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## **ECONOMIC OUTLOOK IN FEDERAL INDIA**

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# ECONOMIC OUTLOOK IN FEDERAL INDIA

Lectures delivered as Sir Kikabhai Premchand  
Reader, 1933, to the University of Delhi.

BY

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## PREFACE.

THE University of Delhi invited me to deliver a course of ten lectures as Sir Kikabhai Premchand Reader for the year 1933. The subject of the lectures was "The Economic Consequences of the proposals of the Round Table Conference". The lectures were delivered in Delhi during February and March, 1933. The proposals of the Round Table Conference were revised and embodied by H.M.'s Government in the White Paper which was published in March, 1933, when this series of lectures was about to close. As the proposals of the White Paper were based on those of the Round Table Conference with some exceptions, it was thought desirable not to change the original form of the lectures. References have, however, been made to the White Paper, either in the text or in the foot-notes, wherever it was considered necessary to do so.

The revision of the lectures for the press was delayed because I left for London soon after the series was over. I had, however, the advantage of following at close quarters the discussions on the White Paper during the sessions of the Joint Select Committee of the Parliament. After carefully weighing the opinions of leading persons in Britain who are known to hold opposite views, I found no reason to make any substantial change in the views expressed by me in the lectures as delivered in Delhi. I feel that from the economic point of view the position of the supporters of the White Paper and of its opponents in Britain is essentially the same; the difference is in the matter of the approach by which their common outlook should be maintained. Whereas the advocates of the White Paper scheme want to safeguard British economic interests in India by constitutional devices, which practically reduce the Federation to a costly luxury, the opponents of the

White Paper are more frank and outwardly more aggressive in their demand for safeguarding British interests, though they do not mind speaking in the name of the masses of India.

As explained in the last lecture this series cannot obviously give a forecast of the economic consequences of the proposed constitutional changes in any exact or measurable form; the only thing that could be done is to indicate the broad tendencies or forces that are likely to arise out of the political changes, and hence the title of the book "Economic Outlook in Federal India".

I am indebted to Mr. D. R. Samant, M.A., for help in the collection of material for the lectures, and to Mr. A. G. Sheth, B.A., for help in seeing the book through the press.

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY,

UNIVERSITY OF BOMBAY,

1st December, 1933,

C. N. VAKIL.

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