

CENSUS OF INDIA, 1901.

VOLUME XVI.

N.-W. PROVINCES AND
OUDH.

PART I.

R E P O R T.

BY

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PREFACE.

At a time when official reports are being subjected to a rigorous pruning the production of a report extending to nearly 300 pages may be deemed to require some apology. My object in the following pages has been two-fold. In the first place, an attempt has been made to describe some general features of what may be considered the bewildering jungle of figures contained in the Imperial Tables, for, as the proverb says, it is often hard to see the wood for the trees. Secondly, the extent to which the results of the census are fairly reliable, and the methods of obtaining them, have been indicated as briefly as possible. Enumeration throws much extra work on district officers and their subordinates, and to them thanks are due for the successful manner in which it was carried out. The abstraction and tabulation were completed in seven central offices, each in charge of a Deputy Collector, and six of these—Pandit Janardan Joshi, B. Pridamna Krishna, M. Lutf Husain, B. Tulshi Rama, B. Siva Prasada, and Qazi Khaliluddin Ahmad—completed their very trying work with a high standard of excellency. The heaviest share fell to B. Pridamna Krishna, who dealt with it admirably, while Pandit Janardan Joshi and B. Siva Prasada excelled in devising methods of checking the work apart from those prescribed in the rules. Three of the head clerks in these offices—B. Chhattar Singh, Pandit Shimbhu Nath Sukul and Pandit Jai Dat Tiwari—have also done especially good work.

In the preparation of the report help has been received from many sources, official and otherwise. The material in Chapter VI, Language, has been supplied almost entirely by Dr. G. A. Grierson, and without it the chapter could not have been written. For most of the material in Chapter III I am indebted to a large number of correspondents, and throughout the report I have used facts obtained from many sources. To all those who have thus aided me my thanks are due. The report has been printed at the Government Press, Allahabad, and with very small exceptions, the whole of the forms were printed, and the slips for abstraction, numbering nearly 100 millions, cut at the same place. Special acknowledgments are due to Mr. Luker, the Superintendent, for the promptitude with which the work was carried out. My head clerk, Pandit Chandr Dat, Pande, has been of the greatest assistance to me.

There have been cases in which statements made in reports like the present have been treated by the public as official pronouncements by Government on the matters to which they referred, and it therefore seems necessary to point out that the report is in no way intended to express the opinion of the Government, especially on such matters as those dealt with in the chapters on religion, education, language and caste, about which there is much difference of opinion. Having regard to the controversial nature of some parts of the report, and the extent to which it has been necessary for me to trespass on the time and labour of others, I should be glad to feel with the poet :—

شادم کہ ز من بر دل کس بارے نیست * کسرا زمن و کار من آزارے نیست
گر نیک شمارندم و گر بد گریزند • بانگ و بدی بہیچکسم کارے نیست

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