

Reorganization of States in India
with particular reference to
The Formation of Maharashtra

Sanjivani Maharashtra Parishad Publication

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**Reorganization of States in India
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The Formation of Maharashtra**

Being
the Memorandum

Submitted by
The Samyukta Maharashtra Parishad
to
The States Reorganization Commission

31-5-1954.

**Topiwalla Mansion,
Vallabhbai Patel Road
Bombay 4.**

A BRIEF NOTE

ON

THE SAMYUKTA MAHARASHTRA PARISHAD

The aims and objects of the Samyukta Maharashtra Parishad are to bring into being a State of Maharashtra in the Indian Union comprising all contiguous territories of the speakers of Marathi, now divided into different political units, i.e. Bombay, Madhya Pradesh and Hyderabad States. The Parishad since its inception in 1946 is continuously striving for the realisation of this aim.

Though the demand for a separate linguistic State of Maharashtra is actively being made during the last 10 years, its necessity was felt long ago and the great political leader Late Lokmanya Tilak included the demand for formation of linguistic provinces in the Manifesto of the Congress Democratic Party in 1918. Leading Marathi periodicals and literary organisations in Maharashtra had on many occasions expressed their views in favour of forming a linguistic province of Maharashtra. In 1940, a conference held at Poona under the Presidentship of the late Shri T. J. Kedar, Vice-Chancellor, Nagpur University, demanded the formation of a separate linguistic province of Maharashtra.

The session of the Marathi literary conference held at Belgaum in May 1946, unanimously passed a resolution demanding the formation of the State of United Maharashtra, and appointed a sub-committee to create an organization striving for this objective. The sub-committee in its first meeting in Poona in the same month resolved to hold a conference in Bombay to give expression to public opinion in Maharashtra regarding the unification of all Marathi speaking territories into one political unit. Accordingly in July 1946, the session of the Maharashtra Unification Conference was held

in Bombay under the Chairmanship of Shri Shankarrao Deo, with Shri S. K. Patil as the Chairman of the reception committee. The conference passed a resolution demanding the immediate formation of United Maharashtra and also resolved to start a separate organisation called the Samyukta Maharashtra Parishad to make all efforts to achieve this end. A provisional Committee was formed for the purpose and a sub-committee to prepare the constitution of the Parishad was appointed. The constitution of the Parishad as drafted by the sub-committee was finally adopted in September 1946 and elections were held immediately according to the provisions of the constitution. Thus by the end of October 1946, a regularly constituted Samyukta Maharashtra Parishad had started working. A general meeting of the Parishad was held in April 1947, at Jalgaon and the executive committee of the Parishad was elected, with Shri Shankarrao Deo, the then general secretary of Congress, as President and the following Vice-Presidents: Prof. D. V. Potdar, Poona; Shri Keshavrao Jedhe, Poona; Shri Brijlal Biyani, Akola; Shri Poonamchand Ranka, Nagpur; Shri D. G. Bindoo, Hyderabad. A number of pamphlets and booklets on the question of linguistic provinces, United Maharashtra and future of Bombay city were published by the Parishad during 1947 and 1948.

The appointment of the Dar Commission by the President of the Constituent Assembly to report on the question of linguistic provinces was announced in June 1947. The Parishad sent its replies to the questionnaire issued by the Commission and a strong representative delegation of the Parishad waited on the Commission in Bombay. With a view to demonstrating public opinion and the overwhelming support to the demand for United Maharashtra, a session of the Samyukta Maharashtra Conference was held at Shivaji Park, Dadar in October 1948 with Shri Ramrao Deshmukh of Amraoti as President. It was a memorable session and was attended by nearly one lac persons.

The activities of the Parishad slackened to some extent between 1949 and 1953. But regional committees of the

Parishad especially in the border tracts of Maharashtra and in Bombay city remained continuously alive to this problem and held several conferences in their areas demanding the speedy formation of United Maharashtra. Various political parties in Maharashtra were also carrying on their activities for the creation of United Maharashtra from their respective party platforms.

The creation of Andhra State and the announcement of the intention of Government to appoint a High-power Commission to deal with this problem pointed to the need for the Parishad to function actively again. Steps began to be taken in 1953 to bring this about. The Parishad had since its inception remained an organisation representing all parties and shades of opinion in Maharashtra and desired to continue as such. However, the general council of the Parishad and its executive had been elected in 1946. With the lapse of more than six years it became clear that the composition of the council and committees of the Parishad needed change and reorganisation. Consequently, a general meeting of the Parishad was held in October 1953 to consider this problem. The meeting authorised the executive to reorganise the Parishad, and the old general council of the Parishad was dissolved and an Ad hoc general Council was nominated. The meeting also authorised the executive to make necessary changes in its constitution in the light of changed circumstances. The new general council met in December 1953 and elected its new executive and also endorsed the amendments suggested to the constitution.

The names of the office-bearers and members of the executive Committee given below would clearly show the strength and representative character of the Parishad.

Members of the Executive Committee

President

- (1) Shri Shankarrao Deo, Ex. general secretary, Indian National Congress, Poona.

Working President

- (2) Shri Bhausahab Hiray, Minister for Revenue etc.; Bombay.

Vice Presidents

- (3) Swami Ramanand Tirth, M.P., Ex-President Hyderabad State Congress Committee, Hyderabad.
- (4) Dr. Gopalrao Khedkar, M.P., President, Vidarbha Pradesh Congress Committee, Akola.
- (5) Shri Deokinandan Narayan, M.P., President, Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee, Jalgaon.
- (6) Shri Keshavrao Jedhe, Ex-President, Maharashtra Shetkari Kamkari Party, Poona.
- (7) Shri D. V. Potdar, Mahamahopadhyaya, Poona.

Joint Treasurers

- (8) Shri D. R. Gharpure, Ex. Municipal Corporator, (Congress) Bombay.
- (9) Shri L. H. Kanhere, Municipal Corporator, (Congress), Bombay.

Joint Secretaries

- (10) Dr. T. R. Naravane, Deputy Minister, Bombay.
- (11) Shri A. S. Patwardhan, Journalist, Nagpur.
- (12) Dr. Y. K. Sovani, Poona.
- (13) Shri G. M. Shroff, Aurangabad.
- (14) Shri Yashvantrao Mohite, M.L.A., (Shetkari Kamkari Party) Karad.

Members

- (15) Shri Ramrao Deshmukh, M.P., Ex-Minister, Amraoti.
- (16) Shri S. K. Wankhede, Deputy Speaker, Nagpur.

- (17) Shri P. K. Deshmukh, Minister for Education, Nagpur.
- (18) Shri R. K. Patil, Minister for Development, Nagpur.
- (19) Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh, Minister for Agriculture (Central), New Delhi.
- (20) Shri Digambarrao Bindu, Home Minister, Hyderabad.
- (21) Shri Fulchand Gandhi, M.L.A., Hyderabad.
- (22) Shri Devisingh Chauhan, M.L.A., Hyderabad.
- (23) Shri Babasaheb Paranjpe, M.P., Hyderabad.
- (24) Shri Yashvantrao Chavan, Minister for Local-Self Government, Bombay.
- (25) Shri D. K. Kunte, Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Bombay.
- (26) Prof. D. R. Gadgil, Director, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona.
- (27) Shri D. V. Gokhale, Ex-Editor, 'Kesari', Poona.
- (28) Shri R. K. Khadilkar, Secretary, Shetkari Kamkari Party, Poona.
- (29) Shri S. M. Joshi, M.L.A. (Praja-Socialist), Poona.
- (30) Shri B. R. Sunthankar, President, Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti, Belgaum.
- (31) Shri S. S. Navare, Journalist, Bombay.
- (32) Shri S. A. Dange, Member, Polit-bureau of the Communist Party of India, General Secy., A.I.T.U.C., Bombay.
- (33) Shri Peter Alvares, Ex-Municipal Corporator (Praja-Socialist), Bombay.
- (34) Dr. M. U. Mascarenhas, M.L.A. (Congress) Bombay.
- (35) Shri Suleman A. Latif, President, Bharatiya Muslim Seva Sangh, Bombay.
- (36) Shri V. R. Tulla, M.L.A. (Congress), Bombay.
- (37) Shri N. G. Gore, Ex-Secretary, Praja-Socialist Party, Poona.
- (38) Rajabhadur Govindlal Shivilal, Ex-President, Indian Merchants Chamber, Bombay.

- (39) Shri D. M. Kulkarni, President, Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti, Karwar.
- (40) Shri S. M. Dahanukar, M.L.C. (Congress), Industrialist, Bombay:
- (41) Mrs. Manorama Phadke, Social Worker, Bombay.

The drafting committee, who prepared the memorandum which is being submitted to the commission was appointed by the executive committee in their meeting in Feb. 1954, with Prof. D. R. Gadgil, as Chairman. Following were the members of the Drafting Committee.

Prof. D. R. Gadgil (Chairman).

Shri Ramrao Deshmukh.

„ G. M. Shroff.

„ N. G. Gore.

„ R. K. Khadilkar.

„ S. A. Dange.

„ S. K. Wankhede.

„ S. R. Date, Secretary, Maharashtra Hindu Mahasabha, Poona.

„ B. M. Gupte, M.P. (Congress), Poona.

„ B. C. Kamble, M.L.A. (Scheduled Caste Fed.) Bombay.

„ Shankerrao Chavan, M.L.A. (Congress—H'bad) Nanded.

„ Y. K. Sovani (Secretary).

The memorandum was finalised in the meeting of the drafting committee on 25-5-54 and subsequently placed for approval and sanction before the executive in its meeting on 26-5-54 when the executive committee unanimously approved the memorandum.

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APPENDIX I
Area and Population (1951 Census) of the Marathi
Districts of Bombay, Madhya Pradesh and Hyderabad States
Bombay State

Districts	Area Sq. Miles	Total Population	Marathi Speakers	Percentage of Marathi	P.C. of other impt. Speakers
1. E. Khandesh	4467	1471351	1262452	86	
2. W. Khandesh	5405	1146024	672479	59	28 Bhili
3. Nasik	6013	1429916	1278928	89	
4. Ahmednagar	6472	1410873	1270742	90	
5. Sholapur	5814	1505316	1090562	72	13 Kannad
6. Poona.	6023	1950976	1685066	86	
7. N. Satara	4023	1175309	1125727	96	
8. S. Satara	3324	1000141	826068	83	10 Kannad
9. Kolhapur	2794	1227547	1038504	85	
10. Ratnagiri	4983	1711964	1636002	96	
11. Kolaba	2712	909083	846996	93	
12. Thana	3756	1518050	1137513	75	10 Gujarati
13. Dangs	658	47282	45017	96	
14. Greater Bombay	99	2839270	1236874	44	18 Gujarati 10 Urdu
Total	56543	19343102	15153530	78	

Border tracts and Bilingual Talukas—Bombay State

Taluka	Area Sq. Miles	Total Population	Marathi Speakers	Percentage of Marathi	P.C. of other impt. Speakers
Belgaum Dist.					
1. Changed	394	144488		* 94	
2. Khanapur	675	88341		* 57	*32 Kannad
3. Belgaum	394	154747		* 46	*36 Kannad
4. Athani	744	185609		* 18	*72 Kannad
5. Chikodi	479	174420		* 42	*49 Kannad
6. Hukeri	382	146006			
7. Raibag	372	91449			
Karwar Dist.					
1. Supa	732	18159		12 * 78 Konkani	
2. Karwar	284	78725		3 * 70 Konkani	*21 Kannad
3. Haliyal	315	36516		* 53	* 29 Kannad
4. Yellapur	508	19112		* 36 Konkani	*52 Kannad
5. Ankola	348	48181		* 28 Konkani	* 68 Kannad
Surat Dist.					
1. Dharampur	575	112109		* 95	
2. Bansda	234	63965		* 54	*43 Gujarati

Madhya Pradesh

Districts	Area Sq. Miles	Total Population	Marathi Speakers	Percentage of Marathi	P.C. of other impt. Speakers
1. Akola	4093	950994	750165	79	10 Urdu
2. Buldana	3760	870168	720940	83	
3. Yeotmal	5238	931982	645867	69	10 Banjari
4. Amraoti	4715	1031160	803615	78	
5. Nagpur	3842	1234556	924186	75	12 Hindi
6. Wardha	2429	538903	449353	83	
7. Chanda	9223	977618	718240	73	10 Telugu
8. Bhandara	3580	1071657	715158	67	17 Hindi 12 Gondi
Total	36880	7607038	5727524	75	

Border tracts and Bilingual Tehsils—Madhya Pradesh

Chhindwara Dist.					
1. Saunsar	1114	174484		* 48 * 28 Gondi	*13 Hindi
Balaghat Dist.					
1. Baihar	1556	124772		* 6 * 19 Gondi	*63 Hindi
2. Waraseoni	916	322851		* 33	*53 Hindi
3. Balaghat	1085	245756		* 33	*56 Hindi

Border tracts and Bilingual Tehsils—Madhya Pradesh

Tehsil	Area Sq. Miles	Total Population	Marathi Speakers	Percentage of Marathi	P.C. of other impt. Speakers
Betul Dist.					
1. Bhainsdehi	1340.			* 22 * 32	Gondi
2. Multai	972	186669		* 35	*21 Hindi
Nimar Dist.					
1. Burhanpur	1138	176410		* 43	*46 Hindi

Bilingual talukas or tehsils included in Marathi districts of Bombay State and Madhya Pradesh

1. Jat (S. Satara)	874	108270		* 53	*39 Kannad
1. S. Sholapur (Sholapur)	461	93503			
2. Akkalkot („)	537	149647		* 30	*54 Kannad
1. Sironcha (Chanda)	3089	93726		*12 *47	Gondi *39 Telugu

* Percentages of Marathi speakers in the talukas or tehsils of border bilingual tracts of Bombay State and Madhya Pradesh are based on 1931 census. Talukawise linguistic information is not published in 1951 Census Reports.

Hyderabad State

Districts	Area Sq. Miles	Total Population	Marathi Speakers	Percentage of Marathi	P.C. of other impt. Speakers
1. Aurangabad	6318	1179404	899154	76	14 Urdu
2. Bhir	4279	826046	715415	87	
3. Osmanabad	3707	807452	676270	84	
4. Parbhani	4855	1010864	843860	83	12 Urdu
5. Nanded	3902	949936	621914	65	14 Telugu 11 Urdu
Total	23061	4773702	3756613		

Border tracts and Bilingual Tehsils—Hyderabad State

Bidar Dist.					
1. Nilanga	536	132835	106357	80	
2. Ahmedpur	609	133846	116426	87	
3. Udgir	632	135908	103223	77	
4. Bhalki	589	140454	52265	38	48 Kannad
5. Santpur	456	91357	35057	39	40 Kannad
6. Aurad					
7. Humnabad	592	168285	28439	17	49 Kannad

Border tracts and Bilingual Tehsils—Hyderabad State

Tehsil	Area Sq. Miles	Total Population	Marathi Speakers	Percentage of Marathi	P.C. of other impt. Speakers
Adilabad Dist.					
1. Kinavat	609	73118	31488	44	11 Telugu
2. Rajura	776	75357	48017	64	
3. Utnoor	726	34404	4417	13	12 Telugu
4. Boath	708	72372	14988	21	40 Telugu
5. Adilabad	580	101611	19140	19	59 Telugu
6. Asifabad	834	92245	22525	24	55 Telugu
7. Sirpur	856	104091	30301	30	55 Telugu
Gulbarga Dist.					
1. Aland	678	134524	11937	10	80 Kannad

Bilingual tehsils included in Marathi districts of Hyderabad State

Nander Dist.					
1. Deglur	529	134217	46976	35	31 Telugu 20 Kannad
2. Mudhol	541	127043	43329	35	45 Telugu

APPENDIX II

THE NAGPUR AGREEMENT

1. Now that a high power Commission is being appointed to report on the question of reorganising and regrouping of the States in India, we, the people residing in the various parts of the Marathi-speaking area, have reached the following conclusions as a basis for the formation of a single State comprising all such areas.

2. This State should be formed of the contiguous Marathi speaking areas of the present Bombay, Madhya Pradesh and the Hyderabad States. There should be no enclaves within the limits and boundaries of this State. It shall be called Maharashtra or Marathi Pradesh and the city of Bombay shall be its capital.

3. The State will comprise of the three units of Maha-Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of the State for the purposes of all types of development and administration.

4. Subject to the requirements of a single Government, the allocation of funds for expenditure over the different units will be in proportion to their population but in view of the undeveloped conditions of Marathwada special attention shall be given to promote the all-sided development of that area. A report in this behalf shall be placed before the State Assembly every year.

5. The composition of the Government shall reflect the proportion of the population of the units.

6. Fair and adequate facilities in proportion to the population of these units shall be assured for admission to all educational institutions having training facilities in vocational and scientific professions or other specialised training.

7. The High Court of the new State will have its principle seat at Bombay and a second seat at Nagpur. The Bench

at Nagpur will ordinarily function for the Mahavidarbha area. While making recommendations of High-court Judges it shall be seen that the Mahavidarbha area gets adequate representation in respect of appointments from the services and the *bar*. This paragraph will also apply to Marathwada area *Mutatis Mutandis*.

8. In the matter of services under Government or Government-controlled enterprises—of all grades—recruitment will be in proportion to the population of the respective units.

9. We believe in decentralisation as an effective means of better associating the people of the different units with the administration.

10. We realise the long association of the people of Mahavidarbha with Nagpur as a capital of their State and the various advantages consequently derived by them from it. We are anxious that subject to the efficient conduct of administration of a single State those advantages should be preserved to the extent possible. All steps necessary to implement this clause will be taken on the advice of experts. The Government shall officially shift to Nagpur for a definite period and at least, one session of the State Legislature shall be held every year in Nagpur.

11. The district boundaries shall be adjusted on the basis of latest Census, with village as the unit so as to include all the contiguous Marathi-speaking areas in the New State.

Nagpur

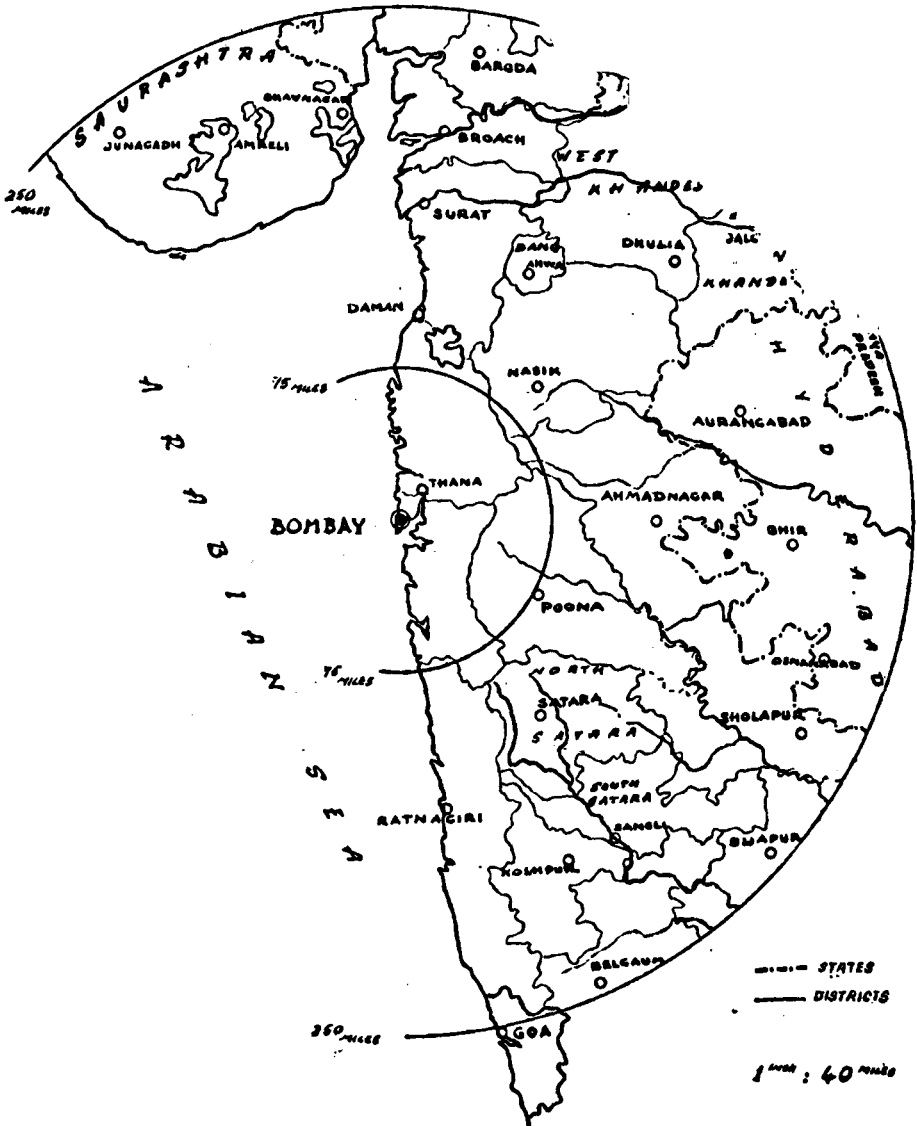
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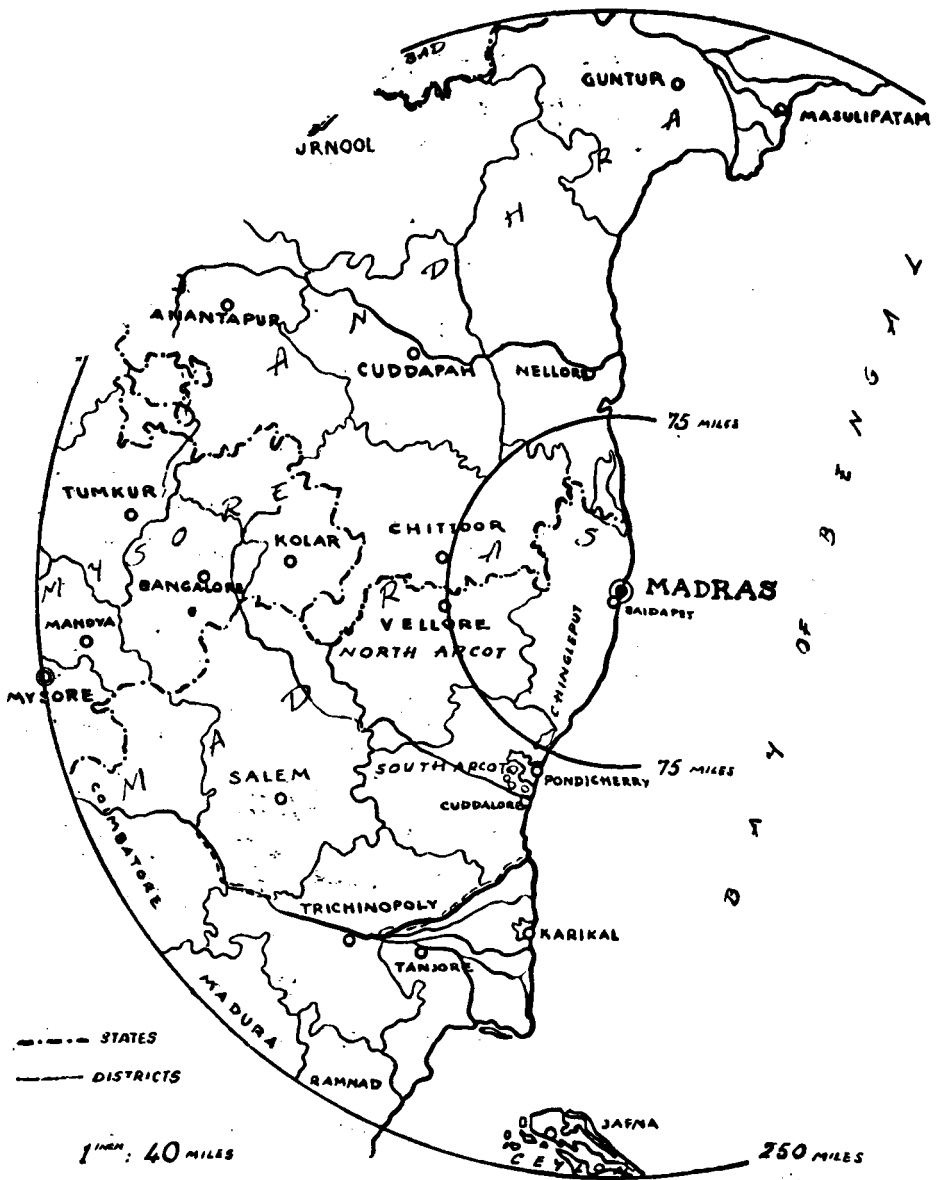
R. K. Patil.
P. K. Deshmukh.
Bhau Saheb Hiray.
Devakinandan.
Yeshwantrao Chavan.
Laxmanrao Bhatkar.
Pandharinath Patil.

Sd.

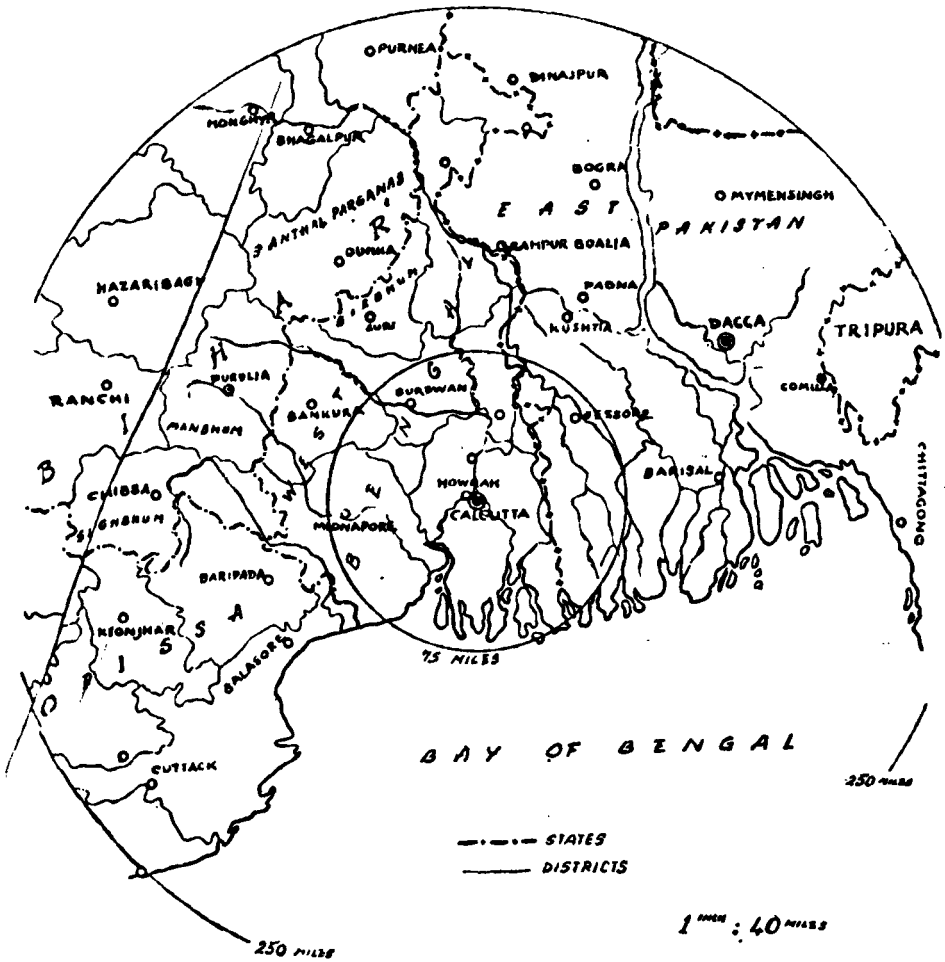
Ramrao Deshmukh.
Gopalrao Khedkar.
Sheshrao Wankhede.
Nana Kunte.



Map showing the territory within two Radii of 75 and 250 miles with their centre at Bombay Refer page 63



Map showing the territory within two Radii of 75 and 250 miles with their centre at Madras Refer page 63



Map showing the territory within two Radii of 75 and 250 miles with their centre at Calcutta Refer page 63

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