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# A CRITIQUE OF THE INDUSTRIALISTS' PLAN

BY

A. N. AGARWALA, M.A.,  
*Lecturer, Allahabad University.*

The learned Professor makes  
a critique of the whole Plan, and  
his study deserves the most  
careful consideration.

—*Indian Spectator.*

BENARES  
IND KISHORE & BROS.

1944

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This book contains a critical, constructive and dispassionate judgment on the *Plan of Economic Development for India* published under the signatures of Eight Industrialists. The author explains the *Plan*, criticises it with a deep insight into the economic problems and planning theory and technique, and offers his constructive suggestions. He makes a strong case for an extension of the scheme so as to include in it certain omitted and neglected items, and suggests ways and means by which this additional programme can be financed. His suggestions also bear on the methods by which a scheme of capital accumulation can be put into practice, which has escaped the attention of the Eight Industrialists. It is a refreshingly original and keenly thought out book.

*Price Rs. 2.*

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NAND KISHORE & BROS.,

1944.

**Published by**  
**Nand Kishore Bhargava, Manager,**  
**Nand Kishore & Bros.,**  
**Chowk, Benares.**

**Printed by**  
**Rameshwar Pathak,**  
**At The Tara Printing Works,**  
**Benares.**

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## PREFACE

The Industrialists' *Plan of Economic Development for India* has opened up a new chapter in the economic history of this country and has given a realistic and practical shape to discussions and deliberations relating to economic planning. The *Plan* is a document of barely 55 pages; but it is of such fundamental importance that it has been occupying the stage of economic thought in this country to an extent which has hitherto been quite unusual and unprecedented. It has naturally received close attention of its admirers as well as critics. The authors had released the first part of their *Plan* in the hope that it would arouse constructive criticism and evoke interest of the people in such a programme. Their hope has, indeed, been realised in more than ample measure in both these directions.

No apology is needed for a book dealing with this *Plan* in a critical, constructive and dispassionate spirit. The present book has been written with four main objects. Its first object is to expose and explain this important document in a simple and clear manner. But this object is subsidiary to the main purpose of offering my criticism to the many weighty and fundamental suggestions made by its able authors. The third

object, which must naturally go with the second object in a sincere attempt to assess the true value and worth of a work, is to support and give credit to the authors for the ideas expressed and policies laid down by them which appear to be economically sound as well as practical. Finally, I have made bold to offer constructive suggestions of my own for the redrafting and revision of this great document, without which critical judgment loses much of its value.

I can thus call myself a critic as well as an admirer of the *Plan*. I would very much like this *Plan* to be extended and modified. But, under the existing political conditions of the country, I would be anxious to see that this Plan gets a start even as it is.

My thanks are due to my friend, Mr. R. V. Murthy, the erudite editor of the *COMMERCE* of Bombay, for having permitted me to use some of the articles I had the honour to contribute to his leading commercial weekly. I am also deeply indebted to Professor S. K. Rudra, Economic Adviser to the United Provinces Government, for his keen interest in my work and constant encouragement.

Indian Journal of Economics, }  
University of Allahabad. }

A. N. Agarwala

## Works by the Same Author

1. Pessimism in Planning. (Kitab-Mahal, Allahabad, 1944).
2. Reconstruction of Economic Science. (Kitab-Mahal, Allahabad, 1944).
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