

# CENSUS OF INDIA 1941



VOLUME I

INDIA

PART I

TABLES

by

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## NOTE

This year's volumes show a change in size and get-up from past censuses. The old foolscap size has been abandoned. I had in fact contemplated an even greater departure, but a greater provision for margins necessitated an extension of the original size. The governing point in arriving at the present format was to secure a width of page which would hold in one double sheet the largest table on an all-India basis and a length which would enable the presentation on one sheet of all district details for a province and province/State detail for All-India. The most massive table was No. VIII Part I for means of livelihood and this table, therefore, governed the final size.

The eye, on which we rely so much, is usually not trusted to make divisions between columns etc. It has been given a chance in these tables, from which all lines have been abolished, both here and in provincial and State volumes. Extraneous words, dots, etc., were excised and a uniform colour scheme adopted so that the census volumes of 1941 might present a harmonious and uniform appearance on any shelves on which they are gathered together.

Had the volumes been their usual size there would have been no printing on the face at all. There is no reason why the face of a book should be turned into a title page. The omission would have served both appearance and economy. In order to secure absolute uniformity the position of the lettering on the spine was determined to a fraction of an inch for every line. The spine in the restricted tables is too narrow, and hence the appearance of the legend on the face, but here too it has not been allowed to become merely a title page.

The binding adopted in 1931 for reasons of economy did not do justice to the importance of these publications which it is to be remembered are in a way the silent ambassadors of India all over the world. They are not like departmental blue books or committee reports. Actually even a better standard of binding should be given and I had arranged for this but in view of the restricted tabulation and the need for economy agreed to what is described in press language as style VIII. The volumes should be in future and happier times in style VII. Elegance and efficiency can be combined and should be wherever possible and indeed their combination is one of the marks of successful execution. Incidentally it will often be found that they are both compatible with economy.

M. W. M. YEATTS