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INDIAN ECONOMICS

A COMPREHENSIVE AND CRITICAL SURVEY

RY

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PREFACE

In fully revising Volume I of Indian Economics for this (the fifth) edition. opportunity has been taken to bring facts and figures up to date. In almost every chapter of this volume additions and rearrangements have been found necessary. Chapter III on Population has been revised in the light of the latest Census Report (1931). Recent important developments concerning India's staple agricultural products, such as the decline in wheat exports and the grant of protection to Indian wheat, the striking growth of the sugar industry in recent years under the stimulus of protection, the regulation of tea exports under the International Tea Restriction Scheme, the effects of the Ottawa preferences on the exports of oil-seeds, the Japanese boycott of Indian cotton and the Indo-Japanese Trade Agreement, have been noticed. Space has been found in Chapter VIII for a description of the new provincial marketing organization. In Chapters IX and X rural debt conciliation schemes in the several provinces have been examined. the crisis in the co-operative movement and its future discussed. and the sections on land mortgage banks enlarged. Considerable additions have been made in Chapter XI in view of the all-India campaign for village uplift. In the concluding chapter, the section dealing with capital for industries has been enlarged, the part played by the managing agency system in supplying industrial finance discussed, and lastly, the position of foreign capital under the Government of India Act (1935) has been considered with special reference to the provisions relating to commercial discrimination.

> G. B. JATHAR S. G. BERI

October, 1936

EXTRACTS FROM PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

ALTHOUGH the book is primarily intended for students reading for the B.A. Honours and M.A. degrees in Economics in the different universities in India, we hope that it will be found not unworthy of the attention of teachers and economic experts. We also venture to think that the work will be found useful by publicists and legislators. It offers a main line of orientation to those who wish to become acquainted with the principal economic and politico economic problems before the country—problems which directly affect the prosperity and ought to engage the attention of ever responsible citizen.

The fundamental problem of writing a comprehensive treatist on Indian Economics is that of selection from an enormous mass of material which, moreover, is scattered through a considerable literature, much of which is fugitive in character. We have trick to condense it without rendering it indigestible and unintelligible.

We have approached controversial questions with absolute impartiality and moderation and have endeavoured to maintain the necessary 'objectivity of vision and evenness of temper'. Our ain has been to be accurate rather than exciting, useful rather than polemical.

It will be noticed that we have treated, more fully than usual agricultural and rural problems which hitherto have tended to be neglected. We consider the space we have allotted to agriculture and allied topics abundantly justified in view of their importance and the growing public interest in them.

June, 1928

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The very generous praise bestowed upon the book by teachers and students of Indian Economics and the rapid call for a second edition indicate that the book has supplied a long-felt want. Events of economic import have of late been moving with extraiordinary rapidity in India. An attempt to bring the treatment of the subject up to date has, therefore, necessarily meant the inclusion of much additional matter. As it was, however, desirable, so far as we could help it, not to increase the size of the book in the revised version, the original text has been subjected to a rigorous examination with a view to economy of space. We hope, however, that in the process of cutting out the extra trimmings, nothing of real importance has been sacrificed.

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