

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
BUREAU OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

QUETTA EARTHQUAKE
1935

QUETTA EARTHQUAKE—1935.

MEMORANDUM.

This publication contains information made available from time to time to the Press in India and abroad in the form of communiqués, statements and reports regarding the situation at Quetta, and the measures taken in connection with relief, supplies, evacuation, and salvage. Extracts from the Press in India (both English-printed and Vernacular) and from the British Press in regard to the measures taken by the Authorities to deal with the situation are also reproduced.

As soon as possible after the disaster occurred, the Director of Public Information with the Government of India proceeded to Quetta (which he reached on the 3rd June) for the purpose of arranging for the provision of facilities for Press Correspondents there, and of ensuring that the fullest possible information regarding the situation was made available to the Public.

The Bureau of Public Information at Simla was supplied from hour to hour, by the Departments of Government concerned, with detailed information regarding the situation at Quetta and of the measures taken to provide medical relief and supplies and this was at once communicated to the Representatives of all sections of the Press.

The following Newspapers and Agencies were represented at Quetta :—

English-printed Papers :

The Times (London).
The Statesman (Calcutta|New Delhi).
The Times of India (Bombay).
The Civil & Military Gazette (Lahore).
The Tribune (Lahore).
The Bombay Chronicle (Bombay).
The Hindustan Times (Delhi).
The Sind Observer (Karachi).
The Hindu (Madras).
The Eastern Times (Lahore).
The National Call (Delhi).

Vernacular Papers :

(Urdu).

The Khilafat (Bombay).
The Haqiqat (Lucknow).
The Watan (Delhi).
The Millat (Delhi).
The Rozana Hind (Calcutta).

(Hindi).

The Vishvamitra (Calcutta).

(Bengalee).

The Anand Bazar Patrika (Calcutta).

News Agencies :

Reuters.
Associated Press of India.
United Press of India.

The Press Representatives at Quetta were invited to attend the daily conferences held by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief.

With the co-operation of the local authorities, the Director of Public Information arranged for the preparation and publication in the Press of approximately 6,000 Indian casualties.

It is hardly necessary to point out that the variation from time to time of the estimates of casualties was due to the magnitude of the disaster and the consequent impossibility of assessing with accuracy, in the early stages, the numbers of killed and wounded. In certain particulars there are also discrepancies of minor importance in the Situation Reports telegraphed to the Secretary of State which were compiled from telegrams received from the authorities at Quetta. Some variation in the daily reports of the extent of damage, etc., was inevitable in the stress of the situation and in view of the enormous pressure on the restricted telegraphic facilities.

**Bureau of Public Information,
Government of India.**

Simla, 27th August, 1935.

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