

PROBLEMS OF RURAL INDIA

Being a collection of Addresses delivered on various occasions in India and in England

BY

NAGENDRA NATH GANGULEE, B.Sc., Ph.D.

Professor of Agriculture, Calcutta University, Member of the Royal Society of Agriculture, Member of the Royal Economic Society, Fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute, and Member of the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture, Author of ভারতবর্ষে কৃষির উন্নতি, War and Agriculture, etc.

“ The aim of the Government should be to preach to the nation the importance of a stable agriculture in the national polity.”

*The Right Hon. Edward Wood, M.P.,
Minister of Agriculture.*



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TO

THE MOST HONOURABLE

JOHN VICTOR ALEXANDER HOPE,

MARQUESS OF LINLITHGOW, D.L.

PREFACE

To publish in the form of a book a selection of lectures which I delivered on various occasions on the subject of Indian rural conditions may be considered to be an offence which it is perhaps better not to try to extenuate. These lectures do not adequately deal with the numerous complex problems associated with a constructive programme for rural betterment, nor do they attempt to expound theories of rural economics. But if the author has strong convictions, as expressed in these pages, that a diagnostic study of the factors inhibiting any process of development among the mass of Indian cultivators must form the basis of a comprehensive policy of rural construction in India, it is perhaps not unreasonable that he should wish for a wider publicity for these lectures than was possible at the time of their delivery.

I must express my sense of gratitude to Professor Satis Chandra Ray and Srijut Jogeschandra Chakravorti, Assistant Registrar of the University of Calcutta, for seeing the book through the Press during my absence. Without their assistance it would have been quite impossible for me to publish the book now. I am deeply grateful to the great Irish patriot, the Right Hon'ble Sir Horace Plunkett, K.C.V.O., D.L., P.C., for a short introduction to the book. My acknowledgments are also due to the Publication Committee of the University of Calcutta for generous encouragement given to me.

LONDON,
August, 1927.

} NAGENDRANATH GANGULEE.

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