

ECONOMIC HISTORY OF INDIA (1526-1900)

A BIBLIOGRAPHIC ESSAY

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INDIAN Economic History is a neglected branch of both Economics and History. Indian economists have generally concentrated on the problems of the present, ignoring the past. They have not given sufficient weight to the fact that whatever be the aspect one may take up, a study of human institutions is essentially a study of continuities and, therefore, it is indispensable to dig the past as well. Most Indian historians, on the other hand, have preferred to treat Economic History as secondary to political, administrative and social histories and, hence, only give a sketch of the economic conditions of the masses in a particular period to complete the overall picture. The most outstanding examples of this are *The Cambridge History of India* (S. Chand & Co., New Delhi), Vols. IV, V and VI and *The History and Culture of the Indian People* (Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, Bombay), Vols. IX and X. Nonetheless, books and papers have been published from time to time on the subject and any attempt to list and analyse them will be fruitful. The first effort in this direction was made by W. H. Moreland. His article entitled "Recent Work in Indian Economic History" was published in *The Economic History Review*, Vol. II, No. 1, January, 1921. The second attempt was made by M. D. Morris and B. Stein. Their paper entitled "The Economic History of India : A Bibliographic Essay" was published in *The Journal of Economic History*, Vol. XXI, No. 2, June 1961. And the third attempt, though on a much smaller scale, was made by T. Raychaudhuri and E. N. Komarov. *Contributions to Indian Economic History*, Vols. I and II (Firma K. L. Mukhopadhyay, Calcutta, 1960 and 1963) edited by T. Raychaudhuri is a collection of papers. Among other papers, his own paper deals with "Some Recent Writings on the British Indian Economic History." It contains a review on 14 books. For those who possess a sound knowledge of Russian, E. N. Komarov's essay "Survey of Russian Pre-Revolutionary and Soviet