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East India (progress and condition
Statement exhibiting the moral
and material progress and condition
of India during the year. ~~1889-90~~
1905-06.



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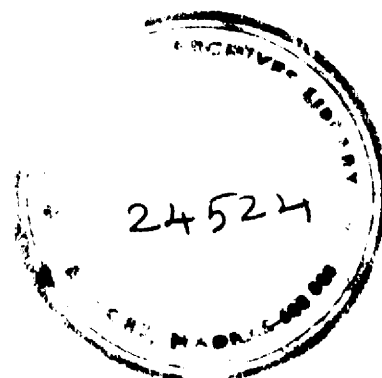


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LEGISLA-
TION.

Presidency Small Cause Courts Act, 1906. Act IV. of 1906, "further to amend the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act, 1882," empowered Small Cause Courts to dispose of certain cases dealing with property which had previously been referred to the High Court, placed some check on the exercise by defendants of their right to obtain an order for removal to the High Court of cases of a value exceeding Rs. 1,000, and regulated the procedure of the Small Cause Court in making reference to the High Court.

Indian Stamp (Amendment) Act, 1906.

Act V. of 1906, besides making other less important amendments of the Indian Stamp Act of 1899, introduced a greater measure of uniformity in the imposition of duty in respect of fire insurance policies, and legalised the practice of dividing the stamp duty payable on marine insurance policies between copies drawn in duplicate.

Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 1906.

Act VI. of 1906, "further to amend the law relating to merchant seamen," provided that agreements made with crews of foreign-going ships making voyages averaging less than six months in duration, should terminate six months after they are entered into.

MADRAS. Madras Port Trust Act, 1905.

Act II. of 1905, designed primarily to constitute the Harbour Trust Board as a Port Trust Board and consequently to invest it with various additional powers and privileges, not only effected this object, but also consolidated the whole body of law on this subject by repealing the original Harbour Trust Act of 1886 and its subsequent amendments and re-enacting them with the modifications and amendments since found to be desirable.

Madras Land Encroachment Act, 1905.

Act III. of 1905, "to provide measures for checking unauthorised occupation of lands which are the property of Government," declared the prerogative right of the State to the property in all lands not legally occupied, and provided for the assessment of lands occupied without previous permission, legalising the post imposition and levy of assessment on unauthorised occupations.

BOMBAY. Bombay Court of Wards Act, 1905.

Act I. of 1905 established a Court of Wards in the Bombay Presidency.

Gujarat Taluqdars (Amendment) Act, 1905.

Act II. of 1905 made various small amendments in the Gujarat Taluqdars Act of 1888; e.g. it included "mulgametis" in the definition of "taluqdars" and substituted for unanimous consent the consent of a majority of co-sharers in a taluqdari estate as sufficient to back an application for management of the estate.

City of Bombay Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1905.

Act V. of 1905, "further to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act of 1888," was designed especially to promote the health of the city by regulating drainage, construction and inspection of buildings, water-supply, and ventilation.

BENGAL. Bengal Court of Wards (Amendment) Act, 1906.

Act I. of 1906, "to amend the Court of Wards Act of 1879," as well as making other less important amendments, provided for the prompt ascertainment of the liabilities of wards' properties and speedy adjudication of claims against them.

Bengal Land Registration Amendment Act, 1906.

Act II. of 1906 amended the procedure prescribed in the Land Registration Act of 1876 for the maintenance of registers.

Calcutta Port (Amendment) Act, 1905.

Act IV. of 1905 increased the constitution of the Port Commission to 17 members and empowered the Commissioners to improve and regulate the means of communication across and along the River Hooghly within the limits of the Port of Calcutta.

UNITED PROVINCES. United Provinces

Act I. of 1906 was designed to check the increase of the use of cocaine.

LEGISLA-
TION.

Act II. of 1906 unified the law relating to the imposition, collection, and disposal of local rates, which were previously governed by separate Acts for the two provinces; and at the same time simplified and improved the existing body of law on this subject.

United Provinces Local and Rural Police Rates Act, 1906.

Act III. of 1906 organised and regulated the system of local government in the United Provinces by district boards, the functions of which had been greatly extended since the Act of 1883.

United Provinces District Boards Law, 1906.

Act II. of 1905 amended the law relating to the existence and enforcement of the right of pre-emption as contained in sections 9-20 of the Punjab Laws Act, 1872, restricting the power of local custom as giving claim to the right of pre-emption, confining the right in agricultural land to members of the agricultural tribes notified under the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, giving agnate heirs a prior claim against co-sharers and others who are not heirs, and ensuring correspondence between decisions given by Civil Courts under the pre-emption law and those given by Revenue officers under the Alienation of Land Act.

PUNJAB. Punjab Pre-emption Act, 1905.

Act III. of 1905 provided for the exercise of control over, and for the regulation of the management of, minor irrigation works, both those under Government and those under private management.

Punjab Minor Canals Act, 1905.

Act I. of 1906 was designed to replace the Rangoon Port Commissioners Act of 1879, the provisions of which had been found unsuitable to the growing requirements of the Port.

BURMA. Rangoon Port Act, 1906.

Act II. of 1906 regulated the use of motor cars in Burma.

Burma Motor-vehicle and Cycle Act, 1906.

Act III. of 1906 gave certain additional powers to the Rangoon Municipal Committee.

Burma Municipal Act (1898) Amendment Act, 1906.

CHAPTER I.

ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATION.

The Visit of the Prince of Wales.

The outstanding event of the year 1905-06 was the visit of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, who arrived at Bombay on Thursday, November 9th, 1905. A comprehensive tour of the Empire extending over four months had been arranged, and was successfully carried out, their Royal Highnesses being received everywhere with a loyalty and enthusiasm which recalled the visit of His present Majesty as Prince of Wales in 1875-6. The chief public events of the tour were a REVIEW of the troops near Rawal Pindi, the Proclamation Parade at Calcutta on January 1st, the opening of Victoria Memorial Park at Rangoon, and the unveiling of statues of Queen Victoria at Bangalore and Karachi. Their Royal Highnesses sailed for England from Karachi on Monday, March 19th, 1906.

ADMINISTRATION.

The year under review was marked by two administrative reforms of the highest importance.

First, on October 16th, 1905, the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam was formed, and a Lieutenant-Governor was appointed. Full details of this scheme have been given in Parliamentary Papers Cd. 2658 and Cd. 2746.

Secondly, an important change was effected in the military administration in India, when on November 18th, 1905, the work of the Military Department was distributed between two departments: "the Army Department" in charge of the Commander-in-chief as Member of Council, and "The Department of Military Supply" in charge of another Member of Council; each Department having its own secretariat. All the correspondence and papers dealing with this reform have been collected in Parliamentary Papers Cd. 2572, Cd. 2615, Cd. 2718 and Cd. 2842.

LIST of the holders in 1905-06 of the more important appointments connected with the administration of India, those appointed during the year being shown in *italics*.

OFFICE.	—	Date of Appointment or Assumption of Charge of Office.	REMARKS.
Secretary of State - - -	The Right Hon. St. John Brodrick.	10 October 1903	
	<i>The Right Hon. John Morley, O.M., M.P.</i>	12 December 1905	
Permanent Under Secretary of State.	Sir Arthur Godley, K.C.B. -	30 September 1893	
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State.	The Marquess of Bath -	20 January 1905	
	<i>The Right Hon. J. E. Ellis, P.C., M.P.</i>	12 December 1905	
	Sir Charles H. T. Crosswaite, K.C.S.I.	3 March 1895	In succession to Sir R. H. Davies. Retired 2 March 1905.
	Sir Stuart C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	16 September 1895	In succession to Sir H. C. Rawlinson. Retired 15 September 1905.
	F. C. Le Marchant -	27 February 1896	In succession to B. W. Currie. Retired 26 February 1906.
	General Sir J. J. H. Gordon, K.C.B.	1 January 1897	In succession to Sir O. T. Burne.
	Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick, K.C.S.I.	24 April 1897	In succession to Sir J. Strachey.
	Sir J. L. Mackay, G.C.M.G., K.C.I.E.	27 April 1897	In succession to Sir Hardie.
	Sir John Edge, K.C.	30 March 1898	In succession to Sir C. "

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TION.**
Presidency
Small Cause
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Act IV. of 1906, "further to amend the Presidency Small Cause Courts Act, 1882," empowered Small Cause Courts to dispose of certain cases dealing with property which had previously been referred to the High Court, placed some check on the exercise by defendants of their right to obtain an order for removal to the High Court of cases of a value exceeding Rs. 1,000, and regulated the procedure of the Small Cause Court in making reference to the High Court.

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Act III. of 1906 gave certain additional powers to the Rangoon Municipal Committee.

**LEGISLA-
TION.**
United
Provinces
Local and
Rural Police
Rates Act,
1906.

United
Provinces
District
Boards Law,
1906.

PUNJAB.
Punjab
Pre-emption
Act, 1905.

Punjab
Minor Canals
Act, 1905.

BURMA.
Rangoon
Port Act,
1906.

Burma
Motor-
vehicle and
Cycle Act,
1906.

Burma
Municipal
Act (1898)
Amend-
ment Act,
1906.

CHAPTER II.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

GENERAL.

Local self-government, municipal and rural, in the form in which it now prevails in India, is essentially a product of British rule. Beginning in the Presidency towns, the principle made little progress until 1870, when it was expressly recognised by Lord Mayo's Government that "local interest, supervision, and care are necessary to success in the management of funds devoted to education, sanitation, medical charity, and local public works." The result was a gradual advance in local self-government, leading up to the action taken by Lord Ripon's Government in 1882-84, and the various provincial Acts passed about that time, which form the basis of the provincial systems at present in force. Municipal committees now exist in most places having any pretension to importance, and have charge of municipal business generally, including the care and superintendence of streets, roads, fairs and markets, open spaces, water supply, drainage, education, hospitals, and the like. The number of such committees in each province is given in a table in this chapter. Local and district boards have charge of local roads, sanitary works, education, hospitals, and dispensaries in rural districts. A large proportion of their income is provided by provincial rates. Bodies of port trustees have charge of harbour works, port approaches, and pilotage. There is also a smaller number of non-elective local bodies discharging similar duties in towns other than constituted municipalities, and in cantonments. The importance of the work of local administration performed by these various authorities is best shown by a statement of the funds at their disposal. The income of the municipalities for 1905-06, apart from loans, sale of securities, and such-like extraordinary receipts, was £3,618,100. The sources of this income are shown in the table at the end of the volume (Appendix B). Of the revenue classed as "local," amounting to £3,347,900, the rates levied on land, for expenditure on roads, schools, hospitals, and general purposes, account for over 71 per cent.; and among other sources of income belonging to the local boards are tolls on ferries and roads, school fees, and receipts from corporate property. The balance consists of grants by the Government for educational and other purposes.

The income of the port funds, exclusive of loans, deposits, and advances, amounted in 1905-06 to £1,656,400.

The revenue of cantonment funds amounted to £233,000; that of town and bazaar funds came to £107,500; and other miscellaneous funds had a revenue amounting to £145,600.

Thus, the revenue managed by all the various local bodies amounted in 1905-06 to about £9,108,500, besides large sums proceeding from loans and sale proceeds of investments.

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.
General.

MUNICIPALITIES.

The municipal bodies exist, raise funds, and exercise powers under enactments which provide separately for the special requirements of each province, and of the three presidency capitals Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras. In the majority of towns, most of the commissioners or members of the committees are elected by the townsfolk under legal rules, but in every town some, and in a few minor towns all, the members are appointed by the Government.

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.

In almost every municipal body one or more Government officials sit as members; the number of Indian and non-official members, however, everywhere largely exceeds the number of Europeans and officials. The municipal bodies are subject to the control of the Government in so far that no new tax can be imposed, no loan can be raised, no work costing more than a prescribed sum can be undertaken, and no serious departure from the sanctioned budget for the year can be made, without the previous sanction of the Government; and no rules or bye-laws can be enforced without similar sanction and full publication.

The sources of municipal revenue, apart from loans and Government contributions, are usually divided under the two heads, "Taxation" and "Municipal Property and Powers apart from Taxation." Of the taxes the most important are octroi duties, levied in the United Provinces, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, the Central Provinces, and Bombay; and the tax on houses and lands, which holds the chief place in the other provinces, as well as in Bombay city, and also contributes a considerable share of the receipts in the provinces named above. There are also water rates and conservancy rates, tolls on roads and bridges, and taxes on animals and vehicles, and in some places a tax on professions and trades, while in many Bengal municipalities there is a tax on persons according to their circumstances and property. The other sources of income include cattle-pound receipts, rents of municipal property, such as markets and slaughter-houses, and fees of various kinds.

The objects on which municipal funds can be spent are, mainly, water supply, hospitals and dispensaries, streets and roads, vaccination, drainage, sanitation, and education. The interest in the municipal elections, and in municipal affairs generally, is not usually keen, save in a few cities and large towns; but, as education and knowledge advance, interest in the management of local affairs gradually increases. It is reported from most provinces that municipal work is fairly well done, and municipal responsibilities are, on the whole, faithfully discharged, though occasional shortcomings and failures occur in particular towns. The tendency of these local bodies, especially in the smaller towns, is to be slow in imposing additional taxes, in adopting sanitary reforms, and in incurring new expenditure. Many members of municipal bodies are diligent in their attendance to work, whether at meetings for business or on benches for decision of petty criminal cases.

The following table exhibits the constitution of the municipal committees in 1905-06:—

	Number of Municipalities.	Total Number of Members.	By Qualification.			By Employment.		By Race.	
			Ex-officio.	Nominated.	Elected.	Officials.	Non-Officials.	Europeans.	Natives.
<i>Presidency Towns, &c. :—</i>									
Calcutta - - -	1	50	--	25	25	Return not available.			
Bombay - - -	1	72	--	16	56				
Madras - - -	1	37	1	16	20	10	27	13	24
Rangoon - - -	1	25	--	6	19	3	22	13	12
<i>District Municipalities :—</i>									
Bengal - - -	128	1,745	100	758	887	244	1,501	228	1,517
Bombay (including Karachi).	162	2,209	173	1,161	875	594	1,622	190	2,026
Madras - - -	60	905	70	415	420	211	694	159	746
United Provinces* - -	89	1,249	156	154	939	301	948	235	1,014
Punjab† - - -	138	1,511	243	500	768	294	1,217	103	1,408
North - West Frontier Province.‡	10	161	49	112	--	49	112	25	136
Central Provinces and Berar.	58	756	15	281	460	180	576	88	668
Eastern Bengal and Assam	49	646	65	259	322	139	507	67	579
Burma - - -	42	530	164	276	90	190	340	146	384

* Fifteen towns were classed as "notified areas," and are not included in the statistics given.
† Excluding 52 "notified areas."
‡ Excluding 3 "notified areas."

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.

The total indebtedness of municipalities amounted at the end of 1904-05, the latest year for which complete statistics are available at the time of going to press, to £8,788,000, of which £2,503,000 was owed by the Calcutta Municipality and £3,241,000 by Bombay City. Against this total has to be set £750,700 standing at credit of the various sinking funds.

BENGAL.
Calcutta.

The Calcutta Corporation consists, under the Act of 1899, of 25 elected commissioners and 25 appointed, four by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, four by the Calcutta Trades Association, two by the Port Commissioners, and 15 by the Local Government. There is a General Committee, with executive powers, consisting of a chairman and 12 members, who are selected from among the commissioners, four by the elected, and four by the nominated commissioners, and four by the Local Government. Reviewing the results of the last three years, the Lieutenant-Governor remarks that improvement has been made in the administrative machinery, and that though the period has been marked by heavy borrowing, mainly on account of the expenditure involved in the water supply and suburban drainage schemes, the financial position of the municipality need give no cause for apprehension. He notes the progress that has occurred in all branches of the municipal administration, and ascribes it largely to the increased co-operation obtained from the commissioners by the appointment of standing committees.

The total income of the year amounted to £151,900, showing a satisfactory increase. The expenditure on revenue account was £136,800, and the cash balances at the end of the year were increased to £57,200. Municipal rates and taxes included, as in the previous year, a general rate of 9½ per cent., and water, lighting, and sewage rates aggregating 10 per cent., besides taxes on animals and vehicles and on trades and professions, &c. Collection of the rate continued to show a high standard, the ratio of collections to the corrected demand being 99·1 per cent. The total assessed valuation of the city rose to £1,849,300, which shows an increase of £62,500 as compared with the previous year. The Calcutta improvement scheme, which has been approved in principle by the Secretary of State, will, when it has been started, necessitate the raising of large sums in the market by the Calcutta Improvement Trust which it is proposed to constitute for the purpose. The indebtedness of the Corporation stood at £2,576,500 at the end of the year, which is well within the legal limit.

Interior of
Bengal.

The municipalities in the interior of Bengal numbered 128, those transferred to the jurisdiction of the new Province having been 35 in number. The incomes of these municipalities, excluding debt heads, amounted to £282,100, of which £206,800 came from taxation. The taxes are levied on persons, according to their circumstances and property, or on holdings, at a rate generally 7½ per cent. of the assessed annual value, besides lighting and water rates and other smaller items; there were no octroi duties, except in Sambalpur town, newly transferred from the Central Provinces. The total expenditure of the funds, excluding debt heads, was £263,200, of which £16,500 was for water supply, £10,700 for drainage, £78,600 for conservancy, £28,300 for hospitals and dispensaries, and £36,900 for roads and buildings. The closing balances amounted to £62,800. Thirty-one municipalities were in debt to a net amount of £230,600, more than half of this being owed by the Howrah municipality. The Bengal Government report that the public interest in municipal administration was maintained, if it was not actually on the increase; and that the steady and sustained improvement which has taken place in that administration is evidence that the ratepayers do not regard it with indifference.

United
Provinces.

The towns in the United Provinces which were classed as municipalities numbered 89, as in the previous year. Their income, excluding debt headings, amounted to £425,300, of which £225,900 was received from octroi duties, levied in 76 towns. The octroi receipts were higher by £11,900 than in the preceding year, and the increase was shared by most of the other sources of revenue, though the total was below that of last year, owing to the large contributions made by the Government to municipal funds in that year, for the drainage of Lucknow and for the relief of the municipal funds from police charges. Since the close of the year under report, the latter measure has been carried into complete effect. The incidence of taxation as a whole

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.

rose to Re. 1½ per head of the population in municipal areas. The expenditure also showed an increase, rising to £454,000, compared with £436,900 in the same towns in the preceding year. It included £116,600 spent on water supply and drainage, £88,400 on conservancy—which was 9 per cent. more than in 1904-05—£19,200 on public instruction, and £49,500 on roads and buildings. Loans to the amount of £48,100 were received from Government during the year, the heaviest borrowers being Mussoorie, Mirzapore, and Cawnpore. The closing balances at the credit of the boards amounted to £144,700. It is reported that the municipal boards as a whole have justified the trust reposed in them, that their administration is guided by an increasing sense of responsibility, and that their services have merited the approval of the Government and of the citizens. There were 19 notified areas, of comparatively small importance, besides the municipalities dealt with above.

There were in the Punjab 138 municipalities, many of them insignificant in size, besides 52 notified areas, which have a modified form of municipal government. Elected members serve on 108 of the municipal committees, the proportion being generally two elected to one nominated member. The total income of the municipalities, excluding loans and extraordinary receipts, was £329,800, of which £212,700 was raised by octroi duties, in force in 134 towns. The octroi receipts as a whole show some decline, owing to the introduction of a system of granting refunds of octroi on exports from towns without proof of previous payment of duty; a simplification of the procedure which will be of much advantage to traffic. The average incidence of taxation was Re. 1½ per head of the municipal population. The expenditure was £346,500, including £35,500 for hospitals and dispensaries, £28,900 for education, £74,700 for water supply, drainage, and conservancy, and £39,700 for roads and buildings. The aggregate amount of loans outstanding was £352,200; but the financial condition of each indebted municipality is reported to have been sound. Including the notified areas, the funds of which are unimportant, the total balances at the end of the year amounted to £105,400, besides investments to the value of £24,700.

In the Frontier Province there were 11 municipalities and two notified areas, with an income of £36,100, chiefly derived from octroi duties, expenditure amounting to £36,000, and closing balances amounting to £11,100.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The revenue of the Rangoon municipality, excluding loans and advances, continued to increase, and amounted to £173,800, against £166,800 in 1904-05. Of the above total, direct taxation accounted for £110,900, falling at the rate of about Rs. 7½ per head of the population. But in spite of its increase, income had not kept up with the growth of expenditure, which amounted to £190,400, apart from repayment of loans and advances, and excluding the large expenditure on loan works, compared with £168,100 in the preceding year. Of this total, £34,700 was spent on conservancy, £18,300 on maintenance of drainage and water supply, £24,100 on roads and buildings, and £8,300 on public instruction. Loans raised in the public market during the year brought in £51,000. Expenditure, chiefly on the Hlawga Water Works, amounting to £36,100, was paid out of town funds. The expenditure of the Town Lands Reclamation Fund was £69,300 in the year. The debt of the municipality at the end of the year was £639,600, to which must be added £120,000 borrowed on account of the reclamation works; the net addition to the debt during the year was £47,200. In view of the demands which are about to be made on the funds of this rapidly growing town, for improvement of the sewerage, surface drainage, and water supply, the financial situation is receiving very careful attention, and since the close of the year under report the rates of the general municipal tax and of the water and scavenging taxes have been raised.

BURMA.
Rangoon.

The number of other municipalities in Burma at the end of 1905-06 was 42, two having been added during the year so as to complete the inclusion of all the towns hitherto administered under the Upper Burma Municipal Regulation of 1887. Elected members were serving on eleven of the committees. The income of the municipalities, excluding debt heads, was £216,700, of which £76,700 came from taxation and ferry tolls, and £102,000 from markets and slaughter-houses. There are no octroi duties in Burma.

Interior of
Burma.

MUNICIPALITIES. The expenditure, excluding repayment of loans and advances, amounted to £212,900. The advent of plague caused an increase in the expenditure under hospitals and dispensaries, and there were also increases under Conservancy, due to the establishment of night conservancy in Mandalay, and under roads. The closing balances rose to an aggregate of £55,400. Loans were taken from the Government by Akyab and Mandalay for a total of £7,300, but the total outstanding indebtedness of the municipalities at the end of the year declined to £132,600. The municipal incomes are for the most part small, only six, including Rangoon, exceeding £6,500 per annum. The incidence of taxation and tolls per head of municipal population was Re. 11½, the highest rate being at Moulmein, where it was about Rs. 4 per head.

**Central
Provinces
and Berar.**

In the Central Provinces 46 towns had municipal committees in 1905-06, and 12 in Berar, as in the preceding year. No progress was made during the year under report in respect of the extension of the elective principle in Berar; it was decided to abandon, for the present, the proposal to apply the new Central Provinces Municipal Act to Berar. The municipal income of the two provinces, excluding loans and advances, amounted to £131,200. Of this total £52,000 was raised by octroi duties, which were levied in 23 towns in the Central Provinces. The incidence of taxation per head of the municipal population was Re. 1½. The incidence is lower in Berar than in the Central Provinces, and the municipalities there, although small, have in many cases large balances. On the whole, the position of all the municipalities is distinctly good, taxation being light and revenue expanding beyond expectations; this has resulted in the accumulation of some large balances, but it is reported that a spirit of progress is abroad, and that various public schemes are under the consideration of the municipal committees. The expenditure was £118,000, excluding advances and repayment of loans; this sum included £39,000 for upkeep of water supply and drainage, and for conservancy, and £14,300 for education. The only loan raised during the year was a small public loan by the Damoh municipality. The total indebtedness of the municipalities was £63,700. The balance at the credit of the municipalities at the end of the year was £52,300, compared with £47,900 at the beginning.

**Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.**

Eastern Bengal and Assam contained 49 towns under some form of municipal government, 44 of them being municipalities proper, and the rest of smaller importance. The income from the whole of them, excluding loans and advances, amounted to £78,700, or rather more than in 1904-05, and the expenditure was £77,000. There was an increase in the amount spent on conservancy, which was £24,200; other items were hospitals and dispensaries £9,700, roads £11,400. On the whole, the year was one of some progress. In a few cases, especially in the Mymensingh district, there was a disposition to introduce politics; but the commissioners are said to have generally recognised their responsibilities.

**MADRAS.
Madras City.**

The number of Commissioners in the Madras Corporation under the Act of 1904 is 36, besides the chairman, of whom 20 are elected and the remainder appointed by Government and by various bodies connected with trade and commerce. The income of the year, excluding loans and advances, amounted to £135,100, of which £78,000 came from taxation and £24,900 from municipal property and powers apart from taxation. The total income, if allowance be made for a contribution from the Government of £20,000 for the improvement of water supply and drainage, included in the 1905-06 figures, was about the same in that as in the preceding year, a small increase in taxation revenue being balanced by a decline in the receipts from municipal property. Taxation fell on the population at the rate of about Rs. 2½ per head; the principal tax is one of 10 per cent. on buildings and lands, and there was also a water tax levied during the year at 4 per cent., and a lighting tax at 1½ per cent., besides a tax on professions and trades, and taxes and tolls on animals and vehicles; there are no octroi duties. A loan of £50,000 was raised for the drainage works, the greater part of it being furnished by the Government. The expenditure came to £178,000, of which £55,400 was spent on capital account, from funds provided by the contribution and loan mentioned above,

chiefly on drainage. Repairs to the existing water supply and drainage works accounted for £18,100, and £35,800 was spent on conservancy, including epidemic charges (£8,400). The outstanding debt of the municipality amounted on the 31st March 1906 to £483,400, against which must be set the sinking funds, amounting to £129,700.

**MUNI-
CIPALITIES.**

The number of municipal councils in the interior of Madras was 60, of which one was temporarily suspended for inefficiency during the year. Of these, 35 enjoyed the right of electing the chairman. The total income of the municipalities, excluding debt heads, was £228,800, of which £142,000 was drawn from taxation and tolls. There was a good increase in the receipts from taxes, which included the tax on buildings and lands and the water and drainage tax, the tax on arts and professions, and on vehicles, animals, and carts, and a tax on servants in some hill stations. The average incidence of taxes and tolls continued to rise, and was nearly 18 annas per head of the municipal population; there are no octroi duties in these towns. The expenditure was £229,600, of which £59,400 was spent on the conservancy, £24,700 on water and drainage, £24,300 on hospitals, £37,700 on buildings and roads, and £26,600 on education. The outstanding debts at the end of the year amounted to £156,100, against which there were some small sinking funds, and closing balances amounting to £97,700. On the whole, the Government reports that the standard of municipal administration showed an advance.

**Interior of
Madras.**

The municipality of Bombay is administered by a corporation consisting of 72 councillors, of whom 16 are nominated by the Government, 36 are elected by the ratepayers, 16 by the justices, 2 by the Chamber of Commerce, and 2 by the University. In view of the steady rise in the revenue and the possession of large surplus balances, the general tax was reduced from 10½ per cent. to 9 per cent., and the rate for water supplied for trade purposes was reduced from 12 annas to 10 annas per 1,000 gallons. These together were estimated to relieve the ratepayers to the extent of nearly £35,000 a year. The actual receipts of the year amounted to £606,200, including £77,900 the net proceeds from octroi duties, £191,600 from the general tax, and £123,800 from the water tax. This total fell short of that of the preceding year by £16,200 only. The gradual increase in receipts is attributable to some extent to increased efficiency in collection and assessment. The incidence of taxation per head of the population in 1901-02 (776,000) was Rs. 6½, with the general tax at 10½ per cent.; in 1905-06, with the general tax reduced to 9 per cent., it stood at nearly Rs. 8 per head on the then ascertained population (977,800). The expenditure was £624,900, including a contribution of £16,700 to the Improvement Trust, £198,900 for debt services, £30,600 for maintenance of drainage and waterworks, £102,100 for conservancy, and £15,100 for plague expenses. The balance at the end of the year was £133,400, compared with £6,700 required by law.

**BOMBAY.
Bombay
City.**

A loan for £80,000 was raised from the public for the construction of sewerage works; the outstanding debt at the end of the year was £3,314,000, the sinking fund amounting to £400,200. The expenditure from loan funds during the year increased from £61,400 to £72,400, owing to increases under the heads of street improvements and sanitary and other miscellaneous works; it included £42,700 spent on sewerage and drainage works. The plague expenditure since the commencement of the epidemic amounted to £424,600 at the end of March 1906, of which £96,700 was received from the Government, and the remainder met partly by special plague loans, partly out of other loan funds, and, in the last two years, out of the revenues of the municipality.

The capital expenditure of the Bombay City Improvement Trust in the year amounted to £233,900, the number of properties acquired being 148. These figures are considerably lower than those of the preceding year, owing to the sanction of the Government to two important schemes not having been received before the close of the year. The chief feature of the year was the opening of Princess Street, the main thoroughfare in the first of the large street schemes, by T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales. Other work

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.

was also completed, including the first Nagpada scheme. A fresh loan of £200,000 was raised, the amount of the loans taken from the public being thus brought up to 1½ millions sterling. The capital expenditure up to the end of the year had been £1,461,000, and there was a cash balance of £400,800. The year's revenue of the Trust amounted to £95,100, and the expenditure, exclusive of capital charges, to £87,100. The revenue consisted of the municipal contribution of £16,700 mentioned above, and receipts from investments, rents, and other proceeds of property.

Interior of
Bombay.

The municipalities in the interior of Bombay numbered 162, including one which was abolished before the end of the year. Their aggregate income was £505,500, including loans and advances. Taxation receipts increased under octroi, house and land tax, road and ferry tolls, and water rate. The general incidence of all the taxes per head of the municipal population stood at nearly Rs. 1½, varying from Rs. 5½ in Karachi downwards. The expenditure, also including loan heads, increased by £20,000, chiefly owing to larger expenditure in Sind on drainage, conservancy, and roads, and stood at £538,500. The indebtedness of the municipalities amounted at the end of the year to £192,600, the chief additions during the year consisting of loans by Karachi and Ahmedabad. Expenditure on the repayment of debt during the year amounted to £8,800, and the amount of the loans received was £33,500. The closing balances at credit of the municipal funds rose to £174,600.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

DISTRICT
BOARDS.
General.

The constitution of district boards with precise powers and responsibilities under the law took place more recently than the creation of municipalities; in most provinces district committees had, for many years, given assistance or exercised control in the administration of local roads, local hospitals, and local schools, but before 1870 there was no organised attempt to introduce rural self-government. The present system is based on the principles laid down by the Government of Lord Ripon in 1882. In all the more advanced provinces district boards are constituted under different enactments. The funds of the boards are supplied for the most part from the yield of specific imposts, known as provincial rates, made over to them by the local governments. By a change announced in the Financial Statement of March 1906, certain petty appropriations which had hitherto been made from the funds of district and local boards for various provincial purposes, such as the district post, normal schools, and the like, were discontinued; and as, at the same time, various cesses for village establishments, &c., were abolished, a close approach has now been made to the ideal held up by the Government of India, that cesses on the land should be exclusively such as are levied by or on behalf of the local authorities for expenditure on genuinely local objects. The boards have also other sources of income, such as cattle pound receipts (except in Madras), educational receipts, medical receipts, tolls from ferries and bridges, and contributions for specific purposes from the provincial funds. The Government of India announced in the Financial Statement for 1905-06 a decision to make a grant-in-aid of the funds of all district and local boards throughout India, equal approximately to one-fourth of their income from rates or cesses imposed upon the land. The estimated present cost of this measure was about £377,000, an amount which will, of course, grow as the income from cesses increases. In most provinces the district boards delegate much of their detailed work to sub-divisional or "local" boards, which are constituted under the law, and are responsible for sub divisions or parts of a district. The local boards contain a proportion of elected members, varying from three-quarters to a half of the whole number, in all provinces excepting Madras, where the elective system is only applied to members of district boards. The latter are in all provinces generally chosen, either by election or appointment, from the ranks of the local board members. The following

DISTRICT
BOARDS.

table shows the general constitution of the boards in each province, the figures in italics relating to the local boards, the others to the district boards:—

	Number of Boards.	Total Number of Members.	By Appointment.			By Employment.		By Race.	
			Ex-officio.	Nominated.	Elected.	Officials.	Non-Officials.	Europeans.	Native.
Madras	{ 23 82*	727 1,206	109 82	276 1,124	342 —	295 369	432 837	134 103	593 1,103
Bombay	{ 24 210	530 2,341	5 22	289 1,268	236 1,051	134 490	396 1,851	73 102	457 2,239
Bengal	{ 29 77	581 884	148 47	192 606	241 231	187 110	394 774	171 102	410 782
United Provinces.	48	943	30	299	614	280	663	97	846
Punjab	{ 29 25	1,109 494	223 27	509 146	377 321	256 26	853 468	73 3	1,036 491
N.-W. Frontier Province.	5	216	49	167	—	49	167	27	189
Central Provinces and Berar.	{ 20 72	466 1,222	8 24	102 303	356 895	75 129	391 1,093	17 5	449 1,217
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	{ 14 51	283 726	72 94	110 367	101 265	94 135	189 591	52 148	231 478

* Besides 381 union panchayats, with 3,589 members.

In Bengal there were 29 district boards and 77 local boards, the latter having charge of village roads and various duties deputed to them in respect of pounds, ferries, primary education, and other matters; and there were also 40 union committees entrusted with minor duties and petty incomes. The Bill to amend the Local Self-Government Act has been introduced into the Bengal Legislative Council since the end of the year under report. It is proposed to provide for the imposition of a cess when required to meet the charges of debt raised for tramways and light railways, to improve the position of the union committees, and other matters. Four light railways constructed under the guarantee of district boards are now in existence in Bengal, and worked successfully during the year; several similar schemes are in contemplation. The income of the district boards, apart from the head of deposits and advances, rose from £339,400 to £435,900, owing to the large contributions made by Government for civil works, amounting in all to £96,100. The figures include £215,200 from the road cess. The expenditure, also excluding debt headings, was £371,000, of which £80,600 was spent on education and £240,700 on civil works, chiefly roads. The closing balances, exclusive of deposits, rose to £157,900. The boards spent more on medical and sanitary work than before, owing to the Government assistance given for this object. They also do something for industrial development, but their efforts to introduce an improved fly-shuttle loom have hitherto met with little success.

There were, as in the previous year, 44 district boards and four district committees in the United Provinces. The total income of the boards and committees during 1905-06 was £473,800, including large provincial grants, to the total amount of £134,800, chiefly for education and civil works. The receipts from rates showed, as usual, a steady increase. The expenditure amounted to £479,400, of which about £160,000 was spent on education with satisfactory results, £50,000 on the equipment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries, and £250,000 on civil works, chiefly roads and new buildings required for medical or educational purposes. It is reported that the members of the boards rendered more assistance than in the previous

DISTRICT
BOARDS.

year. It is possible that the financial and administrative powers conferred on the boards by the new law and the orders issued under it will promote local interest and create a growing sense of responsibility and public spirit.

Punjab.

The number of district boards in the Punjab was increased by one, to 29, including the Simla board, the powers of which are exercised by the Deputy Commissioner. The local boards numbered 25, the three local boards of the Ludhiana district having been abolished during the course of the preceding year. A report on the desirability of abolishing the local boards, five in number, in the Ferozepore district was under consideration. Local boards only exist at present in six districts. The district boards in 11 districts are composed entirely of nominated or ex-officio members, and elsewhere the elections generally awaken little interest. It is hoped that with funds increased by the Government of India's grant the activities and therefore the interest of the members of the boards will be augmented. The year's income of the district boards, apart from loans and advances, came to £212,300, of which the chief items were £153,100 from local rates and £22,700 from civil works. Both these items showed a falling off as compared with 1904-05, owing to the exceptional receipts in that year. The expenditure of the year was £215,400, of which the chief items were education £54,100, medical and sanitary charges £26,800, and roads and other public works £73,100. The closing balances of the district funds taken together amounted to £86,700, compared with £85,000 at the end of 1904-05.

Central
Provinces.

In the Central Provinces and Berar, owing to the reduction of the number of districts in Berar from six to four, and to the transfer of the district of Sambalpur to Bengal, the number of district councils fell to 20 and that of local boards to 72. The powers of the local boards are small, but steps are being taken in some districts to place definite funds at their disposal and to give them wider powers of control, with a view to infusing more vitality into their work. The income of the district funds amounted to £144,900 (of which £87,100 belonged to the Central Provinces boards) excluding debt heads, while the expenditure, also excluding repayment of loans, &c., was £132,300 (of which £81,000 was incurred in the Central Provinces). The chief source of income, as in other provinces, is the provincial rates, but receipts from cattle pounds constitute a much higher proportion of the total in the Central Provinces than elsewhere. The receipts were swollen by contributions under the Government of India's grant for communications and for education, £13,300 for each purpose. The expenditure included £47,400 on education and £41,200 on public works. The total balances amounted to £94,400, of which no less than £72,500, or more than a year's revenue, was held by the Berar boards; this large accumulated balance is regarded as an unsatisfactory feature, and the district boards of Berar, now that they have been reconstituted as four districts, may be expected to proceed with a more liberal policy, especially in regard to education.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

In Eastern Bengal there were 14 district boards, 32 sub-divisional local boards, and nine union committees. In Assam there were 19 local boards, constituted under executive rules. The latter boards are generally similar in their functions and responsibilities to district boards rather than the ordinary local boards; a special feature of their constitution is the presence of a large proportion of Europeans among their members, representing the planting community. In Eastern Bengal, where the Muhammadan community includes two-thirds of the population, steps have been taken to give that community a share in public representation more in accordance with their numbers; and at the end of the year they had about one-third of the membership of the district and local boards, compared with their previous proportion of a quarter only. The income of the boards throughout the new province, apart from debt heads, was £299,500, of which rather less than half accrued from provincial rates, and £80,000 from contributions from Government for education and roads. Their expenditure amounted to £265,200, of which £73,000 was devoted to education and £154,900 to civil works. The closing balances amounted to £116,200. The year is reported not to have been one of great progress, and to have been marked by

DISTRICT
BOARDS.

inadequate activity in the matters of public works, improvement of village water supplies, technical and industrial education, and the development of local industries.

Madras.

In Madras one district board was added as the result of a revision of district boundaries, and one in consequence of the extension of the Act to agency tracts in Vizagapatam. There were, therefore, 23 district boards, 82 taluk boards, and 381 village unions. The taluk or subdivisional boards are not elective, the members being appointed by the Government, but some of them elect their vice-presidents. The village union *panchayats* or councils have each not less than five members; they deal chiefly with local sanitation, though in some cases they have the management of elementary schools, markets, and other local institutions entrusted to them by the taluk boards. The income of the boards and unions, excluding debt heads and contributions from one district board to another, increased from £673,700 to £853,300, and the expenditure from £702,700 to £776,400. The chief item in the income is the land cess, levied at rates varying from one to two annas per rupee of the land revenue assessment, which yielded £77,800 more than in the previous year. The income included also grants from provincial revenues amounting to £176,600, this item being swollen by grants of £91,200 for roads and bridges, and of £60,800 for education. The chief items of expenditure were £432,100 on public works, £133,300 on medical institutions and sanitation, including £24,500 on plague, and £95,200 on education. About one-half of the expenditure is controlled by the taluk boards. The Mayaveram-Mutupet Railway, which belongs to the Tanjore District Board, brought in a net profit of 5.7 per cent. on the capital outlay. It is reported that the working of the local boards and unions continued to be, on the whole, satisfactory in all districts except Anantapur, where the improvement of roads, education, and sanitation required increased attention.

Bombay.

In Bombay and Sind there were 24 district and 210 taluk (or sub-divisional) boards, nearly all of which are partly elective. The income of the local boards, excluding debt heads, was £378,500, compared with £292,100 in the previous year, the rise being due partly to the recovery of arrears of provincial rates, but more largely to the special grants from Government for primary education, and the improvement of communications and village water supply. The expenditure of the boards, also excluding debt heads, was £360,200, including £119,900 on education, and £193,700 on roads, buildings, and water supply, compared with £157,000 in 1904-05. The balances at credit of the boards, which owing to the disorganisation by famine and plague were reduced at the end of the year 1900-01 to £75,700, stood at £139,800 at the end of 1905-06. The administration of the Boards was on the whole satisfactory, though most of the work has to be done by the official members, non-officials being apathetic. The year was fairly prosperous, and it became possible to carry out much-needed improvements in communications and water-supply. The provincialisation of some of the roads of the Presidency proper is expected to afford substantial relief to the Boards, and to enable them to open up new and important roads.

Burma.

There are no local boards in Burma. Their place is taken by the district funds under the control of Government officers. These numbered 36, and had an income of £221,100 and an expenditure of £216,300 in the year under report. Those in Lower Burma, known as "District Cess Funds," are the largest, as they include the proceeds of a 10 per cent. cess on the land revenue, and account for £187,100 of the expenditure, of which £18,500 was on education and £94,800 on public works.

PORT TRUSTS.

PORT
TRUSTS.

The custody of the harbours and the administration of harbour and shore affairs in the more important ports are placed by various legislative acts in the hands of Port Commissioners. Members of these Port Trusts are for the most part appointed by the Local Governments, and are usually representative of the various Indian and commercial interests of the place. Port trustees are empowered, subject to the control of the Government, to levy dues, to contract loans for port improvements, to do all that

PORT
TRUSTS.

having been increased by a loan of £73,300 during the year. The scheme for the improvement of the port in the direction of large extensions of wharfage and the provision of new export and import yards took definite shape during the year. Sanction has subsequently been given for raising a loan of £300,000 for the first part of the scheme, and it is estimated that £500,000 will be required for the rest of it. The Chairman of the Port Trust considers that the prospects of the port are excellent, and the finances in a sound and healthy condition.

There are other minor ports at which smaller sums are raised yearly and expended on improvements, but these do not require notice.

The table of municipal receipts and expenditure, usually given in this place, has been placed at the end of the volume in this issue (Appendix B.).

CHAPTER IIA.

VITAL STATISTICS, SANITATION, &c.

(Detailed information on the subjects treated in this chapter is contained in the annual Report on Sanitary Measures in India, which is published as a Parliamentary Paper; and a brief review only is given in this place.)

VITAL STATISTICS.

The health of the European troops in India in 1905 was exceptionally good, the rates of admission to hospital, of constantly sick, of mortality, and of invaliding, all being the lowest on record. The following table gives details :—

VITAL
STATISTICS.
European
troops.

Year.	Ratio per Mille of Strength.			
	Admissions into Hospital.	Constantly Sick.	Deaths.	Invaliding.
1899-1903 (five years' average) - - -	1,101	68	13.46	34
1903 - - - - -	900	57	10.83	35
1904 - - - - -	834	52	10.05	21

The chief causes of sickness were, as usual, venereal diseases and ague, which, though less common than usual, accounted for 18.4 and 13.3 per cent., respectively, of the total number of admissions, that is to say, 154 and 111, respectively, per mille on the strength, compared with 198 and 174 per mille in the previous year. The rate of admissions for venereal diseases had stood at 486 per mille in 1897. It has been suggested, however, that some part of the decline shown by these figures may be due to changes as to record and diagnosis. The most notable increases were under the heads of simple continued fever, influenza, and small-pox. Enteric fever and hepatic abscess were the chief causes of mortality, showing a death-rate of 3 and 1.16 per mille respectively. Enteric fever alone caused nearly 30 per cent. of the total deaths, 1,146 admissions and 213 deaths being due to this disease; the case mortality from this disease was again rather lower than in the preceding year. There was a decline in the death-rate from nearly all the other diseases. The loss by invaliding during 1905 amounted to 1,508 men, equal to 21 per mille of strength, against 2,507, or 35 per mille, in 1904.

The health of the Native troops in 1905 was also exceptionally good, for the constantly sick rate, the death-rate, and the invaliding rate, were the lowest on record, while the admission rate was only very slightly above the record figure of 1904. The details are given below :—

Native
troops.

Year.	Ratio per Mille of Strength.			
	Admissions into Hospital.	Constantly Sick.	Deaths (excluding Deaths during absence).	Invaliding.
1897-1901 (five years' average) - - -	794	30	11.9	12.7
1904 - - - - -	603	24	8.5	13
1905 - - - - -	607	23	8.1	9

The low death-rate is all the more noteworthy as, out of the total number (998) of deaths during the year, 185 occurred through the collapse of buildings at Dharmasala during the earthquake. As usual, the Native soldier suffered less than the European from influenza, small-pox, enteric fever,

PORT
TRUSTS.

may be needed for the maintenance of the harbour and its approaches, and to erect warehouses, jetties, and docks for the convenience of traders and shipping. The Local Governments and, so far as can be judged, the public are well satisfied with the work done by the various Port Trusts. The Commissioners of Port Trusts receive a small fee for each attendance at meetings for business.

Bombay.

There was again a general increase in most of the classes of imports brought into the port of Bombay in 1905-06; in exports also, cotton, hides, and manganese ore showed substantial rises, but there were heavy decreases under grains and oilseeds; the trade as a whole was considerably larger. The net result to the Bombay Port Trust was a rise in their income to £467,800, a record figure. The receipts for wharfage fees and dock dues on goods were £223,500, the other principal items being ground and warehouse rents, which together yielded £110,100. The expenditure amounted to £406,600, including £186,100 for interest and sinking fund charges, £43,600 for the working and maintenance of the bundar properties, and £110,500 for that of the Prince's and Victoria Docks. These docks, on which rather more than 1½ millions sterling had been spent up to the end of the year, yielded in 1905-06 a net return of £115,500. A four per cent. debenture loan of £233,300 was raised in August 1905 for the new dock works. The debt of the Trust amounted at the end of the year to £4,309,700, of which about two millions is owed to Government, and the remainder consists of foreshore securities and debenture loans. The cost price of the properties vested in the Board was £4,355,600, and various depreciation, reserve, and sinking funds (including the year's surplus of £60,200) amounted in the aggregate to £624,900. Preliminary work was begun during the year on the construction of the new docks, particulars of which were given briefly in last year's Statement. The number of steamships entering the port in the year rose to 2,670, of a total tonnage of 3¼ million tons, or nearly a quarter of a million tons more than in 1904-05.

Calcutta.

There was a great increase in the exports of jute and coal from the port of Calcutta, and a growth in the imports. The receipts of the Port Trust amounted to £597,000, which is only slightly above the figures for the preceding year, but the highest on record; the expenditure was £577,700, including the Kidderpore Dock Account and payments for interest and sinking funds. The surplus brought up the accumulated balances to £210,700, out of which a sum of £173,200 has been set aside as a Revenue Reserve Fund. The total debt was £3,536,000, of which rather more than two millions are Government loans, and the rest debenture loans. The latter were increased by the issue of debentures to the value of £233,300 in 1905. Against this total debt may be set value of properties, &c., £4,752,000, besides valuable foreshore lands, and sinking funds amounting to £349,100. The Commissioners further reduced the charges on trade and shipping in 1905-06, and the result of the concessions of recent years may be shown by the calculation that, had the rates current in 1902 remained in force, the receipts for 1905-06 would have been higher by £72,000 than they actually were. The jetties yielded a net revenue of £40,500, and the petroleum wharf £12,200. The receipts from the Kidderpore wet docks were £156,400, there being a considerable decrease, owing to reduction of charge rates; the working expenses were £161,700, showing a net loss, apart from interest charges, of £15,400. The total capital expenditure at the wet and dry docks, including the dock section of the railways, amounts to about 2½ millions sterling, and the receipts are not yet nearly sufficient to pay for interest and sinking fund charges. But after making allowance for the reduction in the rates, it is considered that the result indicates a marked improvement in the financial position of the undertaking. The number of vessels berthed in the port in 1905-06 was 1,561, with a net tonnage of 3½ million tons. These figures are above any previously recorded, but hardly kept up the rate of increase shown in the previous year.

Rangoon.

There was a decline of about nine per cent. in the value of the imports into Rangoon in 1905-06, but the value of exports increased. The ordinary receipts of the port of Rangoon were £127,500, and the ordinary expenditure £126,400, which was considerably higher than usual owing to the inclusion

PORT
TRUSTS.

of various items by readjustment of the accounts. If the debt account be included, the total receipts were £158,300, and the gross expenditure was £193,500, the closing balance being reduced to £69,100. The receipts, as stated in the accounts, compare unfavourably with those of 1904-05, but this, like the higher expenditure figures, is due to special account charges and does not affect the prosperity of the port, which continued to grow. Two four per cent debenture loans, for a total of £182,000, were raised during the year, and the total indebtedness of the port amounted to £388,200 at its close. The net tonnage of sea-going vessels entering the port was nearly 2½ million tons, and consisted almost entirely of steamers, the number of which was 1,348; 373 steamers of tonnage exceeding 4,000 tons entered the port, compared with 357 in the preceding year, and only 45 ten years ago. Substantial progress was made with the scheme for the new port works, approved by the Local Government early in 1904, and now expected to be completed during the year 1907. The whole scheme was estimated to cost about £617,000, to be raised by public loans. A scheme for enlarging the accommodation of the port by the acquisition of 2,000 feet of river frontage with land behind, at the eastern end of the harbour, was under consideration, but was not carried into effect during the year. A new Port Act, giving the Commissioners the powers needed for the administration of the port, came into operation in July 1905. The report for 1905-06 contains a review of the history of the port during the five years 1901 to 1906, in which it is shown that very rapid progress has been made, both in the trade of the port and in the works which were needed for its proper equipment.

The ordinary expenditure of the Madras Harbour Trust in the year 1905-06 was £47,800, and its receipts were £57,700. Including a small sum credited as received from capital account, and the amounts, aggregating £8,300, spent on repayment of Government loans or contributions to capital account, there remained a surplus of £2,000 on the year's working, and the closing balance amounted to £58,400. A review of past and present earnings of the Trust shows that in the last nineteen years debt has been repaid to the amount of £163,600, while £74,800 has been paid out of revenue for capital works. The debt standing in the books was £268,400. The capital works of which the Trust have charge originally cost £1,104,100, and their present value is stated as £861,700. These figures are of special interest in view of the large expenditure which was about to be undertaken in making a new entrance to the harbour and additional accommodation. For this purpose the Government had agreed to furnish £133,300, and to advance the balance of £173,300 estimated to be required—or up to £266,700 if that is needed—at four per cent. interest; this and the existing debt to be paid off together in sixty equated payments. It is stated that the affairs of the Trust have improved so that there is little if any risk of the necessity of enhancing the harbour dues arising in consequence of the new capital expenditure. The sum spent on the harbour extension works during the year was £51,400; this was met from the Government contribution mentioned above, so that no addition to the debt was made during the year. There was a further increase in the tonnage of vessels entering the port, to 1,519,240 tons. The new Madras Port Trust Act, under which the Harbour Trust Board is constituted a Port Trust and invested with additional powers, came into force during the year. The year showed a steady advance in the affairs of the port in all directions, and the finances of the Board were in a satisfactory condition.

The failure of the monsoon in parts of Upper India, resulting in a large famine demand for the crops of the Punjab, restricted the exports of wheat through Karachi, and a reduction in the exports of oilseeds was also due to the same cause. The revenues of the Port Trust were, however, fairly well maintained, the receipts being £158,600, against an expenditure of £127,100. The number of steamers entering the port was 737, with an average tonnage of 1,689 tons, against 859, with an average of 1,744 tons, in 1904-05. The net revenue from piers and wharves fell to £50,400. A sum of £104,700 was spent on capital works, chiefly from loan funds. This expenditure was chiefly incurred for wharf yard sidings and for additional berths at Kiamari. The total liabilities of the Trust at the end of the year stood at £508,500.

VITAL
STATISTICS.

simple continued fever, diarrhoea, hepatic affections, and venereal diseases, and more from fevers, lung affections, and other diseases. Ague continued to rank first among the causes of admission, and accounted for 28 per cent. of the total. Pneumonia, as usual, was the chief cause of death, nearly 24 per cent. of the deaths being due to this disease; while remittent fever and tubercle of the lungs accounted for about 7 and 6 per cent. respectively of the total mortality. The death-rate from enteric fever among the Native troops was only 0.28 per mille, as compared with 3 per mille among the European troops. There was a notable decline in the number of deaths from plague, which had been 111 in the previous year, and stands at 46 only for 1905. The number of men invalided for discharge was 1,113, the chief causes of this loss being, as usual, debility, tubercle of the lungs, ague, venereal disease, and rheumatism.

Jails.

The conditions of 1905 were unfavourable in most parts of the country to the health of the prison population, and the death-rate was 1.6 per mille more than the unprecedentedly low rate of the year 1904. The progressive improvement in jail sanitation is shown by the following figures. The average death-rates per mille for all classes of prisoners in the last four quinquennial periods of the last century were 35.96, 33.95, 30.63, and 29.97. For the four years 1901 to 1904, the average was 21.58, and in the year 1905 the rate was 19.23 per mille. The jail death-rate has fallen notably below the standard for the free population of the same ages. The ratio of admissions to hospital in the year 1905 was the lowest on record, viz., 647 per mille, and the constantly sick rate stood at 28 per mille, the same as the 1904 figure, which was the lowest hitherto recorded. The chief causes of admission to hospital were dysentery and diarrhoea, which between them accounted for nearly 19 per cent. of the admissions, and ague, which was the cause of 28 per cent. The death-rate ranged from 15.8 per mille in the jails of the Central Provinces and 15.9 in Madras to 39 per mille in the Andamans. The chief causes of death were tubercle of the lungs, dysentery, and pneumonia. There were only 46 deaths from plague, and there was very little cholera or small-pox. The death-rates were lower than those of 1904 in Bombay, Burma, the Punjab, and Madras; elsewhere there was an increase, and in Bengal, Eastern Bengal, and Assam and Burma, the rates for 1905 were higher than the average of the past four years.

General
population.

The provincial death-rates among the general population are given in the marginal table. It must be borne in mind, however, that the accuracy

DEATH-RATES.

	1904.			1905.		
	Rural.	Urban.	Total.	Rural.	Urban.	Total.
Bengal*	32.3	34.8	32.4	38.4	40.0	38.5
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	25.8	25.8	25.8	35.2	26.4	35.1
United Provinces	33.6	49.1	34.7	43.3	53.6	44.0
Punjab	49.3	46.7	49.1	47.4	49.1	47.5
North-West Frontier Province.	28.6	29.0	28.6	26.4	36.8	26.8
Central Provinces and Berar.	30.6	45.1	32.1	36.7	41.9	37.2
Madras	21.7	28.1	22.5	20.3	29.6	21.4
Coorg	25.5	33.8	26.6	25.7	32.1	26.2
Bombay	39.3	55.2	41.4	29.5	47.6	31.8
Burma { Lower	21.2	30.0	22.4	23.0	38.2	21.9
Upper	17.3	31.1	18.7	20.9	36.6	22.5
Ajmere-Merwara	24.1	36.9	27.6	28.0	50.9	34.2

* The Bengal figures for 1904 include the districts subsequently transferred to Eastern Bengal and Assam.

West Frontier Province, and Coorg, to a decrease under the heading "Fevers," which, in the present state of registration, probably includes a large number of deaths from diseases properly classifiable under other heads. With respect to special diseases, it may be stated briefly that cholera was very prevalent in Eastern Bengal and Assam, Bengal and the United Provinces, that small-pox mortality was much above the average in Bombay and Lower Burma, and

VITAL
STATISTICS.

that the plague death-rates in the Punjab and the United Provinces were high. But plague forms the subject of a separate section at the end of the chapter.

The mean birth-rate of the whole population under registration was 39.13 per mille, as compared with 40.86 in the preceding year. The

BIRTH-RATES.

	1904.	1905.
Bengal*	42.6	39.5
Assam	35.5	39.4
United Provinces	46.7	41.2
Punjab	41.5	44.4
North-West Frontier Province.	34.9	35.4
Central Provinces and Berar.	53.2	54.0
Madras	30.7	32.0
Coorg	22.0	25.3
Bombay	35.1	33.1
Burma { Lower	32.7	34.3
Upper	35.0	34.9
Ajmere-Merwara	33.5	37.3

* Including in 1904 the Eastern Bengal districts.

provincial rates for the two years are given in the marginal table. The decrease was due to a decline in Bengal, Eastern Bengal and Assam, the United Provinces, and Bombay. The highest rate is that returned for the Central Provinces, and the lowest that for Coorg, which is, however, only a small area. Elsewhere the rates were generally not far from the mean. The birth-rate considerably exceeded the death-rate in most provinces; but in the Punjab, where the plague death-rate was 16.6 per mille, the death-rate was 3.2 per mille higher than the birth-rate; and in the United Provinces and Coorg there were similar excesses of 2.76 and .92 respectively.

The conditions of Coorg are peculiar, and the plague death-rate in the United Provinces was 8 per mille.

The total number of vaccinations performed among the civil population during 1905-06 was 9½ millions, being an increase of about a third of a million on the previous year's work. Of primary vaccinations 97 per cent. were successful, and 74 per cent. in the case of re-vaccinations, more than 36 per mille of the population having been successfully vaccinated. The number of infants successfully vaccinated was more than 4 millions, and of children between one and six years of age nearly 3½ millions.

Vaccination.

SANITATION.

SANITATION.

Some of the important sanitary works which have been completed or were in progress, or under consideration, during 1905 were as follows:—

In Calcutta the two chief works which the Corporation have in hand are the suburban drainage scheme and the continuous water supply scheme. The former, in spite of its name, includes a complete sewerage scheme for the town as well as the greater part of the suburbs, and also a huge storm water reservoir, intended to prevent the flooding of the streets, which has hitherto been a serious inconvenience. The works were in progress during the year. A drainage scheme for Balliaghatta was also in progress; but the important drainage projects for the outside area of the city, as also that for the suburban surface drainage, were not advanced. The work of converting the intermittent into a continuous filtered water system was continued, but a final settlement of the difficult question whether the distribution should be by gravity or by pumping was only decided, in favour of the former, in the year 1905 after a reference to experts in England, and discussion as to the possibility of discarding the dual supply of filtered and unfiltered water, and as to the method of introducing the supply, further delayed operations. The former of these proposals was held to be too expensive, and the scheme now under discussion is designed to provide a daily supply of 32 million gallons by increased pressure upon the mains from an elevated reservoir. The birth-rate of the town is returned at 18.4 per mille, the death-rate as 37.9 per mille, the latter figure being swollen by the prevalence of plague, cholera, and, towards the end of the year, small-pox. Probably many births escape registration, but a system of registration by peripatetic sub-registrars is being introduced as a temporary measure.

During recent years the Corporation have vigorously pursued the policy of mending or ending insanitary "bustees," or collections of huts, while at the same time they have opened out unhealthy areas by constructing a number of public squares and making new roads or widening old ones. But overcrowding, with its concomitant circumstances, is a great evil in the city. The scheme for the improvement of the city by means of a Trust, resembling in some respects that working in Bombay, has received the Secretary of State's general approval, and was under further consideration in India during the year.

SANITATION.
Interior of
Bengal.

In eight municipalities of Bengal, other than Calcutta, there are complete waterwork installations. The chief is Howrah, where the water supply is most efficiently managed; the others have had greater difficulties, which have not in all cases been successfully met. Some improvement is reported in the management, and arrangements were sanctioned for the filtration of the water at Darjeeling and at Kurseong, and for an improved pumping plant at Bhagalpur. Besides these eight towns there are several others which get a good water supply from waterworks under external control, or by means of filters. Drainage schemes had been or were being prepared for almost all the important municipalities. In Howrah one of the blocks of the Sibpur section of the drainage scheme was completed, and work was done in the construction of drains for the Southern Foreshore area. Various drainage schemes were prepared and sanctioned. The appointment of an Assistant Sanitary Engineer, sanctioned in the year, was made with the intention of providing expert supervision over the preparation of drainage and waterworks schemes, and it is expected that municipalities will derive much benefit from his advice and assistance. The actual expenditure on the construction of new works during the year was still small. Some attention was paid to village sanitation, and a few improvement schemes were in contemplation.

United
Provinces.

The sanitary works in many of the large towns in the United Provinces were extended during the year of report, some £63,000 having been spent on drainage and sewerage, as shown in the municipal accounts of 1905-06. The drainage works at Mirzapore were nearly complete, and the important works at Lucknow were being pushed on. The results of analysis of drinking-water were satisfactory in nearly every case, and whenever necessary prompt steps were taken to remedy defects. The sanitation of Mussoorie has lately engaged the attention of the Local Government, and the report of the Committee appointed in 1905 was under the consideration of the municipal board. Village sanitary inspection books were reported to be fully utilised in almost all districts.

Punjab.

A good amount of sanitary work was done during 1905 in the towns of the Punjab. The water supply of Simla is reported to have been abundant, and the drainage system worked well during the year. A committee, appointed to examine the sanitary condition of that town, reported favourably on the water supply and drainage arrangements. At Lahore, a scheme for checking the waste of water, and various schemes for improving the drainage, were in hand. The waterworks at Amritsar had been completed, and drainage schemes were under consideration. The drainage of Delhi was making good progress. Waterworks for Ludhiana were in contemplation, an estimate having been prepared, and it was hoped that the work would be carried through expeditiously. Various water and drainage schemes were also in various stages of execution at Ambala, Rawalpindi, Multan, and other towns. Village sanitary notebooks are kept up in a large number of villages, and rewards are offered for improved village sanitation, but the results shown hardly come up to expectation in many districts.

BURMA.
Rangoon.

The Rangoon sewerage, designed on the Shone system for a population of less than 42,000, was undergoing alterations necessary to enable it to serve the growing population; meanwhile, it is reported to have worked well during 1905. The improvement of the surface drainage of the town will, it is hoped, soon be undertaken. The work of reclaiming and draining East Rangoon was continued during the year. It consists in importing earth by railway, to raise low-lying tracts, and experience shows that, except possibly in central areas, where freehold titles have been acquired, it not only increases the habitable area, but will provide a profitable investment for Government money. The pressure of population is very great, and the question of a revision of the building regulations has been contemplated in the interests of sanitation. The reclamation of the Lanmadaw quarter was about to be commenced. The Hlawga water supply works, which have been carried out to augment the present supply from the Victoria Lake, have cost £313,000, and were opened in February 1905. The results have been disappointing, and though in the original scheme it was contemplated that the reservoir should be capable of supplying a population of 650,000, it now appears that, even with an additional expenditure of some £160,000, its

maximum storage capacity will suffice only for a population of 340,000. At one time during the year there was reason to fear that the dam was about to burst, but this was averted. The birth-rate of the town is given as 17·19 per thousand of the estimated population; the death-rate rose to 45·9 per thousand, owing to numerous deaths from plague and small-pox.

SANITATION.

As regards the other municipalities of Burma, the water supply scheme of Moulmein was completed; the original scheme for water supply at Mandalay, estimated to cost £93,300, had been abandoned on the ground of expense, and borings were being made to afford data for a scheme for providing a supply from wells. It is stated that a gravitation water supply, though perhaps possible from an engineering point of view, is beyond the financial resources of the municipality. At Akyab and at Thonze, measures to provide a gravitation supply were in progress.

Interior of
Burma.

No important water supply works were completed in the Central Provinces during 1905, but good progress was made with the Seoni works. At Nagpur considerable sums were spent on the extension of the water supply and the drainage system, and a comprehensive drainage scheme for the whole town was under consideration. Drainage survey plans were made for Khandwa and Burhanpur. The Wardha drainage scheme was found on examination to be incomplete in certain particulars, and, in consequence, no progress could be made with the work during the year. Good progress was made with the drainage scheme at Akola. As regards rural areas, increased expenditure on water supply in villages was made in consequence of a Government grant for that purpose. Conservancy of the larger rural villages is provided for in the Central Provinces by the Village Sanitation Act, the operation of which was extended during the year; but the Act had not yet been applied to any villages in Berar.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

In Eastern Bengal, schemes were being prepared for draining and improving the sanitation of the town of Dacca, where the conservancy arrangements are very bad at present. In Chittagong, Narayanganj, and Rampur-Boalia, schemes for improving the water supply were under consideration. The Gauhati waterworks were entirely remodelled during the year, the cost being borne by provincial revenues. The small municipalities of Assam cannot afford costly works for a water supply, which, has generally to be provided by the construction of wells and tanks, as funds permit. Most of the districts report improvements made in the water supply of the larger villages, the chief expenditure being on excavating and cleaning tanks and digging wells. No sanitary work of importance was undertaken by district funds.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

The laying of the sewers in the South Triplicane, Periamet, and Egmore portions of Madras city was partially completed, and good progress was made in other sections. Land for extension of the sewage farm was taken up, and the work at the farm was well advanced, so that the greater proportion of it could be brought into cultivation in the ensuing year. Other works of minor importance were also being carried out. The quantity of water supplied from the Red Hills Lake was about 5 per cent. less than in the previous year; but the lake stood at a high level at the end of the year. When the drainage has been put in order there will be much to do for the improvement of the water supply, both in quantity and quality. The supply is reported to have been of worse quality and more scanty than usual, and the present pressure is said to be insufficient to carry water to the ends of the existing distribution system. The birth-rate of the town was 45·6 per mille, and the death-rate was 59 per mille; these rates are in each case higher than those of the preceding year, the increase in the birth-rate being ascribed to an influx of people into the town owing to partial failure of crops, and that of the death-rate partly to the same cause, and partly to the prevalence of cholera and small-pox, the former cause being accountable for no less than 3,684 deaths.

MADRAS.
Madras City.

In the Madras Presidency the construction of the Vellore waterworks was begun at the end of the year, while the Guntur and Coonoor waterworks, and the extension of those at Dindigul, were completed. Projects for waterworks were also in various stages in several other towns. Work was started on the drainage scheme for Ootacamund, estimated to cost £24,200. A revised scheme for the drainage of Madras was also prepared.

Interior
Madras.

SANITATION. Engineer, as also were plans for water supplies for Salem and Coimbatore. It is again reported that district boards spend less upon sanitation than is desirable, and more energetic pressure by district medical and sanitary officers is said to be needed. The village sanitary inspection books were properly maintained in 13 districts.

BOMBAY. The works in connection with the scheme for subsoil and surface drainage in Bombay city, commenced in 1903-04, were pushed on vigorously in the year under report. The works connected with the Malabar Hill sectional sewerage and other works of a minor character, including the fitting up of the Gilder tank, were in progress, besides the addition of 560 house connections, and other ordinary developments. The question of the surcharging of sewers was still under the consideration of the committee appointed by the Corporation to report on the matter, but, since the close of the year, orders have been passed for the execution with all possible despatch of the principal works recommended by the experts. There was a great deficiency in the rainfall of the year, so that the lakes from which the city draws its water were poorly filled, but the supply was maintained at the usual pressures. The special branch of the waterworks department, recently formed to detect waste and locate defects in the mains, continued to prove a success. The birth-rate of the year 1905 is given as 24.7 per mille; the death-rate was 61.5, which is higher than in the previous year. These rates are based on the population returned in the census of 1901, viz., 776,000, but a special census taken in February 1906 showed the population of the city to have risen to 977,800. The number of deaths from plague during 1905 is given as 14,200, which equals 18.3 per mille, which was rather above the rate for 1904, but less than the mean rate for the last five years (20.4 per mille).

Interior of Bombay. Elsewhere in the Bombay Presidency there are many towns which are in urgent need of systems of water supply and drainage, but the financial situation of the municipalities has been so weakened by the plague ravages as to prevent them from carrying out any schemes; nor were any new schemes of this character added during the year. The Village Sanitation Act, which provides for the establishment of a sanitary committee or a sanitary board, consisting of members chosen by the Collector of the district or by the Local Government, to supervise sanitary matters, was in operation in 234 villages, the committees having been abolished during the year in 26 villages of the Nasik district, where they had proved of no practical value. Village sanitary inspection books were maintained in 3,400 villages, and in most of them were written up by the Sanitary Department officers during the year.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

HOSPITALS, DISPENSARIES, AND LEPER ASYLUMS.

The civil hospitals and dispensaries in India numbered 2,384 in 1905, against 2,350 in the previous year, and this increase was reflected in the number of patients treated, which amounted to 385,000 indoor and 22,752,000 outdoor patients. The great bulk of their income is derived from government, local, and municipal funds, and their total expenditure in 1905 was £607,430. Besides these institutions, which comprise all those aided to some extent by public money and intended for the public, there are a large number of special police and other medical institutions, as well as many private institutions which do not receive aid from the State. These numbered 1,446 in all during the year under report, and provided treatment for about 84,000 indoor and 1,430,000 outdoor patients. In Bengal the medical institutions have much improved in recent years in respect of general management and efficiency, and a satisfactory feature is the increased popularity of the dispensaries among women and children. In the United Provinces the Agra Medical School has been enlarged. Owing to epidemics of plague and cholera in 1905 there was a severe strain on the medical staff. A difficulty is also found in Burma in recruiting sufficient suitable men as assistant surgeons and hospital assistants. In all provinces progress is being made in the improvement of surgical appliances and hospital arrangements.

LEPER ASYLUMS.

There are many leper asylums scattered throughout India, of which may be mentioned the Madras Government Leper Asylum, the Matunga Leper Home, Bombay, the Trivandrum State Leper Asylum, and the Calcutta Leper

Asylum, the last three having accommodation between them for about a thousand lepers. There are also a large number of asylums or homes, under some sort of Government supervision in many cases, including nearly 50 asylums of the Mission to Lepers, at which nearly 4,000 persons were reported to have been treated in a recent year. The census of 1901 showed a decline in the number of lepers to 97,340, compared with 126,244 in 1891, and the proportion works out to 48 male and 17 female lepers in every 100,000 of the population. Berar had the largest proportion of lepers (2 per mille), followed at some distance by Assam, Bengal, the Central Provinces, Burma, Madras, and Bombay, in that order.

HOSPITALS &c.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

The treatment of lunatics at asylums prevails only on a small scale in India. In comparison with European countries insanity appears to be infrequent in India, as for instance in Bengal, where the ratio of the insane to the population is given as 2.93 per 10,000, against 34.71 per 10,000 in England. But allowance must be made for the much greater completeness of the information available in England. The census of 1901 showed a decrease of nearly 11 per cent. in the number of insane since 1891. The decrease occurred in nearly every province, and was explained in many of them by the probability that the insane would suffer more than the general population in years of scarcity of food. The total number admitted into asylums in 1905 was 1,667, the average for the five years to 1905 being 1,401. The total asylum population of the year was 6,963. Proposals were in hand for the erection of a new central asylum at Ranchi in Bengal, to be placed under an expert alienist, also one at Yerraoda near Poona, in the Bombay Presidency, and a large asylum near Mandalay in Burma. The accommodation in the Lahore Asylum was also being provided. The number of asylums in actual use was 24.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

PLAGUE.

Taking British India as a whole, the number of reported deaths from plague in 1905 was approximately the same as that for 1904, namely, 940,800. But the distribution was markedly different. In Bombay there was a very satisfactory abatement, from 224,000 to 71,400, in the deaths from this cause, and the Central Provinces and Madras were also comparatively free. The Punjab, which had returned 396,000 plague deaths in 1904, had 334,900 in 1905, which was a slight improvement. But in Bengal and the United Provinces the disease made great strides, the deaths reported from these Provinces amounting to 126,000 and 383,000 respectively. There was a decline in the number of plague deaths registered in Native states, and the total for India as a whole stood, as shown in the margin, below that of 1904.

PLAGUE.

PLAGUE DEATHS.

1899	139,000
1900	92,800
1901	283,000
1902	583,900
1903	865,600
1904	1,143,900
1905	1,069,100

But though the totals for this year were still so high, there was a remarkable change in the course of the epidemic. In each of the first five months of 1905, the number of plague deaths was considerably greater than in the corresponding month of 1904; but from June onwards this relation was reversed, and the number reported for the whole of the last seven months of 1905 was little more than one-fourth of that recorded in the similar period of 1904.

This improvement was continued in the year 1906 as a whole. But the plague year should properly run from August to July, the former month being that in which the epidemic, at its lowest, begins its recrudescence.

PLAGUE DEATHS IN 1906.

Punjab	101,300
United Provinces	58,700
Bengal	50,700
Bombay	72,700
Other Provinces and States	48,800
Total	332,200

returns, are given in the margin. There was a marked decrease in the

If comparison be made between the years ending in July 1906 and that which will end in July 1907 respectively, the latter cannot be said to be maintaining the improvement which was observed in the former, as there has been a marked increase in the number of plague deaths in some months of 1907. The statistics for the calendar year 1906, as compiled from the monthly

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PLAGUE.

Punjab and the United Provinces, and smaller declines in Bengal and Bombay. In the cities of Calcutta and Bombay the disease was restricted to very small proportions in the winter of 1906.

Very valuable results have been obtained by the Plague Investigation Committee, the constitution of which was described in last year's statement. Their work is not yet finished, but the medical officers, working under the Committee's direction, have made important experiments bearing on the relation of rat plague to human plague, and the connection that rats and rat fleas have with the spread of human plague. An account of these was published in the *Journal of Hygiene* in September 1906.

CHAPTER III.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

CRIME AND POLICE.

The reforms decided upon in consequence of the Report of the Police Commission (*see* last year's issue of this Statement) are being introduced gradually in each province as financial considerations permit. During the year under review the minimum wage of constables was raised in practically every province. Partial effect, the extent of which varied in the different provinces, was given to the reforms affecting the pay, number, and duties of head constables, sub-inspectors, inspectors, and sergeants. The question of the establishment and organisation of police training schools also received attention.

The total sanctioned strength of the police force in Bengal, excluding the Calcutta force and the railway and military police, was at the end of the year under review 19,126, and its actual strength 17,751. The expenditure on the force during the year was £380,545, an increase of £2,537 on the previous year.

The town police, consisting of town *chaukidars* and constables, showed an improvement in their work. This force is now in a state of transition; 240 *chaukidars* were replaced by constables, and ultimately all town *chaukidars* will be so replaced, and the establishment will be augmented by the addition of several officers. In the rural police, the total number of *chaukidars* rose from 98,655 to 99,293. There was, owing to the discontinuance of the practice of granting rewards for regular attendance at parades, a decrease in the number of *chaukidars* rewarded, and though the total amount paid in rewards was £1,908, as against £2,037 in 1904, a much larger sum was paid in rewards for good service as distinguished from regular attendance.

Of the total force employed at the end of the year, 88 per cent. of the officers and 26·4 per cent. of the men could read and write. The charges of torture and extortion brought against the police numbered respectively 3 and 37, as compared with 5 and 83 in 1904. The health of the force was slightly better than in the previous year.

No change was made in the sanctioned strength of the military police (400), and their conduct and discipline were reported to be generally satisfactory.

The total number of cognisable* offences reported was 115,463. Of the total number made up of these together with pending cases, 104,548 were reported to the police, who investigated 76 per cent. of the whole number, as against 69 in 1904. The percentage of police cases ending in conviction to cases decided was 89, while the percentage of convictions to cases inquired into by the police was 44, as compared with 31·4 in the preceding year.

As regards serious crimes, the total number of cases of rioting, dakaity, and robbery showed slight increases, and the number of cases of cattle theft also rose. The number of serious crimes against the person decreased from 3,863 to 3,500, and murders fell from 280 to 248.

The Criminal Investigation Department did very valuable work, and obtained most successful results during the year.

In August 1905 the scheme for the reorganisation of the Calcutta Police was sanctioned by the Government of India, and is now being gradually introduced. Some of the chief reforms introduced during the year under review were the increase of the minimum pay of Native constables and of the European sergeants, and a slight increase in the total strength of the staff. The morale of the force showed some improvement; dismissals,

* Cognisable offences are those for which the police can arrest without a warrant.

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AND POLICE.

punishments, and resignations decreased, although desertions rose from 50 to 94.

The total number of true cognisable cases reported direct to the police and instituted on complaint to a magistrate was 36,259, as against 37,739 in 1904. There was practically no fluctuation in actual crime and offences against the Penal Code. The percentage of cases ending in conviction to the total number tried was 96·5.

United
Provinces.

The total strength of the police force in the United Provinces was 33,899, and the total cost £407,937. The increase of £22,939 in expenditure was mainly due to the fact that a provision of £17,996 was made for improving the pay of constables, head constables, and sub-inspectors under the reform scheme, and that an additional allotment of £9,333 was made on account of the cost of relieving municipalities from police charges. In spite of the fact that the year was an exceptionally hard one, the punishment return was much more favourable than in the previous year; the number of officers dismissed departmentally fell from 40 to 34, the number of men dismissed being 162, as compared with 153 in 1904. Resignations decreased from 737 to 663. The number of literate officers increased from 4,218 to 4,319, and that of literate men from 4,632 to 4,860.

The total volume of reported crime showed an increase of approximately 23·4 per cent. on the figures of the previous year. The scarcity and high prices during the year afford sufficient explanation of the increase, which was almost entirely in offences against property, though the evacuation of villages owing to the spread of plague was a contributory cause. Of the total record of cases for disposal, 51·3 per cent. remained for investigation. Investigation was refused in 43·6 per cent. of the total crime reported, as compared with 45 per cent. in 1904. In cases investigated by the police the percentage of convictions was 47·6. The percentage of persons convicted in police cases to persons arrested by the police was 76·9.

As regards professional and organised crime, there was a severe outbreak of dakaity, both in the western districts and also in the eastern districts, which were the scene of the operation of several gangs of Haburahs who had disappeared after the raid made on them in 1903. There were 17 cases of professional poisoning, as against 9 in 1904, while the number of true cases of robbery reported rose from 683 to 843.

As regards other serious crimes, the number of murders rose from 405 to 501, and cases of cattle theft rose from 2,805 to 3,766. The number of cases of ordinary theft rose by 6,434. One genuine case of *Sati* occurred during the year.

There was a decrease of about 1,617 in the number of cases of non-cognisable crime. Property stolen was valued at £131,476, a considerable increase, and the percentage of recovery fell from 23 to 20.

Punjab.

The total strength of the police force in the Punjab at the end of 1905 was 19,135, having been increased during the year, under the reorganisation scheme, by 491. The cost of the force was £249,346. The number of officers who could read and write was 693, or 93·6 per cent., and of constables 5,634, or 35·7 per cent. Departmental punishments inflicted on members of the force numbered 1,158 and judicial punishments 90, as compared with 1,716 and 85 respectively in 1904. Dismissals numbered 136, and resignations without pension or gratuity 1,074, as against 173 and 1,016 respectively in the previous year. The death rate of the force was slightly higher than in 1904, mainly owing to plague.

The total number of cognisable offences reported to the police (50,976) showed an increase of 1,118 on the total for 1904. The number of true police and magistrates' cases combined was 33,894 in 1904 and 44,185 in 1905, the percentage of convictions being 28 and 25 respectively. A severe winter and failure of crops, followed by famine and plague, were the main causes of the increase of crime. The rise was mainly confined to thefts and burglaries.

The decrease in dakaities was maintained, and only 12 of the 43 cases which occurred during the year can be regarded as cases of true organised dakaity. Serious offences against the person exhibited a rise in the case of murders (475), and attempts to murder (75) and a decrease in cases of culpable

homicide (228) and grievous hurt (167). Thefts of arms were more frequent than in 1904, and considerable detective ability is required to cope with the ingenuity of the well-organised gangs who make a profession of the trade in stolen rifles. The estimated value of property stolen during the year was £81,907, of which 45 per cent. was recovered, as compared with 44 per cent. in 1904.

There was an increase in the number of punitive posts, continued and imposed during the year, and this form of punitive prevention in checking crime has been attended by striking success.

The conduct of the police in connection with the relief operations after the Kangra earthquake, the arrangements connected with the royal visit, and the duties imposed by the removal of the prisoners in Lahore Central Jail into cholera camp, was favourably commented on by Government.

The total strength of the Burma civil police was 12,864, or 672 below the sanctioned strength, and the cost of the force was £276,471. The strength of the military police was 15,596. The difficulty in obtaining recruits for the civil police continued, and the number of resignations, desertions, dismissals, and deaths all showed increases. The number of literate officers increased by 15, but the number of literate men decreased by 8, the percentages at the end of the year being 98 and 85. Fifteen officers and 351 men were punished magisterially during the year, and 292 officers and 1,105 men departmentally.

The total number of true cognisable cases (43,097) was 1,497 higher than in 1904. Seventy-seven per cent. of these were investigated by the police, and 72 per cent. of the cases investigated ended in conviction. There were satisfactory decreases of 21 and 29 in the number of dakaities and robberies respectively. Of 818 cases of violent crime, 440 were cases of murder, attempted murder, and culpable homicide. The police work in murder cases showed room for improvement; of 351 cases dealt with only 138 ended in conviction. Cattle thefts increased from 2,511 to 2,588, and ordinary thefts from 10,923 to 12,566. The value of property stolen amounted to £110,688, and the percentage of recovery was 24. Offences under the Excise and Opium Acts decreased, but offences under the Gambling Act showed an increase.

In the large majority of districts the relations between the police and village headmen were satisfactory and cordial, and valuable assistance in the prevention and detection of crime was rendered by village headmen.

Good work was done during the year in the matter of the identification of criminals by the Central Bureau in Rangoon, and the figures dealing with the recognition of old offenders showed an improvement on the previous year. The work of beat patrols was reported to be satisfactory, and a revision of the rules is under consideration with a view to making the system more elastic. The conduct of the military police was good, but the health of the force continued to be unsatisfactory.

The military police in Eastern Bengal and Assam numbered at the close of the year 312 officers with 2,411 men, and the force was reported to have maintained its efficiency. The strength of the Civil force, including Union police, was 9,005, or 403 below sanctioned strength. Discipline was fairly good in most of the districts, and the number of punishments (including minor punishments) fell from 2,428 to 2,052. Resignations rose from 274 to 287, and dismissals decreased from 171 to 162. Sums amounting to £1,316 were paid in rewards to officers and men during the year. The number of officers and men able to read and write were 1,217 and 2,689 respectively. The total cost of the Civil Police was £125,104 and of the Military Police £51,252.

The total number of cognisable cases reported during the year was 63,000, as compared with 56,920 in 1904. Of this number 76·4 per cent. were investigated by the police and 39 per cent. were decided, convictions being obtained in 61·6 per cent. Cases reported to the police numbered 43,396, of which 37,722 were investigated, convictions being obtained in 82·5 per cent. of the cases brought to trial. The decrease in rioting continued, the number of cases having fallen from 535 in 1902 to 303 in 1904, and 197 in 1905. There was also a substantial diminution in serious offences

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Bengal and
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against the person. On the other hand, there was a marked increase in house-breaking, or lurking house trespass and theft, though this may in part at least be attributed to better reporting. Dakaities increased from 61 to 104, and vigorous measures were taken to break up the principal gangs. The percentage of property recovered to property stolen was 19·7.

The total number of *chaukidars* in Eastern Bengal and the districts of Sylhet, Cachar, and Goalpara, where a Rural Police force was maintained, was 57,204. A scheme for improving the status of village panchayats and entrusting to them greater powers was introduced experimentally in certain districts during the year.

The tact and forbearance shown by the police in the trying conditions that prevailed in the Eastern Bengal Districts towards the close of the year were favourably noticed by Government.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

The strength of the police force in the Central Provinces and Berar (10,950) showed a deficiency of 300 men. It was only in the Berar districts that there was any serious difficulty in obtaining suitable recruits. Resignations decreased from 516 to 419, and deaths from 151 to 131. The punishment returns were not heavy, the most noticeable feature being the great decrease (from 889 to 409) in the number of departmental punishments, other than dismissals, inflicted on constables. Dismissals, however, other than those of officers, rose from 98 to 167. Rewards of all kinds were freely granted, the number rising from 2,884 to 2,913. The total cost of the police was £136,576. The number of men who could read and write fell from 4,224 to 3,800.

The agricultural conditions of the year were generally favourable, except in the north of the Central Provinces and the rice districts of the Nagpur division. Berar enjoyed a year of great prosperity. The total number of cognisable offences, excluding nuisance cases and offences under special and local laws, was 17,851, as against 17,589 in 1904. The percentage of convictions to cases decided (7,234) was 74·3, and the percentage of convictions to cases investigated (13,728) was 32.

The large number of dakaities reported in Berar (60 as against 45 in 1904) was again an unsatisfactory feature. In the Central Provinces 16 dakaities were committed as compared with 11 in 1904, but in 11 of the 17 districts of the Central Provinces not a single case occurred. There were five more murders reported in the Central Provinces and seven more in Berar than in the previous year, while attempts at murder increased from 31 to 33, and culpable homicides from 46 to 50. There was a large increase in the number of robberies reported, but many of these were of a very petty nature, or were false cases manufactured to avenge a private grievance. Cattle theft and ordinary theft showed a slight increase on the low figures of the previous year.

The results of police action were, on the whole, somewhat disappointing, but a satisfactory feature was their success in their campaign against notorious offenders, in which they received useful aid from the police of the Hyderabad and Indore States.

The total value of property stolen in both provinces was £38,021, while recoveries amounted to 25 per cent.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The total strength of the police in the North-West Frontier Province was 3,133, and the estimated cost of the force £38,361. The conduct and health of the police were good; dismissals numbered 66, other punishments 345, and rewards 285. But resignations again increased, and the recruiting difficulty continued. The number of educated officers and head constables was 387, or nearly 47 per cent.; of 2,633 constables only 441 could read and write.

The number of cognisable cases reported by the police was 5,259, as compared with 6,444 in 1904. Murders increased from 152 to 196, of which 43 were committed by trans-border men in the Peshawar and Kohat districts which suffered severely from the depredations of organised gangs of raiders. The recrudescence of dakaitiy in these districts was due to the same cause; of the 47 dakaities committed during the year 27 took place in Peshawar and 19 in Kohat. Ninety thefts of firearms were reported during the year, and 42 weapons were recovered. Property stolen was valued at £9,848 and

property recovered at £2,461. The percentage of convictions to cases of violent crime was 17 in the case of dakaities, 51 in the case of murder, and 24 in robberies of all kinds. Three new punitive posts were established during the year.

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The total strength of the Coorg Police Force was 246, and it cost £3,162. Departmental punishments fell slightly and the educational improvement of the force continued. The total number of cognisable cases reported was 618, as against 774 in 1904, the decrease being especially marked under the category of serious offences against person and property, under special and local laws, and public nuisances. There were four cases of dakaitiy and five of murder. The proportion of convictions obtained in cognisable cases investigated by the police fell from 85·10 to 68·85. The percentage of stolen property recovered was 60·10.

Coorg.

The total sanctioned strength of the police force in Madras was 23,919, the decrease of 767 during the year being due mainly to the reduction of the temporary establishment sanctioned for plague duty. The total cost of the force was £306,685, as against £318,489 in 1904. On the whole, recruiting improved, perhaps owing to prospects of better pay, but in the North Arcot district the difficulty of recruitment continued. The percentage of illiterate constables declined from 15·8 to 12·7. The percentage of men punished for offences other than absence without leave was 26·5, as against 29·3 in the previous year. Dismissals again increased, but there was a fall from 309 to 268 in the number of judicial convictions. The sanctioned strength of the Madras City Police was 1,507, and the actual strength at the close of the year was 1,493. The increase was due to a temporary addition to the force on account of plague duty. Village police and village magistrates showed little improvement.

Madras.

The rise of prices which commenced in the previous year continued during the year under review, and the hard times had their usual effect upon crime, which markedly increased. The number of true cognisable cases under the Indian Penal Code, excluding nuisances, numbered 49,167, as against 43,843 in 1904. The number of cases under special and local laws varied very little, while in nuisances there was an increase of some 10,000 cases. Murders numbered 472, dakaities 539, and robberies 865. There was a great increase in the crime of burglary, the natural and inevitable result of a period of high prices, and ordinary thefts also increased considerably. There was some slight improvement in the detective work of the police, but the results were still poor as a whole. The percentage of detections to the true cases reported was 32·9. The percentage of murders detected (21·4) was slightly better than in the previous year, but only 17·8 of the cases of dakaitiy were detected. In robberies the percentage was 31·4. The proportion of convictions to cases prosecuted by the police was 79·0 per cent.—fractionally lower than in 1904. Property stolen during the year was valued at £85,500 and the percentage of recovery was 23·7.

The first step towards reforming the investigating staff was undertaken during the year by re-organising the Vellore School as a training establishment for sub-inspectors, who will gradually replace head constables as the officers in charge of stations.

No serious disturbance of the public peace occurred during the year. The working of the fingerprint bureau continued to be satisfactory.

The total strength of the police force in the Bombay Presidency, inclusive of Sind and railways, was 22,691, or 314 more than in the previous year. The total expenditure increased from £300,773 to £304,026. The difficulty of recruiting still continued, and the actual strength of the force was at the end of the year 638 below the sanctioned strength. But the number who resigned without pension or gratuity and the number who were dismissed decreased appreciably. The percentages of officers and men able to read and write were 71·8 and 49·9 respectively, as against 73 and 48·8 in 1902. The total number of punishments inflicted (3,142) was less than that of the previous year by 345, and there was a rise from 3,473 to 3,897 in the total number of rewards granted.

Bombay

The total number of cognisable offences reported during the year (excluding vagrancy and bad livelihood cases) was 34,084, as against 32,921

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in 1904. Deducting 187 cases in which investigation was refused, and adding the cases pending from the previous year, the police had a total of 38,047 cases for investigation. Of these 33,955 were disposed of, the percentage of convictions to true cases being 55.4. In police cases submitted to and decided by the courts the percentage of convictions was 92, as compared with 75 in the previous year. The percentage of undetected cases to true cases was 46.6.

With regard to the classification of crime, murders decreased from 519 to 500. The number of dakaities rose from 222 to 267, but this figure is less than half the figure for 1902 and less than one-quarter of that for 1901. Robberies rose from 616 to 678, cattle thefts from 4,043 to 4,172, and ordinary thefts from 9,981 to 11,237. The property reported stolen in cognisable cases was appreciably less in value than that stolen in the previous years, being £78,741 against an average for the preceding four years of £115,544. The percentage of recovery was 35.7 as compared with 36.3.

In Bombay City cognisable offences numbered 51,570, as compared with 49,879 in 1904. The increase occurred mainly in offences under local Acts. The increase in the number of cases under the Penal Code was considerable. Including all police cases, the percentage of convictions to prisoners tried rose from 97.3 to 97.8. The aggregate value of property stolen rose from £21,596 to £28,719. The percentage recovered was 37.9 as against 50.9 in the preceding year, but this fall was mainly due to a few undetected cases in which the value of the property was high; the percentage of cases in which property was recovered was 80. The public peace was well preserved during the year, and the police discharged their heavy and difficult duties in connection with the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the arrival and departure of the incoming and outgoing Viceroys in a manner deserving the highest praise.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

CRIMINAL
JUSTICE.
Bengal.

The total number of criminal offences reported in Bengal was 227,404, an increase of 1,572 on the figures of 1904. The increase was confined to offences under the Indian Penal Code, which rose by 2,120, while cases under special and local laws decreased by 548. The number of cases declared to be false and dismissed constituted 15.7 per cent. of the whole number. Of the 190,324 true cases, 143,699 were brought to trial.

Presidency Magistrates, including the Municipal Magistrates, dealt with 34,274 cases. Of the 37,233 persons brought to trial, 33,236 were convicted. Magistrates outside Calcutta had before them 109,497 cases, and the pending file at the end of the year showed 2,722 cases, as against 2,460 at the end of 1904. Of the persons whose cases were disposed of, 50.8 per cent. were convicted. The sentences passed by magistrates included one of transportation, 17,301 of rigorous imprisonment, 481 of simple imprisonment, and 1,611 of whipping, with or without other punishment.

Cases committed or referred to the Sessions Courts during the year numbered 1,139, or 35 less than in 1904. The number of cases disposed of was 1,134, and the pending file at the end of the year showed 107 cases. Of 2,692 persons under trial, 63.8 per cent. were convicted. There were 26 sentences of death, 188 of transportation, and 29 of whipping. The average duration of Sessions Trials was 36.3 days. The number of persons tried by jury was 622. In 546 of these cases the judge approved of the verdict. Of 1,423 cases tried with the aid of assessors the judge concurred in the opinion of both assessors in 1,027 cases, and in 228 differed from both.

The High Court tried 60 cases, involving 83 persons, of whom 72 were convicted, and left 16 cases undecided at the close of the year. The average duration of cases from commitment was 33.4 days.

Including 76 pending cases, there were before the High Court 811 appeals, of which 766 were decided. Out of 550 appeals from sentences of the Sessions Courts, the orders of the lower Courts were upheld in 439 instances and reversed in 25. Two appeals by the local Government against orders of acquittal were decided during the year, and in both of them

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the order was upheld. The Sessions Courts decided 3,437 appeals and the Magistrates' Courts 3,499, the percentages of wholly unsuccessful appellants being respectively 69.1 and 64.3. In the case of death sentences referred from the Sessions Courts, the sentences on 20 of the 29 persons concerned were confirmed and 8 commuted to transportation or imprisonment, while in one case the person sentenced was acquitted. The High Court decided 152 revision cases and the Sessions Court 3,393.

For legislative purposes the North-West Provinces and Oudh are united, but inasmuch as Oudh is not subject to the High Court of the North-West Provinces, the judicial statistics of the two are given separately.

The number of offences reported during the year (124,465) was slightly less than the number reported in the previous year (125,976). But the number of cases returned as true (93,828) and the number brought to trial (85,236) was slightly higher than in 1904, in which year the corresponding figures were 93,339 and 85,146. Under the Indian Penal Code 59,619 cases were returned as true, as against 58,518 in 1904. The total number of persons under trial increased from 156,145 to 158,278. Of these the cases of 154,020 were disposed of in the Courts of Magistrates and 4,255 in the Courts of Session. The percentage of convictions in the former was 49 and in the latter 66. The average number of days during which each case lasted was 9, as in the previous year. At the close of the year the number of persons remaining under trial was 3,024, the number of cases pending over six weeks was 1,241, or 14 more than in 1904. During the year 74 persons were sentenced to death, 315 to transportation, 18,039 to rigorous imprisonment, and 4,203 to whipping.

Appellants and applicants for revision in the Courts of Session were more numerous than in 1904, numbering 10,284 as against 9,848. The orders of the courts of first instance were confirmed in 8,674 cases. Appeals and applications for revision to the High Court were 929 and 737, as compared with 1,025 and 898 respectively.

The number of offences reported during the year in Oudh was 44,806, of which 32,210 were returned as true, the figures for 1904 being 45,406 and 32,588 respectively. The number of cases brought to trial was 32,807, as against 32,260 in the previous year. Courts of Session tried 534 original cases, while 32,266 were disposed of by magistrates. The percentage of convictions to the number of persons tried was 57 in sessions courts and 44 in magistrates' courts.

* As regards punishments, sentences of death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment were 40, 77, and 5,807, as against 39, 105, and 5,896 in 1904. The number of whippings rose from 1,516 to 1,840.

The number of appellants and applicants for revision decreased from 5,424 to 5,096. The percentage of failure was 80.

One hundred and eighty-eight thousand nine hundred and sixty-one offences were reported in the Punjab during the year, and 127,715 were returned as true, as against 182,846 and 126,098 respectively in 1904. The number of cases brought to trial in Courts subordinate to Sessions Courts was 108,487, the number of persons involved being 251,020. These figures show a slight increase over those of the preceding year, but the increase was chiefly under local and special laws, the number of cases brought to trial under the Indian Penal Code being only 39 more than in 1904. The percentage of convictions was 26.

Of the cases returned as true during the year, 87,988, or 68 per cent., were cases under the Indian Penal Code. Of these cases, those affecting life increased from 898 to 933, the number of murders being 436. But the principal increase was in serious offences against property, the total number of which was 13,371, or nearly 1,000 more than in 1904.

District Magistrates disposed of 3,869 cases, as against 3,916 cases in 1904, and Honorary Magistrates also did good work. The number of disposals in the Sessions Courts rose from 529 to 547. In all, 251,020 persons were under trial during the year, 67,502 of whom were convicted and 90,090 acquitted, the complaint being withdrawn in 84,370 cases.

North-West
Provinces.

Oudh.

Punjab

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The number of persons sentenced to death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment were 93, 256, and 13,422 respectively, while the number of persons whipped rose from 2,192 to 2,443.

Of the total number of persons convicted, 22 per cent. appealed. Of these appeals 28 per cent. were summarily dismissed, and 35 per cent. dismissed after notice; while in the case of the remaining 37 per cent. the sentences were reduced, altered, or set aside, or the proceedings were quashed.

In the Chief Court the number of appeals instituted was 833 as compared with 844 in 1904, and disposals increased from 813 to 849, 149 cases being left pending at the end of the year. The number of unsuccessful appeals was 744. Applications for revision decreased from 1,882 to 1,853, and disposals numbered 1,642.

Burma.

The total number of offences reported during the year in Burma was 93,310, as against 87,132 in 1904, an increase which was common to both parts of the Province. The percentage of true cases fell slightly in Lower Burma to 87.2, and in Upper Burma remained practically the same as in 1904—namely, 88.5.

Magistrates of all classes tried 150,320 persons during the year. The average duration of cases in Lower Burma was 10 days, as in the preceding year; in Upper Burma it was 5.4 days. The percentage of persons convicted or committed was 61.9 in Lower and 64.7 in Upper Burma, as compared with 62.2 and 63.3 respectively in 1904.

The Sessions Courts in Lower Burma dealt with 778 persons, fewer by 29 than in 1904. The percentage of convictions was 53.3 as compared with 61.8 in 1904. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court was 53, involving 79 persons, and the percentage of convictions was 75.4. The average duration of trials in the Sessions Courts remained stationary at 53 days and fell in the Chief Court from 36 to 35 days. In Upper Burma, Sessions Judges disposed of 98 cases, involving 129 persons. The percentage of convictions increased slightly from 67 to 71, and the duration of trials fell from 39 to 29 days.

As regards punishments, the number of whippings increased from 2,863 to 2,919, while 80, 339, and 14,653 persons were sentenced to death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment respectively.

In Lower Burma there was an increase of 628 in the number of appeals preferred. The percentage of sentences confirmed was 68.8 and the average duration of appeals was 18 days. The number of appeals preferred during the year in Upper Burma rose from 1,650 to 1,760. Sentences were confirmed in 59.2 per cent. of the cases, and the average duration was 14 days.

The number of cases called for in revision by District Magistrates in Lower Burma (5,697) was slightly less than in the preceding year, but there was an increase in the revision cases called for by Sessions Judges. In Upper Burma also there was an increase in the quantity of revision work, both in District Magistrates and in Sessions Courts.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

There were 118,012 criminal offences reported during the year in Eastern Bengal and Assam, an increase of 68 on the figures of 1904. Cases under the Penal Code showed an increase of 2,178, while cases under special and local laws decreased by 2,110.

Including cases which were under inquiry at the close of the preceding year, 78,537 cases coming before the Courts were accepted as true during 1905. Of these, 54,267 were brought to trial. The figures, as compared with those of 1902, represent a decrease of 1,432 under the former and of 783 under the latter head.

In the Courts of Magistrates, 53,526 cases, involving 79,867 persons, were finally disposed of during the year, the proportion of convictions being 48.2 per cent., and the average duration of cases 15.7 days. Courts of Session disposed of 862 cases, the pending file rising from 101 to 117. Of the 1,813 persons tried, 1,060, or 58.9 per cent., were convicted. The average duration of Session cases fell from 51.2 days to 41.6 days.

Sentences of death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment numbered 22, 143, and 11,020 respectively. Whipping was ordered in 577 cases. Thirty sentences of death came before the High Court for confirmation.

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The High Court, Sessions Courts, and Magistrates Courts disposed of 412, 2,491, and 2,307 appeals respectively, the percentages of wholly unsuccessful appellants being 77.5, 63.7, and 61.6. In revision cases 60 per cent. of the applications were unsuccessful.

The total number of cases reported in the Central Provinces and Berar and the total number returned as true were, respectively, 42,277 and 34,374 as against 40,444 and 33,507 in 1904. The Nagpur Division alone was responsible for the increase of a thousand cases under special and local laws.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

Magistrates disposed of 34,110 cases during the year. The percentage of convictions and committals was 45.8, a figure which is practically the same as that of the preceding year. There was a slight deterioration in the average duration of police cases tried by magistrates, but the duration of complaint cases showed a slight improvement.

Courts of Session disposed of 194 cases. The percentage of convictions was just under 60, as compared with 72.1 in the Central Provinces and 60 in Berar in 1904. The average duration of Sessions cases fell from 70 to 55.5.

The percentage of appellate cases in which the sentence was confirmed was 58.5 in the Judicial Commissioner's Court, 58.7 in Sessions Courts, and 59.4 in District Magistrates' Courts. Out of a total of 1,795 applicants for revision, 1,236 were unsuccessful.

The sentences of death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment passed during the year numbered respectively 14, 127, and 3,978. Whipping was awarded in 1,195 cases.

The total number of offences reported during the year in the North-West Frontier Province (17,958) was one less than in 1904, and was therefore the smallest reported since the creation of the province. Of these 72 per cent. were returned as true. If it had not been for the increase of nearly 400 cases in Kohat (an increase, however, chiefly of cases under special and local laws), the whole Province would have shown a large decrease in reported crime. Complaints dismissed *in limine* numbered 4,172, or 29 per cent. of the cases reported. The number of cases brought to trial was 11,970, which represents 93 per cent. of the offences admitted to have occurred. Fifty-one per cent. of the persons tried were convicted. In cases brought to trial under the Indian Penal Code, which numbered 5,567 as against 5,938 in 1904, the percentage of persons convicted was 38.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

There were 17 sentences of death, 46 of transportation, and 2,675 of rigorous imprisonment, and 295 sentences of whipping were passed as against 279 in 1904.

The number of persons who appealed to District Magistrates fell from 728 to 561, while the number who appealed to Sessions Judges was 846, of whom 378 had their sentences reversed or altered. Out of 346 applications for revision 262 were dismissed summarily.

The number of offences reported in Coorg (1,795) rose by 150, and the trials held numbered 1,612, or 177 more than in the previous year. As compared with the figures for 1904, trials were noticeably more frequent under the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act and for the offences of mischief and criminal intimidation. Excluding breach of contract cases, which were mostly compromised, the Criminal Courts dealt with 2,415 persons, of whom 679 were convicted. There were only 12 convictions of heinous crime; only one person was sentenced to death and one to transportation. Sentences of rigorous imprisonment and whipping numbered respectively 260 and 20.

Coorg.

The total number of appeals was 101, of which 85 were unsuccessful.

There was an increase in the total numbers of cases and appeals instituted during the year in Madras, excluding those in the Village Magistrates' Courts, the figures being 299,258 and 10,080 respectively, as against 289,832 and 9,517 in 1904. The number of cases instituted in the Village Magistrates' Courts increased from 10,533 to 11,073. There was an increase of 2,526 in the number of offences under the Indian Penal Code,

Madra

CRIMINAL
JUSTICE.

and of 14,048 in the number of offences under special and local laws reported during the year. The percentage of convictions in cases brought to trial was 23·32 in the case of offences under the Penal Code, and 87·22 in the case of offences under special and local laws, the average percentages for the preceding five years being 24·98 and 86·49 respectively.

Of 18,315 persons under trial in the Village Magistrates' Courts, 5,850 were convicted. In the regular Magistrates' Courts in the mufassal, 231,579 cases were instituted, as against 222,530 in 1904. The number of cases left pending at the end of the year was more than that of the previous year by 75. The total number of persons under trial in these Courts was 398,638, of whom 391,427 were dealt with, the percentage of convictions being 49·7 as against 48·5 in the preceding year. The average duration of cases was slightly longer than in 1904. The number of appeals was 7,867; in 61·7 per cent. the convictions were confirmed.

The cases committed to Sessions Courts in the mufassal numbered 1,207, and 2,974 persons in all were tried, both figures being slightly lower than those for 1903. One thousand four hundred and sixty-three persons were tried by jury, 1,196 with aid of assessors, and 15 partly by jury and partly with assessors. The percentage of convictions was 43·6, and the average duration of trials, 33 days. Appeals numbered 1,508, the sentence appealed against being confirmed in 71·41 per cent. of the cases.

The number of cases instituted before the Presidency Magistrates increased from 66,120 to 66,428. The percentage of convictions was 91·73. A sum of £413 levied as fines in cases of cruelty to animals was paid to the S.P.C.A.

In all, 35 persons were sentenced to death during the year, 132 to transportation, and 21,920 to rigorous imprisonment. Whippings numbered 3,327.

The High Court received for trial 44 Sessions cases, in which 56 persons were concerned. The percentage of convictions was 74, as against 77 in 1904. Eighteen other cases and 58 death sentences were also referred by the Sessions Judges to the High Court. The number of appeals received during the year was 654; in 88 per cent. of the total number of cases decided the proceedings of the lower Courts were not interfered with. In revision cases the proceedings of the lower Court were confirmed in 73 per cent. of the cases.

Bombay.

The total number of offences reported during the year in Bombay (including Sind) was 157,278, as against 173,262 in 1904. Of the total number of cases, 145,249 were returned as true; of these 38 per cent. were under the India Penal Code and the rest under special and local laws. Cases brought to trial numbered in all 150,439, involving 239,581 persons, the figures being considerably less than those for the preceding year. Two hundred and ninety-nine of the 434 cases affecting human life brought to trial during the year were murders, as compared with 207 out of 564 in 1904. Of the total number of persons under trial nearly 46 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, and nearly 47 per cent. were convicted. The total number of original cases decided was 149,728, as against 152,512 in 1904. Of these 146,939 were disposed of by Magistrates. Of the total number of persons convicted, 66 per cent. were tried summarily. The average duration of cases rose from 4·3 days to 5·06 days. There were 56 sentences of death, 128 of transportation, and 14,833 of rigorous imprisonment, as compared with 58, 160, and 15,121 respectively in the preceding year. Whippings increased in number from 1,337 to 1,414. The percentage of whippings to the total number of all punishments was 14·58, as against 11·71 in 1904.

Out of a total of 5,710 appeals, 45 per cent. were rejected; in 27 per cent. the sentences were confirmed and in 16 per cent. reversed. Applications for revision numbered 2,310, the sentence being reduced in 86 cases, reversed in 203 cases, and enhanced in 27 cases.

Persons tried by jury and with the aid of assessors numbered 396 and 1,259 respectively. In the High Court the verdict of the jury was approved in all cases. In the Courts of Sessions the percentage of cases in which it was approved was 97, as against 94 in the preceding year. In cases tried with assessors, the Judge agreed with all or some of the assessors in 75 per cent. and differed from all in 25 per cent.

JAILS.

The variations of the jail population in the whole of India during the last five years are shown in the following table:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Jail population of all classes on 1st January	93,781	93,881	101,664	108,741	115,056
Admissions during the year	464,660	436,569	440,948	471,529	487,374
Aggregate	558,441	530,450	542,612	580,270	602,430
Discharged during the year from all causes	460,202	436,668	448,984	478,532	493,693
Jail population on 31st December	98,239	93,782	93,865	101,738	108,740
Convict population on 1st January	85,034	85,209	93,682	98,873	105,047
Admissions during the year	161,783	153,380	156,112	171,256	176,566
Aggregate	246,817	238,589	249,794	270,129	281,613
Released during the year	155,220	150,289	160,503	172,202	178,362
Casualties, &c.	3,245	3,260	4,082	4,167	4,381
Convict population on 31st December	88,352	85,040	85,209	93,760	98,872

The total number of prisoners (464,660), including those under trial admitted to jail during the year was 6·4 in excess of the previous year. Appreciable increases in admission occurred in Coorg (72 per cent. Madras (25 per cent.), Burma (10 per cent.), and the United Province (9 per cent.). There were considerable decreases in Bombay and the Central Provinces, while the transfer of fourteen districts from Bengal to Eastern Bengal and Assam resulted in a large decrease in the former and a corresponding increase in the latter province. The total daily average population rose from 94,474 to 96,265 (an increase of 2 per cent.), the variation from the previous year's figures being small in all provinces.

One hundred and sixty-one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three convicts were admitted during the year, as against 153,380 in 1904. The offences for which convicts were imprisoned show that the cases connected with property increased by about 13 per cent., that those against the person decreased by 1·7 per cent., and that convictions under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code were slightly less than in the preceding year.

The escapes during the year, excluding Coorg, for which complete figures are not available, numbered 85 as against 76 in 1904, but 62 prisoners were recaptured before the end of the year, leaving 14 still at large. Escapes were most frequent from the jails of Madras, where they numbered 28 Eastern Bengal and Assam coming next with 22.

There was a slight decrease (1·8 per cent.) in the number of juvenile offenders committed to prison during the year. The fall in numbers was especially noticeable in the case of females (17 per cent.). The percentage of juveniles previously convicted, to those admitted to jail, however, was slightly above that of the preceding year (14 as against 13·5 per cent.), the increase in the case of females being more marked (7·2 as against 2·5 per cent.).

More than fifty-three per cent. of the persons admitted to jail came from the classes engaged in agriculture and in the care of animals. Eighteen per cent. were persons employed in miscellaneous callings, and 10·2 per cent. gained their living by personal service.

The number of persons imprisoned during the year who had been previously convicted rose from 20,031 to 22,668, but the increase in proportion to total admissions was only 1 per cent. for all provinces. Deterrent sentences, as indicated by the numbers sentenced to transportation, were not imposed so frequently as in the previous year, although the proportion of habituals was larger.

JAILS.

The identification of habitual offenders and their segregation from casual offenders continued to receive attention during the year.

As in the preceding year, the great majority of prison offences committed related to work, under which 55·7 of the offences reported were returned. The actual number of punishments showed a trifling increase over the figure for 1904, but was smaller in proportion to the number of prisoners. The greatest apparent decreases were in Madras, Coorg, the Punjab, and Eastern Bengal and Assam, while increases were shown in Bengal, Bombay, the United Provinces, and the Central Provinces. The figures for the different provinces are given in the following table:—

	1905.			1904.			1903.		
	Daily average Population.	Offences dealt with by Criminal Courts.	Offences dealt with by Superintendents.	Daily average Population.	Offences dealt with by Criminal Courts.	Offences dealt with by Superintendents.	Daily average Population.	Offences dealt with by Criminal Courts.	Offences dealt with by Superintendents.
Madras	10,130	12	11,314	9,272	15	14,331	8,899	19	15,256
Bombay	7,928	24	14,441	7,907	23	12,978	7,915	36	9,297
Bengal	13,516	20	26,416	18,002	22	30,928	17,476	40	31,828
United Provinces	21,681	13	38,707	22,090	14	35,281	21,345	11	38,763
Punjab	10,531	61	37,884	10,752	89	42,047	11,199	91	38,837
Burma	11,951	25	44,891	11,113	41	41,241	10,672	50	42,863
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	6,277	29	7,418	1,430*	21*	2,054*	1,296*	31*	1,929*
Central Provinces	3,282	30	8,360	3,553	21	8,710	3,789	26	9,538
North-West Frontier Province.	1,077	1	1,560	1,055	1	1,501	971	1	1,206
Coorg	76	—	78	62	1	85	64	2	60
	86,449	215	191,069	85,235	248	190,156	83,626	310	189,577

* Assam only.

The aggregate number of corporal punishments tends steadily to decline. The total fell from 1,076 in 1904, to 799 in 1905, and the proportion to total punishments showed a diminution in all provinces. The total number of cases in which penal diet (with and without solitary confinement) was prescribed was 10,954, of which about two-thirds occurred in Burma.

The result of the remission system during the year showed unimportant variations from those of the preceding year; 87 prisoners eligible for the mark rules failed to gain any remission, and 31,284 earned remission, which varied according to length of sentence from an average of 27 days in the case of short-term prisoners to 493 days in the case of prisoners whose term exceeded 10 years. The average amount of remission earned during the previous year was slightly larger.

The total cost of maintenance of the prisoners in jail during 1905 rose by £23,749. The net cost of maintenance per head of average strength was £3 9s. 11d. as against £3 6s. 2d. in 1904. The gross cost of maintenance per head varied from £6 18s. 8d. in Coorg to £3 13s. 6d. in Burma. The cash earnings per head ranged from £3 2s. 8d. in the Central Provinces, to 10s. 11d. in the North-West Frontier Province. The net cost per prisoner was lowest in Burma (£2 12s. 4d.) and the Central Provinces (£2 17s. 6d.). The greatest improvement (excluding Eastern Bengal and Assam) on the figures of the preceding year was displayed in the Central Provinces returns, where the net cost per head decreased by nearly £1. In Coorg, Eastern Bengal and Assam, and Bombay prisoners cost the Government more to maintain than elsewhere, the rates being £4 17s. 7d., £4 2s. 3d., and £4 0s. 1d. per head.

The years 1904 and 1905 present a sharp contrast in respect of the conditions on which the public health depends. In 1904, except for the presence of plague, the public health was extraordinarily good, and the rates of admission, constant sickness and death among prisoners were the lowest on

JAILS.

record. In 1905, on the other hand, unseasonable weather was followed by bad harvests in many places and, except in Bombay and the Punjab, the public health was below the average. In spite of these adverse conditions, however, the health of prisoners was generally good, and although the unprecedentedly low death rate of 1904 increased by 1·62 to 19·23 per thousand, the rate of constant sickness was maintained at 28 per thousand, and the admission rate was further reduced by 29 to 647 per thousand. The increase in the death rate was common to all provinces except Madras, Bombay, the Punjab, and Burma; the death rates in two administrations, Eastern Bengal and Assam (32·96) and Bengal (24·91), were exceptionally high, but the death rate in Madras (15·87) was the lowest in the history of the Presidency. The principal causes of death were tubercle of the lungs, dysentery, and pneumonia. There was an increase in the incidence of cholera and plague, but the decline in the number of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis continued.

PENAL SETTLEMENT AT PORT BLAIR.

The number of convicts in the settlement at the end of the year under review was 14,696, as against 14,112 at the end of the previous year, and there was an increase from 14,076 to 14,467 in the average daily strength. The total number of convicts received during the year was 1,541, an increase of 363 on the figures for 1904-05; while 208 were released under the 20 years rule, as compared with 124 during the year before. In spite of the rise in the average daily number of the convicts, the number of offences fell from 2,481 to 1,988, and consequently punishments were less numerous. Thirty-five convicts escaped during the year, 24 of whom have been recaptured. In 1904-05, 98 convicts escaped, 77 being recaptured.

The receipts of the settlement during 1905-06 were £60,655, as compared with £65,356 in 1904-05; and the expenditure rose from £122,030 to £145,745. The net cost of each convict increased from £4 0s. 6d. to £5 17s. 8d.

There were, on 31st March 1906, 84 looms at work in the factories, of which 30 are English pedal looms. Eleven more English pedal looms were purchased during the year to replace the old wooden looms. A carpet factory was started at Viper in November 1905, in which 24 convicts were employed. The manufacture of cocoanut oil was started in the Cellular Jail in January 1906. In the same month, locally grown rice was substituted for imported rice as an article of the convicts' dietary, as a tentative measure for five years; there were no ill-effects during the year as the result of the experiment.

There were 76 more cases of mortality from fever in 1905 than in 1904, but there was a satisfactory falling off in the number both of admissions and of deaths from phthisis. The rainfall was 101·09 inches as compared with 121·23 in the previous year.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

The number of civil suits pending on the original side of the High Court at the end of 1904 was 1,259, including 18 pending suits received by transfer from other Courts, and the number instituted during 1905 was 962. During the year 1,121 suits were disposed of, as against 1,396 in 1904, and the number left undisposed of at the end of the year was 1,100. There were 520 suits pending for over one year, showing a decrease of 53 from the figures of the previous year. The number of insolvency cases pending at the end of the year increased from 185 to 229.

In the Civil Courts in the mufassal, the total number of ordinary suits and small causes instituted was 403,615. This figure is in excess of that of the previous year by 13,654. Thus the increase in institutions, though less than in previous years, continued during the year. The increase occurred in each class of suits, those for money and movables, rent suits, and title suits showing increases of 5·7, 2·1, and 2·2 per cent. respectively over the figures for 1904. The number of suits disposed of was 409,836, the number being in excess of that for 1904 by 9,443. The average duration of cases showed some improvement in the case of District Judges.

In the Presidency Small Cause Court, both institutions and disposals showed a perceptible decrease on the previous year's figures. The number of pending cases was less than in 1904 by 8 only.

The number of appeals decided by the High Court during the year (5,422) exceeded that of any year of the preceding decade, and the pending file was reduced by 1,652 to 5,281. In the Subordinate Courts, 11,130 appeals were instituted, a decrease, as compared with the previous year, of 1,364, and 12,822, or 11 more than in 1904, were disposed of. The number of appeals pending at the close of the year (4,976) was less by 1,183 than at the end of 1904.

In the North-Western Provinces there was a further increase in institutions of civil cases, which numbered 93,646 as compared with 92,035 in 1904. But as the institutions in Courts of Small Causes rose by 2,545, the institutions in other Courts were reduced by 934.

The total number of suits before the Courts continued to rise, being 107,148 in 1905 as compared with 104,624 in 1904 and 102,834 in 1903. The pending file, however, increased by only 95. The number of cases pending over three months again increased, rising from 3,043 to 3,126. The average duration of contested cases in the Munsifs' and Subordinate Judges' Courts were slightly higher than in 1904, but the duration in the courts of District Judges continued to improve.

There were 12,777 appeals before the Subordinate Courts during the year, as compared with 12,994 in 1904, but the year closed with a pending file of 3,593 cases, as against 3,475 at its commencement. Before the High Court there were 3,813 appeals for disposal, as compared with 3,774 in 1904. Of these 1,699 were disposed of, but in spite of the fact that the number of disposals was above the average, 2,114 cases, or only 28 less than in 1904, were pending at the end of 1905.

The number of applications for execution of decrees filed during the year was 81,770, representing a decrease of 4,661 over the figures of the preceding year. The pending file was, however, reduced by only 147 to 11,107. Realisation was complete in 23 per cent. of the cases, and partial in 18 per cent., while 53 per cent. were wholly infructuous.

Village Munsifs decided 14,918 cases out of a total of 15,473 for disposal. Of these 1,252, or 8.4 per cent., were contested cases, as compared with 9 per cent. in 1904.

The total number of suits instituted in Oudh decreased from 51,754 to 50,850. Disposals numbered 51,674 as against 51,893 in the preceding year, and the pending file rose from 6,759 to 7,219. The average duration of contested cases fell from 87 to 70 days, and that of uncontested cases from 34 to 30, the decrease being common to all Courts. The number of appeals before the Courts was slightly smaller than in 1904, but a large number was disposed of, and 688 only remained on the pending file as against 1,048 at the close of the preceding year. The number of appeals pending for over three months at the end of the year was much lower than at the close of 1904. The Judicial Commissioner's Court decided 683 appeals. Village Munsifs disposed of 6,326 suits, as compared with 5,270 in the preceding year.

A steady decrease in the volume of civil litigation in the Punjab has been taking place for several years, but the year 1905 makes a somewhat notable slip in the downward grade, the number of institutions having fallen to 156,354, a decrease of 25 per cent. on the figures of 1904. The decrease was almost entirely confined to suits for the recovery of money or movable property, and its primary cause was no doubt the extension of the period of limitation for suits for the recovery of money lent. The total number of suits brought by money-lenders against agriculturists again fell, from 86,646 to 62,769, while suits to establish rights of pre-emption increased from 3,604 to 3,994, the new pre-emption Act having to a certain extent stimulated litigation.

Out of 188,933 suits for disposal in Courts subordinate to Divisional Courts, 173,130 were decided. The pending file was thus reduced by 5,408 cases during the year, in spite of a falling-off in the number of disposals due to the general drop in institutions. The average durations of contested and uncontested cases were 51 and 29 days respectively, as against 52 and 30

ays in the previous year. In proceedings for the execution of decrees the percentage of realisations was only 24.

The percentage of appeals to appealable orders rose from 24 to 28. In Divisional Courts 8,018 appeals were instituted, an increase of 582, and the pending file rose by 77 to 2,673. In District Courts appeals fell from 5,909 to 5,189, and the pending file decreased from 492 to 472.

In the Chief Court, 7 original cases were instituted. On the appellate side there was a marked rise in institutions, amounting to an increase of 5 per cent. in first appeals, 18 per cent. in further appeals, and 10 per cent. in applications for revision. There was a considerable increase in disposals, but the rise of institutions prevented the Judges from reducing the pending file to the extent that had been anticipated.

In the Burma Civil Courts there was again a considerable increase in the volume of original litigation. The total number of suits instituted rose from 2,424 to 82,971, the increase being common to both sections of the province, but was much greater in Lower than in Upper Burma. The number of cases disposed of during the year was 87,509, as compared with 71,900 in 1904. Of this number 21,234 were contested. There was a slight increase in the average duration of cases, but the number of cases left pending at the end of 1905 was only 2,015, as against 6,109 at the end of 1904.

The total number of regular appeals decreased slightly to 5,302, of which 1,108 were pending at the close of the year. Decrees of lower Courts in Lower Burma were confirmed, on appeal to District Courts, in 61 per cent. of cases, modified in 7 per cent., and reversed in 29 per cent., the figures showing little variation from those of 1904. Out of 1,387 appeals disposed of in District Courts in Upper Burma 59 per cent. were confirmed, as against 62 in the previous year. In Divisional Courts in Lower Burma the decrees were confirmed in 63 per cent. of the cases. In Upper Burma, only 6 appeals came before Divisional Judges, previous orders being confirmed in 3 of the cases. The Chief Court disposed of 300 appeals, as against 312 in 1904. Decrees of lower Courts were confirmed in 71 per cent. of the cases. The Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma disposed of 272 appeals, of which 71 per cent. were confirmed.

Applications for execution of decrees rose in Lower Burma from 28,050 to 34,784, full satisfaction being obtained in 8,332, and in Upper Burma from 6,624 to 10,725, of which 3,404 were fructuous.

The new superior and subordinate Judicial Services were introduced into Lower Burma with effect from the 1st March 1905.

The number of original suits instituted during the year in Eastern Bengal and Assam was 358,646, an increase of 6,629 on the figure of 1904. There was an increase of 8,232 in the total number of suits instituted in the districts transferred from Bengal, while in the Assam Valley, Sylhet, and Cachar there was a decrease of 1,603. Altogether there were 420,498 suits for disposal, and 365,757 were disposed of. This number was 9,713 more than the total disposed of in the previous year, but the increase occurred entirely in uncontested suits, the number of contested suits having decreased from 79,135 to 69,578. The pending file fell from 55,624 to 54,741.

In the High Court 1,426 appeals were preferred during the year. One thousand five hundred and sixty-five were disposed of, and the pending file fell from 2,233 to 2,094. In Subordinate Courts 9,986 appeals were instituted, and 11,128 disposed of, the pending file being reduced by 855 to 5,181. The decisions of the lower Courts were affirmed in 54.6 per cent. of the cases, and reversed in 20.1 per cent.

The number of applications for execution of decrees made during the year was 261,263, and 257,015 were disposed of, full satisfaction being obtained in 60,216, and partial satisfaction in 58,382 cases, while 134,192 cases were returned as infructuous.

The number of suits instituted in the Central Provinces and Berar amounted to 95,452, as compared with 96,125 in 1904. The number of cases disposed of was 96,113, and the pending file was reduced from 23,107 to 2,446. The average duration of contested cases rose from 104 days to 40 days, and that of uncontested cases fell from 52 to 47 days.

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JUSTICE.

In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner 637 regular second appeals were instituted from the Central Provinces, and 654 disposed of, while 165 were instituted from Berar. At the end of the year there were 32 first appeals and 261 second appeals pending in this Court, these figures including both Central Provinces and Berar cases. Divisional Judges disposed of 398 cases, as compared with 315 in the previous year, and the number pending fell from 194 to 98. The District Appellate Courts had before them 6,427 appeals, and disposed of 5,063.

Applications for execution of decrees numbered 105,405, as compared with 107,928 in 1904. Of the applications disposed of, 56.9 per cent. were wholly infructuous, and in 19.7 per cent. satisfaction was obtained in full.

On the 1st September 1905 the Berar Courts Law came into force, and the Court of the Judicial Commissioners of the Central Provinces became the High Court for Berar.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The suits instituted in the North-West Frontier Province during 1904 numbered 20,810, as against 21,075 in the previous year, a rise in suits for title and similar suits having been more than counterbalanced by a decrease in claims for money and movables. The decrease of litigation was common to all districts except Peshawar and Hazara.

Of the 24,270 suits for disposal in the District Courts, 22,624 were decided, 2,006 being left pending at the end of the year. The average duration of suits in the province fell from 22 to 20 days in uncontested cases, while that of contested suits remained stationary at 35.

District Judges and Subordinate Judges with appellate powers disposed of 666 appeals as against 645 in 1904. Divisional Courts disposed of 745 regular appeals, or 106 less than in the previous year. The decrease was almost entirely in the Pashawar Division. Applications for the execution of decrees numbered 16,361, as against 17,125 in 1904; 33 per cent. of the applications were satisfied in full, and 16 per cent. were partially executed.

Coorg.

The number of Civil Courts in Coorg was five, as in 1904. The total number of institutions increased from 1,484 to 1,666. The total number of suits decided was 1,698, as against 1,519 in 1904, and the pending file was reduced from 178 to 146. The bulk of the work as usual devolved on the two Munsifs, who together disposed of 733 suits and 944 small causes. The number of appeals for disposal was 71, as compared with 77 in 1904; 17 were successful. The Judicial Commissioner decided 6 appeals out of 7 preferred to his Court; 4 were confirmed. The number of execution proceedings (2,399) was 300 less than in 1904. Wholly infructuous applications accounted for 70.2 of the total disposals.

Madras.

The number of suits instituted during the year in Madras was 359,116, or 24,775 more than in 1904. The increase occurred in 16 districts and in all classes of Courts except Revenue Courts. The abatement of plague in certain districts tended to an increase in institutions, while in others the prospect of a bad season urged money-lenders to file their suits with a view to the prompt realisation of their debts. The growth of trade in the mufassal is also said to have contributed to the general result in certain parts. Disposals failed to keep pace with the increase of institutions, and in all Courts except Revenue Courts arrears of ordinary suits increased.

Before Village Courts 93,928 suits were instituted, an increase of more than 8,000 on 1904, and 93,329 were disposed of. Out of 109,211 ordinary suits and 138,841 small causes for disposal (of which 82,995 and 128,811 respectively were instituted during the year) District Munsifs disposed of 81,232 and 127,504 respectively, as against 81,362 and 124,544 in 1904. In Subordinate Judges' Courts the numbers of ordinary suits and small causes disposed of were respectively 960 and 22,553, as compared with 1,049 and 20,483 in the previous year. In District Courts the numbers were 360 and 650, the figures for 1904 being 479 and 648 respectively. In the Presidency Small Cause Court 19,743 cases were disposed of and arrears were reduced by 25 to 2,043.

In the High Court an increase of 45 in the number of suits for disposal (451) took place, and the number of disposals was 233, as in the previous year. The number of appeals before the High Court was 6,064, as against 6,958 in 1904, the number disposed of being 2,557, and the arrears in second

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appeals being reduced from 3,390 to 2,767. District Courts disposed of 7,060 appeals out of 10,820 for disposal, and Subordinate Judges' Courts of 1,714 out of 2,278.

The number of applications for execution of decrees for disposal during the year in Courts in the mufassal was 268,623. Disposals numbered 239,979, and arrears increased by more than 5,000.

Bombay.

In the Bombay Presidency (including Sind) the total number of suits instituted showed a decrease from 153,805 to 142,207, which was attributed partly to the more extended application of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act and partly to the deficient rainfall. Of these, 79 per cent. were for money or movable property, and 13 per cent. related to immovable property, all other suits totalling 8 per cent. The percentage of contested suits was 22, as against 32 in 1904. There was an improvement in the average duration of contested suits, it being 148 as against 252 days on the preceding year. But the duration of uncontested suits rose from 76 to 79 days. The total number of suits disposed of was 144,856, as against 159,968 in 1904, and arrears decreased from 34,666 to 33,954.

Including arrears from the previous year to the number of 3,258, there were 8,396 appeals before the Courts, of which 4,952 were decided, the pending file rising to 3,444. In 2,528 cases the decrees of the lower Courts were confirmed, while 939 were not prosecuted or were dismissed. The average duration of appeals was 296 days in 1904, but only 219 in the year under review.

Applications for execution of decrees numbered 176,113, and 175,785 were disposed of, arrears increasing from 49,935 to 50,263. Excluding 2,854 applications disposed of by transfer, or under the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act, 67 per cent. of the applications proved wholly infructuous; full satisfaction was obtained in 14 per cent. of the cases, partial satisfaction in the remainder. The total amount recovered in execution fell from £409,066 to £396,999. The number of persons imprisoned in process of execution was 973, as against 846 in 1904.

The total number of applications for declaration of insolvency disposed of during the year was 221, in addition to 121 applications transferred or withdrawn. The applications were granted in 47 per cent. of the cases and rejected in 53 per cent.

CHAPTER IV.

REGISTRATION OF ASSURANCES, &c.

REGISTRATION.

The Registration Law of 1877 was in force during the year under review throughout British India, with the exception of Upper Burma, for which Regulation II. of 1897 still provides a less complete procedure, and of certain other tracts in which the conditions are exceptional. For the purpose of registration, documents are divided into (a) those of which registration is compulsory, or necessary to the validity of the deed, and (b) those which are not required by the law to be registered, but which can be so treated or not at the option of the holder, though liable, if unregistered, to be superseded by subsequent registered documents, subject to the equitable doctrine of notice. In the former class are deeds of gift of immovable property of value more than Rs. 100, and, with certain exceptions, annual or longer leases. In the second category, that of optionally registrable documents, are those relating to immovable property not included in the above-mentioned classes, deeds affecting movable property, wills, and other documents. As concerns transfers of immovable property, however, the situation is affected in most provinces by the Transfer of Property Act of 1882. This Act was amended in March 1904. Before the latter date it was in force throughout British India, with the exception of Burma (outside Rangoon), the Punjab, and Sind, and other scheduled districts; and under its provisions all transfers by sale or mortgage of immovable property had to be registered, excepting that in the case of tangible immovable property of value below Rs. 100 transfer might alternatively be effected by delivery of the property, and the registration of mortgage deeds, in which the value affected did not exceed that sum, was not compulsory. The most important changes effected by the amendment of the Act were the removal of the last exception, namely, that relating to small mortgage deeds, and a wider extension of the Act in Lower Burma. Practically all deeds transferring immovable property have now, therefore, to be registered, and the question as to the supersession of an unregistered by a registered deed will cease to cause difficulties in the law courts. Offices are established in every district for the registration of documents, and for keeping copies of such documents. *Ad valorem* fees are charged for registration, and a small fixed fee for searching the records. The total registration receipts of the year 1905-06 were £361,900 as compared with £338,700 in the preceding year; and the cost of the registration offices was £187,600, leaving a surplus of £174,300, against £157,800 in the year 1904-05. The following particulars are taken from the provincial reports for the calendar year 1905. They relate chiefly to transactions in immovable property, for which, as registration of most of them is compulsory, the figures have a greater value than in the case of deeds affecting movable property, which need not be registered, except deeds of gift.

There was a small increase in the total number of deeds registered in Bengal, from 780,800 to 793,200. The number of registrations of immovable property under the compulsory classes is given as 680,400 compared with 526,500 in 1904, but by far the larger part of this increase is due to the inclusion of small mortgage deeds, which formerly came under the optional class, as above stated. For the rest, various local causes are assigned, among the chief of them being bad harvests, for the increase in the number of transactions in land. Sales of immovable property increased from 237,600 to 250,100, of which 171,000 represented values less than Rs. 100. The total value of the immovable property affected by the registrations under the compulsory classes was £10,323,000, of which 30 per cent. was contributed by the comparatively small number of deeds (4,069) registered in Calcutta. Under a reorganisation which has been sanctioned, the registration staff now consists of full-time pensionable officers, in place of local persons remunerated by commission from fees received.

The compulsory registrations affecting immovable property in Eastern Bengal and Assam numbered 610,800, with a value of £4,178,000. This number is not much larger than that of 1904 for the same area, if small mortgages are included in both cases; but the value showed some increase. There are no changes which need be noted in other classes of documents. The reorganisation referred to above, in respect of Bengal, applied also to the districts of this province which have been taken from Bengal; and it was in contemplation to extend it also to Assam.

The number of documents registered in the United Provinces rose from 107,500 to 220,400 in the year 1905; the increase was ascribed partly to poor harvests and partly to the amendment of the Transfer of Property Act, mentioned above. Details of the registrations in this province during 1905 are not available.

A rise of 7 per cent. in the value represented by compulsory registrations of immovable property in the Punjab, accompanying a decrease in the number of such registrations, is explained by an increase in the sales of land and a decrease in mortgages; but the figures also seem to bear evidence of the rise in the value of land in the province. The decrease in mortgages is explained as being due to the good spring harvest. The decline in registrations of deeds affecting immovable property under the optional classes still continued, and registrations respecting movable property were not numerous.

The figures of registrations in the North West Frontier Province are small; but notice may be taken of an all-round decrease in the number of instruments registered in the districts of Hazara, Bannu, and Dera Ismail Khan, which was undoubtedly due to the introduction of the Land Alienation Act in those districts. There was a small increase in Peshawar, caused by speculation in land likely to be irrigated by the proposed Upper Swat River Canal.

The number of registrations in Lower Burma increased from 36,400 to 42,400, the increase occurring for the most part in deeds of which registration is compulsory, in consequence of the charge noted above. The value of the immovable property concerned, however, declined to £4,542,000, owing to the sharp cessation of sales of land in Rangoon. Registrations under the optional classes, whether relating to land or to other property, were few in number. A proposal to extend the Registration Act to Upper Burma, in a modified form so as to preserve the present rigour of the Upper Burma law, which insists on the compulsory registration of all documents affecting immovable property, was under consideration.

The number of registrations in the Central Provinces and Berar was about the same as in 1904, namely 56,700, of which 33,900 occurred in Berar. The value, however, was considerably higher, partly as a result of some exceptionally large transactions. On the whole, the statistics may be said to show no very marked tendency, if allowance is made for these special transactions; but sales and mortgages increased to some extent in the north of the Central Provinces owing to severe damage by frost to the spring crops. The report contains a comparison of the average values represented by sales and mortgages under compulsory registration in the Central Provinces and Berar respectively, from which it appears that the average value is very much higher in the Central Provinces.

In Madras the number of registrations rose from 986,600 to 1,061,600, the increase being attributable in part to the failure of the north-east monsoon of 1904 and the south-west monsoon of 1905. All but three districts anticipated in the rise, and these three were affected by special circumstances. But the increase due to the enforcement of registration, as above mentioned, in the case of immovable property of value less than Rs. 100, helped to swell the figures. Sales of land of value more than Rs. 100 were 8 per cent. more numerous, mortgages of like value 9 per cent.

The number of registrations in Bombay was 193,600, or 8 per cent. more than in 1904. Apart from the change in the law already mentioned, affecting small mortgage deeds, the increase was due chiefly to a rise in the

REGISTRATION.

for periods of one year or less from compulsory registration. The figures show a considerable growth in the registrations of leases, both under the compulsory and the optional classes; in some districts an explanation is offered that the moneylenders, who buy land from ryots, generally lease them for cultivation to their original owners, and that the rise in the number of leases is a proof of the extent to which the land has passed from agriculturists to non-agriculturists. Deeds affecting movable property showed an increase in numbers, accompanied by a growth of 28 per cent. in average value, but the figures under these heads are still not very large.

Under the special law for the protection of agriculturists in the four Deccan districts of Poona, Satara, Ahmednagar, and Sholapur, there were 98,300 registrations, which was rather above the total of the previous year, and the aggregate value of property affected (£344,000) also showed little change. A larger proportion of the transactions than usual is stated to have been between agriculturists and agriculturists, but this is a point on which not much stress can be laid, as moneylenders frequently represent themselves for this purpose as agriculturists.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

The report on Joint Stock Companies for 1904-05, the latest year for which statistics are available at the time of going to press, for the whole of India shows that the number of new joint stock companies registered was 141, with a nominal capital of £2,376,400 and a paid-up capital of £449,400; while 79 companies, with a paid-up capital of £1,274,100, ceased to work. On the other hand, the paid-up capital of 480 companies was increased by an aggregate amount of £1,291,500, while 83 companies reduced their paid-up capital by £114,500 in all. The net result was that at the end of the year there were in operation 1,550 companies, with a nominal capital of £37,921,600 and a paid-up capital of £26,848,300, which is 3·9 per cent. larger than the figure for 1903-04. The companies are most important in the provinces of Bengal and Bombay, which possess 41 and 39 per cent. respectively of all the paid-up capital; in Madras the number of companies (468) was larger than in either of the two former provinces, but the paid-up capital constituted only about 8 per cent. of the whole; in the United Provinces the paid-up capital of the 89 companies aggregated 5 per cent. of the whole; in no other province did the aggregate paid-up capital of registered companies reach £700,000. The Bombay companies are, taking the figures as they stand, the richest, the average of paid-up capital for the 342 companies in that presidency being £30,400; while for the 429 companies of Bengal it is £25,800, for the 468 of Madras £4,700, and for the 89 of the United Provinces £15,300. The average in Bengal has risen much in recent years, owing to the extinction of most of the native provident societies with practically no paid-up capital, but it showed a decline in 1904-05. There was also a small decline in Bombay. The distribution of paid-up capital among registered companies for different classes of industry was as follows:—

	Paid-up Capital.		Paid-up Capital.
	£		£
Banking and insurance -	2,813,300	Mills and presses -	13,053,000
Trading and shipping -	5,564,600	Tea and planting -	2,404,000
Mining and quarrying -	1,893,000	Other industries -	1,117,700

The group of companies with the largest aggregate subscribed capital, £13,053,000, constituting nearly half of the total paid-up capital, were for weaving and spinning or for pressing cotton, jute, wool, and silk; and nearly 56 per cent. of the capital of such undertakings belonged to the Bombay Presidency. In the 16 years from 1889-90 to 1904-05 the number of joint stock companies at work has risen from 886 to 1,550, and the paid-up capital has risen from 15½ to 26½ millions of pounds.

PATENTS AND DESIGNS.

The total number of applications filed in 1905 for the registration of inventions under the Patents Law was 586, or 34 more than in the preceding year. Of these, 35 were refused or abandoned, and 112 were undecided at

the end of the year. Seventy-one only of the applications were made by natives of India, 143 by Europeans and others resident in India, and 372 by other persons. The categories under which most of the inventions are classed, so far as the subjects are enumerated, are bicycles and similar vehicles, railway materials, electric contrivances, chemical appliances and preparations, and spinning or weaving machines.

CHAPTER V.

FINANCE.

FORM OF ACCOUNTS.

The accounts of the Government of India show the transactions in India in rupees: the totals of these transactions are then converted into pounds, at the rate of Rs. 15 = £1: the sterling transactions in England are next stated: and the last two sets of figures are added together, so as to show in pounds the combined transactions in India and in England. The comparatively small sums which have to be brought to account owing to the facts that the remittances to defray the net expenditure in England are not effected at exactly sixteenpence to the rupee, and that the Government is under obligations to carry out certain transactions with railway companies at fixed rates differing from the rate of sixteenpence to the rupee, are included in a single line under the head of Exchange.

GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The gross revenue and expenditure of British India in 1904-05 and 1905-06 were as follows:—

		1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	
Revenue	84,812,971	84,997,685	
Expenditure	81,356,905	82,905,831	
Surplus	£ 3,456,066	2,091,854	

The gross revenue includes all receipts, and the gross expenditure all payments.* The financial position of the Government can, however, be much better appreciated by reference to the following table of Net Revenue and Expenditure, in which certain charges of revenue-earning departments, of which the most important are the working expenses and interest charges of Railways and Irrigation Works and the cost of the cultivation and manufacture of Opium, are treated as deductions from revenue, and the receipts of spending departments are treated as deductions from expenditure.

* Certain modifications in the method of exhibiting the gross revenue and expenditure were introduced in the Financial Statement of the Government of India published in March 1907: but the old method is retained in the present statement in order to facilitate comparison with previous years.

FINANCE.

NET REVENUE.*

	1904-05.		1905-06.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).		Net Revenue and Ex- penditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Land Revenue, &c.:							
Land Revenue	18,226,402		18,129,572		- 96,830		
Forest	1,599,162		1,775,124		+ 175,962		
Tributes from Native States	421,303		396,867		- 24,436		
		20,246,867		20,301,563		+ 54,696	
Opium: Net Receipts		4,050,999		3,572,944		- 478,055	
Taxation:							
Salt	5,093,466		4,109,939		- 983,527		
Stamps	3,697,102		3,876,326		+ 179,224		
Excise	5,306,198		5,631,395		+ 325,197		
Provincial Rates	2,820,358		2,792,257		- 28,101		
Customs	4,267,032		4,258,366		- 8,666		
Assessed Taxes	1,263,098		1,314,678		+ 51,580		
Registration	337,921		361,135		+ 23,214		
		22,785,175		22,344,096		- 441,079	
Commercial Undertakings:							
Post Office	56,167		75,541		+ 19,374		
Telegraph	4,345		166,635		+ 162,290		
Railways	2,105,438		2,001,966		- 103,472		
Irrigation	284,683		126,231		- 158,452		
		2,441,943		2,037,103		- 404,840	
Mint		88,533		201,104		+ 112,571	
Exchange		94,065		82,870		- 11,195	
Total Net Revenue	£	49,707,582		48,539,680		- 1,167,902	

NET EXPENDITURE.*

	1904-05.		1905-06.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Debt Services (excluding amounts charged under Railway Revenue Account and Irrigation).		797,366		464,949		- 332,417
Military Services:						
Army	19,214,763		18,077,434		- 1,137,329	
Military Works and Special Defence Works.	1,064,432		1,191,905		+ 127,473	
		20,279,195		19,269,339		- 1,009,856
Collection of Revenue		5,199,542		5,470,083		+ 270,541
Civil Services:						
Civil Departments	10,852,430		11,707,890		+ 855,460	
Miscellaneous Civil Charges	3,688,729		3,636,580		- 52,149	
Civil Works (including Railways charged to Provincial or Local Revenues).	4,291,454		4,874,991		+ 583,537	
		18,812,613		20,219,461		+ 1,406,848
Famine Relief and Insurance		1,000,000		1,000,000		
Provincial Adjustments:						
1. Charge against Revenue of the year arising from increase of Provincial Balances.		162,800		23,949		- 138,856
2. Diminution of the Charge against Revenue of the year, owing to Expenditure being met from Provincial Balances.						
Total Net Expenditure charged against Revenue.		46,251,516		46,447,826		+ 196,310
Surplus		3,456,066		2,091,854		- 1,364,212

* Figures for the 11 years ending 1905-06 will be found in Parliamentary Paper, House of Commons, No.

Thus there was in 1905-06, as compared with the previous year, decrease in the net revenue of £1,167,902, and an increase in the net expenditure of £196,310.

CHAPTER V.

FINANCE.

FORM OF ACCOUNTS.

The accounts of the Government of India show the transactions in India in rupees: the totals of these transactions are then converted into pounds, at the rate of Rs. 15 = £1: the sterling transactions in England are next stated: and the last two sets of figures are added together, so as to show in pounds the combined transactions in India and in England. The comparatively small sums which have to be brought to account owing to the facts that the remittances to defray the net expenditure in England are not effected at exactly sixteenpence to the rupee, and that the Government is under obligations to carry out certain transactions with railway companies at fixed rates differing from the rate of sixteenpence to the rupee, are included in a single line under the head of Exchange.

GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The gross revenue and expenditure of British India in 1904-05 and 1905-06 were as follows:—

	1904-05.	1905-06.
Revenue	£ 84,812,971	£ 84,997,685
Expenditure	81,356,905	82,905,831
Surplus	£ 3,456,066	2,091,854

The gross revenue includes all receipts, and the gross expenditure all payments.* The financial position of the Government can, however, be much better appreciated by reference to the following table of Net Revenue and Expenditure, in which certain charges of revenue-earning departments, of which the most important are the working expenses and interest charges of Railways and Irrigation Works and the cost of the cultivation and manufacture of Opium, are treated as deductions from revenue, and the receipts of spending departments are treated as deductions from expenditure.

* Certain modifications in the method of exhibiting the gross revenue and expenditure were introduced in the Financial Statement of the Government of India published in March 1907: but the old method is retained in the present statement in order to facilitate comparison with previous years.

NET REVENUE.*

	1904-05.		1905-06.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).		FINANCE. Net Revenue and Ex- penditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Land Revenue, &c.:							
Land Revenue	18,226,402		18,129,572		- 96,830		
Forest	1,599,162		1,775,124		+ 175,962		
Tributes from Native States	421,303		396,867		- 24,436		
		20,246,867		20,301,563			+ 54,696
Opium: Net Receipts		4,050,999		3,572,944			- 478,055
Taxation:							
Salt	5,093,466		4,109,939		- 983,527		
Stamps	3,697,102		3,876,326		+ 179,224		
Excise	5,306,198		5,631,395		+ 325,197		
Provincial Rates	2,820,358		2,792,257		- 28,101		
Customs	4,267,032		4,258,366		- 8,666		
Assessed Taxes	1,263,098		1,314,678		+ 51,580		
Registration	337,921		361,135		+ 23,214		
		22,785,175		22,344,096			- 441,079
Commercial Undertakings:							
Post Office	56,167		75,541		+ 19,374		
Telegraph	4,345		166,635		+ 162,290		
Railways	2,105,438		2,001,966		- 103,472		
Irrigation	284,683		126,231		- 158,452		
		2,441,943		2,037,103			- 404,840
Mint		88,533		201,104			+ 112,571
Exchange		94,065		82,870			- 11,195
Total Net Revenue	£	49,707,582		48,539,680			- 1,167,902

NET EXPENDITURE.*

	1904-05.		1905-06.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Debt Services (excluding amounts charged under Railway Revenue Account and Irrigation).		797,366		464,949		- 332,417
Military Services:						
Army	19,214,763		18,077,434		- 1,137,329	
Military Works and Special Defence Works.	1,064,432		1,191,905		+ 127,473	
		20,279,195		19,269,339		- 1,009,856
Collection of Revenue		5,199,542		5,470,083		+ 270,541
Civil Services:						
Civil Departments	10,852,430		11,707,890		+ 855,460	
Miscellaneous Civil Charges	3,668,729		3,636,580		- 32,149	
Civil Works (including Railways charged to Provincial or Local Revenues).	4,291,454		4,874,991		+ 583,537	
		18,812,613		20,219,461		+ 1,406,848
Famine Relief and Insurance		1,000,000		1,000,000		
Provincial Adjustments:						
1. Charge against Revenue of the year arising from increase of Provincial Balances.		162,800		23,949		- 138,856
2. Diminution of the Charge against Revenue of the year, owing to Expenditure being met from Provincial Balances.						
Total Net Expenditure charged against Revenue.		46,251,516		46,447,826		+ 196,310
Surplus		3,456,066		2,091,854		- 1,364,212

* Figures for the 11 years ending 1905-06 will be found in Parliamentary Paper, House of Commons, No.

Thus there was in 1905-06, as compared with the previous year, decrease in the net revenue of £1,167,902, and an increase in the net expenditure of £196,310.

Detailed explanations of the figures of revenue and expenditure are annually laid before Parliament in the Financial Statement of the Government of India and in the Explanatory Memorandum by the Secretary of State. It will be sufficient here to refer only to the most important increases and decreases in 1905-06:—

Net Revenue.

Increases.—The largest increase is that under Excise, viz., £325,197. The revenue under this head has been steadily expanding since 1897-98, when the net receipts were only £3,609,400. The improvement in 1905-06 was shared by all the provinces except the United Provinces, where the revenue was seriously affected by the unfavourable agricultural conditions; it was greatest in the Central Provinces and Berar (£104,338), and Burma (£67,709).

The Stamps revenue shows an advance of £179,224. This improvement was shared by all the provinces except the Punjab, where there was a small falling off, owing partly to the reduction of mortgages and transfers of land caused by the Land Alienation Act and partly to the Loans Limitation Act.

There was an improvement of £175,962 under the head of Forests. More than one-third of the total revenue is obtained in Burma. The gross receipts in this province nearly doubled in the ten years from 1895-96 to 1905-06; in the former year they were £380,000, in the latter, £688,658.

The increase in the Mint receipts (£112,571) is attributed to the unusually heavy coinage in 1905-06.

Decreases.—The largest decrease is that under Salt, viz., £983,527. In March 1903 the Salt duty was reduced in the greater part of India (excluding Burma) from 2½ to 2 rupees a maund. In March 1905 a further reduction to 1½ rupees a maund was made. Consumers of salt have, as was hoped, benefited by the reduction of the duty.

There was a fall of £478,055 in the net receipts from Opium. In 1904-05 the prices realised at the Calcutta sales were exceptionally high. In 1905-06 the prices obtained for Bengal opium fell considerably, especially towards the end of the year, and the exports of Malwa opium were the lowest on record.

The loss under Telegraph, which was £4,345 in 1904-05, rose to £166,635 in 1905-06, chiefly owing to larger capital outlay.

The falling off in the net receipts from Irrigation occurred chiefly in the United Provinces and the Punjab. In the former province it was due to a decrease in the area irrigated for sugar-cane owing to frost and bad seed, and in the latter to remissions necessitated by the failure of the cotton crop in certain tracts.

The decrease under Railways amounted to £103,472. The result of the year's working was however more favourable than was anticipated. The net receipts of the State railways in 1904-05 were so large that a falling off of nearly £300,000 was allowed for in the Budget for 1905-06. But, while there was reduction in the receipts of the North-Western Railway, chiefly owing to the smaller traffic in grain and seeds, there were remarkable increases on the Bengal-Nagpur, Great Indian Peninsula, Madras (North Eastern Section), Rajputana-Malwa, and Southern Mahratta railways, owing to the expansion of the traffic in coal, cotton, and grain.

In 1904-05 the collections of Land revenue were affected by a partial failure of the rains in Madras and Bombay and by failure of the kharif crop in Bundelkhand, in consequence of which it was found necessary to grant remissions and suspensions amounting to more than £600,000. The Budget estimate for 1905-06 anticipated a considerable improvement, but agricultural conditions were unfavourable in parts of Bombay, the Punjab, and the United Provinces, and large amounts of Land revenue were remitted and suspended, resulting in a fall of £96,830 in the net receipts.

Net Expenditure.

Increases.—The increase in the expenditure on Civil Departments in 1905-06 amounted to £855,460. In April 1905 the Government of India made permanent grants to the Provincial Governments of £333,000 a year for police reform, £233,000 for the improvement of Primary Education, and £133,000 for the development of agricultural research and instruction. It was not possible to utilise these grants fully within the limits of the year, but considerable increase of expenditure is shown under each of the heads named above as well as under the head Political. The latter is due to the inclusion of £241,200 for payment of the annual subsidy, with arrears, to the Amir of Afghanistan.

The increase of £583,537 under Civil Works is partly due to a permanent grant of £377,000 a year made by the Government of India to district and local boards in April 1905 in aid of their expenditure on roads, buildings, hospitals, schools, water supply, sanitation, &c., and partly to the inclusion under this head of the cost of the construction of buildings in connection with the improvements in the Police, Education, and Agricultural Departments referred to above.

Under Collection of Revenue there is an increase of £270,541. Of this amount £132,216 is due to heavier charges for collecting the Land revenues, the variations in which occur mainly in connection with survey and settlement operations, and with changes in provincial and village establishments.

Decreases.—The Army charges in 1904-05 included a net expenditure of £1,097,500 for reorganisation purposes. This sum was spent on artillery, rifles, mules, horses, materials for the manufacture of ammunition, and other stores and equipment. It is intended that the expenditure on reorganisation, of which this grant formed part, shall extend over some years, during which it is proposed to modify the present distribution of the Army in India, to improve its organisation, and to acquire additional arms, ammunition, transport and stores. The amount spent on reorganisation in 1905-06 was £1,174,065. On the other hand there were decreases of £729,333 in the cost of Miscellaneous Army Services and £757,510 under Army Stores purchased in England. The latter was due to the fact that certain supplies of artillery and stores which were being procured in England and were to have been received in 1905-06 were not delivered until the following year, while the decrease under the head of Miscellaneous Army Services was mainly due to the inclusion in 1904-05 of considerable charges on account of the Tibet Commission and the Aden Delimitation Commission.

The expenditure on Debt Services fell by £332,417. The total debt is classified in the Accounts as—(1) Public Works Debt and (2) Ordinary Debt. The amount entered as belonging to the former category is the equivalent of the total capital expenditure by the State on Public Works, and the interest on this sum is charged to the Railways and Irrigation Works; the Ordinary Debt consists of the remainder of the debt. In any year in which, owing to the use of surplus revenue or deposits for the construction of Public Works, the capital expenditure of the year exceeds the amount of debt incurred in the year, the effect of this system of classification is to cause a decrease to be shown in the amount of the Ordinary Debt and of the interest thereon. The decrease in 1905-06 is due to this cause.

In 1904-05 the portion of the revenue which accrued to the Provincial Governments exceeded the expenditure chargeable to them by £162,800. This sum under the existing system of decentralised finance was added to their balances, with the result of increasing by the same amount the total expenditure charged against the revenue of the year. In 1905-06 the provincial surpluses amounted to £23,994, the charge against the revenue of the year due to the provincial adjustments being thus reduced by £138,806.

The tables in the Appendix (page 198) show the net revenue and expenditure in India of the several Provinces under the chief heads for the years 1904-05 and 1905-06, and the net payments in England

The following summary shows the surpluses or deficits in the various Provinces and the net expenditure by the Government of India and the Secretary of State:—

Provinces, &c.	1904-05.		1905-06.	
	Surplus.	Deficit.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
Bengal - - -	8,765,410	—	7,335,155	—
Eastern Bengal and Assam - - -	—	—	700,998	—
United Provinces - - -	3,735,477	—	3,194,773	—
Punjab - - -	1,470,004	—	1,419,015	—
Burma - - -	2,395,505	—	2,293,841	—
Central Provinces - - -	223,969	—	—	16,845
Assam - - -	265,097	—	—	—
Madras - - -	2,725,394	—	4,791,703	—
Bombay - - -	1,761,505	—	4,616,671	—
North-West Frontier Province - - -	—	276,483	—	314,295
Berar - - -	409,611	—	464,064	—
India, General - - -	808,231	—	—	4,726,993
England - - -	—	18,827,654	—	17,666,233
Net result - - -	Surplus £3,456,066		Surplus £2,091,854	

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PUBLIC WORKS.

The total capital outlay on railways and irrigation works, during the two years, was as follows:—

	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Amount supplied by Ordinary borrowing or from the Cash Balances, without being charged against the Revenue of the year:		
State Railways - - - - -	4,933,387	7,922,204
Irrigation Works - - - - -	361,172	556,194
Amount met by Debenture Stock issued by the East Indian Railway Company.	963,636	1,487,995
Amount defrayed from Revenue:		
Provincial Railways - - - - -	6,250	7,195
Preliminary railway expenditure not originally charged to construction.	9,177	—
Protective Railways - - - - -	115,812	55,278
Protective Irrigation Works - - - - -	215,013	296,573
Other Irrigation Works* - - - - -	51,473	8,735
Total Direct Outlay by the State - - -	6,655,920	10,334,174
Outlay by companies guaranteed or subsidised by Government	1,358,101	315,744
Outlay by Local Boards - - - - -	—	26,698
Total Capital Outlay on Railways and Irrigation - £	8,014,021	10,645,128

* Excluding capital outlay on the minor works, against which interest is not charged in the accounts.

Capital outlay on public works.

DEBT.

The following table shows the alteration in the amount of the debt that took place in 1905-06, the amount of the rupee debt in India being expressed pounds at the rate of Rs. 15 = £1:—

	Amount of Debt on 31st March 1905.	Amount of Debt on 31st March 1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
India (permanent) - - -	81,531,882	84,054,041	2,522,159	—
„ (temporary) - - -	—	—	—	—
England (permanent) - - -	132,387,191	146,457,439	14,070,248	—
„ (temporary) - - -	500,000	—	—	500,000
Total - - - £	214,419,073	230,511,480	16,092,407	—

In 1905-06 a loan of 4 crores of rupees (£2,666,700) was issued in India at an average price of 98·8 per cent. In England, £2,000,000 three per cent. stock was offered for tender at a minimum price of 97. The average price obtained was £97 18s. 1d. per cent. Of the proceeds of this loan £250,000 was used for the discharge of debentures of the Great Indian Peninsula railway, £500,000 for the purchase of the Bengal Central Railway (on the 30th June 1905), and the remainder for advances to railway companies and capital expenditure on State railways. As part of the purchase price of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway, which was acquired by the Secretary of State as from the 31st December 1905, £10,089,146 India three per cent. stock was created and issued to the company. The £500,000 sterling bills which were outstanding on the 1st April 1905 were discharged without replacement.

OTHER OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Particulars regarding the obligations of the Government of India other than the permanent or temporary debt, and of loans by the Government of India and the Provincial Governments, are given in the following tables:—

OBLIGATIONS.

	Amount outstanding 31st March 1905.	Amount incurred 1905-06.	Amount discharged, 1905-06.	Amount outstanding 31st March 1906.	Increase 1905-06.	Decrease 1905-06.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Savings Bank Deposits	10,661,320	4,773,919	4,212,454	11,222,785	561,465	—
Deposits of Service Funds.	1,188,009	98,904	87,671	1,199,242	11,233	—
Excluded Local Funds	293,702	846,922	840,580	300,044	6,342	—
Railway Funds - - -	78,823	50,600	73,658	55,765	—	23,058
Deposits of Sinking Funds.	102,095	10,691	—	112,786	10,691	—
Special Loans - - -	1,126,072	—	364	1,125,708	—	364
Treasury Notes - - -	29,861	—	—	29,861	—	—
Departmental and Judicial Deposits.	3,875,078	20,314,236	19,965,010	4,224,304	349,226	—
Total - - - £	17,354,960	26,095,272	25,179,737	18,270,495	915,535	—

Other obligations.

FINANCE.

LOANS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

	Amount outstanding 31st March 1905.	Amount advanced 1905-06.	Amount repaid 1905-06.	Amount outstanding 31st March 1906.	Increase 1905-06.	Decrease 1905-06.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Loans by the Govern- ment of India to Port Trusts, Municipal- ities, Native States, &c.	8,799,704	191,340	1,256,419	7,734,625	—	1,065,079
Loans by the Provin- cial Governments.	3,218,332	772,930	480,529	3,510,733	292,401	—
Total - -	12,018,036	964,270	1,736,948	11,245,358	—	772,678

CASH BALANCES.

Cash
balances.

The following statement shows the amount of the cash balances, and the extent to which they were increased or reduced by the transactions of the year :—

	On 1st April.			Increase or Decrease.	
	1904.	1905.	1906.	In 1904-05.	In 1905-06.
	£	£	£	£	£
In India - -	11,869,552	10,749,770	11,781,457	-1,119,782	+1,031,687
In England - -	7,294,782	10,262,581	8,436,519	+2,967,799	-1,826,062
Total - -	19,164,334	21,012,351	20,217,976	+1,848,017	-794,375

COINAGE.

Coinage.

The value of the coinage at the Indian Mints was—

	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Silver - - - -	7,580,291	13,334,297
Copper - - - -	130,148	146,920
Total - - £	7,710,439	13,481,217

The silver coinage in 1905-06 consisted of 195,987,621 rupees, 1,646,058 half rupees, 6,299,740 quarter rupees, and 13,030,928 one-eighth rupees. The Bombay Mint turned out 497,630 fifty cent pieces for the Straits Settlements Government, the value of which is not included in the above table. A portion of the coinage represented the re-coinage of 1835 and 1840 rupees and uncurrent coin. A small amount of coinage was also undertaken on behalf of the Karauli Durbar. Copper was coined at the Calcutta Mint only, the coinage consisting of pice, half pice, pie pieces, Straits Settlements quarter cents, and Ceylon cents and half cents, the value of which is included in the above table.

The receipts and expenditure of the Indian Mints were as follows :—

FINANCE.

	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Receipts - - - -	206,410	321,183
Expenditure - - - -	117,877	120,079
Net Receipts - - -	88,533	201,104

The profit on rupee coinage is transferred to the Gold Standard Reserve as it accrues and does not appear in the figures given above. There was a net profit of £1,790,380 on the coinage of rupees in 1904-05, and of £3,677,880 in 1905-06. The Mints are credited with a seigniorage of 2 per cent. on fresh issues of rupees to cover the cost of coinage. This is included in the Mint receipts of the year.

On the 31st March 1906 the Gold Standard Reserve consisted of Consols and other stock of the nominal value of £12,926,620, in addition to a sum of £286,879 held in India in the Treasury balances.

PAPER CURRENCY.

Paper
currency.

On the 31st of March 1906 the value of notes in circulation was £29,771,000, being greater by £3,654,000 than on the corresponding date in 1905. The paper currency reserve was, in gold £10,871,000, in silver coin £9,054,000, in silver bullion £1,846,000, and £6,667,000 invested in securities of the Government of India and £1,333,000 in sterling securities.

RATE OF EXCHANGE.

Rate of
exchange.

In 1904-05 the Secretary of State for India in Council sold Bills and Telegraphic Transfers on the Treasuries in India for Rs. 36,53,57,364, and received for them £24,425,558; the average rate was thus 1s. 4·04493d. per rupee. In 1905-6 the sales of Bills and Telegraphic Transfers amounted to Rs. 47,22,43,256; the sterling received was £31,566,973, and the average rate was 1s. 4·0427352d. per rupee.

CHAPTER VI.

SURVEYS.

SURVEYS.

SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT.

Survey of India.

The work of the Survey of India Department falls under various heads, namely, the trigonometrical survey, topographical surveys, forest and cadastral surveys, special surveys and explorations, and map production. The latest available information on most of these matters relates to the year ending 30th September 1905. Some particulars of the progress of forest and cadastral surveys, which are carried out partly by local agencies, are given in the chapters on forests and land revenue. The Survey Department has now a general control over the forest surveys, and in most provinces over the cadastral surveys. The recent Bombay survey, however, was conducted by a separate department, and there is a Madras Survey Department in charge of the operations in that Presidency.

At the end of the year 1904 a Committee was appointed by the Government of India to consider, in consultation with experts from England, the question of the state of the topographical surveys and other cognate matters. Their report contains a historical account of the Survey of India and of its cost, an explanation of survey methods, an account of the present organisation of the Department, and of cadastral, forest, and miscellaneous surveys; it proceeds then to deal with the revision of topographical maps of India, with the organisation required, the methods and style of their publication, and various other matters. A mass of evidence was taken and the existing maps of practically the whole of India were examined in Calcutta, with the result that it was found that while these maps were undoubtedly good at the time they were made, and their accuracy as far as they went was unquestionable, they were published in an inconvenient size, and they were not up to modern standards in quality of reproduction; that they had not been prepared on any one uniform system, nor were they necessarily complete to margin; that the symbols used on them were not uniform, and they were deficient in heights and levels. Besides which, in many parts of India they were so out of date as to be of little use, and in some cases misleading, owing to the changes in roads, &c. since they were prepared. The Committee recommended the preparation of a series of maps of half the present sheet size on the scale of one inch to the mile, to cover the whole of India, which should be reproduced in colours. They advised that the surveys should be made, as a rule, on the scale of 2 inches to the mile, for reduction and publication on the 1-inch scale. The Government of India still have under consideration the measures which will be necessary in connection with the Committee's recommendations.

Reviewing first the operations of the Survey of India Department during 1904-05 as a whole, the field operations of the year were carried on by 23 survey parties and two detachments. Of these, one party was employed on trigonometrical survey; nine parties on topographical surveys; four on forest surveys; five parties with two detachments on cadastral surveys; and four parties on scientific operations. The total outturn of detail survey amounted to 121,600 square miles during the year, of which 88,850 square miles were geographical surveys. The area triangulated was 28,200 square miles; and 7,600 square miles were traversed for cadastral purposes. The operations of the Forest Survey Branch were continued in addition to the above, but this Branch has since been abolished in accordance with the recommendations of the Survey Committee.

The trigonometrical party (No. 24) was transferred from Eastern Burma to Baluchistan, and began work on a series of principal triangulation trending westwards from Kalat: a distance of 130 miles was covered.

The total area of new topographical survey and supplementary survey during the year was 20,600 square miles. The amalgamated party No. 11, which included the parties formerly known as Nos. 11 and 21, was transferred from Upper Burma to the North-West Frontier, where party No. 15 was already working. The outturn of the two parties was 2,500 square miles. Parties Nos. 3 and 10 surveyed 7,500 square miles on the 1-inch scale in Burma. The question as to how far topographical surveys should be carried in Burma has been decided, and a five years' programme has been fixed for these two parties, embracing a large area of the more important tracts of country. No. 12 party continued the survey of Sind on the 2-inch scale, and completed an area of 3,900 square miles. The detachment at work in the Central Provinces, now called No. 1 party, completed supplementary topographical survey on the 2-inch scale of 2,700 square miles, and 483 square miles were surveyed in the same province by party No. 2. The Punjab party, No. 18, carried out supplementary topographical surveys on the 2-inch scale in an area of 1,500 square miles, besides a special 6-inch survey undertaken for the military authorities. No. 14 party continued its work in the Allahabad division of the United Provinces, where it was engaged in a full topographical survey on the scale of 2 inches to the mile; 1,900 square miles were completed during the year, as well as 518 square miles of supplementary survey in other districts.

Astronomical observations for latitude and azimuth were taken at the four longitude stations east of Calcutta, to complete the geodetic data furnished by the great arc of parallel between Karachi and Moulinein. Pendulum observations were taken at ten stations situated on the Calcutta meridian.

The recording of tidal curves by self-registering tide gauges, their reduction, and the publication of tide tables, were continued during the year by No. 25 party at twelve stations. Levelling operations were carried through Sind along the left bank of the Indus. A second levelling detachment has been organised.

Four detachments of the Magnetic Survey party (No. 26) continued and extended the work of the Magnetic Survey over different portions of the country. The five base stations contemplated in the original design of the magnetic survey were all at work.

Under the geographical heading are included surveys and reconnaissances which are executed on the scale of half an inch to a mile, or smaller scales. The survey detachment with the Somaliland Field Force completed an area of 18,900 square miles, mostly on the quarter-inch scale. The detachment with the Seistan Mission also completed about 27,000 square miles on the quarter-inch scale during 1905. Captains Ryder and Wood also, returning from the Tibet Mission, starting from Gyangtse and proceeding *via* Shigatse and Gartok to Simla, added another 40,000 square miles of geographic survey of much interest. Officers accompanying two expeditions sent to demarcate the Burma-China boundary surveyed an area of about 4,000 square miles.

In the Engraving Office, five new sheets of the Atlas of India and two sheets of the new one-millionth scale map of India were completed and published. The new map of India on the scale of 64 miles to the inch was in hand, and work was also done on the preparation or revision of other maps of India on still smaller scales. In the Drawing Office, 17 sheets of the one-millionth scale map were in hand, besides many other items, such as sheets of the Atlas of India and provincial maps.

OTHER SURVEYS.

The marine survey vessel "Investigator" was employed in a survey of Aden Harbour and approaches, on the completion of which the vessel proceeded to the Persian Gulf, where it had been engaged in the previous year. The "Nancowry" continued survey work at the Andaman Islands.

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

SURVEYS.
Geological.

The first object of the Geological Survey Department is the preparation of the geological map of India, and this work was in progress during the year 1905 by surveys in Burma, Central India, and the Central Provinces, besides a tour undertaken by a specially deputed member of the Department in the Persian Gulf. Various economic questions were also dealt with, notably an inquiry into the occurrence of building and ornamental stone, arising in connection with the Victoria Memorial at Calcutta, and gold in the Gadag fields in coal in Burma, diamonds in the Panna State, and manganese ore deposits in the Madras Presidency. The investigation of the subject was in course of preparation. A complete memoir on the disastrous earthquake which occurred in India was completed, and a memoir on the subject was in course of preparation. A complete memoir on the Kangra district of the Punjab on the 4th April 1905 is being prepared, and in the meantime a preliminary account has been published among the records of the Geological Department. A brief summary of this account was given in last year's issue of this Statement.

Botanical.

Various plant collections were made by or on behalf of the Botanical Survey of India in many parts of India. The study of economic problems forms no part of the work of the Botanical Survey as such, but a good amount of work of this character was done by the officers of the Survey in their capacities as Economic Botanists to the local Governments. Reports were submitted by the Acting Director, in association with the special departments concerned, on such subjects as the growing of flax for fibre, the causes of lathyrism, the improvement of Indian cotton, the utilisation of Indian timbers for railway sleepers, the production of creosote, and the manufacture of wood pulp for paper-making. It may be added that since the close of the year the latter question has formed the subject of an investigation and report by an expert specially engaged in the United Kingdom for that purpose.

Archaeo-
logical.

The most important work of restoration carried out by the Archaeological Survey of Western India was that of the Gol Gumbaz at Bijapur. Altogether, on ordinary and special repairs, the sum of £2,200 was spent. In the Madras Presidency, excavations of prehistoric sites were continued with success in the Cuddapah, Guntur, and Chingleput districts, and the conservation of ancient monuments received special attention, the expenditure on these two branches of the work being £2,300 in addition to the cost of the Survey establishment. The amalgamation of the archaeological circles of the United Provinces and Punjab was effected in July 1903. There are still, however, two officers, one of whom, known as the Superintendent, has his headquarters at Lahore and is concerned solely with the architectural side of Muhammadan archaeology. The other officer, known as the Surveyor, has the supervision of the buildings at Agra, Jaunpur, Delhi, Lahore, and Ajmere, and deals with matters affecting Hindu and Buddhist buildings. The former toured in the Kangra district and the Chamba State, where many ancient buildings have been damaged by the earthquake. A report on the preservation of ancient temples and monuments of Kashmir, submitted by the Superintendent, has led to the creation of an archaeological and research department for the State. In the United Provinces a total sum of £11,400 was spent during the year on the conservation of ancient Muhammadan monuments. Excavations near Kasia in the Gorakhpur district are believed by the Superintendent of the Survey to have afforded positive proof of the identity of the site with the traditional scene of Buddha's Nirvana. In Burma, the chief work was the dismantlement and re-erection of the spire of the Mandalay Palace; and progress was made with the architectural Survey of the Palace. Other important work was also done, the total expenditure in the Province on archaeological work being £2,800. A monograph on stone-carving was published. Lists of buildings to be maintained at the public cost, and of those thought worthy of preservation, were being compiled.

METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

The area under observation by the Meteorological Department embraces not only India but the whole of the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, down to Zanzibar and the Seychelles, and the area northwards up to Resht and

Kashgar. The observation stations were 261 in number in the year 1905-06, ranging from the well-equipped observatories at Kodaikanal, Madras, Bombay, Alipore (Calcutta), and Allahabad, to small stations at which observations of emperature and rainfall only are recorded. The Department inspects their working and collects the results; it also studies the meteorology of the Indian Ocean by means of the logs of vessels arriving in Indian and other ports, and conducts seismograph observations. Experimental work on air currents by means of kites and small free balloons was begun during the year. Other points investigated are rainfall, snowfall, barometric and thermometric readings, cloud movements, storms and earthquakes. Daily charts and weekly and monthly weather reviews, as well as seasonal forecasts and storm warnings, are issued. A meteorological and climatological atlas of India, prepared by Sir John Eliot, K.C.I.E., recently head of the Department, is being published by Messrs. Bartholomew of Edinburgh.

Warnings of approaching storms are sent to ports on the Bay of Bengal from Calcutta, and to ports on the Arabian Sea coast from Simla. The revised system of storm signals introduced in 1898 provides for fuller signals being sent to the larger ports, the port authorities deciding in each case whether they will have the full or the less complete signals. The system of flood warnings to canal, civil, and railway officers, to military officers, and to private firms, continued to be useful; 554 such warnings were issued by the Meteorological Department during the year. The warnings are generally stated by the recipients, with few exceptions, to have been timely and satisfactory.

The average rainfall and the actual rainfall of the three years 1903 to 1905, in the regions into which India has been divided, were as follows:—

Meteorological Division.	Average Rainfall of Past Years.	Actual Rainfall.			Variation of 1905 Rainfall from the Average.
		1903.	1904.	1905.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Per cent.
Western Himalayas	57.23	46.60	55.10	49.49	- 14
Punjab Plains	21.28	20.04	17.02	15.75	- 26
United Provinces	39.16	41.81	39.32	28.32	- 28
Rajputana	23.11	21.45	19.66	8.49	- 63
Central India States	43.39	39.60	39.64	29.60	- 32
Behar	45.20	32.88	50.90	54.70	+ 21
Western Bengal and Chota Nagpur	53.70	47.27	60.93	54.91	+ 2
Lower Bengal	65.73	60.92	59.08	81.31	+ 24
Eastern Himalayas	124.14	125.58	114.43	145.43	+ 17
Assam and Eastern Bengal	95.10	94.60	101.43	107.50	+ 13
Orissa and Northern Circars	51.84	59.58	50.85	46.98	- 9
Central Provinces, South	52.46	55.58	41.10	48.02	- 8
Berar and Khandesh	34.94	39.05	26.83	24.92	- 29
Gujarat	32.80	29.64	14.08	26.30	- 20
Sind and Cutch	9.04	6.37	3.47	4.36	- 52
North Deccan	30.78	30.33	22.72	19.60	- 36
Konkan and Ghâts	134.46	140.47	113.23	85.26	- 37
Malabar and Ghâts	114.93	127.01	120.73	108.66	- 5
Hyderabad	33.14	48.37	25.78	27.06	- 18
Ceded Districts and Mysore	29.16	44.40	23.37	23.90	- 18
Carnatic	36.77	49.80	25.80	33.59	- 9
Nilgiris	50.11	53.34	33.67	66.94	+ 34
Arakan	154.05	148.48	154.94	176.63	+ 15
Pegu	78.02	79.08	85.99	83.92	+ 8
Tenasserim	173.34	165.94	207.39	177.20	+ 2
Upper Burma	38.16	34.21	43.00	39.85	+ 4
Bay Islands	96.37	99.52	105.15	94.98	- 1

Over the whole of India, excluding Burma, the rainfall of 1905 averaged about 36 inches, which was 5.59 inches, or about 14 per cent., below the normal.

CHAPTER VII.

D
OR. LAND REVENUE, INCLUDING FISHERY RECEIPTS AND
CAPITATION TAX; AND WARDS' ESTATES.

The subjoined table shows the receipts and disbursements on account of land revenue for each province, as entered in the Finance and Revenue Accounts for the financial year 1905-06.

DETAILS of LAND REVENUE and EXPENDITURE.

	India (General).	Bengal.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North- West Frontier Provinces.	Burma.	Central Provinces.	Berar.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ordinary Land Revenue -	76,953	2,181,139	3,984,049	1,489,429	118,845	1,541,018	567,393	555,431	951,300	3,893,944	2,340,244	17,649,448
Recovery of Survey and Settlement Charges.	—	20,213	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,568	—	—	24,781
Recovery of Proprietary Right Government in Land.	34	3,359	40	6	4	—	—	—	10	—	—	3,453
Assessment of alienated lands, less quit-rents.	—	5,445	—	12,000	239	—	—	—	367	—	604,167	623,818
Recovery of Waste Lands and Redemption of Land Revenue.	48	3,327	2	58,528	586	12,519	53	2,995	385	1,269	—	79,839
Station Tax, or House Tax levied in lieu.	423	48	—	—	—	646,099	—	—	14,764	—	—	661,331
Receipts for the Improvement of Government estates.	—	32,006	—	—	—	—	—	—	14,961	—	—	46,967
Grants and other receipts classified as miscellaneous.	11,908	15,978	44,416	48,647	9,547	352,797	5,017	4,025	19,709	191,014	37,423	741,494
Net Gross Revenue -	89,365	2,211,515	4,028,507	1,510,209	128,931	2,553,433	572,463	562,451	1,006,034	4,086,327	2,981,833	19,830,941
Portion credited to Public Works for irrigation.	—	—	102,498	131,275	3,245	1,180	—	—	—	665,086	168,550	968,771
Total credited to Land Revenue for 1905-06.	89,365	2,211,515	3,926,014	1,478,934	125,676	2,552,303	572,463	562,451	1,006,034	3,421,141	2,813,273	18,862,16
Total for 1904-05 -	102,091	2,744,038	4,210,291	1,612,184	128,613	2,471,699	881,971	562,752	422,484	3,866,076	2,771,846	18,053,99
EXPENDITURE.												
Administration -	19,105	198,149	361,462	135,267	21,155	184,539	66,444	31,798	69,057	292,406	213,570	1,478,08
Land Settlement -	10,432	112,570	30,456	61,217	17,724	52,564	17,413	1,453	22,763	62,169	7,171	396,94
Records and Agriculture.	8,855	6,897	248,909	108,219	10,134	50,743	46,025	628	16,686	137,479	185,535	814,23
As directly connected with the collection of Land Revenue.	1,443	44,372	25,263	1,392	1,840	137,518	5,173	65,463	25,480	352,824	88,629	649,90
Net Charges in India.	29,835	262,428	561,090	206,085	50,873	406,364	135,060	99,337	133,934	748,188	494,905	2,334,04
Charges in England												1,81
Total Charges, 1905-06												2,335,85

The provincial details, with the variations caused by the seasons, are discussed below, where the figures given are those for the agricultural year. But before proceeding to deal with the revenue collections it will be convenient to notice, in the first place, the progress of revenue settlement work and the salient facts regarding the rights and relations of landlords and tenants in the year under report. A short section is also inserted dealing with the

Local Governments' summaries of the condition of the people during the year, as this has an important bearing on the question of the collection of their chief contribution to the revenues of the country.

REVENUE SURVEYS AND SETTLEMENTS, AND TENURES.

Indian revenue settlements are broadly classified as follows. In the first place there are permanent settlements, by which the demand of the State has been fixed and made unalterable for ever; and, secondly, there are temporary settlements, under which the State demand is revised at recurring periods of greater or less duration. The permanently settled districts cover the greater part of Bengal, parts of the United Provinces and Madras, and a few other isolated tracts. The temporarily settled tracts fall into two broad divisions: Zamindari (in some provinces called Malguzari or Talukdari), where the landlord, or proprietary group, pays the land revenue to the State, whether the land is cultivated by the revenue payers themselves or by their rent-paying tenants; and Ryotwari, where the cultivator as a general rule pays direct to the State, though here too there are many sub-tenancies. In both these tracts the rates of land revenue are settled for periods varying between ten and thirty years, the latter figure prevailing in all the larger provinces with the exception of the Punjab and the Central Provinces, where settlements are usually made for twenty years. In the Zamindari areas, where estates range from hundreds to many thousands of acres, the amount of the periodical assessment is a share, generally rather less than one-half, of the ascertained or assessed rental enjoyed by the proprietors; in the Ryotwari tracts, where the estates are small and cultivated by peasant proprietors, rates of revenue are fixed at the periodical assessments for each field with reference to its productiveness, and are paid by the ryot on the area actually held for cultivation in each year; the incidence varies in different provinces from one-fifth to one twenty-fifth part of the gross value of the produce. The United Provinces, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, and Orissa mainly contain estates held by proprietary communities or large proprietors; while in Bombay, Burma, Assam and Berar, and in the greater part of Madras, the land is held and tilled by petty proprietors.

The appended table gives the acreage of the surveyed areas in which the various tenures prevail, and the amount over which proprietary right was transferred, either by order of court or by voluntary gift or sale (including mortgage with possession, and excluding inheritances and temporary transfers) during the agricultural year 1904-05. The figures are in thousands of acres:—

	Ryotwari (peasant proprietors).	Zamindari (larger proprietors) and Village Communities.		Total.	Transfers.
		Permanently settled.	Temporarily settled.		
Upper Burma	49,041	—	—	49,041	76
Lower Burma	54,971	—	—	54,971	593
Assam	26,000	3,910	1,426	31,335	25
Bengal	—	81,984	15,566	97,550	*
United Provinces—Agra	—	6,160	46,437	52,597	848
Oudh	—	1,156	14,182	15,338	320
Punjab	—	—	62,221	62,221	434
North-West Frontier Province	—	—	8,498	8,498	140
Sind	30,044	—	—	30,044	134
Bombay	44,720	—	3,892	48,612	904
Central Provinces	1,669	—	42,852	44,521	742
Berar	11,333	—	—	11,333	142
Madras	60,167	30,518	—	90,685	467

* Figures not available.

The Ryotwari area may be said, therefore, to embrace about 278 million acres, the Zamindari area under permanent settlement 124 millions, and under temporary settlement 195 millions. In the permanently settled tracts of Bengal the land revenue falls at about two-thirds of a rupee per acre of cultivated land, and represents on an average about one-fifth

of the rental, or perhaps one twenty-fourth of the gross value of the produce; in the permanently settled tracts of the Agra province the incidence is about Re. 1½ per acre of cultivated land; in the similar tracts of Madras no corresponding figure is available, as the cultivated area is not distinguished in the returns. In the Zamindari area under temporary settlement the land revenue represents something less than one-half of the actual or estimated rental, and is probably about one-tenth to one-twelfth of the gross value of the produce. The average incidence of the land revenue per acre of fully assessed cultivated land in the temporarily settled tracts, as given in the returns for 1904-05, is approximately Re. 1½ in the United Provinces, rather over Re. 1 in the Punjab, Re. 1½ in Berar, nearly Rs. 2½ in Lower Burma, a little over Rs. 2 in Upper Burma, Rs. 2½ in Sind, Re. 1½ in Bombay, 9 annas in the Central Provinces, Rs. 2½ in Madras, and Re. 1½ in Bengal. Rates of rent and revenue vary greatly according to the productive power of the land, according to the advantages of climate and rainfall or means of irrigation, and according to the facilities for carrying produce to markets or to the seaboard. In Sind and Madras the land revenue rates given above include the charge for irrigation supplied by the State; elsewhere payment for water, supplied by State canals or reservoirs for purposes of irrigation, is made over and above the land revenue, either according to the area irrigated or according to the quantity of water used. The State demand on any land is not enhanced in the Ryotwari provinces of Madras or Bombay on account of increased productivity due to improvements made by the proprietors or occupiers themselves. In northern India also such improvements are not taken into account in assessing the revenue until a period varying from 20 to 60 years has elapsed.

The work of the Survey and Settlements Departments in Bengal during the year ending in September 1905 extended over portions of fourteen districts, and large areas were surveyed, in addition to the survey of the suburbs of Calcutta which has been undertaken. The area for which a record of rights was completed during the year, under the control of the Director of Land Records, was 2,400 square miles, bringing the total area thus dealt with in the province to 37,600 square miles. The control of the cadastral survey and preliminary record writing operations was transferred to the Settlement Department at the close of the year, the previously existing system of dual control being abandoned. Settlements in Zamindari estates were in progress in Ranchi district, the whole of which has now been included in the area under survey settlement and commutation operations; in Purnea, the whole of which is also to be settled; in Backarganj, where the work is well advanced; and in the Sonthal Parganas, North Bhagalpur, and other districts. Settlements of land revenue were also being made in various temporarily settled tracts and Government estates.

As regards the method of maintenance of the record of rights, on which there has been much discussion, it was decided that in the temporarily settled districts of Orissa the records should be kept up continuously, and a scheme for the purpose was under preparation. With regard to Behar, the decision of the question was postponed until the Government should be in a position to frame proposals based on the experience gained of the working of the system in Orissa. This matter has been settled since the end of the year under report.

The question of the amendment of the Bengal Tenancy Act was still under discussion, and a fresh Bill was drafted during the year. Acquaintance with the provisions of the Act is said to be growing steadily; and in some parts of the province tenants are found to seek the protection of the civil courts against interference with their rights on the part of landlords.

In the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh settlement work had, for a time, nearly come to an end. In seven districts operations continued from the previous year. The work in Hardoi and Etah was completed, and in Mainpuri and Jalaun it was very near completion; but in Cawnpore, Jhansi, and Azamgarh much remained to be done. The work of settlement proper had also just begun in Moradabad, Banda, and Hamirpur. The final report of the Bundelkhand district was prepared by the Commissioner.

The revenue sanctioned in this settlement, falling at the rate of 49 per cent. of the rental assets, is about 6 per cent. above the reduced revenue payable at the conclusion of the last settlement, and rather less than the amount assessed at the commencement of that settlement. The rates have been assessed for 30 years. Rapid progress was made with the fluctuating assessments which were being introduced in Bundelkhand.

The effects of the Tenancy Act are still a matter on which final opinion can hardly be given. Suits for arrears of rent were rather fewer in the agricultural year 1904-05 than in 1903-04, but their number was still 22 per cent. above the average of the years before the Act was passed. Ejectments also continued to be numerous, and it is feared that the Act has failed in its object of discouraging ejectments and securing to tenants either the accrual of occupancy rights or, alternatively, long term leases. The area under these leases was larger than in any previous year, but was still insignificant.

The area of all holdings in the Agra Province is given as 27.9 millions of acres, of which 9.2 millions were held by tenants with occupancy rights, 11.1 millions by non-occupancy tenants, and one million by ex-proprietary tenants or other tenants with privileged rights, while the remainder was for the most part cultivated by the proprietors. In Oudh, the holdings amounted to 9.8 millions of acres, of which 8 millions were held by ordinary tenants, and one million cultivated by the proprietors. There was a decline in the number of transfers of proprietary interests in land, chiefly under succession cases. As the statistics on this point refer to the agricultural year ending in June 1905 they do not show the effect of the disasters of the spring harvest.

No settlement was finally completed in the Punjab during the year ending on the 30th September 1905, but the assessment work of the Dera Ismail Khan settlement was disposed of, and orders were passed on several reports relating to areas in the Jhang and Rawalpindi districts. The Karnal settlement was started during the year, and the Rohtak settlement was begun subsequently. Good progress was made in Gurgaon, Mianwali, and Hazara. The principal territorial change of the year was the formation of the Lyallpur district, with the attendant alterations in the districts of Jhang, Gujranwala, and Montgomery.

The Punjab Alienation of Land Act is reported to have been regarded, in the year ending in September 1905, with undiminished popularity among landlords and agriculturists. Capital is said to be in process of being drawn into other channels, such as cotton factories and wholesale trade, in place of being used to finance extravagant expenditure on ceremonies. The money-lender is not in a position to refuse financial assistance for agricultural purposes. His advances, however, have to be made with care and discretion, as he can no longer rely on an ultimate alienation of the land for payment. The resultant contraction of extravagant expenditure on the part of the agriculturist is a matter for congratulation. An amendment of the Act was under consideration, and has since been passed, with a view to eliminate the "statutory" agriculturist from its provisions, and to make other changes which the working of the Act had shown to be required.

In the Frontier Province, settlements were in progress, in the year ending on the 30th September 1905, in all districts except Peshawur, and in the Kurram Agency. The Dera Ismail Khan and Hazara settlements are under the control of the Punjab Settlement Commissioner. The Kohat, Kurram, and Bannu settlements are under the charge of the Revenue Commissioner of the Frontier Province; the first two were almost completed, and satisfactory progress was made in Bannu, where the whole district is being remeasured on the square system. The Punjab Alienation of Land Act was applied in June 1904, with certain modifications, to the Bannu, Hazara, and Dera Ismail Khan districts. It is yet too early to forecast the results of its working, but it is beyond doubt that the agricultural tribes regard it as a useful and beneficial measure. Some contraction of credit has no doubt occurred, but the effects of this have been met to some extent by a much freer distribution of agricultural loans by the Government.

In Burma revision surveys by special agency were energetically carried out, during 1905-06, in six districts in Lower Burma, and other minor operations were in progress. Settlement operations were in progress in twelve districts. Two original, one summary and one revision settlement in

Lower Burma, and two original and one revision settlement in Upper Burma, were completed during the year. Rates declared during the year showed an increase of 35 per cent. in the settlement of Tavoy, 32 per cent. in the revision settlement of Ma-ubin, and 27 per cent. in the summary settlement of Kyaukpyu.

The transfer of cultivated lands to the hands of non-agriculturists and the increase in the areas sublet continued. Legislative measures to restrict the alienation of land have recently been in contemplation, and a Bill for that purpose has been prepared. It is hoped that the recent declaration by the Government of its intention to enforce rigorously the terms of all leases granted, and to exercise its right to resume grant lands and to evict in the case of lands for which no rights have been acquired, where such rights are improperly transferred, will check the decrease in the area held by *bonâ fide* cultivators. The area mortgaged increased considerably, and that sold to a less extent, the chief reasons being damage done by floods and cattle disease; and the year is a very instructive one, as showing what the effects of a bad season can be on the alienation of land in Burma.

In the Central Provinces, operations for regular revision were in progress in five districts; in Chanda and Sambalpur they were coming to an end; they were continued in Mandla, and were resumed in Raipur and Bilaspur, after having been suspended on account of deterioration caused by the famines.

The areas held by absolute occupancy tenants in the Central Provinces showed a slight decline, while the area in the occupation of occupancy tenants increased slightly according to the returns, though the facts are obscured by settlement reclassification; and that held by ordinary tenants was larger by 160,000 acres. Applications by ordinary tenants for the grant of occupancy rights were few in number, though more numerous than in 1903-04. But it seems likely that most of the purchases of occupancy rights were effected without reference to the revenue courts. There was a considerable rise, for which the reason is not apparent, in the number of private sales and mortgages of agricultural land. The majority of the sales that took place were in favour of agriculturists. The relations between the landlords and their tenants continued, with few exceptions, to be good. In Berar, the agricultural tenure is entirely ryotwari, the cultivators holding their land direct from Government.

*In Assam, good progress was made with the resettlement operations in Sibsagar and Kamrup during 1904-05; four assessment reports were submitted, and field work in the remaining groups of both districts was practically completed. Since the close of the year, the re-assessment of the Kamrup district has been completed by the submission of five assessment reports, on which final orders have been passed. In view of the severity of the effects of the earthquake of 1897, Kamrup has been treated with great leniency, and the final result of the resettlement has been a total abatement of 2.36 per cent. on the previously existing demand. The all-round enhancement effect by resettlement in Sibsagar, taken as a whole, will probably not exceed 7 per cent. The area of land settled in the year for ordinary cultivation did not show so large an increase as in the previous year. In the Surma valley, most of the culturable land has already been appropriated, while in the Assam Valley districts expansion was checked by the prevalence of disease and by unfavourable seasonal conditions in some areas.

The outturn of work of the Madras Survey Department during the year ending in June 1906 fell short of the estimate, especially in the districts of Ganjam and Chingleput. The work consisted chiefly of resurvey or revision survey in the Ganjam, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Tinnevely, Chingleput, and Salem districts, and the amount of work completed, together with a small area of original cadastral surveys of proprietary lands, amounted to 2,983 square miles. Six settlement parties were at work, in connection with initial settlements in Malabar and South Canara, and resettlements in the Guntur, Nellore, Salem, Kurnool, and Tinnevely districts. The Malabar and South Canara settlements were completed during the year, and these two settlement

* The report respecting Eastern Bengal and Assam for 1905-06 not having been received, the paragraph in last year's Statement, relating to Assam, is reproduced.

parties were abolished. The progress made in the other districts was satisfactory. The land revenue demand in the districts settled and resettled since the commencement of the operations was, in the agricultural year 1905-06, 28 per cent. in excess of the demand prior to the settlements; and the total expenditure of the Settlement Department up to June 1906 was £1,004,000.

The relations between landlords and tenants in the larger permanently settled estates were on the whole harmonious in the year under report, and there was little resort to coercive processes for the recovery of rent. The question of legislation regarding the relations of landlords and tenants was under consideration. The Madras Estates Land Bill has been introduced in the Legislative Council, but its provisions are still under discussion.

In survey work in the Bombay Presidency the greatest activity was in the northern division, where the chief features of the work done were the continuation of the survey of Talukdari estates in the Ahmedabad district, and measurement and assessment of lands newly irrigated from tanks in the Kaira district. Revision settlement rates were introduced into five talukas, and proposals for revised settlement were prepared for fourteen talukas. Revised rates were also introduced into several Government and alienated villages. There was an increase of about 313,600 acres in the area under occupation in Sind, owing to a good inundation, but there was a fall of 65,700 acres in the occupied area of the Presidency proper. There was a decrease of 5 per cent. in the crop area of the Presidency, excluding Sind where the area rose by 15 per cent. As regards transfers of land, it is recorded that transfers from agriculturists to non-agriculturists were considerably less in number than transactions in which both parties were agriculturists, but that little reliance can be placed on the figures in the absence of a precise definition of the term "agriculturist." The Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act was applied in part to the whole of the Presidency. The restricted tenure under the Act of 1901, declaring the right of the Government to make grants of unoccupied lands without conveying the power of transferring them, is reported to be unpopular in Sind and in several parts of the Presidency proper, the conditions being resented as restricting the credit of the occupant.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

The following general notes on the condition of the people during the year are based on the observations recorded by the Provincial Governments:—

Bengal.—The condition of the people was generally satisfactory during the year 1905-06, except where there was a partial failure or loss of the crops, particularly in the Bhagalpur division, where crops were in some places largely destroyed by floods. The rainfall was generally above the normal, but was not well distributed. Prices of food grains ruled high, owing partly to a local deficiency in outturn, especially in respect of Backarganj, which usually exports a large quantity of grain, and partly to the amount of grain exported to other provinces. Wages showed an upward tendency in the districts near Calcutta. Where wages did not rise in proportion to the rise in food prices, as in the Orissa division, the landless classes and labourers were more than usually pinched.

Eastern Bengal and Assam.—The Local Government's report has not been received at the time of going to press.

United Provinces.—The year ending on the 30th September 1905 was not so prosperous one for agriculture in these provinces. It began well, but the frost which occurred early in 1905 changed the expectation of a bumper crop into the certainty of a disastrous loss. The succeeding monsoon was scanty and ill-distributed, and scarcity and famine resulted in the southern parts of the province. To add to this, plague was exceptionally prevalent in nearly all districts; cholera was also severe in many districts.

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and the year was generally unhealthy. There is, however, no reason to believe that the adversities of the year have caused more than a temporary check to the advancing prosperity of the province, except, perhaps, in Bundelkhand and the Muttra district, both of which regions suffered very badly. The people are said to have borne their misfortunes with determination and success. So far as the frost is concerned this can be said without hesitation. The province was then in a strong position; prompt measures of relief put heart into the people, and a period of great strain and difficulty was passed through with comparative ease. The final effects of the drought, which had to be faced with weakened resources, will be recorded in the report of another year.

Punjab.—The conditions of the monsoon of 1905 were very unsatisfactory, and until the middle of September it seemed that there would be no unirrigated sowings for the spring. The result was wild speculation in grain and a very sharp rise of prices. The cotton crop, also, was an almost total loss from bollworm. But the wheat harvest of the spring of 1905 had been good, and the purchasing power of the well-to-do section of the population appears, from the large increase in imports, to have been unimpaired. There was, however, distress among the poorer classes, necessitating relief-works in part of the Delhi division, and the high rate of crime was maintained. The spring harvest of 1906 has been a "bumper," both in area and in yield.

North-West Frontier Province.—The autumn harvest of 1905 was poor in the Frontier Province, and prices were generally higher than in the preceding year; but there was a sufficient stock of foodgrains in all districts, and no distress was experienced.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Although the course of the monsoon caused anxiety, there was little failure of crops; the situation in Bilaspur appeared critical for a time, owing to the failure of the rice crop, but the relief works opened by the Government failed to attract any large number of workers. The cropped area of the province increased, and trade continued to expand. The prosperity of the labouring classes showed another marked advance, especially in the southern districts, where the demand for labour was in excess of the supply, owing to the briskness of the cotton trade and the development of the manganese industry. The birth-rate maintained the high level of the last few years, but the year was not a healthy one on the whole, and the death-rate rose in spite of the great decline in the figures for plague.

Burma.—The year was not, as a whole, a prosperous year for agriculture, which is by far the most important industry of the province. The rainfall was unseasonable, floods were unusually prevalent, cattle disease was more than ordinarily virulent, and plague, so long kept out of the province, spread far and wide. The collection of revenue was not so easy as in a good year, and the increased number of mortgages and of civil suits showed that money was not so plentiful as usual. On the other hand, there are no grounds for supposing that the condition of the people has in any way changed for the worse; even in its poorer parts the province is too rich to be materially affected by a year of which the most that can be said is that it failed to add its proportionate share to the increasing wealth of the country.

Madras.—The season was unfavourable in 1905-06, the rainfall being below the average during both seasons, and the prices of the principal food grains rose in consequence. There were no appreciable changes in the rate of wages. There was some increase in emigration. The birth rate was the highest on record, and there was a decline in the death rate as a result of a large decrease in the plague mortality. There was no material improvement in the condition of the people, and little progress was made in education.

Bombay.—As the result of a late and weak monsoon, there were extensive failures of crops in the Deccan and Karnatak; the position was saved in the greater part of Gujarat by two cyclonic storms. In Sind the inundation of the Indus was excellent. Test works and other famine expedients were

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employed in the Deccan, but the attitude of the people was notably independent, and the numbers resorting to relief works were small. As a result of a succession of indifferent years the population of the Deccan has acquired a mobility which relieves it from the discomforts caused by local scarcity. Two streams of migration can be traced, one from distressed areas to areas of good harvest, the other to the large towns which offer employment in cotton factories. Viewing the Presidency as a whole, however, the year is classed by the Local Government as a moderate rather than a bad one, since in those districts and those departments of activity which were not affected by the deficiency of the monsoon it was one of increased prosperity and progress.

COLLECTION OF THE REVENUE.

The fluctuations of the land revenue in past years may be seen in the following table, which does not include that part of the land revenue receipts which is credited to "Irrigation":—

	Land Revenue Receipts excluding Receipts due to Irrigation.	Variation (Average of Five Years, 1881-85=100).
1861-65 (five years' average)	£	
1866-70	13,287,000	90·1
1871-75	13,327,000	90·4
1876-80	13,977,000	94·8
	14,076,000	95·4
1881-85		
1886-90	14,748,000	100·0
1891-95	15,445,000	104·7
1896-1900	16,522,000	112·0
1900-01 (single year)	17,217,000	116·7
1901-02	17,503,000	118·7
1902-03	18,288,000	124·0
1903-04	18,437,000	125·0
1904-05	19,234,000	130·4
1905-06	18,954,000	128·5
	18,862,000	127·9

The total advances made by Government to cultivators in the financial year 1905-06 are given as follows in the Accounts of the Government of India:—

	By the Government of India.	By Provincial Governments.	Total.
Advances for improvement of land	£	£	£
" relief of agriculturists and similar purposes.	12,787 10,205	168,347 350,468	181,134 360,673
Total	22,992	513,815	541,807

The details for the agricultural year will be found below under each province. A Resolution on the principles to be followed in granting loans under the two Acts was published by the Government of India in December 1905.

The progress of the land revenue will now be reviewed province by province. The figures are taken from the land revenue reports relating to the agricultural year, while those given above are from the corrected Accounts of the Government of India, and relate to the financial year.

The land revenue of Bengal remains fairly constant, as most of the rovince is under permanent settlement. The figures of the revenue demand or each of the last three years, excluding arrears, are given as follows:—

	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£
Permanently settled estates	1,524,940	1,524,920	1,524,989
Temporarily settled estates	186,355	184,992	198,084
States under the direct management of Government.	170,798	179,198	182,530
Total	1,882,093	1,889,110	1,905,603

Owing to the separation of districts to form the new province, the land revenue demand shown above for the year 1904-05 is less by £819,300, or about 30 per cent., than the demand for the undiminished province as shown in last year's Statement. The seasonal conditions of the year 1905-06 were on the whole unfavourable. The rainfall was abnormally heavy, and ill-distributed; and much damage was done by floods. Prices of food grains were high, and wages showed an upward tendency. The total amount collected during the year, including receipts on account of the small arrear demand, was approximately equal to the current demand, while the receipts on account of the current year's revenue, taken separately, were nearly 38 per cent. of the amount falling due; and the balance outstanding, of the current and arrear demand, was £46,700. The number of estates which became liable to sale for non-payment of Government dues was 10,591, and of these 798 or 7.5 per cent., were sold, against 840 in the previous year. Under the Public Demands Recovery Act, 150,400 certificates were filed for recovery of arrears of revenue, cesses, &c., compared with 132,100 in the previous year; payment was generally secured on issue of notices or on attachment of property, but actual sale was necessary in 5,000 cases, and warrants were issued in 2,300 cases, 40 defaulters being imprisoned. Defaulters may deposit the amount due; with a penalty, within 30 days after the sale of the property under the certificate system, and thus have the sale set aside, and recourse is had to this procedure in fully one quarter of the cases in which a sale is carried out. Defaulters are imprisoned only when there is good reason to believe that they are in a position to pay; and the imprisonment has the effect of making them pay in many instances; upon which they are released. Advances to agriculturists under the Loans Acts amounted to £23,600, the larger part under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.

The gross rental of the 27 districts in which the Bengal Cess Act was in force was returned for road cess purposes at £8,403,500 for the year 1905-06, which is slightly above the assessment of the previous year, as compared with £5,936,000 in 1873.

The latest report on land revenue affairs in the United Provinces relates to the year ending 30th September 1905. It was in February 1905 that there occurred the serious frosts of which mention was made in last year's Statement, and the effect was therefore shown in the revenue year now under report. The weather was favourable on the whole for the autumn crops of 1904, but the frost caused widespread disaster among the spring crops, only partially redeemed by the effect of good rains which followed. Bundelkhand suffered in a special manner. The demand and collections of land revenue in the last three years are given as follows:—

	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.
	£	£	£
Land revenue, current and arrear { demand -	4,222,983	4,240,638	4,257,395
collections -	4,220,004	4,239,106	3,962,576

The collections thus fell short by about 7 per cent. of the demand; and this is accounted for by the remissions amounting to £285,300 which were necessitated by failure of autumn crops in Bundelkhand and by the ravages

of the frost in the Allahabad, Lucknow, Fyzabad, and Agro divisions. Taking these and sundry other reductions of the demand into account, the percentage of collection was practically 100 per cent., which is a remarkable result in view of the exceptional character of the year. Although realisation of the revenue was delayed, it was collected in the end with very little difficulty, and it is a matter for great satisfaction that the loss was written off and the accounts of the calamity adjusted within the year. The other headings of revenue dealt with in the land revenue report, but not strictly classed as land revenue, are the occupiers' rate (receipts, £436,000) and the owners' rate (receipts, £14,100), which constitute payments for irrigation, besides cesses (receipts, £727,400), &c. As regards coercive processes, the figures for the severer forms were higher than in the preceding year, which was a favourable one for agriculture. But they were but slightly in excess of those for 1901-02, when the collection of revenue was described as easy. There were 314 attachments of immovable property, 128 sales of movable property, one sale of land, and 854 cases in which defaulters were detained in custody. Of the 382 estates under attachment, 316 were released during the year. The amount of the loans granted under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act was £28,500, of which the larger share was under the latter Act, Bundelkhand receiving a third part of the advances.

The latest Punjab land revenue report available is for the year ending on the 30th September 1905. The monsoon of 1904 was uneven and unfavourable for the province as a whole, so that the autumn crops were much restricted in area, but the weather was very favourable for the spring crops, which yielded well, in spite of winter frosts. The fixed land revenue demand for the year amounted to £1,383,600, of which £1,326,400, or 95 per cent., was collected. This result was not so good as in the preceding year. Suspensions aggregating over £30,000 were granted, chiefly in consequence of the failure of rains in parts of the Hissar and Lahore districts and the severe cold in the Delhi division. Against this are to be set large recoveries of arrears in the Rohtak, Gurgaon, and Hissar districts. About £22,000 of previously suspended revenue was remitted, besides considerable remissions in the Kangra district rendered necessary by the earthquake. The "fluctuating" system of land revenue, applied for the most part either to canal-irrigated lands or to lands subject to floods, seems to be gradually increasing in popularity, especially among the poorer classes of agriculturists, and it is being steadily extended; about one-eighth of the cultivated area of the province, including the Chenab and the Jhelum colonies, is under fluctuating assessment, the principle of which is that the demand varies with the crop. The revenue under this heading amounted to £275,600 in the year under report. In addition to land revenue proper, "miscellaneous land revenue" was collected to the amount of £89,900. In view of the excessive employment of the severer coercive processes for the collection of revenue in recent years, it is satisfactory to note that the total number of processes of all kinds issued in the year 1905 was less than half what it was in 1903. As compared with 1904, the number of writs of demand fell from 16,600 to 12,600, warrants from 7,300 to 4,000, and sales of immovable property from 2,765 to 2,300. There were only 6 cases of sale of land or assumption of direct management. Imprisonment cases rose to 62, of which 61 were in Gujranwala, a point as to which due inquiry was made. The advances during the year under the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to £25,300, including £14,000 advanced in connection with earthquake relief operations, and £11,800 was advanced under the Land Improvements Act.

The report for the North-West Frontier Province covers the same period as that for the Punjab. The autumn crops, as in the Punjab, varied from poor to average; but the spring crops were good, except in Dera Ismail Khan, and the aggregate results for the province were fair. The fixed land revenue demand was £106,100, of which 96 per cent. was collected, besides a small amount due for arrears. Fluctuating and miscellaneous land revenue between them contributed £13,700. Coercive processes for collection of the land revenue were again fewer in number than in the

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spite of vigorous action in Peshawar, where prompt realisation of revenue is always difficult. They numbered 3,234 in all, and included 607 cases of arrest or detention, five of imprisonment, and 122 of sale of movables, the rest being writs of demand only. The agricultural advances made during the year amounted to £6,500.

Burma.

The seasons were not favourable in 1905-06 in Burma, and the expansion in the land revenue demand was comparatively small. The area under assessment was greater by 409,000 acres than in the previous year, but it is

	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Land Revenue	1,556,256	1,610,297
Household tax	326,543	309,898
Fisheries	198,636	194,165
Capitation tax	335,535	337,207
Other sources	171,918	164,884
TOTAL	2,588,888	2,616,451

significant that but for an increase in the Magwe district of 380,000 acres due to settlement there would have been a large decrease in Upper Burma, owing to crop failures. The actual increase in the land revenue demand, under all heads, was £27,600, or 1 per cent., compared with 7 per cent. in the preceding year. The figures for the last two years are shown in the margin. The collections of current land revenue amounted to £1,524,400, which is

slightly below the figure for 1904-05. There was again a substantial rise in the number of households assessed to the household tax, or *thathameda*, but owing to the reduction of the rates of this tax under new settlements, chiefly in Magwe, the yield declined. The river and other fisheries are a considerable source of revenue in both the upper and the lower parts of the province, but there was a small decline in the receipts under this heading, in consequence of the unfavourable season. The heading "other sources" includes receipts from petroleum royalties, from ruby mines, from water rate, &c. There was a large increase in the number of processes for the recovery of revenue, and the subject is receiving attention. The number of sales of real property rose from 1,271 to 1,955, and that of defaulters committed to jail from 62 to 80. The amount of agricultural advances rose to £45,400.

The latest land revenue report available from the Central Provinces is for the year ending in September 1905. The autumn crops were generally disappointing, cotton alone doing very well, and rice being an almost complete failure in some tracts; and the spring crops were very seriously damaged in the northern and central districts by the severe frosts. The demand on account of the land revenue of the year stood at £571,700, reduced by suspensions and remissions to £544,600. The collections were very satisfactory; almost in every district realisation was made practically in full. There was a further demand on account of land revenue not on the roll and miscellaneous revenue, current and arrear, amounting in all to £22,400; and the receipts under these heads came to £22,000. Coercive processes again showed a general decline, and it is specially satisfactory that the use of writs of demand was more prevalent, in place of the more severe process of warrant of attachment; 264 defaulters were arrested but only one imprisoned; attachments and sales of movable property numbered 783 and 47 respectively, against 1,024 and 61 in the preceding year; and only one estate was sold. Advances made during the year under the Land Improvements Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to £27,500. The amount of these loans outstanding at the end of September 1905 was £73,100, of which £24,100 had been advanced without interest. Loans of the latter character were recovered or remitted during the year to the amount of £29,200.

The latest report available respecting land revenue administration in Berar relates to the year ending on the 31st July 1905. The year was one of general prosperity for the agriculturists; the cotton crop was good, and the area under cotton is being steadily increased. The land revenue demand for the year rose from £567,600 to £582,500, owing to revision of settlements, and of this amount practically the whole was collected during the year. The realisation of the revenue, always easy in Berar in normal years, was achieved with notably little recourse to coercive processes. No defaulter was imprisoned for non-payment of revenue, and no personal property sold; and the area of land sold for the recovery of revenue was quite

insignificant. The amounts advanced under the Land Improvements Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to £2,700.

The rainfall in Assam during the year ending on the 30th June 1905 was above the normal, but except during the winter, when cold and lack of rain did some harm, the conditions were generally favourable to agriculture. The current land revenue demand amounted to £404,500, of which more than 94 per cent. was collected, besides a small amount recovered on account of arrears. The new system of collection, under which smaller areas are taken as the unit, has proved a success, and is being generally introduced. In addition to the above sum, £29,800 was collected under the heading of miscellaneous land revenue. The number of sales of land for non-payment of revenue was 594, against 536 in the previous year; and sales of movable property increased from 453 to 973, much of this increase occurring in Sylhet. The amount of agricultural loans granted in Assam is still insignificant.

In the Madras Presidency in the year ending on the 30th June 1906 the south-west monsoon was fair, but the north-east monsoon was unevenly distributed. Crop areas and out-turns were good on the whole, and prices of staple food grains were high. The total demand on account of the year for land revenue, including charges for irrigation and miscellaneous receipts, was £4,101,200, besides cesses amounting to £542,200, and the total collections were £4,693,900, including arrears. All these figures are substantially higher than those of the preceding year, owing to the more favourable season. In the ryotwari area, from which more than 90 per cent. of the land revenue is received, the area under cultivation was 19½ million acres, or 81 per cent. of the total holdings, compared with 79 per cent. in the year 1904-05, and the amount of season remissions which had to be granted was considerably less than in that year. The uncollected balances of current dues and of arrears at the end of June 1906 amounted to £84,400, of which 73 per cent. had been collected or written off by the end of October 1906. Of the above land revenue demand, a sum of £332,200 represents land revenue due from permanently settled estates, and £50,400 quit-rents from villages held under special tenures, these sums being fairly constant, and not liable to fluctuate from year to year; the remainder comes for the most part from the assessment and water rate paid by peasant proprietors. As the result of orders which have been given to restrict the issue of demand notices to cases of real necessity, there was a large decrease in the number of these preliminary processes for the recovery of revenue. Distraint and attachment notices and sale notices were also fewer in number than in recent years; but the number of sales (9,133) was about 10 per cent. above the low figure of the previous year, the reason assigned being the bad season of 1904-05. The number of sales of real property rose to 5,761, affecting 26,400 acres, of an estimated value of £10,200; a considerable proportion of it was of inferior quality, and was bought in by the Government at a nominal price. Advances under the Land Improvements Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to £41,900.

The most recent report available for Bombay relates to the year ending on the 31st July 1905. The rainfall was unsatisfactory in most parts of the Presidency, and there was a bad inundation in Sind. The only parts of the Presidency where the crop outturn proved normal or good were the Konkan districts, including practically the whole of Thana, and the large district of Khandesh. Elsewhere, there was a failure of harvests, varying in degree but especially bad in parts of the Deccan and Karnatak, and in addition, considerable contraction in the area under cotton in the Central districts. The total demand on account of land revenue, including the demand on account of former years, but excluding remissions and sums written off as irrecoverable, amounted to £2,720,000. Collections amounted to £2,070,000, while £386,000 was under suspension. In no district was there any exhibition of unnecessary severity in collecting the revenue, though coercive processes were numerous as compared with the pre-famine period. The number of distraints for non-payment of revenue rose from 1,831 to

* The land revenue report of the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam for 1905-06 not having been received, the paragraph in last year's Statement relating to Assam is reproduced.

1,996, while forfeiture was resorted to in 2,334 cases in the Presidency proper and 3,562 cases in Sind. The agricultural advances made in the Presidency proper amounted to £115,400 in the year under report, while in Sind the advances amounted to £43,700.

WARDS' ESTATES.

Courts of Wards have been established in most of the larger provinces. Primarily intended for the protection of the Government revenue, they are also beneficial to the interests of the owners, and recent changes in the law have been made, to a large extent, with this object. Before 1899, the Courts had power to assume the management of estates of minors, of persons physically or mentally incompetent to manage them, or of persons declared by the local Government, at their own request, to be disqualified for managing them. Since that year, various provincial Acts have been passed, giving to the Government further powers of putting estates under the control of the Court, without consent of the owners, when the latter are in a special degree unqualified for their proper management. The duty of the Courts is to manage the estates under their charge to the best advantage of both proprietors and tenants, to support the family of the proprietor, and to educate young wards; to pay off debts due by the estates, and to spend the surplus income on the improvement of the property in the best attainable way.

In Bengal 169 estates were under the management of the Court of Wards for the whole or part of the year 1905-06, with a total rent and cess income of £455,400. The collection of rents and cesses, including arrears, amounted to 89 per cent. of the current demand. With other items, the receipts of the estates amounted to £729,400. The disbursements were £626,600, of which £114,100 was for Government revenue and cesses, £19,700 for dues of superior landlords, £42,100, or 9·2 per cent. of the rent and cess demand, for cost of management, £79,500 for wards' and family expenses, and £201,800 for investments and payment of debts. The aggregate cash balances at the end of the year amounted to £102,800, together with Government securities to the value of £545,000. The total of the debts stood at £1,473,000, of which £417,700 represents the debts of the Bettiah estate, which is involved to the extent of more than three and a half times the amount of the rent-roll, and £322,100 the debts the Banaili estate in Bhagalpur, which was taken over during the year. The final statement regarding the results of management of the large Tikari estate, which was released in the previous year, shows that the income has been increased, and that the estate was handed over to the proprietor well equipped for efficient and economical management, with improved irrigation works and prosperous ryots. An Act amending the Bengal Court of Wards Act in several important particulars was passed in 1906.

The number of estates under the Court of Wards in the United Provinces for the whole or part of the year ending in September 1905 was 178, with rental receipts amounting in the aggregate to £454,200, besides other receipts, which brought up the total to £638,500. The charges amounted to £676,700, of which £209,700 was for the Government demand, £97,400 was for the education and maintenance of the wards, £29,200 for improvements, and £160,800 for repayment of debts, the cost of management falling at the rate of 10·2 per cent. of the gross income, which was reduced by remissions of rent. The total liabilities of all the estates under management, including debts previous and subsequent to assumption of charge, were £2,889,000, of which £1,206,000 had been repaid, while £1,014,000 had been replaced by more favourable loans. Among the 11 estates taken over during the year, there was one of great size, the Nanpara taluka, with a gross rental of nearly £70,000. The estate is, however, unencumbered by debt.

The number of estates under the management of the Punjab Court of Wards during the year ending in September 1905 was 43. The four estates released during the year show a marked financial improvement as the result of a few years' management. The gross income of all the estates under

management amounted to £75,100, besides £31,900 obtained by loans and sale of properties; and the expenditure amounted to £109,400, of which £62,900 falls under the heads of investments and repayments of debt. The cost of management was about 5 per cent. of the gross income.

During the year ending in September 1905, the Punjab Court of Wards Act was made applicable to the North-West Frontier Province, with certain modifications of form. There were 7 estates under the Court of Wards in the Province, with receipts amounting to £4,400 and a total expenditure of £5,100. The total assets at the end of the year were £17,200, and this was much more than the amount of the liabilities.

In the Central Provinces the number of estates under management of the Court of Wards declined from 99 to 95; the policy of giving up the charge of estates, whose condition is hopeless, has resulted in a considerable diminution of work, and there are now comparatively few estates under the Court in which there is any doubt as to the ultimate repayment of their debt. In the 84 estates, for which statistics are given, the rental demand was £48,600, of which £48,100 was collected. Including other sources, the gross income of the year amounted to £78,400. The ordinary expenditure was £58,000, besides £25,500 invested during the year, or spent on repayment of debt. The cost of management stood, over the whole province, at 21 per cent. of the rental, or 13 per cent. of the gross income—a high percentage, but about the same as in the previous year. Some progress was made in the case of nearly all indebted estates in the matter of clearing off debts, which were paid off to the amount of £14,700, leaving a balance of £62,300 still owing at the close of the year.

Twenty-five estates remained under the control of the Madras Court of Wards at the close of the year ending in June 1906. The estates released during the year included the large estates of Kalahasti and Karvetnagar. Both had benefited during the years of their administration by the Court, but the huge indebtedness of the former had been still further increased by the accumulation of interest which could not be paid from current receipts. The gross land revenue demand of the estates was £180,800 for current revenue and £72,300 for arrears, and the receipts under these heads amounted to £172,200. The season was unfavourable on the whole, but better than in 1904-05, and 80 per cent. of the holdings was under cultivation, against 36 per cent. in the previous year. The aggregate cash receipts from all sources amounted to £323,700; the expenditure to £332,200, including £115,200 invested and £22,400 spent on repayment of debts. The cost of management fell to 13·6 per cent. of the ordinary receipts. The balance at the credit of all estates, invested and uninvested, at the end of the year was £487,700.

In Bombay the estates under Government management are of several kinds, namely, estates under the management of collectors or other guardians, estates in charge of the Talukdari Settlement officer, and encumbered estates in Sind. Outside Gujarat the estates were of small area. The estates of the second category are all in Gujarat; they included 578 estates, with a nominal gross revenue of £110,100, of which nearly £60,200 was realised during the year, while a considerable share of the Government loans made in the previous unfavourable year was recovered. The manager of encumbered estates in Sind had 442 estates in charge. The year's revenue of these estates amounted to £72,900, and the expenditure to £70,300, which included £15,600 spent in the liquidation of loans and private debts.

CHAPTER VIII.

OPIUM REVENUE, AND TAXATION.

OPIUM.

The opium revenue is partly raised by a monopoly of the production of the drug in Bengal and the United Provinces, and partly by the levy of a duty on all opium exported from Native States. Though the poppy will grow in most parts of India, its cultivation in British territory is permitted only in parts of Bengal and of the United Provinces, with the unimportant exception of a small amount of cultivation for local use in the Punjab and Ajmer-Merwara, and on the frontier of Upper Burma. In these two provinces, the crop is grown under the control of a Government department, which arranges the total area which is to be placed under the crop, with a view to the amount of opium required. It will be seen from the particulars given on the following page that orders have been issued for the further restriction of this area. The cultivator of opium in these monopoly districts receives a licence, and is granted advances to enable him to prepare the land for the crop, and he is required to deliver the whole of the produce at a fixed price to opium agents, by whom it is despatched to the Government factories at Patna and Ghazipur. This price has been Rs. 6 per seer since 1895. The supply of prepared opium required for consumption in India is made over to the Excise Department, and Rs. 8½ per seer is credited to opium revenue for the amount thus consumed. The chests of "provision" opium, for export, are sold by auction at monthly sales which take place in Calcutta; and, in order to prevent speculation and to steady prices, the quantity to be offered at each sale during each year is notified in the previous year. Opium (known as Malwa opium) is also grown in Baroda and in some of the Native States of Rajputana and Central India. These States levy heavy dues on opium exported from their territories, and the opium intended for the China market pays to the Indian Treasury a transport duty, which had varied between Rs. 700 and Rs. 600 per chest (of 140 lbs.) for thirty years preceding December 1894, when it was raised to from Rs. 600 to Rs. 650. It was reduced to Rs. 600 in July 1896, and to Rs. 500 in October 1897. The rate was altered again, to Rs. 600 per chest, with effect from the 7th May 1904, and remained at that figure during the year under report.

Since the end of the year under report, an edict has been issued by the Government of China having for its object the suppression of the habit of consuming opium, and of the growth of opium, in China; and proposals have been made for the co-operation of the Government of India in this object by the gradual restriction of the amount of opium exported from India to China. These proposals are under consideration.

The yield of the opium revenue during recent years has been:—

	1897-98.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-1905.	1905-06.
Opium Receipts:*							
Auction sales of monopoly opium.	£ 2,660,697	£ 4,109,249	£ 4,150,290	£ 3,662,600	£ 4,678,371	£ 5,079,541	£ 4,703,574
Duty on Bombay (or Malwa) opium.	647,092	835,117	842,683	661,033	871,383	749,125	569,400
Cost of opium issued to the Excise Departments, and miscellaneous.	145,392	157,877	159,049	174,805	186,291	192,833	195,806
Total	3,453,181	5,102,242	4,852,022	4,498,438	5,736,045	6,021,499	5,468,780
Opium expenditure, chiefly in Bengal.	1,592,744	1,785,875	1,608,690	1,648,483	2,225,744	1,967,083	1,892,441
Net Opium Revenue - £	1,860,437	3,316,367	3,243,332	2,849,955	3,510,301	4,054,414	3,576,339

* This does not include the licence fees and duty on opium consumed in India, which amounted to £910,241 in 1905-06, as shown below under "Excise."

The exports of Malwa opium to China averaged 25,500 chests in the ten years ending in March 1901, but had fallen to 17,500 chests in 1901-02 and 19,300 chests in 1902-03. In the year 1903-04, owing partly to a rumoured failure of the China crop, they rose to 25,340 chests; but in the succeeding year the high prices ruling in Bombay, together with the well-stocked position of the China market, resulted in a decline to 18,986 chests, and in the year under report the amount exported to China was only 14,088 chests. In spite of the increasing competition of the Chinese drug and the low prices ruling in China, the dealers held out for high prices, with the result that the average price for one-year old opium, including export duty, was Rs. 1,556 per chest, and that for two-year old opium Rs. 1,688 per chest, against Rs. 1,480 and Rs. 1,647 per chest, respectively, in the preceding year. The amount of Malwa opium imported and lodged in the Bombay warehouse was 16,194 chests, against 20,533 chests in 1904-05; and 858 chests were sold for consumption in the Presidency, including Native States, and 900 chests were supplied to the Madras Presidency.

The net area cultivated with the poppy in the Ganges Valley in recent years, excluding areas on which the crop was sown but failed, is shown in the margin; the figures for the year ending in October 1906 are subject to correction, and probably rather overstate the actual area. For the year 1906-07, the Government of India have decided to reduce the area under opium to about 562,500 acres. The weather was very unfavourable for the crop in the Bihar Agency, but the out-turn on the whole was better than in 1904-05. The opium is received and prepared at the Government factories at Patna and Ghazipur, where the out-turn for the year included 8,774 chests of opium for the Excise Department, about 300 lbs. of various opium alkaloids, 30 maunds of medical opium, and 51,770 chests of provision opium for the Chinese market. During the financial year ending in March 1906, 49,200 chests of provision opium were sold in equal proportions from Behar and Benares, and the average price realised per chest was Rs. 1,434. The average cost per chest amounted to Rs. 497. The high prices realised at the sales in the preceding year were not maintained, and after rising to Rs. 1,533 per chest in June 1905 the price fell to Rs. 1,258 in March 1906. The average price during the financial year may be compared with the average for 1904-05, which was Rs. 1,587 per chest, while the averages were Rs. 1,297 and Rs. 1,462, respectively, in 1902-03 and 1903-04.

SALT.

The salt revenue is raised by a duty on all salt imported into, or manufactured in, India. The rate of duty has in past times ranged from one-fifth of a rupee (in Burma) to 3½ rupees (in Bengal) per maund of 82½ lbs. From March 1905 the general rate for India, excepting Burma, was reduced from Rs. 2 to Re. 1½ per maund of 82½ lbs. In Burma the rate remained at Re. 1 per maund; and there was also a special rate of duty for salt, the produce of the Mandi State, which paid 4½ annas per maund. This reduction, coming after the reduction of 8 annas effected in March 1903, has had the effect of increasing largely the consumption of salt throughout India, as will appear from the table below. It was larger in 1905-06, according to the revised estimate, than in 1904-05, by 1,600,000 maunds, and a further increase of about 1,200,000 was estimated for the ensuing year in the Government of India's Financial Statement for 1906-07. The effect on the Government revenue was a decrease of about one million sterling in 1905-06, as compared with 1904-05.

A further reduction of the rate of the salt duty was brought into force by the budget of March 1907; the tax is now levied at the uniform rate of one rupee per maund over practically the whole of India and Burma.

The Indian sources of salt supply are the coast, where salt is manufactured for the consumption of all southern and western India, and for part of Burma and Central India; the salt lakes and pits of Rajputana, which supply the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, and a part of Central India; the salt mines of the Punjab, which supply that province and a portion of

southward; and importations from beyond the sea, which supply Bengal and the greater part of Burma. The duty is levied on salt at the place of manufacture, or at the port of importation, before it passes into consumption.

Some of these salt sources belong to, or are worked under the direct control of, the various Governments; others are owned or leased by private individuals. The salt supply of India is not, therefore, Government monopoly, and the importation of salt from foreign countries is freely permitted. Manufacture is not allowed where the circumstances are such as to render proper collection of the duty impracticable, as, for instance, in the sea-coast districts of Bengal.

The Salt Revenues and Charges in the year 1905-06 were as follows:—

PROVINCE.	Price of Government Salt, and Excise on Salt made locally.	Duty on Salt imported from England.	Duty on Salt imported by Sea from other Places.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.	Charges.	Net Salt Revenue.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Northern India - -	981,511	—	—	8,576	990,087	73,996	916,091
Burma - - -	22,052	43,464	51,006	—	116,522	1,865	114,657
Eastern Bengal and Assam. - - -	—	17,371	41,850	891	60,112	646	59,466
Bengal - - -	7	536,208	540,653	8,759	1,085,627	20,116	1,065,511
Madras - - -	1,045,146	277	497	6,728	1,052,648	144,872	1,007,776
Bombay - - -	1,030,271	1,420	908	38,815	1,071,414	121,671	949,743
TOTAL 1905-06 -	3,078,987	598,740	634,914	63,769	4,376,410	363,166	4,013,244
TOTAL 1904-05 -	3,703,012	855,608	720,546	75,602	5,354,768	345,102	5,009,666

The charges above shown do not include a sum of £246,400 paid under treaties in the form of compensation, chiefly to Native chiefs who have assigned the management of their salt sources to the Government of India.

The rate of salt consumption per head of the population differs widely in the several provinces. If the total of licit consumption is compared with the population, as shown by the last census, the following results appear:—The consumption in the saliferous tracts of Bengal, including Orissa, was 12·3 lbs. per head; in Behar, 10·62 lbs.; in the rest of Bengal, 14·6 lbs.; in Eastern Bengal and Assam, 11·7 lbs.; in Gujarat, 10·65 lbs.; in the rest of Bombay, 11·21 lbs.; in Sind, 8·87 lbs.; in Madras, 17·6 lbs.; in the Central Provinces and Berar, 12·53 lbs.; in the United Provinces, 8·67 lbs.; in the North-West Frontier Province, 5·11 lbs.; in the Punjab and Kashmir, 6·22 lbs.; in Central India, 10·30 lbs.; and in Rajputana, 8·49 lbs. These figures compare in most instances very favourably with those of the two preceding years. No such estimate can be given of the rate of consumption in Burma, but it is believed to be high. It is to be noted, however, that as the census of 1901 recedes further into the distance, the average rate calculated upon its figures must be received with increasing caution.

The consumption of salt and the duty realised during the last 31 years are shown below. The figures have been taken from the returns of the Director-General of Statistics under the Government of India, and it will be observed that the amount of the duty received shows a divergence from the figures given above.

	Quantity.	Duty.		Quantity.	Duty.
	Maunds.	£		Maunds.	£
1868-69 to 1872-73 (average)	22,973,000	3,835,000	1899-1900	35,058,000	5,695,000
1873-74 to 1877-78	24,184,000	3,971,000	1900-01	35,815,000	5,837,000
1878-79 to 1882-83	27,761,000	4,393,000	1901-02	35,580,000	5,780,000
1883-84 to 1887-88	32,429,000	4,141,000	1902-03	36,663,000	5,888,000
1888-89 to 1892-93	33,432,000	5,351,000	1903-04	37,603,000	4,922,000
1893-94 to 1897-98	34,211,000	5,505,000	1904-05	39,132,000	5,045,000
1898-99	35,269,000	5,719,000	1905-06	40,729,000	4,037,000

The salt sources under the control of the Northern India Salt Department are (1) the Rajputana sources, including the Sambhar Lake and the brine springs at Pachbadra and Didwana in the Jodhpur State, and (2) the Punjab sources, including the Mayo, Warcha and Kalabagh mines, the Kohat mines, the Mandi mines, and the brine springs at Sultanpur. From these

are supplied the wants of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, part of the United Provinces, parts of the Behar districts of Bengal, the northern districts of the Central Provinces, and the greater part of the Rajputana and Central India States. The most important sources are the Sambhar Lake and the Mayo mine. At the Sambhar Lake 4,994,000 maunds of salt were produced in 1905-06. Since the year 1870, when the lake was leased by the Government of India, nearly 127 millions of maunds of salt have been taken from it, and the financial results show a total credit balance of £262,950, without taking into account the stock of salt in hand. Fears had been expressed that the salt available in this source was becoming exhausted, or that increasing difficulty would be experienced in recovering it from the brine; but these fears have been laid at rest by the excavation of a long trench through the bed of the lake, which renders available the inexhaustible supplies of subterranean brine. The Sambhar salt is sold at a uniform price of 4 annas per maund, with a charge of 3 pies for clearance; the sales in 1905-06 amounted to 4,863,600 maunds. In the Mayo mine 2,308,000 maunds of salt were excavated. This salt is sold at 9 pies per maund, or one anna at the Khewrah depôt, apart from the duty, and a charge of 6 pies a maund is made for delivery to the railway; the price of Didwana salt is also 9 pies; Pachbadra salt is sold at the rate of 1½ anna with a charge of 3 pies for clearance; Kohat salt fetches on the average about 10 pies. The total amount of salt which passed into consumption was 8,696,451 maunds, distributed as follows:—

	1904-05.	1905-06.
	Maunds.	Maunds.
Punjab, including Native States and Kashmir -	2,687,229	2,702,322
North-West Frontier Province -	397,879	367,708
United Provinces (chiefly Sambhar salt) -	3,307,188	3,699,624
Behar -	140,358	142,880
Central Provinces -	108,360	124,503
Rajputana -	936,052	958,811
Central India -	541,382	617,784
Other places, including Afghanistan -	83,684	82,819
TOTAL -	8,202,132	8,696,451

The salt consumed in Bengal comes from abroad or from other parts of India; several years ago a small amount was annually manufactured at private and Government factories in Orissa, but this manufacture was rendered unprofitable by the opening of the East Coast railway, which admitted Madras salt to Orissa, and it has therefore been discontinued. In the other maritime tracts of the province the manufacture of salt is prohibited, owing to the difficulty of preventing illicit manufacture. The amount of salt imported by sea during the year 1905-06 was 10,818,900 maunds, as shown in the margin; there was a decrease of nearly six per cent. as compared with 1904-05, but the amount on which duty was paid was larger than in that year. A much smaller proportion than usual of the imports came from the United Kingdom, but English salt has in recent years been to a large extent displaced by salt imported from Aden and the Red Sea. Imports of German salt also fell off considerably. The amount of Madras salt carried into Orissa by rail fell from 1,015,300 maunds to 765,300 maunds, the stock in the Ganjam district of Madras being low as a consequence of the failure of manufacture in the previous season. This salt is specially manufactured, and is of high quality, which enables it to compete with Liverpool salt. The average wholesale price of salt, including duty (Re. 1½ per maund), at the chief marts of Bengal was about Rs. 2½, having decreased by 6½ annas since

Salt Imports by Sea.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	Maunds.	Maunds.
From United Kingdom -	5,659,789	4,475,849
" Germany -	1,258,183	613,859
" Red Sea -	3,790,250	4,138,679
" Persian Gulf -	82,583	64,528
" Madras -	72,704	9,999
" Bombay -	570,830	726,988
" Spain -	30,800	767,032
TOTAL -	11,465,094	10,818,984

the second reduction of duty. The average wholesale price of Liverpool salt in 1905-06 was Rs. 50 $\frac{3}{4}$ per 100 maunds from the ship's side at Calcutta, exclusive of duty, compared with Rs. 48 $\frac{5}{8}$ in 1904-05.

The net amount of salt consumed in the province was 9,493,600 maunds, with a lower consumption per head in the saliferous tracts and Orissa than in 1904-05, but a higher average in the rest of Bengal. It is, however, impossible to make any real comparison in respect of the latter figure, in view of the separation of the eastern districts of the province. The consumption in the areas which are under the Salt Law showed an almost general increase, illicit manufacture being repressed, owing partly to the vigilance of the preventive staff and partly to the greater cheapness of licit salt.

As in Bengal, the imports of salt into Eastern Bengal and Assam were affected during the year by the *Swadeshi* movement, but in each case that the effect was only transient; the imports fell by nearly 5 per cent., but the sales during the year increased by more than 7 per cent. The fall in imports from the United Kingdom and Germany, which was considerable, was to a large extent balanced by much larger imports from Aden, amounting to more than 70 per cent. of all the sea imports. The price of salt averaged Rs. 2 $\frac{1}{16}$, against Rs. 3 $\frac{1}{16}$ in 1904-05; and there is every reason to believe that retail buyers have benefited largely by the decrease in the duty.

Originally there was a Government monopoly of the manufacture of salt in the Madras Presidency; but in 1882 an attempt was made to substitute private manufacture, and abolish all Government factories. This, however, did not answer, and in 1888 orders were given to establish a certain number of Government factories as a check on the prices and quality of the privately manufactured (or "excise") salt. This is the system that now exists. All the 65 factories were worked during the year, and owing to the generally favourable character of the season the quantity of salt manufactured was more than 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions of maunds, an unprecedented amount, of which no less than 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ millions was manufactured in private factories. The quantity of salt imported, about one million maunds, was less than in 1904-05; and the quantity issued for consumption, about 10 $\frac{3}{8}$ millions of maunds, fell short of the high figure of the preceding year, as the result of the restriction of imports of salt in the west coast districts. Elsewhere, there was a considerable increase in the consumption per head. The average wholesale price of "excise" (i.e., private factories) salt works out to over 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ annas per maund, or rather more than in the preceding year, but this figure is not considered to be excessive or unreasonable, in view of the lowness of the stocks. Government salt is sold at fixed prices (the usual rate being 3 annas per maund) with a view to controlling the price of "excise" salt; it is reported that the average retail price of salt varied in the several districts between Re. 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ and Rs. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$. Excluding the salt used for fish-curing, or bought by the French Government, the total of salt issued for consumption during the last three years was as follows:—

	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
Government, excise, and sea-imported salt	Maunds. 9,930,133	Maunds. 10,137,288	Maunds. 9,911,357
Salt imported from Bombay by railway	510,957	600,695	672,214
	10,441,090	10,737,983	10,583,571

After deduction of salt exported from the Presidency, which amounted to 1,066,181 maunds, the average consumption per head of the population was 17·6 lbs. in the whole Presidency, including Mysore and Coorg, with the Native States except Travancore and Cochin. The corresponding figure for 1904-05 was 17·1 lbs. If the West Coast districts

consumption figure would stand at 19·3 lb. per head compared with 18·1 per head in the previous year.

During the year under report there were 135 bonded yards in the Madras Presidency open for curing fish under special regulations, whereby cheap salt is sold to fish-curers. The quantity of fish brought to be cured was 44,181 tons, the season having been unfavourable for fishing, and 665,884 maunds of cured fish left the yards in a fit condition for use.

The salt supply of Bombay comes from the Pritchard salt brine works, owned by the Government, on the Runn of Cutch (Baragra salt); from sea-salt works on the coast; and by importation. Of the sea-salt works one, at Dharasna, is worked by the Government; the remainder, of which there are some hundreds, are owned by, or leased to, private individuals; the imports of salt come chiefly from Goa. The conditions of the year were favourable to salt manufacture, so that in spite of larger removals of salt, both for home consumption and for other parts of India, the stocks in hand increased by the end of the year. The following table shows the issues of salt from each source for the last two years:—

	1904-05.		1905-06.	
	Total Issues.	For Local Consumption.	Total Issues.	For Local Consumption.
Baragra salt	Maunds. 2,315,497	Maunds. 453,830	Maunds. 2,557,917	Maunds. 477,627
Sea salt	7,654,541	2,283,629	7,995,357	2,084,830
Imported salt	297,052	240,610	304,427	253,802
Total	10,267,090	2,978,069	10,857,701	2,816,259

The issues of duty-paid salt in the Presidency, excluding Sind, were at the rate of 11·05 lbs. per head of the population, but in Gujarat, as usual, the average was lower, amounting only to 10·65 lbs. per head. These rates show a decline as a whole, as compared with the preceding year. But there seems to be no reason to doubt that the actual consumption was greater than the amount which paid duty during the year; for the anticipation of an impending further reduction of duty induced traders to reduce their stocks as far as possible. The record of prices shows that the reduction of duty has been felt by the consumer to the fullest possible extent; and that the total of the two reductions, namely, one rupee, has been proportionately of greater effect than the first reduction of eight annas. The bulk of the Baragra salt is exported to the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, and Central India; while the Madras Presidency and its States, Hyderabad, Mysore, Calcutta, and the Central Provinces take large amounts of sea salt. Twenty-nine fish-curing yards were open at the end of the year. The quantity of fish brought to be cured in bond was 122,500 maunds, and 36,300 maunds of cheap salt were issued to fish-curers; the fish-curing season being very unfavourable.

The Sind salt supply is derived chiefly from the sea-salt works at Sind Maurypur, and in smaller quantities from salt deposits at Saran and Dilyar on the edge of the desert, and by importation. The amount passed into consumption during the year was 364,400 maunds. The consumption per head of the population is given as 8·87 lbs., against 8·25 lbs. in the preceding year. The average market price of salt is returned as having been slightly more than Rs. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$, and it appears that the reduction in duty has been more than reflected in the fall of price, if a comparison be made between 1901-02, the last year in which the Rs. 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ rate was in force throughout, and the year under report. Two fish-curing yards were worked

The amount of imported salt which paid duty in Burmese ports during the year 1905 was 1,370,657 maunds. This comes chiefly from the United Kingdom and Germany, and pays a duty of Re. 1 per maund; imports from the United Kingdom constituted about 46 per cent. of the total imported during the year, salt from Germany comprising 37 per cent. In 1902 the shipments from the United Kingdom had amounted to no more than 25 per cent. of the total, but the last three years have seen a considerable recovery; the positions occupied by imports from Germany and the United Kingdom respectively in 1904 having been almost exactly reversed in the year under report. The old system under which the excise duty on locally manufactured salt was levied by a composition rate on vessels used for boiling brine, the amount of which varied in different parts of the province, is being replaced by a system of levying duty on actual output, which had already been introduced into five districts and was extended to the Amherst district in 1905. The change is stated to have proved financially successful and to have worked effectively. This system of assessment has now, by the addition of the Amherst district, been introduced into all districts where the revenue derived from the industry is sufficient to justify the expense of the establishment required for this method of assessment. One of its results is an improvement in the accuracy with which the output of local salt can be estimated. The figure for 1905 is given as 629,700 maunds, which is a large advance on the previous year's figures. The question whether the rate, 8 annas per maund, levied on the assessed output, should be raised in any or all of the districts concerned to a rate more nearly corresponding to the customs duty of Re. 1 per maund was under consideration. The price of foreign salt again ruled generally lower, and that of local salt higher, than in 1904, the Rangoon prices undergoing wide fluctuations. There seems to be no indication that local salt is being displaced by foreign salt, for the proportion of the former to the total consumption has for several years remained constant at about 30 per cent. The imports of salted fish rose to 335,400 maunds, owing, it is said, to over-production in Annam. The ratio of import duty on salted fish is 6 annas per maund.

EXCISE.

The Government of India, in September 1905, convened a Committee to consider the progress of excise administration in respect of intoxicating liquors, and to promote reforms. In their Resolution, which was published in the "Gazette of India" of the 9th September, they restated the general principles on which their excise policy is based. These are substantially the principles laid down in a despatch by Lord Cross, when Secretary of State for India, in 1888, that (1) an extension of the habit of drinking among Indian populations is to be discouraged, and (2) that the tax on spirits and liquors should be as high as may be possible without giving rise to illicit methods of making and selling liquor; subject to these considerations, as large a revenue as possible should be raised from a small consumption of intoxicating liquors. The raising of revenue is not, however, a primary object of excise administration.

The Committee's report is dated 4th July 1906, and it has been published as a Parliamentary Paper [Cd. 3327]. It is therefore unnecessary to recount at length their recommendations, which cover the whole field of Indian excise administration, and have still to be considered by the Government of India. The general trend of them is as follows:—

1. The "out-still" group of systems, including all systems prior in order of development to the imposition of a still-head duty, embraces various farming systems over large or small areas, and privileges of manufacture and sale, under a control varying in its effectiveness, but in no cases very complete. The systems of this group were already in process of abolition, and the Committee advised a further reduction, so that they should remain in operation only in one large block of feverish and inaccessible country between Chota Nagpur and the Godavari river, and in certain small and isolated areas.

2. The distillery systems, the common principle of which is the levy a stillhead duty, have also numerous forms, which vary from the *sadar* stillery systems, involving the collection of a number of distillers in a government enclosure, to the contract supply system of Madras. The committee consider the latter to be the best working distillery system that is as yet been devised. They think the district monopoly system of Bombay is an intermediate arrangement. They report that the arrangements for distillery control need complete revision in all provinces except Madras.

Among the other general recommendations may be mentioned proposals to increase in many instances the rates of still-head duty, to reduce the limit of retail sale and possession of country spirit to a quart where possible, to substitute as much as possible a better system of disposal of licences for the present auction sale, which is, however, inevitable where no excise duties are levied, to institute a scrutiny of liquor shops and their sites in municipal areas, to enforce stringent restrictions on improper sale, and to increase excise establishments.

The following table gives the excise revenue of 1905-06 for each province under the different heads, as shown in the Finance and Revenue accounts:—

	India (General)	Bengal	Eastern Bengal and Assam	United Provinces	Punjab	North-West Frontier Province	Burma	Central Provinces	Berar	Madras	Bombay	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
License and distillery fees, and duties for the sale of spirits, fermented liquors, and drugs, viz.:—												
Foreign liquors, &c.	14,900	77,878	6,509	91,211	24,678	1,797	103,103	898	586	34,273	21,121	299,075
Country spirits	52,561	568,163	73,613	376,554	141,923	5,339	121,401	180,931	177,747	508,680	703,782	2,999,000
Toddy	2,551	74,812	5,937	11,301	—	—	41,824	2,328	2,160	610,102	92,301	749,623
Opium and its preparations	2,570	46,104	30,466	17,964	31,493	2,613	11,066	19,634	21,233	24,157	11,768	149,000
Other drugs	2,577	102,479	24,238	129,229	27,893	2,679	5	9,125	3,425	19,324	18,918	239,000
Duty on opium consumed in India	1,002	119,760	117,445	28,610	10,485	599	263,440	30,901	15,516	32,385	50,062	691,000
Duty on ganja	—	124,894	39,321	—	—	—	—	11,409	2,923	10,189	32,990	257,000
Fines, confiscations, miscellaneous	3,882	1,914	410	199	1,203	3	5,623	86	267	5,169	6,316	34,000
Total Revenue	81,103	1,123,977	308,000	663,023	237,076	14,080	553,162	255,712	234,247	1,374,219	981,178	6,487,000
Deduct—Charges	3,682	60,993	7,360	6,273	5,195	514	7,000	6,437	3,321	69,081	34,757	119,000
Net Revenue, 1905-06	77,421	1,072,084	300,749	656,755	232,477	13,566	481,532	249,235	230,936	1,236,188	916,421	6,368,000
Net Revenue, 1904-05	81,036	1,064,774	301,039	675,482	206,607	12,590	417,160	208,120	131,599	1,183,732	899,793	6,111,000

A net sum of £646,500 was yielded by customs duties* on exciseable articles imported into India during the year 1905-06, and thus the total net drink and drugs revenue amounts to rather more than 6 annas (sixpence) a head of the population affected. The year shows the highest figure which has been reached by the excise revenue. It may be noted that neither tobacco, tea, nor coffee are subject to excise taxation in India.

For the 228 millions of the population inhabiting the various excise tracts covered by the statistics, the total number of shops licensed for the

* A customs duty is levied on all imported spirits, wines and beer, and credited to the head of Customs. The import duty is Rs. 7 per gallon on London proof spirit (raised to this figure from the previous rate of Rs. 6 in February 1906; Rs. 10 per gallon, irrespective of strength, on liqueurs (changed in February 1906 from Rs. 6 per proof gallon); Rs. 11 per gallon, irrespective of strength, on perfumed spirits (Rs. 8 before February 1906); Rs. 2½ per gallon on sparkling wines; Re. 1 per gallon on other wines; and 1 anna per gallon on beer. Opium is subject to a duty of Rs. 24 per seer on importation into India, and other narcotic drugs pay the general import duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*.

SE. retail sale of spirits, fermented liquors, opium and drugs, was as follows, province by province :—

PROVINCE.	Number of Retail Shops licensed in 1905-06 for the Sale of					Total in 1905-06.	Total in 1904-05 (revised).	Population of Excise Area, by Census of 1901.
	Country Spirits.	European Liquors imported or made in India.	Toddy and Rice-Beer or other Indian Fermented Drinks.	Opium.	Narcotic or Intoxicating Drugs, other than Opium.			
Bengal - - -	3,015	439	24,207	1,304	2,763	31,728	31,995	50,722,000
United Provinces - -	5,971	287	4,598	1,223	3,765	15,844	15,697	47,671,000
Punjab - - -	1,237	281	41	1,380	969	3,908	4,233	20,306,000
North-West Frontier Province.	51	45	—	87	95	278	283	2,120,000
Burma - - -	133	269	1,406	128	—	1,936	2,103	9,187,000
Central Provinces and Berar.	6,425	176	1,221	1,346	1,171	10,339	11,673	11,458,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam	783	229	5,531	1,195	1,309	9,047	9,144	29,854,000
Madras - - -	10,267	650	19,080	1,211	633	31,841	31,774	38,196,000
Bombay and Sind - -	2,806	288	10,042	1,086	1,317	15,539	15,565	18,534,000
Total - - -	30,688	2,664	66,126*	8,960	12,022	120,460	122,467	228,048,000

* Of this number 20,700 are licences for home-brewing only, issued in Bengal, Eastern Bengal, and Bombay.

The most important change was a net reduction of 1,100 country spirit shops in the Central Provinces as a consequence of the change of excise system noted below in its place. Excluding home-brewing licences, there were rather less than 100,000 licensed shops for the retail sale of intoxicants and narcotics in British India, or one shop to an average of 2,286 of the population as shown in the census of 1901. Special attention is given to the expressed wishes of the inhabitants of a locality in respect of the sites fixed for shops.

In Bengal the total excise revenues of 1905-06 and the previous year, as given in the departmental returns, were as follows :—

Receipts from	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Country spirits - - -	492,027	534,557
Foreign liquors and rum - - -	33,596	32,504
Fermented local liquors, toddy, and rice-beer - - -	109,078	113,234
Opium - - -	143,422	149,537
Ganja, bhang, and their compounds - - -	167,078	190,171
Miscellaneous - - -	1,355	1,226
Total Excise Revenue - - -	946,556	1,021,229
Add.—Customs duties levied in the Presidency on imported liquors, &c.	157,457	190,422
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,104,013	1,211,651

fairly equal proportions to the excise revenue, the outstill receipts being rather smaller than those in the distillery area. According to the programme which has received the sanction of the Government, the out-stills will disappear in a few years and the contract distillery system be introduced throughout the province. The small central distilleries are being closed, and liquor will be supplied by a few large distilleries employing the most improved plant and machinery and producing wholesome spirit free from impurities, wholesale and retail prices being carefully regulated so as to avoid the evil effects of a monopoly.

The excise revenue of the year was about 8 per cent. greater than that of 1904-05, excluding the 14 districts transferred to the new province. About a third of the increase is ascribed to the introduction of an improved system of taxation of ganja, whereby one uniform rate has been substituted for differential rates. There was an increase of £42,500 in the revenue from country spirits. The larger part of this came from distillery areas, and was caused by an increase in the consumption of spirit by 34,500 gallons, or 5 per cent. This was most marked in Calcutta, where the consumption was 10 per cent. higher than in the previous year; it is considered by the Board of Revenue to be due probably to increase of population and higher wages.

The fixing of a uniform rate of duty on ganja resulted in a preference being given by retail vendors to the purest variety; and the fall in the figures of consumption, from 3,994 maunds to 3,240 maunds, is therefore more apparent than real. Other forms of hemp drugs are also consumed to some extent in the province. The sale of cocaine is restricted to qualified and duly licensed persons. The consumption of opium was 2,038 maunds, against 1,959 maunds in the previous year, the increase being ascribed to greater prosperity. No shops are licensed for selling opium prepared for smoking, but it is alleged that establishments exist in some numbers in Calcutta, under the guise of clubs, which transgress the law in this matter. Attention has been directed to the question whether the existing rules on the subject are effective.

The excise report for the United Provinces for year 1905-06 shows that for the last three years the gross excise revenues have been :—

Gross Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£
Country spirits and fermented liquors -	408,418	443,780	387,839
Foreign liquors and rum - - -	52,528	55,589	91,095
Opium - - -	55,774	56,096	56,440
Other drugs - - -	114,270	125,920	129,363
Miscellaneous - - -	259	286	312
Total - - -	631,249	681,671	665,049

United Provinces

retail sale of spirits, fermented liquors, opium and drugs, was as follows, province by province :—

PROVINCE.	Number of Retail Shops licensed in 1905-06 for the Sale of					Total in 1905-06.	Total in 1904-05 (revised).	Population of Excise Area, by Census of 1901.
	Country Spirits.	European Liquors imported or made in India.	Toddy and Rice-Beer or other Indian Fermented Drinks.	Opium.	Narcotic or Intoxicating Drugs, other than Opium.			
Bengal - - -	3,015	439	24,207	1,304	2,763	31,728	31,995	50,722,000
United Provinces - -	5,971	287	4,598	1,223	3,765	15,844	15,697	47,671,000
Punjab - - -	1,237	281	41	1,380	969	3,908	4,233	20,306,000
North-West Frontier Province.	51	45	—	87	95	278	283	2,120,000
Burma - - -	133	269	1,406	128	—	1,936	2,108	9,187,000
Central Provinces and Berar.	6,425	176	1,221	1,346	1,171	10,339	11,673	11,458,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam	783	229	5,531	1,195	1,309	9,047	9,144	29,854,000
Madras - - -	10,267	650	19,080	1,211	633	31,841	31,774	38,196,000
Bombay and Sind - -	2,806	288	10,042	1,086	1,317	15,539	15,565	18,534,000
Total - - -	30,688	2,664	66,126*	8,960	12,022	120,460	122,467	228,048,000

* Of this number 20,700 are licences for home-brewing only, issued in Bengal, Eastern Bengal, and Bombay.

The most important change was a net reduction of 1,100 country spirit shops in the Central Provinces as a consequence of the change of excise system noted below in its place. Excluding home-brewing licences, there were rather less than 100,000 licensed shops for the retail sale of intoxicants and narcotics in British India, or one shop to an average of 2,286 of the population as shown in the census of 1901. Special attention is given to the expressed wishes of the inhabitants of a locality in respect of the sites fixed for shops.

In Bengal the total excise revenues of 1905-06 and the previous year, as given in the departmental returns, were as follows :—

Receipts from	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Country spirits - - - -	492,027	534,557
Foreign liquors and rum - - -	33,596	32,504
Fermented local liquors, toddy, and rice-beer - - -	109,078	113,234
Opium - - - -	143,422	149,537
Ganja, bhang, and their compounds - - -	167,078	190,171
Miscellaneous - - - -	1,355	1,226
Total Excise Revenue - - -	946,556	1,021,229
Add,—Customs duties levied in the Presidency on imported liquors, &c.	157,457	190,422
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,104,013	1,211,651

The year was marked by the introduction of the contract supply system in the Midnapore, Cuttack, Balasore, and Puri districts as an experimental measure, the spirits being supplied from the Rosa distillery in the United Provinces. Since the close of the year, that system has been extended to Darjeeling and three other districts. Elsewhere in the province there are two systems, the fixed duty or central distillery system in the south and east, and the out-still system generally in the north and west. These two systems contribute in

fairly equal proportions to the excise revenue, the outstill receipts being rather smaller than those in the distillery area. According to the programme which has received the sanction of the Government, the out-stills will disappear in a few years and the contract distillery system be introduced throughout the province. The small central distilleries are being closed, and liquor will be supplied by a few large distilleries employing the most improved plant and machinery and producing wholesome spirit free from impurities, wholesale and retail prices being carefully regulated so as to avoid the evil effects of a monopoly.

The excise revenue of the year was about 8 per cent. greater than that of 1904-05, excluding the 14 districts transferred to the new province. About a third of the increase is ascribed to the introduction of an improved system of taxation of ganja, whereby one uniform rate has been substituted for differential rates. There was an increase of £42,500 in the revenue from country spirits. The larger part of this came from distillery areas, and was caused by an increase in the consumption of spirit by 34,500 gallons, or 5 per cent. This was most marked in Calcutta, where the consumption was 10 per cent. higher than in the previous year; it is considered by the Board of Revenue to be due probably to increase of population and higher wages.

The fixing of a uniform rate of duty on ganja resulted in a preference being given by retail vendors to the purest variety; and the fall in the figures of consumption, from 3,994 maunds to 3,240 maunds, is therefore more apparent than real. Other forms of hemp drugs are also consumed to some extent in the province. The sale of cocaine is restricted to qualified and duly licensed persons. The consumption of opium was 2,038 maunds, against 1,959 maunds in the previous year, the increase being ascribed to greater prosperity. No shops are licensed for selling opium prepared for smoking, but it is alleged that establishments exist in some numbers in Calcutta, under the guise of clubs, which transgress the law in this matter. Attention has been directed to the question whether the existing rules on the subject are effective.

The excise report for the United Provinces for year 1905-06 shows that for the last three years the gross excise revenues have been :—

Gross Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£
Country spirits and fermented liquors -	408,418	443,780	387,839
Foreign liquors and rum - - -	52,528	55,589	91,095
Opium - - - -	55,774	56,096	56,440
Other drugs - - - -	114,270	125,920	129,363
Miscellaneous - - - -	259	286	312
Total - - - - £	631,249	681,671	665,049

There was a very considerable falling off in the receipts from country spirits, owing mainly to unfavourable agricultural conditions, but also in part to increase in the price of liquor caused by the scarcity of its materials. The total consumption of distillery liquor was less than that of the previous year by 296,700 gallons, or over 20 per cent. Most of the country spirit revenue is raised under the distillery system; the out-still area, which consists of thinly populated and comparatively inaccessible tracts, is being gradually reduced, and though no change in this direction was effected during the year under report, several changes were in contemplation. The number of out-stills and shops rose from 1,481 to 1,484. The number of

is difficult, because, in the first place, the boundaries of the province underwent considerable changes, and, secondly, a very important change in the revenue system was brought into effect. This was the introduction of the contract supply distillery system, wholly or in part, into all the districts of Berar and six districts of the Central Provinces. An increase of the advance collections paid during the year, which amounted to about £47,000 in excess of those collected in 1904-05, has also to be taken into account.

It is too early to draw any conclusions as to the success of the change of system; it is, however, noted that the larger receipts caused by it are to some extent abnormal, as they were due to excessive competition in the bidding for licenses. The issue of spirits from the distilleries amounted to 975,600 gallons, but in view of the large increases in the distillery area there is no basis for comparison with the previous year. The number of out-stills was reduced from 2,391 to 1,408; the transference of the Sambalpur district to Bengal accounting for 129 of the decrease. A temperance movement has been started by the Gonds in a part of the Balaghat district; the Chief Commissioner states that it appears to be genuine and extensive.

The licit consumption of opium and ganja shows a steady increase, which the district reports attribute to the new excise staff and repression of smuggling; but prosperity is also given as a reason. The figures of consumption in 1905-06 were respectively 1,172 maunds of opium and 1,215 maunds of ganja, against 1,071 maunds of opium and 1,080 maunds of ganja in 1904-05. It will be seen above that the total increase in revenue from these drugs was larger in proportion than the increase in consumption. It was decided to raise the duty in April 1906 from Rs. 4 per seer, to which it was increased in 1901, to Rs. 5 per seer.

The excise revenue of the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the year 1905-06, with the figures for the same area in the previous year, was as follows:—

Receipts from	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£
Country spirits - - - - -	107,983	113,604
Imported liquors and rum - - - - -	9,752	10,334
Opium - - - - -	157,783	163,718
Ganja and its compounds - - - - -	101,718	118,618
Miscellaneous, including toddy, &c. - - - - -	5,096	5,003
Total - - - - -	£ 382,332	411,277

NOTE.—These figures do not include £2,578 raised in the Hill districts, where the excise administration is kept to some extent distinct.

By far the larger part of the country spirit revenue in this province was raised under the out-still system; but there was a central distillery system working throughout the Dacca division, and in the last half of the year under report a contract distillery was started at Jorhat and supplied the Sibsagar district. It is said that there is *prima facie* reason for holding that this new system had a salutary effect upon the drinking habits of the population; but the evidence is far from conclusive, and further experience must be awaited. The country spirits are for the most part consumed by the immigrant population, which has grown rapidly during the past few years; no estimate of the consumption of spirits for the year can be given, as under the out-still system no trustworthy records of output are available. The number of shops for the sale of out-still spirits fell to 554. The location of country spirit shops upon unobjectionable sites is a matter of difficulty in the Assam tea garden districts, and a large number of changes were made during the year in deference to local opinion. It is stated that the appointment of an excise inspector has had a good effect on the management of country spirit shops.

Most of the opium revenue comes from the Assam districts; the total consumption was 1,759 maunds of opium, or about 2 per cent. more than in 1904-05. Ganja is chiefly consumed in the Eastern Bengal districts; the amount issued during the year was 2,084 maunds, against 2,246 maunds in the previous year; but the imposition of a uniform duty of Rs. 11 per seer on all varieties had the result of increasing the proportion of the strongest variety used, so that the decline in consumption is only apparent. It is, in fact, said that the ganja habit is spreading among tea garden coolies in Assam, the drug to a certain extent taking the place of liquor. The administration of the important ganja producing tract of Rajshahi is now under the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

The gross excise revenue of Madras during the last three years was raised thus:—

Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£
Country spirits - - - - -	478,515	512,616	507,139
Toddy - - - - -	585,706	621,837	639,547
Foreign liquors and miscellaneous - - - - -	33,330	34,058	39,212
Opium and other drugs - - - - -	76,719	82,619	86,134
Total - - - - -	1,174,270	1,251,130	1,272,032
Add,—Customs duty on imported liquors - - - - -	76,631	77,232	85,387
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,250,901	1,328,362	1,357,419

The contract distillery supply system which is in force over the greater part of Madras is being taken as the best model for imitation in most other provinces. The distilleries are all private concerns working on European methods. In some small tracts non-distillery systems are in force, but these areas are being restricted. The amount of country spirits consumed in 1905-06 in distillery areas is returned as 1,222,000 gallons at proof strength, compared with 1,272,000 gallons in the preceding year. The decrease is ascribed to an unfavourable season and the high prices of food grains. Some fall in the country spirit revenue resulted. The toddy revenue, however, showed a moderate increase. Over nearly the whole of the Presidency a tree tax, ranging from 1 rupee to 6 rupees a year, is imposed on all palm trees tapped for fermented toddy, while the shops for retail sale of toddy are separately sold by auction to the highest bidder. The amount of toddy consumed in the Presidency cannot be stated; the increase in the revenue came chiefly from shop rentals. The rates of tree tax over a large part of the Presidency have since been increased considerably, with effect from October 1906.

The use of opium is almost restricted to the districts in the north-east of the Presidency, chiefly the Godavari district, where the rate of consumption (118 grains per head) is high. The quantity consumed in the Presidency, excluding that issued to Native States, is given as 925 maunds, compared with 955 maunds in 1904-05. The amount of hemp drugs of all kinds sold by retail is returned as 1,231 maunds.

The central distillery system obtains throughout practically the whole of the Bombay Presidency, but it differs from the system prevailing in Madras. In the most prevalent form in Bombay, the monopolies of manufacture and sale of country spirit over an excise area are sold together to one contractor, who guarantees a fixed minimum return of duty to the Government; and nearly all the revenue is obtained from still-head duties. In the Madras contract distillery system the monopoly of manufacture is separated from that of retail vend, and much of the revenue is obtained from the auction sale of shop licences. The contract supply system is, however, being tried in some districts of Bombay; it was introduced in Belgaum in the year 1902 and in Satara, Poona, and Khandesh in 1903, and it was continued in those districts and was extended to Ahmednagar and Nasik during the year under report.

The general fiscal results of the excise management in Bombay, Sind, and Aden during the last three years were—

Gross Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£
Locally-made liquors, including toddy -	682,470	771,510	797,541
Foreign and Indo-European liquors -	23,353	25,497	21,498
Opium -	56,829	70,663	67,403
Other intoxicating drugs -	33,104	51,045	57,658
Miscellaneous items -	5,409	5,601	5,424
Total Excise Revenue -	801,165	924,316	949,524
Add,—Customs duties on imported liquors -	215,148	213,265	255,736
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,016,313	1,137,581	1,205,260

The issues of country spirit for consumption in the distillery areas of Bombay amounted to more than 2½ million proof gallons, which exceeded the consumption of 1904-05 by about 150,000 gallons. The increases in districts unaffected by scarcity were more than sufficient to counterbalance the decreases due to that cause, and improved system and more efficient establishments contributed to the rise by substituting licit for illicit consumption. Since the close of the year a proposal for a general improvement in the preventive staff has been approved. There was also a moderate increase in the consumption of country liquor in Sind. Issues of opium from Government treasuries for internal consumption are returned at 883 maunds in Bombay and 232 maunds in Sind, the former figure being lower than the corresponding figure for 1904-05, owing partly to the higher prices ruling for the drug, but also to scarcity and to plague deaths. The old opium users are reported to be much reduced in number of late, and the rising generation in Bombay to be much less addicted to the use of opium. The amount of hemp drugs sold during the year included 3,265 maunds of bhang (chiefly in Sind), 1,090 maunds of ganja (chiefly in Bombay), and 435 maunds of other preparations.

STAMPS.

The stamp revenue is leviable under Act VII. of 1870 (the Court Fees Act), which imposes fees on plaints, petitions, and other documents, with specified exceptions, filed before civil, criminal, or revenue courts, and under Act II. of 1899 (the Stamp Act), which imposes duties on commercial transactions recorded in writing, such as conveyances, bonds, cheques, bills of exchange, receipts, and the like. The following table gives the stamp receipts, province by province, for the year 1905-06:—

	India (General).	Bengal.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North-West Frontier Provinces.	Burma.	Central Provinces.	Berar.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
of court fee stamps	£ 13,951	£ 903,833	£ 318,230	£ 452,883	£ 168,078	£ 17,455	£ 162,886	£ 72,444	£ 31,406	£ 389,196	£ 224,678	£ 2,641,090
of commercial and other stamps.	£ 8,054	£ 306,233	£ 96,852	£ 141,978	£ 88,168	£ 9,833	£ 91,336	£ 35,332	£ 30,445	£ 227,743	£ 196,173	£ 1,324,961
and miscellaneous	743	12,798	780	2,402	7,116	179	8,023	1,109	274	8,864	11,168	80,883
Stamp Revenue of 1906.	22,747	1,222,793	315,872	597,263	263,362	27,467	263,244	108,785	62,125	625,793	432,019	3,996,964
Deduct — Refunds and charges.	— 3,403	25,853	15,389	33,700	13,824	1,708	19,185	5,876	3,804	33,684	25,335	178,309
Revenue of 1905-06	26,750	1,178,940	296,483	563,563	247,738	25,759	244,059	102,909	58,321	592,109	406,684	3,748,180
Revenue of 1904-05	19,318	1,364,323	64,781	648,068	287,686	23,854	313,386	101,005	57,316	566,797	408,679	3,874,021

CUSTOMS.

Import duties, which had been abolished in India in 1882, and were re-imposed in 1894, are levied, generally speaking, at the rate of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods. The chief, though not the only, exceptions are railway material, industrial or agricultural machinery, food grains, raw materials such as coal, jute, raw cotton, or wool, besides books, and gold and unset precious stones, which are all admitted free of duty; petroleum, which pays 1 anna per gallon; and iron and steel, on which an import duty of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* is levied. At first cotton goods were exempted, but in December 1894 a 5 per cent. duty was imposed on imported cotton goods and yarns, while a countervailing excise duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed on all yarns of counts above 20 spun at power mills in British India. In February 1896 the cotton duties were revised; all cotton yarns, whether imported or manufactured in India, were freed from duty, while a uniform duty of 3½ per cent. *ad valorem* was imposed on all woven cotton goods either imported from abroad or manufactured at power mills in India, the products of the village handloom industry being exempted. A duty is levied on exported rice and rice-flour at the rate of 3 annas per maund of unhusked rice. An Act empowering the Government of India to put a countervailing duty on any imported goods which have received a bounty, direct or indirect, from the country of export, was passed in 1899; and this was put in force with regard to sugar. Subsequently, in accordance with the principles of the Brussels Convention, and in view of the protection enjoyed by sugar-growers in certain countries in their home markets, Act VIII. of 1902 was passed, by which a special additional duty was imposed on sugar coming from countries where the duties on imported sugar exceeded those levied on locally produced sugar by 6 francs per 100 kilogrammes in the case of refined sugar, or 5½ francs for other sugar, the amount of the additional duty being one-half of such excess. In August 1903 a further amendment of the Tariff Act was passed, giving power to continue the countervailing duties until the 31st March 1904, but this was subsequently held to be inconsistent with the undertakings of the Government, in view of the fact that bounties were abolished with effect from 1st September 1903 by the States adhering to the Convention, and the duties were discontinued, so far as concerned sugar of the new crop coming from those countries. Sugar, which is the produce of any of the countries adhering to the Convention, was therefore not subject to any duty in excess of the ordinary tariff rate during the year under report. Sugar entering India from the Argentine Republic, Chile, Denmark, or Russia, was subject to various rates of countervailing duty; but the amount of such sugar is negligible.

The appended table shows the changes in the net customs revenue caused by the above-mentioned changes, giving the figures for 1894-95, during which the new tariff was in force, with the addition of the 5 per cent. duty on cotton goods from the 27th December 1894; 1895-96, during which the tariff remained as at the end of the previous year, until the reduction of the cotton duties in February 1896; and the four most recent years, during the whole of which the tariff remained unchanged, with the exception of the sugar duties; the duty on woven cotton goods being 3½ per cent., and cotton yarns being on the free list:—

CUSTOMS.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
Sea Customs, import duty : Arms, ammunition, and military stores.	£ 10,126	£ 11,403	£ 10,699	£ 8,252	£ 10,925	£ 10,796
Liquors - - -	406,355	440,669	504,006	542,196	552,141	646,286
Petroleum - - -	213,118	270,782	356,438	291,303	303,465	241,125
Cotton manufactures -	256,631	776,483	634,189	653,193	803,324	877,330
Silver bullion and coin	230,557	231,859	258,976	267,069	267,691	194,685
Other metals - - -	135,078	168,641	201,716	222,827	227,170	202,911
Other articles - - -	630,450	686,725	800,565	910,205	1,032,406	1,111,451
Countervailing duties on sugar.	—	—	73,360	— 22,572	683	— 111
Export duty on rice -	594,017	609,581	823,280	780,863	858,958	751,115
Miscellaneous - - -	6,694	1,770	19,626	21,674	22,698	21,169
TOTAL Sea Customs	2,483,026	3,197,913	3,682,855	3,675,010	4,079,461	4,056,757
Land Customs - - -	15,884	13,397	18,301	21,307	24,630	20,059
Excise duty on cotton manufactures.	6,897	40,632	121,698	135,740	155,577	178,071
Miscellaneous (including warehouse and wharf rents).	10,773	18,672	18,974	18,767	19,044	17,523
TOTAL NET CUSTOMS REVENUE.	2,516,580	3,270,614	3,841,828	3,850,824	4,278,712	4,272,410

The receipts from import duties show a large increase, following the course of the import trade, but the export duty on rice gave a smaller yield. The receipts from the excise duty on cotton goods made in power mills continued to expand, and are a satisfactory indication of the prosperity of that industry.

FINANCIAL
STATES.

PROVINCIAL RATES.

At the end of the year 1904-05 some famine cesses in Northern India and the Central Provinces were abolished, and this was followed in 1906 by a further measure of remission, by which were remitted the cesses for the district post and practically all the cesses levied under the various names of patwari cess, village service cess, and the like, in Madras, the Central Province, the United Provinces, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Ajmere, and Coorg; the amount so remitted being £547,900 a year. Certain petty appropriations hitherto made from the funds of local boards for various provincial purposes were also discontinued, a further sum of £38,800 being thus given up.

By these changes it is claimed that the system of local taxation has been placed on a sound basis. The object which they are intended to secure is that provincial rates or cesses should be restricted to those levied on the land, supplementarily to the land revenue proper, by, or on behalf of, local authorities, to meet expenditure by them on genuinely local objects; and should be limited to what is required for local administration by local bodies. This object has not been completely attained, as certain exceptions still survive, but the most important of the cesses having a different purpose have been cleared away.

The following is a table of the rates and cesses collected during the year 1905-06 :—

	India (General).	Bengal.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North- West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Provinces.	Berar.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
District Local Fund : Cess on Land for ex- penditure on roads, schools, hospitals, and general purposes, and for railways in Madras.	704	286,161	385,838	145,833	11,409	122,034	30,730	27,868	99,448	462,147	176,238	1,748,410
Provincial : Cess on land for ex- penditure on roads, schools, &c.	—	286,214	—	—	—	—	45	—	53,715	—	—	339,974
Cess on land for canals and railways.	—	—	—	38,281	201	—	343	—	—	—	—	38,895
Cess on land for district post.	—	20,559	—	7,311	514	—	3,116	—	3,667	—	—	35,167
Cess on land for village service and patwaris.	2,780	570	169,225	93,508	9,438	—	34,285	20,129	—	174,897	33,828	538,660
Assessment on wards' estates for establish- ment charges.	—	9,472	18,877	1,077	162	—	—	—	1,628	—	—	31,216
Miscellaneous - - -	2,484	—	61,228	—	4	—	—	—	—	2,073	—	65,799
Total Receipts -	5,978	602,976	635,168	286,010	21,728	122,034	68,519	47,997	158,458	639,117	210,066	2,798,081
Refunds and charges of collection.	8	26,026	570	101	47	5,732	125	43	4,031	1,956	4,367	43,906
Net Receipts, 1905-06 -	5,970	576,950	634,598	285,909	21,681	116,302	68,394	47,954	154,427	637,161	205,699	2,755,045
Net Receipts, 1904-05 -	8,331	677,463	703,902	315,476	24,718	118,801	83,789	49,115	45,663	574,143	187,416	2,783,717

INCOME TAX.

INCOME
TAX.
General.

The principal provisions of the Income Tax Act (II. of 1886) are that incomes derived from salaries and pensions, or from interest on securities (classed as Parts I. and III. in the returns), if amounting to Rs. 2,000 per annum, should pay 5 pies in the rupee (equal to 6d. in the £), and if less than Rs. 2,000, 4 pies in the rupee (5d. in the £); that companies (Part II.) should pay 5 pies in the rupee on their net profits; and that income derived from other sources (Part IV.) should pay according to a graded scale from Rs. 20 on an income of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 42 on Rs. 1,999, the tax on incomes of Rs. 2,000 and upwards being 5 pies in the rupee. All incomes of less than Rs. 1,000 (£66½) a year were exempted by an Act passed at the beginning of the year 1903-04, which substituted that minimum limit for the limit of Rs. 500 which previously existed. The tax is not levied on profits or incomes derived from agriculture, or on military salaries of less than Rs. 500 a month (£400 a year).

The receipts on account of income tax in each province were as follows :—

	Net Receipts, 1904-05.	1905-06.		
		Gross Collections.	Refunds and Collection Charges.	Net Receipts.
	£	£	£	£
India (General) - - -	108,141	132,282	392	131,890
Bengal - - -	327,279	338,909	11,451	327,458
Eastern Bengal and Assam - -	16,875	39,170	966	38,204
United Provinces - - -	138,550	140,628	862	139,766
Punjab - - -	82,879	85,750	1,160	84,590
North-West Frontier Province -	7,223	7,850	157	7,693
Burma - - -	90,761	101,698	3,063	101,635
Central Provinces - - -	21,314	21,047	154	20,893
Berar - - -	17,210	17,235	1,438	15,797
Madras - - -	177,361	176,099	3,637	172,462
Bombay - - -	254,088	257,725	6,060	251,665
Total - - - £	1,241,681	1,321,393	29,340	1,292,053

INCOME
TAX.

Bengal.

The figures in the following paragraphs are taken from the provincial reports, and differ to some extent from those given above, which were taken from the final Accounts of the Government of India.

In Bengal the collections in 1905-06 amounted to £299,400, including the tax on Government salaries, compared with £277,200 in the previous year; and the number of assesseees was 44,800, compared with 43,500 in 1904-05. The revenue of the year was 7 per cent. above that of 1904-05, the improvement occurring chiefly under the head of profits of Companies, but there being also a good increase in the receipts under Part IV. These amounted to £173,200 from 29,300 assesseees, compared with £167,100 from 28,900 assesseees in 1904-05. Calcutta contributed £191,700 against £172,200 in 1904-05, and £169,300 in 1903-04; and of this amount £91,100 accrued under Part IV. from 7,040 assesseees, showing a growth of about 4 per cent. as compared with 1904-05. The collections under Parts II. and IV. show an incidence per head of the population of Re. 1½ in Calcutta, which is a little less than in Bombay. The figures, however, show the increased prosperity of Calcutta, notably among the jute and other companies.

United
Provinces.

In the United Provinces the total receipts for the year 1904-05, the last year for which returns are available, were £135,800, compared with £132,200 in 1903-04 and £189,400 in the previous year. It appears that there is a gradual tendency to increase in the receipts from this tax in the province, but no rapid growth is to be expected. The assesseees were 1 per cent. more numerous than in 1903-04; collections under Part IV. amounted to £96,200, to which Cawnpore contributed £6,800.

Punjab.

The total receipts in the Punjab in 1905-06 were £82,400, which was rather more than 1 per cent. above the receipts of the preceding year. Under Part IV. a total of £60,400 was realised from 18,776 assesseees. The separation of the North-West Frontier Province has not caused any important reduction in the receipts of recent years, owing to the paucity of wealthy income-tax payers in the districts concerned.

Burma.

With effect from the 1st April 1905 the Income Tax Act was brought into operation throughout Lower Burma. In Upper Burma the Act was only in operation in Mandalay. The total collections amounted to £102,200 from 18,255 assesseees, against £91,300 from 15,500 assesseees in 1904-05. The marked increase occurred chiefly under Part IV., and was mainly due to the extension of the operation of the Act as above stated. The total collections in Rangoon amounted to £56,900, including the tax on the salaries and profits of the Burma Railways Company; the collections under Part IV. in the town were £25,700, paid by 3,116 assesseees, an increase of more than 7 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The incidence per head of the Rangoon population (of 1901 census) of the collections in the town under Parts II. and IV. was Rs. 2½, which is higher than that prevailing in Calcutta or Bombay, owing to the receipts from the Railway Company.

Central
Provinces.

In the Central Provinces and Berar the yield in 1905-06 was £36,200, the receipts in the Central Provinces showing a small decline as compared with the preceding year. The Berar receipts (£16,900) were practically the same as in 1904-05. The receipts under Part IV. were £11,000 in the Central Provinces and £14,800 in Berar.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

In the plains districts of Eastern Bengal and Assam the yield of the tax was £58,500, which was rather below the figure for the previous year, the number of assesseees (15,687) being 3 per cent. lower. The profits of the tea companies, on which the prosperity of the province largely depends, are taxed in Calcutta and in London. Collections under Part IV. amounted to £41,200. The figures for the hill districts are not included, but they are so small as to be undeserving of mention.

The collections in Madras rose to £172,200, of which £39,300 accrued in Madras city. This figure represents 11 annas per head of population in the city. Of the grand total, £124,500 was collected under Part IV., or 2 per cent. more than in 1904-05. The collections in the city account for £20,500 only of this total, and the amount received from the profits of

companies is also insignificant compared with those of the other principal cities of India.

In the city of Bombay, where 61 per cent. of the income tax of the Presidency was paid, the receipts of 1905-06 were £155,800, from 19,656 assesseees, rather less than half of this sum being collected under Part IV. The receipts from profits of companies are important in Bombay city, amounting to £26,000. For the whole Presidency the collections amounted to £253,700, compared with £246,600 in the preceding year, the number of persons paying the tax having fallen from 45,143 to 44,700. Of this amount, £145,300 accrued under Part IV. This latter figure is nearly the same as that recorded in 1904-05, an increase in the Presidency town of about 3 per cent. under Part IV. being nearly balanced by a decline elsewhere.



CHAPTER IX.

FORESTS.

The subjoined table gives the forest receipts, expenditure, and net revenue for each province during the year 1905-06, as given in the Finance and Revenue Accounts :—

	India (General).	Bengal.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Pro- vinces.	Berar.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	59,577	74,569	162,228	113,777	8,569	688,058	115,502	47,773	73,400	197,840	232,333	1,779,566
EXPENDITURE.												
Conservancy and Works	26,121	19,274	64,068	61,749	4,345	177,409	38,026	7,318	22,836	48,247	75,285	574,758
Moral direction, Estab- lishment, &c.	22,735	20,293	29,621	22,495	2,005	85,038	42,131	9,659	18,758	62,860	66,455	380,060
TOTAL Expenditure	48,856	39,567	93,689	84,244	6,350	262,537	70,157	16,977	39,594	111,107	141,740	954,818
Net Revenue or Forest Surplus, 1905-06	10,721	35,002	68,549	34,533	2,219	426,121	45,345	30,796	34,146	46,783	90,593	824,748
Net Revenue or Forest Surplus, 1904-05	10,172	31,926	67,010	67,472	1,089	367,522	10,108	27,082	20,801	56,207	74,451	732,850

Systematic conservancy of the Indian forests is based on the Forest Law of 1878, which gave to the Government powers of dealing with private rights in the forests of which the chief proprietary right is vested in the State. The principle upon which the forest administration is based is that State forests should be administered for the public benefit, and they are worked, therefore, with a view of combining all reasonable facilities for their use by the public with the protection necessary for their preservation as sources of fuel and timber and retainers of moisture in the soil. The forests are classified, according to the degree of completeness of the management undertaken, as "reserved," "protected," or "unclassified" forests. In the case of reserved areas the control of the Forest Department is more complete than in the case of the protected or unclassified forests. In the latter category, the area of which cannot be stated with any great exactness, there are included large tracts of uncultivated land, especially in Burma, much of which will in all probability pass into cultivation as agricultural land. Among the most important measures of conservancy are the exclusion, so far as possible, of the yearly fires which used to devastate the forests, the maintenance of a supply of seed-bearing trees, and the regular reproduction of timber of the more valuable kinds. At the present time the reserves cover an area of nearly 92,000 square miles; and they may hereafter be further extended in Madras and Burma, where the work of reservation is as yet incomplete. Outside the reserves there are about 150,800 square miles of State forests, including 9,400 square miles of protected forests, nearly 9,100 square miles of "district protected forests" in the United Provinces, and a small area of leased forests. Some part of this area will eventually be brought within the "reserve" area, and all of it is, with more or less completeness, managed and worked for the benefit of the people, of their cattle, and of the public revenue. The forests with which this chapter deals are, almost exclusively, those which belong to the

State. The limited areas of private forest are, except where they have been leased to the Government, being gradually exhausted; and few private communal or village forests have been successfully brought under conservancy. In every province a very few of the most valuable timber-trees are declared to be reserved trees, and can only be felled under special licence. Outside the reserves, the country folk are generally allowed to obtain from the State forests timber, bamboos, firewood, and grass for their own use free of charge; inside the reserves, persons specially licensed are allowed to extract timber or other produce, on payment of fees, though all rights recognised by the forest settlements are preserved to the public. Forest revenue is raised by royalties on, or by the sale of, timber or other produce and by the issue at specified fees of permits to graze cattle, or to extract for sale timber, firewood, charcoal, bamboos, canes, and minor forest produce. Some of the better-managed Native States, such as Kashmir, Mysore, Travancore and Baroda, have followed the example of the British Government, and organised a systematic forest administration, and enjoy a considerable forest revenue.

The following paragraphs treat of forest administration in each province.

In Bengal, at the end of the year, the areas of reserved and protected forests were 4,260 and 3,423 square miles, the latter figure including 600 square miles under the control of the local revenue officials. Working plans had been provided for 5,122 square miles, but no addition was made to this area during the year, though work was in progress. Attempt was made to exclude fire from 1,885 square miles, and though more than 3 per cent. of this was burnt, the result is regarded as having been successful, as the season was a very bad one for fire protection. In the areas not specially protected, it is reported that a wave of incendiarism passed over parts of the Sonthal Parganas, resulting in considerable damage to the forests. Thirty per cent. of the total area was thrown open to cattle for grazing. The rubber plantation (*ficus elastica*) in the Tista division has been so far very successful; the teak plantation recently started in Southern Puri was damaged by the hot weather. The yield of timber was about six million cubic feet, a great advance on the yield of the previous year; the out-turn of fuel (28 million cubic feet) was rather smaller than in the previous year; the number of bamboos taken from the forests was 34 millions. The net financial result was rather better than that of 1904-05.

The Forest Department in United Provinces was reorganised during the year 1905-06, into two circles in place of three. The area of reserved forests was 3,935 square miles, in addition to 157 square miles of leased forests; there was also an area of 30 square miles of protected forests under the Forest Department at the end of the year, besides 9,071 square miles of "district protected forests," which are under the Forest Act, but are controlled by district officers, and 43 square miles of unclassified forest. The greater part of the area is settled and surveyed, and worked under regular working plans. The area of all the forests, other than the district protected forests, not under a working plan was 672 square miles, for much of which plans were in hand, while for most of the remainder no regular plan is required. Protection from fire was attempted over 3,200 square miles; the year was an unfavourable one owing to its dryness, and more than 4 per cent. of this area was burnt. The area thrown open to cattle, for the whole or part of the year, was 2,082 square miles, besides the large area of district protected forests. The yield of the forests was 6½ million cubic feet of timber, 11½ million cubic feet of fuel, and 14 million bamboos, besides minor produce. The removal of forest produce is almost entirely carried on by outside agency. The only important departmental operations are the supply of fuel to Naini Tal, the export of railway sleepers, and the manufacture of turpentine and colophony. The latter industry was proving a success, especially in the Naini Tal division, where it was being conducted on an increasing scale and at a satisfactory profit.

The reserved forest area administered by the Punjab Forest Department at the end of 1905-06 comprised 1,823 square miles, besides 116 square miles under military or other control. The protected forests aggregated 5,168 square miles, while an area of 1,851 square miles appears on the books of the

The total area of reserves in Madras was 19,585 square miles, of which 18,288 square miles were classed as forests. Of the reserved forests, 181 square miles were finally included during the year under report; a further area of 1,297 square miles of reserved lands was awaiting settlement and inclusion with the forests. The early completion of the remaining settlement work is anticipated, and the total of settled and systematically protected forest will amount approximately to one-seventh of the area of the Presidency, excluding the great feudatory States. A Survey of India party continued to work in the Presidency, and a certain amount of departmental survey was also done, 1,062 square miles remaining to be surveyed at the end of the year ending June 1906. As regards the management of the forests, detailed working plans were sanctioned for only 110 square miles during the year, and plans for 1,064 square miles were under preparation; but nearly half the area of the forests is still worked under annual plans. Protection from fire was undertaken over 7,200 square miles, and was successful in 94 per cent. of that area only, compared with more than 97 per cent. in 1901-05. The comparative failure is ascribed to the long period of hot weather. The regular plantations, consisting chiefly of teak in Malabar, eucalyptus on the Nilgiri and Palni hills, and casuarina on the eastern coast, covered more than 25,300 acres, and there was a large area under other cultural operations. The area of reserves open to cattle for grazing throughout the year was about 18,000 square miles. The yield of the forests according to the returns was about 2½ million cubic feet of timber and 20 million cubic feet of fuel, besides 30 millions of bamboos, and other minor produce; this out-turn of timber and fuel was less than the large yield of the preceding year. The timber included 222,000 cubic feet of teak, and many other valuable woods. The receipts were larger than in 1904-05, but the expenditure was greater, owing to the extension of departmental exploitation work; and the net surplus was smaller.

The area of the reserved forests in the Bombay Presidency was 13,158 square miles at the end of 1905-06, while that of the protected forests decreased by 26 square miles, to 1,004 square miles, owing to the transfer of certain areas to the control of the Revenue Department. There were also various reserves under the management of the Department, covering an area of about 12,000 square miles, and a large area of fodder reserves and pasture lands under the Revenue Department. Considerable progress was made with the demarcation of boundaries and ride-cutting. The area burnt was larger in the Central Circle than it was in the previous year, but elsewhere less damage was done by fire, especially in Sind, where a good inundation caused a large fall in the number of fires. The dryness of the year was also against good natural reproduction in the Central Circle. Some damage was done by frost in Sind. The financial results of the year were satisfactory; particulars as to the yield of the forests in the year ending in July 1906 are not available for inclusion.

The area of reserved forests in Coorg was increased to 505 square miles, while that of the reserved lands was 121 square miles, and of protected forests 570 square miles. The management of the forests of the latter class, consisting of village forests, or sacred groves, was transferred to the revenue authorities. No new working plans were approved during the year; such plans existed for 178 square miles. The steps taken by the Forest Department to deal with the "spike" disease in sandal trees had not yet been successful so far as the extermination of the disease is concerned, but the number of trees found to have been attacked was again less than in the preceding year, and it appears that the disease is being prevented from spreading to new areas, though its prevalence in the areas already affected is not diminished. The season was again very unfavourable as regards fires, owing to the continuous drought, but protection was undertaken over about 202 square miles, and was successful over nearly the whole of that area. The out-turn of the forests included 116,000 cubic feet of sandalwood, besides other timber.

CHAPTER X.

AGRICULTURAL AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

AGRICULTURE.

The scheme for the development of agricultural experiment and instruction, which was mentioned in last year's issue of this Statement, took shape during the year under report. It is based on the proposition, generally accepted since the date of Dr. Voelcker's visit to India in 1890, that effective improvement in Indian agriculture depends largely, or mainly, on the application of European science to Indian facts. When the Agricultural Department was reconstituted in 1881, its watchwords were agricultural inquiry, agricultural improvement, and agricultural efficiency, and inquiry was naturally taken up first. The new scheme has been formed on the same principles. India has been a land of skilled agriculturists for hundreds of generations, and one of the principal objects at present is to prosecute, with more system and energy than heretofore, the inquiries into the facts of Indian agriculture, which will enable the Government to further its development. There is, therefore, no intention to make any break in the continuity of work which has hitherto been done by Provincial Departments of Agriculture. The difference will be that the necessary researches will be prosecuted with more scientific method and greater scientific knowledge than before.

While it is inevitable that this scientific knowledge must in the first instance be obtained by the recruitment of highly-trained specialists from the United Kingdom, it is an essential part of the scheme that facilities for the best agricultural training should be available in the country, so that India may eventually be, at least to some extent, self-supporting in the matter of agricultural development. For this purpose there is to be established, in each important province, an agricultural college and research station, equipped with laboratories and class-rooms, to which will be attached a farm of suitable size. A staff of specialists has been sanctioned, the number being limited to the minimum requirements in the first instance, with a view to awaiting the results of experience, and avoiding from the outset too great a reliance on recruitment from the United Kingdom.

In each large province, with the exception of the United Provinces, the Department of Agriculture has been separated from the Department of Land Records, and placed under a separate Director. The appointment of Deputy Directors has also been sanctioned in seven provinces.

The following provincial details on the subjects of seasons and crops, agricultural inquiry and experiment, and the working of the Land Records organisation, are taken from the reports of the provincial Departments of Agriculture and of Land Records:—

The rainfall was not well distributed during the year 1905-06 in Bengal Be for any of the three agricultural seasons. It was abnormally heavy at some periods, with resultant floods, which did much damage, especially in Behar. In October, which is a critical month, there was a general insufficiency of rain. The area under crops was 42½ million acres, against 43½ millions in 1904-05, and a normal figure of 45½ millions. The winter rice crop covered less than 21 million acres, falling short by 275,000 acres of the area of the previous year, and there was a general decrease in the area of other crops, the chief exceptions being barley and jute. The final estimate of the out-turn of autumn crops was 72 per cent. of the normal, and the winter rice crop was estimated to be 85 per cent. of an average crop. Besides the winter rice crop, which is by far the most important crop of the province, the following crops are of importance:—

78 per cent. of the normal; jute, 87 per cent.; maize, 46 per cent.; sugar cane, 89 per cent.; indigo, 35 per cent.

The year was marked by the separation of the Department of Agriculture from that of Land Records, and by the initiation of a general scheme for the development of agricultural work in Bengal. A seed and implement store was established, in order to meet the numerous applications received. A site was selected for a provincial agricultural college and experiment station, near Bhagalpur, as well as one for an experiment station for South Behar at Bankipur. Various experiments were again made regarding jute cultivation at the Burdwan farm, and steps were taken by the Provincial Agricultural Association to establish four special jute farms in the jute districts. Experiments with varieties of cotton, and attempts to improve indigenous varieties by seed selection, were also in progress. The experiment stations, with the crops to which special attention was being given in each, were as follows:—Burdwan (rice and jute), Dumraon (sugar cane and wheat), Sripur (maize, oats, and millet), Cuttack (rice, jute, and potatoes), and Silpur (jute, rice, sugar cane, and potatoes). Research work was also being conducted with regard to indigo at Sirsia and Pusa, as well as in England.

The Silk Committee, formed in 1898-99 for the promotion of Pasteur's method of silkworm rearing, continued its operations in the silk-rearing districts. The whole subject of the condition of the silk industry in Bengal was under the consideration of the Government, who appointed a small Committee to inquire into the cause of the decline which has occurred, and to suggest remedial measures.

The prosperity of the United Provinces had received a severe check from the frost that occurred early in 1905. The monsoon of that year opened well, but subsequent deficiency in the rainfall caused serious loss of crops in the country along and south of the Jumna, including the districts of Muttra, Agra, the south of Etawah and Cawnpore, and the greater part of Bundelkhand. The famine conditions which resulted have already been mentioned in an earlier chapter. The crop area of the autumn harvest was 23 million acres, which is about equal to the normal, but the area under spring crops, 19 million acres, was perhaps a million below that standard. Of the autumn crops, early rice (4½ million acres) yielded 80 per cent. of the normal, millets (9½ millions) from 65 to 75 per cent.; among spring crops, wheat (6½ millions) yielded 85 per cent., barley (4½ millions) 80 per cent., gram (5½ millions) 75 per cent. But the percentages in the famine-affected portions in the south of the province were, of course, less than these.

Of the ten agricultural stations to be eventually provided in these provinces, one was already in existence, and three were established during the year. The plans for the agricultural college and laboratory were sanctioned, and classes were started. Among the operations of the Agricultural Department an important place is held by the system of distribution of seed and implements. This is of great and increasing value to the public though the staff was barely adequate to meet the great demand for seed for the spring harvest. The introduction of Muzaffarnagar wheat into parts of South Oudh in place of the inferior local variety has been one of the most satisfactory results of the system. Efforts have been made for several years in the provinces towards the improvement of the local cotton by selection and better cultivation, but little has as yet been effected. It is hoped that the cultivation of acclimatized American varieties of cotton, which has succeeded on a small scale, may be taken up by cultivators on canal-irrigated land.

At the Cawnpore experimental farm the season of the year ending in June 1906 was, on the whole, unfavourable. The operations were concerned as usual, with manurial experiments and experiments with varieties of sugar cane, cotton, poppy, rice, maize, and jowar, wheat-rusts, and some other matters. The Meerut Demonstration Farm has been abandoned.

The Land Records Staff was improved by an increase in the supervising staff, the revision of circles, the better education of patwaris (91 per cent. of whom hold certificates from a patwari school), location of a larger number of them within their circles, and greater punctuality in filing their papers. The chief blot on the administration is stated to be the unsatisfactory state of the records in some of the eastern districts.

The monsoon of 1905 opened well in the Punjab, but this was followed by a prolonged and disastrous break lasting two clear months, in the course of which those of the autumn crops which were sown on unirrigated land, outside sub-montane tracts, withered beyond all possibility of recovery. The autumn crop, therefore, was only gathered from 6½ million acres, and is estimated to have given only about two-thirds of a normal yield. Happily the spring crops, though threatened by another long break in the rains, were saved by a timely downpour, and resulted in a record harvest, both as regards area (15½ million acres) and yield. The cotton crop suffered very severely from the attacks of bollworm, and in many districts there was absolutely no yield of cotton.

The total area of crops matured on irrigated land in the year 1905-06 was about 10 million acres, or 46 per cent. of the total harvested area. This was nearly half a million acres in advance of the figure for 1904-05, and would have been larger still by about 400,000 acres, had it not been for the failure of cotton crops. The extension was practically entirely in the area served by Government canals, which irrigated over 5½ million acres; 3½ millions were irrigated from wells. Colonisation on the Chenab Canal, the extension of the Western Jumna, Bari Doab, and Sirhind Canals and construction of new canals elsewhere, have resulted in the following increase of the area irrigated by Government canals during recent years:

	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.
1899-1900	4,243,524	1902-03	4,887,677	1904-05	5,374,888
1901-02	4,530,766	1903-04	5,508,896	1905-06	5,606,237

The total area under colonisation schemes in the provinces in the year 1904-05 is stated to have been 2,345,000 acres, with a revenue demand of about £140,000.

On the Chenab Canal the area allotted to cultivators has grown steadily from 230,800 acres in 1892 to 1,819,100 acres in the year ending in September 1905, when only 84,700 acres remained for allotment, and the end of the colonisation operations was fairly in view. The area of crops sown was 1,647,500 acres, which was higher than the corrected figures for the previous year. But the cotton failure reduced nearly 300,000 acres to sterility. Good progress was made in the extension of mule breeding in the colony.

In the Jhelum colony the area allotted by the end of the year was 303,900 acres, including 156,000 acres allotted during the year; the area sown with crops was 152,300 acres. There remained an unallotted balance of 133,900 acres, to which may be added probable extensions amounting to 318,500 acres. Special conditions are imposed in the grants in this colony with regard to horse breeding. In the Churian Colony on the Bari Doab Canal 26,800 acres were allotted, bringing the total up to 73,100 acres, of which 55,100 acres were under crop during the year.

A separate Department of Agriculture has been formed for the Punjab since the close of the year ending in June 1906. A combined Agricultural College and Research Institute is to be established at Lyallpur, and experimental farms placed in each representative tract. During the year the Lyallpur farm was extended, and experiments were conducted there and in other parts of the province with respect to wheat varieties and other matters. Acclimatized American cottons were successful, and suffered less than other varieties from the prevalent bollworm; Bombay cottons failed, and Egyptian cottons were still on trial; other varieties were tried, including tree cottons, but these were sown too late, and no definite result was attained. Operations were begun at the new seed farm at Sargodha.

The efficiency of the patwari staff continued to increase with better educational qualifications and training and closer supervision. More than a third of them had passed a qualifying examination.

In the North-West Frontier Province the autumn crop for the year was poor on the whole, owing to the deficiency of the monsoon rains; but the season was very favourable for the ensuing spring crops, which are the more important resource of the province. The area of crops harvested in the year was about 2½ million acres, of which 938,600 acres were under wheat, 320,200 under barley, and 351,300 under maize, the aggregate area of cereals and pulses being rather less than two million acres. The wheat crop, the most important crop in the province, was better than in 1904-05, both in respect of area and out-turn.

In the Central Provinces the monsoon of 1905 was late in arrival; there was a long break in the first half of August, and the close was rather early. But though the conditions were not altogether favourable, it was only in a few villages that there was any failure of crops. The rice crop varied from tract to tract, but was seriously deficient only in Raipur and Bilaspur. Jowar did badly in Berar and in Wardha, where it is a crop of great importance; the out-turn was only a little over 60 per cent. of a normal crop, and in consequence both grain and fodder were very scarce there. The area under cotton was greater than in any former year, but heavy rain at the end of the monsoon resulted in its yield being below the average. The spring crops suffered from the failure of the cold weather rains. On the whole, no particular crop resulted excellently, but there was no general failure, and a fair all-round standard was reached.

Further additions were made, during the year 1905-06, to the superior staff of the Agricultural Department in the Central Provinces. The work at the Nagpur farm was continued on the same lines as in previous years, and a series of experiments in the manuring of wheat on black cotton soil was concluded. Experiments in the hybridisation of cotton had progressed to the stage of producing seven promising varieties which were to be tested for yield. The two experimental farms purchased during the preceding year at Hoshangabad and Raipur, in addition to the already existing farms at Nagpur and Telinkheri, showed as yet no notable results.

The work and conduct of the Land Record staff generally was satisfactory, and the testing of land records revealed a very small proportion of inaccuracy, though the reorganisation of the inspecting staff in Berar had not yet had time to produce the increased efficiency expected.

In Burma the rains were late in breaking, and in most Lower Burma districts an excess during the planting season was followed by a deficiency when the crops were ripening. In Upper Burma the rains were untimely and not well distributed. The area of crops fell from 12½ million acres to nearly 12½ millions, in spite of an increase in the area under occupation. The rice crop covered about 9½ million acres, which is about the same as in the previous year. The final forecast for the 15 chief rice-producing districts of Burma estimated an out-turn rather below that of 1904-05. The cultivation of cotton (173,200 acres), which had been making fairly satisfactory headway, showed a decline in consequence of the unfavourable character of the season.

Beyond experimental gardens there are no establishments in the province for the conduct of agricultural experiments; but seeds of various products which appear to merit investigation are distributed for cultivation in suitable parts of the province. There have been some successful experiments with American cotton.

The Land Records Department keeps up to date by surveys the information gained at settlement, and conducts a supplementary survey annually, for the purpose of fixing the revenue demand, over an area which amounted to 43,650 square miles in 1905-06. It also keeps up the topographical maps on a scale of 1 inch or 2 inches to the mile. The scheme for employing village headmen has been under trial, with varying results, in several districts. On the whole it appears to be working with some success, and is being extended.

The rainfall of the year 1905-06 was considerably in excess of the normal in almost all parts of the province of Eastern Bengal and Assam. Much damage was done to crops by two unusually high floods in the

Brahmaputra, and the late rice crop suffered in Eastern Bengal from the swollen state of the rivers. Owing to these causes the rice harvest was bad throughout the province. The percentage of the out-turn of the year, as compared with the normal yield of the normal area, for all crops taken together is given as 78 per cent.

The Agricultural Department of the new province was chiefly occupied with work in Assam during the year, as the experiments in progress in the transferred districts of Bengal were under the Bengal Department for a great part of the year. The important subject of the extension of jute cultivation to the districts of the Assam Valley was receiving attention, and though the experiments were not very successful during the year the cultivation was spreading, and the crop should soon be established in the large areas in those districts which are undoubtedly suited for it. Other valuable experiments were in progress at the Shillong experimental farm.

Nearly all the village officials under the Land Records Department had obtained a certificate in surveying. There were three survey schools in the province, at which 114 certificates were granted during the year. The rules for the maintenance of land records were entirely revised, and the new rules were introduced in the districts of Kamrup and Sibsagar.

On the whole the south-west monsoon of 1905 was fairly good in Madras, although the rainfall was slightly deficient throughout the Presidency, with the exception of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, and the Nilgiris. The north-east monsoon began well but ended poorly. The total crop area of the year 1905-06 was 28½ million acres, which was three-quarters of a million acres short of the normal. Most crops shared in this shortage, rice covering 7 million acres, which is less than the average, though more than in 1904-05. The chief exception was cotton, which covered 1,800,000 acres, or a quarter of a million more than the normal. The out-turn was in no case above the normal, and in the case of some crops ruled considerably below it.

The chief problems which are studied at the Bellary and Koilpatti farms are deep tillage and the use of manures. Experiments in these directions were being continued during the year. Experiments with varieties of cotton were also conducted there and elsewhere in the Presidency; arrangements have been made to supply good cotton seed, and premia have been offered to promote the sowing of pure cotton seed. Pumping experiments have demonstrated the utility of oil engines as a source of motive power for raising water for irrigation, and loans were taken by some private individuals with a view to establishing pumping machinery. A site was acquired for a new College of Agriculture at Coimbatore, and building operations have since been commenced.

Considerable additions were made to the Land Records staff during the year. The staff was mainly engaged in the preliminary operations connected with the correction and completion of field maps, and in generally carrying out the rules sanctioned by the Government for the maintenance of land records.

The principal features of the weather in the Bombay Presidency in 1905-06 were a very scanty and ill-distributed rainfall, a considerable delay in the setting-in of the south-west monsoon along the west coast, and two storms in July which caused heavy floods. The area under crops in the whole Presidency was 26½ millions of acres, of which 4½ millions were in Sind; the figures for the Presidency proper show a fall of over 5 per cent. as compared with the previous year, the decrease occurring exclusively in the Deccan and Karnatak districts; the figures for Sind show a rise of 15 per cent. owing to a favourable inundation. Forty-seven per cent. of the crop area of the Presidency, compared with 46 per cent. in 1904-05, consisted of millets; cotton covered 15 per cent. of it, which was a larger area than in the preceding year, owing to the high prices, a favourable sowing season, and the good inundation in Sind; unfortunately, the crop yielded badly, being much injured by bollworm. The wheat area was much smaller than usual in the Presidency proper, and this crop covered only about 1½ million acres, including the wheat area in Sind. The area under

the Presidency included nearly 3½ million acres in Sind irrigated by Government or private canals, the area irrigated in the Presidency proper falling to 643,000 acres, chiefly of well irrigation. As regards the yield of crops, the valuations reported are in almost all cases poor in the Deccan and Karnatak, with the sole exception of the Khaudesh district. In Gujarat and the Konkan the yields were more satisfactory, and in Sind they were generally good.

Eleven agricultural stations were in charge of the Department of Agriculture, but the unfavourable conditions of the monsoon rendered inconclusive the greater part of the experiments conducted. The most important experiments were those with cotton, and the most successful among these was the introduction of Egyptian cotton into Sind, where it was being tried on land irrigated by perennial canals. The area so cultivated was 14 acres in 1904, and 1,500 acres in 1905, and was increased to 6,000 acres in the following year. The yield is estimated to have been 400 lbs. per acre in 1905. A large number of experiments with sugar cane, ground nut, wheat, tobacco, and other crops were in progress. Progress was made with the organisation of the College of Agriculture at Poona, and a site for the new buildings was chosen. Meanwhile, the work is being carried on at the Poona College of Science.

The Land Records Department was separated from the Department of Agriculture in Bombay, and placed under a separate Director. The staff was at work in all the districts of the Presidency proper, and, in addition to their ordinary inspection duties, the officers proceeded with the training of village accountants and the preparation of a record of rights. The latter was newly started in 23 subdivisions, and continued in others, the superintendents exercising a general supervision over the work, which is prepared in the first instance by the village accountants.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

The following tables show the area under different crops, in British India, and its territorial distribution, for 1904-05, the most recent year for which complete figures are available. It is necessary to explain that the "crop area" is in all cases greater than the area of cultivated land, owing to double cropping. The extent to which this practice prevails is shown at the end of the tables. "Bengal" in these tables includes the whole of the old province of Bengal.

TERRITORIAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE PRINCIPAL CROPS IN 1904-05.

Figures in Thousands of Acres, omitting 000.

I.

	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Millets.			Gram (Pulse).	Other Food-Grains, including Pulses.	Total Food-Grains.
				Cholam or Jowar.	Cumbu or Bajra.	Other Millets and Maize.			
Upper Burma	1,990	31	—	1,011	106	96	81	339	3,654
Lower Burma	7,275	—	—	—	—	17	2	27	7,321
Assam	3,964	10	—	—	—	1	1	111	4,087
Bengal	38,037	1,456	1,515	150	32	2,815	1,086	5,532	50,623
Agra	4,424	5,534	3,353	1,974	1,702	1,437	3,892	4,370	26,686
Oudh	2,660	2,197	1,071	320	291	852	1,333	2,475	11,199
Punjab	574	7,682	1,187	1,116	1,772	1,103	2,426	1,340	17,200
North-West Frontier Province	28	822	276	53	93	360	128	92	1,852
Sind	942	491	13	479	810	2	93	267	3,097
Bombay	1,398	1,749	24	8,549	2,803	601	630	2,166	17,920
Central Provinces	4,906	3,070	14	1,764	49	154	921	4,335	15,213
Berar	26	427	—	2,798	66	3	157	418	3,895
Madras	7,222	22	3	4,784	2,608	1,804	151	5,754	22,348
Minor Provinces (Ajmere, Coorg, and Manpur).	79	19	39	83	38	68	4	28	358
Total	73,525	23,510	7,495	23,081	10,370	9,313	10,905	27,254	185,453

II.

	Oilseeds.	Condi-ments and Spices.	Sugar.	Fibres.			Indigo.	Opium.	To-bacco.
				Cotton.	Jute.	Other Fibres.			
Upper Burma	977	34	29	174	—	—	1	—	29
Lower Burma	63	23	11	15	—	—	—	—	47
Assam	315	8	45	4	32	2	—	—	5
Bengal	3,660	287	677	72	2,909	159	223	213	547
Agra	946	56	990	1,164	—	90	99	233	62
Oudh	265	9	223	27	—	24	8	160	12
Punjab	896	22	333	1,302	—	48	40	6	59
North-West Frontier Province.	57	2	26	34	—	1	—	—	8
Sind	292	4	3	218	—	1	6	—	8
Bombay	1,862	174	56	3,388	—	93	1	—	53
Central Provinces	2,013	45	21	1,192	—	76	—	—	14
Berar	301	40	2	3,069	—	25	—	—	10
Madras	1,807	537	153	2,007	—	123	132	—	111
Minor Provinces (Ajmere, Coorg, and Manpur).	35	2	—	51	—	—	—	—	—
Total	13,519	1,243	2,569	13,017	2,941	642	510	612	965

III.

	Tea.	Coffee.	Fodder Crops.	Orchards and Garden Produce.	Miscellaneous Crops.		Total Area Cropped during the Year.	Area Cropped more than once.	Net Area Cropped during the Year.
					Food.	Non-Food.			
Upper Burma	1	—	23	38	43	7	5,010	388	4,622
Lower Burma	—	—	2	344	34	77	7,937	4	7,933
Assam	338	—	37	347	32	37	5,289	325	4,964
Bengal	135	—	68	1,165	1,220	1,253	63,211	11,738	51,473
Agra	8	—	868	302	145	83	32,238*	5,654	26,584
Oudh	—	—	123	123	72	5	12,250	2,928	9,322
Punjab	10	—	2,254	131	329	14	26,957*	3,739	23,218
North-West Frontier Province	—	—	73	7	39	4	2,119*	401	2,018
Sind	—	—	2	38	—	14	3,683	326	3,357
Bombay	—	—	23	123	—	4	23,697	507	23,190
Central Provinces	—	—	279	87	10	2	19,282	1,594	17,688
Berar	—	—	—	27	—	1	7,370	19	7,351
Madras	13	51	239	866	—	369	28,756	3,230	25,526
Minor Provinces (Ajmere, Coorg, and Manpur).	—	48	—	3	11	2	510	35	475
Total	505	99	3,991	3,601	1,933	1,872	238,609	30,888	207,721

* These figures show area sown, and exceed the aggregate of the preceding columns (which, in the case of these provinces, take into account the result of sowing) by half a million acres in Agra, over 4 million acres in the Punjab, and about 300,000 acres in the North-West Frontier Province.

Regarding some of the more important staples of Indian agriculture, particulars for the year 1905-06 are given below; they are taken from the estimates published by the Government of India, which in many cases do not correspond exactly with the figures given above for the year 1904-05, the chief difference being that Native States are here included.

The ascertained and estimated area under wheat is given thus:—

	Average Wheat Area for preceding Five Years.	Areas Cultivated with Wheat in	
		1904-05.	1905-06.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Punjab	6,960,400	7,712,100	8,572,100
North-West Frontier Province	862,100	882,200	1,024,600
United Provinces	6,830,700	7,706,500	6,367,500
Bengal	1,276,400	1,324,900	1,259,000
Eastern Bengal	200,200	180,700	159,800
Central Provinces	2,051,300	3,497,100	3,446,500
Bombay	1,614,600	2,260,900	1,309,900
Sind	459,300	522,700	616,300
Hyderabad	665,500	2,126,600	934,500
Rajputana	711,900	1,023,800	683,100
Central India	1,306,900	2,227,400	1,850,500
Mysore	4,000	5,300	2,400
Total	23,593,300	28,470,200	26,226,200

The total area under wheat fell short of that of the previous year 8 per cent.; in Bombay and Rajputana there was a great decline, and in t

—	1904-05.	1905-06.
Punjab	Tons. 2,855,300	Tons. 3,510,300
North-West Frontier Province.	267,600	279,700
United Provinces	1,897,000	2,428,700
Bengal	433,200	490,000
Eastern Bengal	62,000	50,000
Central Provinces and Berar.	831,900	827,000
Bombay	356,600	270,700
Sind	126,100	193,100
Hyderabad	89,700	40,400
Rajputana	189,000	141,500
Central India	473,200	418,000
Mysore	400	100
Total	7,582,000	8,560,300

United Provinces the area was 17 per cent. less. But the yield, as shown in the margin, was estimated to be larger than in 1904-05, especially in the two chief wheat producing provinces, the Punjab and the United Provinces; the percentage of increase throughout India is given as 13 per cent.; in the United Provinces it was 28 per cent., in spite of the smaller area, and in the Punjab it was 23 per cent. Against these are to be set decreases of about 25 per cent. in Bombay and Rajputana, and of 55 per cent. in Hyderabad. The actual total of the out-turn is given as 8½ million tons, which is about one million tons greater than in 1904-05, though still below that of the abnormally successful year 1903-04, when the total was 9½ million tons. The reports from the various provinces refer to the Punjab crop as excellent, both in quantity and quality, and to that of the United Provinces in the same terms, though the unirrigated wheat suffered much from continual drought. Sind benefited by a good inundation. In other provinces the conditions were less good. Wheat prices ruled lower than in the preceding year, though not so low as in 1904; in Bombay, however, the high level of the preceding year was maintained. Wheat exports are subject to great fluctuations, as will appear from the following particulars:—

1,515,000 tons in	-	1891-92	2,500 tons in	-	1900-01
500,000	"	1895-96	515,000	"	1902-03
95,000	"	1896-97	1,296,000	"	1903-04
976,000	"	1898-99	2,150,000	"	1904-05
485,000	"	1899-1900	935,000	"	1905-06

The area under, and the yield of, the main oil-seed crops for all India may be approximately given thus:—

—	Average for preceding Five Years.	1904-05.	1905-06.
Area in acres* { Rape and mustard	3,199,500	3,640,000	3,985,700
{ Linseed	2,587,200	3,747,400	2,700,400
{ Sesamum	3,310,500	3,447,800	3,156,600
{ Earthnut	397,000	459,700	488,900
Yield in tons for all the above-mentioned crops.	Tons. 1,966,000	Tons. 1,669,800	Tons. 1,812,700

* These figures do not include an area in the United Provinces, estimated at about 3½ millions of acres, on which the crops are grown mixed with other crops. A conjectural yield for that area is included in the figure given.

Apart from the large area in the United Provinces, mentioned in the above note, regarding which no precise information can be given, the rape and mustard-seed crop is grown chiefly in the Punjab and Eastern Bengal, each of which provinces have more than a million acres under this crop, and in Bengal. There was a good sowing time and large yield in the Punjab, balanced to some extent by poor seasons in the other two provinces. The Central Provinces, Bengal and Hyderabad include most of the area under linseed in most provinces conditions were unfavourable, but the yield in Bengal

was good. Sesamum is grown chiefly in the Central Provinces, Bombay, Madras, and Hyderabad. The yield was better, especially in Bombay, than that of 1904-05, but it was not good on the whole. The earthnut area lies chiefly in Madras and Bombay; the season was favourable in the former, but suffered from want of rain in some parts of Bombay, so that although the

—	1904-05.		1905-06.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Linseed	Tons. 559,100	£ 4,219,100	Tons. 289,500	£ 2,743,700
Rapeseed	257,700	1,822,500	99,700	811,900
Cotton-seed	126,400	410,900	194,600	681,200
Sesamum	126,000	1,158,100	84,300	979,500
Castor-seed	73,000	461,100	64,900	524,500
Earthnuts	83,700	645,200	68,700	579,000
Other sorts	117,700	890,300	76,900	753,000
Total	1,343,600	9,607,200	878,800	7,072,800

area under the crop was greater than in the previous year, the out-turn showed no increase. The total amount and value of the oil seeds exported in 1905-06 is shown in the margin to have been considerably below the exports of 1904-05. There was again a fall in the export of earthnuts, but in addition to the figure given in the marginal table, which relates to the trade of British India only, there is a large export of earthnuts from Pondicherry to France.

The provinces for which rice crop statistics are given below ordinarily include over 70 per cent. of the Indian rice crop. The winter rice crop of Bengal is by far the largest factor, and it covered, in the year under report, an area of nearly 21 million acres, or slightly less than in the preceding year. The figures estimated for the last two years are as follows:—

—	Area in Acres.			Yield in Tons of Cleaned Rice.		
	Average of preceding Five Years.	1904-05.	1905-06.	Average of preceding Five Years.	1904-05.	1905-06.
Bengal*	24,024,500	25,553,900	25,167,300	10,740,000	11,307,300	11,437,300
Eastern Bengal	12,120,500	12,382,400	12,373,900	5,270,000	5,908,000	5,560,000
Madras	6,971,500	6,322,700	6,484,700	2,613,100	2,024,800	2,260,300
Burma (15 districts)	6,450,000	6,909,000	6,600,600	2,851,700	3,036,700	2,897,000

* There is also a summer rice crop, which covered 420,500 acres in Bengal and Eastern Bengal together in the year under report.

The total yield of these provinces was expected to be slightly below the yield of 1904-05, chiefly owing to a falling off in Eastern Bengal. Other provinces, notably the United Provinces and the Central Provinces, produce a large quantity of rice, a considerable proportion of their cultivable area (generally amounting to about 16 million acres) being thus employed, as may be seen from the table given earlier in this chapter. The quantity of rice and rice-flour exported from India and Burma beyond the sea in 1905-06 was 2,152,400 tons, which was about 13 per cent. below the total of the preceding year. About 75 per cent. of the exports went from Burma, which also exported 460,000 tons of rice to other provinces and States in India, some of which was for trans-shipment for the East Coast of Africa. It is estimated that Burma had for the year 1906 an exportable surplus of 1,800,800 tons of cleaned rice.

The Indian export duty of three annas per maund on rice yielded to the Indian Treasury a net sum of £751,100 in 1905-06, against £859,000 in the previous year.

AGRI-
CULTURAL
PRODUCE.

In the Year	From China.	From India.	From Ceylon.
1865	93 per cent.	2 per cent.	0 per cent.
1875	86 "	13 "	0 "
1885	66 "	30 "	2 "
1895	16 "	46 "	32 "
1905	5 "	54 "	36 "

The duty levied on tea imported into the United Kingdom was reduced from 8d. to 6d. per lb. with effect from 1st July 1905, and from 6d. to 5d. with effect from the 11th May 1906. There was also a reduction in the German import duty, which from the 1st March 1906 was equivalent to 1½ anna per lb., compared with 5½ annas before that date. Prices of tea at the Calcutta sales showed a small rise in Broken Pekoe and superior qualities, but a fall in Pekoe, Pekoe Souchong, and inferior qualities, which have only in one previous year (1900) stood lower.

COFFEE.

Cultivation of coffee is restricted for the most part to a limited zone in Mysore, Coorg, and the Madras districts of Malabar and the Nilgiris. The area reported as under coffee at the end of 1905, with corresponding figures for the two preceding years, is given below; but the figures are not of much value, as information is in some cases withheld by planters, especially in Madras:—

	1903.	1904.	1905.
	Aeres.	Aeres.	Aeres.
Coorg	52,638	48,142	48,215
Madras	57,643	56,213	57,053
Mysore	111,854	104,287	101,319
Travancore and Cochin	6,334	6,256	6,019
Burma, Assam, &c.	346	335	196
Total	228,815	215,233	212,832

It is noticeable that while the area has been steadily diminishing, the exports which account for nearly the whole of the crop have steadily risen during the last five years, and were larger in 1905-06 than in any of the previous sixteen years. The estimate of the production in India during 1905 is about 40½ million pounds. But this cannot be relied on. It is impossible to estimate the amount of local consumption, but it is probably considerable in Southern India at all events. The amount of exports from British India is shown below:—

	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
To United Kingdom	17,075,000	20,983,000	19,307,000
" France	11,717,000	10,850,000	14,810,000
" other Countries	3,828,000	5,087,000	6,223,000
Total	32,620,000	36,920,000	40,340,000

The average price for the year, based on the values declared for export, was lower than in 1904-05, and in fact lower than that of any year in the last decade, with the exception of 1903-04. The returns show that 24,700 persons were employed permanently, and 53,700 temporarily, on the coffee estates, but the figures seem incomplete.

Weather conditions were favourable for the Bengal jute crop of 1905; some damage was done by floods, but they are said to have affected quality rather than quantity. The area of the 1904 crop was 2,850,000 acres, and this was exceeded by 11 per cent. in the following crop, which is estimated to have covered 3,145,000 acres. Both figures are much in advance of the average of previous years. The total yield, in bales of 400 lbs., was

estimated at nearly 8½ million bales in 1905, against 7½ millions in 1904, and an average of 6½ million bales in each of the preceding five years. These figures do not include the small jute production of Assam, of Cooch Behar, and of Nepal, which would increase the total estimate by about 176,000 bales. The demand for jute was keen, and the consumption by Indian mills was rapidly increasing. The total Indian consumption is estimated at rather less than 14½ million cwts. in the year under report. The fluctuations of the jute export trade during recent years have been as follows:—

Year.	Raw Jute.		Jute Manufactures.	Total Exports. Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	
	Cwts.	£	£	£
1900-01	12,415,000	7,245,000	5,243,000	12,488,000
1901-02	14,755,000	7,865,000	5,807,000	13,672,000
1902-03	13,036,000	7,418,000	6,013,000	13,431,000
1903-04	13,721,000	7,812,000	6,313,000	14,125,000
1904-05	12,875,000	7,977,000	6,626,000	14,605,000
1905-06	14,180,000	11,417,000	8,299,000	19,716,000

Of the raw jute exports in 1905-06, about 42 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 19 per cent. to Germany, 14 per cent. to the United States, and 11 per cent. to France. There was a very noteworthy increase in the price of jute as compared with the preceding year; the average value of raw jute, as declared for export, worked out at Rs. 11·8 per cwt., compared with Rs. 9·3 in 1904-05.

The decline of the indigo crop, both as regards area of cultivation and out-turn, continued during the 1905 season. The area, as shown in the marginal table, had diminished by 20 per cent. since the previous year; and the estimated out-turn was lower by nearly 25 per cent. as compared with the already much diminished figures of 1904-05. The character of the rainfall, at one time deficient, at another in great excess, contributed to the bad result. The out-turn for the four provinces in which the crop is grown to any extent is given as 44,700 cwt. altogether, compared with 58,900 cwt. in 1904 and an average of 110,300 cwt. for each of the preceding five years. The following figures show the steady decline in exports by sea:—

	Cwts.	£		Cwts.	£
1895-96	187,000	valued at 3,570,000	1903-04	60,400	valued at 717,500
1900-01	102,000	" 1,424,000	1904-05	49,300	" 556,400
1902-03	65,000	" 804,000	1905-06	31,200	" 390,900

The area under sugar in India is estimated as follows for the provinces mentioned:—

	Area in Acres.			Out-turn in Tons.	
	Average of Five Preceding Years.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.
Bengal	494,200	449,400	446,900	441,900	452,300
Eastern Behgal	—	183,600	176,100	189,800	162,700
United Provinces	1,188,300	1,212,600	1,228,900	4,183,400	884,000
Punjab and North-West Frontier Province.	358,800	351,400	198,300	260,900	111,800
Madras	50,900	47,800	60,600	90,000	114,500

AGRI-
CULTURAL
PRODUCE.

These provinces ordinarily contain some 95 per cent. of the whole sugar cane crop of India. On the whole the season 1905-06 was not favourable to the crop. Serious damage was done to the seed cane in Northern India by the weather early in the year, and later on the United Provinces, the most important sugar area in India, experienced the effects of continued drought. The area was 2,110,800 acres, or 6 per cent. less than in the preceding year, the chief proportionate decline being in the Punjab. The total yield of raw sugar is shown as 1,725,300 tons. But it must be stated that the output in the year being about 20 per cent. less than the average of five years, the out-turn for all the previous year, especially in the United Provinces, had been a remarkably good one. As compared with the average of five years, the out-turn for all the provinces showed a decrease of 12 per cent. The imports of sugar, including confectionery and molasses, during recent years are given as follows, the figures representing for the most part refined sugar:—

	1898-99.	1899-1900.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06
From—	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Austria-Hungary	53,187	38,891	66,065	112,897	44,401	14,963	72,062	117,036
Germany	20,698	3,026	20,100	28,857	7,284	365	8,824	35,636
Mauritius	105,205	88,667	124,476	109,158	118,309	144,156	89,830	115,370
China	9,284	15,850	24,372	9,138	28,430	17,449	14,250	6,535
Java	8,125	12,909	11,262	16,033	28,683	66,777	100,167	96,463
Other Countries	6,776	8,700	17,565	21,654	74,686	72,982	61,686	42,516
Total	203,875	168,043	263,840	297,737	273,110	316,692	346,819	413,556

Of the total for 1905-06, 171,600 tons were beet sugar. The imports from Austria-Hungary, which had at one time declined, stood higher in 1905-06 than they have ever done. The table goes back some way, with the view of showing the effect on imports of the countervailing duties imposed in 1899 and subsequent years, but not levied in the last two years on the produce of countries which, adhering to the Sugar Convention, had abolished sugar bounties, i.e., nearly all large sugar-producing countries.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL
VETERINARY
DEPART-
MENT.Horse, mule,
and donkey
breeding.

The entire control of horse, mule, and donkey breeding in certain districts, whether with Imperial or District Board stallions, has been transferred from the Civil Veterinary Department to the Army Remount Department; the work of the Civil Department being confined, as regards those districts, to questions connected with cattle. The districts in question are those, situated in the Punjab, Baluchistan, the United Provinces, and the Bombay Presidency, in which horse or mule breeding specially flourishes. Outside them, the Civil Department controls breeding operations of every sort. Government stallions are allotted only to the selected districts, but the stallions provided partly from District Board funds, and partly from provincial revenues, with the assistance of grants from the Government of India, in the non-selected districts are controlled by the Department. Of these there were on the register, at the end of 1905-06, 54 horse stallions, 111 ponies, and 70 donkeys, a large proportion in each case being located in the United Provinces and the Punjab. The district horse and donkey stallions covered 10,600 mares in the year under report, but it is reported that a greater number of stallions could well be utilised if the question of their maintenance, which the district boards often find difficult owing to lack of funds, could be adjusted.

As regards cattle, the operations of the Department are intended to be directed towards improvement of the breeds, investigation of diseases, and maintenance of veterinary dispensaries. There were during the year 63 Government bulls and 224 bulls owned by district boards, the greater number of them being in the Punjab, the only province which has as yet done much in the direction of keeping stud bulls. There were five provincial cattle farms, viz., two in Bengal, one in Bombay, and two in the Central Provinces, and various proposals for the establishment of such farms in the United Provinces and elsewhere have been under consideration.

most important centre of cattle-breeding is the Hissar Cattle Farm, in the Punjab. The farm contained 19 herd bulls and 889 cows, selected with great care as good specimens of the Harriana and Nagore breeds, besides a large number of young stock and cultivation bullocks, and some mules, donkeys, and zebras. Thirty-five bulls were sold from the farm during the year, nearly all of them having been purchased for work in the districts of the Punjab. They were carefully reared, pure-bred Harriana cattle, and are sure to improve rapidly the stock of the districts in which they are placed, as they are better than any stock obtainable in the open market. The aim is to maintain a herd of 1,100 cows, so as to meet present demands for ordnance bullocks and bulls for use of districts and at the farm. Mule and donkey breeding operations are also carried on at the farm; and the cultivation has been greatly improved. A large number of cattle fairs and shows were inspected and favourable reports were generally given of the classes of animals shown. Prizes are offered both out of Imperial and local funds.

Rules were framed for applying the Glanders and Farcy Act in Calcutta and its suburbs, where the disease is very prevalent, as it is also in many other parts of Bengal. Surra, of which severe outbreaks were reported in the Punjab during the year, is scheduled under the above-mentioned Act when feasible.

Among cattle, rinderpest continued to be very destructive, and appeared in the Bombay Presidency, as well as the rest of India; the limited numbers of the staff of the Department, and the difficulty of introducing preventive inoculation on a sufficiently large scale owing to the objections of the people, hampered the attempts to deal with the disease. In other parts of India inoculation continued to be very efficacious, and was being introduced whenever possible; opposition to its use is reported to be fast disappearing, and it is generally found that villagers now welcome it as a preventive measure. The number of outbreaks of rinderpest dealt with was 1,336, and 128,500 cattle were immunised, of whom only 365 died after being inoculated, though 20,500 cattle died of the disease during the course of the outbreaks. The success attained with anthrax inoculation was no less satisfactory; only two animals died out of 22,900 inoculated, in 10 outbreaks treated. A serum for hæmorrhagic septicæmia was issued from the Muktesar Laboratory, for the first time in the year under report. A limited supply only was available, but it was employed in 113 outbreaks, and proved to be very effective. For *charbon symptomatique*, sanction was given to the use of "blacklegoids," prepared from a vaccine efficacious in producing immunity by a single inoculation. These have been widely used in America with excellent results. There was a good increase in the number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries, of which there were 87 in the Punjab, 81 in Burma, and 122 in the rest of India, the total being 21 in advance of 1904-05. Since the close of the year, steps have been taken to put the subordinate veterinary establishments on a better footing. The important subject of camel disease investigation is receiving special attention, an officer having been specially appointed to the Department with that purpose.

The total number of students who passed out from the various veterinary colleges and schools was 100, of whom 75 had gone through a three years' course, the remainder having taken the salutri's two-year course at Bombay or having passed through the Burma School. The salutri course at the Bombay College has now been closed. Excellent progress was made in the development of veterinary education in all provinces, and when all the improvements contemplated or in execution have been carried out, the equipment and buildings of the Indian colleges will compare favourably with those of other countries.

Co-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

The year 1905-06 has seen a promising development of the work of instituting agricultural banks and other societies under the Cooperative Credit Societies Act of 1904. At the beginning of the year there were only 41 societies in all, with a capital of £3,600, of which the State had contributed, by way of loan, £640. By March 1906 the number of societies

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

Provinces, was 490, of which 433 were rural, 35 urban, and 22 central societies. The members of all registered societies numbered 26,720; the capital raised by them amounted to £33,100, of which £9,400 was borrowed from non-members, £8,300 deposited and £8,700 paid as share capital by members, and £4,700 advanced by the State. On the whole a profit was made on the year's working, and there was no failure which resulted in actual loss of their money to members or depositors. The Government of India consider that these figures show a satisfactory progress, and that no movement already bids fair to become established in all provinces. But they recognise that it is wise at the outset to proceed with caution, so that no society may fail for want of proper supervision and encouragement, or through the neglect of sound business methods, since one failure may more than counterbalance many successes. The matter is still regarded as being in an experimental stage, and local Governments are prepared to encourage different forms of society with the view of ascertaining by experience which form is most suitable to each locality. General interest has been displayed in the movement in all parts of India, and help has been rendered by land-owners, planters, and others, including in many instances, moneylenders, who have only in a few places offered serious opposition. A Conference of the provincial Registrars of Co-operative Credit Societies was held at Simla in September 1906, when many important details came under discussion.

MINERAL RESOURCES AND MINING.

There has been an increase in the value of the output of the more important minerals, for which returns are available, the estimate for 1905 being £5,708,000, against £5,358,000 for 1904. This estimate, being based on local value in a country where metallurgical industries are in a rudimentary condition, cannot be compared with similar estimates in countries where the crude mineral product is near its market. But the estimate serves for the comparison of one year with another.

In the case of coal, the Indian output has risen from 8,216,700 tons in 1904 to nearly 8,417,700 tons in 1905, the Bengal mines giving about 86 per cent. of the total. The details are given below. The increase in 1905 is much less than that shown in 1904, but the latter was unduly swollen by the accident in the Singareni mine in 1903, which operated as a serious check to production in that year.

	Coal produced in				
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bengal - - - - -	5,487,600	6,259,200	6,361,200	7,063,700	7,234,100
Hyderabad - - - - -	421,200	455,400	362,700	419,500	454,300
Assam - - - - -	254,100	221,100	239,300	266,800	277,200
Rewah State - - - - -	164,400	171,500	193,300	185,800	157,700
Central Provinces - - - - -	191,500	197,000	159,200	139,000	147,300
Other provinces or states - - - - -	116,900	120,300	122,700	141,900	147,100
Total - - - - -	6,635,700	7,424,500	7,438,400	8,216,700	8,417,700

With the exception of Central India (Rewah), all the important coal sources showed an increased output. Since the close of 1905, the colliery at Warora in the Central Provinces has been definitely closed, in consequence of a serious subsidence in March 1906. The coal sources included under "other provinces" were in Baluchistan, the Punjab, and Rajputana (Bikanir). No coal was produced during the year in Kashmir. In Burma, new coal fields were being prospected. The exports of Indian coal, though still small compared with the production and internal consumption, exceeded previous records in 1905, the amount being 783,800, against 602,800 tons in 1904. The railways have reduced their purchases of foreign coal almost to vanishing point, while at the same time a diminution has in recent years, though not in the year under report, been observed in the proportion (31.7 per cent. in 1905) borne by them to the total output of the Indian mines, a fact which points to the development of other coal consuming industries. Of the coal (188,700 tons) imported, the greater part comes from the United Kingdom.

MINERAL RESOURCES. IRON.

The iron ore raised in Bengal, mainly for the Barakar Iron and Steel works, amounted to 95 per cent. of the reported total for India. The full returns for the whole country in 1905 show a total quantity of 102,100 tons of ore, valued at about 2s. 8d. a ton, or £12,500. Prospecting operations in the Raipur district of the Central Provinces have proved the existence of an enormous body of hæmatite, with 68 per cent. of iron. Rich ore bodies have also been determined in the Magurbhanj state of Orissa, and it has been decided by Messrs. J. N. Tata and Sons to erect iron and steel works at Sini, on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, with the intention of using this ore in conjunction with fuel from the Jherria coal field.

The production of gold continued to increase, the amount being 630,800 GOLD. ounces, valued at £2,417,000, in 1905, compared with 618,700 ounces, valued at £2,366,000, in 1904. Nearly all the output comes from the Kolar gold fields in the Mysore State, though reef mining has recently been commenced at the Hutti mine in Hyderabad, which yielded more than 13,000 ounces in 1905.

There was a considerable rise in the output of manganese ore, which rose MANGANESE. from 150,300 tons to 253,900 tons, chiefly in consequence of the temporary closing of the manganese industry in the Caucasus, and the resulting rise in price. Up to 1899 the ore came exclusively from Madras, but since then a still larger quantity (160,000 tons in 1905) has been obtained from the Central Provinces, where the ore bodies are very rich and pure. An increasing quantity also comes from the Jhabua State, in Central India.

The returns of the mica output show a total of 25,600 cwt. in 1905, valued MICA. at £83,500. These figures are untrustworthy, but the amount exported in 1905-06 was very much larger than in the preceding year, 133,200 cwt. compared with 18,300 cwt. The value did not show a corresponding rise, as some of the mica extracted in Bengal was of very inferior quality. The Madras output, though smaller in quantity, is of much better value.

The ruby industry in Burma has been prosperous during recent years, RUBIES. the yield of rubies, including small quantities of sapphire and spinel, in the year ending in February 1906, being stated as 266,600 carats. Considerable quantities of rubies are also obtained by native miners, working under licence from the Burma Ruby Mines Company, but accurate returns are not available.

The yield of petroleum again shows a huge increase, the total for India PETROLEUM. in 1905 having been 144½ million gallons, against less than 118½ million gallons in 1904. It comes almost entirely from Burma, where the increase represents 22.6 per cent., the greatest proportionate development having been in the new Singu field, on the left bank of the Irrawaddy, which produced twice as much as the Yenangyat field, though still less than half the yield of the Yenangyaung field. The Burma Oil Company are stated to be holding a large portion of the Singu field in reserve. The oil imported in 1905 fell to 62,327,600 gallons, of which 27 per cent. (compared with 60 per cent. in 1904) came from Russia, and 30 per cent. from the United States. The decline as compared with the previous year was great, but was entirely confined to Russian oil, as the amounts imported from America, the Straits Settlements, Sumatra, and Borneo all increased. Exports of petroleum to places outside in India fell from 3,787,700 gallons to 2,422,600 gallons.

The number of mines of all kinds coming under the Mines Act of 1901, that is to say, excluding quarries or excavations of a less depth than 20 feet, was 640 in the year 1905, of which 280 were coal mines, situated chiefly in Bengal. They gave employment to an average daily number of 109,600 persons, of whom 70,100 were men, 33,600 women, and 5,900 children under twelve years old; 69,950 persons, including 21,800 women and 1,300 children, were employed below ground. The number of all persons employed was 2,200 more than in 1904; but increase in mica workers accounts for more than 2,000 of these. The number employed in coal mines was less by 1,500, but the output in British India was considerably greater; which is taken to be an encouraging fact, as showing increased efficiency in the Indian miner, who at present is estimated to do only 35 per cent. of the work of an English miner. Much of the labour supply is casual or nomadic in character, and a system of weekly in place of daily payments has been introduced at some collieries, with good results in the direction of steadying the supply. The

comparatively high wages paid at the coalfields, and the steady increase of the coal-mining industry, are expected before long to have the effect of establishing a permanent mining population, when the skill, and therefore the efficiency, of the miner, will tend to increase. There were 65 fatal accidents, causing 71 deaths, during the year 1905. The latter number shows a reduction as compared with 1904, and the resultant death rate, '64 per mille, is considered by the Chief Inspector to be very low. But the workings of Indian mines in their present stage of development are not elaborate, so that the liability to accidents is less than in more developed mines. Most of the fatal accidents occurred in coal mines.

The only Mining Board under the Mines Act of 1901 which was at work during the year under report was that for Lower Bengal, which, indeed, is by far the most important mining centre in India. The Board held five meetings during the year, and gave valuable advice upon the many important questions referred to it. A Mining and Geological Institute of India was inaugurated at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XI.

PUBLIC WORKS.

GENERAL.

At the close of the year preceding that now under review, considerable modifications were introduced in the organization of the Public Works Department and its relations with the Government of India by the constitution of the Railway Board and the formation of a new Department of Commerce and Industry.

The Railway Board was constituted in March 1905 and took over most of the duties of the Railway Branch of the Public Works Department Secretariat which was then abolished. It is provided with a Secretary and the necessary establishment for the conduct of its business, and the orders issued by it are accepted as orders of the Government of India. The creation of the Board was due to the great expansion that has taken place in the railway system of India, and the necessity which has in consequence arisen for providing more powerful and efficient machinery for the rapid disposal of the increasing business. Its central idea was that there should be a body of practical business men entrusted with full authority to manage the railways of India on commercial principles, and freed from all non-essential restrictions or needlessly inelastic rules. The Board, as constituted, was composed of Mr. (now Sir) F. R. Upcott, C.S.I., Chairman, Mr. W. H. Wood, English Member, and Mr. T. R. Wynne, C.I.E., with Mr. Neville G. Priestley as Secretary. As a means by which it might communicate with the Government of India, the Board was subordinated to the new Department of Commerce and Industry, the Member for which represents it on the Council of the Governor-General.

The Department of Commerce and Industry was created by a resolution of the Government of India, dated 1st March 1905.

By these changes the Public Works Department was relieved of a considerable proportion of its duties. The subjects relating to civil buildings, communications, irrigation and canals, and miscellaneous public works (including docks and harbours) were, however, left to its care. It no longer remains the sole charge of a Member of the Governor-General's Council, but forms, jointly with another Department, that of Revenue and Agriculture, the charge of one Member. Sir Charles Lewis Tupper, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., represented the Department in the Council of the Governor-General during the early part of the year under review. On 19th October 1905, however, he was relieved in the appointment by Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I. The post of Public Works Secretary was held by Mr. S. Preston, C.I.E., until his retirement in September 1905, from which date Mr. L. M. Jacob, C.S.I., filled the appointment.

The engineer establishments of the Department are divided into (a) the Public Works Department and (b) the Public Works Department (Railway Branch). These establishments, including the Bombay and Madras numbers, but excluding that of the now separate Military Works Department, were considerably increased during the year.

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KES.

The following statement shows the composition of the superior engineer establishment as it stood on the 30th June in 1905 and 1904 :—

	Public Works Department.			Public Works Department (Railway Branch).	Total.
	Government of India List.	Government of Madras List.	Government of Bombay List.		
Royal Engineer officers -	14	2	2	36	54
Other military officers -	4	—	—	3	7
<i>Civil Engineers :</i>					
Appointed from Europe -	228	56	47	97	428
Europeans appointed in India -	103	3	6	35	147
Natives appointed in India -	74	22	28	5	129
Total for 1905 -	423	83	83	176	765
Total for 1904 -	581	84	81	Included in Public Works Department Lists.	746

The upper subordinate engineering staff is largely composed of natives. The numbers of this establishment were as follows :—

	Public Works Department.			Public Works Department (Railway Branch).	Total.
	India.	Madras.	Bombay.		
Europeans -	141	51	30	33	255
Natives -	324	124	181	48	677
Total -	465	175	211	81	932

The engineering branch of the Department is divided into two services, Imperial and Provincial, the former of which is recruited in England and the latter in India. The pay, and leave and pension rules, of the two services are different, but in other respects there is no distinction between the members of the two divisions, and the highest posts in the Department are open to both. The civilian element of the Imperial service was formerly recruited entirely from the Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill. This College was closed, however, at the end of October 1906, and the recruitment of certain candidates in 1905 and 1906 was made from students who had obtained one of the University degrees prescribed by the Secretary of State in Council, or such diploma or other distinction in engineering at some institution connected with one of the Universities named as was in the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor of that University approximately equivalent thereto. In making these appointments the Secretary of State for India acted with the advice of a Selection Committee, including an eminent representative of the engineering profession. The Provincial service draws its recruits from students of the Indian colleges who are natives of India, and from upper subordinates of the Public Works Department.

The operations included in this chapter under the head of "Public Works" are of three kinds, viz., Railways, Irrigation, and Buildings and Roads. The Railway Department is an Imperial service under the control of the Government of India, or of the Railway Board in so far as the powers of the Government of India have been delegated to it. The establishment employed on irrigation, and on buildings and roads, is subdivided into different Provincial services, controlled by the local administrations subordinate to the Supreme Government. Under the head of "Buildings and Roads" are included many miscellaneous works, such as improvements in towns, paving, water supply and drainage, harbours, lighthouses, &c.

PUBL
WORK

The annual expenditure on public works is met partly from money raised by loan and partly from the ordinary revenues of the year. The class of works on which borrowed money is expended comprises the railway and large irrigation works, which are expected to yield sufficient net revenue to cover the interest on the capital expended on them. For the railways and more important irrigation systems, distinct capital and revenue accounts are kept, but for the smaller works of irrigation, and most of the works included in the class of buildings and roads, such accounts are not kept, though a distinction is made in the accounts between expenditure on new works and expenditure on repairs to existing works.

The following statement of the total receipts and expenditure under the head of "Public Works" for 1905-06 is compiled from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the year :—

RECEIPTS.		£
Railways -	-	24,594,148
Irrigation -	-	3,006,663
Buildings and Roads -	-	536,717
TOTAL -	-	28,137,528

EXPENDITURE.

	Charged to Revenue.	Not charged to Revenue.
<i>Railways :</i>		
Construction -	£ 7,195	£ 9,410,199
On Revenue Account -	22,592,182	—
<i>Irrigation :</i>		
Construction -	128,863	556,194
Ditto from Famine Relief Grant -	296,573	—
On Revenue Account -	2,880,432	—
<i>Buildings and Roads :</i>		
Military Works -	1,094,905	—
Civil Works -	5,355,207	—
TOTAL -	£ 32,355,357	9,966,393

The expenditure charged against revenue includes the following items of "Interest on Debt" :—

	£
Railways -	4,854,914
Irrigation -	1,041,456

On the 31st of March 1906, £149,035,455. of permanent public debt had been incurred on account of railways, and £27,050,799 on account of irrigation. The very large increase of £21,342,143 on account of railways is partially accounted for by the purchase of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, involving the addition of £12,480,446 to the debt.

The amount paid under the head of "Annuities in purchase of railways," which is included in the Railway Revenue Account, is £2,869,707.

RAILWAYS.

In the financial year 1905-06 there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure amounting to Rs. 3,00,29,480 or £2,001,966. The table below is taken from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India for 1905-06:—

	Imperial.	Provincial and Local.	England (sterling converted at £1 = Rs. 15).	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£
Railways—				
State railways—(Gross traffic receipts).	23,583,627	45,687	230	23,629,544
Guaranteed companies—(Net traffic receipts).	921,975	—	—	921,975
Subsidised companies—(Repayment of advances of interest).	24,775	—	17,853	42,628
TOTAL	£ 24,530,377	45,687	18,083	24,594,147
EXPENDITURE.				
Railway Revenue Account—				
State Railways—				
Working expenses	11,642,348	27,380	—	11,669,728
Interest on debt	3,685,632	—	1,169,282	4,854,914
Annuities in the purchase of railways.	—	—	2,869,707	2,869,707
Sinking funds	—	—	144,030	144,030
Interest chargeable against companies on advances.	229,360	3,219	265,719	498,298
Interest on capital deposited by companies.	24,070	4,522	1,286,599	1,315,191
Guaranteed companies—				
Surplus profits, land and supervision.	126,225	—	—	126,225
Interest	2,688	—	1,038,620	1,041,308
Subsidised companies—				
Land, &c.	30,633	6,633	—	37,266
Miscellaneous railway expenditure	32,617	2,897	—	35,514
TOTAL	£ 15,773,573	44,651	6,773,957	22,592,181
Net gain			£	2,001,966

In the figures of expenditure are included all charges falling on the Government for the management and working expenses of railways, for interest on capital outlay, as well as for the gradual redemption (by charge to the revenue account) of the commuted capital of the East Indian, Eastern Bengal, Sind, Punjab, and Delhi, and Great Indian Peninsula railways, through the agency of sinking funds and annuities, and of that portion of the Oudh and Rohilkhand railway debt incurred in excess of the money raised through the agency of the "Discount" Sinking Fund. The figures also include charges for control, for land required by the companies, and for miscellaneous items, such as headquarters establishment and surveys.

2. The statistical results of working the various classes of railways during 1906 are given in the following table. The aggregate net earnings of all Indian railways, including steamboat service and suspense items,

but excluding indirect charges, produced a return of 5·92 per cent. on the total capital outlay on open lines, against 6·07 per cent. in the previous year:—

Class.	Length of Line open on the 31st December 1906.	Total Capital Outlay on Open Lines to the 31st December 1906, including Steamboat and Suspense.	Total Number of Passengers carried.	Total Weight of Goods carried.	Gross Earnings, including Steamboat Service.	Working Expenses, including Steamboat Service.	Net Earnings, including Steamboat Service.	Percentage of net Earnings on Capital Outlay on open Lines.
5' 6" Gauge.	Miles.	£	No.	Tons.	£	£	£	
State lines worked by companies	7,674·80	98,713,667	90,473,700	28,839,000	13,139,067	5,338,600	7,200,467	
State lines worked by the State	8,300·26	56,757,467	52,861,800	11,886,000	6,178,333	3,346,866	2,831,467	
Companies' lines guaranteed under old contracts.	904·01	9,769,733	10,720,000	1,654,000	1,012,000	596,133	415,867	
Companies' lines guaranteed under modern contracts.	32·04	195,000	296,000	70,000	21,733	10,866	10,867	
Assisted companies' lines	947·94	4,171,867	6,855,900	1,278,000	833,200	264,067	269,133	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies.	711·32	4,784,600	3,689,100	1,480,000	371,934	130,334	241,600	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency.	201·69	797,400	2,353,500	429,000	121,133	64,400	56,733	
TOTAL FOR 1906	15,770·56	174,780,734	167,852,000	43,633,000	21,377,400	10,351,266	11,026,134	6·31
TOTAL FOR 1905*	15,114·22	168,636,887	151,144,600	38,992,000	20,304,333	9,401,066	10,903,267	6·47
3' 3 1/2" Gauge.								
State lines worked by companies	7,676·65	48,296,867	64,049,900	10,630,000	5,338,667	3,009,334	2,329,333	
State lines worked by the State	773·34	4,886,000	6,983,600	1,255,000	681,600	364,867	316,733	
District Boards' lines	103·36	819,867	1,660,000	308,000	30,800	24,400	15,400	
Assisted companies' lines	1,436·44	6,943,133	19,074,100	3,980,000	720,933	334,333	386,600	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies.	756·40	3,147,967	5,011,700	785,000	313,867	170,300	143,567	
Lines owned and worked by Native States.	1,305·93	3,040,800	4,316,800	766,000	398,600	168,967	229,633	
Lines in foreign territory	73·60	1,178,866	711,000	283,000	34,733	21,066	13,667	
TOTAL FOR 1906	13,125·92	67,830,800	101,706,100	16,810,000	7,538,200	4,092,867	3,445,333	5·07
TOTAL FOR 1905*	11,980·22	64,053,133	92,070,200	15,362,000	7,167,333	3,695,466	3,471,867	5·26
Special (2' 6" and 2' 0") Gauges.								
State lines worked by companies	845·90	1,106,067	248,000†	14,000†	63,000	40,600	21,400	
State lines worked by the State	30·25	60,533	160,800	15,000	6,200	5,400	800	
Assisted companies' lines	350·04	1,234,300	2,883,000	240,000	189,867	106,334	83,533	
Unassisted companies' lines	33·27	69,933	489,300	25,000	6,666	4,466	2,200	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies.	372·41	651,300	1,309,600	145,000	51,733	27,733	24,000	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency.	33·60	99,133	181,200	62,000	11,000	4,400	6,600	
Lines owned and worked by Native States.	32·37	101,734	9,800	11,000	5,734	3,534	2,200	
TOTAL FOR 1906‡	1,197·84	4,012,800	5,183,700	513,000	333,200	192,467	140,733	3·51
TOTAL FOR 1905* and †	1,322·24	4,345,800	4,942,400	682,000	315,600	196,600	118,900	2·73
TOTAL OF ALL RAILWAYS FOR 1906.	29,994·32	246,614,534	274,741,900	60,955,000	29,238,600	14,636,600	14,602,200	5·92
TOTAL OF ALL RAILWAYS FOR 1905* and †.	26,387·70	228,934,800	245,137,200	54,936,000	27,787,267	13,392,333	14,493,934	6·07

* As corrected from later information.

† The figures for Jabulpore-Gondia extension and Balpur-Dhamtari Railway are included with those of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway.

‡ Excluding the Thetun-Dayinsak Light Railway.

It will be observed that, with an increase of 806·62 miles, or 2·85 per cent., in the open mileage, as compared with 1905, the gross earnings on working expenses increased by £1,451,533, or 5·22 per cent., and £1,343,26 or 10·10 per cent., respectively, resulting in an improvement of £108,26 in the net earnings.

There was an increase of 26,584,600 in the number of

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

RAILWAYS.
Guaranteed
railway
transactions.

3. The Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway having been purchased by the State with effect from the 1st January 1906, the only old guaranteed line that was in existence during 1906 was the Madras Railway, the transactions of which are shown in the following table, in which the rupee is converted into sterling at contract rates:—

Period.	Total Capital Outlay.	Net Revenue.	Guaranteed Interest.	Interest in excess of Revenue.	Net Revenue in excess of Interest.	Surplus Profits.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Half year ended the 30th June 1906.	12,553,009	339,437	292,408	—	47,029	22,917
Half-year ended the 31st December 1906.	12,660,685	223,596	292,343	68,747	—	—
Total for the year 1906.	12,660,685	563,033	584,751	68,747	47,029	22,917
Total for the year 1905.	23,486,306	1,267,240	1,072,396	—	194,844	234,693

Mileage
opened.

4. The total railway mileage on each gauge opened during the year and the sections opened were as follows:—

	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
5' 6" Gauge—			
Agra-Delhi Chord—	—	5.95	
Kosi to Sanket	—	27.49	
Amritsar-Patti	—	—	
Azhikal-Mangalore—	—	56.58	
Azhikal to Kumbha	—	—	
East Indian—			
Bhongaon to Farukhabad	—	27.06	
Manpur to Dhanbaid	—	122.17	
Ondal to Sainthia	—	44.96	
Tetulmari to Kusunda	—	1.59	
	—	195.78	
Indian Midland—			
Remaining portion of the Agra-Balinganj branch	—	1.76	
North Western State—			
Shorkot Road to Sargodha	—	103.14	
Oudh and Rohilkhand State—			
Phaphamau to Mariani	—	47.51	
Petlad-Cambay (Tarapur-Cambay section)—	—	—	
Cambay to Cambay Bandar	—	1.38	
Southern Punjab "Ludhiana" extension—	—	—	
Macleod Gauj Road to Ferozepore City	—	78.00	
	—	517.59	
3' 3 3/4" Gauge—			
Bengal and North-Western—			
Barhni to Tulsipur	—	52.54	
Gainsari to Jarwa	—	9.47	
Paleza Ghat shift No. 68	—	0.76	
	—	32.77	
Eastern Bengal State—			
Golokganj to Kokrajhar	—	35.75	
Hospet-Kottur—	—	—	
Ramanamalai branch	—	—	
Mymensingh-Jamalpur-Jagannathganj—	—	4.96	
New line laid at Jagannathganj	—	—	
Rohilkund and Kumaon—	—	2.53	
Bareilly to Soron	—	—	
South Indian—	—	55.80	
Pamban Beach to Rameswaram	—	—	
Tanjore District Board—	—	6.95	
Arantangi Quarry branch	—	—	
Tirhoot—	—	3.90	
Barari to Bhagalpur Kachery	—	—	
Bettiah to Bikma Thoree	—	3.50	
	—	45.23	
	—	48.73	
Carried over	—	191.39	
	—	708.98	

Carried over

	Brought forward	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	R
2' 6" Gauge—				708.98	
Barsi Light—					
Barsi Road to Pandharpur	—	30.21			
Kuslamb to Tadwale	—	20.36			
			50.57		
Jubbulpore-Gondia Extension—					
Chhindwara to Khirsadoh	—	—	16.28		
Morappur-Dharmapuri	—	—	18.53		
Raipur-Dhantari—					
Rajim to Rajim Town	—	—	0.78		
				86.16	
TOTAL	—	—	—	795.14	
Add—					
Stone Quarry siding of the Morvi Railway hitherto excluded	—	—	—	5.00	
Maikera-Mohuda section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway hitherto treated as a siding	—	—	—	3.24	
Minor corrections of mileage	—	—	—	3.24	
NET TOTAL ADDITION TO THE OPEN MILEAGE	—	—	—	806.62	

5. The additional lengths sanctioned for construction were—

	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Mileage sanctioned.
5' 6" Gauge—				
Bengal-Nagpur—				
Kamptee to Ramtek	—	14.74		
Kandri branch	—	2.53		
Sini to Gurumashini	—	44.00		
Vizianagram to Raipur	—	310.62		
			371.89	
East Indian—				
Barharwa to Katwa	—	99.14		
Ghat line to Dhulian	—	1.06		
Ghat line to Sajimpura	—	2.50		
Toposi to Baraboni	—	9.31		
			112.01	
Nagda-Muttra—				
Kotah to Baran	—	—	40.00	
North-Western State—				
Lodhran to Khanewal	—	56.59		
Shorkot Road to Chichoki	—	130.80		
Thal to Parachinar	—	59.60		
			246.99	
Oudh and Rohilkhand State—				
Balamau to Sitapur	—	37.12		
Rosa to Sitapur	—	51.36		
			88.48	
			859.37	
3' 3 3/4" Gauge—				
Assam-Bengal—				
Kalaura to the Khooseara river	—	—	16.00	
Bengal and North-Western—				
Burhwal to Sitapur	—	—	59.80	
Burma—				
Neikban to Begayet	—	—	66.25	
Gaekwar's Mehsana—				
Kheralu to Dabhora	—	—	7.73	
Hospet-Kottur—				
Ramanamalai branch	—	—	4.96	
Kurnool Road-Kurnool	—	—	32.00	
			186.74	
TOTAL	—	—	—	1,046.11

6. The total mileage under construction or sanctioned for construction at the close of the year, i.e., on the 31st December 1906, was as follows:—

	Miles.	Miles.
5' 6" Gauge—		
State lines worked by companies	—	761.60
State lines worked by the State	—	823.25
		1,584.85
Carried over	—	1,584.85

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

RAILWAYS.

	Miles.	Miles.
Brought forward	—	—
3' 3½" Gauge—		
State lines worked by companies	515.95	
State lines worked by the State	227.37	
District Board's line	49.50	
Assisted companies' lines	235.09	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	90.93	
		1,118.84
Special (2' 6" and 2' 0") Gauges—		
State lines worked by companies	329.66	
State lines worked by the State	6.80	
Assisted companies' lines	169.61	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	66.39	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency	22.62	
Lines owned and worked by Native States	44.63	
		639.11
TOTAL		3,342.80

Important
works com-
pleted and
in progress.

7. The following is a brief abstract of important works completed and in progress during the year 1906:—

Bengal-Nagpur Railway System.—The 5' 6" gauge line from Bhojudih to Gomoh (Hariharpur), 25.64 miles, was opened for traffic on the 1st January 1907. Of new projects on the 5' 6" gauge construction work was commenced on the first 50 miles, Vizianagram to Kamerada, of the Vizianagram-Raipur railway, out of a total probable length of 310.62 miles, and on the line from Kamptee to Ramtek, 14.74 miles, where work is well in hand.

The building of new general offices at headquarters has also been commenced.

The Chhindwara-Khirsadoh section, 16.28 miles, of the Pench Valley railway, 2' 6" gauge, was opened for traffic on the 15th March 1906. Progress continues in the construction, on the same gauge, of the extension from Gondia to Chanda, 148.65 miles, and of its branch from Pauni (Brahmapuri) to Nagpur, 63.75 miles, also on the line from Ranchi to Purulia, 72.28 miles.

Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway System.—The extension, 1.38 miles, of the Petlad-Cambay railway to Cambay Bandar, 5' 6" gauge, was opened for traffic on the 1st March 1906.

The remaining portion, 40.65 miles, of the Jaipur (Siwai Madhopur) 3' 3½" gauge railway from Nawai to Siwai Madhopur, which is still under construction, is expected to be opened for traffic in June 1907. Work is in hand on lines of the same gauge from Manund Road *via* Chausama, to Bechraji, with a branch from Chausama to Harij, 38.11 miles, and from Kheralu to Dabhora, 7.73 miles.

A large scheme involving the reconstruction of the metre gauge arrangements at Delhi, with the view of affording adequate facilities for goods traffic, was completed during the year and is in full working order.

The renewal, by girders equal to the stress of broad gauge standard loads, of all bridge girders on the Rajputana-Malwa railway main line between Delhi and Rewari and between Phulera and Ahmedabad, under a programme spreading the expenditure over a series of years, is in progress.

Work in connection with strengthening the cross girders and certain diagonals of the Nerbudda bridge is well in hand.

Eastern Bengal State Railway System.—The chord line between Gobra and Kakurgachi, 2.25 miles, and the quadrupling of the line between Kakurgachi and Dum Dum Junction are completed and will shortly be opened to traffic.

Of the 3' 3½" gauge extension from Golokganj to Gauhati, 151.62 miles, the section from Golokganj to Kokrajhar, 35.75 miles, was opened for traffic on the 1st February 1906, and the remaining portion is expected to be opened for traffic in March 1908. All land has been taken up; earthwork up to mile

70 from Golokganj has been completed, except at bridges from mile 70 to Gauhati of which nearly three-fourths has been done; the major girder bridges across the rivers Godadhar, Silai, Tipkai, and Sankosh are complete, and those across the rivers Gaurang, Champamati, Aie, and Monas are in progress.

On the Katihar-Godagari, 3' 3½" gauge extension, 105 miles, nearly all the requisite land has been acquired, the earthwork is more than half done, and work has been started on the girder bridges across the rivers Kunker Mohananda, Tangan, and Purnabhaba.

Progress continues to be made in the construction of the 3' 3½" gauge branch from Forbesganj to the Nepal frontier, about 6.50 miles.

The remodelling of the yard at, and the approaches to, Parbatipur Junction station, on the northern section, which was undertaken to meet the heavy and congested traffic, was completed during the year. The interlocking arrangements are still in progress.

Heavy renewals and the strengthening of girders on the northern section, to permit of the running of a heavier class of engines, are in hand.

East Indian Railway System.—Of the 123.76 miles of the Gya-Barakar Railway under construction during the year, the section from Manpur to Paharpur, 17.42 miles, was opened for traffic on the 15th August 1906, and that from Paharpur to Dhanbaid, 104.75 miles, with the branch from Tetulmari to Kasunda, 1.59 miles, on the 6th December 1906, thus completing the Grand Chord Railway from Barakar to Moghal Sarai. The work of doubling the line between Dhanbaid and Barakar, 25.09 miles, which is part of the same project, continues.

The Ondal-Sainthia Chord, 44.96 miles, was opened for traffic on the 10th December 1906, and the Khurja-Hapur branch, 38.87 miles, will shortly be ready for opening.

The Agra Direct Access project, 1.75 miles, on which good progress has been made, is expected to be completed by the middle of 1907.

Work, which was started during 1906, on the Hooghly-Katwa Railway, on the Bhagalpur-Bausi Railway, on the Barharwa-Dhulian section of the Barharwa-Azimganj-Katwa Railway, and on the doubling of the line between Moghal Sarai and Allahabad, is held in abeyance owing to the want of funds.

Work is progressing on the new joint passenger station at Howrah and the auxiliary works connected therewith, on the loop line between Toposi and Baraboni, and on the strengthening of 60' girders on the Chord Line District. The remodelling of the Allahabad yard for the entrance of the Allahabad-Fyzabad railway is completed.

Great Indian Peninsula Railway System.—The branch, 5' 6" gauge, of the Agra-Delhi Chord Railway from Kosi to Sanket, 5.95 miles, was opened for traffic on the 24th February, the goods depôt at Balinganj (Agra City) on the 27th February, and the Kirkee Arsenal and Ammunition Factory siding on the 24th October 1906.

Construction work on the Warora-Balharshah extension, 37.59 miles, on the 5' 6" gauge, continues.

The doubling of the Lonavla-Poona section, 39 miles, is steadily progressing.

A new Signalling and Interlocking Workshop at Parel has been completed, and arrangements for interlocking roadside stations on the single line are in progress. The remodelling of the Wari Bandar yard, to provide additional accommodation and facilities for traffic, is in hand. Work in connection with the strengthening of the girders of bridges continues. The reconstruction of the Mumbra creek bridge is completed, and that of the Godavari bridge is well in hand. A Central Bridge Depôt has been established at Manmad to deal effectively with the reconstruction, strengthening, and renewal of bridge work.

Fair progress was made with the construction of the extension of the Gwalior light railways, 2' gauge, from Sabalgarh to Sheopur, about 66.39 miles.

The Matheran light Railway, 12.61 miles, on the 2' gauge, is expected to be ready for opening to traffic about March 1907.

RAILWAYS.

Madras Railway System.—Work in connection with the strengthening of girder bridges on certain sections of the south-west and north-west lines is in progress.

Of the Azhikal-Mangalore railway, 77·27 miles on the 5' 6" gauge, the section from Azhikal to Kumbala, 56·58 miles, was opened for traffic on the 17th November 1906, and the remainder is expected to be ready for opening early in 1907.

Progress continues in the construction of the Nilgiri Railway 3' 3½" gauge extension, from Coonoor to Ootacamund, 11·75 miles.

Nagda-Muttra Railway.—Work is progressing on the southern section, Nagda to the Chambal river, 141·52 miles. Rail-head had reached mile 61 at the end of last year, and it is expected that 56 miles up to Shamgarh will be ready for opening to traffic in April 1907. Good progress has been made in the construction of the Chambal bridge, the piers of which are completed to about one-third of their height, and on the northern section, Kotah (crossing of the Chambal river) to Muttra, 202·46 miles. Work is in hand on the Kotah-Baran branch, 40 miles, including the bridge (2 spans of 60', 11 of 100', and 4 of 150') over the Kali Sind river, the foundations of which are nearly completed.

Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway System.—The renewal of girders on all 4, 6, and 12 metre span bridges, and the erection of the overbridge near Khairatabad, on the broad gauge section, are in progress.

North-Western State Railway System.—The section, 78 miles, between Ferozepore City and Macleod Ganj Road of the Ludhiana extension of the Southern Punjab Railway; the southern section, 103·14 miles, from Sargodha to Shorkot Road of the Jech Doab railway; the portion from Amritsar to Tarn-Taran, 14·20 miles, and that from Tarn-Taran to Patti, 13·29 miles, of the Amritsar-Patti Railway, all on the 5' 6" gauge, were opened for traffic, on the 10th February, 14th May, 21st September, and 30th December 1906, respectively.

The Shahdara-Sangla, 5' 6" gauge, chord, 55·50 miles, is expected to be opened for traffic shortly. Progress was made in the construction of the first section, 23 miles, of the projected Loi-Shilman 5' 6" gauge railway. On the Shorkot Road-Chichoki Railway, 130·80 miles on the 5' 6" gauge, construction is in progress on half of the line; also on the Lodhran-Khanewal Railway, 56·59 miles, of the same gauge. Land has been taken up for the Thal-Parachinar Railway, 5' 6" gauge, the construction of which is in abeyance for the present, as the funds that were allotted for its commencement have been transferred to, and are being utilised on, the conversion from 2' 6" to 5' 6" gauge of the Khushalgarh-Kohat-Thal Railway, 91·73 miles, work on which is progressing. The construction of a bridge over the Indus river at Khushalgarh is also progressing.

The doubling of the line between Samasata and Reti, 138·75 miles, is practically completed, ballasting excepted, while that between Reti and Rohri, 69 miles, has made good progress and is approaching completion. The construction of the second wing of the central offices at Lahore is also nearly completed.

Oudh and Rohilkhand State Railway.—Of the Allahabad-Jaunpur Railway from Phaphamau to Zafarabad, 58·18 miles on the 5' 6" gauge, the section from Phaphamau to Mariahu, 47·51 miles, was opened for traffic on the 18th June 1906. Works on the remaining length, Mariahu to Zafarabad, have been practically finished, with the exception of the permanent bridge across the Sai river, for which girders are awaited; meanwhile a temporary pile bridge has been thrown across the Sai, and, with a diversion at that river, the section was opened for traffic in January 1907. The permanent bridge over the Sai river will, it is hoped, be ready in June 1907.

Assam-Bengal Railway.—Of the Kalaura-Sylhet branch, 30 miles on the 3' 3½" gauge, the commencement of work was authorised on the section from Kalaura to the Koosceera river, 16 miles, but had to be postponed for want of funds; for the same reason work was stopped on the construction of the Akhaura-Ashuganj branch, 19 miles on the same gauge, and on the third jetty at the Chittagong port. Additional funds, both for these branches and the jetty, have since been found by reappropriation.

RAILWAYS.

Bengal and North-Western Railway System.—On the open line of the Company's section, the new quarters at Benares for the staff of the Ganges-Gogra Doab District, the headquarters of which have been moved to that station, are nearly completed; and the new Locomotive Workshops and Locomotive Superintendent's Office at Gorakpur, the construction of which has made good progress, are expected to be brought into use early in 1907.

The renewal of the Ganges-Gogra Doab lines with 50-lb. rails is still in progress.

Of the lines that were under construction on the company's section, the portion of the Uska Bazar-Tulsipur extension from Barhni to Tulsipur, 22·54 miles, and the Jarwa branch extending from Gainsari to Jarwa, 9·47 miles, were opened for traffic on the 15th January and 12th April 1906, respectively. The extension from Gorakpur to Bagaha, 60·94 miles, is expected to be opened for traffic shortly; while the extensions from Savan to Thawe, 17·83 miles, and Daronda to Maharajganj, 3·90 miles, are expected to be opened in February 1907.

On the open line of the Tirhoot section, the erection of the new Boor Gundak bridge at Samastipur, in replacement of the existing pin girder bridge, is making good progress; the second line of rails between Bachhwara and Barauni junctions was opened for traffic on the 18th March 1906; and new 10' span girders of standard type have been substituted for old and weak ones.

Of lines on the Tirhoot section that were under construction, the section of the Bettiah-Bagaha extension between Bettiah and Narkatiaganj (formerly called Shikarpur), 23·73 miles, the branch from Narkatiaganj to Bhikna Thoree, 21·50 miles; and the Barari-Bhagalpur Kachery section of the Bhagalpur branch, 3·50 miles, were opened for traffic, respectively, on the 17th January, 17th February, and 15th March 1906. The remaining portion of the Bhagalpur branch, 0·79 mile, and of the Bettiah-Bagaha extension from Narkatiaganj to Bagaha, 25·62 miles, will soon be ready for opening; and, notwithstanding floods during the monsoon of 1906, which more or less retarded the progress of work, it is expected that the extensions from Bairagnia to Narkatiaganj, 58·05 miles, and Mansi to Bhaptiahi, 60·37 miles, also the branch from Saharsa to Budham Ghat, 18·61 miles, will be ready for opening to traffic in February 1907.

Burma Railways.—The construction of the Pegu-Martaban extension, 121·27 miles, and of the Henzada-Kyangin extension, 65·66 miles, both on the 3' 3½" gauge, is progressing. It is expected that they will be ready for opening for traffic by the end of June 1907.

The doubling of the line between Thingangyun and Dabein, 19 miles, on the main line, and between Hlawga and Wanetchaung, 12·25 miles, on the Prome section, is in progress.

Good progress has been made in strengthening and duplicating girders on the Prome-Rangoon-Mandalay section of the line, and the heaviest classes of engines are now able to run on it.

Interlocking has been completed of points and signals in the Kemmendine and Insein station yards, between which, and also between Mandalay and Myohaung, the "Sykes's Lock and Block" system of signalling has been installed. A similar installation between Rangoon and Kemmendine has also been completed.

Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway System.—The Bareilly-Soron extension, 55·80 miles, was opened for traffic on the 29th January, and the permanent girder bridge over the Ganges at Kachla was opened for traffic on the 30th April 1906.

South Indian Railway.—Of the Rameswaram extension, 11·83 miles, the section from Pamban to Rameswaram, 6·95 miles, was opened for traffic on the 1st September 1906.

Southern Mahratta Railway System.—The Ramanamalai branch, 4·96 miles, of the Hospet-Kottur Railway was opened for traffic on the 1st December 1906. The construction of the Bezvada-Masulipatam Railway, 49·50 miles, and of the branch from Miraj to Sangli, 4·44 miles, are well in hand, while preliminary operations were started during the year on the Kurnool Road-Kurnool Railway, 32 miles.

RAILWAYS.

Barsi Light Railway.—The extension from Kuslamb to Tadwala, 20·36 miles, was opened for traffic on the 1st May, and that from Barsi Road to Pandharpur, 30·21 miles, on the 1st December 1906.

Cutch Railway.—The construction of the extension from Anjar to Bhuj, 25·38 miles on the 2' 6" gauge, continues.

Dholpur-Bari Railway.—The construction of this 2' 6" gauge line, 19·25 miles, is progressing, and it is expected that it will be opened for traffic about July 1907.

Dwara-Therria Light Railway.—The construction of this line, 19·50 miles on the 2' 6" gauge, which was suspended in June 1894 for want of funds, continues at a standstill, the Company being unable to raise the funds necessary for its completion.

Shahdara (Delhi)-Saharanpur Light Railway.—The construction of the main line, 95 miles on the 2' 6" gauge, continues. It is expected that the section of 55 miles from Shahdara to Shamli will be opened for traffic in April 1907, and the remainder during the course of the year.

8. The following were the principal matters which received attention during the year 1906 :—

Construction of Railways in Native States.—In connection with proposals received from the Patiala State for raising capital for the construction of the Patiala-Jakhal Railway, the Railway Board expressed themselves entirely in favour of any practical proposal which would help the development and construction of railways in Native States. The matter is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Communication between Passengers and Guard of a Train.—The provision of an effective means of communication between passengers and the guard being a matter that seriously affects the safety of the travelling public, orders were issued by the Railway Board for the adoption on all railways in India of the type of communication now in general use in England. The North Western, Oudh and Rohilkhand, and Eastern Bengal State railways were instructed to provide at once this means of communication on new and rebuilt stock, and to fit the communication to the existing stock of all classes as rapidly as possible. The work of fitting the existing carriages of companies' railways is, with certain exceptions, required to be completed within two years from the date of the order.

Revision of the General Rules for working open Lines of Railway in British India administered by the Government.—The advance in signalling and block working on railways in India necessitated a revision of Part I. of the general rules for working open lines of railways. The work was entrusted to a special committee composed of officers of the Traffic, Locomotive, and Engineering Departments, and a Signal Engineer. The rules framed by this committee were considered by the Government of India and circulated to railways, and, as a result, a further revised draft was circulated and subsequently placed before the Indian Railway Conference Association for their consideration and recommendations. The recommendations of the Conference having been considered by the Railway Board and the Government of India, a complete and revised set of general rules was framed and issued in September 1906. The revised rules were to be brought into force on the 1st January 1907, but on the recommendation of the Indian Railway Conference Association the date of their introduction has been postponed to the 1st July 1907.

Revision of Risk Note Forms B. and H.—The object of the revision is to impose a larger measure of liability on railways than exists at present. Revised forms, drawn up under legal advice and accepted by the Indian Railway Conference Association, are now under the consideration of the Government of India for adoption.

Acceleration of the delivery of the Foreign Mails in the Punjab.—For the conveyance of the foreign mails a combined postal and passenger train is run every week from Bombay to Umballa. Sanction has been accorded to the extension of the special direct to Lahore, and to the running, when necessary, of a special from Lahore to Jhelum or Rawalpindi. The introduction of the

latter service was made with a view to giving a more regular and earlier postal delivery to important places in the Punjab north of Lahore and to the North-West Frontier Province, where the delivery of the inward foreign mails will be accelerated by from 6 to 24 hours.

Rent for Telegraph Instruments and Wires supplied to Railways by the Government Telegraph Department.—The period of five years for which it was ordered that an all-round rate of Rs. 4-8 per instrument, per mensem, should be charged for the rent of telegraph instruments supplied to railways by the Indian Telegraph Department having expired on the 31st December 1905, the Government of India decided in May 1906 that, with effect from 1st January 1906, the rate of Rs. 4-8 per instrument, per mensem, should continue to be charged for a further period of one year. Subsequently it was ordered that this rate should continue in force until the whole question of telegraph rent charges has been considered and reported on by the Indian Railway Conference Association.

Replacement of the Government Telegraph Department Instruments on the East Indian Railway by the Company's Stock.—On the East Indian railway the company have fixed and are now working their own telegraph instruments at stations between Burdwan and Kiul, and are gradually doing so throughout the line, in replacement of instruments hired from the Government Telegraph Department. Telephone instruments are also being provided at all stations to facilitate train working.

Adoption of British Standard Sections of Rails.—The attention of the Government of India having been drawn to the very great variety of rail sections that have been brought into use on Indian railways, and the great inconvenience that frequently results from the existence of this diversity, the Railway Board decided in 1905 that the British standard sections of flat-footed rails weighing from 20 lbs. to 100 lbs. per yard, which have been approved by the Engineering Standards Committee in England, should be definitely adopted on all State-worked railways, and that sections of the same standards for bull-headed rails should also be adopted after the Standards Committee had been consulted about certain modifications in the fishing angle to suit the requirements of Indian railways. The Railway Board, in circulating their decision as to the adoption of the British standard sections of flat-footed rails on State-worked railways, desired that all Indian railways should also adopt them.

Supply of Wooden Sleepers.—Difficulty having been experienced in meeting, at a reasonable cost, the demands of railways in India for timber sleepers from the forests in India, Mr. Adam, Executive Engineer, State Railway Department, was deputed in 1904 to investigate the question of the supply of sleepers from Australia. His preliminary report was submitted in 1905, and since then his final report has been received on the production in Australia of wood for sleeper purposes. Under instructions from the Railway Board tenders are invited for all kinds of Indian and Australian sleepers for use on State railways, both for open lines and lines under construction.

Incidence of Cost of Junction Works.—The Railway Board have formulated rules to govern the incidence of cost of junction works necessitated by the construction of new railway lines connecting with existing railways.

Determination of the Southern Mahratta Railway Company's Contract.—The Secretary of State served the company in England, on the 21st of June 1906, with formal notice of his intention to determine, on the 30th June 1907, the contract of the 1st June 1882 and all contracts supplemental thereto.

Electrification of the Nilgiri Railway and Coonoor-Octacumund Extension thereof.—A scheme for working both this railway and extension by electricity has been investigated. The estimate is under consideration.

Indian Railway Conference Association.—A meeting of the Indian Railway Conference Association was held in Calcutta from the 12th to the 17th January 1906, and another in Simla from the 8th to the 24th October 1906.

Principal
matters
which
received
attention.

RAILWAYS.

Flood damages.—Heavy rain in June 1906 caused several breaches and stopped through communication for about a week on the Jabulpore-Gondia extension of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. About the end of June 1906 floods caused considerable damage to the embankment between Mainpuri and Farukhabad on the Shikohabad-Farukhabad branch of the East Indian Railway. The Bengal Dooars Railway was badly breached and several bridges were destroyed by floods in August 1906, resulting in the stoppage of traffic north of Domohani station for a considerable time. The overflowing of the Palar river in December 1906 breached the north-east line of the Madras Railway to an extent which interrupted the through running of trains for three weeks.

Reduction of rate for the carriage of pressed and unpressed blusa and fodder in connection with the famine traffic.—In order to encourage imports into tracts suffering from fodder famine, the administration of the North Western Railway was instructed to help the movements of *blusa* from the Punjab, and specially from the canal colonies, by quoting low rates. Rates were accordingly reduced by them, and the Oudh and Rohilkhand, East Indian, Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, Jodhpur-Bikaner and Gwalior Light Railways followed suit. These reductions resulted in great benefit to the famine-stricken tracts.

Concession to traders on goods despatched to, as well as on those coming from, Persia.—In 1901 the North Western Railway allowed a rebate equal to one-third freight on goods booked from and to Karachi and stations in the Punjab to Quetta, *en route* to Persia, *via* Seistan, and *vice versa*, on presentation of a certificate from the Agency Office at Quetta. On such traffic carried over the East Indian Railway a similar concession was granted by that railway. As, however, this concession proved insufficient to induce Persian merchants to patronise the Quetta-Nushki route, the rebate was increased in March 1906 to two-thirds the freight charged over the North Western Railway. The concession will remain in force for a period of three years, subject to reconsideration at the end of that period.

Port-to-Port rates between Madras and Mormugao.—A satisfactory agreement has been come to between the Nizam's Guaranteed State, Southern Mahratta, Madras, and Great Indian Peninsula Railways on the subject of the port-to-port rates between Madras and Mormugao.

Contracts executed for the construction and working of Railways.—In the Administration Report on the railways in India for the year 1905, reference was made to the determination, by purchase of the Company's line, of the then existing contracts between the Secretary of State and the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, and to the temporary working by the Company of the whole of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India railway system, with effect from the 1st January 1906, under an indenture dated the 27th December 1905. In June 1906 an agreement was reached regarding the main conditions forming the basis of a new contract to run for a term of 25 years for the working by the Company of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India and Rajputana-Malwa railway systems, subject to the condition that, if, on the opening throughout of the Nagda-Muttra Railway, the working is entrusted to the Company, the Secretary of State shall be at liberty to resume the working of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. This new contract will, when executed, supersede the temporary arrangements embodied in the contract of 27th December 1905.

On the representations of the Delhi-Umballa-Kalka Railway Company it was decided to purchase the Kalka-Simla Railway. The purchase of the line by the State was effected from 1st January 1906; but the Company continued to work it as agents for Government up to the 31st December 1906, and it was made over to the North Western Railway administration with effect from the 1st January 1907.

On the 27th January 1906, the Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway Company purchased from Government, at cost price, and took over the working of the Kasganj-Soron branch of the Rajputana-Malwa State Railway, in terms of an indenture made on the 15th July 1904 between the Secretary of State and the Company.

RAILWAYS.

A consolidated agreement, dated 2nd February 1906, was entered into between the Government of India and His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir and Jammu, in place of the four agreements which previously existed for the instruction and working of the Jammu-Kashmir State Railway. The agreement is for a period of five years from 1st January 1903, and is terminable hereafter on six months' notice by either side.

In June 1906 sanction was accorded by Government to the continuance during the year 1906 of the revised agreement, dated 24th January 1905, between the Raja of Parlakimedi and the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company, or the working of the Parlakimedi Light Railway by the Company, and hereafter from year to year until the agreement is determined on any 1st day of December by the issue of not less than three calendar months' previous notice.

On the 13th July 1906 an indenture was executed with the Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway Company for the provision of moneys for capital expenditure on the Powayan Steam Tramway and for the acquisition by the Railway Company of interests in the Powayan Steam Tramway Company, limited, and other matters.

On the 11th September 1906 an agreement was entered into for the working of the Jaipur State Railway from Sanganer to Siwai-Madhupur by the administration of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway.

In clause 30 of the contract, dated 7th August 1895, between the Secretary of State and the South Behar Railway Company, Limited, it is provided that the net earnings of the Company for each half year, together with the amount of rebate under clause 29 of the same contract, shall be paid over to the Company. The Company have since agreed to an arrangement by which they will receive, in lieu of the net receipts as provided by clause 30 of the contract quoted, a fixed sum by way of rental at the rate of Rs. 30,000 per annum, the East Indian Railway Company agreeing to treat the South Behar Railway as a part of their undertaking for the purposes of their principal contract.

The agreement between the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company and the Maharaja of Mourbhhanj for the working by the former of the Mourbhhanj Railway, which was current until the 31st December 1905, has been extended subject to the issue of three months' notice by either party.

Projects for new lines.—It has been decided that the Kurnool Road-Kurnool Railway (Madras), 32 miles, on the 3' 3½" gauge, will form an integral part of the Hyderabad-Guntakul Railway, and negotiations are in progress for its construction by the agency of the Southern Mahratta Railway. Meanwhile, an allotment of funds has been made to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh to enable preliminary operations to be taken in hand.

No advancement has been made during the year in the negotiations for the construction of the following lines, which were mentioned in the Report for 1905:—

	Gauge.	Miles.
(i) Rawalpindi-Murree Railway (Punjab)	3' 3½"	40
(ii) Extensions of the Dacca State Railway:—		
(a) From Mymensingh, <i>via</i> Netrokona, to Bara Ari, with a branch to Gauripur (Eastern Bengal and Assam)	3' 3½"	36½
(b) From Singhjani, <i>via</i> Sherpur, to Nalitabari (Eastern Bengal and Assam)	2' 6"	25
(iii) Serajganj-Ullapara Light Railway (Eastern Bengal and Assam)	2' 6"	18

The following proposals, which were also mentioned in the report for 1905, are still under consideration:—

- (i) For extending, on the 3' 3½" gauge, the Ahmedabad-Parantij Railway from Idar Road to Brahma Khed (Bombay), 32 miles;
- (ii) For an extension, on the 3' 3½" gauge, of the Ahmedabad-Dholka Railway from Dholka to Dhandhuka (Bombay), 41½ miles;
- (iii) For the construction of a steam tramway from Dhandhuka to Ranpur (Bombay), 18 miles;
- (iv) For extending, as an alternative to (ii) and (iii), the Bhavnagar-Gondal-Junagad-Porbandar Railway's 3' 3½" line from Ranpur, *via* Dhandhuka to Dholka.

GATION.

The works to which the preceding paragraph applies, in most cases, take off from the larger rivers, which, drawing their water from lofty mountain ranges, can, even in times of drought, be depended upon for an unfailing supply. In tank irrigation, on the other hand, the supply of water is more or less dependent on the local rainfall, either directly or through the medium of the smaller rivers, which dry up in hot seasons. This is the common system of irrigation in the Bombay Presidency, where irrigation is largely dependent on storage works.

In parts of Baluchistan, where the rainfall is scanty and very capricious, a method is practised of drawing the water from underground springs by means of tunnels driven into the hill sides. There remains the method of irrigation more extensively used in India than any other, viz., that by wells, which, however, does not come directly within the scope of operations of the Public Works Department.

An experiment, which may have an important bearing on future irrigation operations, was commenced in 1905-06 in the shape of the Divi pumping project in Madras, which is intended to irrigate 50,000 acres in the Divi Island at the mouth of the Kistna River by water raised from the river by means of pumping machinery. Should the scheme prove a success, the introduction of other similar schemes may be expected.

Financially considered, the irrigation works are classed as "major" or "minor." The former class includes all the works which have been undertaken from loan funds, in the expectation that they would be sufficiently productive to cover the interest charges on the sums spent on their construction. It also includes the works classed as famine protective, which are constructed not from borrowed funds, but out of the annual grant from revenue for famine relief and insurance. The cost of constructing the "minor" works, as well as the sums annually required for their working and maintenance, are met from the ordinary revenues, and for the greater part of this class of works distinct capital and revenue accounts are not kept.

The distinction implied in the words "major" and "minor" is not in complete correspondence with the facts, as there are some minor works which are of more importance than some major works. But, speaking generally, the "major" class includes the works of the greatest engineering importance, which have been constructed, or, as in a few cases, of old Native works almost entirely reconstructed by British officers.

The following statement gives a general view of the results obtained from working the canals for which full accounts are kept for 1903-4, 1904-05, and 1905-06.

	Capital Outlay (Direct and Indirect) to End of Year.	Gross Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of Net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	£	£	£	£		Acres.
Major Works - - -	27,929,630	2,874,468	989,925	1,884,543	6.75	14,676,530
Minor Works - - -	4,164,620	345,579	157,078	188,501	4.53	2,139,397
Total for 1905-06 -	32,094,250	3,220,047	1,147,003	2,073,044	6.45	16,815,927
Total for 1904-05 -	31,079,615	3,247,610	1,092,066	2,155,544	6.93	14,618,084
Total for 1903-04 -	30,414,966	3,130,620	1,022,958	2,107,662	6.93	15,194,969

There are great differences in the financial success of the irrigation works in the various provinces. These are due to the various physical conditions of the country in regard to surface, soil, climate, and the absence or presence of large rivers with a permanent supply of water, as well as to the differences in the character and habits of the people in different districts. There are also considerable differences in the manner in which the irrigation revenue is assessed and collected, which have an important bearing on the financial success of the works. In Madras the bulk of the irrigation revenue is collected with, and on most of the works is consolidated with, the land revenue.

In Bengal and Bombay the receipts of the Irrigation Department consist to a great extent of "occupiers' rates, and are not supplemented by "owners' rates, as in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, nor, with a few exceptions, by a share of the land revenue. In Sind the revenue of the canals consists almost entirely of the share of the land revenue allotted to irrigation. Cultivation is dependent on the artificial supply of water, and the consolidated revenue from the irrigated lands is divided in the proportion of 90 per cent. to irrigation and 10 per cent. to land. In the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, and in the Punjab, the direct water rates are assessed partly on the occupier and partly on the owner of the land, the bulk of the rates falling on the former, and the irrigation receipts are further increased by a not unimportant contribution from the land revenue. The contribution from the land revenue is the amount considered due to irrigation when an enhancement of land revenue is levied at the periodical revision of the land settlement. Like the owner's rate, which is directly levied, it falls upon the owner of the land.

The immense systems of large artificial water channels with which some parts of India are covered would appear at first sight to offer unrivalled opportunities for water carriage. But though efforts have been made to organise navigation services on the larger irrigation canals, it cannot be said that, on the whole, they have met with a large measure of success. In many cases the receipts from the traffic have failed to cover the working expenses. It is, indeed, obvious that the canals, being designed primarily for irrigation purposes, must often be unsuitable from their alignment and level for navigation.

The following more detailed account of the irrigation operations of the year is given under the heads of the different provinces in which the works are situated.

The major irrigation works in Bengal are divided into two classes:— Bengal.

- (i.) Productive works.
- (ii.) Protective works.

The progress of irrigation on the three large irrigation works in Bengal, the Orissa, Midnapur, and Sone Canals, fluctuates from year to year. In 1905-06, 813,162 acres were irrigated as compared with 800,227 acres in 1904-05.

The general results for 1905-06 of working all the irrigation and navigation systems for which full accounts are kept are compared with the results of the five previous years in the following statement:—

Year.	Capital Outlay to end of Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	£	£	£	£		Acres.
1900-1901	5,137,165	151,767	107,014	44,753	0.87	716,271
1901-1902	5,167,553	147,136	103,432	43,704	0.84	844,024
1902-1903	5,220,323	168,431	95,709	72,722	1.39	800,440
1903-1904	5,229,813	163,191	95,648	67,543	1.29	809,331
1904-1905	5,281,000	173,319	95,953	77,366	1.46	800,227
1905-1906	5,353,895	176,597	102,382	74,215	1.38	813,405

* Includes 40,404l. and 10,039l. expended on two abandoned projects, viz., Tirbut, and Damodar projects.

During the year under review there were in Bengal six major irrigation works, two of which were classed as protective. Of the productive works, three combine irrigation with navigation, and the fourth (Hijili tidal canal) is purely a navigation work. The two protective works, the Dhaka and the Tribeni canals, were sanctioned in 1900-01, and are still in course of construction, the capital expenditure at the end of the year amounting to £27,329 and £112,099 respectively.

IRRIGATION. The financial results obtained from the working of the major and minor works, excluding the Tribeni and Dhaka canals, during the year under review are shown in the following statement :—

Canal.	Capital Outlay to end of Year.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	£	£		Acres.
Major Works :—				
Orissa Canals - - -	1,774,018	5,324	0.30	236,077
Midnapur - - -	565,926	4,041	0.71	74,268
Sone Canals - - -	1,781,833	58,428	3.28	502,817
Hijili Tidal Canal - - -	174,344	1,523	0.87	—
Total Major Works -	4,296,121	69,316	1.61	813,162
Minor Works :—				
Calcutta and Eastern Canals - - -	572,058	7,405	1.29	—
Orissa Coast Canal - - -	298,695	—2,295	—	—
Saran Project - - -	17,682	—211	—	243
Total Minor Works -	918,345	4,899	0.53	813,405

The Orissa, Midnapore, Sone and Hijili Canals, although classed as productive works in the hope that they would prove directly remunerative, show as yet no prospect of fulfilling this expectation, which indeed is not likely ever to be realised. The working of the Sone Canals has shown little improvement since 1902-03.

The Calcutta and Eastern Canals, which up to 1902-03 were the most profitable of the canal works in Bengal, are navigation works designed to maintain communication between Calcutta and Eastern Bengal, through the Sunderbunds. The Orissa Coast Canal, also a navigation work, forms, with the Hijili Tidal Canal, a complete line of communication between Calcutta and Orissa; and in the event of famine in the latter district would be very useful as a means of importing food.

Besides the minor works mentioned in the foregoing statement, there are four works of this class for which capital accounts are not kept, viz., the Nadia river system, the Gaighatta and Buxi Khals, and the Eden and Madhuban Canals. The first-named, which comprises about 470 miles of channel, is used for navigation purposes only.

The capital expenditure for the year amounted to £1,829 on major works (excluding protective projects), £38,481 on minor works and navigation, and £31,399 on protective irrigation works.

In the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, the capital outlay during 1905-06 amounted to £211,937, or 35 per cent. more than that of the previous year. Of this sum £131,639 was spent on protective works, the Betwa, Ken and Dhassan Canals, and the Dhukwan Weir. The earthwork required for the Dhassan Canal afforded relief to a large amount of local labour during the period of scarcity. The Mursan distributary of the Mat branch of the Ganges Canal was completed, and good progress was made with the construction of the Fatehpur-Sikri distributary extension of the Agra Canal. The widening of the Farrukhabad branch of the Lower Ganges Canal was also completed.

During the year 156 miles of new channels were constructed, bringing the total of all channels up to 13,709 miles.

The gross receipts, both direct and indirect, from all canals amounted to £593,031, or £100,279 less than during the previous year, the result of a small irrigated area in the rabi season of 1904-05, to which the realisations of the current year chiefly relate. The total expenditure was £236,863, leaving a net revenue of £356,188, and the net profit, after deducting interest charges, amounted to £125,074. The net accumulated profits from all classes of works since their opening aggregated at the close of the year £2,826,667.

The total receipts from productive works amounted to £562,006, and their net revenue to £350,392, which represents a return of close upon 6 per cent.

on the capital outlay, the percentage varying from 18½ per cent. on the Eastern Jumna to slightly under ¾ per cent. on the Fatehpur branch of the Lower Ganges Canal. The earnings of the Betwa protective canal were £12,842, and its net revenue of £3,467 represents a return of 1 per cent. on capital outlay. Minor works yielded a net revenue of £2,329, or less than 1 per cent. on their cost.

The total area irrigated during the year was 3,523,439 acres, and is the largest on record, being 17 per cent. above the area irrigated in the famine year of 1896-97 and more than one million acres in excess of the average irrigated area of the preceding nine years. The cause of this extraordinary demand for canal water was the failure of the monsoon and early winter rains. The value of the crops grown during the year on land irrigated from canals amounted to more than £8,666,670.

The result of the navigation operations throughout the year was a loss of £652. Only the Upper and Lower Ganges were open to public traffic, and they will shortly be closed.

In the Punjab the general results of the year's operations for all works are shown in the following table in comparison with the records of the five previous years :—

Year.	Capital Outlay to End of Year.	Area irrigated.*	Assessed Revenue.*
	£	Acres.	£
1900-01 - - -	6,619,394	5,702,296	1,008,954
1901-02 - - -	6,744,839	5,065,134	1,015,069
1902-03 - - -	6,998,734	5,156,040	1,066,436
1903-04 - - -	7,164,461	5,163,102	1,195,207
1904-05 - - -	7,292,993	5,858,199	1,231,641
1905-06 - - -	7,621,550	6,368,338	1,252,097

* Includes Muzaffargarh Canals.

Taking the actual revenue collected during the year, the following table compares the individual results obtained from all the works for which full accounts are kept :—

Canals.	Length of		Capital Outlay to end of Year.	Net Revenue collected in Year.	Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital Outlay.
	Main and Branch Channels.	Distributaries.			
	Miles.	Miles.	£	£	
Major Works :—					
Western Jumna (including Sirsa Branch).	346	1,819	1,153,151	110,924	9.62
Upper Bari Doab - - -	369	1,590	1,332,076	150,430	11.29
Sirhind (British portion) - - -	319	2,685	1,656,644	118,457	7.15
Lower Chenab - - -	427	2,318	1,880,815	390,958	20.79
Lower Jhelum - - -	113	981	996,317	10,818	1.09
Upper Sutlej (including Lower Sohag and Para).	328	390	115,958	5,647	4.87
Sidhni - - -	68	131	87,108	12,149	13.95
Indus Inundation - - -	681	114	121,377	7,028	5.79
Minor Works :—					
Shakpur (Imperial) - - -	72	80	14,394	1,169	8.12
Gluggar (British portion) - - -	44	24	22,883	—1,706	—
	2,767	10,132	7,380,723	805,874	10.92

The financial returns for the various works in 1905-06 are considerably less than those earned in 1904-05. This is due principally to exceptional remissions made on account of the failure of the cotton crop which was attacked by boll-worm, and not to any shortcomings on the part of the canals. Only two canals, however, earned less than 5 per cent., viz., the Upper Sutlej and the Lower Jhelum. The Lower Chenab canal maintained its reputation as a dividend-paying investment by earning a return for the year of 20.79 per cent., the highest of any of the Punjab canals. The Lower

IRRIGATION. Jhelum converted its loss of £1,296 in 1904-05 to a gain of £10,818 for the year under review.

On the Native States branches of the Sirhind Canal the area irrigated was 425,656 acres, as compared with 317,416 acres in the preceding year. The profit earned by these branches amounted to £55,461, giving a return of 5·89 per cent. on the total capital expenditure of £940,351 incurred up to the end of the year.

The capital expenditure for the year on works for which full accounts are kept amounted to £90,892, of which £16,151 was incurred on the Lower Jhelum Canal, £23,012 on the Indus Inundation Canals, £10,522 on the Upper Bari Doab Canal, and £7,422 on the Lower Chenab Canal. In addition £144,605 was expended on the Upper Chenab Canal and £93,061 on the Upper Jhelum Canal, which are still under construction.

The navigation operations on the Western Jumna Canal resulted in a profit of £4,497. The Sirhind Canal navigation was worked at a loss of £1,228.

As forecasted in last year's report the Lower Chenab Canal during 1905-06 attained the remarkable financial result of having within 19 years of its commencement paid off not only the whole of its interest debt, amounting to over £778,300, but also the total capital expended on its construction, amounting to £1,880,815, leaving a balance in hand of £62,689. The Upper Bari Doab Canal, too, has been remarkably successful, and at the end of the year under review showed a surplus revenue (after defraying interest charges) of over £150,000 in excess of its total capital expenditure of £1,332,076.

In Lower Burma there are no large irrigation works. The expenditure recorded under the head of "Irrigation and Navigation" has reference to the river embankment and drainage works, and navigation canals.

In Upper Burma there are three large irrigation canals, the Mandalay, the Shwebo, and the Môn. Of these, the Mandalay Canal was the only one that earned revenue during 1905-06. The capital outlay on this work to the end of the year amounted to £343,569, on which the net receipts of £7,605 gave a return of 2·06 per cent. Despite the addition of 3,200 acres of new cultivation, the total area irrigated, 41,839 acres, was 1,880 acres less than in the previous year, and little more than two-thirds of the maximum area which can receive water from the canal. The decrease is ascribed to water-logging consequent on the failure of the cultivators to construct field channels to lead the water to more distant fields. Only the small proportion of 998 acres was twice cropped and practically the whole irrigated area was under rice.

Work on the Shwebo and Môn Canals and on the new Ye-u Canal continued throughout the year, the main Shwebo Canal being completed and formally opened in March 1906. In all nearly £93,300 was expended on the construction of these three canals during the year.

The various minor canal systems in the dry zone of Upper Burma supplied water to 288,666 acres, nearly 18,000 acres less than in 1904-05. This decline, however, was not shared by the gross revenue which amounted to £61,149, and the net revenue of the year exceeded £10,000. Comparatively few new works were taken in hand. Improvements were begun on the old Myaungmadaw canal in the Mandalay district, and the remodelling of the Mindan tank in Yamethin district and the Inyin Weir in the Meiktila district were commenced. With some important exceptions, these works were constructed before the annexation of the Upper Province, but they have since been much improved by the Public Works Department.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

In the Central Provinces and Berar the area irrigated in 1905-06 amounted to 611,783 acres, or a decrease of about 20,000 acres as compared with 1904-05. Tanks filled well except in Seoni, Bilaspur, and Chanda where they were short of water; in other rice districts the late monsoon was sufficient and irrigation unnecessary. State irrigation in these provinces is still in an experimental stage. The total expenditure on major and minor works was £64,784 and £24,852 respectively. The total area irrigated from purely State works was 12,819 acres. Six large tanks were practically finished and five are now under construction. Thirty-four major irrigation schemes were under investigation. The minor irrigation works in progress

included 45 State minor tanks, 86 grant-in-aid tanks, and 42 field embankments: some of these were practically finished and the field embankments have already given successful results. Over 800 projects were surveyed and examined in the specially constituted Famine Survey Divisions at a cost of over £13,300.

From an irrigation point of view the Madras Presidency is distinguished by the variety and extent of its works, ranging from the great deltaic systems of the Godavari, Kistna, and Cauvery, to the small tanks and channels maintained by the Revenue Department.

The number of tanks directly or indirectly dependent on the local rainfall is very large, and, speaking generally, the success of the irrigation operations is more affected by local climatic conditions than in Northern India, where the irrigation works draw their supply from large rivers fed by the melting of the snows on distant mountain ranges.

In the year under review the season was somewhat more favourable than in 1904-05.

There are at present in operation 9 major works and 29 minor works, for which capital and revenue accounts are kept, and numerous other irrigation and agricultural works, individually small, for which such accounts are not kept. Of the 29 minor works for which full accounts are kept, 25 are irrigation systems, and four are tidal canals intended for purely navigation purposes.

A new protective major work, the Mopad Reservoir, commenced in 1904-05, was under construction during the year, and another, the Bhavanasi tank project, estimated to cost £9,480, was sanctioned, though too late for work to be begun on it. Two new productive major works, the Nagavalli river project and the Divi pumping project, were sanctioned and commenced. The latter project for the irrigation of 50,000 acres in the Divi Island at the mouth of the Kistna Delta by water raised from the river by means of powerful steam-pumping machinery is regarded in the nature of an experiment, and, if successful, will pave the way for the introduction of similar schemes in many other places with great benefit to the people. It was recommended by the Irrigation Commission as a project of considerable importance. Its estimated cost is £120,400, and of this amount £24,635 was expended in the year under review.

In addition to the 29 minor works referred to above, five others—the Ponnalur tank, the Hajipuram tank, the Atmakur project, the Yarur tank, and the Anamasamudram Bisaperu channel, to belong to the class for which full capital and revenue accounts are kept, are still under construction.

Of the irrigation works for which full accounts are kept, the length of completed main canal was 3,458 miles, and of distributary channels 7,680 miles. The area irrigated during the year ending 31st March 1906, by these works was 3,682,907 acres. The canals used for navigation purposes only had a total length at the end of the year of 316 miles.

Taking all the works in operation for which full accounts are kept, the general results of the year's working compared with those of the four previous years will be seen from the following statement:—

Year.	Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.	Net Actual Revenue.	Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital.
	£	Acres.	£	
1901-02	6,207,041	3,550,036	485,945	7·83
1902-03	6,299,896	3,525,034	480,595	7·63
1903-04	6,401,661	3,498,472	451,026	7·04
1904-05	6,515,022	3,558,659	456,668	7·01
1905-06	6,648,111	3,682,907	484,645	7·29

The net revenue recorded in the foregoing statement is that which has resulted from the outlay of Government capital.

The returns on capital outlay in the class of major works show increases under all the systems with the exception of the Cauvery Delta and the Periyar project. In the former case the percentage dropped from 25·90 in

IRRIGATION. 1904-05 to 24.82 in the year under review, and in the latter from 4.08 to 4.06, both decreases being very slight. The Penner river canal system showed a substantial improvement by increasing its return from 0.13 to 5.14. The only major protective work in operation—the Rushikulya project—showed an increase from 0.74 to 1.14 per cent.

The results of the year's working for the major works in operation are shown by the following figures:—

Work.	Area Irrigated.	Capital Outlay.	Net Revenue.	Percentage of Net Revenue on Capital.
	Acre.	£	£	
Godaveri Delta -	915,317	927,101	183,149	19.75
Kistna Delta -	659,198	1,027,334	154,596	15.05
Penner River Canal -	175,399	432,239	22,197	5.14
Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal -	62,337	1,456,189	7,712	0.53
Barur Tank -	5,547	29,007	327	1.13
Cauvery Delta -	993,616	229,678	56,996	24.82
Sriyaikuntham Anicut -	43,958	107,919	7,227	6.70
Periyar Project -	159,526	633,209	25,739	4.06
Rushikulya (Protective Work) -	102,244	336,111	3,843	1.14
Total -	3,117,142	5,178,790	461,786	8.91

The minor works for which full accounts are kept irrigated an area of 565,765 acres and earned a net revenue of £22,859, equivalent to a percentage of 1.61 on the capital expended on them. The decrease of £10,269 in the net revenue as compared with that for 1904-05 was chiefly due to a sum of £12,686, the approximate cost of the old works on the Palār anicut system, being written back from the capital to the revenue account, and the large outlay incurred in repairing flood damages in the Pombay channel, and constructing a rough stone revetment connected with the Terukkoyilur anicut system. The purely navigation works were in each case worked at a loss, the total sum involved amounting to £763.

Besides the works referred to in the foregoing paragraphs there is a large class of small works in Madras, partly maintained by the Public Works Department and partly by the Revenue Department, for which distinct capital and revenue accounts are not kept. The total irrigation revenue derived from these works in 1905-06 was £556,398, as compared with £432,238 in 1904-5; the area irrigated by them was 3,303,379 acres, being an increase of 365,303 acres, as compared with the previous year. A plan for the systematic repair of some of these works has now been in progress for some years and is about two-fifths completed. Up to the 31st March 1906, an expenditure of over £550,000 had been incurred under this scheme, and approximately 55,570 square miles had been investigated.

The plans and estimates for the Cauvery and Tungabhadra projects which had been submitted to the Government of India in the previous year were returned for revision. The plans for the Kistna Reservoir project, estimated to cost £6,100,000, were under scrutiny during the year, and were subsequently submitted to the Government of India.

The capital expenditure for the year on major works amounted to £103,403, of which £21,635 was spent on the Divi pumping project, £15,450 on the Mopad reservoir project, £13,803 on the Godaveri delta system, £12,522 on the Nagavalli River project, £11,202 on the Cauvery delta system, and £10,191 on the Periyar project. The capital expenditure on minor works and navigation, for which full accounts are kept amounted to £21,169, of which £8,369 was expended on the Hajipuram tank and £2,856 on the Anamasamudram Bisaperu channel.

In the Bombay Presidency, excluding Sind, the water system does not, as a rule, admit of the construction of large irrigation works. The rivers or streams are mostly small, and more or less dependent on the rainfall, and a constant supply cannot be obtained from them without the aid of large reservoirs or "tanks." In Sind the success of the irrigation operations is dependent on the regular rise of the river Indus.

Bombay,
including
Sind.

During the year the total expenditure on irrigation in the Bombay Presidency and Sind amounted to about £322,184 or £1,146 less than in the previous year. Of this amount £75,145 was spent on works, £144,673 on repairs, and the remainder on establishment, tools and plant, and suspense.

During the year under review, irrigation in the northern division of Bombay suffered from the abnormally heavy rainfall in the month of July, which breached the Khari Cut canal, and two of the large storage reservoirs. Later there was scarcity of rain, and the Hathmati river practically ceased to flow in November. There was consequently a fall in the area irrigated and in the assessed revenue, as compared with the average of the last 10 years. Good progress was made towards the completion of five irrigation tanks in the Kaira and Panch Mahals districts. The survey of the proposed Mahi canal was continued, and a report on the Sabarmati canal project was submitted.

In the central division, owing to insufficient rainfall, tanks did not fill and rivers ceased to flow early in the season. In spite of a decrease in the area irrigated, there was a considerable increase in the gross assessed revenue, as much of the area was under high rated crops. Work progressed on the masonry dam at Chankapur and on the Girna Left Bank Canal, in connection with it. As a measure of famine relief, work was begun on the Nira Right Bank Canal, the Victoria tank at Warwand, the Godaveri Right Bank Canal, and the Musalwadi, Bhamburdi, and Mangi tanks.

In the southern division no large works were undertaken during the year. As compared with the average of the past 10 years, there was an increase both in the area under cultivation, and in the gross assessed revenue, but the increases were entirely due to the Krishna and Gokak canals, without which, owing to the failure of the late rains, there would have been considerable decreases. The Godaveri project was submitted during the year. Excavation work was begun on the Gokak Canal as a measure of famine relief.

The total area irrigated from the Deccan and Gujarat Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept was 105,716 acres against 131,905 acres in the previous year. The gross revenue rose from £56,394 in 1904-05 to £59,555.

In Sind the inundation was exceptionally favourable, and all the canals reported very satisfactory results. Erosion was active at some of the canals, particularly the Dād and the Western Nāra.

Contour surveys for improving existing canals were in progress. The Mahi Wah project, as originally sanctioned, was completed, but additions have been found necessary. Works in connection with the Mithrao Canal were completed during the year, and work on the Nasrat, Fuleli, and Hasanali canals was continued. Investigations were undertaken to find a permanent mouth near Rohri for the Dād and other inundation canals having their mouths along the Indus, and dependent on the vagaries of the river.

The Indus River Commission, in addition to topographical surveys over a length of about 329 miles, carried out a combined hydrographic and topographic survey for 35 miles. The borings for the survey of the site for the Sukkur Weir were continued, and special observations of depths of scour were carried out.

The area irrigated by all classes of works in Sind was 3,349,488 acres against 2,923,928 acres in the previous year. The gross assessed revenue amounted to £543,425, of which £25,032 was on account of direct and £518,393 on account of indirect receipts, the corresponding figures for 1903-04 being £32,797 and £410,356 respectively. Both the figures of area irrigated and revenue assessed are the highest yet recorded.

In Sind the existence of cultivation depends upon irrigation, and there is a constant demand for water from the canals. This fact and the comparatively inexpensive nature of inundation canals, account for the favourable results generally obtained from the working of irrigation canals in the province.

The only major work in operation in the North-West Frontier Province is the Lower Swat River Canal, a protective scheme, with a length of 22 miles in the main and branch channels and 186 miles in distributaries. Another major work, the Paharpur Inundation Canal, is in the course of construction, as a protective work, and expenditure amounting to £14,973 had been incurred on it up to the close of the year. The project estimate, amounting to £1,216,016, for a

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IRRIGATION. third work, the Upper Swat River Canal, to take off from the Swat River at Chakdarah, and to serve the large irrigable area lying north of the Kabul River, has been sanctioned, and preliminary work is about to be commenced.

The capital expenditure on the Lower Swat River Canal to the end of 1905-06 amounted to £278,644, and the net revenue for the year to £26,480, giving a return of 9.5 per cent. In the previous year the profit and percentage were £26,971, and 9.7 respectively. The area irrigated in 1905-06 was 158,808 acres, being a decrease of 601 acres, as compared with 1904-05, the slight falling-off being due to a large reduction in sizes of outlets which has been carried out during the last two years, owing to the whole commanded area being somewhat over-irrigated.

The minor works in operation include the Kabul River Canal and the Bara River Irrigation Works. The capital expenditure on the Kabul River Canal to the 31st March 1906, amounted to £60,018, and the net receipts for the year realised £3,458, equivalent to a return of 5.76 per cent. This return is small as compared with the 14.40 per cent. earned last year, and is due to the increase of the Capital Account by the cost of constructing the Hazar Khani branch. When this branch comes into operation in 1906-07, the profits will no doubt be considerably increased. The area irrigated during the year amounted to 31,668 acres against 27,813 acres in 1904-05.

The revenue management of the Bara River Irrigation Works is in the hands of the Civil Department and reports of area irrigated and revenue earned are not available.

Baluchistan.

The two principal Irrigation Works in the province are the Shebo Canal and the Khushdil Khan Reservoir, both of which were in operation during the year under review. A third project, known as the Anambar Flood Channel, has now been completed at a cost of £2,613, but it has not yet been opened, as there are no colonists and consequently no land ready on which to put the water.

The capital expenditure on the Shebo Canal and Khushdil Khan Reservoir at the end of 1905-06 amounted to £45,123 and £68,498 respectively, and the net gain for the year was £396 and £2,055, representing a return of 0.87 and 3.00 per cent., respectively. The area irrigated by the Shebo Canal was 2,204 acres, and by the Khushdil Khan Reservoir 1,019 acres. A loss of £147 was incurred on the Anambar Flood Channel, representing the expenditure for the year on the maintenance of the canal.

Coorg.

The outlay upon irrigation in Coorg during 1905-06 amounted roughly to £1,445, incurred chiefly on improvements to the Chikle Hole and Rangasamudra channels and to several small tanks in North Coorg. Considerable difficulty was experienced in getting skilled labour for work at the Haggala dam, and in inducing contractors and labourers to work on the tanks in North Coorg and at Devanur owing to the unhealthy nature of the localities and their out-of-the-way situation. Major works in progress were the Kire Hole dam and channels at Devanur, the Haggala dam and channel, and improvements to the Nagavala tank, Tavera tank, Dodda Kanagala tank, Kattapura tank, and Garagandur Taverakere tank. A sum of £148 was spent on the investigation of the Harangi project. There is much room for extension of irrigation, but before entering upon further schemes it is necessary to ascertain to what extent they are likely to be utilised.

Ajmer-Merwara.

The year 1905-06 was not a favourable one for the crops in Ajmer-Merwara, the rainfall being only about one-third of the normal amount. Owing to the insufficient supply of water in the tanks, the irrigation operations were much restricted.

The results of working, as compared with those for 1904-05, are shown in the following statement:—

Year.	Capital Outlay		Gross Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of net Receipts on Capital Outlay.	Area Irrigated.
	During the Year.	To the end of the Year.					
1904-05 -	£ 1,907	£ 211,329	£ 8,339	£ 1,249	£ 7,090	3.35	Acres. 21,173
1905-06 -	5,146	216,475	4,126	822	3,304	1.53	11,866

The value of the crops raised during the year was £10,776, as against £29,002 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the deficient supply of water in the tanks for irrigation purposes.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS (CIVIL).

BUILDINGS AND ROADS (CIVIL)

The Buildings and Roads branch of the Public Works Department embraces all the operations of the Department which are not classed under the special heads of Railways and Irrigation. It includes the extension and maintenance of the road system, the construction and repair of all the buildings required for the proper discharge of the functions of government in all its branches, and a large miscellaneous class of works of public improvement, including lighthouses, harbours, embankments, boat bridges, and ferries, and the water supply and sanitation of towns.

The operations of this branch of the Department are classed primarily under two divisions, viz., Military and Civil Works. The military works are executed entirely from Imperial funds. The expenditure on Civil Works is chiefly met from provincial and local resources. The classification of the expenditure for 1905-06 under the heads referred to is shown in the following table:—

	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total in India.	Expenditure in England.	Grand Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Military works - - - - -	1,046,706	—	—	1,046,706	48,199	1,094,905
Civil Works - - - - -	718,220	3,020,385	1,541,579	5,280,184	75,023	5,355,207
Total, 1905-06 - - - - -	1,764,926	3,020,385	1,541,579	6,326,890	123,222	6,450,112
Total, 1904-05 - - - - -	1,628,177	2,697,195	1,310,999	5,636,371	123,523	5,759,894
Total, 1903-04 - - - - -	1,558,253	2,668,735	1,264,920	5,491,908	145,000	5,636,908

This statement does not include the outlay from Imperial revenues recorded under the head of Special Defence Works, which amounted to £116,306 in 1905-06. In 1904-05 the expenditure under this head amounted to £128,295.

The greater part of the expenditure from local funds is absorbed by the maintenance and extension of roads. A portion of this expenditure is under the direct control of the Public Works Department, but the larger part of the local funds outlay under the head of Buildings and Roads, as well as a small portion of the provincial outlay, is under the management of the Civil Department, and is not controlled by the Public Works officers.

The extension of local government in India has thrown a large portion of the smaller class of public works into the hands of the local boards. Speaking generally, the boards maintain their own establishments, but in the case of any works of unusual difficulty have recourse to the professional skill of the Public Works officers.

The following detailed account of Civil Works for the year under review is given under the heads of the different provinces in which the expenditure was incurred.

In Bengal the expenditure in 1905-06 on Civil Works was as follows:— Bengal.

	£
Imperial - - - - -	197,056
Provincial - - - - -	430,095
Local - - - - -	279,566
Total - - - - -	906,717

*Additional golas were under construction at Salkea to provide further accommodation for the bonding of salt, while opium weighment and settlement

• These particulars relate to 1904-05, the details for 1905-06 not having as yet been received.

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

centres were in course of erection where required. The new Foreign and Military Secretariat buildings were practically completed. Churches and Cemeteries, Customs, Stamps and Stationery, Museum and Observatory buildings, which were previously classed as "Provincial," were transferred during the year to the head "Imperial."

Under Provincial Works, several works were carried out in connection with the Civil and Criminal Courts in the province. The work of extension of the High Court was commenced, and the construction of the new Presidency Jail buildings was continued. The buildings for the new Dacca College and School of Engineering were in progress, while a new block at the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, was commenced. Of the various medical works, the most important was the reconstruction of the Campbell Hospital, Sealdah, which was much needed. In order to provide accommodation for the office of the Board of Revenue, and additional accommodation for some of the offices located in Writers' Buildings, a new compound was constructed in the compound of Writers' Buildings. As His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor decided to live among the people of Bihar at least once yearly, the property known as "Chajjabagh" at Bankipore was acquired for his accommodation during his stay there. Quarters were provided during the year for several Government officials, including Munsifs. Steps were taken for erecting a suitable memorial on the battlefield of Plassey, together with small pillars bearing inscriptions indicating the various sites of interest, and a bungalow for the use of visitors, with the necessary roads and paths.

Under the head of Communications, the alignment of a feeder road in the district of Ranchi to the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was marked out. A direct route from the plains in the district of Jalpaiguri to the Tibet border was investigated during the year.

United
Provinces
of Agra and
Oudh.

In the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh the outlay under the different heads of service was as follows:—

	£
Imperial	53,234
Provincial	335,376
Local	256,105
Total	644,715

The principal buildings completed during the year were the quarters for the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun, the court-house at Aligarh, the normal school at Gorakhpur, and the normal school for girls at Lucknow. Among the more important buildings under construction may be mentioned the Currency Office at Cawnpore and the hospital for Europeans at Allahabad. Improvements in the opium factory at Ghazipur costing over £10,000 were almost completed.

The total mileage of metalled road maintained by the Public Works Department was 6,163 miles, and of unmetalled roads 1,845 miles. Local authorities maintained 24,526 miles of unmetalled roads.

At Dehra Dun the construction of an iron girder bridge over the Song river was commenced. The second section of the Kotdwara-Lansdowne cart-road, and the improvements to the Chamoli, Joshimath, and Vishnuprayag section of the Hardwar and Bodrinath road in the Garhwal district were completed. Seventy-four miles of new metalled road and 53 miles of unmetalled road were constructed.

Famine relief works costing £48,093 were carried on by the Public Works Department during the latter part of the year in the districts of Muttra, Cawnpore, Jalaun, Jhansi, Hamirpur and Banda.

Panjab.

In the Panjab the expenditure for the year on Civil Works was as follows:—

	£
Imperial	49,914
Provincial	353,592
Local	73,101
Total	476,607

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL)

Enormous damage was done by the earthquake in Kangra both to buildings and communications. Several bridges were destroyed, including the bridge over the Boner in Kangra which has a brick arch of 140 feet span, and the Duff Dunbar suspension bridge over the Beas at Bhuntar. The recorded book value of the buildings destroyed was £23,300 and the total expenditure in the Public Works Department directly due to the earthquake is estimated at little short of £67,000.

There were no Imperial works of any importance undertaken during the year. Temporary post and telegraph offices were erected to replace those destroyed in the Kangra earthquake and a post and telegraph office at Campbellpur.

Under Provincial Civil Works, new district court buildings were erected at Mianwali, Karnal and Shahpur, a new Sessions House at Karnal and Munsifs' courts at Una and Garhshankar in the Hoshiapur district. A court-house was in progress at Sakesar and the district court-treasury and tahsil at Campbellpur was completed. A new Public Works Secretariat office was begun at Lahore. The Mianwali district jail was completed and seven police stations were built. Residence for officials were built at Campbellpur, Rohtak and Gurgaon. In consequence of the difficulty and expense experienced in obtaining house accommodation at Lahore for the European clerks employed in the Secretariat offices, a site has been selected and a number of detached cottages for these officials have been built as an experiment.

The expenditure on new roads has increased steadily in the last four years, and it is intended to work up to a programme which will add 75 miles of road yearly at the cost of £40,000. In the Chenab colony all roads in hand were completed, with the exception of that from Gojra to Jhang; and the feeder roads decided on for the Jhelum colony were in progress. Near Simla, the road from Sanjauli to Mashobra bazar was widened so as to allow of carriage traffic, and the old, dangerous Sanjauli tunnel was replaced by a masonry tunnel of the width of the road.

Various miscellaneous public improvements were undertaken at Simla and Lahore. At the latter place, electric light was installed along the Mall and in the principal public buildings adjoining it.

At Dera Ghazi Khan the Indus is again endangering the town and is causing serious erosion. At Khushab on the Jhelum the bridge-of-boats was broken by a very heavy flood in September 1905, and the Kashmir road between Murree and Kohala was completely wrecked by landslips in the winter rains.

Famine test works were started in January 1906 in the Gurgaon, Hissar and Rohtak districts, but only in the latter was distress sufficiently acute to make the people come to the works. By March it was necessary to start relief works, and the digging of three large tanks was commenced. Less than 8,000 people were employed on these works at the end of the year under review.

In Burma the total expenditure on Civil Works for the year was:—

Burma.

	£
Imperial	2,292
Provincial	763,504
Local	117,657
Total	883,453

The large increase in expenditure as compared with the previous year was due to the simultaneous erection of the new Chief Court and the new General Hospital in Rangoon, both large and costly buildings; the completion of new wings to the Public Offices, and the demand all over Lower Burma for new Courts and houses for the newly created Judicial Services. Somewhat extensive building operations were required for the accommodation of the new Shan States battalion of military police at Taunggyi and for the new Civil Station at Loi Mwe. Numerous buildings were completed for all departments, several new bazars and hospitals were

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

Taunggyi, Mogok and Lashio water supply schemes were taken in hand. A large outlay was incurred on the improvement of existing roads, but the length of new road added was comparatively small. The longest new metalled road was the hill portion, 16 miles in length, of the highway between Toungoo and Thandaung. Much progress was made with the metalling of the important Mogök and Taunggyi roads, and several rough tracks were constructed in Mergui to open out the country.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

The amount of the expenditure for the year was :—

	£
Imperial - - - - -	66,328
Provincial - - - - -	225,661
Local - - - - -	41,207
Total - - - - -	<u>333,196</u>

The most important Imperial work undertaken during the year was the sinking of two pits at the new Colliery at Ballarpur at a cost of over £4,860. Over £220,000 was spent on Provincial works, of which £106,670 was utilized in the construction of new roads and buildings, while the remainder was spent on repairs and establishment. Considerable sums were devoted to the erection of new Tahsil offices, new Forest offices, and bonded warehouses for the Excise Department. The extension of school buildings in Berar, especially with regard to the provision of hostels, continued to receive attention. The construction of new Secretariat buildings in Nagpur is in progress, the total expenditure incurred up to the end of the financial year being £4,003. Considerable progress was made with the construction of the District Court-house at Drug and of new Civil Courts elsewhere. Large sums were spent in providing new police buildings and extending the farm buildings under the Agricultural Department, as well as constructing and acquiring residences for Government officials. The total outlay on original communications amounted to over £30,000. Road construction was in progress in all parts of the Province, a feature of the year being the commencement of important lines of through communication between contiguous districts of the Central Provinces and Berar and the opening of short railway feeder roads on the Nainpur-Seoni section of the Satpura Railway. Nearly £50,000 was spent on repairs to existing roads.

The output in the Warora Colliery during the year amounted to 123,015 tons, or an increase of 8,297 tons as compared with the preceding year. On the grounds of safety and economy this colliery was closed at the end of the year, and more attention will be paid to the Ballarpur mine which is only just reaching the working stage, an output of 148 tons being the result for 1905-06.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

The total expenditure in Eastern Bengal and Assam for 1905-06 was as follows :—

	£
Imperial - - - - -	5,864
Provincial - - - - -	254,514
Local - - - - -	124,470
Total - - - - -	<u>384,848</u>

*The most important buildings in hand were residences for the Judge of the Assam Valley districts and for the Deputy Commissioner of Nowgong, new sub-divisional offices at Suramganj, circuit-houses at Dibrugarh and Silchar, cubicles in the Sylhet Jail, and Military Police Barracks at Dibrugarh. The scheme for restoring the old Assamese protective embankments in Sibsagar and Lakhimpur was completed. This involved the restoration of 83 miles of embankments, and the total cost of the work since 1903 has amounted to nearly two and a half lakhs of rupees. Five and three-quarter lakhs of rupees were spent on the improvement of communications. Original

* These particulars relate to Assam for the year 1904-05, no details regarding the buildings and roads of Eastern Bengal and Assam for 1905-06 having as yet been received.

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

works included the improvement of the Shillong-Gauhati road, the metalling of the Manipur cart-road, the construction of permanent bridges over the Karong and Dhansiri rivers, and the extension of the North Trunk Road to Subansiri. Progress was made in replacing temporary bridges by permanent structures, and a number of feeder roads to the Assam-Bengal Railway were constructed or improved.

In Madras the expenditure for the year on Civil Works was as follows :— Madras.

	£
Imperial - - - - -	16,640
Provincial - - - - -	290,507
Local - - - - -	439,283
Total - - - - -	<u>746,430</u>

There were no Imperial works of importance in progress, and the year's expenditure came almost entirely under the heads of Provincial and Local Civil Works.

The more important buildings under construction were new Collectorate offices at Cocanada and Guntur, a new District Police Office at Guntur and a new District and Sessions Court at Coimbatore. The principal works completed during the year were the weaving shed in the Coimbatore Jail at a cost of £4,887, quarters for the Conservator of Forests at Coimbatore, an office for the District Superintendent of Police at Cuddalore, and taluk offices at Tinnevely and Tiruppur. A building to serve as a forest museum was also constructed near the Conservator's office at Coimbatore.

Under the head of Communications a few important roads are in the hands of the Provincial Public Works Department. The Anamalai ghât road and the road from Manapatti to the foot of the Chinnar ghât were finished during the year. The Karimpoya bridge on the Nilambur-Nilgiri road and the Ponnar bridge at Cuddalore were restored. A road bridge at Kodamurti in Trichinopoly was under construction and a new road in Madura leading from the Athur ghât was commenced. All the feeder roads on the Shevaroy except one were completed. The bridge over the Coleroon on the Kumbakonam-Chidambaram road, the greater part of which was washed away in 1903, was demolished at a cost of £1,647 as it endangered the river banks and an adjacent railway bridge, and its re-erection was considered unnecessary, the railway having done away with the importance of the road. The greater part of the road system of Madras, aggregating 24,224 miles out of a total of 24,845 miles, is, however, in the hands of the Local Boards, whose expenditure is not under the control of the Public Works Department. They maintain their own engineering establishments, though in some cases they employ the agency of the Public Works Department for particular works.

In Madras the revetment on the foreshore north of the Madras harbour was repaired at a cost of £1,582. The Cooum bar was opened six times during the year in the interests of conservancy and sanitation, and steps were taken to protect the left bank of the Cooum from erosion.

Archæological excavations were carried out during the year in the Guntur, Cuddapah and Chingleput districts. A large number of coins, sculptures, and palæolithic instruments were discovered. Several fresh monuments were selected for conservation.

The expenditure on Civil Works in the Buildings and Roads branch in Bombay, the Bombay Presidency for 1905-06 was as follows :—

	£
Imperial - - - - -	39,077
Provincial - - - - -	367,136
Local - - - - -	199,203
Total - - - - -	<u>605,416</u>

The principal buildings completed during the year were a Male Training College at Poona at a cost of £14,464, extensions to the Paper Currency Buildings, Bombay, costing £14,552, additions to St. George's Hospital,

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

Bombay, a combined Post and Telegraph Office at Tatta, and numerous Revenue and Excise buildings. Electric light and fan installations were fitted in the Secretariat Building, Bombay, and in Government House, Karachi. Among the works in course of construction were the new General Post Office at Bombay on which the expenditure to the end of the year amounted to £10,829, a new observatory at Alibag estimated to cost £9,190, an extension of the Central Telegraph Office, Bombay, estimated to cost £7,640, a Veterinary College at Parel, Bombay, a Church of St. Crispin at Yerandavna, Court-houses at Surat, Baramati and Chalisgaon, and Sub-Judges' Courts at Bail Hongal and Chikodi. New civil hospitals at Balgaum and Karachi were also begun. Considerable expenditure was incurred on the inspection and preservation of archaeological remains throughout the Presidency.

During the year £41,529 was expended on original works connected with roads. Of this sum £18,896 was provided by Provincial and £22,633 by Local Funds. The works undertaken included a number of new metalled and unmetalled roads in all divisions.

The Local Funds works, in addition to roads, consisted of school buildings and miscellaneous water-supply and drainage works carried out through the agency of the Public Works Department. The construction of a light-house on the Dholera Bandar, estimated at £564, was commenced and two blocks of quarters for 10 light-house keepers at Perim were completed at a cost of £440.

Owing to the failure of the rains in 1905 it was found necessary to open some Famine Relief works in the Central and Southern Divisions. In the Northern Division the relief works opened in the previous year were continued. The cost of works carried out in relief of famine by the Public Works Department increased from £1,730 in 1904-05 to £7,600 in the year under review.

Coorg.

The expenditure on Civil Works in Coorg was as follows:—

Imperial	-	-	-	-	-	-	£
Local	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,270
							3,192
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,462

The principal civil buildings in course of construction during the year were the Mercara and Virajendrapet hospitals, quarters for revenue officials at Ponnampet, Hudikeri and Bhagamandala, girls' schools at Nalkerri and Ammatti and police lines at Fraserpet and Bhagamandala. In addition a gymnasium at the Mercara High School, an in-patient hospital at Somwarpet, and segregation wards at Somwarpet and Suntikoppa were completed and brought into use. Considerable delay occurred in the work on the Virajendrapet hospital owing to the failure of labour and to sickness among the contractor's men. Under communications, the expenditure for the year amounted to £10,312 incurred chiefly on the Wynaad road, inspection bungalows at Siddapur and Kodlipet, bridges across the Muderhalla and Gudagalalli streams, realigning and metalling the road from Gonikoppal to Ponnampet, and metalling roads from Mercara to Kodlipet and Periambadi. A new road from Sanivarasante to join the Mercara-Kodlipet road was commenced, and the construction of culverts on the Sampaje and Periambadi Ghâts was also undertaken. Excluding the usual outlay on the upkeep of bungalows, coolie lines and bridges, the disbursements on account of repairs amounted to £6,759. The existing communications were maintained in good condition, the mileage under metalled and unmetalled roads being 147 and 68 respectively.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

In the North-West Frontier Province, the expenditure for the year on Civil Works was as follows:—

Imperial	-	-	-	-	-	-	£
Local	-	-	-	-	-	-	141,898
							5,636
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	147,534

BUILDING
AND ROAD
(CIVIL).

The principal buildings completed during the year were the Victoria Memorial and a Hostel at Peshawar, Civil Dispensary at Alizai, Circuit House at Abbottabad, Civil Hospital at Dera Ismail Khan and Militia posts at Wana, Khajuri Kach, Nili Kach, Tanai and Spinkai Kach. An electric light installation for Government House, Peshawar, was put in hand and nearly completed; other works under construction were Civil and Militia posts at Sarawakai and Miranshah, a Divisional Court and Office at Dera Ismail Khan, a Munsiff's Court at Bannu and an Assistant Commissioner's House and a telegraph office at Nowshera. Under communications, the Murtaza-Wana Ekka road, the Dera Ismail Khan-Zam Chaudwaun road, an arch bridge over the Kirman Nallah on the Thal-Parachinar road, and a road through the Mullagori were completed and opened for traffic. Numerous other roads and bridlepaths in the Kohat, Peshawar and Nowshera districts were under construction. Boat bridges over the Indus at Dera Ismail Khan and Khushalgarh were maintained, the one at Dera Ismail Khan being replaced during the hot weather by a steam ferry service under the management of the North-Western Railway. The Jamrud and Nathia Gali water-supply works were completed during the year.

In Baluchistan a sum of £25,792 was expended from Imperial funds on Civil Works during the year. The most important work done was the improvement of sections of the Loralai-Fort Sandeman road at a cost of £2,374, while a special grant of £1,667 made by the Government of India for the relief of famine was also spent on the same road and afforded a measure of relief to the people of the Bori Valley and of Upper Zhob where the crops had failed. The construction of new Tahsil buildings has been commenced at Jhatpat, to which place the headquarters of the Nasirabad Tahsil is about to be transferred.

CHAPTER XII.

POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHS.

POST OFFICE.

POST
OFFICE.

Financial Results.—The receipts and charges of the Post Office for the last three years, as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts, are given in the following statement :—

YEAR.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Net Revenue.
	£	£	£
1903-04 - - -	1,507,153	1,403,224	103,929
1904-05 - - -	1,575,980	1,519,813	56,167
1905-06 - - -	1,658,700	1,558,200	100,500

Extent of Postal Operations.—The extent of the operations of the Post Office, and their develop-

YEAR.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	Length* of Postal Lines.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1903-04 - - -	15,403	24,005	8,242	145,656
1904-05 - - -	16,033	26,037	8,322	148,836
1905-06 - - -	16,776	27,107	8,376	151,871
Increase in 1905-6 over 1904-5	742	1,070	84	3,035

* Including the Bombay-Aden line.

YEAR.	Letters (including Postcards).	Newspapers.	Book and Pattern Packets.	Parcels.	TOTAL.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1903-04 - - -	569,345,660	34,262,838	34,351,819	3,941,809	631,902,126
1904-05 - - -	597,707,867	37,078,187	39,503,010	4,541,267	678,920,431
1905-06 - - -	645,126,942	40,200,838	43,719,064	4,953,370	734,002,223
Increase in 1905-6 over 1904-5	47,419,075	7,248,705	414,012	55,081,792	

The increase was greatest in Bengal.

The general correspondence returns, of which a summary is given in the margin, show an increase of 55 millions of articles (excluding money orders) carried by post in 1905-06, as compared with the figures for 1904-1905. Of the additional articles 25 millions were postcards.

Improvements in 1905-06.—There were many small improvements introduced during 1905-06: among the chief are an increase from half a tola to three-quarters of a tola in the weight of letters that may be sent for a half anna, reduction of fees for Insurance and for Telegraphic money orders, and the division of Savings Banks Deposits into two classes—those held at call bearing a 3 per cent. rate of interest and those requiring 6 months' notice of withdrawal bearing a 3½ per cent. rate.

Amount of Postal Matter dealt with.—The total number of articles received for delivery, including money orders, was over 753 millions, of which 95·09 per cent. were delivered, as compared with 95·16 in the preceding year.

ment during the last three years, are shown in the tables in the margin. These include the figures for the district post, of which the Post Offices number 927; the letter-boxes 2,059, and the village postmen 964.

Since 1904 there has been a gradual transfer of the District Post Establishments to the Imperial Establishment. The process was completed on 1st March 1906.

Of the total length of postal lines, 27,108 miles belonged to the district post and 1,185 miles were political lines administered by the Imperial Post Office.

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The net receipts of postal articles (other than money orders) at the dead letter offices for disposal were 6,385,202; of this number 4,470,802 articles were either delivered to addressees or returned to senders, and 1,914,400 could not be disposed of. This last figure is only 0·26 per cent. of the total number of articles given out for delivery, and a large proportion of the articles not disposed of were from their nature not capable of delivery.

The number of postal articles (excluding parcels) exchanged between India and England was 26,971,000 in 1905-06, as compared with 24,975,000 in 1904-05. The greater part of this increase of 8 per cent. was under the head of "Letters and postcards."

The number of parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom rose from 298,846 in 1904-05 to 333,749 in 1905-06—an increase of 11 per cent. The traffic with the United Kingdom formed about two-thirds of the whole foreign parcel traffic. About five-sixths of the parcels were sent *via* Gibraltar, and about one-sixth by the quicker Brindisi route. In the exchange of parcels with other countries there was again a satisfactory

	* Parcels not exceeding		
	3 lb.	7 lb.	11 lb.
<i>Via</i> Gibraltar -	1s.	2s.	3s.
<i>Via</i> Brindisi -	2s.	3s.	4s.

development of the traffic in both directions, the number of parcels showing an increase of 6 per cent. On 1st January 1904 India adopted the "Triple Scale" rates of the cheap Imperial Parcels Post scheme for the interchange of parcels with Great Britain.* Similar rates have since been adopted by her for exchange with various other parts of the British Empire.

Insurance of Letters and Parcels.—The receipts from the insurance of letters and parcels were £15,613, as compared with £19,333 in the preceding year, the decrease being due to the reduction of insurance rates in July 1905. The reduction led to an increase of 22 per cent. in the number of articles insured and of 35 per cent. in their value.

The average value for which each article was insured was, in the case of letters, Rs. 232, as compared with Rs. 215 in the previous year, and in the case of parcels, Rs. 283, against Rs. 250 in 1904-05.

The number of claims for compensation preferred in respect of insured articles was 47, as compared with 18 in the preceding year. Twenty-eight claims were admitted, the loss being due in each case to fraud or negligence on the part of the servants of the Post Office or to highway robbery of mails in Native States. This involved the net payment, after deducting recoveries, of £313 or 2·01 per cent. of the total amount realised from insurance fees, against a percentage of 37 in the preceding year. Of the nineteen claims not admitted, three were definitely rejected, and sixteen were pending at the close of the year.

Value-payable Post.—The business of the value-payable post continues to show considerable progress. The number of articles sent was 5,715,695, and the amount declared for recovery by the Post Office from the addressees was over £4,000,000, the commission on which was £57,849. There was an increase of 18½ per cent. in the number of articles, of 18½ per cent. in the value specified for recovery, and of 15½ per cent. in the commission realised. Calcutta was responsible for nearly one-third of the entire business.

During the year under review 54,232 value-payable articles were despatched from India to Ceylon, as compared with 56,205 articles in the preceding year.

Money Orders.—The total value of money orders issued has risen from £21,248,000 in 1904-05 to £22,707,000 in 1905-06. The amount of commission realised has increased by about 7 per cent.

The rate of commission (1 anna for sums not exceeding Rs. 5) is remarkably low, considering that in India the Post Office undertakes the payment of the payee at his house.

The average value of all inland money orders shows a strong tendency to decline: in 1904-05 it was Rs. 17-9-3; in 1906-07 it was Rs. 16-14-3. This tendency, and a similar tendency in the case of value-payable articles, shows that both systems are becoming popular among poorer classes.

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Office.

The above figures include the special classes of money order for payment of revenue, rent, and miscellaneous Government dues. These as a whole amounted to almost the same total as in the previous year—viz., about £1,100,000.

The value of money orders paid and issued in Native States were respectively £138,606 and £186,767. The excess of the issues by the States over the payments is again mainly due to the large issues of the Gwalior State.

The number of telegraphic money orders issued in 1904-05 was 197,759 for £1,383,426, and in 1905-06, 216,597 for £1,486,335, the increase being largely due to a reduction of the rate of commission. The average value of a telegraphic money order was Rs. 102. 14. 11.

The foreign money orders for and from the United Kingdom, most of the British colonies and possessions, foreign European countries and most of the colonies and possessions, and Egypt, are issued in sterling. The value of these orders issued by India rose from £368,004 in 1904-05 to £390,257 in 1905-06, while the orders paid in India fell from £659,925 to £654,908, of which nearly half was remitted from South Africa. Of the total sterling money order transactions, by far the larger part was with the United Kingdom and British colonies and possessions.

The average value of a sterling money order issued by India was £3 5s. 0d., and that of a sterling money order paid in India was £8 18s. 8d.

The money order transactions between India and China, Japan, Ceylon, and some British and foreign colonies in Africa and the East, are advised in Indian currency. The amount of such orders issued by India rose from £71,809 in 1904-05 to £82,694 in 1905-06, and the orders paid by India rose from £535,681 to £626,578—the increases being chiefly due to the establishment of direct exchange of money orders with the Federated Malay States and Somaliland.

Including inland and foreign money orders, both ordinary and telegraphic, the total of the money orders issued by the India Post Office in 1904-05 amounted to £22,707,344, against £21,248,426 in 1904-05, and the total of payments to £23,546,660, against £22,039,043.

Savings Banks.—At the close of the year there were 8,071 offices performing savings bank business, against 7,855 in the preceding year. The number of accounts in the Post Office savings banks rose from 1,058,813 to 1,115,758, the total value of the deposits from £8,938,008 to £9,328,417 (the new deposits

Class of Depositors.	Average Number of Deposits.		
	1904-05.	1905-06.	Increase.
I. Professional -	344,593	362,868	18,275
II. Domestic -	187,123	194,543	7,460
III. Commercial -	40,591	43,291	2,700
IV. Agricultural -	18,014	19,573	1,559
V. Industrial -	35,766	38,589	2,823
VI. Indefinite -	432,726	456,854	24,128
Total -	1,058,813	1,115,758	56,945

amounting to £3,403,643, the withdrawals to £3,276,644 and the interest on deposits to £263,410). Of the new deposits, the great part is held at call, only about £200,000 having been deposited subject to 6 months' notice of withdrawal. The average balance at the credit of each depositor was Rs. 130.83 as against Rs. 126.62 in the previous year. The table in the margin shows the number of depositors in different classes for the years 1904-05 and 1905-06.

During 1904-05 the total amount invested in Government securities by savings bank depositors through the agency of the Post Office was £111,800, against £75,500 in the preceding year; and the balance of securities held by the Comptroller-General on behalf of depositors at the close of the year was £188,200, compared with £123,700 on the 31st March 1905.

Pensions paid through the Post Office.—The total number of Native army pensioners whose pensions were paid through the Post Office in the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province during the year was 30,774.

Life Insurance and Annuities.—During the year under review 1,679 new policies of the aggregate value of £151,101 were granted by the Postal

Post
Office.

Insurance Fund, and of these 1,430 were Endowment Assurance Policies, of the total value of £128,252. Claims, amounting in all to £14,141, were paid on the death of insured persons. At the close of 1905-06 there were 11,483 active policies in existence (4,506 held by Post Office servants and 6,977 by servants of other Departments), and the aggregate sum insured was £1,128,054. Eleven life annuities were purchased by local bodies for their servants under article 807 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Offences.—During the year under review there were 23 cases in which the mails were plundered by highway robbers, of which 17 were in British territory and 6 in Native States. The figures for the preceding year were 5 and 4 respectively.

The number of cases in which the servants of the Post Office were found guilty of offences punishable by the law was 412. The defalcations and losses amounted to £2,456, as compared with £1,834 in 1904-05. A sum of £1,424 was recovered from the offenders or their sureties; £392 was charged against the Post Office Guarantee Fund; £13 was written off as irrecoverable, and £627 remained unadjusted at the close of the year.

Complaints by the Public.—The number of complaints made by the public was 38,505 against 35,428 in the previous year. In 33.75 per cent. of the whole number the complaints were ascertained to be well founded; 0.17 per cent. were entirely groundless; and in the remaining cases, either the investigation of the complaints had not been completed at the end of the year, or no definite conclusion had been arrived at.

Foreign Mails.—No change of importance occurred during 1905-06 in connection with the Mail Services.

Sale of Quinine.—The arrangements for the sale of quinine through the agency of the Post Office are now in force throughout India; in the aggregate the supplies issued to post offices show a decrease since 1904-05; this is probably entirely due to change in the procedure introduced recently.

TELEGRAPHS.

TELE-
GRAPHS.

The following statement refers to the whole of the telegraph system under the direct control of the Government of India, but excludes the Indo-European Department, extending from Karachi to Teheran and Fao, for which, as usual, a separate account is given. The system now consists of 64,383 miles of line, 43,212 miles of wire, and 348 miles of cable.

The year 1905-06 was remarkable for the visit to India of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, which involved the Department in the provision of special telegraph arrangements and the laying of extra wires aggregating 166 miles. Other events of interest affecting the telegraph system of India were the reduction of the rate for ordinary telegrams between Europe and India to 2s. per word from 1st August 1905; the concession of half rates granted by the Eastern and Indo-European Telegraph Companies for State telegrams of the British, Indian, and Colonial Governments between India and Europe, and the decision of the Government of India to reduce its terminal share on such traffic to one half, so as to make the rates exactly one half that for ordinary telegrams, i.e., 1s. per word; the alteration of the rate for inland deferred telegrams from 1st July 1905 to 4 annas per 10 words, and slight alterations to the inland press rates from the same date; and the revision from 1st June 1905 of the convention between Great Britain and China for the working of the land line between Burma and Yunnan *via* Shamo. The disastrous earthquake in the Kangra district fortunately caused very little damage to the telegraph line.

The organisation of the Indian Telegraph Department in all its branches has recently been occupying the attention of the Government of India, and, with a view to its improvement, a thorough investigation into the methods of working and the recruitment of the staff has been determined on. A

TELE-
GRAPHS.

committee, presided over by Sir Lewis Tupper, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., was accordingly formed for this purpose. This committee was instructed to assemble on 28th September 1906, and to submit its report in six months, or earlier if practicable.

The results of working for the year under review may be regarded as fairly satisfactory. The gross receipts of the Department continue to increase. The figures for 1905-06 amount to £815,611, and exceed those for 1904-05, the previous best on record, by £42,418. The increase arises principally under the head of message revenue, the number of telegrams during the year having increased by 15·04 per cent., and their value by 5·20 per cent. This increase in the number of messages is a striking testimony to the efficacy of reductions in rates for attracting traffic. Since 1st March 1902, when the first reduction of tariff between India and Europe from 4s. a word came into operation, there has been a very considerable growth in the number of telegrams, the figures for 1905-06 showing an excess of 3,985,572 over those for 1901-02, or an increase of 61·55 per cent. There are signs, however, that this rate of development may no longer be maintained, traffic showing little or no response to the reduction in the rates for ordinary telegrams effected from 1st August 1905.

Working expenses during the year 1905-06 were exceptionally heavy, amounting to £599,052, an increase of £52,138 as compared with those of 1904-05, due chiefly to heavy stationery and printing charges in connection with the extensive revision of code books and traffic forms, to extraordinary expenditure in connection with the Royal visit to India, and to increased charges for the gazetted, signalling and clerical staff, owing to the larger establishments found necessary to cope with the additional traffic.

The net revenue for the year amounted to £216,559, representing a return of 3·49 per cent. on the capital outlay. This return is the smallest recorded since the year 1884-5. In these figures *pro forma* revenue is included.

Capital expenditure increased during the year by £380,474. Of this amount, £18,658 represents the outlay in the Public Works Department on telegraph buildings, and the remainder consists of expenditure on additions to the system (including apparatus and plant) comprising 2,699 miles of line and 15,811 miles of wire, including cable. The total capital outlay at the close of the year amounted to £6,204,505.

The number of telegraph offices open to the public at the end of 1905-06, including railway and canal offices, was 6,723, of which 5,177 were maintained by the Department. The net addition to the number of offices during the year was 242.

No field telegraphs were constructed or maintained during the year in connection with military expeditions, but field telegraph operations on an extensive scale were carried out in connection with military manœuvres held near Attock in honour of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Special telegraph arrangements, including the provision of extra wires aggregating 1,166 miles, were made for the handling of the heavy traffic occasioned by the Royal visit to, and tour in, India and Burma.

The following statement shows, for a period of five years, the progress that has been made in extending public telegraphic communication :—

	Capital Expenditure.	Miles of Line.	Miles of Wire.	Miles of Cable.	Offices open to the Public.		
					Departmental, Ordinary and Postal combined.	Railway and Canal.	Total.
Up to beginning of 1901-1902	£ 4,728,223	55,055	181,883	296	1,939	3,239	5,178
During 1901-1902	247,741	772	8,721	—13	67	47	114
" 1902-03	328,612	1,003	9,663	—16	45	315	360
" 1903-04	244,629	2,862	11,771	25	76	363	439
" 1904-05	274,826	1,992	15,398	21	62	328	390
" 1905-06	380,474	2,699	15,776	34	120	122	242
To end of 1905-06	6,204,505	64,383	243,212	348	2,309	4,114	6,723

* Excludes £6,861 cost of cable lines transferred to Military Works Department on the 1st April 1899.

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A general view of the operations of the Department in 1905-06, in comparison with the results of the four previous years' working, will be gained from the following statement :—

Year.	Number of Messages during Year.	Gross Receipts, including State but excluding <i>pro forma</i> Revenue.	Charges.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of Net to Gross Receipts.	Return on Capital.
		£	£	£		
1901-02	6,475,545	730,395	503,338	227,057	31·08	4·56
1902-03	6,742,094	737,211	528,982	208,229	28·24	3·92
1903-04	7,307,087	730,994	538,272	192,722	26·37	3·47
1904-05	9,098,345	765,274	546,914	218,360	28·53	3·75
1905-06	10,461,117	805,748	599,052	206,696	25·65	3·33

The whole of the annual expenses connected with the telegraphs in India, whether incurred on capital account for the construction of new lines, or on revenue account for the maintenance and working of the system, are defrayed from the revenues of the Government of India. In 1905-06 the receipts of the Department were not sufficient to cover both the working expenses and the amount expended on capital account, and there was a charge on Government revenues of £173,778.

The total number of paid telegrams sent in 1905-06 amounted to 10,461,117, as compared with 9,098,345 in 1904-05, showing an increase of 1,362,772 or 14·09 per cent. The increase in the value of these messages, however, amounted only to £29,050, or 4·94 per cent.

The following figures show, for the last two years, the division of the traffic between State and Private, and between Inland and Foreign, messages respectively :—

Class of Telegram.	1904-05.		1905-06.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Inland State	801,170	£ 105,849	857,606	£ 106,797
Foreign State	16,942	7,868	15,963	4,895
Total State	818,112	113,717	873,569	111,692
Inland Private	7,281,734	322,668	8,496,677	355,240
Foreign Private	998,499	150,989	1,090,871	149,492
Total Private	8,280,233	473,657	9,587,548	504,732
Total State and Private	9,098,345	587,374	10,461,117	616,424

Inland private traffic continues to make considerable steps, the figures for the year showing an increase of 1,214,943 messages, or 16·68 per cent. in number, and £32,572, or 10·09 per cent., in value. The cheaper inland tariff introduced from 1st January 1904 still operates somewhat against the increase in value, which is proportionately less than that in number. The figures for the year are, however, the highest ever recorded.

The following statement shows the development of the revenue from inland private traffic for the last 10 years :—

1896-97	£
1897-98	249,228
1898-99	263,573
1899-1900	244,915
	294,485

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	£
1900-1901	294,071
1901-02	278,106
1902-03	291,339
1903-04	303,705
1904-05	322,668
1905-06	355,210

In inland State telegrams there has been an increase of 56,436, or 7.04 per cent. in number, and £918 or 0.89 per cent. in value.

Foreign private telegrams (including press and foreign transit traffic) show an increase of 92,372 or 9.25 per cent. in number, but a decrease of £1,497 or 0.99 per cent. in the Indian share of their value. This decrease in the value is partly accounted for by the reduction of rates for foreign telegrams between India and Europe which came into operation on 1st August 1905.

Foreign State telegrams decreased by 979, or 5.77 per cent. in number, and £2,973 or 37.78 per cent. in value. The decrease in the value is due to the reduction in the rate for foreign telegrams, and to the decision of the Government of India to charge half rates on British, Indian, and Colonial Government telegrams between India and Europe.

There were 43,871 inland press telegrams, containing 16,673,509 words, transmitted during the year, as against 40,024 telegrams, containing 14,045,910 words, during 1904-05; or an increase per cent. of 9.61 in the number of telegrams and 18.70 in the number of words. The receipts from such telegrams increased by 24.98 per cent., namely, from £6,230 in the previous year to £7,787 in 1905-06. The increase is due principally to the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The foreign press traffic amounted to 7,934 telegrams containing 589,437 words, as compared with 8,022 telegrams and 651,917 words during the previous year, or a decrease per cent. of 1.09 in the number of telegrams and 9.59 in the number of words respectively. The Indian share of the value was £2,768 as against £2,800, or a decrease of 1.14 per cent. The figures under "foreign press" represent the number of press telegrams to and from India and the Indian share of their value, transit traffic to and from countries to the east and west of India being excluded.

The subscriptions to the Telegraph Department for telephone and similar services rendered during the calendar year 1905 amounted to £15,524, being an increase of £1,889 over the figures of the previous year. The average annual subscriptions for the past five years amount to £12,880.

A telephone line, 68 miles in length, with two wires, was erected between Khargpur and Shalimar for the use of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. This is the longest direct working telephone line in India.

The gross receipts of the telephone companies during 1905 amounted to £38,661, being an advance of £2,971 over those of the previous year. Their average annual earnings during the past five years amount to £34,281.

Communication with Europe *via* Suez was maintained uninterruptedly throughout the year. The Teheran route was interrupted for 513 hours against 82 hours in the previous year. The greater number of interruptions on this route occurred between Tiflis and Kertch. One of these, which lasted from the 9th to the 20th January, and covered a period of 263 hours, was due to the strike of the telegraph operators in Russia, and to the destruction of the telegraph line by revolutionists. The Turkish route was interrupted for 920 hours, as compared with 1,195 hours in 1904-05.

The proportion of international traffic to and from India, exclusive of transit traffic, over the several routes to Europe for the year 1905-06 was as follows:—

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	Per Cent.	
	No.	Words.
Indo-European:—		
<i>Viâ</i> Teheran	43.09	46.99
<i>Viâ</i> Turkey	1.58	1.17
Persian Gulf, <i>viâ</i> Karachi	1.31	1.91
Red Sea:—		
<i>Viâ</i> Suez	54.02	49.93
Total	100.00	100.00

The bulk of the transit traffic was, as usual, carried *viâ* Suez.

The land route to China *viâ* Bhamo was interrupted beyond the Indian frontier for 83 days against 81 days in the previous year. There was only one interruption, lasting 28 hours, within the Indian frontier.

The wireless telegraph communication established during the previous year between Diamond Island and Port Blair was for the first four months of the year subject to short interruptions, but from July up to the end of the official year the installation worked without any hitch. The system was opened for public traffic from the 1st October 1905, and the traffic since then has averaged about 27,000 words a month.

A new wireless telegraph installation was fitted up at Saugor Island, and another on board the steam pilot vessel "Fraser," during the year. During the voyage of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales from Calcutta to Rangoon, the wireless telegraph station at Saugor Island maintained communication with H.M.S. "Terrible" up to a distance of 100 miles; and the station at Diamond Island communicated with the escorting fleet on the voyages from Calcutta to Rangoon and from Rangoon to Madras up to a distance of about 280 miles.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

INDO-
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MENT.

The system of telegraph lines and cables connecting the terminus of the Indo-European Company's telegraphs at Teheran with the Indian telegraph system at Karachi is controlled by the Indo-European Government Telegraph Department, and consists of two sections. The first, designated the Persian Gulf Section, extends by cable from Karachi to Bushire, Jask to Muscat, and Bushire to Fao, where a connection is made with the Ottoman Government line, and by land lines along the Mekran Coast from Jask to Gwadar, and thence to Karachi; while the second, called the Persian Section, consists of land lines running from Bushire to Teheran. The system comprises 1,951 knots of cable, 1,431 miles of line, and 3,593 miles of wire.

The Indo-European Telegraph Department also maintains a line from Teheran to Meshed, 568 miles, which is the property of the Persian Government.

Under the terms of a Convention dated 16th August 1901 between the United Kingdom and Persia, the construction of a line, known as the Central Persia line, from Kashan to the Eastern frontier of Persia, was commenced in December 1902. This line has been completed through Yezd, Anar, Kerman, and Bam to a point 25 miles beyond Bam, and 596 miles distant from Kashan. Beyond this a single wire line, 211 miles long, has been constructed to form a connection with the Indian line from Quetta to Robat.

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The construction of a line from Karachi to Panjgur was commenced on 14th September 1905, and 170 miles had been completed at the end of the year. This line will be continued to meet the Central Persia line at a point near Rohat.

The administration of the Indo-European Department, which in 1888 was amalgamated with the general telegraph system of India, was re-transferred to London in 1893, and placed under the direct orders of the Secretary of State. It has been found convenient to maintain separate accounts for this Department, partly for the sake of comparison with previous years, and partly because the conditions under which the Indo-European lines are worked and the influences affecting the traffic are completely different from those prevailing on the Indian telegraph system generally.

The financial results of working the Department, as compared with the four preceding years, were as follows:—

YEAR.	Total Capital Outlay.	Gross Receipts.*	Expenditure.	Net Receipts.	Percentage of	
					Net Receipts to Capital.	Expenditure to Gross Receipts.
1901-02	£ 818,747	£ 121,936	£ 57,310	£ 64,626	7.89	47.00
1902-03	872,730	99,158	59,853	39,305	4.50	60.36
1903-04	913,320	107,173	61,749	45,424	4.97	57.61
1904-05	931,438	112,907	71,845	41,062	4.40	63.63
1905-06	957,491	111,082	59,457	51,625	5.39	53.52

* This represents the revenue of the Departments after adjustments made in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Purse arrangement.

During the year under review the capital expenditure amounted to £26,052, of which £17,538 was incurred on the construction of the Indian extension of the Central Persia telegraph line, £1,466 on the Central Persia line proper, £1,535 on the construction of buildings in the Persian Gulf section, and £1,209 on a building at Henjam. The total capital expenditure at the end of the year amounted to £957,491.

The gross earnings of the Department show a decrease of £1,825 as compared with 1904-05, due principally to a reduction in the rate between Europe and India from 2s. 6d. to 2s. a word from 1st August 1905, and to the fact that, from the same date, British, Colonial, and Indian Government messages exchanged between Europe and India or the Far East were carried at half rates.

Working expenses during the year show a considerable decrease amounting to £12,388. This is mainly due to a less expenditure of £6,277 under "Repairs to Cables," £2,341 under "Cable Steamer," and £2,277 under "Line maintenance."

The net result is a profit of £51,625, or 5.39 per cent. on the capital outlay. This return is larger than any that has been earned by the Department since 1901-02.

The number of messages forwarded during the year amounted to 211,003, being a decrease of 2.39 per cent. as compared with 1904-05.

Under the Joint Purse Agreement, the share of the Department was £7,288 less than last year, being £112,887 as against £120,175 in 1904-05. This was principally due to the reduction of rates between Europe and India mentioned above. The amount paid into the Joint Purse for the year under review was £65,203.

The Departmental receipts from the Australasian Message Fund for 1905-06 amounted to £6,025, being £690 more than in 1904-05, but a decrease of £210 on the receipts for 1899, on which the original Australasian Message Fund was based.

INDO-
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MENT.

The results of the year's working may be considered generally satisfactory. Interruptions aggregating 21 days 8 hours 53 minutes occurred on the Indo-European Company's lines between Teheran and London, mainly due to revolutionary disturbances in Russia. The working of the Turkish route between Fao and Constantinople continues to be unsatisfactory, the interruptions during the year lasting 41 days 4 hours 5 minutes. The Department was liable to the Joint Purse for 22 days' interruptions between Constantinople and Fao. Acts of wilful damage show a reduction of 138 as compared with 1904-05, aggregating 398, and involving an amount of krans 7,051. Of this sum krans 4,710 were collected locally; the balance has been deducted from the Jask Royalty.

CHAPTER XIII.

EDUCATION, LITERATURE, AND THE PRESS.

EDUCATION.

EDUCATION.

Educational institutions in India are of two classes :—

- (1) Those in which the course of study conforms to the standards prescribed by the Department of Public Instruction or by the University, and which either undergo inspection by the Department, or else regularly present pupils at the public examinations held by the Department or by the University. These institutions are called "public," but may be under either public or private management. To the latter class, for example, belong those "aided schools," receiving grants from Government or from local or municipal boards, which occupy so important a place in the system of Madras, Bengal, and other provinces.
- (2) Those which do not fulfil the above conditions, and are called "private."

The system of education operates, generally speaking, through three grades of institutions, viz. :—

- (1) Primary schools, which aim at the teaching of reading, writing, and such elementary knowledge as will enable a peasant to look after his own interests.
- (2) Secondary schools, which are divided into English and Vernacular. Those in which English forms part of the regular course of study of all the scholars, or at least of all the scholars in the higher classes, are counted as English schools; if English is not taught, or is an optional subject only, they are reckoned as Vernacular.
- (3) Colleges, the students in which, having passed the matriculation examination of a University, are reading for the further examinations required for a degree.

In addition to these there are various institutions of a special character, such as technical schools teaching arts and industries, engineering, and other branches of applied science; law schools; medical schools and colleges; and normal schools for the training of teachers.

The general educational policy of the Government of India was declared at length in a resolution published in March 1904, of which some account was given in the issue of this Statement for 1904-05.

Bengal.

The total number of institutions in Bengal was 43,996 with 1,232,278 pupils. The proportion of scholars to the estimated population of school-going age was 28.4 per cent. in the case of boys, and 2.9 per cent. in the case of girls. The total expenditure on education from all sources was £735,043. This amount was contributed in the following proportions :—Provincial revenues, £226,333; district funds, £78,488; municipal funds, £7,035; fees, £286,023; all other sources, £137,144. The statistics of primary education showed a rise in the number of boys' schools from 33,298 to 33,665, or 1.1 per cent., and in attendance from 909,971 to 929,163, or 2.1 per cent. This increase was very satisfactory in view of the decrease in recent years consequent on the policy of demanding a higher standard of efficiency before putting a school on the aided or stipendiary list. The total number of secondary schools declined from 1,464 to 1,456, but the number of pupils increased

from 145,094 to 147,516, or by 1.66 per cent. The decline in the number of schools chiefly concerned Middle Vernacular schools, and is mainly to be ascribed to the smaller value which attaches year by year to a purely vernacular education. The results of the Calcutta University entrance examination were rather disappointing, the percentage of successes being only 26.4. The attendance at Arts Colleges declined from 6,400 to 5,675. An important event of the year in connection with collegiate education was the systematic inspection of colleges by a commission appointed by the Senate of the University, and their report has brought to light numerous defects in the administration of colleges. In technical education important events were the inauguration at the Sibpur Engineering College of classes for students who intend to take up mining as a profession, and the establishment of a weaving school at Serampore. During the year under review the Secretary of State sanctioned a scheme for considerably strengthening the inspecting agency of the province, a scheme for the reorganisation of the Provincial and Subordinate Educational Services, and the creation of a Lower Subordinate Service, and a scheme for the establishment of training colleges for teachers who impart instruction through the medium of English. The number of girls' schools increased by 12.3 per cent., and the attendance by 11.15 per cent., while the number of girls attending mixed schools was 6.37 per cent. higher than in 1904-05. An increase of 3 per cent. in the number of Muhammadans under instruction was encouraging in view of the sudden decrease of the previous year, and a further impetus may be expected as a result of a scheme now being brought into operation for bringing under the grant-in-aid system the indigenous Muhammadan schools throughout the province.

The record of the year's work in the United Provinces was one of exceptional progress. There were at the end of the year 15,708 institutions with 576,336 scholars, as against 14,211 schools with 502,389 scholars in 1904-05. The number of public institutions increased by 12 per cent. and an increase of nearly 400 private institutions went some way towards making good the falling off in the latter in the preceding year. More than nine-tenths of an increase, amounting to 15 per cent., in the enrolment of scholars occurred in public institutions. The increase in the number of Hindu scholars during the year was over 61,000; of Muhammadans it was 12,670. The percentage of children under instruction to those of school-going age increased from 7.02 to 8.06; for boys it was 14.71, and for girls .96. The total expenditure on education from all sources was £441,421, an increase of £59,400 on the previous year. To this total provincial revenues contributed £96,629, District Funds £168,055, Municipal Funds £12,416, and Fees £85,878. The number of scholars receiving primary instruction showed an increase of 60,000 during the year, the total number of boys in the primary departments being 438,702. Forty per cent. of the scholars were in aided schools and 60 per cent. in State schools. Secondary schools for boys numbered 526, and their attendance rose from 26,842 to 27,230. With regard to collegiate education, there are in the United Provinces two State colleges (at Allahabad and Benares), eight aided and fourteen unaided colleges. The number of students rose from 1,825 to 2,090. During the year the Allahabad University accomplished its reconstitution in accordance with the requirements of the Universities Act, 1904. The number of institutions for female education was 967, and the number of scholars 33,206. The female education committee presented its report in the course of the year, but Government was unable, for lack of the requisite funds, to adopt the scheme framed in accordance with the Committee's recommendations. Attention continued to be paid during the year to the subject of the better training of teachers, and the erection of five new normal schools was undertaken. The visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales evoked the widest enthusiasm, which was partly expressed in generous contributions towards various educational objects, including the establishment of a medical college at Lucknow, of a Sanskrit library and a technical college at Benares, and of a "Prince of Wales School of Science" at the M.A.O. College at Aligarh.

The total number of public institutions in the Punjab (excluding Native Punjab States) rose from 3,056 to 3,762, and their attendance from 184,736 to

EDUCATION. 211,464. The number of private institutions fell from 3,867 to 3,636, while their attendance decreased from 67,757 to 63,283. The total expenditure on education was £331,038, an increase of £9,389 as compared with that of the previous year. To this expenditure Imperial revenues contributed 2·8 per cent., provincial revenues 40·2 per cent., local funds 20·2 per cent., fees 20·6 per cent., and other sources 16 per cent. There were 11 colleges or one less than in 1905. In Arts Colleges the attendance rose from 1,196 to 1,315, and in Professional Colleges the number of students declined from 629 to 558. The number of law students decreased by over 50 per cent. The number of secondary schools rose from 321 to 324, and the number of pupils from 60,293 to 62,462, both boys' and girls' schools showing an increased attendance. Public primary schools showed a total increase of 699 to 3,389, and the number of pupils rose from 106,187 to 127,184, while in private primary schools there was a decrease of 231 institutions, and 4,474 pupils. The attendance at schools for special instruction increased from 3,015 to 3,221. The staff of the male training institutions of the province (the Central College, the Model School, Lahore, and five normal schools) has been increased to meet their growing popularity, which is indicated by a continued rise in the number of students. The institutions for training women teachers also showed a record of satisfactory progress, and the number of female teachers increased from 610 to 739. From all quarters indications are being received that the prejudice against the teaching of girls is at last breaking down, and the improvement was not confined to a mere rise in the number of girls under instruction, though this rise (24 per cent.) was by no means small, but also a far larger measure of success was obtained by the candidates who appeared in all classes of examinations than in the previous year. As regards the various creeds, the total number of Hindus under instruction rose from 130,664 to 141,903, of Muhammadans from 114,789 to 125,115, and of Native Christians from 2,363 to 3,381. In Native States the attendance at Arts Colleges rose slightly, and the number of pupils advanced in every class of Public Schools for general education, and remarkably so in Secondary Anglo-Vernacular institutions.

Burma.

In Burma, the record of the year's educational administration is on the whole one of continued progress. The total number of institutions, public and private, rose from 20,509 to 20,996, and the total number of pupils from 371,123 to 385,214, of whom 214,282 were at public institutions. The large increase in the total expenditure on education, viz., from £178,543 to £218,445, was rendered possible by the two recurring grants of four and two lakhs respectively, which were made by the Government of India from Imperial Revenues in 1902-03 and 1905-06 as a result of the recommendations of the Simla Conference of 1901. A rise occurs under all the main heads of expenditure, but the additions under the heads of "Other Sources" and Provincial Funds are the most notable, the percentages of increase over the figures of 1904-05 being respectively 69 and 23. The Rangoon College had an attendance of 167, as against 151 in the previous year, and of its candidates 4 out of 18 were successful in the B.A., and 11 out of 68 in the senior F.A. examination—a disappointing result; a feature of the year was the passing of two out of three girl candidates in the latter examination. From the Baptist College which had 21 students, as against 27 of last year, 8 entered for the F.A. examination, and two passed. There were in all 506 secondary schools with 47,254 pupils, and 5,149 primary schools with 164,185 pupils. Sixty-three of the secondary schools were for girls, and had 9,692 scholars; of the primary, 440 girls' schools had 42,816 scholars. All these figures show an increase on those of the previous year. With regard to private institutions, there were 20,380 for males with 327,309 scholars, and 616 for females with 57,905 scholars. The number of Muhammadans under instruction rose from 11,207 to 11,305. The progress of the school for Shan Chiefs at Taunggyi has been very satisfactory. The new Medical School has been opened, and progress has been made in the improvement of the Engineering School at Insein. An important event of the year was the establishment at Maymyo of a Government High School for European and Eurasians. With regard to the training of teachers, the figures for the year under review

call for little remark. Reports received from the Government normal schools are satisfactory; eminently so, in the case of the school at Mandalay. **EDUCATION.**

The influence of plague again made itself felt in the Central Provinces, but, on the other hand, the general increase of prosperity throughout the provinces, and a grant of £13,333 made by the Government of India for expenditure on primary education, enabled much larger sums to be devoted to educational objects than was possible in previous years. In British territory the number of institutions fell from 3,115 to 3,090. Scholars, on the contrary, increased from 198,129 to 209,680. In Feudatory States both schools and scholars decreased by 147 and 10,324 respectively, the decrease being due to the transfer to Bengal of the four large States in the Sambalpur district. The percentage of scholars to children of school-going age was 11·06 as in the year 1904-05; the percentage being 21·8 in the case of boys and 1·8 in the case of girls. The total expenditure in British territory was £145,389 as compared with £118,340 in the previous year. Of this, 40·5 per cent. was met from provincial funds, 36·4 per cent. from district funds, 5·1 from municipal funds, 7·7 per cent. from fees, and 10·6 per cent. from other sources. In Native States the expenditure amounted to £3,902. The average number enrolled in colleges increased from 289 to 318, and the Government College at Jubbulpore showed an increase of 15 in the number of students at the end of the year. Secondary schools in British territory decreased by one to 259, but the number of pupils rose from 39,465 to 41,433. There were 17 schools in the Native States with 2,115 scholars. The number of primary schools in British territory declined from 2,497 to 2,448, but scholars increased from 145,653 to 154,377. The decline in schools was attributed to the disappearance of several indigenous schools in Berar.

To turn to female education, the number of girls' schools in British territory increased from 223 to 251, and their strength rose from 11,363 to 12,410, the increase being, as in the previous year, mainly in Government schools, the pupils in which increased by 1,455. The increased number of pupils was owing in part to the provincialisation of certain schools in Berar. Among general administrative reforms of the year it may be noted that further progress was made in the strengthening of the inspecting staff by the opening of a new inspecting circle, and the appointment of the Inspector of European Schools, Bombay, to the charge of the European schools in the Central Provinces. Other important events of the year were the improvement of the position of the Morris and Hislop Colleges at Nagpur, the opening of the Victoria Technical Institute at the same place, and the introduction of the new Code for European schools.

The province of Eastern Bengal and Assam was formed on October 16th, 1905, and in view of the novelty and manifold difficulties of the situation, the Education Department of the new province found it impossible to organise, still less to carry through, any large schemes of reform. Two widely differing systems existed in the two portions of the newly-formed province, and during the year under review no attempt at amalgamation was made. It yet remains to be seen how far amalgamation will be possible, and how far some retention of the diversity may prove desirable. **Eastern Bengal and Assam.**

The number of public institutions in Eastern Bengal and Assam was 21,790, as against 21,333 in 1904-05, while private institutions fell from 3,948 to 3,777. The number of pupils in public institutions was 722,371, in private institutions 70,616. The percentage of pupils to population of school-going age was 28·2 in the case of boys and 2·9 in the case of girls. The total expenditure during the year was £318,788 as against £300,851 in the previous year. Of this, 23·14 per cent. was borne by provincial revenues, 22·98 per cent. by local and municipal funds, 38·89 per cent. by fees, and 14·99 per cent. by all other sources. Primary schools for boys numbered 17,630 with 547,319 pupils, as compared with 17,330 schools with 527,303 pupils in 1904-05. Secondary schools increased from 1,184 to 1,144, but their attendance fell from 112,988 to 111,849, the principal decrease taking place in the number of pupils at high schools. Decca College sent up 57 students for the First Arts Examination, of whom 41 passed. Rajshahi College and the Braja Mohan Institution, Barisal, both first-grade colleges, sent up 165 and 121 students respectively, of whom 23 and 59 respectively

EDUCATION. passed. From the second-grade colleges, viz., the Cotton College, Gauhati, Chittagong College, Jagannath College, Dacca, Murarichand College, Sylhet, Victoria College, Comilla, the Pabna Institution, and the City College, Mymensingh, the percentages of successful candidates were, respectively, 65.38, 29.5, 21.8, 48, 21.2, 32.5, 27.5; while from the Tangail Pramatha Mammatha College six passed out of 38 candidates. Girls' schools numbered 2,816, and the number of girls under instruction in all kinds of schools was 72,789.

Coorg. Coorg had at the end of the year 85 public schools, with 4,131 pupils in attendance, the figures for the previous year being 86 and 3,968 respectively. With three exceptions, one normal and two secondary, all were primary schools. Private institutions numbered 31, and their attendance was reported to be 535, both figures showing an increase on the year 1904-05. But these institutions are under no supervision, and the statistics relating thereto cannot be regarded as trustworthy. The proportion of pupils at all classes of institutions to the total number of children of school-going age was 10.41, against 10.03 in the previous year, the ratio being higher in the case of both boys and girls. The total expenditure was £3,191, or £246 more than in the previous year. Two noteworthy innovations of the year were the establishment of scholarships for girls in the lower secondary classes, and the organisation of a Teachers' Association for all the primary teachers in Coorg.

North-West Frontier Province. The number of public institutions in the North-West Frontier Province rose from 217 to 241, and of pupils from 14,788 to 16,161. The number of private schools also showed an increase, rising during the year from 834 to 846, but their enrolment indicates a decline of 691, being 12,332 as against 13,026 in 1904-05. The total number under instruction constituted 8.9 per cent. of the population of school-going age, an increase of 0.6 per cent. The total expenditure was £14,169, an increase of £918. Of this total expenditure £2,812 was paid from Imperial funds, £4,025 from District funds, £2,719 from Municipal funds, and £2,588 from fees. The Edwardes Church Mission College at Peshawar, the only collegiate institution in the province, had 21 students, as against 23 at the end of 1904-05. Secondary schools numbered 27, as against 25 in the previous year, while their attendance showed an increase from 5,120 to 5,163. Primary schools for boys number 201, or 22 more than in 1904-05, with an attendance increased by 825 to 9,622. The number of girls under instruction rose from 2,647 to 2,967. Of these only 922 were being educated in public schools.

Madras. The total number of educational institutions, public and private, of all grades in Madras rose from 27,648 to 28,258, and the average number on the rolls, counting all classes of institutions, decreased from 922,807 to 918,880. This decrease was confined to the scholars attending private institutions: the average number on the rolls of public institutions increased by 22,863. Of the total population of school-going age, 29 per cent. of the boys and 5.4 per cent. of the girls were under instruction. The proportion of scholars in the lower primary stage was 84.5 per cent. of the total number. The expenditure on public instruction from all sources (excluding a special recurring grant of £40,000 placed at the disposal of the Department for expenditure on elementary education) rose from £595,341 to £624,602, of which £187,992 was provided by Government, £58,817 by district boards, £17,155 by municipal councils, £198,221 from fees, and £162,417 from endowments and miscellaneous receipts. The increase (£55,424) of direct expenditure on Government institutions was mainly devoted to training schools and other special schools. First grade and second grade colleges numbered respectively 11 and 28; their total strength at the end of the year being 3,404, as against 4,539 at the end of 1904-05. The two colleges specially intended for women had 10 students, while 11 women attended the men's colleges. The Senate of the Madras University was occupied during the year in preparing a revised body of regulations for the sanction of Government under Section 26 (1) of the Universities Act, 1904, and a Commission appointed in April 1905 inspected the college affiliated to the University. Upper secondary schools for boys were 171 in number, and their strength rose from 50,785 to 50,888. In the lower secondary stage there were, in public

institutions for boys 42,592 scholars, a decrease of 1,685. The general **EDUCATION** decrease in the number of boys in the secondary stage was attributed partly to the abolition of the lower secondary examination and partly to the unfavourable character of the season. There were 25 upper and 187 lower secondary schools for girls, as against 27 and 170 respectively in 1904-05. The strength of the former decreased from 3,200 to 3,089, while that of the latter rose from 19,564 to 20,952. The number of public primary schools advanced from 20,146 to 20,485 in the case of boys' schools, and from 879 to 914 in the case of girls' schools. The attendance at the latter increased from 46,020 to 47,454, but the number of boys in public primary schools decreased from 665,943 to 664,220, the decline being no doubt attributable to the abolition of the primary examination which for a number of years past had served as a public service test. There was a further rise from 156 to 158 in the number of special schools and from 5,919 to 6,371 in their strength. The increase in the former case occurred under technical and industrial schools, while that in the latter was shared by all classes of schools except medical schools, which showed a slight falling off in attendance. There was a rise from 2,099 to 2,174 in the total number of institutions for Muhammadans, and their strength increased from 82,041 to 85,364.

The comparative absence of plague from several of the localities where **Bombay.** it is usually prevalent was a very satisfactory feature of the year under review. The period was one of marked progress in many directions, and the figures of school attendance were the highest yet recorded in the Bombay Presidency. The total number of educational institutions in Bombay and Sind was 13,865, with an attendance of 736,209, the figures of the previous year being 12,976 and 666,103 respectively. Of these, 10,939 institutions, with 660,323 pupils, were public. The percentage of pupils to children of school-going age was 31.8 in the case of boys and 6 in the case of girls. The total expenditure from all sources rose from £622,885 to £685,444. To this total Provincial revenues contributed 36.3 per cent., Local funds 9.7 per cent., Municipal funds 5.3 per cent., Fees 19.4 per cent., and revenues of Native States 12.2 per cent. There were 10 Arts colleges and 5 Professional colleges, as in the year 1904-05, with a slightly increased total attendance of 3,858 students, the increase being most marked in the Fergusson College. Technical schools and colleges generally showed an increased number of students. A Training College for Teachers in Secondary Schools was opened by Government in January 1906. The institution is intended to supply trained teachers to Government and aided high schools, and is likely to prove of very great value. Secondary schools rose by 10 to 514, while primary schools increased from 9,614 to 10,349; the attendances in the two classes of schools being 56,817 and 594,988 respectively as against 52,043 and 533,282 in 1904-05. The marked increase in the primary stage is especially satisfactory, and was due mainly to the opening of nearly 600 new schools by Local Boards, who were in a position to incur new expenditure owing to grants received from the sum of £33,333 a year especially assigned by the Government of India for the purposes of primary education. The diminution of plague was also a contributory cause. The results of examinations in primary schools were not altogether satisfactory; an inclination is manifested to leave the primary school too early in order to commence the study of English. The total number of girls under instruction during the year was 111,059, of whom 96,153 were in public schools, 83,233 being in the primary stage. In Arts colleges and other special schools there were 542 female students, 344 of whom were in training schools. The number of Muhammadans under instruction was 146,424 as against 139,324 in the previous year, but a comparatively small proportion were in higher institutions. The Yeravda Reformatory School contained 164 boys at the end of the year. During the year under review the revised Regulations of the University under the Act of 1904 were considered by the Senate, and were sanctioned by Government in August 1906. Among the most important of the reforms introduced by the University are the raising of the age limit for the Matriculation examination to 16 years and the institution of a new degree of M.B., B.S.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

LITERATURE.

	English.	Bi-lingual (English and another Language).	Sanskrit.	Arabic.	Persian.	Urdu.	Hindi.	Bengali.	Punjabi.	Marathi.	Gujarathi.	Tamil.	Telugu.	Burmese.	Kanarese.	Assamese.	Uriya.	Bi-lingual (Oriental) in a Classical and Vernacular Language.
Madras	461	•	105	6	—	51	—	—	—	—	—	313	221	—	25	—	11	*Total number of Bi-lingual, 133.
Bombay	67	40	20	1	1	27	95	—	—	183	291	—	—	—	9	—	—	80 chiefly Gujarati, Hindi or Marathi and Sanskrit.
Bengal	214	142	28	2	3	10	101	819	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	178, mostly Sanskrit and Bengali.
United Provinces.	82	•	88	27	32	346	517	3	9	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	*Total number of Poly-glots, 108.
Punjab	158	•	7	37	47	831	107	—	514	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*Total number of Bi-lingual, 126.
Burma	3	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	43	—	—	53 (Pali and Burmese).
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Central Provinces.	—	1	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Mysore	3	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*Total number of Bi-lingual, 5.

Note.—The figures for Madras include 391 periodicals, and those for the Punjab 236 periodicals; in other Provinces books alone are shown.

The above table gives concisely the number of publications registered throughout India in European, Eastern classical and the principal Indian Vernacular languages. The number of bi-lingual and polyglot works, however, makes classification difficult. Other languages in which books were published were French, Italian, Malayalam, Konkani, Tula, and Sourashtra (in Madras); Jain, Maghadi, and Marwadi (in Bombay); Angami, Ao-Naga, Garo, Jaunsari, Lhota-Naga, Lushai, Mikir, Mundari, Musalmanni-Bengali, Naga, and Santali (in Bengal); Balti, Gorkhali, Pashto, and Kashmiri (in the Punjab); Sgau-Karen, Pali and Kachin (in Burma); Khasi (in Eastern Bengal and Assam); Latin (in Madras and Bengal); Nepali (in Bengal and the United Provinces); and Sindhi (in Bombay and the Punjab).

Bengal.

The number of publications received in the Bengal library during 1905 was 2,800, as against 3,045 in 1904. The detention of books in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration partially accounts for this decrease. Of the total number of publications received, 1,836 were books and 964 periodicals. Of the books, 1,615 were original publications, and 221 republications and translations. As regards language, Bengali claims a large majority of publications, English coming next. The output in Uriya and Hindi was also considerable. As in the previous year, religion was the most popular subject, being represented by 332 original publications, and 67 republications and translations. Language, poetry, fiction, and drama followed next in order, and history, medicine, and mathematics were also fairly represented. Political and industrial questions appear to have attracted the best talent of the province, and the spirit of journalism pervaded all branches of literature. Thus, while the field of art remained untraversed, the industrial awakening of the people found expression in two works of interest, one of which, *Hand-loom Weaving in India*, by Mr. Havell, attracted a wide circle of readers. In the domain of drama the revolt against social customs, which operate hardly on the weaker sex, and the adoption of western customs were exemplified. But although the higher walks of literature were in a large measure deserted in favour of political, social, and industrial reform, the year was not devoid of literature of a less ephemeral character. Thus, in the domain of fiction, two novels entitled *Amaravati* and *Lalit Mohan*, by Babu Damodar Mukerji, illustrated the chastening influence of high ideals in practical life. Among miscellaneous writings there were three which were remarkable, viz., *Palli Vaichitra*, by Babu Devendra Kumar Ray, which reminds the dwellers in cities of the charms of village life; *Prabandha Manjari*, a collection of essays traversing a wide range of topics; and *Veda Prakasika*, a work of research in respect of Vedic literature, which showed considerable originality and boldness of conception. Coincident with great fertility in the field of periodical literature was a comparative barrenness in that of philosophy and religion. But this can scarcely be more than a

transient phase, for it is in these spheres that the literary activity of Bengal finds its most natural expression.

The total number of publications in the United Provinces decreased from 1,588 to 1,481, of which 1,100 were original works. The subjects most in favour were poetry (291), religion (186), language (141), and fiction (73). As usual the subject of religion attracted more writers than any other. The tendency shown of late years on the part of reformers to make Hinduism suit the changed conditions of modern life was again manifested. The most important work of this class is *Hinduism, Ancient and Modern*, by Rai Bahadur Lala Baij Nath, a revised and enlarged edition of which was issued during the year. It is a remarkable work of very high merit. The output of works dealing with the Islamic faith was scanty, and, with the exception of a portion of a learned commentary on the Quran, by the late Sir Saiyid Ahmad Khan, was not specially deserving of mention. The output in Drama and Fiction was less prolific than in previous years. Neither rose to a high level; works of fiction, in particular, were to a large extent open to the charges of extravagance and want of taste, amounting, in some cases, to moral depravity. Philosophy was, as usual, prolific, and the Theosophists were unusually active.

The total number of books and periodicals catalogued in the Punjab during the year was 1,959, as against 1,484 in 1904. As usual, Urdu and Punjabi works largely predominated. Poetry continued to have the largest number of books, 355; religion, with 320, came next. Religion continues to be the dominating force in indigenous literature. The most noteworthy publications in Punjabi, Urdu, or Persian deal with religion in one phase or another, and the only remarkable books under biography were those dealing with the lives of religious heroes. The *Sunan Abi Daud ma Hashia-i-Aun-ul Ma'bud*, a good specimen of Oriental scholarship and industry, expounds the philosophy of Muhammadan traditions, and Bhai Sardul Singh's lectures on the main principles of Sikhism also deserve mention. The interest of the writers of biography continued unabated, and several works of considerable merit were produced during the year. The popularity of the novel continues to increase, and although the best books were either translations or adaptations of foreign works, there were signs of improvement in the original contributions. Punjabi poetry, unshackled as it is by old conventions which have hampered Urdu poetry, seems to have a hopeful future before it, and mention may be made of *Rani Raj Kaur da Warlap*, a touching lament on the death of Raja Surat Singh, the husband of the Rani. The best translated work of the year was the *Wisal-i-Bari*, an Urdu rendering of *In Tune with the Infinite*. Two more volumes were added by M. Zaka Ulla to his history of the reign of Queen Victoria.

The total number of publications registered in Madras was 1,237, an increase of 20 on 1904. Religion (345) was again the favourite theme, while language (158) came second, and law (63) third. Considering the year's publications on the whole, although there was a numerical increase, there was a lack of originality and literary merit in the works produced. None of the publications under Art is worthy of notice, while of those under Biography there is only one that deserves some mention, viz., the *Metrical Biographies of Tamil Poets*, Part II., by Murugadasaswami, edited by Diwan Bahadur N. Krishnamachariar. Under Poetry there was a considerable fall in publications, and, as in the preceding year, there were no works of importance under this head. Though there was a slight increase under dramatic productions, they did not show any marked originality of thought or treatment, and were mostly dramatised versions of stories taken from Indian epics. Equally unimportant were the novels of the year. Their general tone has shown as yet no signs of steady improvement, and they are written generally with no higher object in view than to cater palatable reading for the masses. One of the most interesting of the year's productions was *Advice to the Indian Aristocracy*, by the Maharaja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E. The book contains a series of lectures on various subjects bearing on the conduct and work of zamindars, and is intended especially for the benefit of the future Indian aristocracy. Religion, science, and medicine again presented nothing of any importance, and the historical writings of the year were mainly of the kind intended for schools.

LITERATURE.
Bombay.

The total number of publications registered in Bombay was 1,276 as against 1,279 in 1904. The number of books was 831. Religion (231) and poetry (136) were the most popular subjects, although there was a considerable falling off under the latter head. Fiction showed a slight increase. Under the heading of Arts may be mentioned a curious book on the Science of Indian Music, by a Bombay veterinary graduate. The dramatic compositions were all written in Marathi; they call for no special comment beyond the remark that dramatists seem to exhibit a general lack of power to distinguish between subjects which are fit, and those which are unfit, for dramatic representation. In the whole extent of fiction there was no fiction properly so called. Works included under this heading were really didactic literature, being of either a historical or a political nature. The only historical publication deserving of notice was an essay by Mr. Sant, written in Marathi, on the life and work of Nana Fadnavis—a discriminating and well-written treatise. Some of the Marathi and Gujarati poetry during the year showed imaginative power and graceful expression. Philosophy, which had few votaries, included an explanation in Marathi of a part of Spencer's sociology, and an acute criticism of Theosophy by a Catholic writer. Under the heading Religion, perhaps the best publication was an English essay by Mr. Vaidya, dealing with the date of the *Mahābhārata* and the history of the text.

Other
Provinces.

In Burma 140 publications were registered, of which "religion" claimed 67 and "language" 13. Eastern Bengal and Assam produced altogether 45 books, the favourite subjects being religion (15) and language (12). The publications in other provinces call for no comment; in Coorg none was registered.

CHAPTER XIV.

EMIGRATION AND MIGRATION.

EMIGRATION.

Emigration from India, so far as it is brought under the cognisance of Government, is mainly regulated by Act XXI. of 1883 and the Rules issued under its provisions. Emigration to Ceylon, to the Straits Settlements, and for employment under Government in East and Central Africa, is, however, excepted from the restrictions of the Act. By Section 8 of this Act, natives of India are permitted to emigrate, under contract to labour for hire, only to such countries as have satisfied the Government of India that sufficient provision is made for the protection of Indian immigrants. A similar protection was extended by Act X. of 1902 to natives of India engaged to emigrate, individually or in small parties, to work as artisans, for the purposes of an entertainment or exhibition, or for service in restaurants or other places of public resort. The Local Government is now empowered, before permitting such emigration, to impose such terms and conditions as it considers necessary in each case. Emigration otherwise than under contract to labour or work in one of the above capacities is not controlled by legislation.

EMIGRA
TION.

There were seven emigration agencies at work during the year at Calcutta, six representing British Colonies, and one the Dutch Colony of Surinam. The total number of labourers requisitioned rose from 7,501 in 1904 to 8,157 in 1905. The number sent during the year was 8,933. The results of the recruiting operations indicate that there was less difficulty in securing recruits than in the previous year, owing no doubt to scarcity in the recruiting districts. Recruitment for Jamaica, which was suspended during 1904, was resumed. The number of recruiting licences granted was 870, as compared with 1,146 in 1904, and of these 36, or 4·13 per cent. of the whole, were subsequently cancelled. The decrease in the total number of licences is nominal only, as only one licence was granted to a recruiter, instead of two, for the Colonies of British Guiana and Natal, which were under the charge of one emigration agent, and similarly only one licence, instead of four was granted to a recruiter for Trinidad, Mauritius, Fiji, and Jamaica, which were also under the charge of one agent. The recruiters, who conducted their operations in the same places as in the preceding year, collected altogether 15,296 emigrants during the year. This number was contributed by the different provinces in the following proportions:—United Provinces, 76·3 per cent.; Bengal, 7·5 per cent.; Bihar, 6·6 per cent.; Central Provinces, 4·8 per cent.; Punjab, 3·2 per cent.; Ajmere, 1·3 per cent.

The number of emigrants admitted to the Calcutta depôts was 12,296. Of the remainder, 2,296 were rejected subsequently to registration as unfit to emigrate. The percentage of deaths in the depôts was ·24 as compared with ·22 in the preceding year, and the percentage of rejections increased from 7·3 to 10·6. The percentage of desertions, however, fell from 3·01 to 2·49. After deducting casualties of all kinds, there remained 9,943 emigrants available for despatch to the colonies, of whom 9,322 were shipped during the year, as against 7,135 in the previous year. They were distributed as follows: Demerara, 2,737; Trinidad, 2,390; Mauritius, 720; Natal, 1,083; Jamaica, 812; Fiji, 1,405; Surinam, 175. The total number shipped included 2,456 women and 381 returned emigrants who re-emigrated. The death rate on the ships carrying emigrants was 1·14 per cent., 9 out of the 72 deaths which occurred being due to cerebro-spinal fever, 3 to cholera and the rest to chest affections and other diseases.

The number of emigrants who returned from the several colonies was 4,703, and their ascertained aggregate savings amounted to upwards of £53,876. The average savings per head varied from £15 16s. in Trinidad, to 11s. in Mauritius. But 1,078 adults—22·9 per cent. of the total number of returned emigrants—brought back no savings.

EMIGRATION.

The amounts remitted to India by emigrants resident in the colonies again indicated a high degree of prosperity among the Indian population in Natal, although the average remittance per emigrant (£1 1s.) was not quite so high as in the year 1903. Fiji was the only other colony where the average remittance per emigrant (Re. 1.11.0, or about 2s. 3d.) exceeded one rupee.

Madras.

The numbers of emigrants embarking from Madras for Natal and Fiji respectively were 6,498 and 1,731. The number of emigrants to Natal would have been still larger had it not been for an outbreak of cholera at the Emigration Depot which stopped recruiting for a time. Emigration to Trinidad was begun for the first time in 1905, the number of emigrants being 1,382. The bulk of the emigrants came from the Chingleput and North Arcot districts. No emigrants went to Mauritius or the Seychelles, and there was no emigration to the French colonies during the year. One thousand five hundred and sixty-nine emigrants returned from Natal with savings amounting to over £13,000, and 186 returned from Mauritius with £112.

As regards non-regulated emigration, the number of emigrants to the Straits Settlements increased from 28,249 to 40,900, most of whom started from ports in the Tanjore district. There was a continued increase in the number of passengers to Burma and Ceylon, but it was impossible to distinguish emigrants from ordinary passengers.

Bombay.

Two hundred and fifty-six emigrants left Bombay during the year under agreements made under the Emigration Act, the majority being recruited for work in the Public Works Department of the East Africa Protectorate. From Karachi there were 252 emigrants under the Act, of whom 238 left for service on the Uganda Railway. Three hundred and thirty emigrants who had served their time on the Uganda Railway returned to Bombay and Karachi. The number of independent emigrants from Surat to Burma and South Africa was estimated at 1,636, and included traders, artisans, and unskilled labourers.

MIGRATION.

MIGRATION.

Assam

Assam imports from the other provinces of India the greater part of the labour force employed on tea-gardens, in the oil refinery at Digboi, in coal-mines, and in a few saw-mills in Upper Assam. The total labour population directly dependent on these industries numbered 677,407 at the end of June 1906, the year for which labour statistics are tabulated now ending at this date. The number of labourers engaged under Act VI. of 1901 showed a further decline of 3,201 to 76,782, while the number classed as "non-Act" labourers rose from 584,313 to 600,625. Of the total labour force in the province 61.15 per cent., including almost all of the "Act" labourers, were employed in the Assam valley, and the remainder in the Surma valley. There was a distinct improvement in immigration, but the total number of labourers and their dependants imported during the year (31,830, as compared with 24,209 in 1904-05) was only one-half of the number that came to the province in 1890. Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas, the Central Provinces and Madras showed the largest increases, which occurred among both Act and non-Act coolies.

Of the 9,443 adults imported during the year under the Act, 5,482 were recruited by sardars and 3,961 by contractors. During the year the Government of Madras issued revised rules, removing certain restrictions on sardari recruitment, and the Assam-Bengal and East Indian Railways made concessions with a view to the stimulation of this method of recruitment, but these facilities had not sufficient time to operate during the year under review. The marked development in 1904-05 of unindentured emigration was maintained.

The number of deaths which occurred during the journey increased from 16 to 58. Of these 45 were due to cholera, which was unfortunately prevalent during the year.

MIGRATION.

Coolies travelling to the Brahmaputra Valley made use of one of the two railway routes *via* Dhubri or *via* Chandpur and Tinsukia. Most of the immigrants to the Surma Valley were conveyed by the Assam-Bengal railway. Of 5,964 coolies imported into the latter, only 591 passed through the river depôts, the remainder travelling by railway and proceeding direct to their destination.

The number of complaints of fraud and irregularity in recruitment was 74, as compared with 75 in the previous year. Fraud or irregularity was proved in 39 cases.

The registered rate of mortality rose from 22.9 to 25.7 per mille. Although the mortality among Central Provinces coolies was still the highest, the death-rate fell from 35.6 in 1904-05 to 31.18. The rate for all other provinces showed an increase, which in the case of coolies from the plains of the United Provinces and Bengal rose from 21.8 to 25.8. The mortality from cholera among the labour force rose from 813 to 2,057. The number of cases recorded of complaints laid by coolies against managers of ill-treatment unconnected with re-engagement fell from 18 to 2, one of which was pending from the preceding year. Miscellaneous complaints filed by coolies declined from 213 to 162, and 518 applications for discharge certificates were made, certificates being granted in 297 cases. Cases in which managers were the complainants in criminal proceedings increased by 1 to 11. The number of desertions was 2,731, or two less than in the preceding year.

The number of inland emigrants recruited in the Central Provinces showed an increase. Of the 3,690 emigrant labourers, 2,319 were males and 1,371 females, and they were accompanied by 1,265 dependants. In the previous year 2,087 emigrants were recruited as labourers, and they took with them 546 dependants. The irregularities in recruiting were few in number.

The very low steamship rates prevailing during the year owing to the competition of rival companies, and in some measure the unfavourable harvest in many parts of India, gave a considerable impetus to immigration to Burma from India. In all 239,000 immigrants landed in Burma, and although a great many of the natives of India in the country took advantage of the low fares to revisit their old homes, the net increase to the population was nearly 63,000 persons. There was no emigration from the province in the true sense of the word.

The number of passengers arriving at the several ports of the Madras Presidency during the year was 288,293, of whom 152,576 came from Ceylon and 92,216 from Burma.

The usual seasonal migration to Bombay from Nasik, Satara, Kolaba, and Ratnagiri assumed, owing to the prevailing scarcity, very much larger proportions. In the Deccan and Karnatak also, which suffered from scarcity, there were very extensive temporary movements of labourers in search of work to the more fortunate parts of the Presidency. Except in Sind, there was very little immigration from foreign territories. In Karachi there was the usual influx of Cutchis, most of whom returned to their own country. Owing to shortage of rain in parts of Baluchistan there was a considerable influx of persons in search of labour in Laskhana and in Thar and Parkai, and the famine in Rajputana increased the number of Marwaie wanderers in Sind.



CHAPTER XV.

TRADE.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

(Detailed information regarding the Trade of British India being annually furnished in a separate Parliamentary Paper, a brief Review only is given in the present Chapter.)

TRADE.

THE total trade of British India with other countries by sea and land during the five years ending on the 31st March 1906, was valued as follows:—

	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
By SEA.	£	£	£	£	£
Private Imports :					
Merchandise -	54,345,986	52,525,272	56,548,862	64,452,192	68,710,440
Treasure -	13,098,920	16,837,152	21,295,508	22,018,353	13,947,526
	67,444,906	69,362,424	77,844,370	86,470,545	82,657,966
Private Exports :					
Foreign Merchandise re-exported -	2,173,311	1,957,108	2,217,458	2,248,715	2,352,490
Indian Merchandise -	80,803,275	83,919,801	99,755,597	102,760,848	105,452,776
Treasure -	5,641,711	5,873,341	5,364,782	5,392,377	4,299,838
	88,618,297	91,750,250	107,337,837	110,401,940	112,105,104
Government Transactions :					
Imports { Stores -	4,841,047	4,687,504	5,179,320	5,156,305	6,019,781
Treasure -	635,304	82,085	4,388,564	4,320,430	7,153,150
Exports { Stores -	286,941	387,490	371,718	138,472	78,392
Treasure -	2,005,529	565,084	4,596,339	5,634,834	6,013,499
	7,768,821	5,681,805	14,535,941	15,250,041	19,264,822
Total Trade by Sea -	163,832,024	166,834,837	199,718,148	212,122,526	214,027,892
By LAND.					
Imports -	5,167,462	4,580,733	5,229,592	5,711,753	6,324,572
Exports -	4,405,609	3,870,514	3,964,335	4,501,241	4,902,224
Total Trade by Land	9,573,071	8,451,247	9,193,927	10,212,994	11,226,796
Excess imports of treasure by sea -	6,086,984	10,480,812	15,722,951	15,311,572	10,787,339
Net excess of exports over imports of merchandise and treasure by sea, private and Government -	17,989,510	18,570,811	24,893,640	20,227,966	22,366,098
India Council Bills paid in India -	18,535,842	18,724,021	23,874,459	24,150,029	31,799,140*

* As in previous years, the amount actually paid during the year in India is given in pounds, at Rs. 15 to the pound. The figures for the four last years include sums of £1,939,093, £263,000, £2,200,000, £700,396, and £1,876,333 respectively, drawn against the Gold Reserve Fund. The Bills drawn and the Telegraphic Transfers granted by the Secretary of State on India during the year 1905-06 yielded £31,566,973, the average rate being 1s. 4.043d. per rupee.

Foreign sea-borne trade.

The total seaborne trade was, it will be observed, nearly 1 per cent. greater than that of the previous year, 1904-05, in spite of the contraction

TRADE.

in the imports of treasure. Putting aside the Government transactions, however, the private trade in merchandise and treasure amounted to £194,763,070, or one per cent. below the 1904-05 figure, which was the highest on record. But if the imports and exports of treasure are omitted, there remains a total of £176,515,700 as the value of the private merchandise trade, which shows a rise of 4.2 per cent. above the high figures of the preceding year, imports having increased by 6.6 per cent., while exports were 2.7 per cent. higher.

The increase in the value of imports in 1905-06 was more than 4 millions sterling, an amount which, though only half the increase in 1904-05, is remarkable, seeing that it followed on that year, when the increase was a record one. Imports of cotton goods were on an unprecedented scale. The attenuation of stocks in China, the establishment of peace in the East, and a marked development in the purchasing power of India, coincided with greatly increased productions of the raw material in America and Egypt and a return of prices to more advantageous levels. Owing to the decline of prices, the increase under cotton goods is one of quantity even more than of value. The next most noteworthy increase was in the sugar imports. The trade was practically exempt from legislative restrictions throughout the year, and there was a great expansion towards the end of the year in the imports of beet sugar; the price of sugar fell much below the high level prevailing in the previous year. There was again a decline in the mineral oil imports, owing to the rapid development of the Burma oil industry, and the disturbances in Russia. Silk, woollen goods, and metals also showed a decline as compared with the high figures of the preceding year. It is to be borne in mind that, owing to the large and increasing number of railways owned by the State, the imports of railway material fall largely outside the table, which includes only private merchandise. If the Government imports are included, the value of railway material imported was £4,493,000, which is largely in excess of the previous year's figures.

Imports.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton woven goods -	20,165,000	18,766,000	19,246,000	23,706,000	26,012,000
Cotton yarns -	1,765,000	1,532,000	1,428,000	1,658,000	2,284,000
Silk, raw and manufactured	1,530,000	1,456,000	1,618,000	1,902,000	1,742,000
Woollen goods -	1,313,000	937,000	1,440,000	2,051,000	1,617,000
Metals -	4,599,000	5,331,000	6,153,000	6,213,000	6,028,000
Hardware and cutlery -	1,057,000	1,248,000	1,468,000	1,486,000	1,417,000
Machinery and millwork -	2,004,000	1,869,000	2,235,000	2,685,000	3,283,000
Railway material -	1,028,000	1,074,000	935,000	940,000	1,082,000
Liquors -	1,110,000	1,180,000	1,218,000	1,249,000	1,345,000
Provisions -	1,323,000	1,227,000	1,352,000	1,444,000	1,590,000
Sugar -	3,933,000	3,303,000	3,957,000	4,602,000	5,183,000
Mineral oils -	2,558,000	2,310,000	2,300,000	2,217,000	1,491,000
Chemicals, medicines, dyes	1,306,000	1,333,000	1,502,000	1,498,000	1,541,000
Apparel -	1,129,000	1,188,000	1,331,000	1,493,000	1,478,000

Among exports of Indian produce, the chief features are a great expansion in the trade in cotton, jute, and wool, both raw and manufactured, and in skins, and a set-back in the exports of food grains and seeds. The done to the crops in one year takes effect in the exports of the next, exportable surplus of food grains in 1905 was restricted by the

Exports of Indian Merchandise

TRADE.

conditions of the agricultural year 1904-05. There was great activity, together with some rise of prices, in the trade in hides and skins, owing to the depletion of stocks in all countries. The great increase under raw jute was to a large extent due to high prices, as the quantity shipped, though large, was not so large as it had been in 1901-02. The increase under cotton and jute manufactures reflects the great expansion which took place in the mill industries in response to favourable trade conditions. This subject will receive fuller treatment under the head of "Manufactures," later in this chapter.

Exports of Indian Produce.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£	£	£
Raw cotton	9,617,000	9,838,000	16,251,000	11,623,000	14,222,000
Cotton yarns	6,211,000	5,693,000	5,894,000	6,544,000	8,258,000
Cotton piece goods	1,032,000	978,000	1,087,000	1,218,000	1,359,000
Raw jute	7,865,000	7,418,000	7,812,000	7,977,000	11,417,000
Jute manufactures	5,769,000	6,000,000	6,307,000	6,624,000	8,296,000
Wool, raw	529,000	777,000	918,000	1,261,000	1,410,000
Rice and rice flour	9,280,000	12,597,000	12,723,000	13,080,000	12,425,000
Wheat and wheat flour	2,418,000	3,321,000	7,746,000	12,399,000	6,115,000
Oilseeds	11,186,000	9,922,000	9,677,000	9,607,000	7,073,000
Tea	5,433,000	4,908,000	5,705,000	5,644,000	5,898,000
Coffee	833,000	881,000	912,000	1,107,000	1,171,000
Opium	5,682,000	5,345,000	6,980,000	7,082,000	6,315,000
Indigo	1,235,000	804,000	717,000	556,000	391,000
Hides and skins	5,487,000	5,623,000	5,957,000	6,604,000	9,171,000

Trade by countries.

The proportion of the total trade in merchandise on private account which was carried on with European countries was 64·8 per cent., which is fractionally less than in 1904-05. The exports to Egypt are now classified, not under Egypt, but under the countries to which the goods are ultimately consigned; but a small share of the trade with America is still credited to Europe and Asia, and the returns do not profess to give in all cases the real trading interests of various countries, though this is done as far as possible. From the figures as they stand, the trade with the United Kingdom in 1905-06 appears as 63·8 per cent. of the whole private merchandise trade with Europe; and it constituted 41·3 per cent. of the total trade in merchandise on private account. Taking imports and exports separately, two-thirds of the total imports came from the United Kingdom, and about one quarter of the total exports was consigned to the United Kingdom. This latter statement, however, has to be qualified, in view of the re-exports of Indian produce from the United Kingdom, by which the value of the amount retained in that country is reduced to one-sixth only of the total value of the exports from India. The proportion of the trade which is assignable to the British Empire cannot be stated except in a misleading form, since the figures for the Straits Settlements and Hong Kong, which are chiefly distributing centres, are very important items, and remarked that, of the other Colonies, apart from Ceylon, Australia took by far the largest amount of Indian produce (value £1,346,400), and that Australian imports into India (value £606,900) are also much larger than those of any other Colony, Mauritius only being excepted.

The value of India's trade in private merchandise with some of the chief countries, imports and exports combined, has fluctuated as follows in the last five years:—

TRADE.

	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	55,705,000	56,442,000	64,204,000	70,784,000	72,969,000
France	6,848,000	7,047,000	7,650,000	7,576,000	7,536,000
China	12,986,000	12,128,000	13,360,000	14,420,000	15,510,000
Germany	8,810,000	8,225,000	11,827,000	12,026,000	12,742,000
Straits Settlements	5,997,000	6,731,000	6,581,000	6,340,000	5,976,000
United States	6,379,000	6,499,000	6,890,000	7,478,000	10,181,000
Russia	2,266,000	2,064,000	2,191,000	1,504,000	583,000
Austria-Hungary	4,216,000	3,847,000	4,692,000	5,804,000	5,948,000
Belgium	5,161,000	5,371,000	7,317,000	7,946,000	7,324,000
Italy	2,610,000	2,836,000	3,959,000	3,695,000	3,966,000
Ceylon	3,663,000	3,489,000	3,608,000	3,823,000	4,242,000
Japan	5,118,000	4,446,000	6,494,000	7,279,000	7,490,000

The notable decline in the trade with Russia is due to the falling off in imports of oil, owing to the disturbances in Russia. It may still be noted that much of the trade attributed to Belgium belongs to Germany.

The following figures show the proportionate share of each province and of the five chief ports in the private trade with foreign countries in merchandise only:—

	Imports (percentages).			Exports (percentages).		
	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
PROVINCES:						
Bengal	39·7	39·9	40·7	39·2	40·9	43·7
Bombay and Sind	41·7	42·1	43·9	40·5	39·4	37·1
Madras	8·9	8·8	7·5	9·9	9·4	9·6
Burma	9·7	9·2	7·9	10·4	10·3	9·6
	100	100	100	100	100	100
CHIEF PORTS:						
Calcutta	39·5	39·7	40·4	37·4	38·9	41·9
Bombay	35·3	34·1	35·4	31·9	28·0	30·0
Karachi	6·5	8·0	8·4	8·7	11·4	7·1
Madras	7·2	7·3	6·1	3·3	3·2	3·6
Rangoon	9·5	9·0	7·8	8·3	8·2	8·1

The value of the imports into Bombay and Sind was greater by three millions sterling than in 1904-05, while the imports into Bengal increased by two millions, Madras and Burma showing a decline of about half a million in each case. But in exports, Bombay and Sind fell behind the high figures of the last two years, showing a falling off of nearly one and a half millions, owing to a decline in the grain exports from Karachi, while the exports from Bengal, swollen by the high jute figures, were more than four millions in advance of the record figures of 1904-05. Calcutta was in the year under report still further ahead of the port of Bombay, the former possessing £72,882,000 in 1905-06 and the latter £56,673,000, as the combined value of their export and import trade in merchandise.

There was a great diminution in the amount of gold imported into India, and if the gold produced in the country is taken into calculation, the amount absorbed stood at £2,697,000 only. There was a large increase in the net imports of silver, which were of value of about 10½ millions sterling. The balance of trade, or excess of seaborne foreign exports over imports of merchandise and treasure, both on Government and private account, as shown in the returns of British Indian trade, was, as above stated, £22,366,100, or more than 10 per cent. above the figure of 1904-05.

Treasure.

TRADE.
Land trade.

The trade across the land frontiers is only about 5 per cent. of the trade carried by sea, but it is progressive, and has now attained substantial dimensions. The gross totals of imports and exports together, including treasure, for the last five years are given in the margin. Trade along the Nushki-Seistan route remained at a low figure, but is expected to improve now that the railway has been opened to Nushki; its value for the year was £50,000. Trade with Dir, Swat, and Bajaur showed some decline, but there was a small growth in the trade with Afghanistan. The most important item is the trade with Nepal, the value of which rose from 2½ millions sterling in 1901-05 to 3¼ millions in the year under report, owing to larger grain imports into India. The figures given under the heading of land trade include trade with regions like Kashmir and the Shan States, much of which can hardly with exactness be called trans-frontier trade. The Shan States are British territory administered under local chiefs. The trade with the States has shown a satisfactory development in recent years. Taking the frontier trade as a whole, the chief items were, among imports, grain and pulse, chiefly rice, to a value of £1,310,500, and timber (value £661,000), and, among exports, cotton goods (value £1,760,600).

Coasting trade.

The combined import and export trade in merchandise and treasure carried on by coasting vessels is said to have represented a value of £30,142,000 during 1905-06, which is 6·1 per cent. more than the trade of 1904-05. This figure is calculated by adding to the value of the imports into British ports from other British ports the sum of the imports and exports in the trade between British and non-British ports in India. The chief improvements were in the exports of mineral oils from Burma, of the produce of the Bombay cotton mills, of Bengal coal, and of food grains, a large amount of the latter being exported from Burma to Bombay and Madras, and from Bengal to Madras.

MANUFACTURES.
Cotton mills.

There were at the end of the year 1905-06 in British India and Native States 204 cotton mills containing 52,300 looms and 5,293,800 spindles, and giving employment on an average to 212,700 persons every day. Of these, 104 were exclusively spinning mills, eight were exclusively weaving mills, and in the rest both spinning and weaving were carried on. The capital invested, including an estimate for ten companies, worked by private proprietors, for which accurate returns are not available, was £10,690,000 (paid-up capital and debenture loans). The industry is located, as regards 70 per cent. of the mills, in the Bombay Presidency, while there are 19 mills in the territory of Native States and in French possessions in India.

The out-turn of yarn in recent years in British India, excluding the mills in Native States or foreign territory, is shown in the marginal table. The

	Counts Nos. 1 to 25.	Above No. 25.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1899-1900	481,009,800	20,675,400	501,685,200
1900-01	315,310,100	27,467,100	342,777,200
1901-02	527,148,600	32,556,200	560,004,800
1902-03	523,565,000	35,247,000	558,812,000
1903-04	515,203,400	40,987,100	556,190,500
1904-05	510,075,100	45,873,300	555,948,400
1905-06	610,602,900	45,915,300	656,518,200

great decline in the low-count yarns in 1900-01 was due partly to the famine in India, which impaired the purchasing power of the people at the same time that it raised the price of raw material, and partly to the collapse of the Chinese market, which in turn was caused by over-supply from India and Japan, and by the political and military events in China. In 1901-02, with the passing away of these causes of depression, and a reduction in the prices of raw cotton following on larger crops, the mills resumed operations with great activity, but the high price of the yarn in the year 1903-04 made profitable business difficult, so that several mills either closed or worked short time. The latter half of the following year, however, saw a complete revolution of the conditions affecting the spinning industry, caused by the fall in the price of raw cotton and the large off-take of the principal markets, so that, to meet

MANUFACTURES.

the forward contracts, all the spindles had to be brought into full use, and a state of unusual financial prosperity was created. The mills of the Bombay Presidency produced nearly 75 per cent. of the yarn, Bengal 8 per cent., Madras 5 per cent., the United Provinces about 5 per cent., and the Central Provinces 4 per cent. The production of yarns of counts above number 25 was 7 per cent. of the total, and the Bombay mills spun an appreciable quantity (8 per cent. of their output in 1905-06) of these higher counts. The out-turn of finer yarns, numbers 31 to 40, in Indian mills increased from 12½ millions of pounds in 1901-02 to 17 millions in 1904-05, but was only 15½ millions in the year under report. The Bombay mills also spun nearly a million pounds of yarns of No. 40 and upwards, using Egyptian or other imported cotton.

The weaving mills were less affected than the spinning mills by the high price of cotton in 1903-04, since there was a considerable advance in the price of cloth, and both the home and the foreign demand was good; and in the following years these high prices were still realised when the price of raw cotton had fallen to normal levels.

	Grey.	Other Kinds.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1899-1900	82,028,400	13,291,900	95,320,300
1900-01	79,583,100	16,261,500	95,844,600
1901-02	96,210,200	19,756,000	115,966,200
1902-03	95,645,500	21,639,100	117,284,600
1903-04	106,515,100	25,361,100	131,876,200
1904-05	121,353,200	28,378,600	152,741,800
1905-06	126,687,100	29,912,900	156,600,000

There was, therefore, a substantial increase in their production in each year, as shown in the marginal table. The Bombay mills produced 84 per cent. of the total in 1905-06; there is hardly any weaving done by factories in Bengal; Madras, the Central Provinces, and the United Provinces each contributed about 5 per cent. of the woven goods. These goods are mainly unbleached grey fabrics; only in Madras did any very large proportion of the weaving consist of finer goods, and there these fabrics constituted 54 per cent. of the production. It is to be observed, however, that there is a very decided tendency to increase the output of the finer classes of goods, which stood at nearly 30 million pounds in 1905-06, or more than 5 per cent. in advance of the previous year's figures, this class of goods having increased in a greater proportion than grey goods.

The out-turn of mills in the Native States is given as follows:—1904-05, yarn 22,432,800 lbs., woven goods 6,004,700 lbs.; 1905-06, yarn 25,299,700 lbs., woven goods 7,279,900 lbs.; the small production in the Berar mills is now included in the British India figures. The outturn in the five mills in Pondichery has not been reported.

The record of the jute industry was one of uninterrupted progress. The number of jute mills in 1905-06 was 39, containing about 22,000 looms and 453,000 spindles, and employing a daily average of nearly 145,000 persons. All these figures show an increase as compared with the previous, or any other preceding, year, but the out-turn of the mills increased in even greater proportion, judging by the export returns. All the mills, with the exception of one at Cawnpore and one in the Madras Presidency, are in the province of Bengal, and most of them are in the vicinity of Calcutta. The paid-up capital employed by these mills, excluding one which had not reported its capital, was £7,142,000, including debentures issued; of which nearly 2¼ millions are sterling capital. About £600,000 was added to the paid-up capital and debentures during the year under report.

There were six woollen mills at work at the end of 1905, containing 719 looms, and 27,400 spindles, employing 3,500 persons, and producing goods valued at £295,300 in the year. The fabrics consist chiefly of blankets, serges, and cloths worn by the Army and the police, and an admixture of Australian wool is used. The quantity and value of the woollen goods produced have advanced to a considerable extent in the last 10 years; but imports of woollen goods have also increased, and the produce of Indian mills represents only a small share of the total trade in woollen goods. There are in various places factories for the weaving of carpets and rugs, but though these industries are in the aggregate extensive they are individually small, and the weaving is done in hand-loom.

There were seven paper mills at work in India, employing a daily average of 4,000 hands, and producing in 1905 about 44 million lbs. of paper, valued

Paper mills.

MANUFACTURES.

at £345,800. Most of the foolscap, blotting paper, notepaper, and envelopes used in Government offices is now obtained from the Indian mills; but the development of paper-making in India has been checked by the competition of cheap wood-pulp paper from Europe, and the history of the industry in recent years is not encouraging. A favourable report was made in 1906 by an expert sent out from England, on the subject of the possibilities of wood-pulp manufacture in India.

Breweries.

In 1905 there were 27 breweries at work, which produced during the year about six million gallons of beer and porter. The Commissariat Department bought nearly half of this malt liquor for the use of European soldiers, and the rest is consumed also mainly by Europeans—soldiers or civilians. The largest brewery is at Murree in the Punjab Himalayas, and the output of that concern was about a million gallons. The quantity of beer, porter, and cider imported into India was five million gallons in 1905-06.

Other industries.

There are a large number of cotton spinning factories or presses, indigo factories of all sizes and kinds, iron and brass foundries, &c. scattered throughout the country, which are enumerated more or less roughly in the annual returns. But nothing illustrates better the present state of industrial development in India than the fact that, after the cotton and jute industries, and apart from the railway workshops, which employed 67,600 people, and from the domestic and indigenous industries, the only factory industries which employ more than 20,000 people, according to the returns, are those connected with the first stages in the preparation of raw material for the market. In the preparation of agricultural staples, employment is found for large numbers; indigo factories, for instance, in 1901-05, the most recent year for which figures are available, employed over 123,000 workers; cotton ginning, cleaning, and pressing mills over 85,000; jute presses, 21,000; rice mills, 17,800. But of other manufacturing industries the most important, after cotton and jute mills, are the iron and brass foundries (24,300 workers), printing presses (14,400), tile factories (13,800), silk filatures (9,500), dockyards (10,500), and others of still less importance. It must not, however, be forgotten that the returns upon which these figures are based are in most cases of very doubtful value. Omitting these untrustworthy returns of the minor industries, the following table gives some particulars as to employment in the industries separately noticed above, and in coal mines in British India:—

	Average daily Number of Employés.			
	Men.	Women.	Children and young Persons.	Total.
Cotton mills (figures for 1905-06) -	137,406	12,169	32,766	212,720*
Jute mills (" ") -	98,114	23,369	23,396	144,879
Woollen mills (" 1905) -	—	—	—	3,491
Paper mills (" ") -	—	—	—	4,012
Coal mines (" ") -	61,602	25,458	2,935	89,995

* Details defective.

The average number of men, women, and children shown in a table below to have been employed in 1905 in the factories coming under the Factories Act is 632,636. If to these be added the figures given in the report of the Chief Inspector of Mines, relating to all mines coming under the Mines Act, namely, 109,587, a total of 742,223 results. The total number of workers in large industries given in the report on the census of 1901 was 688,352, but these figures, having been compiled on an entirely different basis, do not admit of accurate comparison.

The progress of the agricultural industries, such as the tea industry and the indigo industry, and also that of the coal industry, has been noticed in the chapter on agriculture and mineral resources, as is the usual practice in these annual Statements.

FACORIES ACT.

FACTORY ACT.

The law respecting factories in India is Act XV. of 1881, as amended by Act XI. of 1891. The changes introduced by the latter into the previous law were, briefly:—

The law could be applied to establishments employing 20 hands or over, instead of only to those with 50 hands or over, factories of the latter description being brought in all cases under the Act;

The minimum age for child labourers was raised from seven to nine years, and the maximum age from 12 to 14 years;

The maximum hours for child labour in any one day were reduced from nine hours to seven hours, and their employment at night-time was forbidden;

The hours of actual labour for women workers, which were unrestricted under the Indian Factory Act of 1881, were limited by the Act of 1891 to 11 hours a day, with intervals amounting to 1½ hours;

A rest period during work was prescribed for all labourers.

In December 1906 the Government of India appointed a small Committee to conduct a preliminary inquiry into the conditions of factory labour in textile factories in India.

The specific points referred to the Committee were as follows:—

- (1) Whether the working hours of adult males should be limited, and whether the physique of operatives is affected by long hours.
- (2) Whether before children are allowed to work in factories certificates of age and fitness should be required.
- (3) Whether the minimum age of children should be raised beyond nine.
- (4) Whether, as the result of employment as adults of persons between the ages of 12 and 14, there has been physical deterioration requiring the creation by law of a special class of workers known as young persons.
- (5) Whether a separate staff of Medical Factory Inspectors should be entertained.

The Committee were also to be at liberty to put forward recommendations for the amendment of the existing law and practice, if they were of opinion that the present hours of work of operatives are excessive, that the conditions of factory labour are otherwise injurious or oppressive, or that abuses exist in connection with the employment of children or young persons. The Chairman was Commander Sir H. P. Freer-Smith, R.N., late Superintending Factory Inspector for Dangerous Trades in England, and there were two other members. It was contemplated that if the investigations of the Committee establish the existence of abuses which required to be remedied, a representative commission should be appointed to consider the whole question comprehensively before any radical changes in the present factory law should be made. The Committee have now concluded their labours.

The reports of factory inspectors show the number of factories inspected, and the results of the inspections, to have been as follows:—

FACTORIES
ACT.

STATISTICS OF FACTORIES IN INDIA, INSPECTED UNDER THE FACTORY ACT
DURING THE YEAR 1905.

PROVINCE.	Number of Factories working, and liable to be inspected.	Average Number of Hands employed daily.				Number of Factories.				Number of Accidents Reported.			
		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	With Sunday Holiday.	With other Weekly Holiday.	Exempted from Sunday Stoppage.	Number of Persons convicted of breach of Act.	Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Total.
Bengal - - -	184	184,771	27,651	22,297	234,725	147	3	34	1	51	231	500	785
United Provinces -	123	38,353	4,160	1,735	44,238	105	26	2	1	11	64	97	172
Punjab - - -	204	22,768	3,364	1,068	27,200	152	40	9	4	11	25	296	312
North West Frontier Province.	1	20	120	—	40	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Burma - - -	204	30,723	649	159	31,531	198	1	5	1	7	27	78	112
Central Provinces and Berar.	201	18,918	10,681	1,582	31,281	109	91	1	8	2	32	60	94
Madras - - -	80	36,444	2,512	2,371	41,457	73	4	3	1	4	14	284	302
Bombay - - -	453	149,082	43,435	7,917	200,434	310	139	4	6	22	91	1,106	1,519
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	82	11,886	684	622	13,192	36	—	34	—	2	12	5	19
Ajmere - - -	3	8,259	139	137	8,535	2	1	—	—	—	—	6	6
Total, 1905 -	1,545	591,227	93,131	37,978	632,636	1,133	305	96	22	111	499	2,642	3,252
Total, 1904 -	1,449	466,721	85,221	35,618	587,660	1,004	314	116	22	91	686	2,383	3,060

The comparison with the figures given for 1901 shows an advance of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. both in the number of factories and in that of persons employed. New factories were added in the Punjab and Bombay by the development of the cotton industry, and the increase in the Central Provinces, where the number is 46 higher than in 1901, is partly due to that cause and partly to the introduction of a more correct classification of factories. The Bombay Presidency accounts for a large share (12,300) of the increase in the number of operatives. An inquiry was instituted by the Governor of Bengal and the United Provinces into the question of the scarcity of labour in those provinces, and the resultant reports were under consideration of the Government of India in 1906. The year 1905 was an exceptionally prosperous one for the cotton industry, and it is reported that in both the provinces in question the mills generally experienced little difficulty in obtaining the labour required. The influx of labour into the United Provinces was mainly due to the prevalence of agricultural distress in Upper India, which drove many to seek employment in large towns. In Bengal the jute crop proved insufficient to meet requirements, and the members of the Jute Association agreed not to work with artificial light for six months from 1st January 1906.

Few cases were reported in which the provisions of the Act relating to the working hours and employment of women and children were contravened, and those that arose were adequately dealt with. The duty of inspecting the factories is stated to have been satisfactorily performed on the whole, though some factories escaped inspection; this is a matter to which the Government of India have given special attention. A satisfactory account is given of the health and general condition of the operatives. The inspecting officers gave careful supervision to the sanitation of factories, and the septic tank system was being gradually introduced. There was no noteworthy change in respect of the number of accidents, which continued high. In the majority of cases the fatal accidents were, as usual, reported to be due to the carelessness of operatives.

CHAPTER XVI.

FRONTIERS AND NATIVE STATES.

FRONTIER STATES.

FRONTIER STATES.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales paid a visit to Quetta in March 1906. T.R.H. remained at Quetta from the 10th to 16th March, spending a day at Chaman. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales held a formal durbar at Quetta on the 12th March, which was attended by the Khan of Kalat, the Jam of Las Bela, and the principal Sirdars and notables of Baluchistan.

The seasons in 1905-06 were unfavourable to agriculture. There was an almost total failure of the autumn rains, and from January onwards it became necessary to incur famine relief expenditure in the affected tracts. The grant made by the Government of India on this account (£3,333) was chiefly expended on the improvement of portions of the Loralai-Fort Sandeman road. Some relief was also given in the Marri-Bugti tribal country (Sibi), where it was much needed. Remissions and suspensions of revenue were also found to be necessary. The approximate amount of the former is given as £2,415 and the latter as £814. The public health was generally good, but measles was unusually prevalent, and there was an increase in the number of cases of malarial fever. No cases of plague were detected in Baluchistan during the year under review. A camp of inspection was maintained during the summer at Hirok and during the winter at Sibi, as in previous years; whilst on the western border, owing to an outbreak of the disease in Seistan, five observation camps were established on the Nushki-Seistan Trade Route in February and March 1906. The Provincial receipts for the year amounted to £200,500 and the expenditure to £209,000, as against £201,600 and £196,300 in the preceding year. £26,000 was devoted to Public Works. There was an increase in the total value of the foreign land trade with Persia and Afghanistan. The work of the Police was generally satisfactory and crime was normal. The Levy Corps did good work. The two drilled and disciplined corps, viz., the Zhob and Mekran Levy Corps, remained at the same strength as in 1904-05, viz., 1,242 and 338 of all ranks respectively. The total strength of the district levies (including the Chagai levies) was 2,234.

The Native State of Kalat was satisfactorily administered. In spite of drought and unfavourable climatic conditions, there was an increase in the revenue receipts, and the public health remained good throughout the year.

In the tribal countries of Sarawan and Jhalawan the general condition of the people was not satisfactory owing to the drought. The behaviour of the Sharawan tribesmen was generally good, but the Jhalawan country was disturbed by local quarrels. The Wazir of Las Bela and the Native Assistant, Jhalawan, were deputed to make inquiry into the cause of the disputes.

The Las Bela State suffered from the prevailing drought, and the general condition of the people was for a time very unsatisfactory, but good rains fell in February 1906, and the prospects were greatly improved. The financial condition of the Las Bela State was sound.

The administration of Mekran was satisfactorily conducted by Mir Mehrulla Khan, the Nazim. The prosperity of the country is reported to be slowly increasing as peace and order become more firmly established. The general condition of the people was satisfactory. No incident of special importance occurred on the Perso-Baluchistan border. The annual border meeting of representatives of the British and Persian Governments for the settlement of frontier cases was held at Charbar in June 1906.

On the Chagai portion of the border the public peace was satisfactorily maintained. The Quetta-Nushki Railway line was opened to traffic on the 15th November 1905.

On the Peshin-Afghan border no serious disturbances occurred, though some trouble was caused by certain sections of the Achakzai tribe. The

FRONTIER STATES.

peace of the Gumal border was again disturbed. On the 11th December 1905 the Zhob Levy Corps post at Gudwana was attacked by a large gang, which is reported to have been headed by Mianji, the notorious Mahsud outlaw, and to have consisted of Mahsud Waziris, Suleman-Khels, and Shiranis. The assailants were repulsed with the loss

North-West Frontier Province.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales visited Peshawar in November 1905. A Royal Durbar was held in Peshawar City, at which the Mehtar of Chitral, the Khan of Dir, the Nawab of Nawagai, and the Nawabs and Khans of the settled district of the Province attended.

The autumn harvest was poor, but no actual distress was experienced. The public health was on the whole good. Only three deaths from plague were recorded. There was an increase of serious offences, such as murder and dacoity, due chiefly to the depredations of organised armed gangs from beyond the border in the Peshawar and Kohat districts.

The year was marked by great activity in surveying and the improvement of communications. A telephone line between Robat and the Malakand was opened; survey parties were at work in the Mohmand country, in the Khyber Agency, and in Kurram; the detailed survey of the country between the Kurram and Gomal rivers was carried on; work on the Kabul River Railway was begun; the road through the Khyber Pass was doubled; a railway survey was made in the Kurram from Thal to Parachinar; and the Gomal cart road from Murtaza to Wana was completed. These operations were carried out without opposition from the tribesmen. The peace of the border was satisfactorily maintained except in Peshawar, where dacoities continued to be committed by organised gangs from beyond the border. In this matter the Zakka Khel section of the Afridis were implicated for giving passage to the raiders and allowing some of their own young men to take part in dacoities. A deplorable incident occurred at Bannu in the murder of Captain Donaldson by a Mahsud tribesman in revenge for the imprisonment of a relative who was convicted of complicity in the murder of the late Lieut.-Colonel Harman. As there was clear indication that the assassination of Captain Donaldson was the outcome of a widespread conspiracy of fanatical murder, the Mahsuds were held responsible in the matter. A fine was inflicted, the tribal allowances were suspended, and the surrender of five men known to have been accessories before the fact was demanded. Of these four were given up. A settlement has since been effected.

The Zakka Khel Afridis who, as stated above, were implicated in giving passage to raiding gangs were held responsible for their misbehaviour. Demands were made on them which resulted in a settlement of the then outstanding claims. No other section of the Afridi tribe gave any trouble. In the Tochi and Kurram the conduct of the tribes was generally satisfactory, with the exception of the Parachankannis, against whom reprisals had to be enforced, resulting in a settlement of outstanding cases.

Affairs in Dir were again a source of trouble owing to renewed contests between the Khan of Dir, Badshah Khan, and his brother Miangal Jan, who once more entered Dir territory and raised the standard of revolt. An agreement was, however, eventually effected, and peace maintained.

In Chitral the country was quiet and prosperous.

Whilst the working of the Frontier Militia Corps is reported to have been most creditable on the whole, the conduct of the Kurram Militia was not entirely satisfactory, and measures for the better discipline of the corps had to be taken. The Border Military Police did good work during the year, and the general discipline of the force was satisfactory.

Kashmir.

The administration of the Kashmir State was carried on by the State Council till October 1905, when His Excellency Lord Curzon visited Jammu and invested His Highness the Maharaja with enhanced powers. Under the new régime the office of Chief Minister was conferred upon Raja Sir Amar Singh, the Maharaja's brother, whilst Rai Bahadur Bhawani Das and Rai Sahib Narain Das became respectively Revenue and Foreign Minister.

FRONTIER STATE.

In December 1905 His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales honoured the State by a visit to Jammu.

The financial position of the State is sound. Its investments at the close of the year 1904-05 amounted to £514,400. The receipts for the year 1904-05 amounted to £589,800, and the expenditure to £583,960. The figures in the revised budget estimate for 1905-06 were as follows: Receipts, £605,300; expenditure, £676,000.

A serious flood occurred in the State in September 1905. Though not so disastrous as the flood of 1903, very considerable damage was done, and heavy loss fell both on the Durbar and the people. The loss of life and cattle, however, was fortunately not very great. Remissions of land revenue to the extent of £8,700 were necessitated. The estimated cost of the repairs was about £20,000.

There was a serious recrudescence of the plague in the spring of 1906 in Jammu. The number of cases and deaths reported from the 1st of January to the end of May was 4,068 and 2,382 respectively. In June the epidemic was subsiding. Medical work in the State made some progress, but further expenditure was required to afford adequate hospital accommodation.

During the year under review the negotiations took place between the Durbar and the Government of India in the matter of the projected line of railway from Sarai Kala, on the North-Western Railway, to Srinagar. It was decided that the route *via* Abbotabad and the Jhelum Valley is the best both from a financial and engineering point of view. The work of construction has not yet been commenced. The Durbar has also in view an electric power scheme of considerable importance. A British officer, Major de Lotbinière, R.E., is in charge of the project. With the sanction of the Government of India, contracts have been provisionally entered into with certain American companies for the supply of the necessary plant. The scheme includes the provision of appliances worked by electricity for dredging the Jhelum bed from the Woolar Lake to some four miles below Baramulla. It is explained that the effect of the operation will be to afford an easy exit to the rush of flood water, and thus immediately and effectually to lower the flood level. It will also effect the reclamation of some 50,000 acres of low-lying land which for a long time past have been perpetual marsh. The silk industry in the State continued to make steady progress. Owing to two successive bad crops and the unfavourable condition of the market in 1904-05, the net profits were only £9,800, whilst the rough estimate of net profit in 1905-06 is £30,500.

The biennial reliefs of the Gilgit Garrison were carried out during 1905. The relieving troops consisted of the 2nd Brigade Kashmir Imperial Service Troops and 2 companies No. 2 Sappers and Miners.

No events of political importance occurred during the year under review in Leh, Gilgit, or any of the dependencies of Kashmir.

Friendly relations were maintained with the Nepal State during the year under report. The Prime Minister, Maharaja Sir Chandra Shumshere, was granted the dignity of a Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India. The Insignia of the Order were presented to him by the Resident in April 1905.

Elaborate preparations were made by the Maharaja to entertain His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who proposed to visit Nepal in the course of his tour in India. A big game shoot in the Chitwan district was arranged, but unfortunately a severe epidemic of cholera broke out, and the shooting camp had to be broken up. The disease subsequently spread slowly throughout Nepal, and was the cause of widespread distress and much loss of life.

Two works of great public utility were brought to completion during the first half of the year, viz.: a large girder bridge over the Bagmati River, between Khatmandu and Patan; and the Patan Water Works. The latter furnishes Patan and its suburbs with an abundant supply of pure water free of charge. Hitherto the water supply had been precarious. Epidemics of cholera were of almost yearly occurrence, and the death-rate was abnormal. The supply of recruits for the British Gurkha regiments and for the Police

FRONTIER STATES. Battalions in Burma and Assam continued to be satisfactory both in quantity and quality.

The trade returns of the year 1905-06 compare favourably with those of the preceding years; the figures are as follows:—

		Imports.	Exports.
		£	£
1903-04	- -	912,617	1,778,152
1904-05	- -	999,100	1,760,133
1905-06	- -	1,071,181	2,315,112

Sikkim and Bhutan.

The season in Sikkim was not altogether favourable to agriculture. The maize crop partially failed, and the price of food grains rose. Rice and other crops were fairly good. The public health was on the whole very good. Trade with neighbouring States was small. The wool trade with Tibet increased in consequence of the Lhasa Government having withdrawn its restrictions on the export of wool through Khamba Jong, and the opening of the mart at Gyantse. Measures are being taken to place the forests under proper supervision, and to develop the mineral resources of the State. The financial position of the State is satisfactory.

The only event of political importance during the year under review was the visit of the Maharaja and Maharani to Calcutta to meet their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

During the year under review Mr. White, the Political Officer in Sikkim, proceeded on a mission to Bhutan to present the Tongsar Penlop with the Insignia of the K.C.I.E. The country is poor, and trade with Bengal is insignificant. The relations with the British Government were friendly.

Frontier Tribes of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Information as to the Native State of Manipur is given on page 191.

The frontier tribes were generally well-behaved during the year under review. It was found necessary to maintain a blockade against two sections of the Mishmis owing to the murder in July 1905 of three British subjects—a Duania, his wife and child. In the Naga Hills an Aichisagami trader was wantonly murdered in the trans-Tizu village of Yachumi. An expedition visited Yachumi in February 1906, and realised a heavy fine, but were unable to effect the capture of the murderer. In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills the conduct of some of the Siems and Chiefs was not wholly satisfactory, but no incidence of importance occurred. Measures were being taken to check the illicit importation of arms into the States and to control the traffic in spirits.

BURMA. The Chin Hills.

The only event of note in the Chin Hills proper during the year 1905-06 was the despatch of an expedition to the village of Wellauing to exact satisfaction for the murder of two villagers of Langno. The column of military police was unopposed. The fine and compensation demanded were duly paid, and four of the ringleaders were deported and detained for six months.

There were no inter-tribal or inter-village feuds elsewhere, and relations with the Lushai Hills and Manipur remained satisfactory. Crime was very light, and there was a considerable decrease in the number of civil suits filed before the five courts presided over by Government Officers in the Hills. The health of the people was generally good. No event of note took place in the Pakakku Chin Hills.

The Kachin Hills.

On the Bhamo portion of the North-Eastern Frontier there was no disturbance of the peace; outstanding feuds were settled and measures were taken for the encouragement of trade by the suppression of petty thefts and the establishment of rest houses along the route between Bhamo and Tengyüeh. Cordial relations were maintained throughout the year with the Chinese authorities across the border. Representations made to the Chinese in the matter of two frontier raids received prompt attention, and they undertook to maintain two frontier posts for the purpose of checking such raids in future. The extraction of rubber in the Hukong Valley continued to increase, and the revenue derived from it in the shape of duty amounted to £2,500. Good work in checking opium smuggling was done by the Kachin police in the Hill tracts.

The two small Shan States of Hsawngsup and Singkaling Hkamti passed an uneventful year, although the former suffered, like the surrounding Upper Chindwin District north of Kalewa, from the high rise of the Chindwin river and from an outbreak of cholera. The Mongmit State continued to be administered as a subdivision of the Ruby Mines District up to the end of the year under report. Public health and the harvest were good. There was little crime, and the loss of cattle from disease was comparatively small.

The condition of the five States which form the charge of the Superintendent of the Northern Shan States was generally satisfactory. The rainfall was exceptionally light and unseasonable, and the rice crop was in consequence below the average, but practically every other crop did well. The tea crop was especially good, and the area of tea cultivation was largely extended. The chief calamity that overtook cultivators during the year was an outbreak of rinderpest, which carried off a large number of cattle. The public health was good, and the States continue to enjoy immunity from plague. Relations with the Chinese officials on the frontier were satisfactory throughout the year. Border crime was light, and peace was not disturbed. The internal administration of the Chiefs of the five States was satisfactory, and the condition of the people prosperous and contented. Financial reforms were instituted under the supervision of Government in the Tawngpeng State which resulted in an increase of revenue and an improvement in general administration. The State, however, suffered a heavy misfortune by the burning of its capital. There was some increase in the number of crimes of violence, but a satisfactory diminution in cattle theft. The work of the police was generally satisfactory.

Friendly relations with the French and Siamese authorities on the border were maintained, and no frontier incident of political importance occurred during the year.

Internally, the only important event which disturbed the peace of the country was the murder of the Hsahitung Myosa in September 1905, as the result of political intrigues within the State. The murderers were brought to justice. The year was unfavourable to agriculture; rinderpest was rife, and destructive fires occurred in Kengtung, Pwela, and Mawkmai. The general prosperity of the 38 States which form the charge of the Superintendent of the Southern Shan States was, however, well maintained, and the public health was good. The introduction of reforms in the revenue administration of the Yawnghwe resulted in the complete disappearance of the discontent which had hitherto prevailed in that State. There was a large increase in cattle thefts, but crime of a serious nature was light and well dealt with by the Government police, so far as their jurisdiction extended.

In the Lawksawk and Möng Nawng States small forces of regular police were entertained for the first time. The revenue of all the States was collected with ease, and tribute was punctually paid to Government. The school for the sons of Shan Chiefs and notables continued to flourish, and measures were taken for the establishment of schools and the advance of education.

Good work continued to be done by the chiefs towards the improvement of internal communication.

There was an outbreak of cattle disease in Karenni, and some damage was caused by fires, but in general the condition of the five States was prosperous. Nothing occurred to disturb the peace. The crops were good, and there was no falling-off in trade.

FRONTIER STATES.

Northern Shan States.

Southern Shan States.

Karenni.

NATIVE STATES.

NATIVE
STATES.
Hyderabad.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Hyderabad State during their tour in India.

No changes of any importance in the personnel of the administration took place during the year under review. The Maharaja Peshkar Sir Kishen Persad Bahadur was Minister throughout the year, and H.H. the Nizam continued personally to supervise the administration of the State.

The most important measure of administrative reform during the year was the introduction of rules for the superannuation of officials. As in British India, the ordinary age of retirement has been fixed at 55 years, and power has been reserved to certain high authorities to sanction extensions of service up to 60 years, after which no official can be retained in the service of the State without the personal order of the Nizam. In the matter of excise, an agreement with the Administration of the Central Provinces was in contemplation under which it is stipulated that no liquor shops shall be established or maintained within a three-mile zone on either side of the frontier. A similar agreement has existed between the Nizam's Government and the Government of Bombay for some years past. The administration of justice in the State was reported as having been on the whole satisfactory. The District Police force was under the charge of a British officer, and its personnel and efficiency are reported to have been greatly improved. The Thagi and Dakaiti establishment, which was transferred to the control of the Nizam's Government in 1904, worked well during the year under review.

No public works of great importance were undertaken during the year. The Medak Irrigation Canal was completed, and negotiations were being carried on with the Nizam's Government in the matter of certain irrigation projects of the Madras Government.

Plague was reported to be declining in the State, and the City of Hyderabad continued to enjoy immunity from the disease.

Reports of the output of minerals for the year 1906 have not yet been received, but during the previous year, for which figures have now been received, 451,293 tons of coal were produced at the Singareni collieries. In the same year, minerals other than coal, and gems to the value of nearly £50,600, were produced in the State.

Mysore.

In January 1906 the Mysore State was honoured by a visit from their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. An Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition was held at Mysore, which was visited by their Royal Highnesses.

The climatic conditions in Mysore were unfavourable to agriculture during the year under review. Owing to a general failure of the rains the crops suffered considerably in all districts, and in some areas they completely failed. The deficiency in the out-turn of crops in two successive years, coupled with large exports of grain to markets outside the State, led to a general rise in the prices of food grains. The period of distress which threatened was met by adequate relief measures in the affected districts. In spite of the adverse season, the general condition of the people continued to be satisfactory, and there was no widespread distress. Cholera broke out in several taluks towards the end of the year. The public health, however, was generally good, and there was a large decrease in the number of plague attacks and deaths during the year.

The twenty-second annual session of the Representative Assembly took place at Mysore on the 11th October 1905 and six succeeding days; 196 members were present.

In the matter of legislation the following regulations were passed during the year :—

- (1) IV. of 1905.—A Regulation to amend the Mysore Military Regulation, 1899.
- (2) V. of 1905.—A Regulation to amend the Mysore Merchandise Marks Regulation I. of 1892.

NATIVE
STATES.

- (3) VI. of 1905.—A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Land Revenue Code, 1888.

- (4) I. of 1906.—A Regulation to make provision for Compulsory Vaccination in Mysore.

Special attention continued to be paid to education, and good progress was reported. Additional grants were sanctioned by the State for the advancement of technical and industrial schools.

The financial condition of the State continued to be generally satisfactory. Excluding debt heads, the total receipts during the year amounted to £1,429,000, and the total expenditure to £1,364,000. The cash balance at the close of the year was £660,000.

The total outlay by the Public Works Department during the year, from all sources, amounted to £333,000. The outlay on the Cauvery Power Scheme during the year was £22,900 of which £6,900 was on capital works and £16,000 on working expenses debited to revenue. The gross income realised from the supply of power to the Kolar Gold Fields during the year was £109,200, and the net income amounted to £93,100. Up to the end of June 1906 a capital of £410,700 had been sunk in the scheme, and the net receipts had amounted to £193,000, or about 47 per cent. of the outlay.

During the year under review no new railway construction was undertaken by the State. The length of open lines remained the same as in the preceding year, viz., 401 miles metre gauge and 10 miles standard gauge. Reference has been made to the gold production of the Mysore Gold Mines on page 115 of the present Statement.

The Annual Administration Report for the year 1905-06 had not been received when the present Statement was prepared. The latest information available is contained in the Report for the year ended 31st July 1905.

Climatic conditions were unfavourable to agriculture during that year, and scarcity existed in many parts of the State. Relief works were opened, and substantial help was given to the cultivators in the afflicted districts. The organisation of the relief operations was good; there was no loss of life from famine; the relief camps were free from epidemic disease, and there was no increase in the death-rate of the year.

Two legislative measures of importance came into force during the year. One of them was for the Prevention of Infant Marriages, and the other vested the State with some control and supervision over Religious and Charitable Institutions. Measures were taken further to effect the separation of Judicial and Executive Duties; and the decentralisation of the Revenue Department was carried out. Steps were taken to institute a complete system of self-government throughout the State. The old Village Communities were reorganised and invested with powers of Village Administration. The larger towns of the State were also formed into self-governing Municipalities. His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar continued to take a keen interest in the spread of education among his subjects. The practical results achieved have been very satisfactory. The expenditure on education during the year amounted to about £43,000, or about 4½ per cent. of the average income of the State.

The total expenditure on public works during the year amount to over £133,000. The following information in regard to railways is furnished in the Report :—“The total State railway lines at present measure 250 miles, and the total capital investment on the same at the end of June 1905 was £546,680, giving an average of more than £2,000 per mile. The average net profit on the capital invested in 1904 was 5·25 per cent.”

As regards the financial administration, the report shows that, as compared with the year 1903-04, there was a decrease of nearly £300,000 in receipts under the heads of Land Revenue and Miscellaneous Revenue, owing to remissions and suspensions on account of famine. The figures for the year ended 31st July 1905 were as follows: receipts £758,700, disbursements £972,400, as against £1,054,200 and £916,000 respectively in the preceding year.

Towards the close of the year under review H.H. the Gaekwar, for reasons of health, left India for Europe. During his absence, the affairs of the State were directed and controlled by an executive council.

NATIVE
STATES.
Rajputana.

Information as to the Native States of Rajputana for the year 1905-06 was not available when the present statement was prepared. The following facts and figures which relate to the year ended 31st March 1905 were not received in time for inclusion in last year's Statement. Viewed generally, the climatic conditions during the year 1904-05 were unfavourable to agriculture. Deficient rainfall in some districts, and a cold winter, with severe frosts in many parts, caused considerable damage to the crops, and scarcity prevailed in some of the Native States, which called for suspensions and remissions of revenue. Plague was prevalent in some of the States during the year. In Partabgarh and Alwar the epidemic was severe. The States of Udaipur (Mewar), Kotah, Jhalawar, suffered also, but in a less degree. Apart from plague the public health was satisfactory on the whole, and the condition of the people fairly prosperous. During past years of famine and scarcity, most of the States had to borrow money from the Government of India; some of them were still embarrassed by debt, but, excepting in the Jaisalmer State, no fresh liabilities were contracted during the year under review, and in the majority of States the process of paying off loans made fair progress. Bharatpur and Dholpur, in the Eastern Rajputana Agency, were already free from debt; but in Dungarpur, Banswara, and Partabgarh, in the Mewar Agency, and Jaisalmer, in the Western Rajputana State Agency, a succession of bad seasons had retarded a return to normal prosperity.

The total outlay on Public Works in the Native States amounted to £228,900 in 1904-05, as against £217,700 in the preceding year. The expenditure under this head by larger States was as follows:—Jaipur, £38,000, as against £48,900 in 1904-05; Bikaner, £15,500, as against £9,200 in the preceding year; Bharatpur, £40,800, as against £36,000 in the preceding year; Alwar, £23,300, as against £31,200 in the preceding year; Dholpur, £28,500, as against £15,500 in the preceding year; and Kotah, £16,400, as against £12,000 in the preceding year. The matter of Protective Irrigation Works continued to receive attention. During the year under review, Colonel Sir Swinton Jacob, K.C.I.E., the consulting engineer, completed his investigations of the irrigation possibilities of Rajputana, and his report, with final suggestions regarding irrigation works in each State, has since been submitted to the Government of India. The total expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government in these investigations, from the commencement in 1902 to 31st March 1905 amounted to £11,895. The work is reported to have been completed, not only without friction, but with the good will of all concerned.

The following administrative changes took place during the year under review:—The chief of Dholpur was invested with ruling powers on attaining his majority. The chiefs of the Bharatpur and Jaisalmer, being minors, the States were under management. The former is administered by a Council of Regency, under the control of the Political Agent, and the latter by the Diwan, under the general supervision of the President. In Tonk the Political Agent continued to exercise a certain measure of control in all departments of the State, especially in respect of matters connected with finance.

Of the principal States it may be briefly noted that Bikaner enjoyed a prosperous year. The administration was efficient and the financial condition of the State sound. The closing balance amounted to £49,000.

In Jodhpur (Marwar) there was a marked improvement in almost every branch of the State administration. The salt revenue yielded £101,000 during the year under review. The State railway—464 miles in length—affords a great measure of protection from famine by opening up the country, and pays the State between 7 and 8 per cent. on the capital outlay of £750,000.

The Jaipur State does not issue an annual report, and details as to the administration are not available. The people, on the whole, are reported to have been contented and prosperous during the period under review.

The chief of Dholpur was invested with ruling powers, as noted above, but the services of the late Superintendent of the State were retained as adviser to the Darbar. The three years' management of the State by the Government was attended by excellent results. As regards

finance, the State liabilities of nearly £30,000 have been extinguished, the cash reserve has been increased by over £16,666 in spite of an increase of over £26,666 in the annual Public Works allotment, and the outstanding arrears of land revenue have been reduced by recoveries and remissions from £46,666 to little over £16,666. Simultaneously, cultivation has been increased by 38,700 bighas, or by 8 per cent.

NATIVE
STATES.

Information as to the Central India Agency for the year 1905-06 was not available when the present Statement was prepared. The following are the facts and figures for the year 1904-05, which appeared in the Statement furnished last year:—

Central
India
Agency.

"Climatic conditions were unfavourable to agriculture in the Central India Agency in the year 1904-05. The rainfall was in many parts deficient, and was, as a rule, badly distributed, while the promise of an excellent *rabi* crop was ruined by severe frost, which did much damage both to crops and trees throughout practically the whole agency. Large remissions of revenue were made in the Gwalior and Indore States; and in nearly all the States the collections of revenue fell far short of the demand. The resources of many of the smaller States were severely tried by these misfortunes. The question of Land Revenue Settlement was engaging special attention in the agency. During the year under review operations were in progress in the Indore, Narsinghgarh, and Rajgarh State, and in the States in the Bundelkhand agency, and arrangements were being made to commence operations in several other States. The public health was generally good; but plague was still prevalent. The disease, though more widely spread than in the preceding year, is reported to have been of a less virulent type. The total number of deaths recorded in 1904 were 26,545, as against 31,153 in the preceding year. Good results attended the measures taken to combat the disease in the Residency area at Gwalior. The Bhopal State was fortunate, and suffered in a small degree only. The few cases which occurred there were mostly imported from outside districts. The report on the working of the Agency Police was generally satisfactory, and a decrease of crime is noted. In the Gwalior, Indore, and Bhopal States there was also a diminution of serious crime. As a result of the scheme for the reorganisation of the Thagi and Dakaiti Departments in Rajputana, Central India, and Hyderabad, which was mentioned in last year's Statement, the Department in Central India was placed directly under the Agent to the Governor General, with effect from 1st October 1904. The new arrangement gave promise of favourable results. The total number of dacoities reported during the year 1904 as having occurred within the jurisdiction of the Central India Agency was 108 cases as against 145 in 1903. No case of thagi by poisoning for plunder was reported in 1904.

The total outlay on Imperial Public Works in Central India in 1904-05 amounted to £31,600, as against £24,700 in the preceding year. Of this amount £9,900 was spent on "Communications," £7,200 on "Establishments," £8,100 on "Civil Buildings," and £1,600 on "Military Works." Measures were taken for the reconstruction of the Daly College, Indore, as a centre for the education of the sons and relatives of ruling chiefs and notables. The movement had its origin at the College Conference which was held at Ajmer in March 1904. A sum of about £80,000 was raised or promised by subscribers in Central India. Progress has since been made with the reconstitution of the College, and good hopes are entertained of its ultimate success. In the Gwalior and Indore States efficient Education Departments are now maintained by the Darbars. The question of making provision for the inspection and supervision of schools and educational institutions in other Native States within the agency is engaging the attention of the local authorities. The administration of the Indore State under the Council of Regency continued to make satisfactory progress. On the 30th September 1904, when the financial year closed, the balance of the State amounted approximately to £868,000, exclusive of the railway loan of £666,000 to the Government of India, and a further sum of £666,000 invested in Government Promissory Notes, the famine loans to neighbouring States, and taccavi and other advances to the ryots.

NATIVE STATES.

"The following administrative changes took place during the year under review:—

- "(1) His Highness Sawai Maharaja Sahib Savant Singh, who succeeded to the chiefship of the Bijawar State in June 1900, was invested with full administrative powers on 17th October 1904. The Bijawar State has an area of 965 square miles, a population of about 110,500, and a gross revenue estimated at £27,000 a year.
- "(2) His Highness Rana Ram Singh, who succeeded to the chiefship of the Sitamau State in November 1900, was invested with full administrative powers on 28th February 1905. The Sitamau State has an area of 350 square miles, a population of about 33,000, and a gross revenue estimated at £8,200.
- "(3) Rana Pratapsinghji, who succeeded to the chiefship of the Ali Rajpur State in February 1891, was granted ruling powers on 25th January 1904. The Ali Rajpur State has an area of 836 square miles, a population of about 50,000, and a gross revenue estimated at £6,200."

al.

The affairs of the Sikkim and Bhutan States have already been noticed in the account of the Frontier States (*see* page 184).

Climatic conditions during the year 1905-06 were not entirely favourable to agriculture in the Cooch Behar State. The out-turn of the crops was somewhat below the average, but the people enjoyed a fair measure of prosperity, particularly in those districts in which jute is grown. The public health was normal, except for two outbreaks of cholera, which caused 499 deaths. The criminal administration of the State continued to be satisfactory, and there was practically no heinous crime. The financial condition of the State is sound. There was a closing balance of about £59,600, and the State is now reported to be free from debt.

Administrative changes affecting the Tributary and Political States of Chota Nagpur and Tributary Mahals of Orissa took place during the year under review. On the 16th October 1905 the five States of Sirguja, Jashpur, Udaipur, Korea, and Changbhakar, hitherto under the control of the Bengal Government, were transferred to the administration of the Central Provinces, whilst the five States of Patna, Sonpur, Kalahandi, Bamra, and Rehrakhol, hitherto under the administration of the Central Provinces, were transferred to the Government of Bengal, and placed under the control of the Commissioner and Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals of Orissa. The two States of Bonai and Gangpur were also transferred to the Orissa division from the Chota Nagpur division, leaving only the Political States of Sereikela and Kharsawan in the latter division. Under this redistribution there are now 24 States forming a compact block, with an area of 28,046 square miles and a population of 3,173,395 persons, attached to the Orissa division.

The following States were under Government management during the year under review: Kalahandi, Bonai, Baramba, Nayagarh, Narsingpur, Nilgiri, Pal Lahera, and Kharsawan. The reports received show that the condition of the people in the various States was on the whole satisfactory, though in a large majority of the States climatic conditions were unfavourable, and the crops were in consequence poor, while prices ruled higher than usual. The public health was good except in the States of Dhenkanal, Nayagarh, and Moharbhanj, where there were epidemics of fever and cholera. The State dispensaries are reported to be doing good and useful work, especially in the more remote and inaccessible regions; they are being more extensively used by the local population.

The reorganisation of the police in Kalahandi was sanctioned during the year. In Moharbhanj it had already been effected; in Bonai, Seraikela, and Kharsawan the question was receiving attention.

Many of the chiefs are reported to take considerable interest in the agricultural, industrial, and educational development of their States. The chief of Moharbhanj has enlarged his experimental farm, opened an agricultural class in the High School, and extended operations in sericulture. The chief of Bamra gave every encouragement to the opening of village schools. The figures as regards education generally show an increase both in number of schools and scholars.

Information as to the tribes on the Assam frontier will be found on page 184 of the present Statement.

NATIVE STATES.
Eastern Bengal and Assam.

The Manipur State continued to be under the management of the Political Agent, owing to the minority of the chief. The financial position of the State was satisfactory. There was a closing balance of £19,000 as against an opening balance of £15,000. The total outlay on public works was £8,200 as against £11,500 in 1904-05. The year was a peaceful one as regards the Manipur population, and there was no disturbance or display of discontent such as occurred in the preceding year. In the hill tribes' district it was found necessary to resort to punitive measures against the village of Lakhame. A satisfactory settlement was effected. Measures were taken during the year to carry out the policy of disarmament of the hill tribes. Heavy rains fell in June, August, and October. The crops on the low lands were damaged by floods; but on the high lands the crops were unusually good. The price of rice rose and continued high throughout the year.

The Hill Tippera State was transferred from the charge of the Bengal Government to that of Eastern Bengal and Assam during the year under review. The State enjoyed a fair harvest, and the revenue, which amounted to £111,821, was the largest hitherto recorded. The price of food grains was, however, high, and scarcity prevailed in some hill districts. Adequate measures were taken to afford the necessary relief. The public health was fairly satisfactory throughout the year.

The harvests in the Rampur State were fairly good, and the condition of the people was satisfactory. The development of the irrigation system continued to receive attention. The sugar industry was depressed, owing to the competition of foreign sugars. Apart from an outbreak of plague, which was practically confined to the towns of Rampur and Shahabad, the public health was good. The financial condition of the State was satisfactory. The income amounted to £233,000 and the expenditure to £220,000, as against £220,000 and £210,000 respectively in the preceding year.

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

In the Tehri State the rainfall was ample, the crops fair, and the general health of the people good. The State dispensaries continued to do good work, and a satisfactory start was made with a hospital for women. Some progress was made with education. The financial condition of the State was satisfactory. The surplus at the end of the year 1905-06 amounted to £76,600.

The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States of the Punjab remained as they were in 1904-05, the States being grouped as follows:—

- (i) Patiala, Bahawalpur, Jind, and Nabha in the political charge of the Political Agent for the Phulkian States and Bahawalpur;
- (ii) Kaparthala, Mandi, Mala Kotla, Faridkot, and Suket in the political charge of the Commissioner of Jullundur;
- (iii) Simur, Kalsia, Pataudi, Loharu, and Dujana in the political charge of the Commissioner of Delhi;
- (iv) Bilaspur, Bashahr, and other States in the Simla Hills in the political charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, who is also Deputy Commissioner of Simla;
- (v) Chamba in the political of the Commissioner of Lahore; and
- (vi) The frontier tribes of the Dera Ghazi Khan district under the political charge of the Deputy Commissioner of Dera Ghazi Khan.

The principal chiefs had the honour of presentation to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales during the festivities held at Delhi, Amritsar, and Lahore in connection with the Royal visit to India.

Climatic conditions were generally favourable, and the crops were fair on the whole. Plague was prevalent in many of the States, but in no case was it so severe as in the preceding year. On the 4th April 1905 the hill country round Kangra was devastated by an earthquake. The shock was felt in the States of Mandi, Chamba, Suket, and Bashahr. The damage done was considerable. In the Mandi State the loss of life was estimated at 1,500, and the town of Mandi was reduced to ruins. Liberal relief was given by the Durbar.

NATIVE
STATES.

In the Patiala State the Council of Regency continued to work with efficiency. The finances of the State were in a satisfactory condition. A considerable sum was devoted to public works.

The Bahawalpur State enjoyed a prosperous year from an agricultural point of view, and there was no plague in the State. His Highness the Nawab was granted extended powers as a ruling chief. After the close of the period under review the State sustained a severe loss in the death of the Nawab. His Highness, who was 23 years of age, died at Aden on the 15th February 1907, on his return from a pilgrimage to Mecca.

In the Mandi State, Raja Bhowani Sen, having attained the age of 22, was formally invested with the powers of a ruling chief. Raja Balbir Singh, of the Faridkot State, died in February 1906, and his nephew Brij Indar Singh was installed on the *gadi* in the following month. One district in the Bashahr State was throughout the year in a state of rebellion. A strong police force had to be despatched in the summer of 1906 to deal with the rebels. In the Simla Hill States the crops were generally good. The chiefs of Madhan, Kumhar, and Bija died during the year under report. The Dera Ghazi Khan frontier maintained a condition of complete tranquillity.

Central Pro-
vinces.

The chief administrative event of importance during the year under review was the transfer, on the 16th October 1905, of the five States of Patna, Sonpur, Rehrakhol, Kalahandi, and Bamra to the political control of the Bengal Government, and the assumption by the Central Provinces Administration of the control of the five States of Sirguja, Udaipur, Jashpur, Korea, and Changbhakhar, formerly under the charge of the Commissioner, Chhota Nagpur, Bengal. In the year under review six of the 15 Feudatory Chiefs, namely, those of Bastar, Sarangarh, Kawardha, Chhuikhadan, Nandgaon, and Udaipur were minors, and these States were in consequence managed by Superintendents appointed by Government. The Chiefs of Sakti and Makrai administered their States under the guidance of officers deputed by Government to their service, whilst the remaining seven States, viz., Raigarh, Kanker, Khairagarh, Sirguja, Korea, Jashpur, and Changbhakkar were administered directly by their ruling chiefs. The 16 States enjoyed generally a good spring harvest, and the material condition of the people continued to improve. Land revenue was collected with ease, and there was an absence of all serious crime. The majority of the States had a prosperous financial year, and a good deal was done towards paying off loans. At the close of the year all the States under management were unencumbered by liabilities. Education continued to make progress in the States which were previously under the control of the Central Provinces, but in the States recently taken over matters in this respect were backward, and measures to effect an improvement were under consideration. The death-rate in Nandgaon and Kawardha was high, owing to the prevalence of fever, but in the majority of the States the public health was good.

Bombay.

On the occasion of the Royal visit to India a considerable number of the Chiefs of Native States within the Bombay Presidency went to Bombay, where they took part in the ceremonies, and had the honour of being presented to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The condition of the Native States under the political supervision of the Government of Bombay during 1905-06 is briefly described in the following extract from the Report on the Administration of the Bombay Presidency for that year:—"In the States which border on Gujarât the season was fairly favourable, and in the North and South Konkan States, in spite of deficient rainfall, crops were fair, but in Kolhapur, the Sâtara Jaghirs, and the Southern Maratha States the failure of crops was almost general, and suspensions and remissions of land revenue were extensively granted. Relief works were opened in some places, but were not attended by large numbers. Grants of tagai to cultivators, and dole to the aged and infirm, enabled the people to tide over the season of scarcity, but in some cases a severe strain was placed on the State revenues. In those States which suffered from scarcity there was no noticeable increase of crime, but in most of the States in the Northern Gujarât Group there was a slight increase in reported crimes, which may perhaps be attributed to increased efficiency on the part of the Police. The decrease of plague resulted in an

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STATES.

"expansion of education, and there were increases in the numbers of schools and pupils. Except in Cutch and Palanpur there was a decrease in the death-rate owing to the diminution of plague and the absence, except in Kolhapur, of any serious outbreak of cholera. In the birth-rate the rise was general except in Kolhapur and the Southern Maratha States and the Sâtara Jaghirs. There was no special outlay on public works, as most of the money available was devoted to repairs. In view of the nature of the season the trade of Cutch and Kathiawar showed, as was expected, a considerable increase in imports and a similar decrease in exports. In the backward districts of the Dangs the chiefs paid off their debts, and except for Abkari and forest offences there was little crime. If a rough division be made, it may be said that the Northern States were recovering from the losses of the previous year, and the Southern States were fighting against the adversities of the present year, and consequently no active progress on a large scale was anywhere possible."

Reference to the Khairpur State in Sind is not included in the foregoing review. The State enjoyed a prosperous year. The area of cultivated land increased, the inundation was excellent, and the canals in good condition; whilst the land revenue was the largest on record.

The following administrative changes took place during the year under review:—

In Kathiawar the Thakor Saheb of Palitana died, and the State was placed under an administrator during the minority of the heir. In the Rewa Kantha Agency the Raja of Chhota Udepur, having attained his majority, was installed on the *gadi* of the State. In the Surat Agency the Sachin State remained under Government management owing to the minority of the chief. In the Southern Mahratta country the Sangli and Miraj (junior) States continued to be under direct management. The Savanur State also remained under the charge of a British political officer owing to the minority of the chief.

The following are the figures furnished in regard to the trade of Cutch and Kathiawar:—

	Value of Exports.		Value of Imports.	
	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£	£
Kathiawar - - -	1,986,900	861,300	1,395,600	1,559,400
Cutch - - -	87,900	80,300	483,800	588,200

The State railway in Cutch was opened by His Highness the Maharao on the 16th October 1905.

During the ceremonies held on the occasion of the visit of T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales to Madras towards the end of January 1906, the ruling Chiefs of the Native States of Madras, with the exception of the Maharaja of Travancore who was unable to attend through ill-health, were received in audience by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

By order of the Maharaja of Travancore a popular assembly of representatives of the landholders and merchants of the State was constituted to enable the people to express their wants regarding the administration. The first session of the assembly was held in October 1904. The season in Travancore was unfavourable to agriculturists in three out of four divisions of the State, and there was a rise in the prices of food grains. The total land revenue collected in the State was slightly less than in the preceding year. There was a considerable increase in the number of murders, from 24 to 34, but a decrease in most other grave crimes, except house-breaking. The total revenue of the State, exclusive of debt heads, amounted to £633,000, and the expenditure to £686,000, as against £680,000 and £708,000 respectively in the preceding year. Various important reforms in

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the financial system of the State were introduced during the year with a view to co-ordinating the accounts and fixing the financial responsibilities of the different departments. The amount expended on public works during the year under review was £164,000, of which £11,700 was devoted to the Kodayar irrigation project. The value of the exports in 1905-06 amounted to £1,143,000 and of imports to £382,000 as against £1,368,000 and £725,000 respectively in the year 1904-05. Education continued to receive due attention. The amount spent during the year under this head was about £34,000.

In the Cochin State the public health was fairly good and the season not unfavourable to agriculture. The total revenue amounted approximately to £222,000, and the expenditure to £221,000 as against £184,000 and £192,000 respectively in the preceding year. The net revenue from forests showed an increase of more than 50 per cent. Large sums were spent on the extension of the forest tramway and on the construction of inclines. The total expenditure on public works amounted to £20,100 as against an expenditure of £17,000 in the preceding year.

The rainfall in the Pudukkottai State was much below the average. There was, in consequence, a considerable failure of crops, and the prices of food grains were high. Except for a somewhat severe outbreak of cholera the public health was good. The total revenue of the State was much below that of the previous year owing to suspended collections of land revenue; there was at the same time a considerable increase in the expenditure, with the result that the year closed with a deficit of £25,800, and a closing balance of £51,800 as against an opening balance of £80,600.

The Banganapalle State remained throughout the year under the management of the Government of Madras. Satisfactory progress was made in the work of reorganising the various branches of the administration. The season was not on the whole unfavourable to agriculture, but there was a considerable rise in the price of food grains.

In the Sandur State the rainfall was below the average, but the out-turn of crops was fairly good. Crime was slight. The financial position of the State was satisfactory. The receipts amounted to £3,700 and the expenditure to £3,000.

CHAPTER XVII.

MILITARY AND MARINE SERVICES.

ARMY.

ARMY.

The sanctioned establishment for 1905-06 was as follows:—

British Troops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74,385
Miscellaneous Officers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,206
Native Troops (including European Officers)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	156,678
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	232,269

Corresponding Total for 1904-1905 - - - 230,726

The actual strength and distribution of the Army in India on the 1st April 1906 were as follows:—

	Number of Officers and Men.		Number of Officers and Men.
NORTHERN COMMAND.		EASTERN COMMAND—cont.	
<i>British.</i>		<i>Native.</i>	
Cavalry (3 regiments)	1,919	Cavalry (8 regiments)	5,046
Artillery (24 batteries and companies, and with ammunition columns)	3,823	Artillery (with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	288
Engineers	9	Sappers and Miners (6 companies)	1,152
Infantry (14 battalions)	14,924	Infantry (24 battalions)	22,135
	20,675		28,621
<i>Native.</i>		SECUNDERABAD DIVISION.	
Cavalry (16 regiments)	10,054	<i>British.</i>	
Artillery (9 batteries, and with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	4,876	Cavalry (2 regiments)	1,338
Sappers and Miners (6 companies)	997	Artillery (11 batteries and companies, and with ammunition columns)	1,908
Infantry (45 battalions)	41,448	Engineers	31
	57,375	Infantry (5 battalions)	5,377
	78,050		8,654
WESTERN COMMAND.		<i>Native.</i>	
<i>British.</i>		Cavalry (3 regiments)	1,868
Cavalry (1 regiment)	680	Artillery (with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	166
Artillery (34 batteries and companies, and with ammunition columns)	5,745	Sappers and Miners (7 companies)	1,155
Engineers	83	Infantry (13 battalions)	9,674
Infantry (14 battalions)	13,924		12,863
	20,432		21,517
<i>Native.</i>		BURMA DIVISION.	
Cavalry (12½ regiments)	7,846	<i>British.</i>	
Artillery (with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	1,171	Artillery (2 companies)	334
Sappers and Miners (9 companies)	1,588	Engineers	26
Infantry (44 battalions)	35,169	Infantry (4 battalions)	3,806
	45,774		4,166
	66,206	<i>Native.</i>	
EASTERN COMMAND.		Artillery (2 batteries)	674
<i>British.</i>		Sappers and Miners (1 company)	179
Cavalry (3 regiments)	1,932	Infantry (7 battalions)	5,876
Artillery (21 batteries and companies, and with ammunition columns)	3,615		6,729
Engineers	47		10,895
Infantry (15 battalions)	15,437		
	21,031		

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

ARMY.

	Number of Officers and Men.		Number of Officers and Men.
CORPS NOT UNDER THE ORDERS OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA.		GRAND TOTAL—cont.	
<i>Native.</i>		<i>Native.</i>	
Bodyguards (Governor-General's and Governors')	268	Cavalry (39½ regiments)	25,082
Resident's escort, Nepal	95	Artillery (11 batteries, and Native details of ammunition columns, and Native drivers of British batteries)-	7,175
	363	Sappers and Miners (29 companies)-	5,071
		Infantry (133 battalions)	114,397
GRAND TOTAL.			151,725
<i>British.</i>		<i>Officers on the Staff</i>	
Cavalry (9 regiments)	5,869		226,683
Artillery (92 batteries and companies, and British details of 13 ammunition columns)	15,425		856
Engineers	196		227,539
Infantry (52 battalions)	53,468		
	74,958		

The establishment* was short by two battalions of Native Infantry serving in China.

The total of the Native Army Reserve in India on 1st April 1906 was 27,755.

The net expenditure on the Army (exclusive of Special Defence Works) in 1905-06 was £18,077,434. That of 1904-05 was £19,214,763.

The number of Volunteers in the whole of India on 1st April 1906 was as under:—

	Enrolled Strength.	Efficient.
Northern Command	2,098	1,906
Western Command	6,899	6,717
Eastern Command	13,076	12,315
Secunderabad Division	7,421	6,841
Burma Division	2,662	2,599
	32,156	30,378

On the 1st April 1905 the number of enrolled Volunteers was 32,087, of whom 30,711 were efficient. The number of Volunteers enrolled in the Reserve at the end of 1905-06 was 1,648.

* The five battalions of Native Infantry regularly employed in the Colonies are not reckoned as part of the establishment.

An important change in Indian military administration was brought into effect in March 1906: the Military Department was abolished, and its work divided between two newly-constituted departments, called the Army Department and the Military Supply Department respectively. To the latter was assigned all business connected with the control of Army contracts, the purchase of stores, ordnance and remounts, and their custody, the management of military works, the clothing and manufacturing departments, the Indian Medical Service, and the Royal Indian Marine; while the Army Department took over all the remaining business (with the exception of military finance), i.e., the strictly military portion of Army administration. Military finance, with the Military Accounts Department, was transferred to the Financial Department of the Government of India. The Commander-in-Chief in India, who heretofore had been an "Extraordinary" Member of the Council of the Governor-General, became an Ordinary Member, and the Army Department was placed in his charge; the Military Supply Department being placed in charge of another Member.

At the same time, with the object of relieving the Commander-in-Chief of some portion of the heavy burden entailed upon him by his constantly increasing duties, an officer of superior rank was appointed to the Staff of the Army with the designation of "Chief of the Staff."

The following changes in organisation, &c. also came into force during 1905-06:—

The Supply and Transport Corps was placed under the executive control of the Commander-in-Chief. Financial control and all arrangements regarding the provision of stores and transport animals was retained by the Government of India.

The Indian Staff College, the institution of which was sanctioned in the previous year, was actually established, and commenced work at Deolali, where it was temporarily located until the buildings at Quetta should be ready for occupation.

A second Military Railway Company, designated the "26th (Railway) Company of Sappers and Miners," was raised.

The formation of a Reserve for the Native Cavalry was sanctioned.

The kit money of recruits for the Native Army was increased. A cash allowance was substituted for the periodical issue of clothing in kind to the Native soldier.

MILITARY WORKS.

The expenditure on military works in 1905-06 amounted to £929,809. There was also an expenditure of £146,306 on Special Defence Works.

MARINE.

The net expenditure on marine services amounted to £392,733 in 1905-06, as against £451,654 in 1904-05. In this amount are included the cost of the Royal Indian Marine, the contribution towards the expenses of His Majesty's ships employed in the Indian seas, and charges for pilot establishments and vessels, coast lights, and other smaller items.

On the 1st April 1906 the Royal Indian Marine consisted of ten sea-going vessels, six inland and harbour vessels, a submarine mining flotilla, and a number of small steamers, launches, &c. There was an establishment of 97 executive officers, 71 engineer officers, and 73 warrant officers (including 12 assistant surgeons of the Indian Subordinate Medical Department); and the Native crews of the vessels (seamen, artificers, and others) numbered in all 1,943.

TABLE showing the NET REVENUE and EXPENDITURE in the several PROVINCES of INDIA and in ENGLAND.

	Bengal.		United Provinces.		Punjab.		Burma.		Central Provinces.		East Bengal and Assam.	
	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.
REVENUE.												
Land revenue	2,726,603	2,196,357	4,184,411	3,904,658	1,603,727	1,471,201	2,463,986	2,544,409	578,329	570,080	420,307	997,773
Forest	77,763	74,491	159,937	160,941	124,913	118,705	596,830	687,855	90,057	115,224	64,296	73,686
Tributes	—	—	—	—	18,283	16,355	31,591	29,551	15,003	14,076	2,045	1,671
Opium	3,171,714	2,869,259	37,481	38,268	4,179	4,900	43,299	40,554	19,227	20,301	31,028	35,787
Salt	1,478,618	1,076,186	—	—	—	—	107,898	114,975	—	—	—	60,110
Stamps	1,373,416	1,213,311	556,883	589,937	265,347	257,098	217,856	244,891	101,652	107,419	66,200	312,429
Excise	679,990	663,365	679,990	663,365	210,331	237,214	484,384	523,093	210,361	253,697	203,224	307,735
Provincial rates	1,118,096	1,121,044	703,831	634,597	315,478	285,910	111,802	121,273	83,789	68,394	45,875	158,380
Customs	1,291,436	1,346,565	7,761	7,761	—	—	963,001	9,932	9,487	9,932	1,848	1,848
Assessed taxes	337,663	337,778	139,786	139,786	83,776	85,326	93,091	104,108	21,314	20,894	16,946	39,074
Registration.	112,400	96,470	33,911	33,911	15,444	17,245	12,317	13,493	6,452	7,180	4,782	25,316
Post office	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telegraph	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Railways	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Irrigation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	12,226,315	10,734,562	6,702,956	6,296,744	3,522,976	3,193,991	5,016,613	5,206,862	1,113,938	1,150,050	841,278	2,009,603
EXPENDITURE.												
Interest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Collection of revenue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General administration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Law and justice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ecclesiastical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Political	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scientific and minor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous civil charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Civil works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Army	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3,460,906	3,399,407	2,967,449	3,071,971	2,062,972	1,774,976	2,621,108	2,913,021	889,969	1,175,904	576,181	1,308,605

TABLE showing the NET REVENUE and EXPENDITURE in the ~~several~~ PROVINCES of INDIA and in ENGLAND—*continued.*

	Madras.		Bombay.		Berar.		North-West Frontier Province.		India, General.		England.	
	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1904-05.	1905-06.
REVENUE.												
Land revenue	£ 3,317,086	£ 3,479,152	£ 2,146,939	£ 2,194,994	£ 552,484	£ 561,074	£ 126,558	£ 123,664	£ 98,772	£ 86,210	£ —	£ —
Forest	187,605	196,752	201,193	231,621	44,035	47,770	6,086	8,569	57,087	58,270	—	1,280
Tributes	299,294	298,649	112,158	101,912	—	—	—	—	119,678	103,727	—	—
Opium	—	—	746,612	565,565	—	218	482	583	—	—	—	—
Salt	1,268,552	1,016,524	1,315,712	1,060,746	—	—	—	—	922,086	781,098	—	—
Stamps	592,268	617,454	420,764	422,082	58,937	61,538	24,484	26,983	23,295	23,181	—	—
Excise	1,248,818	1,273,394	891,752	1,638,038	163,038	224,240	13,056	14,088	89,028	81,083	—	—
Provincial rates	574,143	637,161	191,178	298,894	49,115	47,953	24,718	21,681	9,328	9,711	—	—
Customs	339,217	300,607	1,637,617	1,739,820	1,192	1,269	—	—	1,078	1,065	—	—
Assessed taxes	175,294	259,311	259,311	256,801	17,618	16,526	7,285	7,250	108,238	131,982	—	—
Registration	107,002	111,085	39,504	44,605	6,883	8,217	1,740	1,763	292,250	282,997	—	—
Post office	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	184,312	148,798	—	—
Telegraph	7,849	8,140	—	—	—	—	—	—	8,766,805	8,766,805	—	—
Railways	120,999	154,804	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Irrigation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8,232,117	8,268,254	7,973,633	7,756,601	734,639	800,639	226,598	213,206	10,146,268	10,046,828	—	—
											£ 7,019,751	£ 7,199,523
EXPENDITURE.												
Interest	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —	£ —
Collection of revenue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General administration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Law and justice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ecclesiastical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Political	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scientific and minor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous civil charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Civil works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Army	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5,406,723	3,476,556	6,312,128	3,139,930	315,028	336,575	508,081	527,500	9,338,037	14,773,817	11,807,903	10,468,700

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Municipalities in British India, their Receipts and their Expenditure, for the Year 1905-06.

	Bengal.		United Provinces.	Punjab.	North-West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Provinces and Berar.	Madras.		Bombay.	Minor Provinces.	Total.
	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.						Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	
Number of Municipalities and Notified Areas	1	128	106	190	13	43	58	1	60	1	162	9
Population with municipal limits	847,796	2,354,856	3,217,548	2,301,791	180,000	903,786	882,688	505,346	1,315,208	977,822	2,367,418	17,214,641
Receipts :												
Octroi	£ —	£ 3,161	£ 225,870	£ 212,683	£ 25,042	£ —	£ 51,998	£ —	£ —	£ 106,308	£ 212,408	£ 25,773
Other Taxation	396,017	203,666	87,763	23,370	605	187,629	36,309	79,985	142,002	412,895	146,250	2,513
Revenue sources other than Taxation	73,991	61,921	111,691	93,800	10,492	215,318	42,887	56,221	86,840	87,166	106,509	10,737
Extraordinary and Debt	102,640	62,394	52,869	30,421	146	131,658	12,401	88,312	46,374	2,039,933	82,933	2,358
Total (1905-06)	572,648	331,142	478,223	360,274	36,285	534,605	143,335	224,718	275,216	2,616,102	518,100	6,282,132
Total (1904-05)	809,963	385,153	463,679	371,178	37,635	481,805	139,703	143,680	286,027	2,478,578	560,833	6,216,888
Expenditure :												
Cost of Collection and Administration	53,538	26,268	52,066	45,258	4,109	39,224	15,467	11,571	20,075	43,653	118,508	7,419
Public Health and Convenience	317,901	183,615	286,086	188,201	20,814	298,219	75,620	136,315	153,606	324,160	231,291	18,307
Public Safety	42,556	19,821	25,407	48,696	5,680	20,066	3,609	5,488	8,657	58,316	19,008	3,639
Public Instruction	1,353	8,794	19,232	28,806	3,613	29,890	14,445	1,976	26,602	10,761	64,742	2,155
Interest and Miscellaneous	129,365	24,746	71,349	35,466	1,741	48,705	8,936	23,139	20,695	204,318	31,313	7,290
Extraordinary and Debt	57,710	55,647	20,857	19,813	130	107,796	21,901	34,594	30,810	2,006,474	71,704	3,648
Total (1905-06)	602,423	318,891	474,897	366,340	5,087	538,810	139,878	213,083	280,446	2,646,682	536,596	6,267,480
Total (1904-05)	786,151	386,223	484,506	366,673	36,316	520,358	136,352	179,219	268,141	2,486,371	516,723	6,136,469

* Assam only in 1904-05.