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DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE

Report on Economic and Commercial Conditions in INDIA

By SIR THOMAS M. AINSCOUGH, C.B.E.
H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner in India and Ceylon

1935-36

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DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE

COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION ABROAD.

To foster British overseas trade, the Department controls the following services of Commercial Intelligence Officers:—

1. IN THE EMPIRE.

The Trade Commissioner and Imperial Trade Correspondent Services.

At the present time there are 18 Trade Commissioners' offices. These are situated, four in Canada (Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg); two each in South Africa (Capetown, Johannesburg), Australia (Sydney, Melbourne), India (Calcutta and Bombay—to cover also Ceylon), and British West Indies (Trinidad, Jamaica); and one each in New Zealand (Wellington), Irish Free State (Dublin), Malaya (Singapore) and British East Africa (Nairobi).

The Trade Commissioners have the assistance of Imperial Trade Correspondents at a number of important centres.

There are also Imperial Trade Correspondents in those parts of the Empire to which Trade Commissioners have not been appointed.

The Department is represented in India, Burma and Ceylon by Sir Thomas M. Aincough, C.B.E., H.M. Senior Trade Commissioner, whose headquarters are at Calcutta; Mr. A. Schofield, H.M. Trade Commissioner, Calcutta; and Mr. W. D. Montgomery Clarke, H.M. Trade Commissioner, Bombay.

2. IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

(a) The Commercial Diplomatic Service attached to the British Diplomatic Missions.

There are 38 Commercial Diplomatic posts situated in all the more important foreign markets of the world. The members of the Commercial Diplomatic Service are styled "Commercial Counsellors" in the highest grade, and "Commercial Secretaries" in the three lower grades. They are members of the staff of the British Embassy or Legation in which they serve.

The Commercial Diplomatic Officer has general supervision over the commercial work of the consular officers in his area, and with the co-operation of these two services, a complete network of Government commercial representatives is thrown over foreign countries.

(b) The British Consular Service.

Particular attention has been given to the commercial side of consular work since the re-organisation of the service. In certain countries where no Commercial Diplomatic Officer is stationed the senior Consular Officer undertakes duties of a similar character.

Further information regarding the above services can be obtained on application to the Department of Overseas Trade, 35, Old Queen Street, London, S.W.1.

Members of United Kingdom firms are urged to call upon the Department's representative abroad when they visit an overseas country. It is also important that they should make a point of their representatives abroad keeping in close touch with the Department's officers.

NOTE.

It should be understood that the views expressed in annual reports are the views of the officers themselves, and are not necessarily in all respects those of the Department.

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