

## NOTES AND MEMORANDA

### *Bibliography on Indian Economic History*

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BIBLIOGRAPHY PROJECT

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During the first eighteen months of the Bibliography Project (April 1972-September 1973) about 9500 works have been annotated. They include: 1100 books, 3500 periodical articles, 950 British parliamentary papers, 900 committee reports, 60 serials, 200 census publications, 1700 selections from records, 800 acts and regulations and 100 gazetteers. The work on serials was suspended for some time due to non-availability of suitable persons. Recently that work has been taken up again. Annotation of gazetteers has been newly undertaken. Thus, except for the theses, the annotation work is now proceeding in all the sections of the Bibliography Project.

Of the ten check-lists, those relating to theses, parliamentary papers, selections from records, gazetteers, census publications, committee reports and periodicals are ready. The check-lists of acts and regulations, serials and books are under preparation. The check-list of theses was published as a Supplement to March 1973 number of the *Indian Economic and Social History Review*. The next supplement of the Review will contain the check-list of selections from records.

As for some of the important contents of the material recently annotated, there were a number of Parliamentary Papers on the 'silver question' referring to the period 1800 to 1890, discussing in great detail the problem of depreciation in the value of silver. Comparative international statistics on the production, coinage, imports and exports of silver, gold and other metals like copper is available. The British Government had invited reports from their representatives in various countries and these are published in the House of Commons papers numbers 338 of 1876, 120 of 1877, 208 of 1878-79, 227 of 1884-85 etc. A parliamentary paper on Indian marine surveys, covering the period 1820 to 1847, gives detailed information on the results of the surveys, the dangerous areas for sea travel, locations of lighthouses, expenditures involved, etc. A series of parliamentary papers annotated deal with the emigration of Indian labour to various British colonies. The papers contain detailed statistics on the number of labourers emigrated, their wages, food articles supplied