

CENSUS OF INDIA, 1921.

VOLUME XXIV

RAJPUTANA.

AND

AJMER-MERWARA

PART I

REPORT.

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146	Column 19, Line 5 from bottom.	80	807
	Column 19, Line 7 from bottom.	933	833
178	Line 7 from bottom.	Population	Population
247	Para. 25, Line 2.	Camel-hairs	Camel hairs

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INTRODUCTION.

The Report, to which this is a preface, deals with the Census taken on the 18th March, 1921. It was the fifth regular Census in Ajmer-Merwara and the fourth in Rajputana, the previous ones having been held on February 7th, 1881; February 26th, 1891; March 1st, 1901; and March 10th, 1911. In Ajmer-Merwara, the first regular Census was held in 1872, which was superseded by the one taken in 1876, as the former was considered entirely unreliable. The details of the process, adopted in this Census, are set forth at length in the Administrative Volume (Volume III of the Report). Being intended for the use of the future Superintendents, that volume is not likely to come within the view of the general reader; but it is necessary that some account of the Census Operations should be given in this Volume.

2. The arrangements for the Census followed the lines laid down in 1911. The first step was to prepare a General Register, showing every occupied village or collection of houses, as well as the probable number of blocks in each inhabited site. All the States were asked on 6th December, 1919, to compile their portion of the register. The first was received from Alwar on the 6th April, 1920, and the last from Mewar on the 21st July, 1920.

The Village Register having been compiled, each State or District was parcelled out into Census Divisions. The smallest unit was a Block, which consisted ordinarily of 20 to 50 houses, for which one Enumerator was responsible. The Blocks were grouped into Circles, each of which was placed under a Supervisor. Four to six hundred houses were generally assigned to a Supervisor. The Circles, again, were grouped into Charges, which, as a rule, coincided with the *Tahsils*, *Nizamats* or *Hakumats*. The Charge Superintendents were responsible to the District Census Officer in a British District, and to the State Superintendent in a State, for the entire operations at the Enumeration stage.

3. The system of enumeration of the Railway population was changed this time to the extent that the operations were placed solely under the directions of the Civil Officers as part of the general Census, the Railway Department, however, providing the staff of Enumerators, Supervisors, etc. In 1911, the Railway authorities were themselves responsible for the census of their population.

4. The actual enumeration was conducted mostly by an improvised agency of Supervisors and Enumerators, who were drawn from the ordinary population. In Rajputana, 5,396 Supervisors and 66,992 Enumerators were engaged and in Ajmer-Merwara, 371 and 3,613 respectively. In some localities, men who could read and write were obtained with difficulty and, in a few cases, Census staff had to be introduced from other places within the same State. A long period of training was necessary, before this unwilling staff of workers could understand the duties required of them. Where suitable men were available, their natural aversion to work without remuneration had to be overcome.

5. It is of little or no use to send an Enumerator with a book to enumerate the number of houses assigned to him, unless he is able to identify the particular houses he has to deal with. Accordingly, before commencing the actual enumeration, the serial number given to it was painted on each and every house. This numbering of houses commenced on the 1st August, 1920, and was completed on the 29th December, 1920. The first State to commence this work was Marwar and to complete it, Dholpur-Jaisalmer was the last both to commence and to finish. Under the Code, the latest date for commencing this part of the operations was the 15th October, 1920, but some of the larger States like Marwar had commenced numbering even earlier.

6. The Preliminary Enumeration was ordered to be commenced about the 10th February, 1921, and to be completed by the 1st March, 1921. This consisted of the Enumerator going to each of the houses in his block and writing on rough forms of Schedules, particulars about all the inhabitants therein. The first State, which began this work (on 15th December, 1920), was Mewar, but all the States, excepting Alwar, had started it on or before the fixed date. Ajmer-Merwara

was ahead of all in completing the work (on 15th January, 1921), and the last was Mewar which did not finish it before the 12th March, 1921. The record so compiled was systematically and thoroughly checked by supervising officers, to ensure its accuracy and completeness. After the rough drafts of the Schedules had been passed as accurate, fair copies were made in the printed forms, which were carefully compared with the drafts by the Supervisors.

Final Census.

7. (The final Census was taken on the 18th March, 1921, when the Enumerators going round each house, verified the entries already made in the Schedules, so as to make them correspond with the existing state of affairs. They struck out the entries for all persons, who had died or gone away since the preliminary enumeration, and made fresh entries for new comers and for those born during the interval. Supervisors were also moving about their respective Circles, assuring themselves that the Enumerators were working properly.)

Improvement in non-synchronous tracts.

8. The progress made in the enumeration of the population residing in the tracts in which enumeration can not be done in the ordinary way, has been fully dealt with in paragraph 22 of Chapter I. (It would suffice to state here that, as in 1911, the Census in Ajmer-Merwara was complete in every respect. In Rajputana, the area coming under the non-synchronous category was reduced to Kherwara *Bhumat* in Mewar. In the tracts situated in Banswara, Dungarpur, Kushalgarh, Kotra *Bhumat* (Mewar), Partabgarh and Sirohi, which were treated as non-synchronous in 1911, the enumeration this time was held in the ordinary way, except that in some of them the final check was taken in the day time on the date of the Census.)

Area Covered.

9. There was no change this time in the Provincial area.

Fairs.

10. (Allusion has been made to Fairs in paragraph 8 of Chapter III of this Report. The fair meriting mention here is that held at Ajmer to commemorate the death of the Saint famous all over India, viz., the Khwaja Sahib. It happened to end on the day immediately preceding the date of Census. As it attracts large numbers of pilgrims from all parts in this country, special arrangements had to be made for the census of the pilgrim population. A separate Census staff was appointed for this purpose which visited each house occupied by pilgrims and specially in the *Khadim Mohalla*, where they mainly concentrated, to make entries in the Schedules to be verified on the date of the final Census. To avoid double enumeration, special tickets were issued to such pilgrims. On the day of the Census, precautions were taken that no pilgrim escaped enumeration. The *Dargah*, where pilgrims congregate, was closed from 9 P.M. to 12 midnight. The census in the *Bazar* and other public places, which had already been divided into special Blocks, was then taken by the special Census staff.)

Provisional Totals.

11. On the morning following the Census night, the Enumerators met their respective Supervisors at the places already appointed and tallied up the houses and persons, males and females, in their respective books. The Supervisors combined them in their Circle summaries, which were despatched by the quickest possible route to the Charge Superintendents who, in their turn, combined them in Charge summaries which were despatched to the District or State Officers. From these, the totals of the States or Districts were made up and telegraphed to the Census Commissioner for India and to the Provincial Census Superintendent. The unit which was the first to telegraph its totals was the Shahpura Chiefship, whose figures were received at Ajmer on the 19th March, 1921, at 4-20 P.M. Jaisalmer was the last in this respect. This State has no Telegraph Office and the nearest Railway Station, whence the Census results could be telegraphed, is not less than 90 miles from the capital. The despatch of the totals by this State even within 7 days must therefore be taken as creditable. Rajputana is not well-served with Railways, Post Offices and Telegraphs and the result of the Census had therefore in many cases to be carried to the head-quarters by special messengers, some of whom were provided with motor cars for this purpose, and many others with ponies and camels. In the face of all difficulties, the Provisional totals of these Provinces were despatched to the Census Commissioner within 10 days. The margin of errors against actual figures in these totals was only— 0·13 per cent. in each of the Provinces.

Stages of work after Enumeration.

12. The final results were arrived at by Compilation and Tabulation, which has three stages, viz., Slip-copying, Sorting and Compilation. Slip-copying is the

process of reproducing the entries in Schedules on to Slips—a separate Slip being used for each person enumerated. Much labour was saved by using slips of different colours indicating religion, sex, civil condition, and abbreviations for certain actual entries in the Schedules.

In Rajputana, this work was done in the State Offices centred at five places and in the British District of Ajmer-Merwara in *Tahsils* by *Patwaris*, and in Municipal offices on the job-work system. The maximum number of the establishment was, Supervisors 129, Record-keepers 28, and Copyists 1,437 in Rajputana and 18, 7 and 261 respectively in Ajmer-Merwara. Bharatpur and Abu were the first to complete Slip-copying (30th April, 1921) and Mewar the last (25th June, 1921). The average number of Slips copied by a copyist varied from 446 in Sirohi to 164 in Ajmer-Merwara. The principle adopted in Slip-copying in the present Census was the same as that followed in 1911.

13. Slip-copying was followed by Sorting—the process of arranging Slips under heads required for various Tables, counting the slips so arranged and entering the number in the form called 'Sorter's Ticket'. This operation was also performed at Central places in each State office separately. The maximum establishment engaged for this work (excluding clerks, etc.), was, in Rajputana, Sorters 786, Supervisors and their Assistants 88, Inspectors 16 and Deputy Superintendents 20. In Ajmer-Merwara, the corresponding numbers were 21, 3, 1 and 1. The Sorting was first finished by Partabgarh on the 8th July, 1921, and last by Jaipur on the 26th November, 1921. Ajmer-Merwara completed the work on the 30th September, 1921.

14. Compilation went on along side with Sorting. As soon as a Sorter had completed the sorting of his unit, the information contained in his ticket was posted into the Compilation Register. When this work was finished for each unit of administration, total for the State or District concerned, was made. Partabgarh, which finished compilation on the 30th July, 1921, stood first, and Jaipur, which completed the work on the 31st March, 1922, was the last. The Deputy Superintendent of each compilation office had to send the Compilation Registers with the Final Tables compiled from them to the Provincial Census office where they were checked and the Provincial total calculated. The first Imperial Table sent to the Census Commissioner on the 27th September, 1921, was Table I and the last on the 8th May, 1922, was Table XXII.

15. All processes connected with the Industrial Census from Slip-copying onwards were undertaken in the Provincial Census Superintendent's Office.

16. For want of the receipt of migration figures from other Provinces, the writing of the first Chapter had to be put off and the second Chapter to be taken up first. It was sent to the Press in the last week of March, 1922. The writing of the Report was completed by the middle of October, 1922.

17. The total expenditure of all kinds on the Census according to Departmental accounts, debitable to Imperial Funds up to the date on which the Census office is likely to be closed amounted, as far as could be estimated, to Rs. 1,11,529. The incidence per head of the population works out to 2·07 pies against 1·87 in 1911. The increase by 0·20 pies per head, is due mainly to wages and prices, which went up abnormally in the interval.

18. Before concluding this preface, I must acknowledge the assistance received from various quarters, during the course of the present Census operations. In the work of such a gigantic nature as the Census, in which so many individuals (both officials and non-officials) of varied capacity and knowledge are concerned and where every one of them has rendered help ungrudgingly, it is invidious to select names for special mention. To all and sundry my grateful thanks are therefore due for their untiring efforts, which have enabled me to bring the operations to a successful conclusion.

I wish here to be allowed to place on record my highest obligations to the Hon'ble Mr. R. E. Holland, C.S.I., I.C.S., who, as Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana, and Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, fully supported me throughout in all my endeavours to organize the operations, and to Mr. J. T. Marten, I.C.S., the Census Commissioner for India, for the patience with which he advised me on various important matters of detail referred to him, as well as, for his general help.

I must also express my thanks to all the Political Officers and Darbars for their assistance throughout the operations.

The Local Census Superintendents, appointed by Darbars in their respective States, were generally intelligent and capable officials, and all of them discharged their duties with unflinching zeal and energy. Among these, the names of Munshis Nanag Ram of Jaipur, Din Dayal of Dholpur, and Raghubar Dayal of Bundi; Lala Jai Gopal Puri of Bikaner and Pandit Ram Bhadra Ojha of Alwar require special notice. Their services were invaluable and their work thorough and accurate in the Enumeration stage: they took special interest in the enumeration of the Railway population. Rai Bahadur Munshi Piarey Lal, Superintendent of Excise, Ajmer-Merwara, deserves credit for his work in the Enumeration stage. He had to work under very difficult conditions prevailing in the City of Ajmer at the time. Pandit Bishambhar Nath Kaul of Marwar, Lala Tirbhawan Lal of Mewar and Munshi Kanahiya Lal of Bharatpur were conspicuous both in the Enumeration and Tabulation stages. The first two of these had experience of previous census work and maintained their high reputation. Their experience proved to be of immense value in connection with the arrangement of the Railway Census.

Among the Deputy Superintendents in charge of the Tabulation offices, Mr. S. K. Mukerji of Bikaner; Munshis Bishambhar Dayal Bhargava of Jaipur, Piarey Lal of Sirohi, and Prabhu Dayal of Bundi; and Pandit Goverdhan Lal of Jhalawar, may be specially mentioned for their good work.

Among the Industrial Officers, Babu Chaturbhuj Ghelot of Marwar, Pandit Bisvesvar Nath of Jaipur and Pandit Purshotam Rao of Kotah, furnished valuable notes on Cottage and other Industries, which have been profusely drawn upon in the Report.

Coming to my office staff, I feel very greatly indebted to Munshi Chiranji Lal, Deputy Superintendent, who, as my Personal Assistant, was closely associated with me in every branch of the work relating to the operations. He did good work as Officer-in-charge of the office. Compilation of the Industrial Census Statistics, was done under his personal supervision. He also helped me in proof reading. Much useful work was done by my Head Clerk Munshi Debi Dayal. His experience of the Census of 1911 proved invaluable. Especially creditable was the manner in which he carried out the compilation of the indices of Castes and Occupations, the checking of Tables and figures in the Report and proof reading. He proved himself to be careful, trustworthy and capable in every way. Munshi Jai Kishen Das, who was in the beginning employed as a clerk in my office, was appointed Compilation Inspector and Report Clerk, when the compilation office was established. He supervised the compilation of the Subsidiary Tables and read the proof of the Report very carefully. All the diagrams were prepared under his personal supervision. He is a capable official and was of invaluable help to me in every way. Of the rest, the name of Munshi Maharaj Narain, my second Clerk, deserves mention. In addition to his legitimate work as an Accountant he assisted in all the branches of the Census work and specially supervised the compilation of Tables.

In conclusion, I would express my indebtedness to the Newul Kishore Press for printing the bulk of the census forms and supplying them to various offices in time.

I have also to thank Mr. Meikle, Superintendent, Government Printing, India, for the close personal attention he has given to the printing of this Report. The proofs sent by him were all excellently set up.