HAPPY INDIA

HAPPY INDIA

AS IT MIGHT BE IF GUIDED BY MODERN SCIENCE

ARNOLD LUPTON



LONDON: GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN LTD. RUSKIN HOUSE, 40 MUSEUM STREET, W.C. r



PREFACE

THE writer of this book having read about Indian famines and statements as to the generally halfstarved condition of a large part of the Indian population, decided to visit that country in order to get some idea of its actual condition. He travelled from north to south and east to west. Furnished with introductions to the Governor-General and the three Presidency Governors, he had access to Indian Civil Servants and Indian gentlemen from whom he got information. Also he conversed with labouring agriculturalists and inspected some of their dwellings. He found a great mass of statistics in the publications of the Indian Government, and reports and books by men of eminence and of scientific attainments, and by Engineers, Agriculturalists, Economists, Medical Men, Professors and Teachers of great Indian experience. The India Office in Westminster and in Calcutta, and the Indian Trade Commissioner in the City and Indian gentlemen resident in London gave valuable information.

From what he has seen, heard and read, he finds that the men of knowledge confirm each other in their various statements, and he has been forced to the conclusion that India requires to be guided by men of science.

Under such a regime there would be abundance even for the poorest classes: granaries filled in good seasons would provide food for both men and cattle during seasons of drought. The poor labourer would have money for simple pleasures, and all classes might join in a prosperity that would make INDIA A HAPPY COUNTRY.

CONTENTS

	_
Brief description of geography, climate, animals, population, history—Capacities and occupation of the people	
Chapter II	21
Reasons for a visit to India—William Digby—Prosperous British India—Some of the people half-starved—Good introductions—Centralised government—Discreditable to Government that there should be a great population insufficiently fed—Governor-Generals waste time and the resources of Empire in warlike expeditions—Better to raise the wages of the workmen—Extraordinary condition—Small British nation in control of enormous population of India—British Members of Parliament should visit India—British residents in India would be pleased—Moplah trouble—Caliphat—Landowners and tenants.	
CHAPTER III	31
Do the Indians of high caste interest themselves in the welfare of Indians of low caste?—What the British have done to benefit India—What they have failed to do—Desperate poverty of the cultivator and labourer—Contentment.	
CHAPTER JV	38
Agricultural statistics—90 per cent. of the labouring producers engaged in agriculture—72 per cent. of the	

population engaged in agricultur—Small production of grain per acre—William Digby says in the year 1899—1900 the average income of the working classes equalled a halfpenny a day for each man, woman and child—In years of scarcity numbers die—Digby blames Government—Mismanagement—Excessive taxes—Drain of £30,000,000 to Britain—An engineer finds it difficult to accept this view without qualifications.	PAGI
Chapter V	49
Criticisms useless, unless remedies suggested—In India dung of cattle used as fuel, not as manure—Soil impoverished, wheat crops of 400 lb. per acre—Is produce fairly divided between cultivator, landowner, money-lender, revenue?—The cultivators have no other fuel, there being no wood—Gujarat exception—Plantations for firewood required—Himalayan forests could supply wood, collieries could supply coal—British honour involved.	
CHAPTER VI	54
Mercator's projection misleading for landsmen—Enormous area of India—Forest area, possibility of forest supplies of fuel—Enormous profit resulting—Railway and motor lorry conveyance—Government has no capital, must borrow to make roads and railways necessary for full use of forests—Coal supplies possible—Weight of cowdung burnt and of wood or coal required as substitute—Growth of timber in plantations—Enormous profits from resulting increase of crops—Reafforestation Etawah district of United Provinces—Some statistics of forests—Table I.	
CHAPTER VII	67
Afforestation—Lowering the level of the Jumna—Benskin, Trowscoed, Elsworth Huntingdon—Cost of afforestation at Etawah—Benefits resulting from afforestation—Forests cut down and burnt down to make room for cultivation; burnt down accidentally—Destruction of forests,	

ษ	ŀ		
2408			

causes destructive forrents—In a dry country forests do not re-establish themselves without protection—Afforestation very profitable to the nation—Bearing on the question of manure and crops.

CHAPTER VIII .

74

Manure, everybody knows it is necessary—River floods provide manure-Succeeding crops of corn impoverish the soil-Minerals necessary: lime, potash, phosphates, also nitrates-Hydro-carbons provided by air and water -Green manure for nitrogen-John Kenny, results of manure on Indian farms-United States experiments, cotton crop, manure required-Kenny continued-Madras Department of Agriculture-Paddy per acre-Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa-W. A. Davis-Indigo, oats, superphosphates-Board of Agriculture, Pusa, exhaustion of Indian soils-Indian problem solved. Ashburner-Bartle Frere, manure necessary-Supply of artificial manures cost £60,000,000-Cost how repaid-Supply of fuel; plantations. Forestry Department to undertake this-Government agricultural chemists to advise on manures Complete manures required The work should be begun at once.

CHAPTER IX

95

Table showing quantity and value of Indian agricultural production, also value of all other production—
Total value, £1,902,636,000 per annum. Explanations of Table—India might become a wealthy country—Its income might be increased £1,550,000,000 a year—This is worth consideration—Tables II, III, IV, V, VI, VIA, VII.

CHAPTER X

. II2

Indian landowners exempted from income tax; take major portion of rent—If production increased, labourers will get better pay—This book does not deal with controversial political problems—All governments are

necessarily bad, but some are worse than others—Scope in India for all the energy of the people in combating natural difficulties of soil and climate and utilising enormous natural resources.

CHAPTER XI . . .

. 118

Preventable diseases in India—Cholera due to defective water supply-Plague due to insanitary huts-Small-pox due to insanitary conditions and starvation-Vaccination useless—Dysentery, various kinds of unhealthy conditions—"Fevers"; malaria killed 11,000,000 people in 1918-Kills on an average 4,000,000 a year or more-"Fevers" debilitate the entire population in malarious districts-Dr. Sir Ronald Ross-Mosquito transmits malaria-Panama Canal made healthy by destruction of mosquitoes-Ross's teaching successfully adopted in other places-Example near Madras-Quinine a failure -If Indian Government gave the necessary orders to staff of engineers, malaria would be greatly reduced, perhaps abolished-Draining of swamps, ponds, excavations-Eastern Bengal free from malaria because of floods bringing manurial silt and people in consequence well fed-Western Bengal, in parts where strong river embankments made to protect the railways, prevent flooding and consequent enrichment of soil by flooding; malaria prevails to a serious extent-Mosquitoes prevented on some Malay rubber estates -- Mosquitoes object to muddy water -Government should order the engineers to stop this malaria, and supply them with the requisite funds, or else the Government should resign.

CHAPTER XII

. I34

Population question—Tables showing population and its increase every ten years—Early marriage and tendency to rapid increase—Tendency checked by fevers and other diseases—Agricultural population cannot increase so readily as a manufacturing population—The leaders and teachers must impress on the people the need of

reducing rate of increase-The alternative is di	se200.
misery and famine-Room in India for increase of	num-
bers, but the increase must not exceed about one n	alllion
a year-Strong comments—Table VIII.	

Food supply, total weight of food produced—About 9 lb. per family of five per day—Fish and meat to be added, cattle consumption to be deducted—Cattle eat a large part of the food of the poor people—Food production at present insufficient—Increase of food production necessary for the health of the people, and for the well-being of the cattle.

Supply to India of artificial manures—Price of manures—Indian cultivator refuses to pay prices because he is so poor—Artificial manures essential, more phosphoric acid necessary—Government must pay for these manures and take repayment out of the increased crop—Superphosphate can be made in India from imported mineral phosphate and imported sulphur—Mineral potash salts also required—Mineral nitrates also required—India can make nitrolin from the air—Great profit will result—No great outlay of capital necessary—The expenditure on manures would be very much less than the cost of an army to keep in subjection a discontented people—Delay in business fatal to success—There must be no delay here.

Hydraulic power—Vast water power in India on account of heavy rainfall on high mountains—Novel hydroelectric works of Messrs. Tata—Hydraulic power from reservoir 60,000 horse-power now being used in Bombay—100 million horse-power might be utilised eventually—The money wasted on military adventures if laid out on useful works would make India a wealthy country.

Снарт	er XVI							•		•	168
to to k W G el	he irrigat b successfu b surface k ept down- ithout san overnmen lectric stat or the ma	d irrigoy cap —Mr. id—A it very ions g	gation pillary John n inve y slov genera	Later Ashing a control of the contro	nds pon un ord's ord v proce seful	oison less : tube ery g eding for ir	ed by subsoint well great in greati	salt il wat pump impor use it on we	brouger le ps watance —Hy	ght vel ter dro	
Снарт	ER XVI	Ι.					•				177
	oal and ire					and :	motor	cars	help	to	
Снарт	ER XVI	II	•	•			•	•			179
F m se m	overnment or instant noney which lives into nittees to nust reformancement	ce, the care slave regular	e ear not i ery—. ite lo	ily m be rep Agric ans a	arria paid, ulturand r	ges, poor al ba ate o	the l men anks- f inte	sellin -Loca rest-	wing g the il co Peo	of m- m- pie	
Index	κ				:	• .				•	185