



BUREAU OF EDUCATION, INDIA

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**PREFACE.**

This Review deals with the progress of education in British India during the five years' period from the 1st April 1932 to the 31st March 1937. It follows generally the plan of the previous Review and is mainly based on the provincial educational reports which are the work of the following officers:—

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I am much indebted to these officers whose valuable reports have been freely used in compiling this Review, sometimes without acknowledgment. My gratitude is also due to the authorities of the universities in India who have furnished special reports which I have used in the chapter on university education. I am also grateful to the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, the Director of Military Training, the Inspector General of Forests, the Vice-Chairman, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and to others who have supplied information on the educational aspects of the subjects dealt with by them.

My indebtedness to the above and to all others who have assisted in the compilation of this report is much increased by the fact that it deals with a period prior to my taking up my duties as Educational Commissioner in India and I have consequently been much more dependent than my predecessors,

on the assistance of others. For the same reason I have confined myself almost entirely to the arrangement of the matter supplied and to verbal editing where required. I have made no attempt in the Report to examine critically any of the opinions quoted or the hopes and fears expressed. Some apology is perhaps needed for the appearance of the word 'vernacular' in various connections in this survey. Although there is now general agreement that its use should be avoided it was in common use during the quinquennium under review. Moreover even now no alternatives, which are both intelligible and concise have yet been found for such expressions as vernacular or anglo-vernacular schools, etc.

I cannot help feeling that the practical value of a survey of this kind would be substantially enhanced if the interval of time between its publication and the period to which it relates could be reduced to a minimum. The task of collecting and collating the facts and figures of educational development over so vast a field as India is not one which can be completed in a month or two under any circumstance, but with full consciousness of the difficulties involved I trust that whoever is responsible for the next quinquennial review will take such steps as are possible to expedite its issue.

Finally I have to record with great regret that Mr. Abdus Salam, Secretary of the Central Advisory Board of Education, who compiled the first draft of this report with his usual conscientious care, died suddenly just after his portion of the work was completed.

JOHN SARGENT,  
*Educational Commissioner*  
*with the Government of India.*

SIMLA :

*The 20th July 1939.*