the area actually cultivated or the condition of the harvest. A table showing the incidence of land revenue assessments in the different provinces is given in the Statistical Abstract. At these settlements careful surveys are made of all holdings and records of rights in the land. Under the system of periodical revisions of the land assessment the State secures a share in the increased rental value arising from the general progress of the community, and the opportunity is afforded of reducing the assessment in villages or tracts which have declined in prosperity, and of correcting inequalities arising from any cause.

Tenant Right and Land Legislation.

Bengal and Bihar and Orissa.—Landlords still tend to withhold rent receipts in Bengal and Bihar. The levy of illegal exactions in the form of cesses in addition to rents is still a subject of complaint. In the Gaya district of Bihar there have been many disputes arising out of produce rent, and a thorough examination of the provisions of the Act regarding such rents is to be undertaken. Chota Nagpur was given in 1908 a Tenancy Act of its own; its amendment is under consideration.

United Provinces.—The continued protection against arbitrary ejection which is afforded by the Agra Tenancy Act was indicated by a rise during the year of 155,756 acres in the area held by occupancy tenants, by tenants of more than 12 years who have a potential occupancy right, and by long-term lessees. This increase has been constant since 1901-02.

Punjab.—The working of the Land Alienation Act has occasioned no special difficulty. The permanent rights in land are returning to the hands of the cultivating classes, and the capital of the money-lending classes is being more freely devoted to the land under approved forms of security.

Bombay.—The amendment of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1905, was under consideration. The area of land held on the special tenure created by the Act of 1901 steadily expands. Evasions of the conditions of the tenure were few.

Revenue Surveys and Settlements and Land Records.

Bengal.—The preparation of a complete survey and record of rights for the permanently settled area was inaugurated in 1891. Out of the total settled area of 63,893 square miles to which the Bengal Tenancy Act applies, the record had by September 1914, been completed for 15,449 square miles, and was in course of preparation for a total of 10,446 square miles. In permanently settled tracts (where the record is for the purposes of general well-being and not for assessment of revenue), three-fourths of the cost is recovered from the landlords and tenants concerned.

Bihar and Orissa.—The total area for which a Record of Rights had been completed by 30th September 1914 was 65,296 square miles out of about 78,000 square miles for which a record is required.

Assam.—The survey and settlement of the Guma Duar of Goalpara was completed.

United Provinces.—During 1913-14 the revision of settlements in Etawah, Fatehpur, and Allahabad was continued.

Punjab.—Settlement operations were in progress in ten districts. Settlement work in Amritsar, Ferozapore, Hoshiarpur and Lyallpur was completed. Enquiries made in the nine most recently assessed districts, in which the demand is fixed, tend to show that the proportion borne by the land revenue demand to the total value of the agricultural produce is considerably less than one-tenth.

(Revenue Surveys and Settlements and Land Records.)

North-West Frontier Province.—Records of Rights were reported to be in good condition: the Land Records Staff was chiefly employed on mutation work.

Burma.—Settlement operations extended to ten districts. Revised rates were sanctioned following the settlements in the Bassein and Toungoo districts. The enhancements of revenue demand were nearly 24 per cent. in the former and 40 per cent. in the latter. The area under supplementary survey was 51,444 square miles in 1914-15. The cost of the settlements completed during the year was slightly under 4½ per cent. of the assessment.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Operations for the revision of settlement were in progress in five districts. It has been found in Saugor district that large areas of good land were allowed to lie waste partly in order to escape assessment at re-settlement. The preparation of the new Record of Rights in Berar, which is nearing completion, is being keenly watched by the people.

Madras.—A committee was appointed to investigate the working of the Survey and Land Records Department with the view of rendering the procedure simpler, cheaper, and more efficient.

Bombay.—The survey and settlement officers were engaged in the measurement and classification of *inam* villages and work of a routine character. Good progress was made with the re-writing of the Record of Rights. City survey work was conducted in several towns.

Collection of the Revenue.

The fluctuations in the gross land revenue receipts (exclusive of those credited to irrigation) in past years may be seen from the marginal table. The small general increase in land revenue is mainly attributable to the bringing of new land under cultivation, as in Lower Burma, the Central Provinces, Sind, and the Punjab, and to the progress of settlements and re-settlements, which, owing to the generally enhanced values of land, usually result in additions to the land revenue. Irrigation canals have

Year.	Land Revenue Receipts.
	£
1906-7 to 1910-11 (five years' average)	20,096,000
1911-12 (single year)	20,765,000
1912-13 " "	21,282,000
1913-14 " "	21,392,000
1914-15 " "	21,222,000

enabled the cultivable area to be greatly extended, especially in Sind and the Punjab.

The land revenue receipts in 1913-14 and 1914-15 were made up as follows:—

	1913-14.	1914-15.
	£	£
Ordinary land revenue	20,658,326	20,468,456
Assessment of alienated lands, less quit-rents*	650,077	643,285
Sale of proprietary right of Government in land†	154,032	56,233
Capitation tax, or house tax levied in lieu thereof‡	666,880	653,201
Sale of waste lands and redemption of land revenue	61,501	222,853
Recovery of survey and settlement charges§	132,493	120,042
Fisheries and other receipts	752,640	725,333
	<u>£23,075,949</u>	<u>£22,889,403</u>
Deduct portion of land revenue due to irrigation	1,684,374	1,667,864
Total land revenue	<u>£21,391,575</u>	<u>£21,221,539</u>

The charges in 1914-15 included £1,760,415 for district administration, £532,295 for survey and settlement charges, £988,973 for land records; and £630,695 direct charges of collection. The total charges were £3,914,018.

The advances made by Government to cultivators during 1914-15 (for the relief of agriculturists, for the improvement of land and for loans to co-operative societies) amounted to £1,319,652, and the advances outstanding at the close of the year amounted to £3,447,450.

* Mostly from Bombay.

† Mostly from the Punjab.

‡ Mostly from Burma.

§ From Bengal and Bihar and Orissa.

(Collection of the Revenue.)

Bengal.—The revenue demand for 1914–15, excluding arrears, amounted to £1,824,502, including £1,439,251 from 91,659 permanently settled estates, £108,066 from 3,179 temporarily settled estates, and £277,185 from 2,173 estates under the direct management of Government. The percentage of total collections on total demand (including arrears) was 93·04 per cent. Remissions were trifling. The number of estates, &c. which became liable to sale for non-payment of Government revenue rose to 13,713, of which only 861 were actually sold. Under the Certificate Act of 1913, 59,560 certificates were filed for recovery of arrears of revenue (exclusive of cess); payment was generally secured on issue of notices or on attachment of property, but actual sale was necessary in 2,082 cases.

Bihar and Orissa.—The total current demand was £1,006,032, viz., £711,822 from 94,559 permanently settled estates, £175,436 from 10,265 temporarily settled estates, and £118,774 from 281 estates held by Government. The percentage of total collection on total demand was 97·10. Proceedings under the sale laws included 338 sales out of 8,458 estates which became liable to sale, while under the Public Demands Recovery Act, 32,608 certificates were filed; in 1,805 cases recourse to sale was necessary.

Assam.—The current revenue demand was £485,892, of which 94·27 was realised. Demand notices showed a large decrease, such notices being entirely discontinued in the temporarily settled areas of the Assam Valley.

United Provinces.—The land revenue demand in 1913–14 (the latest year for which information is available) was £4,340,474. Owing to the drought and scarcity £319,286 was remitted, and £331,217 suspended or postponed. Other sources of revenue, not strictly classed as land revenue, are the occupiers' rate (receipts, £650,468) and the owners' rate (receipts, £11,754), which constitute payments for irrigation, besides cesses, &c. Advances under the Loans Acts were very liberal and the sums outstanding at the close of the year amounted to no less than £1,650,814. The number of coercive processes continued to decrease, largely owing to reforms in collection.

Punjab.—The fixed land revenue demand in 1914–15 was £1,446,963, of which 98·8 per cent. was collected. "Fluctuating" land revenue, the demand for which varies with the crop, amounted to about £787,000, and the collection was easy. There was a decrease in receipts from sales of Government estates, owing to decreased sales of proprietary rights to Lower Chenab Canal colonists. The number of coercive processes against lambardars showed a slight increase.

North-West Frontier Province.—In 1914–15 the fixed land revenue demand rose from £123,994 to £124,037, of which 98 per cent. was collected. Advances to agriculturists increased to £14,082. The system of fluctuating assessment continues to work well in Dera Ismail Khan.

Central Provinces and Berar.—In the Central Provinces in 1913–14 the current land revenue demand was £662,907, an increase of £20,064 over 1912–13, due mainly to new settlements; in Berar it was £608,105. The number of coercive processes in the Central Provinces decreased considerably.

Burma.—The land revenue demand rose to £1,943,372, as against £1,930,022 in 1913–14, the rise being due to revisions of assessments. Remissions amounted to £52,300. Coercive processes showed a large increase under practically all heads. Besides land revenue proper, several minor heads are included under land revenue—the capitation tax levied in Lower Burma (amounting in 1914–15 to £385,421), *Thathameda* or household tax in Upper Burma (amounting to £265,410), fishery revenue (£239,247), and miscellaneous (£243,913). The numbers of persons assessed to capitation tax and of households assessed to *Thathameda* were 1,401,361 and 862,951 respectively. Of the miscellaneous revenue £201,182 was derived from royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade, and amber.

Madras.—The total current demand in 1913–14, excluding cesses, water-rates, &c., was £4,493,355, of which £332,676 was from permanently settled estates, and the greater part of the rest from ryotwari land. Current collections amounted to 98·8 per cent. of current demands. The number of demand notices, which had been steadily decreasing, fell still further to 1,161,568. The number of sales was small.

Bombay and Sind.—The aggregate demand in 1913–14 was to £2,968,845, and collections realised about 99 per cent. of the demand. The arrears were trifling.

(Salt.)

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE FROM TAXATION AND OPIUM.

SALT.	PROVINCIAL RATES.	INCOME TAX.	REGISTRATION.
EXCISE.	STAMPS.	CUSTOMS.	OPIUM.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India*, Tables 43, 45 to 47, 50 to 58, and 61 to 64.)

Of the eight heads shown above, seven comprise the tax revenue, and furnish about two-fifths of the total net revenue of the Indian Government.

Salt.

General.—The salt revenue is raised by a duty on all salt imported into, or manufactured in, India. The general rate of duty has been Re. 1 per maund since 1907, but locally-produced salt in Burma pays only 12 annas per maund. Exemption from duty is granted under certain conditions for salt used in manufacturing processes. The gross revenue in 1914-15 amounted to £3,910,790, as against £3,445,305 in 1913-14. Of this nearly 28 per cent. was derived from imported salt. The charges amounted to £360,517, exclusive of £251,526 paid under treaties as compensation, principally to Native chiefs who have assigned their salt sources to the Government of India.

The duty is levied on salt at the place of manufacture, or at the port of importation. Some of the salt sources belong to, or are worked under the direct control of, the various local governments; others are owned or leased by private individuals. The salt supply of India is not, therefore, a Government monopoly, and the importation of salt is unrestricted. Manufacture is not allowed where the circumstances are such as to render proper collection of the duty impracticable, as, for instance, on the coast of Bengal.

Salt affairs in Upper India are controlled by the Northern India Salt Department, which is under the direct administration of the Government of India. The maritime local Governments have their own salt departments. Bihar is under the Northern India Salt Department, but Orissa has its own.

Northern India.—The most important salt sources under the control of the Northern India Salt Department are the Sambhar Lake and the Mayo mine. The gross revenue of the Department in 1914-15 was £975,095, or 20 per cent. more than in 1913-14, while the total charges amounted to £87,927. The increased revenue was due to abnormal purchases in the belief that the duty would be raised in 1915-16. The total quantity issued by the Department for consumption on payment of duty was 11,351,149 maunds, as compared with 10,333,719 maunds in 1913-14.

The average retail prices were higher in 1914-15 in Bihar, the N.W. Frontier Province, Punjab, Central Provinces and Berar, and lower in the United Provinces, Rajputana and Central India. The Department issued 47,695 licences for the manufacture of saltpetre and other saline substances. The refineries produced 516,685 maunds of refined saltpetre. The number of persons arrested for offences against the salt law was 347, of whom 159 were released; 173 persons were convicted.

Bengal.—The salt consumed in Bengal is imported from abroad or from other parts of India. The average wholesale price of salt, including duty, at the chief marts of Bengal was higher than in 1913-14, the cost of imported salt having risen. The net amount of salt consumed in the province rose to 7,804,469 maunds. The number of persons convicted of offences against the salt law was 10.

Orissa.—There is no direct import of foreign salt into Orissa. The total consumption of salt imported from Calcutta and Madras was 1,070,167 maunds, as against 1,345,163 in 1913-14. The decrease is owing chiefly to the shorter outturn in Madras and to the increased price of foreign salt. The average wholesale price was Rs. 2.6.0 per maund. There were convictions for offences in 14 cases.

Madras.—Of the 65 factories worked during 1914-15, 45 were under private and 20 under Government management as in 1913-14. The quantity manufactured was 8,135,639 maunds, as against an annual average outturn of 11,005,328 maunds for the previous five years, the decrease being due to heavy rains and to the severe cyclones in the Waltair sub-division which retarded manufacture. The duty-paid salt imported by sea from Bombay increased from 1,284,770 to 1,400,307 maunds. Issues for home consumption rose from 11,860,895 maunds to 12,338,151; wholesale prices increased.

(Salt.)

Bombay.—The salt supply of Bombay comes from the Pritchard salt mine works, owned by the Government (Baragra salt), from sea-salt works on the coast, and from abroad, chiefly from Goa. The sea-salt works, excepting one, at Dharasna, worked by the Government, are owned by, or leased to, private individuals. The bulk of the Baragra salt and large amounts of sea salt are exported to other parts of India. The conditions in 1914–15 were favourable. The total issues of salt rose from 12,564,009 to 13,244,668 maunds, of which 3,700,033 maunds were retained for local consumption. The consumption per head was 13·7 lbs., as against 13·3. The average price was somewhat higher. The number of offences fell from 143 to 131.

Sind.—The Sind salt supply is derived chiefly from the sea-salt works at Maurypur, from salt deposits at Saran and Dilyar, and from importation. The quantity of salt sold rose in 1914–15 from 420,201 maunds to 422,118 maunds.

Burma.—One rupee per maund is levied on salt imported into Burma. Duty at 12 annas instead of 10 annas per maund has been levied since 1st January 1914 on the actual output of locally manufactured salt in the seven districts where any large quantity is produced. The total estimated consumption of the province amounted to 2,453,791 maunds in 1914, as against 2,506,243 maunds in 1913. The estimated local output fell to 585,874 maunds, as against 785,293 maunds in 1913. The decline is ascribed to the increase of duty. Imports rose from 1,808,036 maunds to 2,358,468 maunds, or 30 per cent. The average retail price was higher owing to the increased price of foreign salt. The convictions for illicit manufacture numbered 53.

Excise.

Excise revenue is derived from the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, opium, and other drugs, principally hemp.

The whole question of excise administration as regards alcohol was reviewed in 1905 by a committee, whose recommendations included advances in taxation in many cases, the further concentration of distillation, the extended adoption of the contract distillery system, and improvements in the preventive and other establishments employed. Action to effect these improvements has been taken in all provinces, and, when necessary, legislation has been carried out to enforce the Committee's recommendations. The subject has recently been reviewed at length by the Government of India and Local Governments, and papers on the subject were published in 1914.*

In a few remote districts the old "out-still" system of distillation continues under licence. Otherwise the whole of India is gradually being brought under the contract system. By this system the dangers of unrestricted competition for the supply of liquor and the attendant difficulties of proper supervision are avoided, while the largest possible proportion of the monopoly profits, on both wholesale and retail supply, are secured to Government.

The number of retail spirit shops is being steadily reduced throughout India. Objections are invited from the public before any new retail shop is licensed, and the location of all the shops comes periodically under review by advisory committees in all the towns of any size.

Fermented liquors are taxed mainly by means of licenses for manufacture and retail trade. In Madras and Bombay a fixed tax per tree is levied on trees tapped for toddy. Spirits and beer manufactured in India on European lines are taxed at the same rate as the customs duties on similar liquors imported from abroad.

The excise revenue on opium is chiefly derived from duty and vend-fees. Opium smoking is subject to stringent legal restrictions. Hemp cultivation is restricted and controlled, and a duty and vend-fees are levied. *Charas* is now prohibited in some districts, and elsewhere is subject to a high duty.

The habit of cocaine-taking has of recent years become common among certain classes in the larger towns of Burma, Bengal, Bombay, the Punjab, and the United Provinces. Any person found in possession of the smallest quantity without a licence is now liable to punishment, and large quantities of smuggled cocaine have been seized by the preventive officers. A conference to consider measures for the suppression of cocaine smuggling was held at Delhi in November 1914.

* For the Report of the Committee of 1905, and for the orders passed by the Government of India thereon, see Parliamentary Papers Cd. 3327 and 3816, and House of Commons Papers 142 and 209 of 1907. For the later papers, see Cd. 7524 and 7604 of 1914.

(Excise.)

The following table shows the Excise Revenue for 1913-14 and 1914-15 under the different heads, as given in the Finance and Revenue Accounts :—

Year.	Licence and Distillery Fees and Duties for the Sale of Drugs and Liquors.					Other Duties, &c. on Indian Consumption of		Fines, Confiscations, Miscellaneous.	Total Revenue.	Charges.	Net Revenue
	Foreign Liquors, &c.	Country Spirits.	Toddy and Pachwai.	Opium and its Preparations.	Other Drugs.	Opium, &c.	Ganja.				
1913-14	£ 335,063	£ 4,820,213	£ 1,507,994	£ 377,088	£ 546,630	£ 914,401	£ 360,895	£ 32,018	£ 8,894,300	£ 487,529	£ 8,456,771
1914-15	£ 358,141	£ 4,660,291	£ 1,566,897	£ 411,245	£ 576,963	£ 887,293	£ 353,126	£ 39,925	£ 8,856,881	£ 459,685	£ 8,397,196

A sum of £811,247 was yielded by customs duties on exciseable liquors imported into India during 1914-15.

The growth of the excise revenue in recent years is due largely to higher rates of duty and stricter excise control, and does not indicate a corresponding increase of consumption, although a moderate increase has occurred through the expansion of population and the greater prosperity of the country as a whole.

The number of retail shops and the excise receipts, as compared with the population, are shown in the following table, province by province :—

PROVINCE.	Population of Excise Area.	Number of Persons per Retail Shop licensed in 1914-15 for the Sale of				Net Excise Receipts per 10,000 of Population in Rupees.
		Country Spirit.	Country Fermented Liquor.	Opium and its Preparations.	Narcotic or Intoxicating Drugs, other than Opium.	
Bengal	45,329,247	36,763	13,939	52,770	22,710	3,225
Bihar and Orissa	34,490,084	17,202	4,879	62,032	20,877	3,184
Assam	6,622,431	34,854	213,627	17,898	26,175	7,955
United Provinces	47,182,044	10,155	16,147	44,379	13,644	2,533
Punjab	19,548,126	26,239	888,851	22,188	37,163	3,417
North-West Frontier Province	2,251,292	70,353	—	31,708	30,423	1,512
Burma	10,534,808	74,189	10,014	84,958	—	7,326
Central Provinces and Berar	13,916,308	3,856	27,075	13,116	12,605	7,518
Madras	41,430,193	5,070	3,020	55,987	77,151	8,398
Bombay	16,113,051	8,301	14,823	21,201	23,620	11,636
Sind	3,513,435	15,546	878,358	16,495	10,125	6,584

The principal features of the excise administration in the various provinces during 1914-15 were as follows :—

Bengal.—In 1914 the Excise Department was reorganised and amalgamated with the Salt Department. There was a great decrease in the consumption of exciseable articles in 1914-15, due partly to an increased duty on country spirits and a curtailment of hours for spirit and drug shops, but mainly to high food prices and dearth of employment consequent on the war. The duty on *ganja* was raised, and further restrictions on opium were imposed. The total excise revenue of the year, £1,023,994, showed a slight decline. A large decrease in country spirit receipts was set off by larger receipts under opium (due to higher licence fees) and foreign liquor. The settlements for country spirit showed a decided increase in Calcutta. The revenue from country spirit was £444,461, from hemp drugs, £233,161, and from opium, £194,822.

The number of arrests in Calcutta for illicit traffic in cocaine rose from 1,051 to 1,219. Opium smuggling is still not uncommon.

Bihar and Orissa.—Various measures tending to restrict the sale of country spirit, *charas* and opium were introduced. The total excise revenue for 1914-15 was £772,896, a slight increase on 1913-14. The revenue from country spirit was £389,868, from hemp drugs, £176,203, and from opium, £98,955. Advisory Committees were formed in all municipal towns, and also in rural areas in the Chota Nagpur Division. There has been a steady reduction in the number of excise shops. The illicit use of cocaine shows no decline, in spite of measures taken to prevent smuggling.

Assam.—The duties on country spirit, *ganja*, and opium were enhanced in 1914-15, and the hours of sale were curtailed for all excise and opium shops. The number of

(Excise.)

out-stills was further reduced. The revenue increased slightly to £360,375, including £203,567 for opium and £100,604 for country spirit.

United Provinces.—Bad harvests and trade depression due to the war caused a decline in consumption, especially of country spirit, in towns and rural districts alike. The revenue fell by 5½ per cent. to £828,559, including £525,880 for country spirit, £83,220 for opium, and £170,545 for other drugs. The rates of still-head duty are being steadily increased. The number of shops was again reduced. *Ganja* still tends to displace *charas*. The smuggling of opium and cocaine continues.

Punjab.—In 1914–15 the retail prices of exciseable articles generally were higher and consumption declined, mainly owing to the war. There was a trifling increase in revenue to £461,406, of which £283,570 was from country spirit and £90,488 from opium. A campaign against illicit distillation and smuggling was very successful. The number of liquor shops was further reduced. It is proposed to consult local authorities on the grant of liquor licences. Cocaine smuggling is rife, but active preventive measures have been undertaken. Several opium smugglers were arrested.

North-West Frontier Province.—The revenue, £23,618, was the highest yet realised. The cocaine habit has grown in Peshawur and illicit traffic in the drug prevails.

Burma.—The control of the sale of opium in shops is now believed to be efficient, but illicit importation of opium from India is found hard to check. The total excise revenue in 1914–15 was £615,958, including £246,176 for opium and £358,545 for liquors. The revenue from liquors was higher by £49,000, and, but for the war, would have been higher still. The cocaine habit received a check.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The trade depression resulting from the outbreak of war seriously affected the excise revenue, which fell by 5 per cent. to £770,654, including £521,752 for country spirit and £174,644 for opium. Scarcity in some tracts and the high prices of liquor contributed to the decline. While receipts from spirit fell by 7 per cent. consumption decreased by 13 per cent. The contract distillery system was further extended. The consumption of opium decreased in Berar. Municipal committees are consulted as to the location of liquor shops. A new Excise Act was passed in February 1915.

Madras.—The excise revenue amounted to £2,319,435. Receipts from toddy increased, while those from country spirit decreased, the former owing to increased rentals, the latter to a fall in consumption. Receipts from opium, *ganja*, &c. were larger. The duty on *ganja* was enhanced. The number of liquor shops was reduced. War has checked the normal growth of the revenue.

Bombay.—There was a decline in the revenue to £1,476,409, which included £1,230,585 for country spirit and toddy, £129,435 for opium and £90,623 for other drugs. Further restrictions were placed on the sale of liquors and the duties on *ganja* and *charas* were raised. The separate shop system for the vend of opium has now been extended to the whole Presidency. There were many more prosecutions for the illicit sale of cocaine.

Provincial Rates.

Since 1904–5 many cesses levied under this head have been abolished, and the revenue amounted in 1914–15 to only £38,814, as against £180,210 in 1913–14.

Stamps.

The stamp revenue is derived from two great classes of stamps, judicial or court fee and non-judicial stamps. The revenue from the former increases with the growth of litigation, and from the latter with the development of trade and industry. In 1914–15 the revenue declined under both heads. The gross stamp receipts for 1913–14 and 1914–15 were £5,318,293 and £5,082,043 respectively. In 1914–15 the sale of court fee stamps realised £3,499,063 and that of commercial and other stamps £1,541,342. Over one-fourth of the revenue is derived from Bengal.

Income Tax.

The gross revenue from income tax in 1914–15 was £2,036,733, as compared with £1,950,250 in 1913–14. Ordinary collections produced £1,629,161 and Government salaries and pensions, £324,345. The proportion of revenue derived from the different sources varies but little. The number of persons assessed to income tax is only a small fraction of the population.

(Customs.)

Customs.

General import duties were levied in 1914-15 at the rate of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*. Special import duties were levied on malt liquors, wines, spirits, arms and ammunition,

	1913-14.	1914-15.	
Sea Customs, import duty :	£	£	salt and salted fish, opium, tobacco, and silver. Tobacco was dutiable at various rates, fixed in 1911. Salt was dutiable at Re. 1 per maund, and silver at 4 <i>d.</i> per ounce. Petroleum paid 1½ annas per gallon, and iron and steel generally 1 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> . The chief articles on the free list were railway materials, machinery which is worked by power other than manual or animal labour, grain and pulse, living animals, coal, jute, raw cotton, raw wool, books, gold and unset precious stones. In February 1896 all cotton yarns and thread, whether imported or manufactured in India, were freed from duty, while a uniform duty of
Arms, ammunition, &c.	13,646	35,633	
Liquors	882,770	811,247	
Petroleum	468,125	571,489	
Cotton manufactures	1,407,608	1,023,832	
Silver bullion and coin	657,227	1,030,068	
Other metals	482,962	328,167	
Sugar	607,755	293,144	
Tobacco	195,302	178,556	
Other articles	1,419,307	1,106,582	
Export duty on rice	839,131	553,192	
Miscellaneous	35,960	28,559	
TOTAL Sea Customs	7,009,793	5,960,469	
Land Customs	37,270	37,812	
Excise duty on cotton manufactures	357,512	329,395	
Miscellaneous	20,643	19,524	
TOTAL CUSTOMS REVENUE	7,425,218	6,347,200	

3½ per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed on all woven cotton goods imported from abroad or manufactured in India in power mills, the products of handlooms being exempted. A duty was levied on exported rice and rice-flour at the rate of 3 annas per maund of 82½ lbs. of unhusked rice (about 4*d.* per cwt.). Jute exports from Calcutta and Chittagong were subject to a small duty for the benefit of the town, and there was a trifling export duty on tea, the proceeds being handed over to a committee representing the tea-trade. The marginal table shows the gross customs receipts (excluding salt) in 1913-14 and 1914-15. The receipts from import duties in 1914-15 showed a considerable decrease, owing to the effects of the war. The large decline in the export duty on rice was partly due to the diversion from Burma to India of rice available for export abroad.

Registration.

General.—Offices exist in every district for the registration of documents, and for keeping copies thereof. *Ad valorem* fees are charged for registration, and a small fixed fee for searching the records. Documents relating to the sale, mortgage or lease of immovable property, compulsorily registrable, comprise the great majority of registrations. The gross registration receipts in 1914-15 were £485,295, as against £518,962 in 1913-14, and the cost of the registration offices was £257,980.

Opium.

The opium revenue is raised by a monopoly of the production of the drug in certain districts in the United Provinces, where opium is grown for use in India and for export. The cultivator of opium (known as Bengal opium) in these monopoly districts must hold a licence, and is granted advances to enable him to prepare the land for the crop. He is required to deliver the whole of his outturn of crude opium at a fixed price to Government agents, by whom it is despatched to the Government factory at Ghazipur. The supply of prepared opium required for consumption in India, "excise opium," is made over to the Excise Department, and Rs. 8½ per seer is credited to opium revenue for the amount thus consumed. The chests of "provision" opium, for export, are sold at monthly auctions in Calcutta, and the proceeds, less the cost of production, constitute the revenue from Bengal "provision" opium. The export of Bengal opium to China ceased early in 1913.

The opium revenue and expenditure in 1914-15 were £1,572,218 and £654,039 respectively as compared with £1,624,878 and £1,012,440 in 1913-14. The net revenue was £918,129 as against £612,438 in 1913-14. These figures exclude excise duties on opium consumed in India (shown under Excise). The number of chests sold by auction for export in 1914-15 was 10,648, at an average price of Rs. 1,568 per chest, while 350 chests were sold direct to the Hong Kong Government and 600 to the Straits Settlement Government.

(Season and Crop Reports.)

CHAPTER VI.—AGRICULTURE.

Season and Crop Reports.

Bengal.—There was a good autumn crop, but a poor winter rice crop, and an inferior spring crop. The total cropped area was 29½ million acres.

Bihar and Orissa.—The season was not, on the whole, a favourable one for autumn crops, and the spring crops were much below normal.

Assam.—Rainfall was, generally, much below the average, prejudicially affecting the rice, oil-seeds, and jute crops. The autumn and winter rice crops were short.

United Provinces.—The rainfall was ample but ill-distributed. The season, however, as a whole was by no means unfavourable. Early rice gave a yield well up to normal, but late rice was unsatisfactory. Cotton and sugar-cane were below the average.

Punjab.—Taken as a whole the monsoon rainfall of 1914 was favourably distributed. The matured area exceeded that of 1913. There were largely increased sowings for the spring harvest in the unirrigated areas with successful results. The price of food-grains rose.

Punjab Canal Colonies.—In the three older colonies (Lower Chenab, Lower Jhelum, and Chunian) conditions now approximate more or less to those in ordinary districts, and the special report on them is to be discontinued. Of a total allottable area in these three colonies of 2,580,000 acres, all but 180,000 acres, representing mostly reserved grazing grounds, have been allotted.

In the new colonies of the triple canal project, cultivation rose from 35,000 to 138,000 acres in the Lower Bari Doab Colony, and over 41,000 acres were allotted in the Upper Chenab Colony.

North-West Frontier Province.—The total cropped area was considerably above normal. The yield of wheat, the principal crop, was 24 per cent., and that of barley 114 per cent. above normal.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The area sown with autumn and spring crops was above normal. The total crop is estimated at three-fourths normal.

Burma.—On the whole the season was unfavourable. The cropped area again increased, but drought and floods caused failures of the harvests. The outturn of rice was considerably below normal.

Madras.—The season, owing to the ill-distributed rainfall, was not altogether favourable. The cultivated area was above the average, but the outturn of crops was generally below normal.

Bombay.—The year was one of abundant rainfall, and there was a decided increase in the cropped area. The acreage under cotton increased. The outturn of crops was generally satisfactory.

Agricultural Produce.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 117 and 121.*)

The chief crops are rice, wheat, barley, various kinds of millets, pulses, maize, oilseeds, sugar, tea, cotton, and jute. Particulars for 1914-15 regarding some of the more important staples are given below. The figures are derived from returns of crop forecasts, and they include Native States as well as British India.

Rice.—Nearly one-third of the cropped area in British India is under rice. Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Burma and Madras are the principal producers. Burma is by far the largest exporter. The total area under rice was 76,181,000 acres, and the estimated yield 27,964,000 tons. The outturn was adversely affected by the deficient rainfall in the important areas. The rice exports in 1914-15 showed a falling off.

Wheat.—Wheat occupies usually about 10 per cent. of the whole cultivated area. More than half of the total wheat acreage is in the Punjab and the United Provinces, and rather more than half in each of these provinces is irrigated. The year was on the whole favourable in the important wheat-growing provinces. The total yield, 10,269,000 tons, was a record one. The area sown was 32,230,000 acres, an increase of 3,755,000 acres. The exports of wheat and wheat-flour are subject to great fluctuations. In 1914-15 the exports of wheat were 706,400 tons, and of flour 54,000 tons, as against 1,202,200 tons and 79,400 tons respectively in 1913-14.

(Agricultural Produce.)

Sugar.—The area under sugar was reported to have decreased to 2,315,000 acres in 1914-15, and the yield to have increased to 2,367,000 tons, which is above the average for the five previous years. The decrease in acreage is attributed to deficient moisture at sowing time and scarcity of seed-cane owing to drought. To the sugar-cane cultivated in British India must be added the extensive crops grown in Native States. Further, there is a large production of palm sugar, chiefly in Bengal, Madras, and Burma. A considerable quantity both of cane in the raw state and of the unrefined sugar or *gur* is consumed as food, but the increasing demand for refined sugar, which is supplied chiefly from Java and Mauritius, is prejudicially affecting the *gur* industry. The question of improving the methods of cultivation and the manufacture of *gur* and refined sugar is receiving careful attention.

Tea.—The area reported under tea in India in 1914 was 622,600 acres, including 376,000 acres in Assam and 159,100 acres in Bengal. The total production was estimated at 312,976,000 lbs. During 1914 the tea gardens employed 587,898 persons permanently and 88,602 temporarily. The capital invested by joint stock companies in tea production is returned at £20,155,000, and, in addition, a large but unknown quantity of private capital is invested. The exports of Indian tea by sea in 1914-15 were 300·8 million pounds of which 237·3 went to the United Kingdom, 19·6 to Russia, and 11·0 each to Canada and Australasia. In 1914 of the tea retained for home consumption in the United Kingdom only 4 per cent. came from China and 58 per cent. came from India.

Jute.—India has a virtual monopoly of the production of jute, which is grown almost exclusively in Bengal, Bihar, and Assam. The jute area in 1915 was 2,377,000 acres, and the outturn 7,429,000 bales as compared with 3,359,000 acres and 10,531,000 bales in 1914. The decreases in area and outturn were due partly to flooding. The total Indian mill consumption of raw jute in 1914-15 was estimated at 4,668,000 bales as against 4,374,000 bales in 1913-14. Exports fell from 4,310,000 to 3,046,000 bales.

Cotton.—This is one of the most important crops for the grower, the Indian manufacturer and the exporter. The estimated area and yield for 1914-15 were 24,632,000 acres and 5,232,000 bales as compared with 25,020,000 acres and 5,065,000 bales in 1913-14. About half the total product is from Bombay and the Central Provinces and Berar. The exports of raw cotton from India in 1914-15 were 10,349,000 cwt., valued at £22,326,000, as compared with 10,626,000 cwt., valued at £27,362,000 in 1913-14. The bulk of the Indian cotton exported normally goes to Japan and Western Europe.

Oil Seeds.—The area under, and the yield of, the main oil-seed crops, linseed, rape, mustard, sesamum, &c. showed an increase, but exports of seeds were only 19,078,000 cwt. in 1914-15 as compared with 31,652,000 cwt. in 1913-14, a decline of 40 per cent.

Co-operative Societies.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India*, Table 115.)

These societies were started by Government to enable the poorer classes, and particularly the cultivators, to borrow money at reasonable rates. The Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904, which conferred certain privileges on these societies, was amended by the Co-operative Societies Act of 1912. This Act covers all co-operative societies and recognises central unions which, since 1904, had become important. The Act leaves wide discretion to the local Government, and the types of society favoured in the different provinces vary considerably.

The provincial registrars of co-operative societies are officials, and official aid is given in various ways, though loans by Government, never very extensive, form a steadily decreasing proportion of the working capital. Aid is also forthcoming with increasing readiness from non-official local gentlemen. The accounts of every society must be annually audited by a person approved by the registrar, who also has a certain discretion as to granting applications for registration.

The two main difficulties of village societies, proper supervision and the provision of funds, have been met by the "central societies," of which the type most generally approved is the "Central Banking Union" that prevails in Bengal and is being largely adopted elsewhere. These unions are federations of village societies; they maintain a staff of trained inspectors and also act as banks for their affiliated societies,

(Co-operative Societies.)

forming a medium between the latter and the open money market. It is through this access to the money market that the village societies obtain their chief advantage over the local money-lender. In Bombay there is a central co-operative bank for the entire province with a Government guarantee. Others, without such guarantee, are being formed in other provinces.

The village societies are almost all on the unlimited liability basis. They may not distribute their profits among members save with the sanction of the local Government, but in some provinces (*e.g.*, Burma, the United Provinces, and the Punjab) it has been found that societies formed on a share-basis answer best, though dividends may not be distributed until 10 years after the first share-payment. In other provinces the strict Raiffeissen rule is observed, and profits on working (beyond what is required for the reserve) go to the reduction of interest on loans to members.

The rates of interest charged by village societies vary from $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in Bombay to 15 per cent. in Burma and Bengal, and the average rate is far below that charged by money-lenders, who have indeed been forced to lower their rates. The loans of the societies to their members probably represent a saving to the agriculturist of more than 10 per cent. in interest charges. The interest paid by the societies on deposits is usually 6 to 9 per cent.

Of the purposes for which loans are required the most important are the payment of old debts and the purchase of plough cattle. Surprisingly little is drawn for uneconomic purposes such as expenses of ceremonial.

The educative effect of the movement in the villages is considerable. The societies are in close touch with the Agricultural Departments, and are much utilised by the latter for assisting demonstrations of new staples, the supply of implements, distribution of seed, &c.

The urban credit societies, chiefly limited liability concerns formed among salary earners, are of increasing importance. There are also urban and rural societies for objects other than credit, *e.g.*, for purchase of seed or manure, or, in the case of weavers and other artisans, of raw material for their trade, and for marketing the goods of members. But their development is comparatively slow. In Burma cattle insurance societies have proved a great success, and four have been started in the United Provinces.

A Government Committee on Co-operation in India was at work during the year. The total number of co-operative societies in British India in 1914-15 was 16,295 (of which 16,016 were agricultural), with a membership of 761,935 and a total working capital of £5,718,380.

Of the total capital of the societies, £1,643,131 represents share capital and deposits of members, £3,621,832 loans and deposits of non-members and other societies, £335,131 reserve, and £76,543 loans from Government.

The following is a brief account of the working of the movement in the principal provinces:—

Bengal.—In 1914-15 the number of societies increased from 1,661 to 1,992 with a membership of 107,118 and a working capital of £733,440. There are now 38 central banks with a working capital of £272,600 and 8 unions. The membership of agricultural societies rose from 71,282 to 85,717, and their working capital increased to £353,000. Of the 1,862 agricultural societies 1,582 are affiliated to central banks.

In spite of the difficulties of the year due to the war, the fall in jute prices, &c., the movement stood the test and made satisfactory progress. Special attention was given to defects in working. A scheme to establish a Provincial Bank for financing central banks and maintaining the cash reserve is under discussion.

Bihar and Orissa.—The membership of the 1,087 societies was 54,647. The war affected the societies very little, and the year was one of steady progress. But in order to concentrate attention on the improvement of existing societies registrations of new societies were suspended during 1915. The Provincial Bank established in 1913-14 has proved very successful in controlling and financing the central societies, which have increased from 11 to 18. Of the agricultural societies 87 per cent. are affiliated to central societies.

Assam.—In spite of a cautious policy necessitated by the inadequate supervising staff, there was an increase in societies from 249 to 301, of which 271 were agricultural societies with unlimited liability. The five Banking Unions did good work. The non-agricultural societies have progressed.

(Co-operative Societies.)

United Provinces.—Owing to the war and bad seasons the year was not one of expansion, but existing societies were strengthened. The financial position of the central societies improved, though the amount of over-due debts was too large. The agricultural societies were in a thoroughly good position, except for arrears. The number of societies at the end of 1914-15 was 2,962 with 116,525 members and a working capital of £783,276.

Punjab.—The difficulties caused by bank failures in 1913-14 were intensified by the financial stringency arising from the war and unfavourable harvests. Consequently there was little expansion, and attention was devoted to the improvement of existing societies. It is proposed to amalgamate the Central Banks and Banking Unions. The number of societies at the close of the year was 3,337 with 159,004 members and a working capital of £1,276,710.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The year was one of unusual difficulty, owing to the effects of the banking crisis of 1913-14, bad seasons, the war, and the need for restricting too rapid expansion. Weavers' and dyers' societies were hard hit. Nevertheless the number of members rose from 40,415 to 44,084, and the working capital from £434,000 to £484,000. A larger supervising staff is needed not only for audit, but to teach the principles of co-operation. The Central Banks made progress, and the Provincial Bank almost doubled its deposits and increased its reserve fund.

Burma.—Co-operation is established on sound lines, and the systems of cattle insurance and guaranteeing unions are specially excellent. The formation of a Central Cattle Reinsurance Society with Government aid has been sanctioned. Although the year was devoted mainly to the consolidation of existing societies, the number of agricultural societies rose from 1,086 to 1,252, of which 1,117 are comprised in 112 guaranteeing unions. Co-operative sale and urban credit societies were less successful.

Madras.—The movement showed continued expansion, and at the end of 1914-15 there were 1,600 societies with 118,726 members. Out of 267 new societies, 191 were agricultural societies with unlimited liability. The total working capital increased to £947,300. The percentage of loans for unproductive purposes was smaller. There were 10 central banks and 20 central unions comprising about 400 societies for the purpose of supervision. Urban banks rose from 50 to 103.

Bombay.—The report indicates steady progress. The number of societies increased by 119 to 817, the membership rose from 66,700 to 84,600; and the working capital amounted to £541,000 as against £439,000 in 1913-14. There were 5 central unions, including the Bombay Central Co-operative Bank. In Sind there were 19 societies with 1,484 members.

(Forests.)

CHAPTER VII.—FORESTS.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract of British India, Tables 45 to 47, 59, 60, and 123.*)

General.—The State forests are classified as “reserved,” “protected,” or “unclassed.” The reserved (including leased) forests, in which the control of the Forest Department is most complete, cover an area of about 96,300 square miles. Outside the reserves there are about 141,000 square miles of unclassed forests, including large tracts of unoccupied waste, and 8,400 square miles of protected forests. Some part of these will eventually be brought within the “reserve” area, especially in Assam and Burma, in which the forest area represents 46 and 63 per cent. respectively of the total area of the province. Forest revenue is raised by royalties on, or by the sale of, timber or other produce and by the issue at specified fees of permits to graze cattle, or to extract for sale timber, firewood, charcoal, bamboos, canes, and minor forest produce. The gross revenue derived from forests in 1914–15 was £1,980,652, including £351,309 and £1,497,377 received for timber and other produce removed from the forests by Government agency and by consumers (or purchasers) respectively. The charges amounted to £1,217,808, leaving a net revenue of £762,844.

The following paragraphs treat of forest administration in each Province for the year ending 30th June 1915.

Bengal.—The yield of timber was 6·8 million, and of fuel 14·8 million cubic feet. The net receipts, £35,180, were considerably smaller owing to diminished sales and lower prices.

Bihar and Orissa.—The year was unfavourable for fire protection, many fires being ascribed to intentional incendiarism. The outturn of timber was 1·5 million cubic feet and of fuel 16·7 million cubic feet. The net revenue was £11,345.

Assam.—Inquiries were made into the *Sal* forests, which constitute the most valuable forest asset of Assam. The outturn of timber was 3·2 million cubic feet. The royalty on tea-box timber, temporarily remitted, was again levied from 1st January 1915. The tax on lac was abolished. Pines have been planted with the view of establishing a resin industry.

United Provinces.—The settlement of the Kumaon Circle continued. The production of timber was 8·7 million and of fuel 7·7 million cubic feet. The resin industry has shown steady expansion in the Kumaon hills. A large quantity of sleepers was supplied to railway companies. The surplus revenue decreased to £45,700.

Punjab.—Areas under the Forest Department are being disforested for colonisation. Irrigated plantations are in process of formation in the irrigation colonies. A new resin factory has been erected with an up-to-date plant capable of dealing with 40,000 maunds of crude resin annually. The outturn of timber was 5·9 million cubic feet and of fuel 17·2 million cubic feet. The net revenue for the year was about £38,000.

North-West Frontier Province.—The total outturn of timber was 3·2 million cubic feet, as against 3·4 million in 1913–14. The financial surplus fell to £6,893.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The outturn of timber was 8·0 million cubic feet, and of fuel 30·5 million cubic feet. The financial surplus showed a satisfactory increase to £95,600. Nearly half of the forest revenue is derived from grazing fees and fodder grass. Revised grazing rates have been introduced.

Burma.—New reserves, aggregating 907 square miles, were notified. Unclassed forests covered 114,127 square miles. About 207,000 tons of teak were extracted (of which 178,000 tons were extracted by private agencies), as against 176,000 tons in 1913–14. The outturn of other timber was greatly diminished owing to the war.

Madras.—Orders were given for the starting of 30 additional panchayats with jurisdiction over 24,000 acres of reserves. It is hoped that the policy of relaxing control over small scattered reserves and entrusting grazing areas to panchayats will lessen the number of forest offences. The outturn of timber was 4·9 million cubic feet, and of fuel 22·0 million cubic feet. The surplus revenue amounted to £72,000.

Bombay.—Working plans are still required for 1,119 square miles. The number of prosecutions for forest offences declined. The year was unfavourable for fire protection. The total outturn of timber was 5·9 million cubic feet and of fuel 39·0 million cubic feet. The financial result of the year's working showed a surplus of £164,368 as against £167,705 in 1913–14.

Coorg.—The total outturn of timber (including sandalwood) was 528,280 cubic feet as against 394,545 cubic feet in 1913–14. Depression in the sandalwood trade caused a large falling off in receipts.

CHAPTER VIII.—MINERAL PRODUCTION AND MINING.

For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Table 218*; also *quin-
quennial review of Mineral Production for the years 1909 to 1913 and report
for 1914 in Records of Geological Survey, Vols. XLV. and XLVI, 1915.*)

Mineral Production.

General.—The total output of minerals in 1914 showed a decrease, the estimated value being £9,941,000 as against £10,175,000 in 1913. The most important minerals are coal and gold, the production of which was valued at £3,907,000 and £2,338,000 respectively, followed by manganese ore, £877,000, petroleum, £959,000, and salt, £483,000.

Coal.—The production in 1914 rose to 16,464,000 tons. The marginal table shows the territorial distribution of the output. Bihar produces about 65 per cent. of the

	1913.	1914.
	000 tons.	000 tons.
Bengal	4,650	4,425
Bihar and Orissa	10,228	10,661
Other places	1,330	1,378
Total	16,208	16,464

total, the Jherria coal-field (opened in 1893) providing, in 1914, 9,146,653 tons, or over half the total output, and the Raniganj 4,946,295 tons. The price at the pit's mouth in Bengal and Bihar and Orissa was 5s. 2d. and 4s. 3d. per ton respectively. The exports of Indian coal, 577,944 tons, were 179,542 tons less than those of 1913. Ceylon and the Straits Settlements are the principal

markets. The average number of persons daily employed in coal mines rose from 144,966 to 151,376. Improved mining methods have raised the output per head from 89 tons in 1904 to 109 tons in 1914.

Gold.—The production amounted to 607,388 ounces, compared with 595,761 ounces in 1913. By far the greatest part (562,355 ounces) came from Mysore.

Iron Ore.—The production rose from 371,000 tons in 1913 to 442,000 tons in 1914, mostly derived from Bihar and Orissa. The manufactures amounted to 234,726 tons of pig-iron and 66,603 tons of steel.

Petroleum.—In 1914 production fell by 7 per cent. to about 259 million gallons. A large decline of 25 million gallons from the Yenangyaung field was partially set off by an increase of 10 million gallons from the Myingyan (Singu) field.

Manganese Ore.—The industry suffered from severe depression and prices fell owing to the closure of European markets and restrictions on export. There was a fall of 132,000 tons to 683,000 tons in the quantity produced. The Central Provinces yielded 565,000 tons, followed by Madras with 60,000 tons.

Salt.—The production was 1,203,762 tons, as against 1,299,281 tons in 1913.

Saltpetre.—Nearly 15,500 tons were produced as against 14,462 tons in 1913, chiefly in Bihar, the United Provinces, and the Punjab.

Mica.—India produces more than half the world's supply of mica. The output returns are unreliable, but the amount reported, 40,507 cwt. in 1914, showed a decline of 5,268 cwt. The mines are chiefly situated in Bihar and Madras.

Wolfram.—The wolfram (tungsten) deposits of Burma have been considerably developed, and the district of Tavoy is now the largest producer in the world. The output in 1914 was 2,326 tons (value £178,543) as against 1,688 tons in 1913.

Rubies.—The output of the Burma Ruby Mines Company was 304,872 carats, valued at £43,133, as against 278,706 carats, valued at £55,542 in 1913.

Other Minerals.—These include lead, which was more largely produced, chromite, tin-ore, and monazite, the working of which is being developed in Travancore.

Mining Concessions.

The number of concessions granted in Government lands fell from 495 in 1913 to 363 in 1914 (305 prospecting and 58 mining leases).

Rights in respect of petroleum and of certain metals of importance in the manufacture of armaments may be granted only to British subjects.

In practically all Native States the mineral rights belong to the respective rulers, and concessions are granted for mining and prospecting under rules that involve a certain amount of supervision by the Government of India.

Inspection of Mines.

The Indian Mines Act, 1901, applies to the whole of British India. The number of mines of all kinds coming under the Act in 1914 was 1,387, employing 185,211 persons. There were 152 fatal accidents causing 191 deaths, during the year, a decrease of 20 in the deaths as compared with 1913. There were 44 prosecutions in which 42 persons were convicted.

(Government and Industrial Development.)

CHAPTER IX.—MANUFACTURES.

(For further details see Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 214 to 217.)

Government and Industrial Development.

The movement for promoting home industries, known as the *swadeshi* movement, has, in its legitimate forms, received official support. There are standing orders that stores required by Government shall, as far as practicable, be purchased in India, and preference is given to articles manufactured in India provided that the quality is sufficiently good and the price not unfavourable. Measures have been taken to restore and develop technical trades and industries. Surveys of industrial conditions in almost all the major provinces have been published, besides various monographs on particular industries. Scholarships for the higher commercial and technical training of Indians abroad are offered by the Government and by private associations. In Madras, the United Provinces and Bengal the Directorship of Industries is a separate appointment. In Madras a leather expert has been appointed to superintend a leather-trade school; there is also a dyeing school. In the United Provinces there is a sugar-engineering expert. In Bengal the silk industry has received special attention; the weaving school at Bankura has been made a permanent institution. A scheme has recently been started for the revival of cottage industries in the Central Provinces, especially weaving, tanning, and shoemaking.

Industrial conferences are held, some convened by the Local Governments, and others non-officially, such as the annual Indian Industrial Conference.

Large Industries.

Cotton Mills.—Of the 233 cotton mills at work in British India in 1914-15 Bombay City contained 86 and Ahmedabad 61.

Year.	No.	Paid-up Capital.	Looms.	Spindles.
		000 £		000
1903-4	187	10,428	41,997	4,900
1908-9	212	12,604	69,791	5,624
1912-13	241	13,776	85,676	6,101
1913-14	239	13,534	90,268	6,209
1914-15	233	13,565	96,869	6,209

The industry is to a large extent in the hands of Indians, and the capital is almost wholly rupee capital. The daily average number of persons employed was 241,000. The figures in the margin are for British India only.

The mills of the Bombay Presidency produced nearly 73 per cent. of the total output of yarn in 1914-15. Yarns of counts above 25 are

spun chiefly in Bombay and Madras. In 1911-12 trade revived after temporary depression, and the production in the two following years was at a high level. A further depression began at the close of 1913, and several mills stopped in 1914. The outbreak of war increased the difficulties of the trade, especially in regard to dyes.

Owing to the vicissitudes of the spinning business increased attention has been devoted to weaving, the figures showing an almost continuous increase until 1913-14, when partial famine and bank failures affected production. Weaving is concentrated to an even greater degree than spinning in the Bombay mills, which in 1914-15 produced about 86 per cent. of the total output of cloth. There is a decided tendency to increase the output of other and finer fabrics than grey and bleached goods; in Madras 66 per cent. of the output is of these finer fabrics.

The outturn of yarn and cloth in recent years in British India is shown in the table below:—

Year.	Counts Nos. 1 to 25.	Counts above No. 25.	Total Output of Yarn.	Grey Cloth.	Other kinds.	Total Output of Cloth.
Average:	Million Lbs.	Million Lbs.	Million Lbs.	Million Lbs.	Million Lbs.	Million Lbs.
1901-2 to 1905-6	537.4	39.9	577.3	109.9	25.0	134.9
1906-7 to 1910-11	555.4	53.6	609.0	154.1	40.0	194.1
Year 1911-12	531.7	59.2	590.9	193.0	59.1	252.1
" 1912-13	589.1	61.5	650.6	196.1	71.5	267.6
" 1913-14	582.7	61.5	644.2	188.5	67.9	256.4
" 1914-15	557.1	57.9	615.0	198.8	59.9	258.2

(Large Industries.)

Jute Mills.—While the cotton mills are mainly situated in Western India, jute mills are nearly all concentrated in the vicinity of Calcutta, and are mostly in the hands of British firms. The jute industry has enjoyed almost uninterrupted and increasingly rapid progress, the number of looms and spindles having nearly doubled in the last decade. The production of the mills has increased even faster than the number of looms and spindles. The number of persons employed in 1914-15 was 238,000.

Year.	No.	Paid-up Capital.	Looms.	Spindles.
		000£		000
1903-4	38	4,954	18,400	377
1908-9	56	7,413	29,525	607
1912-18	61	7,977	34,033	709
1913-14	64	8,137	36,050	744
1914-15	70	9,295	38,379	796

General.—There were five woollen mills at work at the end of 1914, containing 1,154 looms and 39,028 spindles, and producing goods valued at about £493,000 for the year. The growth of the industry is slow, but steady. There were eight paper mills, producing during the year about 28,700 tons of paper, valued at £548,000. There were 21 breweries, which produced 3,434,000 gallons of beer. Of the 1,285 factories under inspection in 1914 for the ginning, cleaning, and pressing of cotton there were 402 in the Central Provinces and Berar, 454 in Bombay, 149 in the Punjab, 114 in Madras, and 134 in the United Provinces. In Bengal there are 109 jute presses. Silk filatures are found chiefly in Bengal and indigo and luc factories in Bihar and Orissa. Flour mills are most numerous in the Punjab, Bombay, and Bengal, and sugar factories in the United Provinces, Madras, and Bihar. Rice mills and saw mills (for teak) are numerous in Burma. They are mainly in European hands. Printing presses are numerous in Bengal, Bombay, and Madras. Iron and brass foundries (including engineering workshops) number 30 in Bengal and 22 in Bombay. The Tata Iron and Steel Works, in Chota Nagpur, established in 1912, have been considerably expanded.

Factory Legislation and Inspection.

Act XII, of 1911, regulates the working of factories in India. It extends to all factories employing 50 hands and upwards in any part of the year, and may by order of any Provincial Government be extended to factories employing 20 hands and upwards. The Act was operative throughout British India in 1914, and it is reported that a commendable effort was made by all concerned to ameliorate the conditions of factory life, the inspecting staff receiving the active co-operation of mill managers and agents. The staff of factory inspectors has been recently increased to 14. A separate staff is appointed for the inspection of steam boilers. The total number of factories returned in 1914 as registered under the Act was 2,936, including those belonging to the State and local bodies. The average number of hands employed daily was 951,000 including 144,000 women and 60,000 children. Of the 4,929 accidents reported most were not serious and many were not due to contact with machinery. There were 162 convictions for breaches of the Act, of which 56 were in the Central Provinces and Berar, 24 in Bombay, and 30 in the Punjab. The offences were chiefly the irregular employment of women and children and the failure to send in the prescribed returns, &c. The sanitary condition of the factories and the health of the operatives were generally good.

Patents and Designs.

A new Patent and Designs Act was passed in March 1911. It provides a more effective procedure in regard to the grant of patents and to their subsequent operation, and reduces the fee for the registration of designs. It encourages the inventor, while giving better protection to him and to the public. Of 588 applications in 1914 for leave to file specifications 436 were accepted. Of these applications 56 came from Indians and 117 from other residents in India. The subjects of the patents applied for in 1914 were chiefly chemical appliances and preparations, railways, electric contrivances and bicycles. The number of applications for registering copyright in designs rose from 741 to 1,440.

(Foreign Seaborne Trade.)

CHAPTER X.—TRADE.

(Detailed information regarding the Trade of British India is annually furnished in three Parliamentary Bluebooks: Tables of the Trade of British India, Review of the Trade of India, and Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 134 to 172.)

Foreign Seaborne Trade.

The foreign seaborne trade of India has greatly increased during the last 15 years,

Year.	Imports.	Exports of Indian Merchandise.
Average—	000£	000£
1900-1 to 1904-5	55,745	87,336
1905-6 " 1909-10	77,281	111,874
For the year 1910-11	86,236	137,081
" 1911-12	92,383	147,879
" 1912-13	107,332	160,899
" 1913-14	122,165	162,800
" 1914-15	91,953	118,320

as the marginal figures relating to private merchandise show (values in thousands of pounds at 15 rupees to the pound). In 1914-15, owing to the war, there was a decline as compared with 1913-14 of 24·7 per cent. in the imports and 27·3 per cent. in the exports. The value of re-exports was £2,738,000, a decline of 12 per cent. The total trade (including re-exports, treasure, and Government stores) amounted to £236 millions as against

£327 millions in 1913-14, a decline of 27·8 per cent.

Trade and the War.—Trade during the pre-war months of 1914-15 was fairly good in spite of adverse factors. The effects of the war, which covered eight months of the year, on overseas, coasting and inland trade were great and far-reaching. The shutting off of Indian exports to Germany (India's largest customer after the United Kingdom) and other enemy countries was more serious than the stoppage of their import trade, owing firstly to the greater value of the exports and secondly to the fact that the imports were largely capable of replacement from other sources. The curtailment of trade with France and Belgium and with neutral countries, the scarcity of tonnage, and the dislocation of the world's exchanges affected both the direction and volume of trade. Many emergency measures had to be taken regarding trade and finance. The steadiness of exchange was striking.

Principal Imports and Exports.—The marginal table shows the values of the chief

Imports.	1913-14.	1914-15.
	000£	000£
Cotton goods (including twist and yarn).	44,200	32,666
Metals	14,683	9,170
Sugar	9,971	7,015
Railway material	6,690	6,722
Machinery and millwork	5,172	4,027
Mineral oils	2,744	2,938
Hardware	2,632	1,707
Woollen goods	2,568	1,256
Silk manufactures	2,068	1,293
Provisions	1,649	1,405
Liquors	1,491	1,218
Spices	1,155	1,146

articles of merchandise imported and exported during the last two years. The imports show a decline under all the most important heads. War, absence of tonnage, and previous over-trading were the chief causes of the large decrease in cotton goods. The fall was heavy in metals, sugar, and woollen goods. The exports of raw cotton, raw jute, and oil-seeds, which Germany bought largely, were greatly reduced. Cotton manufactures, rice, and wheat fell away considerably. Tea and coffee improved.

Trade by Countries.—Imports are classified according to the countries whence they are consigned to India, and exports according to the countries to which they are consigned, i.e., to the countries of final destination so far as known.

Exports (Indian Merchandise).	1913-14.	1914-15.
	000£	000£
Cotton, raw	27,362	22,326
Rice	17,738	11,439
Jute, raw	20,551	8,607
" manufactures	18,849	17,218
Seeds	17,117	9,769
Wheat and wheat-flour	9,590	6,159
Hides and skins	10,632	8,385
Tea	9,983	10,352
Cotton manufactures	8,080	5,840
Wool, raw	1,670	1,579
Lac	1,311	1,070
Coffee	1,024	1,102

The share of the United Kingdom in the total trade of 1913-14 in private merchandise was 40·7 per cent.; of Germany, 9; Austria-Hungary, 3·3; of France, 4·8; of the United States, 6·2; of Belgium, 3·8; of Japan, 6·4. The corresponding percentages for 1914-15 were 47·1, 4·6, 1·8, 3·3, 6·9, 2·2, and 6·3. Taking imports and exports separately for 1914-15, about 68 per cent. of the import trade (exclusive of Government stores) and 32 per cent. of the export trade were conducted with the United Kingdom.

(Foreign Seaborne Trade.)

Treasure.—The net import of gold fell from £15,549,000 in 1913-14 to £5,098,000 in 1914-15, that of silver from £8,689,000 to £5,914,000.

Shipping and Freights.

During 1914-15 the number of steamers and sailing vessels with cargoes, and in ballast which entered from and cleared to all countries was 7,960, with a tonnage of 12,857,885 as compared with 8,617 with a tonnage of 17,386,408 in 1913-14. The figures do not include the large number of transports hired by Government owing to the war. Of the total, 99 per cent. was steam tonnage. Tonnage under the British flag represented about 80 per cent. of the whole. As regards the number of vessels under the principal flags, British declined from 4,951 in 1913-14 to 4,827 in 1914-15, German from 559 to 172, Austro-Hungarian from 285 to 83, and Japanese from 191 to 183.

Freights, which were low when war broke out, advanced by the end of March 1915 to thrice the pre-war rates, the demand for carriage being greatly in excess of the supply of ships.

Land Frontier Trade.

The statistics of land frontier trade shown in the margin include a great deal of

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	000£	000£	000£
1912-13	7,660	6,986	14,646
1913-14	8,013	6,280	14,293
1914-15	7,627	6,327	13,954

trade that is not strictly foreign. Owing to difficulties of registration accurate returns are impossible, but there is a considerable trade with Afghanistan, Nepal, Western China, Tibet, Bhutan, and Siam. The principal exports from India are cotton yarn and manufactures (chiefly foreign), metals, and provisions; and the chief imports into India rice and other grains, provisions, fruits, living animals, wool, hides and skins, oilseeds, and timber.

Joint Stock Companies.

(See also *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 212-3.*)

There was a great decline in the formation of companies, only 107 with an authorised capital of £2,630,000 being registered in 1914-15, as compared with 345 companies with a capital of £44,270,000 in 1913-14. The decrease was due partly to war conditions and partly to the stringent provisions of the new Indian Companies Act of 1913, which came into force in April 1914. During the year 22 Indian joint-stock banks, with head offices in India, failed. Altogether 62 banks failed in the period from November 1913 to July 1915.

(Note.—Statistics of the working of the Merchandise Marks Acts hitherto given will be found in the *Statistical Abstract for British India, Table 183.*)

(General.)

CHAPTER XI.—PUBLIC WORKS.

General.

The operations included under the head of "Public Works" comprise Railways, Irrigation, and "other Public Works (Civil)." The Railway Department is under the control of the Government of India, exercised mainly through the Railway Board. The establishment employed on irrigation and on other public works (chiefly buildings and roads) is subdivided according to provinces, and controlled by the local administrations, in subordination to the Supreme Government. The strength, on 30th June 1915, of the superior engineer and upper subordinate establishments was 188 and 61 respectively for railways, and 771 and 1,195 respectively for irrigation, buildings, and roads, &c.

The annual expenditure on public works is met partly from money raised by loan and partly from the ordinary annual revenues. Borrowed money is expended mainly on railways and the large irrigation works, which are expected to yield sufficient net revenue to cover interest on the capital expended on them.

Railways.

(For further details see Annual Administration Report on the Railways in India and Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 44 to 47, 68-9, 71, 74 to 78, 124 to 132.)

Finance.—In the financial year 1914-15 there was a net capital expenditure on railways of £10,509,006 for construction, rolling stock, &c. Of the permanent public

	India.	England. (Sterling converted at \$1 = Rs. 15.)	TOTAL.
REVENUE.			
Railways—	£	£	£
State railways—(Gross traffic receipts)	36,104,743	424	36,105,167
Deduct:			
Working expenses	19,685,811	—	19,685,811
Surplus profits paid to companies	690,898	—	690,898
Net receipts	15,728,034	424	15,728,458
Subsidised companies—(Government share of surplus profits and repayment of advances of interest).	23,396	47,295	70,691
Total	£ 15,751,430	47,719	15,799,149
EXPENDITURE.			
Railway Revenue Account—			
State Railways—			
Interest on debt	4,189,391	3,625,050	7,814,441
Annuities in purchase of railways	—	3,357,665	3,357,665
Sinking funds	—	199,554	199,554
Interest chargeable against companies on advances.	16,528	81,250	97,773
Interest on capital deposited by companies.	54,098	1,932,369	1,986,467
Subsidised companies—			
Land, &c.	97,990	—	97,990
Miscellaneous railway expenditure	87,225	—	87,225
Total	£ 4,445,227	9,195,888	13,641,115

debt on 31st March 1915, £233,195,887 was on account of railways. The marginal table, taken from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India, shows the railway revenue and the expenditure charged to revenue for 1914-15. The net gain to the State was £2,158,034. Expenditure includes all charges for interest on capital outlay. According to actuarial calculations the figures for "Annuities in purchase of railways" in 1914-15 may be divided into interest £2,458,889 and capital redeemed £898,776. The figures also include

charges for land required by the companies, and for miscellaneous items, such as headquarters establishment and surveys.

The aggregate gross earnings of all Indian railways, including steamboat service and suspense items, but excluding indirect charges, amounted to £40,280,062, the working expenses to £21,827,328, and the net earnings to £18,452,733. The return on the total capital outlay on open lines, amounting on 31st March 1915 to £346,147,533, was 5.33 per cent. as against 6.19 per cent. for 1913-14.

(Railways.)

The length of line open on 31st March 1915 was 35,285 (of which 26,232 miles represented State lines), an increase of 629 miles since 31st March 1914. The mileage under construction at the end of 1914-15 was 437. The number of passengers carried in 1914-15, 451 millions, and the tonnage of goods, 81 millions, showed a slight reduction, chiefly due to the effects of the war.

Important Works completed and in progress.—Full particulars of works completed and in progress during the year, and of projects for new lines, are given in the Administration Report on Indian Railways for 1914-15. A few details of the principal works of the year are given below.

Eastern Bengal Railway.—The important Lower Ganges Bridge, near Sara, begun in 1908, was opened in 1915 and named the Hardinge Bridge. This bridge, designed to carry the increasing traffic between Calcutta and Northern Bengal and Assam, is one of the most important engineering works in the world. It is 5,900 feet long, and the whole work, including approaches and river training works, has cost about £2,400,000.

Cawnpore-Banda Railway.—This broad-gauge line of 76 miles has been constructed to open up the Cawnpore district and a part of Bundelkhand.

Jodhpur-Phalodi Railway.—This metre-gauge line has been constructed by the Jodhpur State primarily to afford protection against famine.

Burma Railways.—The important Southern Shan States Railway was opened as far as Aungban, which now has through connection with Rangoon, a distance of 376 miles.

Rolling-Stock.—Large additions were made to the stock of wagons and trucks, and the number of locomotives was considerably increased.

Striking results have been obtained from the use of superheaters on engines, great savings in both fuel and water consumption being effected, while heavier loads are hauled. Several railways have decided to fit all their main line engines with superheaters.

Preliminary trials with oil fuel have been successful and final trials are in progress to ascertain the relative costs of oil fuel and coal.

Accidents.—The number of passengers killed during 1914-15 was 233, and the number injured 871. Of railway servants 443 were killed and 859 injured.

Railway Staff.—The total number of railway servants at the end of 1914-15 was 600,116, including 7,640 Europeans, 10,345 Anglo-Indians, and 582,131 Indians.

Contracts.—A contract was made by the Secretary of State with the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company for working the newly constructed Cawnpore-Banda State railway.

Purchase of Tarkessur Railway.—This line of 22 miles was purchased by the Government and made over to the East Indian Railway Company to work as a part of their system from 1st January 1915.

Branch Line Companies.—For the first time the mileage of railways completed by companies working on rebate terms exceeded that of railways financed by any other one method. Of the total mileage of 237 financed under these terms 210 miles have been constructed with money raised in India.

The War and the Railways.—The railways not only took part in the despatch of the expeditionary forces at short notice, but assisted in fitting out transports, and built ambulance trains, armoured trains, and armoured motor cars. Many railway officials joined for military duty.

Irrigation.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India*, Tables 44-7, 68-9, 71, 74 to 76, 119, and 133.)

Irrigation works may be roughly divided into canals and tanks, though these are frequently combined. Canals have been utilised on the largest scale and with the most successful results in the United Provinces, the Punjab and Sind, and the delta of the large rivers in the Madras Presidency. Tank irrigation is the common system in Madras, Bombay, and the Central Provinces.

(Irrigation.)

Financially considered, irrigation works are classed as "major" or "minor," the former class including those undertaken from borrowed money, in the expectation that they will yield sufficient net revenue to cover the interest on the capital expended. It also includes the works classed as famine protective, which are constructed not from borrowed funds, but out of the annual grant from revenue for famine relief and insurance. The capital expenditure on construction not charged to revenue in 1914-15 was £1,123,180. The expenditure on construction charged to the famine grant was £501,311. The amount available for the construction of protective works from the grant for famine relief and insurance is now supplemented by a further grant from revenue, which amounted to £59,863 in 1914-15. The cost of constructing the "minor" works, as well as the annual expenditure on their working and maintenance, are met from ordinary revenues, and for most of these works distinct capital and revenue accounts are not kept.

According to the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India the revenue from irrigation works in 1914-15 was £4,680,969, including £2,758,490 for direct receipts from "major" works, £1,667,864, portion of land revenue due to irrigation, and £254,615 for "minor" works and navigation. The expenditure charged to revenue was £3,754,268, including £1,289,393 for working expenses, £1,409,529 for interest on debt, the revenue grant of £59,863 for protective works, and £995,483 for minor works and navigation. Of the permanent public debt on 31st March 1915 £41,122,020 was on account of irrigation.

The area irrigated in 1914-15 by all classes of irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept was 19,313,400 acres, but the total area irrigated by all Government irrigation works was about 25,600,000 acres. The capital outlay (direct and indirect) to the end of the year was £33,780,252 on productive major works, £4,364,073 on protective major works, and £4,525,445 on minor works for which both capital and revenue accounts are kept. The net receipts on capital outlay for these three classes were 8.97, 0.59, and 4.52 per cent. respectively.

There are great differences in the financial success of the irrigation works in the various provinces. These are due to physical conditions, such as surface, soil, climate, and the absence or presence of large rivers with a permanent supply of water, as well as to differences in the character and habits of the people. There are also considerable differences in the manner in which the irrigation revenue is assessed and collected, which have an important bearing on the financial success of the works.

Efforts have been made to organise navigation services on some of the larger irrigation canals, without much success. A few canals which have been constructed for navigation purposes only are dealt with below.

The following are the chief features of the irrigation operations for 1914-15 in the different provinces:—

Bengal.—The major works in Bengal are the Midnapur Canal, for irrigation and navigation, and the Hijili Tidal Canal for navigation only. These canals and the minor works for navigation purposes are worked at a loss. Railway competition has caused a reduction in receipts in recent years.

Bihar and Orissa.—In 1914-15 the Orissa and Sone canals, both of which are major productive works, for irrigation and navigation, irrigated 908,416 acres and yielded only 1.74 per cent. on capital outlay. Water rates on the Sone canals were enhanced at the end of the year. The Tribeni and Dhaka canals, protective irrigation works, recently completed, irrigated 87,468 acres at a net loss of £19,630 for the year. The minor works include a navigation canal, the Orissa Coast Canal.

Bombay, including Sind.—An excellent year of irrigation was experienced in Gujarat, and the high inundation of the Indus favoured irrigation in Sind. The area irrigated was 2,387,000 acres. In Bombay proper work was continued on several protective schemes, including the Nira Right Bank Canal in the Deccan, the biggest protective work hitherto undertaken in India, the Godaveri Canals (nearly finished), and the Pravara Canals.

Burma.—Floods caused serious damage to irrigation canals, and the expenditure on repairs entailed a reduction in net receipts. Work on the Ye-u Canal was still in progress. The working of the navigation canals resulted in a heavy deficit. The Twante Navigation Canal improvement scheme, which has so far cost £400,000, was pushed on. Embankments again yielded an increased revenue.

(Irrigation.)

Central Provinces and Berar.—The favourable monsoon reduced the demand for irrigation, and the total area irrigated declined. The head works of the Mahanadi Canal were completed and those of the Wainganga Canal were nearing completion.

Madras.—The expenditure on all irrigation works during the year amounted to over £588,000, and the receipts to £1,740,000. The total area irrigated was 7,179,200 acres. Further progress was made with the Tank Restoration scheme, on which £880,000 has so far been spent. Two great schemes were still under consideration, viz., the Kistna reservoir project, estimated to cost about £5½ millions and to bring over 700,000 acres under irrigation, and the Cauvery reservoir project, which provides for new irrigation of about 400,000 acres, and is estimated to cost over £2½ millions.

North-West Frontier Province.—There were three Government major works in operation at the end of the year, and the net revenue on the Lower Swat and Kabul River canals represented 11·77 and 9·13 per cent. respectively on capital outlay. The Paharpur canal was again worked at a loss. Work on the construction of the Upper Swat River canal, which was begun in 1907 and is estimated to cost £1,328,286, was almost completed. Part of the canal consists of a long tunnel through the Malakand range.

Punjab.—The area irrigated, 8,963,041 acres, was a record one. The net revenue from major works was £1,682,466, representing a return of 14·7 per cent. on capital outlay. The Lower Chenab canal, which irrigated 2,312,213 acres, yielded a net revenue of no less than 41·8 per cent. Rapid progress was made with the Triple Canal Project, which up to the end of 1914-15 had involved an expenditure of over £6,255,000. Over £15,000,000 of Imperial funds has now been invested in the Punjab Major Canals.

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.—There was a net revenue of £570,000 on productive canals, representing a return of 8·68 per cent. on capital. A large number of famine projects were prepared, and progress was made with the new weir at Bhimgoda for the Ganges Canal. The area irrigated was 3,267,272 acres.

Buildings and Roads and other Public Works (Civil).

For further details see Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 44-7 and 74.

This section embraces all operations of the Public Works Department other than Railways and Irrigation. It includes the extension and maintenance of the road system, the construction and repair of government buildings and many miscellaneous works of public improvement, such as lighthouses, harbours, embankments, boat bridges, ferries, and the water supply and sanitation of towns. The extension of local self-government has thrown a large portion of the smaller class of public works into the hands of the Local Boards, which generally maintain their own establishments, but in the case of any works of unusual difficulty have recourse to the professional skill of Public Works officers.

The operations of this branch are classed primarily under the head of Civil Works, the expenditure on which is chiefly met from provincial resources. The expenditure for 1914-15 amounted to £7,176,750, of which £961,221 was Imperial and £6,127,790 Provincial, while £87,739 was for expenditure in England. In addition £52,995 was expended by Civil officers from Imperial Funds. Receipts amounted to £288,219.

The following short account of Civil Works shows the most important works carried out during 1914-15 in the different provinces.

Delhi.—In 1914-15 the Imperial Delhi Committee, appointed to supervise the construction of the new Imperial Capital, was mainly engaged on preliminary work such as provision of tools and plant, &c., though some progress was made with buildings and communications. The capital expenditure was £360,361. The total debt incurred up to the end of the year was £927,381.

Bengal.—The salt *golas* and post office at Chittagong were under construction. Work was in progress on a number of administrative offices, courts, jails, police barracks, colleges and schools, hospitals, &c.. The improvement of many roads in the Duars was also in progress.

Bihar and Orissa.—Sanction was given to a comprehensive project, estimated to cost £826,670, for the new capital at Patna, including works for the temporary headquarters at Ranchi. At Patna progress was made with the construction of the

(Buildings and Roads and other Public Works (Civil)).

High Court, Post Office, Government House, and Secretariat. At Ranchi a European hospital was built and a central asylum for European insanes was under construction.

Assam.—Improvements were made to official residences, and buildings for judicial, medical, educational, police, and other services were under construction. About £155,000 was spent on roads and bridges.

Bombay.—The total expenditure during 1914–15 was £994,726. The most important works in progress chargeable to Imperial Funds were the new Custom Houses at Bombay and Karachi. Under Provincial works £50,000 was spent on educational buildings, including hostels for students, £71,000 on police buildings, £43,500 on land revenue buildings, and £60,000 on medical buildings. Good progress was made with the Museum of Western India and the Science Institute at Bombay. Large amounts were expended on drainage and waterworks.

The expenditure of £170,000 on communications exceeded the amount for 1913–14.

Burma.—The increased expenditure was partly defrayed from a special Imperial grant, devoted chiefly to road improvements and the replacement of old wooden bridges by more durable structures. The buildings in progress included the new Customs House and Telegraph Office at Rangoon.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The year was again one of great activity and there was a record total expenditure on civil works of £581,000. The buildings included the large new post and telegraph office at Nagpur and other post and telegraph offices, forest and excise buildings, official residences at Nagpur and elsewhere, police buildings, law courts, schools and colleges, &c. The expenditure on communications amounted to £203,000. Large sums were again spent on causeways and bridges with the object of keeping all important lines of communication open throughout the year.

Madras.—Among the works completed were the new Council Chamber at Madras and the Collector's office at Guntur. Progress was made with the construction of a new Stationery Office at Madras and a new Collector's office at Madura.

North-West Frontier Province.—Much work has been done in improving the Khyber roads and the Hazara trunk road into Kashmir. The expenditure on works amounted to £209,354.

United Provinces.—Progress was made with the construction of the new High Court buildings at Allahabad, and the post office at Lucknow. The Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun and the post office at Allahabad were completed.

Punjab.—The expenditure on public works amounted to about £550,000, the highest figure yet attained. Good progress was made with the King Edward Memorial Scheme at Lahore, which includes extensions of the Mayo Hospital, a new Medical College, and connected buildings. The new Veterinary College and the new Government press building at Lahore were completed. The new road bridge over the Ravi at Lahore was completed.

(Posts.)

CHAPTER XII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

(For further details, see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 45 to 47, 90 to 94, and 95 to 97.*)

The Indian Post Office and Telegraph Departments were completely amalgamated with effect from 1st April 1914. The receipts and charges on account of Posts and Telegraphs for 1914-15, as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts, were £3,596,973 and £3,257,263 respectively. The net revenue was £339,710.

Posts.

Extent of Postal Operations.—At the close of 1914-15 there were 19,158 post offices, 49,290 letter-boxes, 95,433 postal officials, and 156,973 miles of mail lines, showing increases as compared with 1913-14 of 212, 182, 1,478, and 867 respectively. During the year 1,043 million articles (including 24 million registered articles) were posted, a decrease of about 7 millions as compared with 1913-14. Letters numbered 446 millions, postcards 465 millions, and parcels 12½ millions. Nearly 3 million articles were insured; and a sum of £8,364,500 was collected on 9,633,000 value-payable articles.

Alterations in Postal Arrangements during 1914-15.—On 1st April 1914 the two postal circles of Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam were replaced by two new circles called Bengal and Assam and Bihar and Orissa.

Foreign Correspondence.—The usual statistics of the correspondence were not kept owing to the dislocation of the foreign mail service. The number of foreign parcels sent and received fell from 994,921 to 793,733, of which more than half were exchanged with the United Kingdom.

Money Orders.—The number of inland and foreign money orders, ordinary and telegraphic, issued was over 30 millions, and their value was £37,000,000.

Savings Bank.—The number of accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank was 1,644,000, a slight increase on 1913-14. The total balance at the credit of depositors at the end of the year was nearly £10,000,000, a decline of about 35 per cent. On 1st April 1914 the annual limit of Rs. 500 for cash deposits was raised to Rs. 750 net, and the maximum limit was raised to Rs. 5,000 for deposits and for investment in Government securities.

Offences.—There were 23 cases of highway robbery as against 25 in 1913-14.

The number of postal officials found guilty of criminal offences was 476, as against 485 in 1913-14.

Sale of Quinine.—In 1914-15 21,312 lbs. were sold to the public through the Post Office, as compared with 12,059 lbs. in 1913-14.

The Post Office and the War.—The overland route *via* Brindisi was closed and the all-sea route *via* Gibraltar adopted. The Indian post offices maintained at Bagdad and Basra since 1868 were closed on 1st October 1914, but the Basra office was reopened, and new post offices were opened at Fao and Koweit after the outbreak of war with Turkey. The privilege of sending correspondence of all classes to India free of postage was granted to members of all the Indian Expeditionary Forces. Letters, parcels, and money orders were allowed to be sent free of charge from India to British and Indian prisoners of war interned in Europe. Postal articles for and from prisoners of war interned in India were accepted free of postage, registration or insurance fees, and money orders were transmitted without commission. Field post offices were sent from India to accompany all the Indian Expeditionary Forces, the chief base post office being established at Bombay.

Telegraphs.

The following statement refers to the whole of the telegraph system under the direct control of the Government of India, but excludes that of the Indo-European Telegraph Department, for which, as usual, a separate account is given.

Extent of Telegraphic Operations.—The system on 31st March 1915 consisted of 84,124 miles of line and 330,033 miles of wire and cable.

At the end of the year there were 10,414 telegraph officials, and 8,438 out of 10,661 telegraph offices were open for public business. Of the total, 3,199 were combined post and telegraph offices, and 5,022 were railway offices.

(Telegraphs.)

The total number of inland telegrams transmitted was 14,919,000 and the charges realised amounted to £659,500, representing a decrease of '13 per cent. in number, and an increase of '13 per cent. in value.

Owing to the war the total number of foreign telegrams fell from 1,658,000 to 1,271,000, a decrease of 23 per cent., but the number of words rose by 13 per cent., largely owing to the prohibition of code telegrams. The total receipts were £172,000, an increase of '08 per cent.

The use of the new cable from Penang to Aden through Colombo reduced the trans-Indian foreign traffic by about 47 per cent. A through wire between Bombay and Madras was leased to the cable companies as an experimental measure from 1st June 1914 to encourage this traffic. A reduction of 4 annas a word in the rate for telegrams between India and Europe came into force from 1st May 1914.

Numerous temporary arrangements were introduced in consequence of the war. A large number of telegraphists and great quantities of stores were furnished to aid the military operations.

The total number of wireless stations rose from 17 to 18, including 10 coast stations. They worked satisfactorily.

Telephones.

On 31st December 1914 the number of departmental telephone exchanges was 175 with 5,766 connections, and the number established by licensed companies 11, with 9,710 connections. The gross rental obtained from telephone services rose from £50,000 to £57,000. Royalties paid to Government increased from £5,500 in 1913 to £6,100 in 1914.

Indo-European Telegraph Department.

This Department controls the system of telegraph lines and cables connecting the terminus of the Indo-European Company's telegraphs at Teheran and that of the Turkish telegraph lines at Fao with the Indian telegraph system at Karachi, and consists of 1,948 knots of cable, 2,724 miles of line, and 7,174 miles of wire. Included is a cable from Jask to Muscat, 219 knots in length. The Department also maintains a line from Teheran to Meshed, 568 miles, which is the property of the Persian Government. By an agreement dated 4th January 1913 with the Persian Government the Department undertook to reconstruct and maintain the Persian telegraph line from Borasjoon on the Shiraz-Bushire line to Ahwaz and Mohammerah, with the branch line from Ahwaz *via* Shushtar to Dizful.

The number of messages transmitted was 173,016, as against 383,079 in 1913-14. Of these, 15,356 were State telegrams, as against 3,578.

The capital outlay to the end of 1914-15 was £1,020,692. The gross earnings of the year were £169,184 as against £131,130 in 1913-14. The net profit was £81,278, as against £53,676 in 1913-14, and the return on capital was 7·96 per cent. as against 5·32 per cent. The increase was chiefly due to a large increase in the receipts from the Cis-Indian Joint Purse due to the war.

Under the Joint Purse Agreement, the share of the Department was £175,140, as against £136,133 in 1913-14. The amount paid into the Joint Purse was £63,904.

The departmental receipts from the Australasian Message Fund for 1914-15 were £15,504, being £7,802 more than in 1913-14, and an increase of £9,269 on the receipts for 1889, on which the original Australasian Message Fund was based.

There was no total interruption between Karachi and Teheran. Beyond Warsaw the route *via* Teheran to London has been totally interrupted since 31st July 1914. The Fao-Bushire cable was cut by the Turks on 3rd November 1914, and subsequently repaired. The Fao-Constantinople route has been totally interrupted from that date.

The general condition of the Persian districts through which the telegraph lines pass remained unsatisfactory, but the interruptions due to malice were less numerous than in previous years.

The staff of the Department have rendered valuable service during military operations. Offices were opened at Basra and Kurna.

CHAPTER XIII.—SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS.

The Board of Scientific Advice.

This Board includes the heads of the Survey of India, the Meteorological, Geological, and Botanical Survey Departments, the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, representatives of the Agricultural, Forest, and Civil Veterinary Departments, and other authorities whose special attainments may be useful. It was established in 1902 to co-ordinate official scientific inquiry, and to advise the Government of India in the prosecution of practical research. The programmes of investigation are annually submitted to the Board for discussion and arrangement, and an annual report is published on the work done, as well as a programme of research for the ensuing year. The reports and the programmes are communicated to an Advisory Committee of the Royal Society. The Board held two meetings in 1914.

Survey of India.

The work of the Survey of India comprises the trigonometrical survey, topographical and forest surveys, special surveys and explorations, and map production. The total cost of the Department in 1914-15 was about £159,000.

In 1904 attention was drawn to the defective state of the topographical survey maps, and a Committee appointed to report on the subject made recommendations for altering the size and improving the quality of the maps. The Government of India finally decided that a scale of 1 inch to the mile would ordinarily be sufficient, reserved forests and special areas being surveyed on the scale of 2 inches to the mile and the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale employed for waste and barren tracts. Of the total of 1,821,600 sq. miles included in the programme, 366,244 sq. miles were completed by September 1914. Of the 1-inch map, 158 sheets were published, making a total published of 1,036 out of an entire programme of 6,328. The total number of maps issued was 359,917.

During the year ending September 1914 field operations were carried on by 19 survey parties. The explorations in the Eastern Himalayas cleared up all doubts as to the course of the Brahmaputra river.

A report on the magnetic survey of India was prepared by a special committee.

Other Surveys.

Geological.—The preparation of a general geological map of India was continued during 1914 by surveys in Bombay, Burma, Rajputana, Central India, Kashmir, and the Central Provinces. Economic investigations, which form an increasingly important part of the Department's work, were conducted into bauxite, manganese, coal, potassium salts, &c.

Botanical.—The botanical survey is under a Director. An economic botanist is attached to the Department, and the economic botanists of the Provincial Government are associated with it. Much botanical work is done by forest officers and others outside the Department.

Zoological work is carried on by the Indian Museum, but proposals were under discussion for a regular Zoological Survey.

Marine survey work is under the Royal Indian Marine, who possess two specially-equipped vessels for the purpose.

Meteorological Department.

There are three first-class observatories which publish separate annual reports. There were 279 observation stations (of which 42 were non-departmental) at the close of 1914-15. Daily, weekly, and monthly weather reports, as well as seasonal forecasts and storm warnings, are issued. The system of flood warnings to canal, civil, and railway officers, to military officers, and to private firms continued to be useful, and 2,060 such warnings were issued during the year.

(Agricultural Departments.)

Agricultural Departments.

General.—The greater part of the scheme for the development of agricultural experiment and instruction formulated in 1905 has now been realised.

There are Agricultural Departments in every larger province under a Director of Agriculture with one or more Deputy Directors who are trained agriculturists. Besides these there are various specialists attached to the provincial departments and in some cases the Principalship of the Provincial Agricultural College is a separate post. In Bengal there is a fibre specialist. The officers directly under the Government of India include the Director of the Pusa Institute, who is also Principal of the Agricultural College and Agricultural Adviser, and eleven specialists (two entomologists, a pathological entomologist, two bacteriologists, two mycologists, two agricultural chemists, an economic botanist, and a cotton specialist). The above officers are all recruited in England; there is also a considerable number of locally appointed officers.

There are agricultural colleges in six provinces, besides the Central College at Pusa which is intended to provide more advanced training. In every province there are experimental farms. The Provincial Departments distribute selected seeds and manures, furnish advice as to implements and crops, conduct agricultural demonstrations, and publish agricultural information.

There is a Board of Agriculture which suggests and reviews programmes of work. Agricultural memoirs and an agricultural journal are published.

Pusa Research Institute and College.—The experimental work carried out at the farm and laboratory covered researches into the yield of sugar-canes, the refining of saltpetre, and milk analysis. Further progress was made with Pusa wheat, No. 12, with tobacco cultivation for cigarette tobacco, with the production of an improved indigo, and with the cultivation of grain, oil seeds, &c. Of plant diseases under investigation the most important is the virulent paddy disease, known as *ufra*. Numerous crop pests were investigated. The cotton specialist visited and reported on the various provincial cotton-growing stations.

The College is chiefly a higher teaching institution for post-graduate studies. During 1914-15 eight students were under training, of whom one was a private student; others were sent by local governments and Native States. Some visitors also worked at the Pusa laboratories.

Bengal.—There are six agricultural stations, each typifying a separate area, besides farms at Kalimpong and Chittagong. No entirely new scheme was started during 1914-15, but those started in the previous year were considerably developed. The fibre expert investigated the selection of jute seed and the proper manuring of jute. Sericultural experiments were continued and instruction was given in silk-weaving. A report on the survey and census of Bengal cattle was published.

The Fishery Department (which covers Bihar and Orissa as well as Bengal) has established *hilsa* and carp-hatcheries and has supplied a large quantity of carp fry to the public. A survey of fishery rights in the main rivers was conducted. A steam launch has been obtained for a systematic survey of the Sundarbans fisheries.

Bihar and Orissa.—There are now seven agricultural stations in all, including a newly-started station near Ranchi. Experiments at these stations covered tests of sugar-cane, Pusa wheat, indigo, jute, and crop-cutting.

The Agricultural College at Sabour is also the college for Bengal and Assam. Six students obtained the diploma.

Assam.—The departmental staff was increased. There are now four agricultural experiment stations, besides a fruit experiment station. Attention was devoted to rice, sugar-cane, potatoes, manures, &c. Poultry breeding has been a success in the Lushai hills. Weaving demonstrations were continued.

United Provinces.—The year was not a favourable one for development. Pusa wheat No. 12 has been adopted as most suitable for distribution in the greater part of the province. There was less activity in well-boring. Much of the time of the Agricultural Department is taken up with the provision of the first essentials of agriculture, seed and water, and increased financial assistance is needed, especially for the provision of manures.

The reorganisation of the Agricultural College at Cawnpore was completed.

Punjab.—There are agricultural stations at Lyallpur and Gurdaspur, besides two seed farms and a cotton farm at Hansi, which have recently been started. The

(Agricultural Departments.)

superiority of Punjab 11 wheat and American cotton 4-F have been demonstrated. Artificial manures are found to be uneconomical. Experiments for the reclamation of alkali lands have proved successful. An agricultural engineer has been appointed, chiefly for well-boring. There appear to be good prospects for sericulture as a cottage industry. The Agricultural College owing to recent changes is growing in popularity.

North-West Frontier Province.—The area of the experimental farm at Tarnab has been extended. Experiments were made with cotton, sugar-cane, wheat, barley, maize, fodder, and other crops. Good results have been obtained from local red chaunthra wheat, which is preferred by the cultivators. About 50 acres are occupied by young orchards and fruit-tree nurseries.

Central Provinces.—The Department has been strengthened, but its activities are still limited by the lack of an adequate supervising staff. Government farms are eight in number, and are chiefly devoted to cotton, rice, wheat, fodder, and sugar-cane. The Rosea cotton-seed has proved a complete success in the Nagpur-Berar country. Demonstrations of transplanted rice were continued and extended. The establishment of cattle-breeding farms is contemplated. At the Agricultural College separate courses in practical farming and in the more advanced science have been established.

Burma.—The Department was further enlarged. A new experimental station was opened at Yawnghwe and a seed farm at Yedashe. The chief experimental work was on paddy, the most important Burma crop, but cotton, sesamum, sugar-cane, wheat, millet, and other crops were also investigated.

Madras.—The revised courses at the Agricultural College were introduced in June 1914, and the number of students has doubled. The Agricultural Department is to be reorganised. There are ten agricultural stations. Their activities centred chiefly on seed selection, the use of manures, the treatment of palm diseases, and experiments in cotton, sugar-cane, and paddy cultivation.

Besides its work in freshwater pisciculture, the Fisheries Department successfully cultivated edible oysters and drew up a scheme for cultivating pearl oysters.

Bombay and Sind.—At the Agricultural College the number of students rose from 117 to 124—most of them short-course students. There are 20 agricultural stations, 19 plots and sub-stations, and graduate fieldmen demonstrators in almost every district. The cultivation of American cotton has made steady progress in Sind and excellent results have been obtained in the growing of sugar-cane on improved lines. A survey of the cattle in the Presidency has been completed. The services of the agricultural engineer are much in demand for well-boring and pumping.

Civil Veterinary Department.

This Department is responsible for all official veterinary work other than that of the army. Its duties are concerned with horse, &c., breeding, cattle-breeding, horse and cattle disease, and veterinary education. The total cost of the Department in 1914-15 was £194,980 (excluding expenditure by local bodies).

Horse, Mule, and Donkey Breeding.—In certain districts of the Punjab, Baluchistan, the United Provinces, and Sind, the control of horse, mule, and donkey breeding was, in 1903, transferred from the Civil Veterinary Department to the Army Remount Department, the work of the former being confined to cattle. Outside these districts the Civil Department controls all breeding operations. There were on the register at the end of 1914-15, 91 horse, 102 pony, and 115 donkey stallions. The total number of mares covered was 15,605. Most of the horse stallions are in the United Provinces, and most of the pony and donkey stallions in the Punjab.

Cattle Breeding.—Veterinary operations are directed towards improvement of the breeds of bovines, investigation of diseases, inoculation, and maintenance of veterinary dispensaries. There were at the end of the year 73 Government bulls and 973 bulls owned by district boards, the great majority of the latter being in the Punjab. There are provincial cattle farms in the United Provinces, Assam, Bombay, Central Provinces, Bengal, and Bihar and Orissa, and the Hissar Government Cattle Farm in the Punjab, the most important centre of cattle breeding. This farm contained 29 herd bulls and 1,514 cows, besides a large number of young stock and cultivation bullocks, and some

(Civil Veterinary Department.)

mules, donkeys, and sheep. A considerable number of cattle fairs and shows were inspected. Prizes are offered out of Imperial and local funds.

Disease.—(a) *Equines.*—Of 395 reported deaths from glanders, over one-half were in Bengal. There were 548 deaths from surra, mostly in Bombay and Sind, and the Punjab, 61 from anthrax, and 857 from other contagious diseases.

(b) *Cattle.*—Owing to the difficulty of collection, statistics of mortality from contagious diseases among cattle are defective. The number of reported deaths was 236,360, as against 193,741 in 1913-14. The deaths from rinderpest numbered 111,629, as against 91,055 in 1913-14. There were 439,666 inoculations against rinderpest.

The veterinary hospitals and dispensaries, at which 810,404 animals were treated during the year, numbered 424.

The camel specialist was at work on surra and other diseases.

Subordinate Staff.—In 1914-15 105 veterinary inspectors and 959 veterinary assistants were employed.

Veterinary Instruction.—The number of students who graduated in 1914-15 at the four veterinary colleges of the Punjab, Bengal, Bombay, and Madras, and the Burma Veterinary School was 111. There were 370 students under training at the close of the year.

Archæological Department.

The primary function of this Department is the conservation of monuments of historic and architectural interest under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, but exploration is undertaken so far as means and opportunity permit. In 1914-15 special attention was again paid to the preservation of Muhammadan monuments in Delhi province and in the Meerut district of the United Provinces and the Karnal district of the Punjab. In Burma active work was undertaken mainly in Pagan, Prome, and Old Prome. In the North-West Frontier Province excavations were again in progress at Taxila, 20 miles north-west of Rawalpindi, where Buddhist relics were found. In Hyderabad an Asokan edict was discovered. An epigraphist has been appointed to deal with the mass of material available in Burma.

Medical Research Institutes.

In 1907 the bacteriological laboratories in India were placed on a definite footing. In 1911 was instituted a Central Research Fund for research into epidemic diseases, with a government endowment. The fund is under a Scientific Advisory Board. The Research Fund Association publishes a quarterly "Indian Journal of Medical Research." During 1914-15 researches were undertaken into kala azar, cholera, goitre, leprosy, tuberculosis, diabetes, plague prevention, &c.

At the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, vaccines and sera were prepared as usual for Government and private institutions, pathological and other specimens were examined and classes were held in bacteriological method and technique. Investigations were made into snake venoms and rabies. The Bombay Bacteriological Laboratory is the headquarters of the Plague Research Commission. A large quantity of its output of anti-plague vaccine goes to countries outside India. At the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Madras, the usual examination was conducted of pathological samples and samples of water supply.

**Imperial Forest Research Institute and Forest College,
Dehra Dun.**

The work of the Institute comprises tuition and research in silviculture, forest economy, zoology, botany and chemistry. During 1914-15 investigations were undertaken with a view to the utilisation of many kinds of forest produce, such as antiseptics for timber, railway sleepers, wood for matches, paving blocks, &c., resins, tan-barks, and other products. The zoologist studied *sal* insect pests in Bengal.

In the Forest College on the 30th June 1915 there were 71 students attending the Rangers' class and 21 attending the Provincial Service Class.

CHAPTER XIV.—EDUCATION.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 45 and 46 and 103 to 113.*)

General.—Educational institutions in India are of two classes :—

- (1) Those in which the course of study conforms to the standards prescribed by the Department of Public Instruction or by the University, and which either undergo inspection by the Department, or else regularly present pupils at the public examinations held by the Department or by the University. These institutions are called "public," but may be under either public or private management. To the latter class, for example, belong those "aided schools," receiving grants from Government or from local or municipal boards, which occupy so important a place in the system of Madras, Bengal, and other provinces.
- (2) Those which do not fulfil the above conditions, and are called "private."

The system of education operates, generally speaking, through three grades of institutions, viz. :—

- (i) Primary schools, which aim at the teaching of reading, writing, and such elementary knowledge as will enable a peasant to look after his own interests.
- (ii) Secondary schools, which are divided into English and Vernacular. Those in which English forms part of the regular course of study of all the scholars, or at least of all the scholars in the higher classes, are counted as English schools; if English is not taught, or is an optional subject only, they are reckoned as Vernacular.
- (iii) Colleges, the students in which, having passed the matriculation examination of a University, are reading for the examinations required for a degree.

In addition to these there are various institutions of a special character, such as technical schools teaching arts and industries, engineering and other branches of applied science; law schools; medical schools and colleges; and normal schools for the training of teachers.

The general educational policy of the Government of India was declared at length in a Resolution published in March 1904, of which some account was given in the issue of this Statement for 1903-4; and more recently in the Resolution of 21st February 1913, published in the Sixth Quinquennial Report on Education in India, Cd. 7486 of 1914. A brief narrative of educational progress is now published annually by the Government of India, to supplement the Quinquennial Reviews.

System of Management.—The Department of Education in the Government of India was created in 1910. There is, further, in each province, save in Coorg, a department of Public Instruction, subject to the Local Government, which advises as to educational needs, administers the funds allotted, inspects, examines, frames rules and prescribes curricula. Its controlling powers, however, are shared, as regards higher education, with the universities, and, as regards elementary education, with the civil authorities and the local and municipal bodies. The great majority of institutions are maintained by the boards or by private agencies, which in turn may receive aid either from the board or from the department. The inspecting agency is, with minor exceptions, included in the Government services. The civil authorities are concerned with education as being in general charge of all branches of administration in their jurisdiction. The bulk of elementary education is in the hands of municipal and district boards, which not only maintain schools but also disburse grants to schools maintained by private bodies or persons. In the discharge of their duties of control, including the closure of their own schools, the appointment and dismissal of staff and the disbursement of aid to privately managed schools, the boards are guided by rules issued by the Local Government. The curriculum is that prescribed by Government; and the scale of grants to aided institutions must be generally in accordance with the departmental rules. Private agencies are a factor of great importance in the educational system, and include missions, Indian societies and committees, and individual managers, who are generally also the teachers. As controlling agencies the Universities are of great importance, since they frame courses, conduct examinations for diplomas and degrees, affiliate and inspect colleges, and prescribe the curricula in the upper classes of high schools preparing for the matriculation examination. Finally,

(Education.)

there are a number of committees (text-book, visiting, ladies' for girls' schools), as well as governing bodies for the detailed control of individual institutions.

Cost of Education.—The total cost of the educational system is shared almost equally between public and private funds. By the former are meant provincial revenues (*i.e.*, the revenues of the Local Governments), enhanced from time to time by grants from the Imperial Government, and municipal or district board funds. Municipal and district or local boards levy cesses, but the income so resulting is generally increased by Local Governments, either by equilibrium grants or by special grants.

The following is a short summary of some of the more interesting features of the year's record in the several provinces.

Madras.—In the Presidency there were 999,685 and 265,623 male and female scholars in 26,917 and 1,527 primary schools for boys and girls respectively. Secondary schools numbered 364 for males (with 125,455 scholars) and 69 for females (with 10,630 scholars). In the 34 Arts and 3 professional colleges for males there were respectively 8,180 and 1,027 students. The figures for elementary education show a marked advance on those of the previous year, and the percentage of male scholars to the male population of school-going age rose to 40·8. Further progress was recorded in all grades of female education. A special feature of the year was the opening of a Government College for women. The percentage of female scholars to female population of school-going age rose from 8·8 to 9·4. The total expenditure on education for the year was £1,290,000, an increase of £90,000 on the amount for the previous year.

Bombay.—There were 17,865 institutions of all kinds in the Presidency during the year under review, and the number of persons receiving instruction in them rose from 1,029,017 to 1,039,352. Numerical progress was most conspicuous in the case of primary schools, the number of which rose to 16,910, the attendances aggregating 933,877. Further progress was made towards the completion of the programme for the improvement and development of secondary education. An inspector of drawing was appointed. Appreciable advance was made in connection with female education, the number of girls under instruction in primary schools being 111,999. The total expenditure on education rose from £1,063,548 to £1,162,278.

United Provinces.—Education continued to show progress during the year, the total number of institutions having risen from 17,656 to 17,801, and that of pupils attending them from 819,472 to 832,454. The percentage of scholars to the population of school-going age rose in the case of boys from 20·51 to 20·96 and in that of girls from 1·81 to 1·88. The numbers of primary schools for Indian boys increased from 10,370 to 10,537, and it is satisfactory to note that of the new institutions no less than 182 were intended to teach up to the upper primary standard. The number of scholars attending primary schools increased by about 3 per cent. There was a slight increase in the number of institutions for the education of girls and in the number of pupils attending them. The technical and industrial schools in the province continued to do good work. Three University Professorships, of Sanskrit, Economics, and Modern Indian History respectively, have been instituted. The total expenditure on education from all sources rose from £855,339 to £943,720.

Punjab.—The year was marked by a steady increase in the number of educational institutions and of pupils, who numbered 445,909. More than 400 new school buildings were either erected or in course of erection. The percentage of scholars to the population of school-going age rose from 22·79 to 23·11 in the case of boys, and from 4·76 to 4·81 in that of girls; the attendance has more than doubled in the course of 10 years. Girls' schools increased in number from 831 to 919, with 44,996 pupils. The number of secondary schools increased by 35 to 379, and the number of pupils from 95,570 to 101,584. The number of college students rose by 338 to 3,514. The total educational expenditure rose from £620,000 to £714,590.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Educational progress was maintained during the year under review. There were 4,529 institutions of various grades, and 347,666 pupils under instruction. The number of schools and scholars increased by 210 and 9,213 respectively. The increase was most marked in the field of secondary education. The pay and prospects of both primary and secondary teachers have been greatly improved. In the matter of higher education the need for an autonomous university for these provinces has been recognised, and a committee has prepared a

scheme, which has been submitted to Government and published for criticism. The total expenditure on education during the year amounted to £322,000.

Burma.—The year under review was one of steady progress. The number of public institutions increased from 7,066 to 8,347, and the attendance from 324,085 to 361,154. The increase in numbers was, of course, largest at the lower primary stage, but there was a noteworthy percentage of increase in the upper primary classes, while colleges showed a further marked rise in attendance. The proportion of scholars to population of school-going age is high for Burma when compared with other provinces, and the percentage for males rose to 47·19, and that for females to 12·66. There was an increase of over 11,000 in the number of girls attending school. A scheme for a provincial university at Rangoon is under consideration. The total expenditure during the year amounted to £462,340 as compared with £410,310 in 1913-14.

North-West Frontier Province.—The rapid progress made in the three previous years was maintained. One hundred and five new primary schools were opened during the year, and the number of pupils rose by 4,113. Female education is also beginning to make headway in municipal areas. The Islamia College and School did good work throughout the year, and the number of college students has nearly doubled. Proposals for the opening of a class for the training of teachers for Anglo-vernacular schools were sanctioned, and a system of school final certificates was instituted. The total expenditure on education amounted to £64,316.

Assam.—With the assistance of the special grants received from the Government of India, a general advance was made during 1914-15 in every branch of education. The number of institutions of all kinds increased from 4,578 to 4,822, and the number of pupils attending them from 215,141 to 233,883. Great activity was shown in the field of primary education, attendance in boys' primary schools having increased by more than 8 per cent. since last year. Fees have been entirely abolished in vernacular schools, and the pay of all teachers has been greatly improved. Female education likewise, notwithstanding an insufficiency of teachers, showed a satisfactory advance, the attendance having risen by nearly 18 per cent., and the percentage of pupils to girls of school-going age from 4·6 to 5·66. Expenditure on education rose from £155,219 in 1913-14 to £176,950 in 1914-15.

Bengal.—The number of all classes of institutions increased from 42,835 to 44,672, while that of the pupils attending them increased from 1,747,608 to 1,799,889. Arts colleges continued to attract students in increasing numbers, the total number for 1914-15 being 15,921, or 1,175 more than in 1913-14. In secondary education there was an increase of 83 schools. The number of primary schools for boys rose by 866 to 28,327, with 1,046,694 scholars, a net increase of 19,010 pupils during the year. Purely vernacular education continued to decline in favour. Female education showed steady progress; the number of girls' schools increased from 7,573 to 8,268 within the year, and the number of scholars from 230,729 to 247,971. The number of Muhammadan students in the upper stages of instruction remained low; only in the primary stage was the percentage satisfactory. There was an all-round increase of expenditure in 1914-15, the total being £1,695,600 as against £1,471,000 for 1913-14.

Bihar and Orissa.—The year's record was one of continued progress. There were 29,644 institutions attended by 836,209 scholars as compared with 28,547 institutions and 809,966 scholars in 1913-14. The number of girls at school rose by nearly 11 per cent. There was an increase of 10 per cent. in the number of boys attending secondary schools. Students in Arts Colleges exceeded the number in 1912-13 by 26 per cent. The number of Muhammadan pupils is steadily growing. The total expenditure on education during the year amounted to £571,960.

(Municipalities.)

CHAPTER XV.—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

General.

In most towns of any importance there are municipal committees, while in rural districts there are local boards, which are under the control of general district boards or send delegates to a district council. The systems vary in different provinces. In some provinces there are also non-elective local bodies discharging similar duties in the smaller towns, described as "notified areas," which are not fitted for full municipal responsibilities but require organised measures for sanitation and other purposes. In the chief ports specially constituted boards or "trusts" have charge of harbour works, port approaches, and pilotage. Bombay, Calcutta and some other cities also have "Improvement Trusts," distinct from the Municipal Corporations, for the purpose of clearing congested areas and making street improvements.

On 28th April 1915 the Government of India, in view of the recommendations of the Decentralisation Committee, published an important resolution on local self-government policy, recommending an expansion of the elective and non-official elements on local bodies, the concession to them of fuller financial powers, the substitution for octroi of direct taxation or terminal taxes in towns, and the levy of a cess on land for the promotion of light railways by district boards.

Municipalities.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 99 to 101.*)

General.—The municipal bodies exist, raise funds, and exercise powers under enactments which provide separately for each province and the three Presidency capitals, Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras. In the municipalities as a whole rather more than a half of the members are elected by the townsfolk; in every town some, and in a few minor towns all, of the members are appointed by the Government. In almost every municipal body one or more Government officials sit as members. The number of Indian and non-official members, however, in every province largely exceeds the number of Europeans and officials. The municipal bodies are subject to Government control in respect of new taxation, loans, large public works, rules and byelaws.

There were 713 municipalities at the end of 1913-14 (the latest year for which complete figures are available), containing within their limits about 17 million people, or 7 per cent. of the total population of British India. Generally speaking, the income of municipalities is small.

Municipalities other than Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and Rangoon get their loans chiefly from Government. The sources of municipal revenue, apart from loans and Government contributions, fall mainly under the two heads, "Taxation" and "Municipal Property and Powers apart from Taxation." Of the taxes the most important are octroi duties, levied in the United Provinces, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, the Central Provinces and Berar, and Bombay, and the tax on houses and lands, which holds the chief place in the other provinces, as well as in Bombay city, and also contributes a considerable share of the receipts in the provinces named above. These two taxes each yielded about one-fifth of the total income of municipalities in 1913-14. There are also water, conservancy and lighting rates, tolls on roads and ferries, taxes on animals and vehicles, and in some places a tax on professions and trades. Steps have been taken in some cases to abolish octroi or reform its working, or to substitute for it direct taxation. The other sources of income include cattle-pound receipts, rents of municipal property, such as markets and slaughter-houses (an important item in Burma), and fees of various kinds. The objects on which municipal funds are spent are, mainly, water supply, roads, hospitals, vaccination, conservancy, drainage, lighting, fairs and markets, and education.

Delhi.—The income during 1914-15 amounted to £74,024, or rather less than the expenditure. There were Government grants for educational and other purposes. Work is hampered by limited resources.

Bengal.—Calcutta.—The revenue receipts amounted to £776,251, and the payments to £726,406. The loan liability increased to £3,329,967. A sum of £92,063 was spent on improvements. The Canal area drainage works were completed.

The Calcutta Improvement Trust, which was created in 1912, had an income of £82,000 in 1914-15 from special taxation, and £54,000 from the municipality. A number of improvement schemes have now been published, the most important being that for the improvement of the area round Kalighat. Proposals have been made for the extension of operations to suburban areas. Powers in regard to town-planning have been conferred on the Board.

(Municipalities.)

Interior of Bengal.—The number of municipalities (111) was unchanged. Revisions of assessment in 41 of these usually resulted in increased demands. The total revenue for the year was £375,190. Government grants were received for water supply and drainage schemes. Important drainage schemes were in progress at Howrah and Burdwan.

Assam.—The total revenue was £47,656, and the expenditure £35,600. Substantial Government grants were made towards large improvement schemes. In ten municipalities sanitary inspectors were appointed.

Bihar and Orissa.—Ordinary receipts amounted to £190,922 and expenditure to £193,963, the decrease in income of £86,651 being chiefly due to a curtailment of Government grants for waterworks and other sanitary purposes.

United Provinces.—The amendment of the Municipal Act is under consideration. The total income of the municipalities was £591,415 and the total ordinary expenditure £638,114. Octroi, which yielded £196,328, has now been abolished in 37 towns. In most cases a tax upon circumstances and property has been substituted; other towns have tried a house tax or tax on trades, or both. Some discontent has been aroused by the substitution of direct for indirect taxation. Improvements trusts are carrying out works at Cawnpore, Lucknow and Allahabad.

Punjab.—Owing to unsatisfactory working, three municipalities were converted into notified areas. The elective system has not yet been introduced into 30 out of the 103 municipalities. In the Rohtak election all the candidates withdrew owing to the high prices demanded for votes. Nevertheless, greater interest was generally displayed in the municipal elections. The income of the year amounted to £477,850 (of which over 60 per cent. was derived from octroi) and the expenditure to £450,210. Great attention has been again paid to sanitation, and qualified health officers and sanitary inspectors have been appointed. Several municipalities opened cheap grain shops to relieve the high prices prevalent last cold weather owing to the war, and Government contributed a share of the cost.

North-West Frontier Province.—The income fell to £51,308 and the expenditure rose to £49,188. The decrease in income was chiefly due to smaller Government grants. Octroi receipts increased. Drainage and water supply schemes have been undertaken at Peshawur and elsewhere.

Central Provinces and Berar.—The elective principle is in force in all but seven of the 56 municipalities. Attendance at meetings was on the whole satisfactory, but interest was shown in but few of the elections. The total income of the municipalities rose to £220,612. The substitution in some other small towns of a terminal tax for octroi is contemplated. Expenditure amounted to £243,956.

Madras.—**Madras City.**—New water supply works and the Tondiarpet drainage works were completed and opened. The construction of model milch cowhouses was in progress. Anti-malarial operations were pushed on vigorously. Towards these a special Government grant of £65,000 was received. The receipts (including opening balances) for 1914-15 were £411,430, and charges £288,074. The debt amounted to £574,300.

Interior of Madras.—In 59 of the 63 councils the elective system is in force. Ten councils consisted entirely of Indian members. Receipts were £539,426. Expenditure was £507,962. An amended District Municipalities Act has been drafted.

Bombay.—**Bombay City.**—The ordinary income amounted to £827,560, despite reductions in the general tax and water rate, and the expenditure £830,260. The expenditure on Loan Works, chiefly waterworks, was £489,500. The total capital debt rose to £4,590,000, against which must be set sinking fund investments aggregating £1,005,000. Rateable assessments continued to rise.

The area acquired by the Bombay Improvement Trust was 102,122 square yards. The acquisition cases disposed of during the year numbered 191, and over 80 per cent. of them were settled amicably. The capital expenditure was £258,000.

Interior of Bombay.—Out of 156 municipalities 92 were privileged to select the persons to be nominated by Government as their presidents. During 1914-15 the Ahmedabad municipality was restored, but the Rajapur municipality remained suspended. Income declined to £608,027 owing to smaller Government grants and diminished octroi receipts due to stagnation in trade consequent on the war. Expenditure increased slightly.

(Municipalities.)

Burma.—Rangoon.—The ordinary revenue of the municipality rose to £290,200, and the expenditure fell to £293,200. A revised scale of taxation was introduced in order to distribute the burden of taxation more equitably. The programme of road improvement had to be curtailed owing to the war. Election rules have been revised, the qualifications of electors being raised and the term of office of members extended from two to three years. The municipal debt at the end of the year amounted to £885,866.

Interior of Burma.—Elected members sat on 10 out of 44 committees. The ordinary income amounted to £325,728, and the expenditure to £306,014.

District and Local Boards.

(For further details see Statistical Abstract for British India, Table 102.)

General.—In rural areas district and local boards perform the duties assigned to municipalities in urban areas. In each district, generally speaking, there is a board, subordinate to which are two or more local boards. In Madras the Union Committee or Panchayat is again subordinate to the Local Board. In 1913–14 there were 394 of these with 3,748 members. There are some Union Committees also in Bengal and Bihar and Orissa. The boards contain a varying proportion of elected members. Elected members form a large majority on the boards in the United Provinces and the Central Provinces and Berar. On all boards the great majority of members are Indians. The total number of all these boards in 1913–14 was 1,131. There are no local boards in the United Provinces and the N.W. Frontier Province.

The funds of district and local boards are largely derived from rates or cesses levied upon agricultural land over and above the land revenue. In addition, Government makes grants in aid to all boards. At the close of 1913–14, Government announced their intention of making assignments to the Provincial Governments to enable them to forgo certain amounts which had hitherto been appropriated for provincial use from the cess on land. The boards have also other sources of income, such as cattle pound receipts, educational receipts, medical receipts, tolls from ferries and bridges, and contributions for specific purposes from the provincial funds. Their expenditure is chiefly for roads and bridges, hospitals, vaccination, conservancy, drainage, water supply, primary education, markets, and resthouses.

Delhi.—Delhi Province has one District Board, which has done useful work in education.

Bengal.—Village Union Committees with powers of self-taxation increased from 66 to 76. Of the expenditure of District Boards about 56 per cent. was on public works and 23 per cent. on education. Their total income and expenditure (excluding loans and deposits) were £612,275 and £648,597 respectively. District Boards are being encouraged by the Government to impose a cess for the construction of railways, and several schemes were in progress. District Boards have been empowered to make grants-in-aid for veterinary work and agricultural improvements.

Assam.—Income fell to £184,898, of which 61 per cent. consisted of Government grants. Education expenditure has steadily increased. Water supply and communications have been much improved by the aid of grants. A Bill has been passed giving the boards extended powers and providing for the constitution of village organisations.

Bihar and Orissa.—The revenue was £491,114 and the expenditure £521,975. As a condition of surrender of the Public Works Cess a minimum standard of expenditure on primary education and sanitation was imposed, but there has been a general failure to attain the prescribed minimum.

United Provinces.—The most prominent feature of the year was the reorganisation required by the revision of the financial contracts between boards and the local government designed to give the boards greater financial stability and independence. Special attention is being given to education and sanitation and to veterinary work. Receipts declined to £784,836. Expenditure rose to £694,400.

Punjab.—Elections evoked little interest. The working of most of the boards was satisfactory. Their activities have been greatly increased by the liberal Government grants. Considerable attention was paid to education. A proposal is under consideration to empower boards by legislation to levy cesses for light railway development. The income of the boards rose from £529,300 to £546,000, including £216,700 from Government grants for education, civil works, &c.

(District and Local Boards.)

North-West Frontier Province.—There is no elective system in this province, and the motive power of the official element is essential. The working of the district boards was satisfactory. Their aggregate income was £38,500.

Central Provinces and Berar.—There were few indications of any increased growth of public interest in elections. The attendance of members at board meetings leaves much to be desired. The expenditure on education was £74,600, Government grants amounting to £53,300. Income was £243,430 and expenditure £240,840. A Bill to amend the Central Provinces Local Self-Government Act has been framed.

Madras.—One-half of the members of the district boards are, as a rule, elected by the taluk boards. In 1909 the elective system was introduced for taluk boards, but of the 205 seats thrown open to election during 1914-15 only 55 were contested, and in 37 cases nominations became necessary for lack of candidates. The income of the boards and unions, excluding debt heads and contributions from one district board to another, amounted to £1,302,372, and the expenditure to £1,308,409. The railways of the Tanjore and Kistna District Boards yielded net profits of 6·7 and 10·1 per cent. respectively on the capital outlay.

Bombay.—The elective franchise was extended to all the boards of the Panch Mahals district. Income rose to £564,984, an increase of £9,000, owing chiefly to the collection of arrears. Expenditure rose to £562,831, owing principally to increased education grants.

Burma.—There are no local boards in Burma, but there are District Funds in Upper Burma and District Cess Funds in Lower Burma, which are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the districts. These funds had an aggregate income of about £315,700 and an expenditure of about £295,100 in 1914-15. The receipts in Lower Burma include the proceeds of a 10 per cent. cess on the land revenue. The expenditure in Lower Burma was £242,000, chiefly on education and public works.

Port Trusts.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India*, Table 184.)

General.—The larger ports are administered by Port Commissioners, who are charged with the provision of suitable dock accommodation and other services necessary to shipping. The members, who include both Europeans and Indians, are for the most part appointed by the Local Governments, and represent the local commercial communities. Except in Calcutta the elected members are fewer than the nominated members. Port trustees are empowered, subject to the control of the Government, to levy dues on shipping and goods, to charge fees for services rendered, to contract loans for port improvements, to maintain the harbour and its approaches, and to erect warehouses, jetties, harbour lights, and docks. The chief ports are alone dealt with here.

Calcutta.—The income of the Port Trust for 1914-15 decreased to £963,356 owing to the war, and temporary war taxes on goods and shipping were introduced on 1st February 1915. The expenditure was £1,035,922. The deficit of £72,566 was carried forward as a debit balance. The capital debt of the Trust at the close of the year was £7,629,324. A 4 per cent. debenture loan of £667,000 was issued during the year. The expenditure on capital account was £579,100.

Bombay.—The revenue of the Port Trust reached a record figure of £684,880, but the expenditure was still higher and the deficit of £108,143 had to be met from the reserve fund. A 4 per cent. debenture loan of £847,000 was raised for the Alexandra and Hughes Docks, the Mazagaon-Sewri reclamation, and other works. The debt of the Trust amounted at the end of the year to £9,491,000. Railway improvements at the docks greatly facilitated the transport of troops and munitions. The Hughes Dry Dock was ready for occupation in May 1914.

Karachi.—The revenue for 1914-15 fell from £323,073 to £285,584. The expenditure rose to £312,775. The Trustees did not increase their charges. The capital debt at the close of the year amounted to £1,749,361.

Rangoon.—Receipts amounted to £302,552 and expenditure to £275,322. The effects of the war were slight. The debt (after deducting the amount at the credit of the Sinking Fund) was £1,742,308. The important Rangoon River training scheme completed at a cost of £921,781 (against an estimate of £1,000,000) has proved a great success. A new dredger has been employed with successful results.

Madras.—Receipts amounted to £83,815 and expenditure to £63,080. New buildings and other works were under construction.

(Vital Statistics.)

CHAPTER XVI.—CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Vital Statistics.

(Detailed information on Vital Statistics, Sanitation, &c. is contained in the annual Report on Sanitary Measures in India, published as a Parliamentary Paper, and in the Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 101-2 and 196 to 201 and 203.)

Registration.—The statistics given below are based on the 1911 census figures. Accurate figures, especially of the causes of death, are unobtainable owing to the difficulty of securing accurate registration. It is more difficult, especially in towns, to obtain information about births than about deaths. The actuarial reviews of the census returns show that the registered birth and death rates are understated. The high Indian birth-rate is due, not to exceptional fertility, but to the large proportion of married women. The high infantile death-rate is partly due to the weakness of the children of immature and ignorant parents, the prevalence of malaria, and faulty midwifery, but to some extent it is only apparent, being calculated on imperfect returns of births.

Birth and Death Rates.—The population of the areas in which births and deaths were registered in 1914 was 238,522,770. The number of births registered was

Province.	Birth Rates (per mille).	Death Rates (per mille).
Delhi	48·86	37·98
Bengal	33·86	31·57
Bihar and Orissa	42·30	28·30
Assam	32·94	24·66
United Provinces	44·93	33·46
Punjab	46·30	31·96
N.W. Frontier Province	32·70	25·75
Central Provinces and Berar	51·37	36·69
Madras	33·50	25·00
Coorg	26·23	34·05
Bombay	37·43	29·48
Burma, Lower	34·69	22·99
Burma, Upper	36·69	26·22
Ajmer-Merwara	46·90	30·33
Total	39·61	30·00

9,447,300 and the ratio 39·61 per mille, compared with an average of 38·63 per mille in the previous five years. The number of deaths was 7,155,171 and the ratio was 30·00 per mille, as compared with an average of 30·89 for the previous five years. The marginal table shows the birth and death rates per mille in 1914 according to provinces. The majority of the provinces had a higher mortality rate than in 1913.

Of the chief provinces the Central Provinces had, as usual, the highest birth-rate, 51·37 per mille, and also the highest death-rate, 36·69 per mille. The excess of births over deaths ranged from nearly 15 per mille in the Central Provinces and Punjab to about 2·0 per mille in Bengal.

Chief Diseases.—There are three main classes of fatal disease: specific fevers, diseases affecting the abdominal organs, and lung diseases. Intestinal and skin parasites, ulcers and other indications of scurvy widely prevail. Much of the sickness and mortality is due to deficient powers of resistance and to insanitary habits and surroundings. The table below shows the number of deaths from all causes and from each of the principal diseases recorded in British India and the death-rates per 1,000, during the three years from 1912 to 1914 :—

Years.	Deaths from all Causes.	Cholera.	Small-Pox.	Fevers.	Dysentery and Diarrhœa.	Plague.	Respiratory Diseases.
1912	7,090,991	407,769 1·71	89,357 ·37	3,936,085 16·49	292,216 1·22	263,037 1·10	247,736 1·04
1913	6,845,018	294,815 1·24	98,155 ·41	3,983,112 16·71	246,578 1·03	198,456 0·83	237,229 1·00
1914	7,155,771	280,730 1·18	76,590 ·32	4,092,345 17·16	278,225 1·17	266,588 1·12	261,149 1·09

With regard to special diseases, cholera is much less prevalent than formerly. In 1913 and 1914 it occurred chiefly in Bengal. Small-pox mortality was generally below normal, but was exceptionally great in Madras. Plague forms the subject of a separate section. When reference is made to "fever" in India, malarial fever is generally understood, but many causes of death and many diseases much more fatal than malarial fever are included under this heading, which included 57 per cent. of the mortality in 1914. The fever death-rates, as usual, varied greatly, ranging in the major provinces from 23·4 in Bengal to 7·7 in Madras and Burma. The malaria

(Vital Statistics.)

section of the Indian Research Fund Association is housed at Kasauli, but has a field-laboratory in Delhi where classes are held. Anti-malarial operations and mosquito surveys are being carried out by special officers in practically all the provinces. The measures adopted to fight malaria are the sale of quinine at cheap rates and the extirpation of mosquitos by such methods as drainage, petrolage and jungle clearing.

Plague.—The present epidemic of plague in India first broke out at Bombay in August 1896, and, as the marginal table shows, it has been responsible for a heavy mortality. In 1907 the deaths from plague attained the

1896-1900	-	405,644
1901-1905	-	3,954,631
1906-1910	-	2,520,506
1911	-	846,873
1912	-	306,488
1913	-	217,869
1914	-	295,760
1915	-	432,662*

* Preliminary figure.

highest total yet recorded, viz., 1,315,892, for India as a whole. In 1908 and 1909 the mortality declined enormously. After 1910 and 1911, when there was a severe recrudescence, the virulence of the epidemic abated. Following a marked fall in 1912 and 1913, the figures again rose in 1914 and 1915.

Plague is so local in its visitations that all general and unanalysed statistics are likely to prove misleading. Many parts of India (including Assam, Burma, the N.W. Frontier Province, and Coorg) have suffered but little from its ravages, and in the greater part of the country the outbreaks cannot be described as having been severe or disastrous. On the other hand, general statistics tend to conceal the severity of the distress caused by the disease in particular districts. The Punjab, United Provinces and Bombay have had by far the highest mortality.

Vaccination.—The total number of vaccinations performed among the civil population during 1914-15 was 9,462,901, being a decrease of 414,185 operations on the previous year's work. Of primary vaccinations 95.56 per cent., and of re-vaccinations 68.38 per cent., were successful: about 34.19 per mille of the population were successfully vaccinated. The number of infants under a year old successfully vaccinated was 44.89 per cent. Calf lymph is now supplied from Government vaccine depôts.

Sanitation.

General.—The reorganisation and enlargement of the Sanitary Department proceeds apace. Every major province has its sanitary commissioner, and (except for the N.W. Frontier Province) its sanitary engineer. In addition there were in May 1914, 26 deputy sanitary commissioners, 16 deputy or assistant sanitary engineers, and nearly 150 health officers. In May 1914 the Government of India issued a comprehensive resolution on Indian sanitary policy.* The following paragraphs give some account of the chief sanitary works undertaken in the various provinces in 1914-5:—

Delhi.—Special Government grants amounting to £13,330 were made for anti-malarial and other schemes of sanitary improvement. The water-supply and conservancy arrangements were much improved.

Bengal.—Of the total income in 1914-15 over 40 per cent. was spent on sanitary works, mainly on water supply and drainage. In Calcutta the Water Supply Committee are trying to prevent waste and to ensure a continuous high pressure supply. The Canal area drainage works were completed at a total cost of about £300,000.

Assam.—Government made substantial grants for water-supply projects and drainage and conservancy schemes. Schemes for the improvement of the rural water supply have been formulated.

Bihar and Orissa.—The chief feature of the year was the employment of a larger number of trained municipal health officers and sanitary inspectors. Sketch water supply and sewage schemes have been prepared.

United Provinces.—The special boring division has achieved much success with tube well experiments, the most important sanitary engineering work now in progress. A Government grant of £6,700 was made for an experimental sullage farm at Lucknow, and a further grant of £6,700 for anti-malarial projects.

Punjab.—The year was one of special activity, and the annual Government grant was considerably enhanced to meet the increased demands made on the Sanitary Board. Enlarged powers of sanctioning projects have been delegated to the Board. Training classes for sanitary inspectors have been established.

* Presented to Parliament in 1914 (Cd. 7540).

(Sanitation.)

North-West Frontier Province.—Large Government grants were made to Abbottabad, Peshawar, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan. The grant to Peshawar for drainage and water supply schemes amounts to £33,330, spread over three years.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Substantial provincial contributions were made towards water, drainage, and town improvement schemes.

Madras.—Provincial grants amounting to about £200,000 were made to local bodies for sanitary works. The quantity and quality of the conservancy plant are inadequate in most municipalities. Improvement in conservancy in rural areas continued. Several waterworks were under construction.

In Madras City over £64,000 was expended on drainage and water works.

Bombay.—Progress was made with the appointment of health officers and sanitary inspectors. Grants were made for the improvement of village water supplies.

In Bombay City the sanitary inspection has been improved and the cleansing of the city has been more strictly supervised. Many insanitary houses have been demolished, but a number of insanitary areas need to be cleared.

Burma.—A note was prepared containing suggestions to aid local authorities in laying out urban areas. The question of improving congested urban areas and demolishing insanitary premises was also considered. The provision of a protected water supply to smaller towns has been actively undertaken.

Medical Institutions.

Hospitals, Dispensaries, &c.—In 1914 the number of aided civil hospitals and dispensaries was 2,841 as against 2,820 in 1913. The number of in-patients increased to 531,723 and of out-patients to 31,213,489, and the number of operations rose to 1,284,825. There were also 847 State-special and railway hospitals with a total of 2,672,433 patients and 710 private non-aided institutions with 5,109,274 patients.

Travelling dispensaries are employed in some provinces. The Bengal Nursing Association has begun to train Indian women as nurses in Mofussil hospitals. A similar scheme was under trial in Burma. In the United Provinces the system of charging fees to well-to-do patients was introduced with success.

Medical Colleges.—There are five medical colleges (Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow), the students in which numbered in 1914, 2,311, including 106 women. There are also 15 medical schools, the students in which numbered 2,487. There is an X-ray institution at Dehra Dun where a class of instruction was attended by 20 students. Branch installations opened at Delhi and Simla are obtaining a large number of patients.

Pasteur Institutes.—There were Pasteur Institutes for anti-rabic treatment at Kasauli (Punjab) and Coonoor (Madras). The number of patients treated in the former increased to 4,585, the corresponding figure for Coonoor being 1,210. A Pasteur Institute was opened at Rangoon in July 1915.

Lunatic Asylums.—The treatment of lunatics at asylums prevails on only a small scale in India, where insanity is less prevalent than in European countries. The number of asylums in 1914 was 21. The number of patients admitted was 2,083, as against 2,327 in 1913. The total asylum population of the year was 8,452. There is a steady increase in the number of females admitted to the Punjab asylum.

Leper Asylums.—There are many leper asylums, among which may be mentioned the Madras Government Leper Asylum, the Matunga Leper Home, Bombay, the Trivandrum State Leper Asylum, and the Calcutta Leper Asylum. There are also many asylums or homes, frequently under some sort of Government supervision, including about 50 asylums of the Mission to Lepers.

Emigration.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 194 and 195.*)

Emigration from India, so far as it is brought under the cognizance of Government, is mainly regulated by Act XVII of 1908 and the Rules issued under its provisions. Emigration to Ceylon, to the Straits Settlements, and for employment under Government only in British East Africa and Central Africa is, however, excepted from the restrictions of the Act. By this Act, natives of India are permitted to emigrate, under contract to labour for hire, only to such countries as have satisfied the Government of India that sufficient provision is made in them for the protection of Indian immigrants; and a similar protection is extended to natives of India engaged to emigrate, individually

(Emigration.)

or in small parties, to work as artisans, entertainers, servants, &c. Emigration, otherwise than under contract to labour or work in one of the above capacities, is not controlled by legislation. Emigration under the Act is now confined to certain British possessions, chiefly in the West Indies, and to Surinam.

On 20th March 1916 the Governor-General announced in the Legislative Council the acceptance of a policy for the eventual abolition of the system of indentured emigration. In the interim certain transitional arrangements affecting relations with the Colonies are to be worked out.

Calcutta.—Emigration was suspended on the outbreak of war as ships were required by Government for transport purposes. There were four emigration agencies at work during 1914 at Calcutta, three for British colonies and one for Surinam, a Dutch colony. Only 2,588 adults were despatched out of 5,132 requisitioned, Fiji and Surinam obtaining a high, and British Guiana and Trinidad a low, proportion of their demands. Only 643 licences were issued to recruiters and 35 were cancelled. Nearly 87 per cent. of the emigrants came from the United Provinces. About 5½ per cent. of those shipped were returned emigrants. The number of emigrants who returned from the several colonies was 2,961, of whom 843 brought aggregate savings amounting to about £30,000.

Madras.—The number of indentured emigrants was 854, as against 2,266 in 1913. Emigration confined to Fiji and British Guiana was suspended after July 1914. 1,662 emigrants returned from Natal, 155 from Mauritius and 287 from Fiji.

As regards non-regulated emigration, the number of passengers to the Straits Settlements fell from 117,783 to 49,028 owing chiefly to the war. Passages to Ceylon fell from 190,059 to 144,146. Emigration to Burma also decreased.

Bombay.—The number of emigrants rose from 258 to 315. Of these, 196 went to British East Africa and 103 to Persia. From Karachi 66 emigrants left for Uganda and 206 for Persia. A large number of other emigrants returned to South Africa.

Migration.

Assam.—The most important feature of the year was the enactment of the Assam Labour and Emigration (Amendment) Act (VIII of 1915), under which the system of recruitment by licensed contractors was abolished, and the Assam Labour Board was constituted for the supervision of the local agents and of the recruitment, engagement, and emigration to the labour districts of Assam of natives of India. Penal contracts under the Act of 1901 have now been abolished throughout the Assam tea districts. The total labour population at the end of March 1915 was 879,330, representing an increase of 32,763 on the figures for the preceding year. There was a further decline in the number of "Act" labourers, who at the end of the year numbered 8,181, or only 1½ per cent. of the total adult labourers. The number of immigrants was 63,638, as against 58,869 in 1913-14. Time-expired coolies hold 213,850 acres of land direct from Government.

Prices.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 206 to 211.*)

The marginal table of prices during the seven years to 1914 has been compiled from Government returns showing the index numbers of the prices of:

Year.	Index Number for Articles imported.	Index Number for Articles consumed or exported.	Index Number for Food-grains (Retail Prices).
1873	100	100	100
1908	106	151	231
1909	99	133	195
1910	109	127	168
1911	113	136	161
1912	117	145	189
1913	117	154	199
1914	114	160	222

(a) 11 articles imported; (b) 28 articles consumed in India or exported; (c) food-grains. The prices under (a) and (b) are wholesale, and under (c) retail. The index number of each year represents a simple average of the separate price ratios of the selected articles. In showing the variations the prices of 1873 are taken as 100. Prices were high in 1908 owing to the widespread failure of crops in Northern India. In 1909 and 1910 there was a general decline and foodstuffs continued to fall till 1911. During 1912-13 the price of agricultural produce showed a general tendency to rise, and this tendency continued on the whole in 1913-14. In 1914-15,

before the outbreak of war, prices of cereals, pulses and oilseeds (except linseed) were on the whole higher than in 1913-14, while raw cotton and jute prices were

(Prices.)

lower. The restriction of exports due to the outbreak of war which curtailed or stopped demand in European markets led to a general fall in Indian staples, such as oilseeds, raw jute and raw cotton. Jute prices fell much below the cost of production in Bengal. In Bihar and Orissa prices of staple food-grains were higher, and in Assam paddy prices were high owing to bad crops. In the United Provinces prices of food-grains were high, largely because scarcity in 1913-14 had caused a depletion of stocks, but cotton, oilseeds, and hemp realised poor prices. In the Punjab wheat, jowar, bajra, and sugar rose in price, but raw cotton fell heavily and rapeseed showed a severe shrinkage. In the N.W. Frontier Province prices of staple food-grains were high. In the Central Provinces and Berar high prices were realised for wheat, but cotton prices fell considerably. In Burma paddy prices fell on the outbreak of war, but afterwards rose. With some exceptions the prices of food-grains in Madras were at or below the level of the previous year. In Bombay prices of cotton and oilseeds fell heavily but wheat prices rose owing to the war.

Wages.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 204 and 205.*)

Quinquennial wage-censuses have been established for the different provinces, and the results of the first of these censuses, taken in 1911, were summarised in the Moral and Material Progress Report for 1912-13. The general tendency in most provinces is for wages to rise gradually in response to the gradual economic development of the country and the consequent demand for labour.

The outbreak of war did not seriously affect employment. In Bengal in 1914-15 agricultural wages suffered from the low jute prices and the poor paddy crop. Wages in Bihar and Orissa were generally maintained. There was some migration to Assam and Calcutta. Wages showed no decline in the United Provinces, where there was an ample demand for labour. In the Punjab there was a shortage of labour and wages continued to rise. In the Central Provinces and Berar agricultural labourers had ample work and got fairly high wages. In Bombay and Burma scarcity of labour continued, and wages showed no tendency to decline.

Famine or Scarcity.

Bihar and Orissa.—There was failure of crops in a part of the Santal Parganas and relief works were opened.

Central Provinces.—The relief works opened in the previous year were closed by the end of August 1914.

General Remarks.

Bengal.—The inferior paddy crop and the outbreak of war, which caused a sudden fall in jute prices, adversely affected the ryots. Insufficient rainfall caused injury to the winter rice in Eastern Bengal.

Bihar and Orissa.—The year was unusually free from damage by floods. The condition of agriculturists was not very prosperous.

Assam.—Floods did considerable damage in the Surma Valley, but in the Assam Valley the condition of the cultivators was on the whole fair.

United Provinces.—The year was one of recovery from the famine of 1913-14 and there was little sign of deterioration. The agriculturists suffered from the fall in prices following the outbreak of war, but the labouring classes were little affected.

Punjab.—On the whole the prosperity of the agricultural population was well maintained.

North-West Frontier Province.—The high prices of staple food-grains caused distress among the poorer classes though no set-back occurred in the generally advancing prosperity of the agricultural population.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Crops were disappointing and the prices of cotton were low owing to the war, but the condition of the cultivators and labourers was satisfactory.

Burma.—Indifferent crops and comparatively low prices adversely affected the cultivators.

Madras.—The season was not altogether favourable, but the agricultural classes stood the strain of a difficult year surprisingly well.

Bombay.—The agricultural season was, generally speaking, good, but there were violent fluctuations in the prices of articles affected by the war.

CHAPTER XVII.—ARMY AND MARINE.

(For further details see *Statistical Abstract for British India, Tables 45 to 47, 70 and 185 to 193.*)

Army.

The established strength of the European and Indian armies in India for 1914-15 (exclusive of Indian artificers and followers), was: European army, 2,384 officers and 72,561 warrant and non-commissioned officers and privates; Indian army, 3,104 European officers and non-commissioned officers and 160,245 native commissioned and non-commissioned officers and privates, or a total establishment of 238,294.

During 1914-15 the army of India was engaged in operations of war in France and Belgium, West Africa, East Africa, Egypt, Somaliland, Aden, Mesopotamia, Persia, China, and on the North-west frontier of India.

The net expenditure on the army in 1914-15 was £16,108,952 for effective charges and £3,131,416 for non-effective charges, or £19,240,368 in all, as against £18,585,733 in 1913-14. In addition, £915,689 (net) was spent on military works and £13,603 on special defences.

The expenditure covered the full ordinary maintenance cost of the troops, &c., employed with the overseas Indian Expeditionary Forces, as, in accordance with parliamentary resolutions, Indian revenues continue to bear ordinary pay and other charges of these troops.

Health of the British and Indian Armies.—The following table shows the sickness and mortality of the British and Indian troops (excluding officers) in India. During 1914 the death-rate of the British troops in India was considerably higher than that of 1913, which was the lowest on record. There was also a rise in the admission rate. For the Indian troops both death-rate and admission rate were higher than those for 1913, which were the lowest on record.

	Ratio per Mille of Strength.					
	British Troops.			Indian Troops.		
	Average 1908-12.	1913.	1914.	Average 1908-12.	1913.	1914.
Admissions into hospital	638.4	580.5	614.1	578.3	531.7	566.5
Constantly sick	60.3	29.7	31.8	20.9	21.4	20.9
Deaths	6.1	3.8	4.3	5.4	4.0	4.2

Among European troops malaria continued to be one of the chief causes of inefficiency. It accounted for 163 per 1000 admissions. Pneumonia and heat-stroke were the chief causes of death. Anti-enteric inoculation makes satisfactory progress, and 94 per cent. of European troops in India have been inoculated. Among Indian troops malaria was the chief cause of sickness and pneumonia of mortality.

Marine.

The net expenditure on marine services amounted to £265,255 in 1914-15 as against £423,303 in 1913-14. In this amount are included the cost of the Royal Indian Marine and the annual contribution of about £100,000 towards the expenses of His Majesty's ships employed in the Indian seas.

On the 31st March 1915 the Royal Indian Marine consisted of three troopships and seven other sea-going vessels, three inland vessels, three flats, and a number of small steamers, launches, &c. There was an establishment of about 2,130 officers and men.

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CHAPTER XVIII.—FRONTIERS AND NATIVE STATES.

Among the offers of assistance and support which were received from the Indian Empire on the declaration of war in August 1914, those of the Native States made a profound impression. They were reported in the following telegrams from the Viceroy, dated the 8th and 21st September.

"Following is a summary of offers of service, money, &c., made in India to the Viceroy. The Rulers of the Native States in India, who number nearly seven hundred in all, have with one accord rallied to the defence of the Empire and offered their personal services and the resources of their States for the war. From among the many princes and nobles who have volunteered for active service, the Viceroy has selected the chiefs of Jodhpur, Bikaner, Kishangarh, Rutlam, Sachin and Patiala, Sir Pertab Singh, Regent of Jodhpur, the Heir Apparent of Bhopal and a brother of the Maharaja of Cooh Behar, together with other cadets of noble families. The veteran Sir Pertab would not be denied his right to serve the King-Emperor in spite of his seventy years, and his nephew, the Maharaja, who is but sixteen years old, goes with him.

"All these have, with the Commander-in-Chief's approval, already joined the Expeditionary Forces. The Maharaja of Gwalior and the chiefs of Jaora and Dholpur, together with the Heir Apparent of Palanpur, were, to their great regret, prevented from leaving their States. Twenty-seven of the larger States in India maintain Imperial Service troops, and the services of every corps were immediately placed at the disposal of the Government of India on the outbreak of war. The Viceroy has accepted from twelve States contingents of cavalry, infantry, sappers and transport, besides a camel corps from Bikaner, and most of them have already embarked.

"As particular instances of generosity and eager loyalty of the chiefs the following may be quoted: Various durbars have combined together to provide a hospital ship, to be called 'The Loyalty,' for the use of the Expeditionary Forces. The Maharaja of Mysore has placed Rs. 50 lakhs at the disposal of the Government of India for expenditure in connection with the Expeditionary Force. The Chief of Gwalior, in addition to sharing in the expenses of the hospital ship, the idea of which originated with himself and the Begum of Bhopal, has offered to place large sums of money at the disposal of the Government of India and to provide thousands of horses as remounts. From Loharu in the Punjab and Las Bela and Kalat in Baluchistan come offers of camels with drivers, to be supplied and maintained by the chiefs and sardars. Several chiefs have offered to raise additional troops for military service should they be required, and donations to the Indian Relief Fund have poured in from all States. The Maharaja of Rewa has offered his troops, his treasury, and even his private jewellery for the service of the King-Emperor. In addition to contributions to the Indian Fund some chiefs, namely, those of Kashmir, Bundi, Orchha and Gwalior and Indore, have also given large sums to the Prince of Wales' Fund.

"The Maharaja of Kashmir, not content with subscribing himself to the Indian Fund, presided at a meeting of 20,000 people held recently at Srinagar and delivered a stirring speech; in response to which large subscriptions were collected.

"Maharaja Holkar offers, free of charge, all horses in his State Army which may be suitable for Government purposes. Horses also offered by Nizam's Government, by Jamnagar and other Bombay States. Every chief in the Bombay Presidency has placed the resources of his State at the disposal of Government, and all have made contributions to the Relief Fund.

"Loyal messages and offers also received from Mehtar of Chitral and tribes of Khyber Agency as well as Khyber Rifles.

"Letters have been received from the most remote States in India, all marked by deep sincerity of desire to render some assistance, however humble, to the British Government in its hour of need.

"Last, but not least, from beyond the borders of India have been received generous offers of assistance from the Nepal Durbar; the military resources of the State have been placed at the disposal of the British Government, and the Prime Minister has offered a sum of £20,000 to the Viceroy for the purchase of machine guns or field equipment for British Gurkha Regiments proceeding overseas, in addition to large donations from his private purse to the Prince of Wales' Fund and the Imperial Indian Relief Fund. To the 4th Gurkha Rifles, of which the Prime Minister is honorary

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colonel, the Prime Minister has offered £2,000 for the purchase of machine guns in the event of their going on service.

"The Dalai Lama of Tibet has offered 1,000 Tibetan troops for service under the British Government. His Holiness also states that Lamas innumerable throughout length and breadth of Tibet are offering prayers for success of British Army and for happiness of souls of all victims of war."

"H.H. the Maharaja of Idar has been selected for active service.

"Further contingents of Imperial Service troops have been accepted from three States, making 15 States in all, namely:—Alwar, Bharatpur, Bikaner, Faridkot, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Jind, Jodhpur, Kapurthala, Kashmir, Mysore, Patiala and Rampur.

"Imperial Service contingents from Bahawalpur, Bhavnagar, Bhopal, Idar, Junagadh, Khairpur, Maler Kotla, Navanagar, Sirmur and Tehri will be accepted later if need arises.

"A joint offer from Dhar, Barwani, Ali Rajpur and Jhabua, who maintain no Imperial Service troops, is under consideration.

"H.H. the Maharaja of Gwalior has also given £22,000 for motor-cars and transport, and £5,000 for relief of Belgian sufferers. T.H. the Raja and Rani of Dhar have contributed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Fund.

"Offers of horses have been made by the chiefs of Baroda, Bhopal, Dhar, Jodhpur, Mysore, Patiala, Rewa.

"Loyal offers of service have been received from the tribes of Kurram and the Swat Valley and from the Sam Ranizai, who are ready to raise corps of Frontier Tribesmen if desired.

"Offers have also been received from the Feudatory States of Amb, from the Bhutan Maharaja, and from the Arab chiefs in the Aden hinterland."

Many further offers, including a contribution of £400,000 from the Nizam of Hyderabad, were made in the course of the year.

Baluchistan.—All other events were overshadowed by the war. The prompt declaration of unswerving loyalty made by the Khan of Kalat and the Jam of Las Bela, and the proffer of their persons and resources in the service of the Empire, awoke a sympathetic echo in every direction; and the fact that the year's history was an undramatic record of peace, broken only by such occasional disturbances as are incident to the frontier, speaks eloquently for the loyalty of the Pathan, Baloch, and Brahui tribesmen, and for the success of the principles of administration peculiar to Baluchistan. In the Kalat and Las Bela States satisfactory progress was made in the policy of reform and development, and the finances have now been placed on a permanent basis. With one unimportant exception the attitude of the chiefs was excellent.

The war had little disturbing influence on the Afghan border, thanks largely, no doubt, to the strict attitude of neutrality enjoined by the Amir on his Governors. In the late winter a series of raids on the Quetta and Chagai borders were brought to an abrupt close by the repressive measures taken. On the Persian border the chronic unrest culminated in November in a tribal raid, which caused much damage.

The district levies continue to do good service, and as their pay had remained unchanged since their institution 30 years ago, a substantial increase was decided upon, and was announced shortly after the close of the year. The jirgas, or councils of elders, who are no less important than the levy service as a factor in Baluchistan self-government, did excellent work. Out of a total of over 6,000 cases considered by them, only 12 of their awards were reversed on revision by the British authorities.

North-West Frontier Province.—On the outbreak of war promises of service and expressions of loyalty were, however, evoked on all sides. The enthusiasm spread even to the tribal tracts administered by Government, and offers of service were made by the militias, the Khyber tribe offered to furnish an armed contingent, and the Bannu Wazirs subscribed their Tochi allowances for one month towards the Imperial Indian Relief Fund. The greatest concern was nevertheless exhibited with regard to the attitude of the Turks, and it is a strong testimony to the innate loyalty of the residents of the cis-frontier area of the province that the outbreak of war with the Porte called forth fresh expressions of allegiance to the British Government and of condemnation of the step taken by Turkey. The cordial expression of neutrality

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this crisis. Across the border it could hardly be expected that the war with Turkey would not furnish a text for harangues inciting to *jehad*. Combination among the tribes was not expected, but isolated acts of hostility were reported from time to time.

The Mahsud situation was unsatisfactory throughout the year. A series of raids and outrages took place, commencing with the murder of Major Dodd, C.I.E., and two other British officers in April 1914. A critical time succeeded, as the whole tribe were excited at the prospect of condign punishment for the outrage. Their attitude subsequently became more reasonable, but although terms were offered to them in May, the year passed without the tender of satisfaction to Government.

The position in Khost on the outbreak of war was that the tribes were openly defying the Amir's authority, and at the same time cherishing a grudge against the British Government for loss suffered during their exclusion from British territory. The only result, however, of three organised attacks made between November and March was to involve the tribes in heavy losses; and their decisive defeat put an end to further trouble from this direction.

In the Khyber Agency, where the behaviour of the clans was uniformly good, the two most important events were the duplication of the Khyber road and the consequent increase of the allowances of the Khyber Afridis, whose behaviour during the crisis had been excellent. The prompt and liberal way in which Government met their representation of their case greatly impressed the tribe, and should have a lasting effect on British relations with the Afridis.

The attitude of the Khans and chiefs of the Malakand Agency, particularly the Mehtar of Chitral, left nothing to be desired. The transfer of the Mastuj and Laspur districts from Kashmir to the Mehtar's administration caused him much gratification. The completion of the Upper Swat River Canal, and its opening at the beginning of the year, served to consolidate the position of Government in the eyes of the people and to assure them of its solicitude in developing the country's resources to their advantage.

The militias, including the Khyber Rifles, Kurram Militia, and North and South Waziristan Militia, maintained their high reputation for discipline and efficiency. On several occasions the Kurram Militia took part in the repulse or pursuit of raiders. The behaviour of the North Waziristan Militia in the three important engagements with the invading forces from Khost was most praiseworthy. The strength of this force has been increased by 400 men.

Assam Border Tribes.—During the year the southern boundaries of the Eastern, Central and Western sections of the N.E. Frontier, as well as those of the new Lakhimpur Frontier Tract, were formally notified, and rules for the administration of these tracts were issued.

Burma.—In the Northern and Southern Shan States the war caused no excitement, and the *Saobwas* gave practical and spontaneous proof of loyalty by contributing immediately to the various war funds. A notable feature of the year was the opening of the Southern Shan States Railway. In Karenni the States were well administered, and the border between Siam and Karenni was peaceful. But the complete collapse at the outbreak of the war of the timber trade, on which the country is practically dependent, dealt a heavy blow to the States' prosperity.

Disturbances arose in the Somra Tract of the Chin Hills on the death of Komyang, a chief who had maintained good order. Prompt measures were taken and the unrest subsided. Elsewhere peace prevailed in both the administered and the unadministered area, and an excellent spirit of loyalty was displayed in connection with the war.

On the north-eastern frontier, the administration of the new Putao district, which was constituted during the year, began to take shape. Tribute was collected, the construction of roads pushed on, and a large number of appointment orders issued to headmen.

Kashmir.—Owing to the war, the prevalence of epidemics, chiefly cholera, and a severe winter, trade was depressed, and the revenue decreased. The year was disastrous for the silk trade. In the Forest Department the revenue results, following upon an extension of the forest area, were exceptionally good.

Sikkim.—The new Maharaja, who was installed shortly before the close of the year, assumed charge of certain departments, being assisted by a European adviser. On the outbreak of war the resources of the State were placed at the disposal of Government, and many Sikkimese have been fighting at the front. The financial condition of the State was sound. During the year a chief court was created.

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Hyderabad.—The year 1914 was exceptionally prosperous; crops were good, trade was brisk and the revenue returns were eminently satisfactory. Great progress was made with useful public works.

Mysore.—There was a large outlay on public works, chiefly in connection with irrigation and railway construction. Considerable activity was shown by the Education Department.

Baroda.—The year 1913-14 was prosperous; numerous public works were in progress or completed; 47 miles of railway were opened for traffic and 120 miles were under construction. Education continued to make progress. A scheme of police reorganisation was sanctioned. The Maharaja spent over six months of the year in Europe.

Rajputana.—In 1913-14 the harvests were good, except in Tonk, where famine conditions existed in two districts, and advances had to be made to the cultivators to enable them to tide over their difficulties. In Jaipur education made steady progress. The Maharawal of Banswara was invested with ruling powers. In 1914-15 the harvests were generally favourable, though there was some scarcity in Alwar.

A successor to the late Chief of Jaisalmer was installed. The young Maharaja of Bharatpur returned after an absence of nine months in England, and continued his studies at the Mayo College, Ajmer.

Central India.—Agriculture prospered during 1914-15, but there was some scarcity in the early part of the year in Bundelkhand and Baghelkhand. Crime was more prevalent in consequence. A scheme for the improvement of education in the administered areas was sanctioned by Government.

Bengal.—In Cooch Behar the year was unfavourable; the State suffered economically from the war, crops were poor and malarial sickness increased. Financial equilibrium was, however, maintained by a reduction in expenditure, and educational progress was unchecked.

Hill Tippera was likewise affected by the war, but expenditure on education was slightly increased, and the school attendance showed improvement.

Bihar and Orissa.—In the Tributary and Feudatory States of Orissa the year's income showed a general advance. More was spent on public works and on education, and the number of schools and pupils increased.

Assam.—On the outbreak of war wild rumours gained some credence in the Manipur State, but they were promptly dissipated and all fears allayed. The agitation against the *pothang* taxes entirely disappeared.

Punjab Native States.—The Maharaja of Patiala, whose offer of personal service in the war had been accepted, was taken ill on his way to Europe and compelled to return to India. The Nawab of Bahawalpur, a minor, returned from England in December, and entered the Aitchison Chiefs' College at Lahore. It was found necessary to abolish the Council of Regency in Faridkot, and to administer the State through a superintendent. The Raja of Bashahr died in August and was succeeded by his adopted son.

Bombay.—The chiefs one and all placed their resources at the disposal of Government, and several of them were permitted to go to the front. The season was generally good, except in a few States where the kharif crops were poor. The public health was good on the whole, but in certain States there were outbreaks of plague and cholera. Education continued to advance slowly, and the number of attendances increased in almost every State.

Madras.—In Travancore the Legislative Council passed a regulation to control labour in factories. There was an increase both in school attendance and in expenditure on education. In Cochin the year was normal.

The Raja of Pudukkottai spent four months in his State, and left for Australia in February 1915. The revenues of the State improved, but fell short of the expenditure by over £14,000. There was much sickness during the year.

Banganapalle did not enjoy a prosperous year, and the expenditure exceeded the receipts. The crops suffered through inadequate rainfall both here and in the Sandur State.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF INDIAN OFFICIAL REPORTS, &c.

(MOSTLY ANNUAL.)

General.

Statistical Abstract relating to British India (Parliamentary Paper).

Statistics of British India :—

Vol. I.—Commercial.

Vol. II.—Financial.

Vol. III.—Public Health.

Vol. IV.—Administrative and Judicial.

Vol. V.—Educational.

Census Reports (Decennial), India, Provincial, and Native States.

Administration Reports: Madras, Bombay, United Provinces, Punjab, Bengal, Central Provinces and Berar, Burma, Bihar and Orissa, Assam, North-West Frontier Province, Delhi, Coorg, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Civil and Military Station of Bangalore, Ajmer-Merwara, Baluchistan Agency.

Legislation.

Acts of the Imperial and Provincial Legislative Councils.

Justice and Police.

Report on the Administration of Civil Justice for each Province.

Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice for each Province.

Report on Jails for each Province.

Reports on Police for each Province, and for Bombay Town and Island, Calcutta, and Rangoon.

Finance.

Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India.

East India Financial Statement (Parliamentary Paper).

Return of Net Income and Expenditure for eleven years (Parliamentary Paper).

Accounts and Estimates: Explanatory Memorandum (Parliamentary Paper).

Home Accounts (Parliamentary Paper).

Loans raised in England (Half-yearly Parliamentary Paper).

Loans raised in India (Half-yearly Parliamentary Paper).

Mint Reports for Calcutta and Bombay.

Paper Currency Department Reports, India and Bombay.

Statistics compiled from the Finance and Revenue Accounts.

Land Revenue, &c.

Land Revenue Administration: Provincial Reports for Lower Provinces (Bengal), Bihar and Orissa, Assam, United Provinces, Bombay Presidency (including Sind), Punjab, Central Provinces and Berar, Burma, and Madras.

Report on Land Revenue Administration, Land Records, Settlement Operations, Alienation of Land Act, &c. for North-West Frontier Province.

Madras Survey, Settlement and Land Records Department Report.

Reports of Land Records Departments for Bombay, Burma, Bengal, United Provinces, and Punjab.

Report on Settlement Operations, Punjab.

Reports on Survey and Settlement Operations, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Assam.

Reports on Operations of the Land Records and Settlement Departments, Central Provinces and Berar.

Report of the Talukdari Settlement Officer, Bombay.

Provincial Reports on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards.

Report on the Punjab Canal Colonies.

Separate Revenue (Salt, Excise, &c.).

Salt Department Reports: Northern India, Madras, Bombay, Sind, Bengal, Burma, Bihar and Orissa.

Excise Report for each Province.

Report on the Operations of the Opium Department.

Stamp Department Report for each Province.

Registration Department Report for each Province.

Income Tax Report for each Province.

Agriculture and Veterinary.

Report on the Progress of Agriculture in India.
 Report of the Agricultural Research Institute and College, Pusa.
 Bulletins of the Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, and of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture.
 Memoirs of the Department of Agriculture.
 Proceedings of the Board of Agriculture.
 Agricultural Journal of India (quarterly).
 Reports of the Department of Agriculture for each Province.
 Reports on Agricultural Stations, Experimental Farms, and Botanic Gardens for each Province.
 Season and Crop Report for each Province.
 Agricultural Statistics of India.
 Area and Yield of certain Principal Crops.
 Report on Production of Tea in India.
 Report on Tea Culture in Assam.
 Reports of the Civil Veterinary Departments for each Province.
 Statistics compiled from the Reports of the Provincial Civil Veterinary Departments.
 Report of the Camel Specialist.
 Report of the Imperial Bacteriologist (Veterinary).

Co-operative Societies.

Statements showing Progress of the Co-operative Movement in India.
 Reports on Co-operative Societies for each Province.
 Reports of Conferences of Registrars of Co-operative Societies, India and Provincial,

Forests.

Review of Forest Administration in British India.
 Report on Forest Administration for each Province.
 Reports of the Forest Research Institute and the Imperial Forest College, Dehra Dun.
 Quinquennial Forest Review.
 Indian Forest Memoirs.
 Indian Forest Records.
 Forest Bulletins.

Mineral Production and Inspection of Mines.

Review of Mineral Production (in Records of Geological Survey).
 Report on Production of Coal in India.
 Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines.

Trade and Manufactures.

Annual Statements of Sea-borne Trade and Navigation, India and Provincial (Madras, Bombay, Sind, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Burma).
 Review of the Trade of India (Parliamentary Paper).
 Tables of the Trade of India (Parliamentary Paper).
 Provincial Reports on Maritime Trade and Customs (including working of Merchandise Marks Act) for Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Bombay, Sind, Madras, and Burma.
 Accounts of Sea-borne Trade (monthly and for calendar year).
 Accounts of Land Trade (monthly).
 Annual Statement of Coasting Trade of British India.
 Report on the Trade and Navigation of Aden.
 Accounts of Trade carried by Rail and River in India.
 Report on Inland, Rail-borne, or Rail-and-River-borne Trade for each Province.
 External Land Trade Reports for Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, Assam, Burma, United Provinces, Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Sind, and British Baluchistan.
 Indian Trade Journal (weekly).
 List of Joint-Stock Companies in British India.
 Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act for each Province.
 Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act for each Province.
 Report of the Chief Inspector of Explosives.

Public Works.

Administration Report on Railways.
 Reports on Public Works (Buildings and Roads) for Madras, Bombay, Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, and Burma.
 Review of Irrigation.
 Report on Irrigation Revenue for each Province (except Madras).
 Administrative Reports on Irrigation, Madras and Bombay.
 Report on Architectural Work in India.

Posts and Telegraphs.

Report on the Posts and Telegraphs of India.
 Report of Indo-European Telegraph Department.

Scientific Departments.

- Report on the Operations of the Survey of India.
- Records of the Survey of India.
- Records and Memoirs of the Geological Survey of India.
- Report of the Indian Meteorological Department.
- Indian Weather Review, Annual Summary.
- Rainfall of India.
- Memoirs of the Indian Meteorological Department.
- Report of the Meteorologist, Calcutta.
- Report of the Director-General of Observatories.
- Memoirs and Bulletins of the Kodaikanal Observatory.
- Report of the Board of Scientific Advice.
- Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, and Provincial Reports.
- Report and Records of the Botanical Survey.

Education.

- Education Reports for India and each Province.
- Quinquennial Review of Education (Parliamentary Paper).

Local Self-Government.

- Reports on Municipalities for each Province and for Calcutta, Bombay City, Madras City, and Rangoon.
- Reports on District and Local Boards or Local Funds for each Province.
- Reports of Port Trusts of Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Rangoon, Karachi, and Aden.

Medical, Sanitary, and Vital Statistics.

- Report of the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India.
- Report on Sanitary Measures in India (Parliamentary Paper).
- Report of the Sanitary Commissioner for each Province.
- Vaccination Report for each Province.
- Report on Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries for each Province.
- Report on Lunatic Asylums for each Province.
- Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist for each Province.
- Scientific Memoirs by Officers of the Medical and Sanitary Departments.
- Reports of the All-India Sanitary Conferences.
- Reports of the Imperial Malaria Conferences.
- Indian Journal of Medical Research (Quarterly).

Emigration and Immigration.

- Calcutta Port Emigration Report.
- Bengal Inland Emigration Report.
- Assam Immigration Report.

Prices and Wages.

- Prices and Wages in India.
- Variations in Indian Price Levels.
- Reports of Provincial Wage Censuses.