

PREFACE.

THE present volume contains the monthly statements of rainfall published by the various Local Governments for the year 1899, and gives practically the whole of the available rainfall data for that year of the Indian Empire. Symons's rain-gauges were in use at the great majority of stations during the whole of the year, the only important exception being the Mysore rain-gauge stations, which are provided with rain-gauges of local construction. The rainfall is measured at all stations daily at 8 A.M., and the entries for each day in the tables give the rainfall of the 24 hours preceding 8 A.M. of the date in question.

The tables are arranged according to provinces, and not according to months, that is, the whole of the rainfall data of each province is given together, and the provinces are arranged, so far as possible, in the order adopted in the Daily Weather Report and other publications of the Department.

The tables are drawn up in a form that, it is hoped, will explain themselves. It should be carefully noted that, although the rainfall is measured to hundredths of an inch, a rainy day is assumed to be that on which a tenth of an inch or upwards has fallen, and the figures in the column "Total number of rainy days" and "Normal total number of rainy days" are calculated on this supposition.

It may be noted that the whole of the available rainfall data of the Empire was recently collected and tabulated in the India Meteorological Office, and that the average monthly rainfall and number of rainy days in each month were calculated from this tabulated information for all stations for which at least five years' rainfall statistics were available. In the great majority of cases the rainfall data extend back to 20 or 30 years. The averages thus obtained are utilized for the columns of normal data and for the comparison of normal with actual data.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA ;
ALIPORE (CALCUTTA),
The 1st April 1900.

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Government of India and Director
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