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No. P. 11 of 1930.

From

T. F. MAIN, Esq., O.B.E., B.Sc.,
Director of Agriculture,
Bombay Presidency, Poona ;

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Revenue Department, Bombay.

Poona, 16th October 1930.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Season and Crop Report of the Bombay Presidency for the year ending 31st July 1930.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

T. F. MAIN,
Director of Agriculture.

SEASON AND CROP REPORT OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY FOR 1929-30.

CHAPTER I—CHARACTER OF THE SEASON.

1. **General.**—The agricultural season of 1929-30 was, on the whole, only moderate over a very large part of the Bombay Presidency. The special feature was the long break in the middle of the season following good rainfall in the beginning. In Gujarat after the middle of July there was little rain till the end of September with the consequence that the rice crop was more or less poor in middle parts while the good rains early in October helped the cotton and *jowar* crops to maintain their normal condition in parts of Surat and Broach districts. In Khandesh the long break had a bad effect upon the *kharif* crops, groundnut suffering most. In this tract the late rains were very deficient with the result that the *rabi* crops suffered seriously. In the South Deccan the season was unfavourable both for *kharif* and *rabi* crops owing to the unsatisfactory distribution of rainfall and the yields were far below normal. In the Karnatak the long break adversely affected the *kharif* crops but the *rabi* crop was normal. In the Konkan the *kharif* season was good in the North but not satisfactory in Ratnagiri and Kanara districts. In Sind the rainfall of the season was unparalleled. East Sind received 50 inches while the rest of the province received rainfall varying from 10 inches to 30 inches. Moreover, the river caused unprecedented floods which damaged life and property but served to leave sufficient moisture in the soil with the result that record areas were put under *rabi* crops.

2. **Distribution of Rainfall.**—Statement I (pages 36-37) compares the rainfall during the year under review with the average fall of rain at each representative station in the Bombay Presidency and Sind. The average rainfall figures for each station are, as during the last year, those supplied by the Indian Meteorological Department based on the rainfall statistics available up to and including the year 1920.

Kharif Rains.—In Gujarat, the *kharif* rains were above the average at Godhra (Panch Mahals) and Surat but below the average elsewhere. In the Deccan excepting Satara where they somewhat exceeded the average, the rains fell short of the normal at other places including the hilly tracts in the Division. In the Karnatak these *kharif* rains were slightly in excess of the normal at Bijapur and in the hilly tracts but were below the average elsewhere in the Division. In the Konkan excepting Karwar (Kanara) where they were appreciably above the average they were much below the usual amount at other places in the Division. In Sind the distribution of *kharif* rains was very uneven. In Karachi they were slightly below the normal while in the rest of the province they abnormally exceeded the average. Mirpurkhas (Thar Parkar) received more than twelve times the normal while the rainfall varied from double to five times the average in all other districts except Karachi.