

# CENSUS OF INDIA, 1951



Volume IV

## BOMBAY, SAURASHTRA AND KUTCH

### PART I

Report and Subsidiary Tables

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*By*

**J. B. BOWMAN**

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Superintendent of Census Operations*

*for*

*Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch*

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**CENSUS OF INDIA, 1951**

**VOLUME IV**

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**PART I**

**REPORT AND SUBSIDIARY TABLES**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

When so many people—not least the public—have contributed towards the success of the census it is perhaps invidious to single out individuals for special mention. I should like however to record my special thanks to Shri B. G. KHER, the former Chief Minister of Bombay and now High Commissioner for India in the United Kingdom, Shri M. R. DESAI, the former Home and Revenue Minister and now the Chief Minister of Bombay, Shri M. D. BHAT, I.C.S., who was the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay when the census was taken, and his successor Shri M. D. BHANSALI, I.C.S. The Bombay Government and its officers did everything possible to secure a successful census of the State. I should also like to record my thanks to Shri U. N. DHEBAR, Chief Minister of Saurashtra, Shri B. R. PATEL, I.C.S., Chief Secretary to the Government of Saurashtra, and Shri R. K. TRIVEDI, I.A.S., formerly Collector of Bhavnagar. In Kutch the arrangements for the census were in the capable hands of Shri T. M. SHETH, Collector of Kutch.

My office staff, and in particular my Head Clerk Shri V. R. RANADE, worked with great devotion to secure a successful census.

The printing of this Report and the Tables volumes has been done by the Government Central Press. I should like in particular to thank the Manager Shri D. K. PRADHAN, the Assistant Manager Shri B. S. NAIK (whose advice on lay-out was most useful) and Shri D. F. SAVAI, the Head Printer.

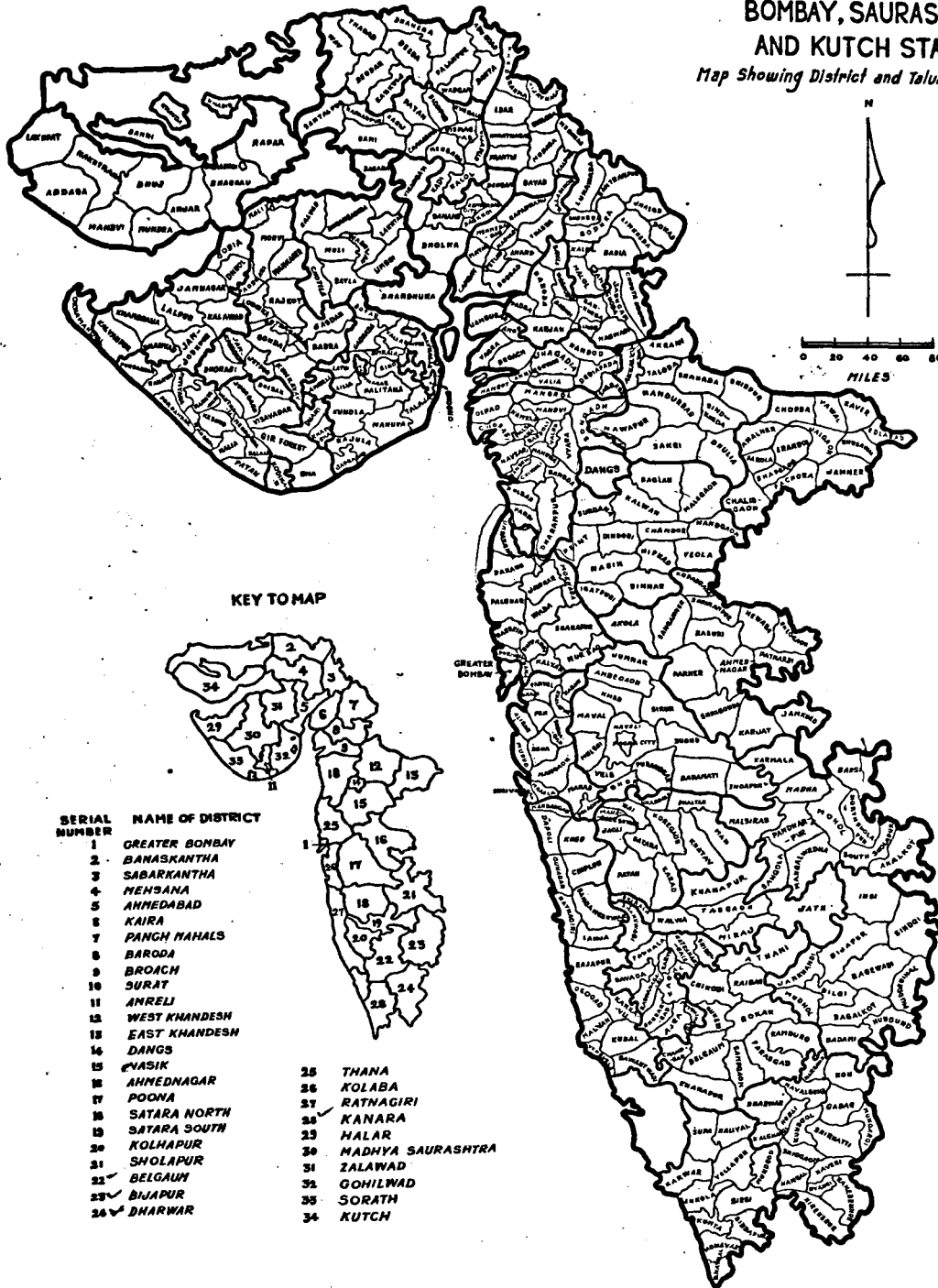
My friend MAURICE ZINKIN, I.C.S. (Retired), was good enough to read through the draft of this report,—to read through a draft census report deters all but the bravest—and his criticisms were most valuable.

Lastly I should like to record my sense of gratitude to Shri R. A. GOPALASWAMI, I.C.S., Registrar General, India, and ex-officio Census Commissioner of India whose careful planning of the manifold stages of the census operation made the Census Superintendent's job lighter than it otherwise would have been, and whose leadership infused the team of Census Superintendents with an *esprit de corps* that made participation in the Census of India 1951 a memorable experience.

Bombay,  
11th May, 1953.

J. B. BOWMAN

**BOMBAY, SAURASHTRA  
AND KUTCH STATES**  
*Map Showing District and Taluka boundaries*



**KEY TO MAP**

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME OF DISTRICT
1	GREATER BOMBAY
2	BANASKANTHA
3	SABARKANTHA
4	MENBANA
5	AMMEDABAD
6	KAIRA
7	PANGH MAHALS
8	BARODA
9	BROACH
10	SURAT
11	ANRELI
12	WEST KHANDESH
13	EAST KHANDESH
14	DANGS
15	VASIK
16	AHMEDNAGAR
17	POONA
18	SATARA NORTH
19	SATARA SOUTH
20	KOLHAPUR
21	SHOLAPUR
22	BELGAUM
23	BIJAPUR
24	DHARWAR
25	THANA
26	KOLABA
27	RATHNAGIRI
28	KANARA
29	HALAR
30	MADHYA SAURASHTRA
31	ZALAWAD
32	GOHILWAD
33	SORATH
34	KUTCH



	PAGE
<b>CHAPTER IV—AGRICULTURAL CLASSES</b>	
Section 1—Preliminary Remarks	43
Section 2—Agricultural Population Ratios; Self-supporting Persons and Dependants; Secondary Means of Livelihood of Agricultural Classes	45
Section 3—Relative Proportions of different Agricultural Classes; correlated to distribution of land in agricultural holdings of different sizes	50
Section 4—Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned; and their dependants	54
Section 5—Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned; and their dependants	56
Section 6—Cultivating labourers; and their dependants	57
Section 7—Non-cultivating owners of cultivable land; agricultural rent receivers; and their dependants	59
Section 8—Active and Semi-active workers in cultivation	61
Section 9—Progress of cultivation correlated to growth of General Population	61
Section 10—Concluding Remarks	65
<b>CHAPTER V—NON-AGRICULTURAL CLASSES</b>	
Section 1—Preliminary Remarks	69
Section 2—Non-Agricultural Population Ratios; Self-supporting Persons and Dependants; Secondary Means of Livelihood of Non-Agricultural Classes	72
Section 3—Employers, Employees and Independent Workers; and un-employment in Factories and Small-scale Industries	77
Section 4—Primary Industries other than cultivation, mining and quarrying	79
Section 5—Mining and Quarrying	81
Section 6—Processing and Manufacture—Foodstuffs, Textiles, Leather and Products thereof	82
Section 7—Processing and Manufacture—Metals, Chemicals and Products thereof	85
Section 8—Processing and Manufacture—Not specified elsewhere	87
Section 9—Construction and Utilities	89
Section 10—Commerce	91
Section 11—Transport, Storage and Communications	93
Section 12—Health, Education and Public Administration	95
Section 13—Services not elsewhere specified; and miscellaneous means of livelihood	98
Section 14—Concluding Remarks	102
<b>CHAPTER VI—FAMILIES, SEXES AND PRINCIPAL AGE GROUPS</b>	
Section 1—Preliminary Remarks	103
Section 2—Territorial distribution of Houses and Households	104
Section 3—Size and composition of family households	105
Section 4—Sex Ratios	108
Section 5—Marital Status Ratios	111
Section 6—Infants (aged 0)	113

## CONTENTS

iii

	PAGE
Section 7—Young Children (aged 1-4) ... ..	115
Section 8—Boys and Girls (aged 5-14) ... ..	116
Section 9—Young Men and Women (aged 15-34)... ..	116
Section 10—Middle Aged Persons (aged 35-54) ... ..	118
Section 11—Elderly Persons (aged 55 and over) ... ..	118
Section 12—Concluding Remarks ... ..	119
<b>CHAPTER VII—SCHEDULED CASTES, SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES</b>	
Section 1—Preliminary Remarks ... ..	123
Section 2—The Scheduled Castes ... ..	124
Section 3—The Scheduled Tribes ... ..	125
Section 4—Other (Unscheduled) Backward Classes ... ..	126
<b>CHAPTER VIII—DISPLACED PERSONS</b> ... ..	129
<b>CHAPTER IX—LITERACY</b> ... ..	137
<b>CHAPTER X—LANGUAGE</b>	
Section 1—Mother Tongue ... ..	147
Section 2—Bilingualism ... ..	149
<b>CHAPTER XI—RELIGION</b> ... ..	151

## APPENDICES

<b>APPENDIX A—THE 1951 CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ENUMERATORS</b> ... ..	157
<b>APPENDIX B—HOW ACCURATE WAS THE CENSUS?</b> ... ..	163
<b>APPENDIX C—BIRTH AND DEATH RATES</b> ... ..	169
<b>APPENDIX D—INDEX OF NON-AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS—BOMBAY, SAURASHTRA AND KUTCH</b> ... ..	171

## SUBSIDIARY TABLES

### SERIES 1

1.1—Area and Population, actual and percentage, by taluka density ... ..	188
1.2—Variation and Density of General Population ... ..	192
1.3—Mean Decennial Growth Rates during Three Decades—General Population ... ..	193
1.4—Immigration ... ..	198
1.5—Emigration ... ..	200
1.6—Migration between the State and other parts of India ... ..	206
1.7—Variation in Natural Population ... ..	207
1.8—Livelihood Pattern of General Population ... ..	208

### SERIES 2

2.1—Distribution of Population between Villages ... ..	209
2.2—Variation and Density of Rural Population ... ..	210
2.3—Mean Decennial Growth Rates during Three Decades—Rural Population ... ..	211
2.4—Livelihood Pattern of Rural Population ... ..	216

	PAGE
<b>SERIES 3</b>	
3-1—Distribution of Population between Towns ... ..	217
3-2—Variation and Density of Urban Population....	218
3-3—Mean Decennial Growth Rates during Three Decades— Urban Population ... ..	219
3-4—Towns classified by Population ... ..	224
3-5—Cities—Chief Figures ... ..	225
3-6—Number per 1,000 of the General Population and of each Livelihood Class who live in Towns ... ..	226
3-7—Livelihood Pattern of Urban Population ... ..	227
<b>SERIES 4</b>	
4-1—Agricultural Classes per 1,000 persons of General Popu- lation; number in each Class and Sub-Class of 10,000 persons of all Agricultural Classes; and comparison with Agricultural Holdings by Size of Holding ...	228
4-2—Livelihood Class I (Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependants)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class I in each Sub-Class; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class I ... ..	232
4-3—Livelihood Class II (Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned and their dependants)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class II in each Sub-Class; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class II ... ..	234
4-4—Livelihood Class III (Cultivating labourers and their dependants)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class III in each Sub-Class; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class III ...	236
4-5—Livelihood Class IV (Non-cultivating owners of land; agricultural rent receivers and their dependants)— Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class IV in each Sub-Class; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class IV ... ..	238
4-6—Active and Semi-active Workers in Cultivation ...	240
4-7—Progress of Cultivation during three decades ...	242
4-8—Components of Cultivated Area per Capita during three decades ... ..	244
4-9—Land Area per Capita (1951); and trend of Cultivation per Capita during three decades ... ..	246
<b>SERIES 5</b>	
5-1—Non-Agricultural Classes per 1,000 of General Popu- lation; number in each Class and Sub-Class per 10,000 persons of all Non-Agricultural Classes; and number of Employers, Employees and Independent Workers per 10,000 self-supporting persons of all Non- Agricultural Classes ... ..	248
5-1-A—Non-Agricultural Classes per 1,000 of Rural Popula- tion; number in each Class and Sub-Class per 10,000 persons of all Non-Agricultural Classes; and number of Employers, Employees and Independent Workers per 10,000 self-supporting persons of all Non-Agricultural Classes ... ..	250



## CONTENTS

	PAGE
5-1-B—Non-Agricultural Classes per 1,000 of Urban Population; number in each Class and Sub-Class per 10,000 persons of all Non-Agricultural Classes; and number of Employers, Employees and Independent Workers per 10,000 self-supporting persons of all Non-Agricultural Classes ... ..	252
5-2—Livelihood Class V (Production other than cultivation)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class V in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class V who are employers, employees and independent workers; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class V ... ..	254
5-2-A—Livelihood Class V (Production other than cultivation)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class V in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class V who are employers, employees and independent workers (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	258
5-2-B—Livelihood Class V (Production other than cultivation)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class V in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class V who are employers, employees and independent workers (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	257
5-3—Livelihood Class VI (Commerce)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VI in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VI who are employers, employees and independent workers; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VI ... ..	258
5-3-A—Livelihood Class VI (Commerce)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VI in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VI who are employers, employees and independent workers (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	260
5-3-B—Livelihood Class VI (Commerce)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VI in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VI who are employers, employees and independent workers (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	261
5-4—Livelihood Class VII (Transport)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VII in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VII who are employers, employees and independent workers; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VII ... ..	262
5-4-A—Livelihood Class VII (Transport)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VII in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VII who are employers, employees and independent workers (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	264

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
5-4-B—Livelihood Class VII (Transport)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VII in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VII who are employers, employees and independent workers (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	265
5-5—Livelihood Class VIII (Other services and miscellaneous sources)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VIII in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VIII who are employers, employees and independent workers; Secondary Means of Livelihood of 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VIII ... ..	266
5-5-A—Livelihood Class VIII (Other services and miscellaneous sources)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VIII in each Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VIII who are employers, employees and independent workers (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	268
5-5-B—Livelihood Class VIII (Other services and miscellaneous sources)—Number per 10,000 persons of Livelihood Class VIII in each-Sub-Class; Number per 10,000 self-supporting persons of Livelihood Class VIII who are employers, employees and independent workers (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	268
5-6—Comparison of the Classification of the Population by Livelihood Classes at the 1951 and 1931 Censuses ... ..	269
5-7—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons of ALL INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES in States, Natural Divisions and Districts (by Divisions) ... ..	272
5-7-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons of ALL INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES in States and Natural Divisions by Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	274
5-7-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons of ALL INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES in States and Natural Divisions by Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	274
5-8—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in PRIMARY INDUSTRIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED (by Sub-Divisions) ... ..	276
5-8-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PRIMARY INDUSTRIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	277
5-8-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PRIMARY INDUSTRIES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	277
5-9—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in MINING AND QUARRYING (by Sub-Divisions) ... ..	278

**CONTENTS**

vii

	<b>PAGE</b>
5-9-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in MINING AND QUARRYING by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	279
5-9-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in MINING AND QUARRYING by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	279
5-10—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—FOODSTUFFS, TEXTILES, LEATHER AND PRODUCTS THEREOF (by Sub-Divisions) ... ..	280
5-10-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—FOODSTUFFS, TEXTILES, LEATHER AND PRODUCTS THEREOF by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	281
5-10-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—FOODSTUFFS, TEXTILES, LEATHER AND PRODUCTS THEREOF by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	281
5-11—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—METALS, CHEMICALS AND PRODUCTS THEREOF (by Sub-Divisions) ... ..	282
5-11-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—METALS, CHEMICALS AND PRODUCTS THEREOF by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	283
5-11-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—METALS, CHEMICALS AND PRODUCTS THEREOF by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	283
5-12—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED (by Sub-Divisions) ... ..	284
5-12-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	286
5-12-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in PROCESSING AND MANUFACTURE—NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ... ..	286

	PAGE
5-13—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in CONSTRUCTION AND UTILITIES (by Sub-Divisions) ...	288
5-13-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in CONSTRUCTION AND UTILITIES by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	290
5-13-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in CONSTRUCTION AND UTILITIES by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	290
5-14—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in COMMERCE (by Sub-Divisions) ...	292
5-14-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in COMMERCE by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	294
5-14-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in COMMERCE by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	294
5-15—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS (by Sub-Divisions) ...	296
5-15-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	298
5-15-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	298
5-16—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in HEALTH, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (by Sub-Divisions) ...	300
5-16-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in HEALTH, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	302
5-16-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in HEALTH, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	302
5-17—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States, Natural Divisions and Districts engaged in SERVICES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED (by Sub-Divisions) ...	304

## CONTENTS

ix

	PAGE
5-17-A—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in SERVICES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED by Sub-Divisions (Rural Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	306
5-17-B—Distribution of 10,000 self-supporting persons in States and Natural Divisions engaged in SERVICES NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED by Sub-Divisions (Urban Population by Natural Divisions only) ...	306
SERIES 6	
6-1—Persons per 1,000 houses and houses per 100 squares miles and comparison with past censuses ...	308
6-2—Number of households per 1,000 houses and distribution by size of 1,000 Sample Households of Rural and Urban Population ...	310
6-3—Family Composition of 1,000 Households of the General Population ...	314
6-4—Females per 1,000 males (General, Rural and Urban Population); and comparison with previous censuses ...	315
6-5—Females per 1,000 males in Agricultural Classes and Sub-Classes ...	316
6-6—Females per 1,000 males in Non-Agricultural Classes and Sub-Classes ...	318
6-7—Marital Status of 1,000 of each sex of General Population and comparison with previous censuses ...	320
6-8—Age distribution of 1,000 married persons of each sex (and comparison with 1941 census) ...	322
6-9—Infants per 10,000 persons ...	323
6-10—Young Children (aged 1-4) per 10,000 persons ...	324
6-11—Boys and Girls (aged 5-14) per 10,000 persons ...	325
6-12—Young Men and Women (aged 15-34) per 10,000 persons ...	326
6-13—Middle Aged Persons (aged 35-54) per 10,000 persons ...	327
6-14—Elderly Persons (aged 55 and over) per 10,000 persons ...	328
SERIES 7	
7-1—Progress of Literacy ...	329
7-2—Literacy Standard of Livelihood Classes ...	331
7-3—Educational Services and Research ...	333

### MAPS

Map showing District and Taluka boundaries		<i>Frontispiece</i>
Map showing Density of Population ...	..	facing page 5

# INTRODUCTION

A census has been held in India every ten years since 1872. The method of taking a census has in essence remained the same. The basic unit is the "block", the area in charge of one enumerator. The block generally consisted of a village or part of a village. The enumerator went to every house in his block, and obtained the answers to the census questions. A separate slip was filled up in 1951 for every individual. From the enumerator's block a chain of command stretched through a series of circles and charges to the Collector of the district.

This time the census enumeration was spread over three weeks, from 9th February 1951 to 28th February 1951. A formula was devised to prevent double enumeration. If a person was, or was expected to be, at his normal residence at any time during the 20 days' enumeration period he was enumerated there. Otherwise he was enumerated where found. Houseless persons were enumerated on the night of 28th February to 1st March. In 1941, by contrast, the enumeration was spread over three days. In 1931 and previously the census was a one-night census.

An innovation at the 1951 census was the preparation of National Registers of Citizens for every village and town, simultaneously with the enumeration. The Registers contained the replies to the more important census questions, arranged by households, in respect of every person enumerated. These Registers were used after the census to extract information on a 4 per cent sample basis about the size and composition of family households. In conjunction with a system of maintained house-numbers the Registers are intended to form a framework for other sampling enquiries in future.

▲ (Bk) H 91-1

The provisional population figures for Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch were published in the Bombay newspapers on 21st March 1951. The enumerators totalled the figures for their blocks, circle supervisors for their circles, and so on up the chain of command. The published provisional population figure of the three States was 40,647,368. The final figure arrived at after sorting and compilation in the Tabulation Offices was 40,661,115, a difference of only 0.034 per cent.

The Indian Census figures represent, according to Professor Kingsley Davis,<sup>1</sup> "the most fruitful source of information about the country," which, he added, has more complete economic and social statistics than most countries in Asia. In 1941, unfortunately, the tabulation undertaken after the census was of a severely restricted nature so that the 1951 census figures represent the most complete collection of census data since 1931, as well as being the first census of independent India.

At past censuses much emphasis was placed on the tabulation of caste and community data. In 1951 the basis of classification was economic and not social. Population figures were extracted in 1951 according to the following eight Livelihood Classes :—

## *Agricultural Classes*

- Class I—Cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned; and their dependants.
- Class II—Cultivators of land wholly or mainly unowned; and their dependants.
- Class III—Cultivating labourers; and their dependants.

<sup>1</sup> "The Population of India and Pakistan" by Kingsley Davis, page 5.

## INTRODUCTION

Class IV—Non-cultivating owners of land; agricultural rent receivers; and their dependants.

*Non-Agricultural Classes*

Persons (including dependants) who derive their principal means of livelihood from :—

Class V—Production other than cultivation.

Class VI—Commerce.

Class VII—Transport.

Class VIII—Other services and miscellaneous sources.

Dependants, whether earning or non-earning, were classified according to the principal means of livelihood of the persons on whom they were dependent.

The Census Report for Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch consists of three volumes—two volumes of Tables and this volume which contains the Report and Subsidiary Tables.

The Registrar General, India, laid down the chapter headings and section headings for the first six chapters of this Report, and the form of all the main tables and Subsidiary

Tables. Chapters VII-XI have been added with his permission to this Report, to make the census picture as complete as possible.

It was originally intended that there should be no Report Volume in 1951, but merely a short synoptic essay to accompany the tables. It was assumed that the users of the tables would require little or no commentary to edify or guide them, that the figures, in short, would speak for themselves. To maintain comparability with previous census practice, however, this original intention was modified and the Report Volume has been retained.

The facts of population growth, and the related socio-economic data, are of vital importance to the educated public as well as to professional economists and statisticians. It is the purpose of this volume to bring out some of the more important aspects of the census data.

The statements made and conclusions drawn in this Report are wholly the responsibility of the author alone in his personal capacity and do not necessarily represent the views of Government.