

INDIAN STATISTICS

BY

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PREFACE

The Science of Statistics has assumed a great importance in recent years. It was once known as the 'Science of Kings' and its scope was extremely limited, but now statistics has become all pervading and all sciences, whether physical or social, are connected with it in some form or the other. The relationship between Statistics and Economics, though not very old, is very close and today we cannot think of Economics without first thinking of Statistics. The economic progress of a country is today measured by the extent to which its statistical organization has developed. All economically advanced countries have efficient statistical machinery to aid their development.

Unfortunately, the importance of statistics has not been fully realized in our country and the absence of proper statistical organization is one of the important factors responsible for our economic backwardness. If we wish to improve the economic condition of our masses, we will have to plan for future and all our plans will have to be based on adequate statistical data.

This book is an attempt to briefly survey the available statistical material in India and to suggest ways and means to improve the same. We have generally confined ourselves to economic statistics only, although at certain places, we have examined other statistical material as well. We have touched only the important points, as in a small work like this, a detailed study of every problem is not possible. We hope that this book will serve as a useful guide to M.A., M.Com., and B.Com., students, who read the subject of statistics, as also to general readers who are interested in the economic problems of India.

We are thankful to the Office of the Economic Adviser, Government of India, and the Economic Adviser's Office, United Provinces Government, for the help they have given us by supplying important information about various official schemes. We are also thankful to the Indian Press Ltd., Allahabad, for their speedy publication of this book.

Allahabad,
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Mohit Kumar Ghosh.
Deoki Nandan Elhance.

CONTENTS.

		Page.
Chapter I.	<i>Statistics and Economics:</i> Evolution of Economic Statistics—Importance of Statistics in various branches of Economics—Statistics in the service of Business and Commerce—Importance of Statistics in other fields.	1
Chapter II.	<i>Economic Statistics in India:</i> Indian Economy—Historical Development of Statistical Machinery and Sources of economic statistics—official—unofficial—Shortcomings of Indian Economic Statistics—Some postwar problems—Effects of Independence and Partition of the country.	9
Chapter III.	<i>Population Statistics:</i> Introductory—Population Census—Census Act—Census staff and its training—Census procedure upto 1931—changes in 1941—Future—Information in Census reports—Distribution and movement of population—Urban and rural population—Birth place and migration—Age—Sex—Civil Conditions—Infirmities—Occupation—Literacy—Language—Religion—Caste, Tribes and Race—Vital Statistics.	28
Chapter IV.	<i>Agricultural Statistics:</i> Crop Estimation—Past History—Crop forecasts—Method of forecasting—Area—Normal Yield—Crop Condition Factor—Final forecasts and their publication.	69
Chapter V.	<i>Agricultural Statistics (contd.):</i> Animal Husbandry—Crop forecasts—Method of forecasting—Meat and Bones etc.—Poultry—Factor—Final forecasts and their publication. Mining—Irrigation.	94
Chapter VI.	<i>Agricultural Statistics (contd.):</i> A critical examination of various official publications on statistics of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Forests, Fisheries, Mines and Minerals and Irrigation.	112
Chapter VII.	<i>Industrial Statistics:</i> Introductory—Data collected in other countries—Data available in	152

	Page.
India—Analysis of the data available—Recent schemes—Industrial Statistics Act—Census of Manufacturing Industries Rules—Cottage Industries—Materials available on Cottage industries—Suggestions for improvement—Census of Production—Census of Industrial Production—Index Number of Industrial Production—“Capital” Index of Industrial Activity.	
Chapter VIII. <i>Labour Statistics: Introductory—Data available—General Statistics—Wage Statistics—Trade Union Statistics—Statistics of Industrial Disputes—Cost of Living Statistics—Conclusions and Suggestions.</i>	179
Chapter IX. <i>Statistics of Prices and Cost of Living: Introductory—Data available—Wholesale prices—Index number of Wholesale prices—Calcutta Wholesale Price Index Number—Index Number of Weekly Wholesale Prices of Certain Articles in India—New schemes of the government—Recent Indices of Food, Industrial Raw materials, Semi-manufactures and Manufactures—Discontinued wholesale price index numbers—Other Index Numbers—Other wholesale price statistics—Recent schemes—Conclusions.</i>	190
<i>Data available on Retail Prices and Cost of Living—Cost of Living index numbers—Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number—Other Cost of Living Indices. Drawbacks of these indices—Government of India's recent schemes—Schemes of the U.P. Government.</i>	
Chapter X. <i>Statistics relating to Joint Stock Companies, Insurance and Cooperation: Joint Stock Companies—Classification—Number of Companies—Capital—Profits—Index Number of Profits—Its drawbacks—Suggestions. Insurance: Insurance Act 1938—Data collected—Life Business—Statistics of other types of insurance—Suggestions. Co-operation: Introductory—Co-operative movement in India—Division and classification of co-operative organisations—Data collected—Drawbacks and suggestions.</i>	224

	Page.
Chapter XI	250
<i>Trade Statistics: Introductory—Statistics of Sea Borne Trade and Navigation—Trade Statistics of Maritime States—Statistics of Coasting Trade—Statistics of Inland Trade—Other Trade Statistics—Conclusion.</i>	
Chapter XII.	271
<i>Statistics of Transport and Communication: Railways—Mileage—results of working—Capital outlay and Earnings—Defects of these statistics and suggestions for improvement.</i>	
<i>Shipping—Data available—Its deficiencies—Suggestions.</i>	
<i>Roads—Data available—Its deficiencies—suggestions.</i>	
<i>Navigation Canals—Data available.</i>	
<i>Civil Aviation—Report on the Progress of Civil Aviation in India.</i>	
<i>Communications—Statistics of Post, Telegraph and Telephones.</i>	
Chapter XIII	285
<i>Financial Statistics (Banking, Currency, Exchange, Bullions and Securities).</i>	
<i>Banking Statistics—Reserve Bank—Imperial Bank—Indian Joint Stock Banks—Co-operative Banks—Indigenous Bankers and Money lenders—Conclusion and Suggestions.</i>	
<i>Currency Statistics—Statistics of Foreign Exchange—Bullion Statistics—Statistics of Security Prices—Economic Adviser's Index Number of Security Prices—Capital Index of Security Prices.</i>	
Chapter XIV	319
<i>Financial Statistics (Contd.): Public Finance. Introductory—Central Government Finances—Principal Heads of Revenue—Other receipts of Central Government Expenditure on revenue account—other disbursements of the Central Government—Provincial Government finances—Source of revenue—Items of revenue expenditure—other receipts and payments of provincial governments. Analysis of the statistics of Central and Provincial Finances—Railway Finance—Receipts of Railways—Their Expenditure—Local Finances—Income and Expenditure of Municipalities and District Boards—Analysis of the Statistics available—Suggestions—Burden of Taxation—Incidence of</i>	

	Page.
Taxation—Taxable Capacity—Public Debt— Its importance—Statistics of public debt— Conclusions.	
Chapter XV <i>Statistics of National Income and Wealth:</i>	343
National Income—Methods of Calculation— Estimates of Dadabhai Naoroji, Cromer and Barbour, Lord Curzon, Digby, Findlay Shirras, Wadia and Joshi, Shah and Khambatta, and Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao—Analysis—Bowley Robertson Committee Scheme—other sugges- tions.	
<i>National Wealth</i> —Methods of estimation— Suggestion of Indian Economic Enquiry Committee and Bowley Robertson Committee— Other suggestions.	
Appendix A —Questionnaire issued by Bombay Economic and Industrial Survey Committee (for artisans).	363
Appendix B —Questionnaire issued by Bombay Economic and Industrial Survey Committee (for small scale industries).	372
Appendix C —Summary of the recommendations of Bowley Robertson Committee.	375

INDEX.

A

- "Accounts relating to Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India" 262.
 "Accounts relating to Inland Trade of India" 264.
 "Accounts relating to Sea-Borne Trade and Navigation of British India" 251.
 Aeroplane Photography 77.
 Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India 128, 129, 137.
 Agricultural Statistics 69—151.
 Agricultural Statistics of India Vol. I and II 61, 67, 121, 137, 141.
 All India Postal and Telegraph Union 20.
 All India Railwaymen's Federation 20.
 All India Trade Union Congress 20.
 Animal Husbandry Statistics 94, 95, 135, 138, 139.
 Anna Condition 73.
 Area 73—77.
 Associated Chamber of Commerce 19.

B

- Banking Statistics 285—306.
 Bertillon Scheme 57.
 Birth Rate 68.
 Board of Economic Enquiry 15.
 Bombay Industrial and Economic Survey Committee 172.
 Bombay Plan 11.
 Bombay Stock Exchange 20.
 Bombay Wholesale Price Index Number 199, 200.
 Bombay Working Class Cost of Living Index Number 211—214.
 Bowley Robertson Committee 10, 11, 15, 21, 24, 300, 358, 359, 360, 375—381.
 British Board of Trade Index of Industrial Production 176.
 Bullion Statistics 312—315.
 Burden of Taxation 341.
 Bureau of Economic Intelligence 15.
 Business Forecasting 6.

C

- Calcutta Stock Exchange 4.
 Calcutta Wholesale Price Index Number 191, 192.
 Cattle Mortality Report 100.

- Central Government Finances 323,
 Census Act 29, 37.
 Staff 30.
 Procedure 32—40.
 of Industrial Production 174, 175.
 of Manufacturing Industries Rules 164.
 of Production 173.
 Civil Aviation, Statistics of 380.
 Chambers of Commerce 19.
 Coal Statistics 146.
 Coffee Statistics 132, 133.
 Communications, Statistics of 280—284.
 Consumption Statistics 4.
 Cost of Living, Statistics of 181, 189.
 Recent Schemes 219—223.
 Committee on Co-operation 247, 249.
 Co-operative Banks 303.
 Co-operation Statistics 242—249.
 Cottage Industries, Statistics of 168—173.
 Cotton Gining and Pressing Factories Act 156.
 Crop Estimation 69—93.
 Forecasts 69, 93, 122.
 Condition Factor 86—92.

D

- Deductive Method 1.
 Department of Agriculture 12, 13, 16.
 Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics 13, 16, 113, 114, 122, 132, 154, 203, 226, 250, 285.
 Department of Industries 16.
 Director of Agriculture and Commerce 70.
 Director of Commercial Intelligence 17.
 Director of Statistics 17.
 Distribution Statistics 5, 6.

E

- East India Cotton Association 19.
 Econometrics 2.
 Economatric Societies 3.
 Economic Adviser's Index Number of Prices 317, 318.
 Economic Barometers 6.
 "Estimates of Area and Yield of Principal Crops in India" 113—116.
 Exchange Banks 301, 302.

Exchange Statistics 5.
 "Export of Indian Artware and Sports goods" 257.

F

Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry 19.
 Final Forecasts 92.
 Financial Statistics 285—345.
 Fisheries Department of Madras, Report of 108, 143.
 Fisheries Statistics 108, 109, 110, 143.
 Flood Commission 11.
 Forest Statistics 107, 108, 139.
 Foreign Exchange Statistics 310—312.
 Fruit and Vegetables, Statistics of 105—107.

G

Gandhian Plan 11.
 Government Securities, Statistics of 346.

H

Hide and Cess Committee 100.
 Hides and Skins, Statistics of 99—101.
 Historical School 1.

I

Imperial Agricultural Research Institute 139.
 Imperial Bank, Statistics of 292.
 Imperial Council of Agricultural Research 15, 82, 96, 205.
 Imperial Veterinary Research Institute 139.
 Incidence of Taxation 342.
 Index Numbers of....
 Food 194.
 Industrial Production 175.
 Industrial Raw Materials 195.
 Manufactures 197.
 Miscellaneous Items 198.
 Primary Commodities 194.
 Prices 191—203.
 Profit 232.
 Securities Prices 317.
 Indian Central Cotton Committee 19, 82, 129.
 Indian Commerce Association 21.
 Indian Economic Enquiry Committee 10, 11, 15, 21, 22, 103, 107, 174, 362.
 Indian Economic Association 21.
 Indian Famine Commission 12.
 Indian Institute of Bankers 305.
 Indian Journal of Economics 21.
 Indian Jute Mills Association 19.

Indian Lac Cess Committee 143.
 Indian Mining Association 19.
 Indian Mining Federation 19.
 Indian Railway Enquiry Committee 271.
 Indian Statistical Institute 21, 83.
 Indian Trade Journal 124, 146, 206, 230, 258.
 Industrial Disputes, Statistics of 181—188.
 Industrial Statistics 16, 152—178.
 International Institute of Agriculture 136.
 International Year Book of Agricultural Statistics 114.
 Irrigation, Statistics of 111, 148—151.

J

Joint Stock Banks, Statistics of 294—299.
 Joint Stock Companies, Statistics of 224—238.

L

Labour Statistics 179—189.
 "Large Industrial Establishments in India" 154.
 Language, Statistics of 62.
 Literacy, Statistics of 61.
 Livestock Statistics 96, 135.
 Local Finance 336—339.

M

Meat and Bones, Statistics of 101.
 Milk Statistics 97—99.
 Mining and Geological Institute of India 19.
 Mining Statistics 110, 111, 144—148.
 "Monthly Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in Indian Mills" 157, 205.
 "Monthly Statistics of the Production of Certain Selected Industries in India" 158.
 "Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, U. P." 206.

N

National Income, Statistics of 346—360.
 National Planning Committee 11.
 National Wealth, Statistics of 360—363.
 Normal Yield 73, 77—86.

O

Objective Forecasts 91.
 Occupational Classification 56.

P

- Peoples Plan 11.
 Political Arithmetic 1.
 Population Census 13, 28—65.
 Population,
 Age of 43—47.
 Birth place and Migration of 42.
 Civil Conditions of 47—49.
 Distribution and movement of 40.
 Infirmities of 49—51.
 Occupation of 51—56.
 Sex of 47.
 Statistics of 28—68.
 Post Office, Statistics of *280—282,
 304.
 Poultry Statistics 103—105.
 Price Statistics 190—223.
 Profit of Joint Stock Companies
 231—235.
 Public Finance, Statistics of 319—
 345.

Q

- “Quarterly Statistics of Coal, Gold
 and Petroleum” 146.
 Questionnaires issued by Bombay In-
 dustrial and Economic Survey
 Committee 363—374.

R

- Radio and Wireless, Statistics of 283.
 Railway Finance 333—336.
 Ran Court of Enquiry 219.
 Raw Cotton Trade Statistics 266.
 Rege Committee 184.

- Reproduction Rate 49, 68.
 Retail Price and Cost of Living
 Statistics 208—223.
 Review of Trade of India 14, 261.
 Roads and Navigation Canals, Statis-
 tics of 278—279.
 Royal Commission on Agriculture 15.
 Rubber Statistics 133, 134.

S

- Shipping Statistics 278.
 Statistical Abstract 24, 126, 127, 142,
 147, 149, 208, 209, 230, 267, 276,
 293, 308, 316, 340.
 Stock Exchanges 20.

T

- Taxable Capacity 342.
 Tea Statistics 129—132.
 Telephone Statistics 283.
 Trade Statistics 250—270.
 Trade Union Statistics 181, 187, 188.
 Transport Statistics 271—280.

V

- Vital Statistics 66—68..

W

- Wage Statistics 181, 184—187.
 Wholesale Price Statistics 190—208.

Y

- Yield of Crops in India 113.

CORRIGENDA

Page.

- 35, Line 7 read 'family' in place of families.
- 80, Line 6 from bottom, read 'agricultural' in place of agriculture.
- 112, Line 3 read 'publications' in place of publication.
- 113, Line 16 read 'Iriennial' in place of Iriennueal.
- 179, Line 12 from bottom read 'the present' for present.
- 318, Line 14 delete 'xiii'; read xiii in place of xiv and correct other figures accordingly.
- 356, Line 20 read 'the' in place of he.
- 357, Line 16 read 'regard' in place of egard.
- 359, Line 21 read 'topics' in place of topic.