

STATEMENT

EXHIBITING THE

MORAL AND MATERIAL PROGRESS AND CONDITION

OF

I N D I A

DURING THE YEAR 1906-07.

FORTY-THIRD NUMBER.

(Presented pursuant to Act 21 & 22 Vict. c. 106, s. 53.)

India Office,
18 May 1908. }

ARTHUR GODLEY,
Under Secretary of State for India.

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NOTE.

THE Statement exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India is presented to Parliament in each year in accordance with the requirements of the 53rd section of the Act for the better Government of India (21 and 22 Vict., cap. 106), which provides as follows:—"The Secretary of State in Council shall, within the first fourteen days during which Parliament may be sitting next after the first day of May in every year, lay before both Houses of Parliament an account for the Financial Year preceding that last completed of the Annual Produce of the Revenues of India . . . and such account shall be accompanied by a Statement prepared from detailed reports from each Presidency and District in India, in such form as shall best exhibit the Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India in each such Presidency."

The Statement is prepared in the India Office from a large number of annual reports received from India. Many of these reports are compiled from information furnished by District and Political Officers, and are submitted to the Governments of the respective Provinces and to the Government of India for consideration and review before transmission to England; and some of them, which deal with the operations of important departments and require the careful consideration of the authorities in India, are not received at the India Office till about a year after the date of the period to which they refer.

It is, therefore, seldom possible to present the Statement to Parliament earlier than the date mentioned in the Statute, *i.e.*, about thirteen and a half months after the close of the official year.



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CHAPTER I.

ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATION.

ADMINISTRATION.

LIST of the holders in 1906-07 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. John Morley, O.M., M.P.	12 December 1905	
Permanent Under Secretary of State.	Sir Arthur Godley, K.C.B. -	30 September 1883	
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State.	The Right Hon. J. E. Ellis, P.C., M.P.	12 December 1905	Resigned 1 February 1907.
	<i>C. E. H. Hobhouse</i> , M.P. -	1 February 1907	
	General Sir J. J. H. Gordon, K.C.B.	1 January 1897	In succession to Sir O. T. Burne. Retired 31 December 1906.
	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 Robert Hardie.
	Sir John Edge, K.C. -	30 March 1898	In succession to Sir C. Turner.
	Sir Philip P. Hutchins, K.C.S.I.	1 August 1898	In succession to Sir A. J. Arbuthnot.
	General Sir A. R. Badoock, K.C.B., C.S.I.	26 March 1901	In succession to Sir D. M. Stewart. Died 23 March 1907.
Members of the Council of India	Sir William Lee-Warner, K.C.S.I.	12 November 1902	In succession to Sir J. Peile.
	J. F. Finlay, C.S.I. - -	10 May 1903	In succession to Sir J. Westland. Appointed Member of Governor-General's Council, 1 January 1907.
	Sir H. S. Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.	9 May 1905	In succession to Sir A. P. Macdonnell.
	Lieut.-Col. Sir D. W. K. Barr, K.C.S.I.	16 August 1905	In succession to Sir Charles H. T. Crosthwaite.
	<i>Sir F. Schuster</i> - -	26 April 1906	In succession to F. C. Le Marchant.
	<i>T. Morison</i> - -	19 December 1906	
	<i>General Sir C. C. Egerton</i> , G.C.B., D.S.O.	5 February 1907	In succession to General Sir J. J. H. Gordon.
Governor-General - - -	The Right Hon. the Earl of Minto, P.C., G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.I.E.	18 November 1905	
	General Viscount Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.M.G. (extraordinary), Commander-in-Chief.	28 November 1902	
	Sir A. T. Arundel, K.C.S.I.	18 May 1901	Resigned 15 October 1906.
	Sir D. J. Ibbetson, K.C.S.I.	5 March 1902	Resigned 5 March 1907.
	H. Erle Richards - -	18 April 1904	
Members of Council - - -	Sir J. P. Hewett, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	23 December 1904	Lieut.-Governor United Provinces, 1 January 1907.
	E. N. Baker, C.S.I. - -	10 January 1905	
	Major-General C. H. Scott, C.B.	18 November 1905	
	<i>Sir C. L. Tupper</i> , K.C.I.E., C.S.I.	2 April 1906	Temporary, to 28 September 1906.
	<i>Sir H. Adamson</i> , C.S.I. -	15 October 1906	
	<i>J. F. Finlay</i> , C.S.I. - -	1 January 1907	
	<i>J. O. Miller</i> , C.S.I. -	6 March 1907	
Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal -	Sir A. H. Leith Fraser, K.C.S.I.	2 November 1903	
Lieutenant-Governor of Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Sir J. B. Fuller, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	16 October 1905	Resigned 20 August 1906.
	<i>Sir L. Hare</i> , K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	20 August 1906	

ADMINIS-
TRATION.

OFFICE.		Date of Appointment or Assumption of Charge of Office.	REMARKS.
Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh	Sir J. J. D. La Touche, K.C.S.I. Sir J. P. Hewett, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.	14 November 1901 1 January 1907	Resigned 31 December 1906.
Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.	Sir Charles M. Rivaz, K.C.S.I. Sir D. C. J. Ibbetson, K.C.S.I.	6 March 1902 6 March 1907	Resigned 5 March 1907.
Lieutenant-Governor of Burma.	Sir H. T. White, K.C.I.E.	9 May 1906	
Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.	J. O. Miller, C.S.I. R. H. Craddock, C.S.I.	4 May 1905 25 March 1907	Member of Governor-General's Council, 6 March 1907.
Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana and Chief Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara.	E. G. Colvin, C.S.I.	1 October 1905	
Resident in Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg.	S. M. Fraser, C.I.E.	22 November 1905	
Resident, Hyderabad	C. S. Bayley, C.S.I.	1 March 1905	
Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.	Lieut.-Colonel H. Daly, C.S.I., C.I.E.	19 February 1905	
Resident in Kashmir	Lieut.-Colonel T. C. Pears-Major Sir F. E. Young-husband, K.C.I.E.	21 March 1905 27 June 1906	Retired 27 June 1906.
Resident and Agent to the Governor-General, Baroda.	Lieut.-Colonel M. J. Meade, C.I.E.	5 November 1901	
Agent to the Governor-General in Baluchistan and Chief Commissioner of British Baluchistan.	Major Sir A. H. McMahon, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.	1 January 1905	
Chief Commissioner of the N.W. Frontier Province.	Lieut.-Colonel Sir H. A. Deane, K.C.S.I.	9 November 1901	
Political Resident, Persian Gulf and H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Bushire.	Major P. Z. Cox, C.I.E.	1 January 1905	Officiating from 25 April 1904.
Governor of Madras	Hon. Sir A. Lawley, G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G.	28 March 1906	
Members of Council	Sir J. Thomson, K.C.S.I. G. Stokes, C.S.I. G. S. Forbes, C.S.I.	9 May 1901 9 November 1903 12 June 1906	Retired 4 August 1906.
Governor of Bombay	Lord Lamington, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.	12 December 1903	
Members of Council	E. McG. H. Fulton, C.S.I. J. W. P. Muir Mackenzie, C.S.I.	24 April 1902 6 August 1905	
Political Resident, Aden	Major-General H. M. Mason Major-General E. de Brath, C.B., C.I.E.	28 June 1904 14 November 1906	Retired 14 November 1906.

LEGISLATION.

LEGISLA-
TION.

Between the 1st April 1906 and the 31st March 1907, the Governor-General gave his assent to the following enactments:—Six Acts passed by the Council of the Governor-General for making Laws and Regulations; two by the Legislative Council of Madras; two by that of Bombay; one by that of Bengal; two by that of Eastern Bengal and Assam; three by that of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh; three by that of the Punjab; one by that of Burma, and two Regulations passed by the Governor-General in Council, on the recommendation of the local Governments of the provinces affected by them, in accordance with the provisions of 33 Vict. c. 33.

The following are the measures referred to:—

ACTS OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S COUNCIL.

Excise
(Amend-
ment) Act,
1906.

Act VII. of 1906 imposes restrictions on the sale of cocaine in the United Provinces, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, the Central Provinces, Burma, Coorg, and Ajmer.

Act VIII. of 1906 gives to Local Governments wider discretion in the matter of agricultural advances.

LEGISLA-
TION.Land Im-
provement
and Agricul-
turists'
Loans
(Amend-
ment) Act,
1906.

Act I. of 1907 relaxed certain restrictions on the powers under which the Presidency banks transact their banking business. For instance, it gave permission to these banks to deal in the securities of State-aided Railways and District Boards, and to the Ceylon branch of the Bank of Madras to deal in the securities of the Government of Ceylon. The limit to the amount to which customers might overdraw was enlarged, and the period for which loans and advances might be granted was extended in some cases.

Presidency
Banks
(Amend-
ment) Act,
1907.

Act II. of 1907 provided for the periodical inspection of steam-boilers and prime-movers and for their management by competent engineers in the Central Provinces.

Central Pro-
vinces Boiler
Inspection
Act, 1907.

Act III. of 1907 was intended generally to reproduce the main features of the English law of bankruptcy in a greatly simplified form. It extended the scope of the law of insolvency, providing greater security for the rights of creditors and affording more adequate relief to honest debtors.

Provincial
Insolvency
Act, 1907.

Act IV. of 1907 repealed certain enactments imposing certain provincial rates and cesses which had already been abolished by executive orders.

Repealing
and Amend-
ing (Rates
and Cesses)
Act, 1907.

Act I. of 1907 regulates the use of motor vehicles in the Madras Presidency.

MADRAS.
Madras
Motor Ve-
hicles Act,
1907.

The principal provisions of Act II. of 1907, which is applicable, at present, to the municipalities of Ootacamund, Coonoor, and Kodaikanal alone, relate to the enhancement of taxation, the better regulation of building, and improved supervision over articles of food and drink.

Madras Hill
Municipi-
palities Act,
1907.

Act I. of 1906 was framed with a view to strengthening both the final appellate court for Sind and also the district and sessions court at Karachi, the present establishment proving inadequate in view of the great increase of population in Sind, and especially in Karachi, and the noteworthy progress in wealth, commerce, and education made by that town.

BOMBAY.
Sind Courts
Amendment
Act, 1906.

Act II. of 1906 limits the jurisdiction of Mámlatdars' courts to the case of agricultural lands or premises; it saves former owners or part-owners, and their representatives, from liability to the ejection jurisdiction on determination of a tenancy or other right; and, in cases where tenants are liable to eviction, but in expectation of a renewal of their tenancy have sown crops on the land, it provides the Mámlatdár with a power to deal equitably with growing or standing crops, so as to defer delivery of possession, either until compensation has been paid to the tenant or until the crop has been removed by him.

Mámlatdars'
Courts Act,
1906.

Act IV. of 1906 brings the law relating to the civil courts in the district of Sambalpur into conformity with that in force elsewhere in the territory included within the Bengal division of the Presidency of Fort William. Previously this district alone of all those subject to the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court was governed by a special law (viz., the Central Provinces Courts Act, 1904), an obvious inconvenience.

BENGAL.
Sambalpur
Civil Courts
Act, 1906.

Act I. of 1907 adopts in Eastern Bengal and Assam the changes in the maintenance of registers which were introduced into Bengal by Bengal Act II. of 1906.

EASTERN
BENGAL AND
ASSAM.
Eastern
Bengal and
Assam Land
•
Legislation
(Amend-
ment) Act,
1907.

LEGISLA-
TION.
Eastern
Bengal and
Assam Dis-
orderly
Houses Act,
1907.

Act II. of 1907 provides for the removal of brothels from the neighbourhood of educational institutions and cantonments, and their restriction to certain localities.

UNITED
PROVINCES.
United Pro-
vinces Local
and Rural
Police Rates
Act, 1906.

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 Pro-
vinces Dis-
trict Boards
Law, 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.

Act to re-
peal the
North-
Western
Provinces
and Oudh
Kanungos
and Patwaris
Act of 1889.

Act IV. of 1906 was rendered necessary by the decision of the Government of India to abolish the *patwari* cess levied in the United Provinces under the Act of 1889.

PUNJAB.
Punjab
Tenancy
Act, 1887,
Amendment
Act, 1906.

Act I. of 1906, amongst other provisions, prescribes a penalty which is intended to deter landlords from attempting to collect rents of which payment has been remitted or suspended.

Punjab
District
Boards Act
Amendment
Act, 1906.

Act II. of 1906 discontinues the old cess of two pies per rupee, which was originally intended for famine purposes, and consequently reduces the maximum limit of the local rate from one anna to ten pies per rupee.

Punjab
Alienation
of Land
(Amend-
ment) Act,
1907.

Act I. of 1907 aims primarily at the abolition of the statutory agriculturist, who is in many cases not an agriculturist at all, but a member of the *bania* class, whose acquisition of the lands of agricultural tribesmen it is the primary and avowed object of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900, to prevent.

BURMA.
Burma
Forest Act
(1902)
Amendment
Act, 1906.

Act IV. of 1906 amends the Burma Forest Act, 1902, in respect of certain provisions for punishments for injuring trees.

REGULATIONS.

Upper
Burma and
Arakan Hills
Frontier
Crossing and
Disturbed
Districts
Regulation,
1907.

This Regulation, published under a notification in the Legislative Department of the Government of India, No. 3, dated the 1st January 1907, is designed to check traders from crossing into the Shandu country to fell the rubber trees there.

North-West
Frontier
Province
Pre-emption
Regulation,
1906.

This Regulation, published under a notification in the Legislative Department of the Government of India, No. 14, dated the 3rd October 1906, applies the provisions of the Punjab Pre-emption Act, 1905, to the North-West Frontier Province, where the previous law was found to be out of date, out of harmony with the feelings of the people, and the cause of much dishonest and speculative litigation.

CHAPTER II.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

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 1882-81, 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 1906-07, apart from loans, sale of securities, and such-like extraordinary receipts, was £3,705,660. 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 £2,334,044, excluding deposits and advances, the rates levied on land, for expenditure on roads, schools, hospitals, and general purposes, account for over 77 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 1906-07 to £1,852,916.

The revenue of cantonment funds amounted to £238,471; that of town and bazaar funds came to £95,492; and other miscellaneous funds had a revenue amounting to £151,960.

Thus, the revenue managed by all the various local bodies amounted in 1906-07 to about £8,378,543, besides large sums proceeding from loans and sale proceeds of investments.

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.

GENERAL.

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.
General.

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 classified 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 1906-07:—

	Number of Municipalities.	Total Number of Members.	By Qualification.			By Employment.		By Race.			
			Ex-officio.	Nominated.	Elected.	Officials.	Non-Officials.	Europeans.	Natives.		
Presidency Towns, &c. :—											
Calcutta - - - -	1	50	1	25	25	Return not available.					
Bombay - - - -	1	72	1	16	56						
Madras - - - -	1	37	1	16	20						
Rangoon - - - -	1	25	1	7	18		10	27	14	23	
						3	22	11	14	14	
District Municipalities :—											
Bengal - - - -	128	1,737	131	711	892						
Bombay (including Karachi).	162	2,209	173	1,161	875	252	1,485	213	1,494		
Madras - - - -	60	910	69	410	461	594	1,622	190	2,026		
United Provinces* - - -	89	1,217	136	144	937	197	713	157	783		
Punjab† - - - -	138	1,185	214	517	721	266	951	211	1,096		
North - West Frontier Province,‡	10	161	49	112	—	298	1,187	107	1,378		
Central Provinces and Berar.	58	759	22	281	456	49	112	22	139		
Eastern Bengal and Assam	50	650	69	259	322	181	575	81	678		
Burma - - - -	43	537	168	298	71	133	517	83	567		
						190	347	115	392		

* 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 net indebtedness of municipalities (excluding those in the United Provinces for which figures are not available) amounted at the end of 1905-06 to £7,515,500, of which £2,339,100 was owed by the Calcutta Municipality and £2,942,800 by Bombay City.

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.

Reference is made to the Calcutta Improvement Scheme in Chapter IIa. No details of the working of the municipality during the year 1906-07 were available at the time of going to press.

The municipalities in the interior of Bengal numbered 128, as in the previous year, but the number of ratepayers increased by 6,193. General elections were held in 52 municipalities, the majority of which were contested, and there was no indication of a decline of public interest in municipal affairs. The average incidence of municipal taxation for the whole province was Re. 15.11, showing an increase of 10 pies per head over that of the previous year. The incidence varied between Rs. 8.15.11 in Darjeeling and As. 4-6 in Debhatta in the district of Khulna. The water-rate was in force in 13, and the lighting-rate in four municipalities. Thirty municipalities were in debt at the close of the year to a net amount of £241,700, more than half of this being owed by the Howrah municipality.

The towns in the United Provinces which were classed as municipalities numbered 89, as in the previous year. Their income, exclusive of special grants and extraordinary receipts, amounted to £417,000, of which £227,800 was received from octroi duties, levied in 76 towns. In spite of some severe calamities the octroi income has expanded year by year and was higher by 12 per cent. in 1906-07 than in 1903-04. During the year under report, a measure for the relief of the municipal funds from police charges was carried into complete effect. The incidence of taxation as a whole remained stationary at about Rs. 1½ per head of the population in municipal areas. The expenditure rose to £461,400 compared with £451,000 in the same towns in the preceding year, and £436,900 in 1904-05. It is reported that the municipal boards as a whole have discharged their duties with efficiency and success. In the 87 municipalities which enjoy the privilege of electing their members 70,846 persons, or 2·3 per cent. of the total population, were eligible to vote.

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 £360,500, of which £216,600 was raised by octroi duties, in force in 131 towns. The octroi receipts as a whole showed some increase. The revision of the octroi schedules has progressed satisfactorily, almost 50 revised schedules having been notified. A general improvement was also reported regarding the methods of collection; and a system has been introduced of granting refunds of octroi on exports from towns without proof of a previous payment of duty. The average incidence of taxation was Re. 1½ per head of the municipal population. The aggregate amount of loans outstanding was £318,500; but the financial condition of each indebted municipality is reported to have been sound.

The question of the abolition of a number of petty municipalities, whose income and population appeared *prima facie* too insignificant to deserve the municipal status, was under consideration, in a number of cases both the local officers of government and the inhabitants of the towns themselves declaring in favour of abolition.

MUNI- CIPALITIES.	In the Frontier Province there were 10 municipalities and three notified areas, with an income of £35,000, chiefly derived from octroi duties. The elective system is not in force in this province, and members are appointed by nomination for a period of three years.	MUNI- CIPALITIES. MADRAS. Madras City.
North-West Frontier Province. BURMA. Rangoon.	The revenue of the Rangoon municipality, excluding loans and advances, continued to increase, and amounted to £200,000, against £173,800 in 1905-06. The incidence of direct taxation and that of income per head of population were Rs. 8½ and Rs. 13½ respectively, as compared with Rs. 7½ and Rs. 11½ in 1905-06. In 1905-06 the expenditure of the municipality was in excess of its income; this state of affairs was remedied in the year under review by small increases in the municipal tax, the water tax, and the scavenging tax. A four per cent. loan of £60,300 was raised, and the outstanding loans at the end of the year amounted to £816,700, including the reclamation works loan of £120,000; the sinking funds amounted to £50,660. There is still considerable room for increased profitable expenditure. The town as a whole is rich, and the incidence of taxation is not heavy when compared with that in Bombay or Calcutta. The improvement of the sewerage, the water supply, and the roads, and the regulation of the milk supply are all pressing needs.	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 £411,000, including £88,700 from taxation, £23,800 from municipal property and powers apart from taxation, and a grant of £23,600 from Government, the greater part of which was for the improvement of the water supply and drainage. Receipts from taxation showed an increase of £8,700 over those of 1905-06. Taxation fell on the population at the rate of about Rs. 2½ per head; the principal tax is one of 10 per cent. on the annual value of buildings and lands, and there was also a water tax levied on the same basis at 6 per cent., and a lighting tax at 1¼ 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 £6,700 was raised for the construction of special buildings. The total expenditure came to £131,800, of which £12,900 was spent on capital account, from funds provided by the Government contribution and the loan mentioned above, chiefly on drainage. The new drainage schemes were temporarily suspended during the year, but their execution will be resumed shortly. A scheme for the introduction of a new filtered water supply into the city at a cost of £157,300 has been sanctioned by Government, and was formally accepted by the Corporation in April 1907. The outstanding debt of the municipality amounted on the 31st March 1907 to £456,000, against which must be set the sinking funds, amounting to £137,500.
Interior of Burma.	The number of other municipalities in Burma at the end of 1906-07 was 43, one having been added during the year. The most noticeable feature of the year was the effect of plague on the finances of the municipalities. Contributions to meet special plague expenditure amounting to £12,000 were granted from provincial revenues. The average incidence of taxation remained at Rs. 1½ per head of population, the highest rate being that of about Rs. 4 at Moulinein, but the total income fell off, on account of the effect of plague on the municipal receipts, from markets and slaughter-houses. The income of the municipalities, excluding debt heads, was £202,800, of which £77,900 came from taxation and ferry tolls, and £86,700 from markets and slaughter-houses. There are no octroi duties in Burma. The municipal incomes are for the most part small, only six, including Rangoon, exceeding £7,500 per annum.	The number of municipal councils in the interior of Madras was 60, in 58 of which the elective system was in force, the percentage of the population entitled to vote being 2·1; of 154 seats filled by election during the year only 63 were contested. The average incidence of taxes and tolls continued to rise slightly, and was nearly 19 annas per head of the municipal population; there are no octroi duties. The expenditure was £261,700, of which £62,500 was spent on conservancy, £24,100 on water and drainage, £24,000 on hospitals, £10,400 on buildings, £23,400 on roads, and £26,800 on education. The expenditure during the year on the scheme for the drainage of Ootacamund, estimated to cost £25,700, was entirely charged to provincial funds. The outstanding debts at the end of the year amounted to £157,300, against which there were some small sinking funds, and closing balances amounting to £75,600.
Central Provinces and Berar.	In the Central Provinces 46 towns had municipal committees in 1906-07, and 12 in Berar, as in the preceding year. Some changes, however, were in prospect. For the second time in its history the Municipal Committee of Kalmeshwar showed serious incompetence in dealing with an outbreak of plague, which resulted in the death of 13 per cent. of the population; the existing elected committee, whose term of office expired at the close of the year, were therefore replaced by nominated members. At the end of the year, also, the Municipality of Betul was abolished. Of the 46 municipalities in the Central Provinces proper, no less than 19 subsisted during 1906-07 on revenues smaller—in most cases considerably smaller—than Rs. 10,000. With such limited resources much useful expenditure is out of the question; the population is generally poor, and though the burden of taxation appears in many cases very light, no substantial increase would be desirable. In two instances the municipal income is derived almost entirely from the country people in the shape of bazar tax and fees for cattle sales and the use of markets. In Berar municipal taxation is unduly low, the incidence being only 12 annas 6 pies per head, as compared with Rs. 1.12.4 in the Central Provinces, the towns of which are less wealthy than those of Berar. The total indebtedness of the municipalities was £71,000, half of which was owed by Nagpur and Jabulpore.	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 in the financial year 1905-06, 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 rates were continued during 1906-07. The revenue realised during the year amounted to £613,200, the net receipts being £378,100, including £191,500 from the general tax, and £6,648 from the water revenue, while the net collections of octroi duties were £102,700. The gross revenue exceeded that of the preceding year by £37,000, the principal cause being an increase of £12,400 in the octroi receipts and a continued improvement in the proceeds of the general tax. The incidence of taxation per head of the population in 1901-02 (776,000) was Rs. 6¼, with the general tax at 10½ per cent.; in 1906-07, with the general tax reduced to 9 per cent., it stood at nearly Rs. 8½ per head on the then ascertained population (977,800). The expenditure was £634,700, including a contribution of £20,000 to the Improvement Trust, £211,800 for debt services, and £15,100 for plague expenses. The balance at the end of the year was £150,000, compared with £6,700 required by law.
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Eastern Bengal and Assam contained 50 towns under some form of municipal government, 44 of them being municipalities proper, and the rest of smaller importance; in 34 the system of election was in force. The total number of ratepayers was 105,866, being 16·9 per cent. of the urban population, and the average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 1.5.11. The net indebtedness of the 15 municipalities, which had outstanding loans at the close of the year, amounted to £14,360, about two-thirds of which represented the debt of the Dacca and Narayanganj Municipalities. The administration of the year may be described generally as one of slow improvement; the arrangements in most towns for the supply of drinking water, for conservancy and for drainage are still inadequate.	BOMBAY. Bombay City.

MUNI-
CIPALITIES.

£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 three years, out of the revenues of the municipality.

The capital expenditure of the Bombay City Improvement Trust in the year amounted to £113,100, the number of properties acquired being 70. Since the commencement of operations in 1898 the total capital expenditure has been £1,607,600, the number of properties acquired being 1,258 at a cost of £1,173,200. A further loan of £13,300 at 4 per cent. was raised during the year, the amount of the loans taken from the public being thus brought up to 1½ millions sterling. The year's revenue of the Trust amounted to £92,800, and the expenditure, exclusive of capital charges, to £96,500. The revenue consisted of the municipal contribution of £20,000 mentioned above, and receipts from investments, rents and other property.

Interior of
Bombay.

The municipalities in the interior of Bombay numbered 162, including 14 city and 4 temporary corporations. There were 44 municipalities composed entirely of nominated members. The Bassein Municipality remained under suspension. Their aggregate income declined from £505,500 to £433,800, the decrease being mainly due to the fall in receipts from octroi, which is attributed to the prevalence of plague and famine. The aggregate expenditure fell from £538,500 to £451,700; in the Central Division, however, the expenditure exceeded that of the previous year, and in Sind the figures show practically no change, large decreases under the head of Public Health being counterbalanced by increases under other heads. The incidence of taxation per head of population was as usual highest in Karachi (Rs. 7.11.1) and lowest in Ashta (Re. 0.0.7). The total liabilities of the municipalities on account of loans stood at £293,000, compared with £335,000 in 1905-06.

DISTRICT
BOARDS.
General.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

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. From April 1908 the accounts of district boards are to be excluded from the general provincial accounts, and their funds will be treated independently, as municipal funds are at present, thus following the practice in the United Kingdom, where the income and expenditure of county councils are kept entirely separate from the public accounts. The former system, which dated from a period before local authorities possessed the financial and administrative powers with which they are now invested, compelled these bodies to frame their budgets at a much earlier date than would otherwise be necessary, and deprived them of the freedom of re-appropriation, which municipal authorities enjoy; it also

DISTRICT
BOARDS.

tended to subordinate their requirements to those of provincial finance and even occasionally to those of other local bodies. 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 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 <i>822</i>	710 <i>1,208</i>	109 <i>84</i>	279 <i>1,124</i>	322 —	291 <i>367</i>	419 <i>841</i>	137 <i>91</i>	573 <i>1,117</i>
Bombay - {	25 <i>211</i>	3,624	40	1,966	1,618	†	†	†	†
Bengal - {	29 <i>78</i>	593 <i>946</i>	169 <i>63</i>	185 <i>622</i>	248 <i>261</i>	192 <i>121</i>	401 <i>825</i>	189 <i>101</i>	404 <i>845</i>
United Provinces.	48	956	30	298	628	†	†	†	†
Punjab - {	29 <i>20</i>	1,102 <i>407</i>	235 <i>20</i>	188 <i>126</i>	379 <i>261</i>	256 <i>20</i>	846 <i>387</i>	74 <i>3</i>	1,028 <i>404</i>
N.-W. Frontier Province.	5	216	49	167	—	49	167	26	190
Central Provinces and Berar.	{ 20 75	164 <i>1,196</i>	2 <i>14</i>	114 <i>310</i>	348 <i>872</i>	77 <i>122</i>	387 <i>1,074</i>	18 <i>4</i>	446 <i>1,192</i>
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	{ 14 51	283 <i>684</i>	75 <i>97</i>	107 <i>284</i>	101 <i>303</i>	98 <i>137</i>	185 <i>547</i>	55 <i>151</i>	228 <i>533</i>

* Besides 382 union panchayats, with 3,626 members.

† Particulars not available.

In Bengal there were 29 district boards and 78 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 49 union committees entrusted with minor duties and having an aggregate income of only £1,240. The provisions, inserted in the Bill to amend the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, enabling district boards to levy a special cess to meet charges of debt raised for tramways and light railways, were withdrawn by the Select Committee of the Bengal Legislative Council, in view of the decided disapproval expressed by the public bodies and associations consulted. 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. Considerable progress was made during the year with the construction of feeder roads to railways. The income of the district boards, apart from the head of deposits and advances, was £128,300; this was slightly below the figure of the previous year, but was still much in excess of the income of earlier years, owing to the large contributions made by Government for civil works, amounting in all to £60,000. The expenditure, including debt headings, was £502,900, of which £76,300 was spent on education and £291,800 on civil works, chiefly roads. The closing balances, exclusive of deposits, rose to £186,600. 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, and attempts were still being made to introduce an improved fly-shuttle loom, although

DISTRICT BOARDS. efforts in this direction have hitherto met with little success. It is reported that, on the whole, district boards did well during the year and showed considerable interest in the various branches of their work, but that the working of the local boards was unsatisfactory. The question of improving the status of these bodies was under consideration.

United Provinces. The number of district boards in the United Provinces was the same as before, viz., one for each of the 48 districts. There was a slight improvement both in the number of meetings held and in the average attendance, but this attendance is still less than half the membership. By a new provision of law there must be not less than 12 elected members on each board. By the passing of the Local and Rural Police Rates Act and of the District Boards Act, the system of local self-government will, it is hoped, receive a fresh impetus, wider scope having been given to the duties and powers of district boards. District committees are no longer distinct from district boards; and local boards have been abolished, power being given instead to district boards to appoint, when necessary, local committees for the sub-divisions of districts. The system of account also has been much simplified by the abolition of the Local Rates Fund, in which the rates used to merge before distribution, and by the credit direct to district boards of their share of the receipts. The total income of the boards during 1906-07 was £480,500, including large provincial grants to the total amount of £123,000, chiefly for education and civil works. The receipts from rates showed, as usual, a steady increase. The expansion of educational and medical receipts was the satisfactory result of the opening of new schools and dispensaries. The expenditure amounted to £470,600, of which about £170,000 was spent on education, £50,000 on the equipment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries, and £226,000 on civil works, chiefly roads and new buildings required for medical or educational purposes.

Punjab. The number of district boards in the Punjab was 29, including the Simla board, the powers of which are exercised by the Deputy Commissioner. The local boards numbered 20, those in the Ferozepore district having been abolished during the course of the year. Local boards now exist in only five districts. The district boards in 12 districts are composed entirely of nominated or ex-officio members, and elsewhere the elections generally awaken little interest. Fresh Government contributions of £43,300 in aid of the finances of these bodies, together with the stoppage of the district dāk cess from the beginning of the financial year, have afforded the boards increased opportunities for useful work in extending arboricultural operations and in the construction and maintenance of the district roads. The year's income of the district boards, apart from loans and advances, came to £282,700, of which the chief items were £174,000 from local rates and £31,900 from civil works. Both these items showed a considerable increase as compared with 1905-06. The expenditure of the year was £259,300, of which the chief items were education £64,000, medical and sanitary charges £35,900, and roads and other public works £111,300.

Central Provinces. In the Central Provinces and Berar, in consequence of the redistribution of territory in the Chhattisgarh Division, the number of district councils rose to 21 and that of local boards to 75. The powers of the local boards are small, and the authority delegated to them by district councils in the past has been largely nominal; but it is hoped that steps will now be taken to place definite funds at their disposal and to give them wider powers of control. The income of the district funds amounted to £154,400 excluding debt heads, while the expenditure, also excluding repayment of loans, &c., was £143,700. The chief source of income, as in other provinces, is the provincial rates, but receipts from cattle pounds constitute an exceptionally large proportion of the total. The receipts were swollen by contributions of £26,000 from the Government of India's grants for communications and for education. The expenditure included £55,300 on education and £47,700 on public works. The total balances amounted to £105,600, of which no less than £76,400, or more than a year's revenue, was held by the Berar boards; this large accumulated balance is regarded as an unsatisfactory feature, but certain restrictions on the spending capacity of the councils have now been removed.

In Eastern Bengal there were 11 district boards, 33 sub-divisional local boards, and 10 union committees. In Assam there were 19 local boards, constituted under executive rules. The latter boards generally resemble district boards rather than the ordinary local boards in their functions and responsibilities, and a special feature of their constitution is the presence among their members of a large proportion of Europeans, who represent the planting community. The attendance at meetings indicates that local board members in Assam take a much greater interest in local affairs than members of district and local boards in Eastern Bengal. One of the reasons for this lack of interest in the latter districts seems to be that few of the members are well acquainted with the circumstances or needs of the interior. The reluctance to stand for election on the part of the *mofussil* gentry, whose knowledge would be of real assistance, is one of the principal causes of the stagnation which seems to characterise local self-government institutions in these parts. 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; the difficulty of finding suitable Muhammadan gentlemen willing to serve is referred to by all Commissioners. More than half of the income of the boards accrued from provincial rates, and a quarter from Government contributions for education and roads. Their expenditure amounted to £296,300, of which £80,700 was devoted to education and £176,000 to civil works. As a result of the Imperial grants for the improvement of communications and the extension of primary education, considerable progress was made in most districts under these heads.

There were in Madras 23 district boards, 82 taluk boards, and 382 village unions. The taluk or sub-divisional 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 £853,300 to £870,500, and the expenditure fell from £776,400 to £760,600. The chief source of income is the land cess, which is levied at rates varying from one to two annas per rupee of the land revenue assessment and yielded £362,900. The average incidence of local fund taxation, including tolls, was As. 3-7 per head of population. The income included also grants from provincial revenues amounting to £183,600, chiefly for roads and bridges and for education. The chief items of expenditure were £347,400 on public works, £94,300 on medical institutions, sanitation and plague, and £117,700 on education. The Mayaveram-Mutupet Railway, which belongs to the Tanjore District Board, brought in a net profit of 5.6 per cent. on the capital outlay.

In Bombay and Sind there were 25 district and 211 taluk (or sub-divisional) boards, nearly all of which are partly elective. The income of the local boards, excluding debt heads, was £423,700, compared with £379,000 in the previous year and £292,100 in 1904-05, the rise being due partly to the recovery of past arrears and partly to the special grants from Government for primary education, and the improvement of communications and village water supply. The total expenditure of the boards was £360,200, including £127,500 on education, £19,600 on medical relief, and £180,100 on roads, buildings and water supply. The balances at credit of the boards rose from £139,800 to £203,500.

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 £237,700 and an expenditure of £222,800 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 £183,900 of the expenditure, of which £18,600 was on education and £89,200 on public works.

DISTRICT BOARDS.
Eastern Bengal and Assam.

Madras.

Bombay.

Burma.

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 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.

The trade as a whole was slightly greater than in 1905-06, when the figures of all previous years were exceeded. The imports of building materials have continually increased on account of the great activity which has been displayed in the erection of new buildings throughout the city of Bombay. There were decreases in the trade in grains and in oil. The net result to the Bombay Port Trust was a rise in their income to £187,100, a record figure, the revenue having shown a steady growth of about £20,000 a year since 1900. The receipts for wharfage fees and dock dues on goods were £225,800, the other principal items being ground and warehouse rents, which together yielded £123,000. The expenditure amounted to £417,700, including £188,800 for interest and sinking fund charges, £12,200 for depreciation, and £18,900 for municipal taxes. The capital expenditure during the year amounted to £220,400, of which £150,100 were spent on the new dock works. Two debenture loans aggregating £140,000, of which the Trustees took up £40,000, were issued during the year. The debt of the Trust amounted at the end of the year to £4,448,700, 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 £1,517,800, and various depreciation, reserve, and sinking funds (including the year's surplus of £69,500) amounted in the aggregate to £736,000. The number of steamships entering the port in the year was 2,634, of a total tonnage of 3,358,000 tons, or 115,000 tons more than in 1905-06.

Calcutta.

There was a notable increase of 65,000 tons in the jute shipments at the docks and of 10,000 tons in tea. A new feature in the traffic was the shipment of 25,000 tons of manganese ore. The quantity of coal shipped was 3,000,181 tons as compared with 2,558,502 tons in the previous year, and was the highest on record. The exports over the dock quays aggregated 3,796,401 tons, against 3,348,802 tons in the previous year; the imports were 186,815 tons, against an average of 51,826 tons during the past five years. The receipts of the Port Trust amounted to £667,000, as compared with £597,000 in 1905-06, which was the highest figure on record up to that time; the expenditure was £659,400, including the Kidderpore Dock Account and payments for interest and sinking funds. The surplus brought up the accumulated balances to £197,300, out of which a sum of £174,900 has been set aside as a Revenue Reserve Fund. The expenditure during the year upon capital works amounted to £695,800. The capital debt of the Trust on 31st March 1907 was £3,980,000, 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 £400,000 in 1906. Against this total debt may be set value of properties, &c., £5,375,000, besides valuable foreshore lands, and sinking funds amounting to £391,400. The jetties yielded a net revenue of £35,600, and the petroleum wharf working expenses were £184,000, showing a net loss, apart from interest charges, of £21,900. The number of vessels berthed in the port in 1905-06 was 1,595, with a gross tonnage of 6,186,751 tons; these figures are above any previously recorded.

PORT TRUSTS.
Rangoon.

The record of the Port of Rangoon for the year 1906-07 was one of continued prosperity, the tonnage of the shipping which visited the port increasing by nearly 10 per cent. The ordinary revenue was £135,500, and the ordinary expenditure £132,300. The capital expenditure of the year amounted to £391,400, and 4 per cent. loans for £310,000 were raised. The total debt at the close of the year amounted to £725,000. The net tonnage of sea-going vessels entering the port was 2½ million tons, and consisted almost entirely of steamers, the number of which was 1,431. Substantial progress was made with the scheme for the new port works, which was sanctioned in 1901 and is now nearly completed; since the commencement of the works £440,300 has been expended out of sanctioned estimates of £593,300. A scheme for enlarging the accommodation of the port for inland steamers by the acquisition of 2,000 feet of river frontage with land behind, at the eastern end of the harbour, was carried into effect during the year. The condition of the Rangoon river has given rise to grave anxiety for some time past. The question of the works to be undertaken for the draining of the river occupied the attention of the Commissioners throughout the year, and it was hoped that a complete project might be sanctioned at an early date. The report for 1905-06 contained a review of the history of the port during the five years 1901 to 1906, in which it was shown that very rapid progress had been made, both in the trade of the port and in the works which were needed for its proper equipment.

Madras.

The ordinary expenditure of the Madras Port Trust in the year 1906-07 was £35,900, and its receipts were £64,600. Out of the balance £2,900 of debt were repaid, and £24,100 devoted to capital expenditure. A review of past and present earnings of the Trust shows that in the last twenty years debt has been repaid to the amount of £166,400, while £99,000 has been paid out of revenue for capital works. The debt standing in the books was £289,000. The capital works of which the Trust have charge originally cost £1,190,000, and their present value is stated as £938,500. Works involving a large additional expenditure were commenced to provide 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 £236,400 estimated to be required at four per cent. interest; the interest and the existing debt to be paid off together in sixty equated payments. The affairs of the Trust are so much improved that there is little risk of a necessity for enhanced harbour dues arising in consequence of the new capital expenditure. The sum spent on the harbour extension works during the year was £85,900. 604 vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 1,457,473 tons made use of the port during the year. Of the 12 Trustees on the board four are officials and three non-officials appointed by the Government, while the rest are nominated by the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades' Association.

Karachi.

The year under report was very prosperous for the Karachi Port Trust. The revenue receipts were £189,500, against an expenditure of £129,500. The reserve fund, the limit of which has been fixed at £166,700, was increased during the year from £100,000 to £133,300. The number of steamers, excluding Government vessels and transports, entering the port was 781, with a total tonnage of 1,428,964 tons, against 737, with a tonnage of 1,240,521 tons in 1905-06. The works under the large loans recently issued by the Trustees were pushed on vigorously, while the Trustees were also contemplating the submission of further proposals for the improvement of the port. A sum of £93,700 was spent on capital works during the year. The total liabilities of the Trust at the end of the year stood at £543,000.

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

CHAPTER II.

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.
General
population.

VITAL STATISTICS.

As the date of the census of 1901 recedes, it is evident that the birth and death rates calculated upon the census populations become less accurate. There are also defects in the registration, and in some places these defects are very serious. Improvement in registration is, however, being steadily effected, and in some provinces the errors in the recorded numbers of births and deaths are now comparatively small, although the causes of deaths are incorrectly reported except in a few of the larger cities.

The population of the areas of British India in which births were registered was 223,511,195 according to the census of 1901, and the number of births registered in 1906 was 8,418,478. The calculated birth-rate in

BIRTH-RATES.		
—	1906.	1905.
Bengal - - -	37.3	39.5
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	37.4	39.1
United Provinces -	40.2	41.2
Punjab - - -	43.7	44.4
North-West Frontier Province.	38.6	35.4
Central Provinces and Berar.	51.7	54.0
Madras - - -	30.9	32.0
Coorg - - -	26.1	25.3
Bombay - - -	33.8	33.1
Burma { Lower -	32.3	34.3
{ Upper -	34.2	31.9
Ajmere-Merwara -	28.9	37.3

1906 was 37.8 per mille compared with 39.13 in 1905 and 38.41 the average of the five years ending with 1905. The provincial rates are given in the marginal table. In nearly all provinces the birth-rates were higher than the death-rates, the most considerable excesses being 8.2 per mille in the Central Provinces, 6.8 in the Punjab, and 5.7 in Eastern Bengal. In Bombay the death-rate exceeded the birth-rate, as a result of the persistence of plague and the unusual prevalence of other epidemics. An exceptionally high birth-rate was maintained in the Central Provinces, where the mean ratio per mille of population during the five years ending in 1905 had been 41.8. The mean percentage of male to female births was

106.88, the percentages ranging from 118.8 in the North West Frontier Province to 104.4 in Madras and 97.28 in Coorg.

The populations among whom deaths were registered aggregated 226,125,682 according to the census of 1901, or about 97 per cent. of the total population of British India. The number of deaths registered during

DEATH-RATES.						
—	1906.			1905.		
	Rural.	Urban.	Total.	Rural.	Urban.	Total.
Bengal - - -	36.1	35.0	36.1	38.4	40.0	38.5
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	31.8	24.1	31.7	35.2	26.4	35.1
United Provinces -	38.3	49.1	39.0	43.3	53.6	44.0
Punjab - - -	36.1	44.7	37.0	47.4	49.1	47.5
North-West Frontier Province.	33.5	36.3	33.7	26.4	36.8	26.8
Central Provinces and Berar.	42.7	50.0	43.5	36.7	41.9	37.2
Madras - - -	26.6	33.4	27.4	20.3	29.6	21.4
Coorg - - -	28.6	36.6	29.3	25.7	32.1	26.2
Bombay - - -	32.2	53.8	35.1	29.5	47.6	31.8
Burma { Lower -	24.9	42.6	27.1	23.0	38.2	24.9
{ Upper -	23.4	50.4	26.2	20.9	36.6	22.5
Ajmere-Merwara -	27.7	44.2	32.2	28.0	50.9	34.2

that the accuracy of the statistics is not yet very good, and that it varies in

VITAL
STATISTICS.

different parts of India. The fall in the general death-rate was due to lessened mortality in the more populous provinces of Northern India. In Madras, Bombay, Burma, the Central Provinces and Berar, the North West Frontier Province, and Coorg, the death-rates of 1906 were higher than those of 1905. The highest death-rates were in the Central Provinces and the United Provinces; the lowest in Burma and Madras. Except in the Bengal provinces, the urban mortality was higher than the rural; but it must be remembered that registration is, as a rule, more complete in urban districts.

The greatest mortality occurred in October, November and December, and the least in February and March. In most provinces the male death-rates were higher than the female death-rates. Male infants died at the rate of 228.30 per thousand born, and female infants at the rate of 217.52, compared with rates of 231.11 and 217.72 in 1905. Infantile mortality was highest in Ajmere and the Central Provinces, and lowest in Eastern Bengal and Madras.

With respect to special diseases, it may be stated briefly that cholera was very prevalent in Madras, Bengal, Eastern Bengal, the Central Provinces, and the

Years.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Dysentery and Diarrhoea.	Plague.	All causes.
1902	224,136	115,443	4,279,351	235,750	456,975	7,112,336
	99	51	18.95	1.04	2.02	31.49
1903	312,851	93,693	1,159,237	273,459	686,485	7,881,125
	138	41	19.66	1.21	3.03	31.7
1904	192,835	55,232	4,093,981	240,655	910,609	7,436,472
	85	24	18.09	1.06	4.16	32.86
1905	441,786	70,962	1,117,655	261,121	910,821	8,117,771
	196	31	19.57	1.17	4.17	35.96
1906	690,519	109,583	4,152,842	298,117	300,355	7,852,330
	305	48	19.69	1.32	1.33	34.73

United Provinces, where the death-rates were between 3 and 4 per mille. Small-pox was more widespread than in 1905 and the death rates were upwards of .5 per thousand in seven provinces, the highest being 1.42 in Lower Burma. Plague forms the subject of a separate section. The accompanying table shows the number of deaths, and the death-rates

per thousand of population from each of the principal causes recorded in British India during the five years from 1902 to 1906. When reference is made to fever in India, malarial fever is generally understood, but it is obvious from the figures in this table that many causes of death and many diseases much more fatal than malarial fever are included under the heading. Investigation suggests that the true mortality from malarial fever in India is perhaps about 25 per cent. of the mortality recorded under the general heading fever.

The following table gives the ratio of deaths per mille in towns of British India whose population exceeded 150,000 in 1901:—

—	1905.	1906.	—	1905.	1906.	—	1905.	1906.
Calcutta - -	37.9	35.7	Benares* -	76.7	58.47	Ahmedabad* -	63.43	52.09
Bombay - -	62.33	68.98	Delhi - -	52.96	63.08	Mandalay -	32.7	57.1
Madras - -	59.5	46.9	Lahore - -	44.57	38.99	Allahabad* -	43.69	36.87
Lucknow* -	66.27	50.41	Cawnpore* -	59.76	81.63	Amritsar -	49.02	49.42
Rangoon - -	45.9	47.6	Agra* - -	47.16	39.62	Poona* - -	42.8	103.56

* Excluding cantonment.

The total number of vaccinations performed among the civil population during 1906-07 was about 9 millions, being a decrease of about 200,000 on the previous year's work. 97 per cent. of primary vaccinations and 73 per cent. of re-vaccinations were successful, about 35 per mille of the population having been successfully vaccinated. The number of infants successfully vaccinated was 4 millions, and of children between one and six years of age, 3¼ millions.

The average strength of the European army in India during 1906, excluding officers, was 70,272, and of this strength 51 per cent. were men under 25 years of age and 21 per cent. were men with less than one year's service in India. The year was not so healthy as 1905, but the rates of

VITAL
STATISTICS.

admission to hospital and of mortality, given in the table below, were considerably less than those of the antecedent quinquennium. There was a rise in the number of admissions on account of ague; this disease, venereal diseases, and simple continued fever were the chief causes of sickness during the year. The admission rate for all venereal diseases in 1906 was 117 per mille of strength, compared with 154 in 1905, 198 in 1904, and 486 per mille in 1897. The chief causes of death were, as usual, enteric fever and abscess of the liver. Bengal-Orissa and Central India proved the most unhealthy districts, the hill stations and the Burma coast the most healthy. From the whole European army 1,993 men were invalided during the year.

Native
troops.

The average strength of the native troops, including those on duty in China, was 127,853; their health was excellent, the constantly sick rate and the death-rate being the lowest on record. Despite the continued prevalence of plague among the civil population, the disease has been prevented so far from appearing in epidemic form among the native troops. There were 83 deaths from this cause during the year. Out of the 160 stations occupied by native troops during 1906, 104 were situated in districts where plague was prevalent among the general population; yet in only 27 of these did cases occur among the troops.

The following table shows that the admission rate among European troops during 1906 was nearly $1\frac{1}{4}$ times as high as that among native troops, that the constantly sick rate was more than twice as high and the invaliding rate was four times as high:—

	Ratio per Mille of Strength.					
	European Troops.			Native Troops.		
	1900-01 Average.	1905.	1906.	1900-01 Average.	1905.	1906.
Admissions into hospital	1046.5	834.3	870.8	719.0	607.1	683.5
Constantly sick - -	64.6	52.3	51.4	27.2	23.2	23.0
Deaths - -	13.03	10.05	10.43	10.87	8.09	6.57
Invaliding - -	34.76	24.24	28.36	11.92	9.02	7.05

PLAGUE.

Plague in
1906.Plague in
1907.

The year 1906 was distinguished by a remarkable decline in the mortality from plague, the number of deaths recorded throughout the country falling to 356,721, the smallest total since 1901. The mean death-rate from plague in the British provinces was 1.33 per thousand, compared with 4.17 in 1905; males suffered less than females, the death-rates of the sexes being 1.25 and 1.40 per thousand. The decrease in plague mortality was common to all the larger provinces, and was most marked in the United Provinces, the Punjab and Bengal. The table in the margin gives the number of plague deaths in India as a whole in each year since the outbreak of the epidemic.

The great improvement of 1906 was not maintained in 1907. The relatively mild attacks of plague during the period August 1905 to July 1906 were followed by an outbreak of unprecedented severity, and the period from August 1906 to July 1907 proved the most disastrous of all the recent plague years in India. The statistics for the calendar year 1907, based on preliminary figures, are given in the margin, together with the death-rate from plague per mille of population, reckoned on the census figures of 1901. The plague mortality in the United Provinces and the Punjab, which as usual had fallen very low in August and September,

Plague Deaths.	
1896 †	57,543*
1897 †	116,285
1898	139,009
1899	92,807
1900	282,927
1901	576,365
1902	883,076
1903	1,143,993
1904	1,069,140
1905	356,721
1906	1,200,735†

* Plague broke out in India (Bombay) in August 1896.

† Preliminary figures.

reached serious dimensions in December 1906; from that time onward the infection spread with increasing rapidity, a climax being reached in the week ending the 11th May 1907, when the cases of plague in the Punjab alone numbered 64,920.

	Plague Deaths in 1907.	Death rate from Plague per Mille of Population.
Bombay Presidency (including Bombay City).	143,354	9
United Provinces -	252,675	5
Punjab -	649,581	32
Rest of India -	155,125	0.7
Total -	1,200,735	4

In the two months April and May 1907 the deaths from plague numbered 420,223 in the Punjab and 132,072 in the United Provinces. By August 1907 the mortality had sunk to an inappreciable amount, nor was there, as in other recent years, any marked recrudescence in December; the latest available returns indicate that for the present at least the force of plague in Northern India has spent itself. In Bombay the mortality throughout the year is somewhat differently distributed. June is as a rule the healthiest month; from that time the mortality increases until a maximum is reached in October; from October there is a relative decline until December or January, and then again an increase to a second culmination, though not so high as that of October, in March. Sind, with the exception of Karachi, has been throughout relatively free from plague; but in the Bombay Presidency proper few districts have escaped severe outbreaks in the course of the present epidemic.

Plague is so local in its visitations that all general and unanalysed statistics are likely to prove misleading. Many parts of India have been, with the exception of a few isolated cases, entirely free from its ravages, and in the greater part of the country the outbreaks of plague, though noticeable in the aggregate, cannot be described as having been severe or disastrous. The mortality in Eastern Bengal and Assam has been at no time appreciable. Burma has been relatively free from the disease, which seems, however, to have obtained some foothold since 1905. In the Madras Presidency the epidemic has never reached serious dimensions. On the other hand, general statistics tend to conceal the severity of the distress caused by the disease in particular districts. In some parts of the Punjab the mortality has been so severe as to disorganise the labour market and to affect the level of wages; yet even in this province plague has not shown itself everywhere, and if attention could be concentrated upon particular villages, it would become remarkably apparent how local in their severity the outbreaks have been.

In the meantime the efforts of Government to discover and apply the most effective and most practical methods of remedial action have not been relaxed. On the scientific side the Plague Commission, whose constitution has been described in former issues of this Report, continued its investigations bearing on the relation of rat plague to human plague, the connection that rats and rat fleas have with the spread of human plague, and the epidemiology of the disease. The Commission's researches have led to most important results. When it commenced its labours, the mode of propagation of an epidemic was still involved in considerable mystery, and many of the difficulties, which beset the earliest efforts of Government to check the spread of the disease, were due to the ignorance of the scientific world respecting the life history of the plague germ. The main facts in regard to it have now been ascertained for the first time, and rational methods of attack have thus been made possible. An account of the principal conclusions which have been reached is given in three special numbers of the *Journal of Hygiene* for September 1906, July 1907, and December 1907, and a more popular summary, entitled "The Etiology and Epidemiology of Plague" (price 5d.), was published early in 1908. It is now generally agreed:—

- (1) That bubonic plague is spread by infected rats;
- (2) That the vehicle of contagion between rat and rat and between rat and man is the rat flea; and
- (3) That the life of the plague germ in soil, the floors and walls of houses, and the like, is of short duration.

Some results of the practical experience acquired by officers engaged in actual plague administration are described in the Parliamentary Paper (Cd. 3516) entitled "Correspondence regarding Measures for the Prevention

PLAGUE. of Plague." In the light of the knowledge and experience which now exists, it is possible to deal satisfactorily with the disease when effective control can be established over the sanitary conditions, and in the case of the native army and in limited areas such as jails there has been remarkable success. But attempts to establish such control over large areas would involve too great an interference with the habits, prejudices, and sentiments of the people, and the actual application of measures whose utility has been ascertained must be made to depend upon the particular circumstances of each locality and upon the character of its inhabitants. As the result of past experience and persistent attention, in the face of great practical obstacles, three principal measures for combating plague are now adopted :—

- (1) The temporary evacuation of quarters in which plague is prevalent. This is the only practicable way of removing man from contact with infected rat fleas, and it is the method which has actually proved most effective. Government is prepared to supply assistance in money and material for the provision of temporary dwellings, and to alleviate the discomfort and distress which must accompany evacuation of quarters, a matter, of course, in which no pressure can be brought upon the people and in regard to which their wishes and even prejudices must be consulted.
- (2) Inoculation with the prophylactic fluid. The great efficacy of this remedy has now been placed beyond doubt; its use has spread rapidly, and there are signs that the popular prejudice against it is beginning to disappear.
- (3) The systematic destruction of rats, the diminution of the food supply to which they have access, and, in the course of time, such improvement in the structure of houses as shall render them reasonably rat proof.

SANITATION.

SANITATION.

Some of the important sanitary works which have been completed or were in progress, or under consideration, during 1906 were as follows :—

BENGAL.
Calcutta.

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 for 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. 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 proper 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. Details of the work undertaken during 1906-07 were not available at the time of going to press.

Overcrowding, with its concomitant circumstances, is a great evil in Calcutta, and a scheme for the improvement of the congested areas of the city has been the subject of controversy for many years. The formation of a Board of Trustees for the purpose of carrying through the projected improvements was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in 1905. The administrative and financial details of the Board's constitution were laid before the Municipal Corporation and other public bodies for criticism, and, as a result of the information thus obtained, legislation will shortly be undertaken to give effect to the scheme. The expenditure on street improvement and attendant measures is estimated at about five and a half millions sterling in the course of some twenty years. A portion of this large sum will be recovered in rent from the lands acquired, and the balance will be provided partly from a municipal contribution, partly from certain special taxes, and partly from Government grants.

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. A scheme for supplying Khulna with filtered water was completed. Many other towns took steps to improve their water supply by excavating new tanks and wells and repairing old ones. Drainage schemes had been or were being prepared for almost all the important municipalities. In Howrah work was commenced on a further portion of the comprehensive drainage scheme. The scheme for the northern section of the town of Hooghly-Chinsura was completed. The Serampore drainage project was also completed, while that for the Cossipore-Chitpur Municipality was being revised. Various other drainage schemes were prepared and sanctioned. The expenditure under the head of conservancy rose in almost all municipalities, and the arrangements are steadily improving. Besides the expenditure incurred in combating plague and other epidemic diseases, attempts were made by some of the District Boards to improve the sanitation of several villages by thoroughly cleansing them. Patna maintained its leading position in this respect.

At Benares, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Agra and Allahabad, there were notable increases in the daily consumption of water per head of population, which ranges from over 19½ gallons at Benares to about 5 gallons at Meerut. The results of analysis of drinking-water were satisfactory in nearly every case. Further progress was made in the drainage and sewerage works at Lucknow, Cawnpore and Agra. The sanitation of Mussoorie has lately engaged attention, and the report of the special sanitary committee appointed in 1906 was under the consideration of the municipal board.

The drainage schemes at Delhi, Multan and Rawalpindi made satisfactory progress during the year; while those at Jagraon, Gujrat and Sargodha were carried through to completion. The Ludhiana waterworks were sanctioned and a commencement was made with the project. A sum of nearly £2,700 was spent by local bodies in the clearance and protection of wells, but it is stated that the rewards offered by district boards for sanitary improvements in villages evoked no interest and remained unutilised. The provision of wells, bathing places, and other works that serve sanitary purposes is, however, a favourite method of showing charity on the part of private individuals, and much public spirit of this kind was shown.

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; it will take some years to complete the work, the capital expenditure on which during the year exceeded £13,300. The work of reclaiming and draining East Rangoon was continued; 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 Lannadaw quarter was commenced. The Hlawga water supply works, which were carried out at a cost of £313,000, to augment the present supply from the Victoria Lake, have proved disappointing, and the reservoir is not capable of supplying so large a population as was anticipated. Further surveys are to be undertaken for the purpose of designing the best method of bringing into the town the full supply of water that the present reservoir will give.

Sanitation in Burma is in a very backward condition, and there is hardly a town or district in the province in which sanitary reform is not a pressing need. Schemes were drawn up during the year for dealing with the principal needs of some of the larger towns. In particular, a complete conservancy scheme for Mandalay was under consideration.

No original works of any importance were undertaken by the Public Works Department during the year, but a number of improvements were carried out by the municipalities, which spent nearly 40 per cent. of their

SANITATION. income on sanitary works. 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.

EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM. 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, Barisal, Dinajpur, and Gauhati, schemes for improving the water supply were in process of completion or under consideration during the year. The municipalities devoted about 42 per cent. of their income to sanitation or sanitary works. The smaller municipalities 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, and many of the district and local boards are beginning to spend a larger proportion of their income on village sanitation.

MADRAS. The new drainage works were temporarily suspended during the year, in order that schemes might be prepared for remedying defects which have come to light in the works already executed. In spite of these defects it is reported that there can be no doubt that the portion of the city where the underground system is complete have greatly improved in sanitation and general health. A scheme for the introduction of a new filtered water-supply into the city, at a cost of £157,000, was sanctioned by Government and formally accepted by the Corporation in April 1907. A chief engineer has been sent out from England to superintend the execution of the works.

Interior of Madras. Outside Madras city there is no town in the Presidency with a complete drainage system. A drainage scheme for Madura has been drawn up, and a few towns have provided drainage for particularly bad localities. With these exceptions, surface drainage and sewage are disposed of in the most primitive manner. In all matters of drainage, water-supply, and sanitation generally the Presidency is reported to be in a backward condition, and the municipalities as a whole do not make use even of the legal powers and financial resources which they possess. Nevertheless some progress was made; 22 minor works were under execution during the year, and 22 new schemes of some importance, excluding those for Madras city, were under review by the Sanitary Board, which will involve, if they are carried out, an aggregate cost of about £200,000.

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, and were almost completed. The works connected with the Malabar Hill sectional sewerage were also nearing completion. The rainfall during the year was not far below the normal, and the supply of water was adequate. The birth-rate of the year 1906 is given as 21·2 per mille and the death-rate as 51, both these rates being based on the special census taken in February 1906. The number of deaths from plague during 1906 was 10,800, or 18·3 per mille, which is the lowest figure since the outbreak of plague in 1897.

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 for some years past the financial situation of the municipalities has been so weakened by the plague ravages as to delay the execution of new schemes. Nevertheless the extension of the Ahmedabad drainage scheme undertaken in 1903 was completed during the year; further progress was made with the Karachi drainage extensions, and the Talgaon water supply was ready for use in 1907. The earliest water supply on modern lines outside the Presidency town was begun about 1873 and the earliest drainage work in 1890. At the end of 1906 there were 37 towns with a water supply, and two (Ahmedabad and Karachi) with a system of drainage. The Bombay Village Sanitation Act, 1889, which provides for the establishment of a sanitary committee or board, chosen by the Collector of the district or by the Local Government, was in operation in 239 villages.

HOSPITALS, DISPENSARIES AND LEPER ASYLUMS.

HOSPITALS
AND DIS-
PENSARIES.

The civil hospitals and dispensaries in India, which numbered 2,464 in 1906, against 2,411 in 1905, treated 404,597 indoor and 24,343,320 outdoor patients in the course of the year. The great bulk of their income is derived from government, local and municipal funds, and their total expenditure in 1906 was £642,353. 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 1,469 in all during the year under report, and provided treatment for about 140,000 indoor and 6,266,000 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 Bombay the work of bringing the equipment of the hospitals up to a higher standard was being steadily carried out; a scheme for a Central Nursing Service for the whole Presidency has been sanctioned.

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.

LEPER
ASYLUMS.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

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 31·71 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 1906 was 1,593, the average for the five years to 1906 being 1,480. The total asylum population of the year was 7,000. The causes of insanity in the various cases are not very accurately classified, but it is stated that the insanity of a large proportion of the patients admitted to asylums is due to the use of hemp drugs. The question of building a new asylum at Rangoon was under consideration. The number of asylums in actual use was 24; the expenditure incurred amounted to £52,000, the greater part of which was borne by the State.

CHAPTER III.

JUSTICE AND POLICE.

CRIME AND POLICE.

CRIME
AND POLICE.

In all the Provinces some advance was made during 1906-07 in the introduction of the reforms decided upon in consequence of the Report of the Police Commission. Reorganisation was effected so far as financial considerations permitted. Already good results have been obtained in several provinces, notably in the direction of facilitating recruitment owing to the improvement of pay and prospects, and in the detection of crime through the establishment of Provincial Criminal Investigation Departments. A general improvement may be observed in the discipline of the force. Police training schools have been established in several provinces, and those organised in the preceding year are already showing excellent results.

Bengal.

The total number of cases of cognisable* crime reported in Bengal during the calendar year 1906 was 122,651, an increase of 7,188 on the total of the previous year. This was due mainly to an increase in thefts and burglaries resulting from the high price of food grains. Four thousand one hundred and fifty-seven cases were pending at the beginning of the year, and there were therefore 126,808 cases for disposal. In 19,065 of these inquiry was refused by the police, and 3,392 were declared to be maliciously false. Of the 104,351 cases remaining, 94,761 were inquired into, and 42 per cent. ended in conviction, as against 88,284 and 44 per cent. in 1905.

There was a decrease of rioting cases in all divisions except the Presidency, where the number rose from 242 to 298. The number of serious crimes against the person was 3,555, or 55 more than in 1905. Murders rose from 248 to 284, no less than 128 being undetected. Dakaities fell from 247 to 228, a figure which includes a number of cases that occurred in previous years, but were brought to light in 1906. There was a large increase in burglary cases (from 27,983 to 32,374) and in thefts. Cattle thefts also increased from 1,736 to 2,022.

Much valuable work was done by the Criminal Investigation Department, and co-operation between it and the Calcutta Police continued to be satisfactory. Considerable progress is being made in the classification of finger prints, the preparation of history sheets and the photographing of notorious criminals.

The reorganisation of the superior Police Establishment took effect from the 1st April 1906, and other reforms sanctioned are gradually being given effect to. The sanctioned strength of the police force, excluding the Calcutta force and the Railway and Military Police, was 1,610 officers and 18,387 men, the actual strength being 1,537 officers and 17,380 men. The total expenditure of 1906-07 was £378,725, as against £380,545 in 1905-06. The decrease is, however, more apparent than real, as the latter figure includes the expenditure up to 15th October 1905 of the 14 districts transferred to Eastern Bengal and Assam. There were 238 dismissals, 2,375 other departmental punishments, and 2,305 rewards; 1,450 officers and 5,529 men were able to read and write. The percentage of officers and men departmentally punished has risen from 12.9 and 10.1 in 1905 to 17.5 and 13.6 in 1906. This increase may be attributed to the stricter discipline resulting from the recommendations of the Police Commission.

Excellent work was done at the Police Training School, Bhagalpur, though the year's work was marred by an organised examination fraud on the part of the cadet sub-inspectors, who obtained from some corrupt press employees copies of the papers set for the Final Examination.

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

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The Town Police is still in a state of transition; 500 town *chaukidars* were replaced by constables during the year. As regards the Rural Police, the inquiries which were set on foot with a view to improving the status of the *chaukidari panchayats* and strengthening their control over the *chaukidars* were completed during the year. In many districts the new system is working well.

The Military Police will in future be called Special Reserves. Their conduct and discipline during the year were satisfactory. The total sanctioned and actual strength were respectively 300 and 268.

The Railway Police numbered 963. Cases of obstruction on the line rose from 29 to 60, notably during the strikes which occurred at Asansol, Jamalpur, and elsewhere. These strikes, which were engineered by outsiders from Calcutta, were brought to a prompt conclusion by the railway authorities.

The scheme for the re-organisation of the Calcutta Police is being gradually worked upon as funds permit. The principal step taken during the year under review was the entertainment of 18 additional sub-inspectors. The number of true cognisable cases reported direct to the police rose by over 4,000, there being a regrettable increase of offences against the person and against public tranquility. No fewer than 30,499 cases were instituted in the Presidency Magistrates' Court; of these 26,776 resulted in conviction.

There were demonstrations connected with the partition of Bengal on the 16th October, but they passed off without disturbance. The twenty-second sitting of the Indian National Congress was held in December, and an Indian industrial exhibition was held at the same time; these entailed considerable additional police work.

There was an increase in the number of dismissals and other punishments, due to increased supervision and stricter discipline, but, in spite of these causes, there was a considerable decrease in resignations.

The total volume of reported crime in this province for 1906 showed an increase of less than 1 per cent. on the figures of the preceding year. This maintains an increase of some 24 per cent. on the figures for 1904, in which year, however, the figures were the lowest recorded for 14 years. The conditions of the year were much the same as in 1905, and explain the maintenance of the increase. Prices continued high, and the prevalence of plague led to the evacuation of houses, which thus offered a temptation to the criminal classes. The increase of minor offences against property, due to the conditions of the year, was balanced by a notable decrease in dakaity, robbery, and serious mischief, while there was a progressive decrease in offences against the person.

Investigation was refused in 45.5 per cent. of the total crimes reported, as compared with 43.6 per cent. in 1905. In cases investigated by the police the percentage of convictions was 48.2, as compared with 47.6 in the preceding year; the percentage of persons convicted to persons arrested rising from 76.9 to 79.3. The total number of cases decreased by 1,485 to 53,249.

As regards dakaity, there was the large decrease of 166 cases; there were 24 cases of professional poisoning as against 17 in 1905; and 770 cases of true robbery reported, a decrease of 73 on the figures of the preceding year.

The number of murders fell from 501 in 1905 to 486 in 1906; cases of cattle theft rose by 30 per cent.; and there was a further increase of more than 2,000 cases of ordinary theft, this last being due to distress aggravated by the continuance of high prices. The amount of property stolen during the year was valued at £1,324 less than 1905, while the percentage of recovery remained at 20.

With regard to the police force, the re-organisation of the gazetted staff, as the result of the recommendations of the Police Commission, was carried out during the year under review. As a result an extra deputy inspector-general was appointed, the number of superintendents and assistant superintendents increased, and appointments of deputy superintendents created. The increased expenditure mentioned in last year's statement has by improving pay and prospects undoubtedly stimulated recruiting.

The total strength was 35,716, and the total cost £454,797. Though the conditions of 1906 were no improvement on those of 1905, the total number of punishments decreased from 785 to 636. Eight officers and 144 men were

CRIME AND POLICE. dismissed, as against 34 and 162 respectively in the preceding year. Though there was a slight improvement in this respect, there was still 1·2 per cent. of the officers and 73 per cent. of the men illiterate.

The Criminal Investigation Department, consisting of a superintendent of police, nine inspectors and eight sub-inspectors, with constables and head constables, was established on the 16th July 1906, and has already done good work.

Punjab.

The criminal statistics for the Punjab in 1906 are a reflection of the economic conditions of the year. Following on a period of scarcity and high prices combined with a severe epidemic of plague, the year opened unfavourably, and the abnormal scale of offences against property of the previous year was maintained, until the rains altered the agricultural outlook and lowered prices. There was, however, a satisfactory decrease in other forms of crime.

Thus there were 453 cases of murder against 175 in 1905, and 248 cases of culpable homicide against 228. Dakaities, which in 1900 reached the high level of 151 cases, now stand at 46. The number of burglaries reported fell from 12,331 to 12,306, while ordinary thefts rose from 8,123 to 8,696. Cattle thefts (2,463) showed a decrease of 177.

The total reported crime for the year was 67,510 cases, that for 1905 being 69,426; a decrease of 1,916 cases.

As regards the police force, the total strength was 19,385, and the total cost £299,774. This shows an increase of 250 men and £50,428 respectively, due to reorganisation. The number of officers who could read and write was 827, and of men 5,740; the figures for 1905 being 693 and 5,631.

The improvement of pay and prospects introduced by the re-organisation scheme has infused a better and more willing spirit into all ranks, and discipline has been well maintained. This is shown by the substantial fall in resignations (from 1,074 to 747) and desertions (from 45 to 23); the decrease in punishments and the increase in rewards. Departmental punishments inflicted on members of the force numbered 1,066, a decrease of 92. Judicial punishments fell from 93 to 75, and the total number of rewards rose from 2,434 to 2,985.

The Criminal Investigation Department has a record of good work, noticeable progress being made by the Finger Print Bureau.

The estimated value of property stolen during the year was £81,812, of which 43 per cent. was recovered.

Burma.

Further progress was made in Burma during 1906 in carrying into effect reforms resulting from the Report of the Police Commission. Some of the more important improvements were the reorganisation of the superior grades, the absorption of chief head constables, head constables, and sergeants in the new grades of sub-inspector and head constable on increased pay, and the opening of a Provincial Training School.

There were 42,469 cases of cognisable crime, as against 43,097 in 1905. Exclusive of cases under special laws, there were 27,428 true cases, of which 20,337 were investigated by the police and 11,935 resulted in conviction. The measure of success obtained was 59 per cent., as against 56 per cent. in 1905. Violent crimes rose by 102 to 920. Dakaities showed an increase of 32 and murder a decrease of 24 cases. The most unsatisfactory feature in connection with serious crime was the small proportion of stolen property recovered. The percentage of recoveries dropped from 14 in 1905 to 4 in 1906, while the value of property stolen was £137,672, or £27,004 more than in 1905. Detection in murder cases continued unsatisfactory, only 118 cases ending in conviction out of 326 dealt with.

The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police Force, excluding the Rangoon Police, was 1,599 officers and 11,613 men; the force actually entertained was 1,553 officers and 10,602 men. The cost rose from £276,471 to £300,258, the increase being due to the introduction of reforms. Difficulty was still found in recruiting. Thirty-one officers and 486 men were dismissed, these figures being an increase of eight officers and a decrease of 34 men. Other departmental punishments show a satisfactory decrease. There were fewer desertions during the year, but more resignations. The figures for the year exhibit an increase of 37 literate officers, but a decrease of 317 literate constables.

CRIME AND POLICE. The actual strength of the Rangoon Town Police was 935, or ten below sanctioned strength. Reforms recommended by the Police Commission were carried into effect during the year. The conduct of the force was better than in the preceding year; but the percentage of convictions to cases investigated was lower than the low figure of 1905.

The Military Police numbered 15,620 officers and men, i.e., 325 below sanctioned strength. The discipline of the force was good, and the relations of the men with the people satisfactory.

Reports are almost unanimous in acknowledging the invaluable assistance rendered by village headmen to the police in the detection of crime.

The year under review was marked by exceptionally high prices, and by scarcity in several areas, and the agitation and unrest in Eastern Bengal added much to the difficulties of police administration. These causes account for the very considerable increase of crime in the province during the year, the scarcity and high prices leading to theft and the imposition of exceptional responsibilities upon the police, in consequence of the general feeling of unrest, interfering with the supervision of ordinary criminals.

The total number of cognisable cases pending at the beginning of the year and reported during the year was 83,660 against 72,725 in 1905, or an increase of 10,935 cases. Of these, 46,777 were investigated, 29,411 were decided, and convictions were obtained in 17,939 (61 per cent.). The corresponding figures for 1905 were 39,515 investigated, 24,995 decided, and 15,762 (63 per cent.) convictions. Rioting shows an increase of 425 cases. Of the 1,886 riot cases, 54 were serious, the majority arising from disputes about land. There was a considerable increase in serious offences against the person. Of the 1,924 true cases under this class, 68·6 per cent. ended in conviction. Murders rose by 29 to 225. The marked increase of serious offences against property (from 15,680 to 20,146) was undoubtedly due to the high price of food grains which prevailed during the year. Dakaities rose by 29. Ten such cases in Bakarganj may be ascribed as directly or indirectly due to the political agitation. Burglaries increased by 4,403 to 18,933, minor offences against the person by 67 to 1,229, and minor offences against property by 3,513 to 21,845. Cattle theft accounts for 842 cases, the increase in this direction being due to the expansion of the trade in hides. The percentage of value of property recovered to value of property stolen was 37·9, a noteworthy improvement on the 19·7 of 1905.

With regard to the police, the total strength of the Military Police was 2,708 and the total cost £50,589. There were 255 enlistments during the year, 56 resignations, 17 dismissals, and 33 deaths. The corresponding figures for 1905 were 79, 73, 14, and 40.

The total strength of the Civil Police was 9,326, or 406 below sanctioned strength; the total cost was £180,822, the increased expenditure being due to measures of reorganisation as a result of the recommendations of the Police Commission. The increase in the proportion of Mohammedans recruited is noteworthy, but they still form only 24·8 per cent. of the men and 14·6 per cent. of the officers. There were 177 dismissals during the year, and 1,899 other departmental punishments. Sums amounting to £1,114 were paid as rewards. Resignations numbered 215.

The total number of *chaukidars* in Eastern Bengal and the districts of Sylhet, Cachar, and Goalpara was 57,571, i.e., 367 more than in 1905. Occasional instances are quoted of admirable work done by them, but generally speaking it is reported that they have done little good work.

The establishment of the Criminal Investigation Department, the increase of the cadre of the service, and the improvement of pay and prospects were among the reforms recommended by the Police Commission, which were introduced into the province during the year 1906.

The agricultural condition of the year were on the whole not unfavourable in the Central Provinces and Berar, though in some parts the rice crops were poor. The prevalence of plague and consequent evacuation of houses account to some extent for the increase in the total volume of crime. The increase was not, however, excessive, and figures are still not above the normal.

Central Provinces and Berar.

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The total number of cognisable offences, excluding nuisance cases and offences under special and local laws, was 18,895, as compared with 17,851 in 1905. Of these 12,022 were investigated, and in 4,286 convictions were obtained. There was a noticeable increase in murder cases, from 162 in 1905 to 194 in 1906, the latter number being considerably above the normal in non-famine years. Dakaities decreased by 1 to 15 in the Central Provinces and by 25 to 35 in Berar, but robberies, which in the Central Provinces remained at the same figure (127) as in 1905, increased from 129 to 151 in Berar. The small increase in rioting cases (from 191 to 234) does not seem to indicate any real excess of deliberate defiance of the law, and there were no cases of anti-Government riots.

The total value of property stolen during the year was £55,412, the percentage of value of property recovered to value of property stolen being 31·1. The corresponding figures for 1905 were £38,021 and 25 per cent.

Several important reforms due to the Police Commission were introduced during the year, *e.g.*, a new scheme of distribution of district police in Raipur and Drug, and the revised scale of pay. In spite of increase of pay, however, recruitment does not appear to have been stimulated.

The total actual strength of the police force was 11,060 (*i.e.*, 544 below sanctioned strength), and the cost was £158,951, the increase from £136,576 being due to the measures of reorganisation. There were 511 resignations and 195 deaths, as against 419 and 131 respectively in 1905. The punishment return shows 757 departmental punishments other than dismissal inflicted on constables, a considerable increase on the 409 of the preceding year, which was, however, an exceptionally low figure. Rewards, other than by promotion, numbered 2,662. The number of men who could read and write rose from 3,800 to 5,444.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The statistics of the year under review are satisfactory in showing a falling off in serious crime in the North-West Frontier Province, undoubtedly due during the latter part of the year to the prevalence of severe malarial fever. The decrease under the heads of dakaity, murder, and robbery was marked.

The total number of cognisable offences reported to the police was 5,162, as compared with 5,259 in 1905. Murders (184), dakaities (28), and robberies (45), show a decrease of 12, 19, and 17 cases respectively. The principal causes which have led to murders have been quarrels about women; of the dakaities 14 would be more properly termed raids, as they were the work of trans-border men. The percentage of cases convicted to cases admitted was 50 per cent, against 48 in the preceding year. The value of property stolen was estimated at £8,101, the value of that recovered £1,861; the corresponding figures for 1905 were £9,848 and £2,461. The trade in arms and ammunition from the Kohat Pass with Buner and Waziristan has on several occasions been interrupted by successful arrests by the police and Border Military Police, but the trade has not decreased. The need of a Criminal Intelligence Department is felt in regard to this illicit traffic. One new punitive post was established during the year at Kakhi in the Bannu district.

The total strength of the force was 3,114, and the cost of its maintenance was estimated at £49,933. There were during the year 55 dismissals, 374 departmental punishments other than dismissals, 41 judicial punishments, and 456 money rewards. The corresponding figures for 1905 were 66, 297, 48, and 285. The number of educated officers and head constables was 387, or 50 per cent.; of 2,559 constables only 390 were able to read and write. In spite of the recent rise of pay, the difficulties of recruiting have caused anxiety. They are attributed to the fact that men in the Punjab are better off. A high standard of discipline has been maintained throughout, and the conduct of the force has been most satisfactory during the year. The success of the measures taken during the visit of the Amir of Afghanistan, to safeguard the various military camps from rifle thieves, and the capture of the notorious Taj-ud-din, reflect especial credit.

Coorg.

A very satisfactory feature of the police administration of Coorg during the year under review was the decrease (from 491 to 413) in the number of cognisable offences reported. The decrease was specially marked under the head of minor offences against property and serious offences against person

CRIME
AND POLICE.

and property. Investigation was refused in only three cases, as against 24 in 1905. The percentage of convictions obtained rose from 68·85 to 72·34. There were two cases of dakaity and seven cases of murder, the corresponding figures for the previous year being four and five. The value of property stolen was £276, as compared with £341 in 1905, the percentage of recovery rising from 60·10 to 61·33.

The total strength of the force was 250, *i.e.*, four more than in 1905. The expenditure rose from £3,162 to £3,666, the increase being due to the cost of clothing for 1905 being debited to the 1906 account, and to certain increases of pay. A slight improvement was shown as regards discipline and educational attainments.

The notable features of the year 1906 in the Madras Presidency were high prices, a slight decrease in crime, and the progress of reorganisation. Madras.

The year was generally favourable for agriculture, and work was available. The prices of food grains, however, were even higher than in the previous year, but the volume of crime was practically the same.

The total number of true cases of cognisable crime decreased by 1,081 to 48,086. There were 1,119 more nuisance cases. The number of murders reported during the year was the highest on record, 946 persons being arrested and 812 tried. There were 484 dakaities as against 539 in 1905, and 751 robberies as against 865. Thefts fell from 14,581 to 14,468, a remarkable decrease in view of the rise of prices. There was no serious disturbance of the public peace during the year.

With regard to the detective work of the police, the figures show little or no improvement, but allowance must be made for the fact that the department was in the throes of reorganisation, and that the detective agency was severely affected thereby. The percentage of true cases detected was 32·8. Twenty-three per cent. of cases of murder reported were detected, as compared with 21·4 per cent. in 1905. The detection of dakaities was still poor, being 18·5 per cent. in 1906 and 17·8 in 1905. The proportion of convictions to cases prosecuted by the police was 78·7, the figure for 1906 being 79·0. Property stolen during the year was valued at £85,832, of which 24·5 per cent. was recovered.

Among the steps taken during 1906 to further the reorganisation of the department, consequent on the Report of the Police Commission, may be mentioned the re-gradation of superior officers, the grant of the first increment of pay to the constabulary, the establishment of the Criminal Investigation Department, and progress in the recruitment of sub-inspectors, due to the reorganisation of the Vellore School.

As to the *personnel* of the police, the total sanctioned strength was 24,088. Recruiting was easy, but difficulty was experienced in supplying literate men to satisfy the demand. There were 18,233 constables who could read and write. The conduct of the force may on the whole be considered to have improved. The percentage of men punished departmentally for offences other than being absent without leave was 13·0 as compared with 26·5 in 1905. Judicial convictions fell from 268 to 232. There was a somewhat larger number of deaths, owing to the prevalence of cholera in one district. The total expenditure for the year was £356,870 as against £306,685 for 1905, the increase being due to the reorganisation schemes.

The actual strength of the Madras City Police was 1,509, five below sanctioned strength. The police employed on the occasion of the Royal Visit did their work well, and received the thanks of His Royal Highness.

In Bombay, the total number of cognisable cases reported during the year was 33,022, a decrease of 1,062 on the figures for the preceding year. Murders rose by 20 to 520, dakaities fell by 36 to 231, robberies rose by 16 to 694. There were 3,983 cases of cattle theft and 11,218 cases of ordinary theft, as against 4,172 of the former and 11,237 of the latter in 1905. The majority of the cases of murder, housebreaking, and cattle theft occurred in Sind; but this province has the best record in convictions in murder cases for the year. Bombay.

Investigation was refused by the police in 207 cases. Adding the cases pending from the previous year, and deducting cases in which investigation was refused and cases which were pending at the close of the year, orders

CRIME AND POLICE. were received on 33,289 cases, or about the same as in 1905. Eleven thousand four hundred and forty-two resulted in convictions. This represents a percentage of 54.15 of true cases, last year's figure being 55.4.

The value of property stolen during the year in cognisable cases was valued at £77,322, and 36.63 per cent. of it was recovered. The corresponding figures for 1905 were £78,741 and 35.73 per cent.

The total actual strength of the police force in the Bombay Presidency, inclusive of Sind and Railways, was 21,991, the total expenditure £301,026, which shows an increase of £13,312. There were during the year 233 dismissals and 1,017 resignations, the corresponding figures for 1905 being 279 and 797. The total number of punishments fell from 3,142 in 1905 to 2,500 in 1906, while rewards rose from 3,897 to 4,051. The percentage of literate officers was 72.59, an improvement on the 71.8 of 1906, but the percentage of literate men remained at 49.98.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Police Commission, certain reforms were instituted in the grading of both superior and subordinate officers. The difficulty of recruiting still continued. There were 71 officers and 791 men short in 1906, as compared with 74 officers and 564 men in 1905.

The Criminal Investigation Department did good work during the year. The following figures show how the work of the Finger Print Bureau has increased. In 1905 there were 5,994 cards or slips received for record, 11,509 received for trace, and 963 cases traced. In 1906 these totals rose to 7,582, 12,650, and 1,068 respectively.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE.
Bengal.

The total number of criminal offences reported in Bengal was 234,400, an increase of 6,996 on the figures of 1905. Of this total, 136,899 were under the Indian Penal Code and 97,501 under special and local laws. These totals are more by 3,484 and 3,512 respectively than those of 1905. The number of cases declared to be false and dismissed constituted 16.6 per cent. of the whole number. Of the 195,017 true cases, 153,569 were brought to trial.

Presidency Magistrates, including the Municipal Magistrates, dealt with 38,994 cases. Of the 42,963 persons brought to trial, 38,416 were convicted. Magistrates outside Calcutta had before them 114,673 cases, and the pending file at the end of the year showed 2,946 cases, as against 2,722 at the end of 1905. Of the persons whose cases were disposed of, 59.0 per cent. were convicted. The sentences passed by magistrates included one of transportation, 18,795 of rigorous imprisonment, 497 of simple imprisonment, and 1,226 of whipping, with or without other punishment. The corresponding figures for 1905 were 17,301, 481, and 1,226.

Cases committed or referred to the Sessions Courts during the year numbered 1,303, or 164 more than in 1905. The number of cases disposed of was 1,276, and the pending file at the end of the year showed 121 cases. Of 2,931 persons under trial, 62.2 per cent. were convicted. There were 25 sentences of death, 165 of transportation for life, 111 of transportation for a term of years, 1,185 of rigorous imprisonment, and 27 of whipping. The average duration of Sessions Trials fell from 36.3 days in 1905 to 33.8 days in 1906. The number of persons tried by jury was 762. In 674 of these cases the judge approved of the verdict. Of 1,566 cases tried with the aid of assessors, the judge concurred in the opinion of both assessors in 1,211 cases and in 208 differed from both.

The High Court tried 80 cases, involving 98 persons, of whom 70 were convicted, and left 13 cases undecided at the close of the year. The average duration of cases from commitment was 32.2 days.

Including 45 pending cases, there were before the High Court 734 appeals, of which 702 were decided. Out of 581 appeals from sentences of the Sessions Courts, the orders of the lower Courts were upheld in 466 instances and reversed in 34 and modified in 76. Six appeals by the local Government against orders of acquittal were decided during the year, and in one of them the order was upheld. In 3 cases the orders of acquittal were reversed, and in 2 cases retrials were ordered. The Sessions Courts

decided 3,561 appeals and the Magistrates' Courts 3,595, the percentages of wholly unsuccessful appellants being respectively 66.1 and 63.9. In the case of death sentences referred from the Sessions Courts, the sentences on 12 of the 28 persons concerned were confirmed and 7 commuted to transportation for life, while 9 persons were acquitted. Twenty-seven references from verdicts of juries were decided by the High Court during the year; the verdict of the jury was accepted in 9, set aside in 16, and modified in one. The High Court decided 142 revision cases and the Sessions Court 2,997.

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. North-West Provinces.

The number of offences reported during the year (126,886) shows a small increase on the number reported in the previous year (124,465). The number of cases returned as true and the number brought to trial were, respectively, 96,414 and 88,126, as against 93,828 and 85,236 in 1905. The total number of persons under trial increased from 153,231 to 159,177. The increase is entirely with respect to offences under the Penal Code. Under local and special Acts there is a small decrease under all the above-mentioned heads. Of 152,345 persons under trial before magistrates, 48 per cent. were convicted, as compared with over 49 per cent. in 1905. In trials before the Courts of Session, on the other hand, there was an improvement, as 69 per cent. were convicted as compared with 66 per cent. in 1905. The average duration of cases rose from 9 to 10 days, and the number of cases pending over six weeks was 1,588, or 317 more than in 1905. During the year 111 persons were sentenced to death, 267 to transportation, 19,140 to rigorous imprisonment, and 4,963 to whipping.

Appellants and applicants for revision in the Courts of Session were more numerous than in 1905, numbering 10,856 as against 10,284. The percentage of appellants whose convictions were affirmed rose from 74 per cent. in 1905 to 76 per cent. Appeals and applications for revision to the High Court were 1,011 and 769, as compared with 929 and 737 respectively.

The number of offences reported during the year in Oudh was 45,283, of which 32,845 were returned as true, the figures for 1905 being 44,806 and 32,210 respectively. The number of cases brought to trial was 33,399, as against 32,807 in the previous year. Courts of Session tried 538 original cases, while 32,868 were disposed of by magistrates. The percentage of convictions to the number of persons tried was 62.5 in Sessions Courts and 37.8 in Magistrates' Courts.

As regards punishments, sentences of death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment were 53, 65, and 5,859, as against 40, 77, and 5,807 in 1905. The number of whippings fell from 1,840 to 1,815.

The number of appellants and applicants for revision increased from 5,096 to 5,699. In the case of 3,324, sentences or orders were confirmed, and in the case of 768 sentences were reversed.

The figures for the Punjab indicate a fairly serious increase in actual crime during the year, and also show that the Courts failed to check the steady growth of litigiousness in that Province. One hundred and ninety-eight thousand five hundred and fifty-seven offences were reported during the year, and 130,964 were returned as true, as against 188,961 and 127,715 respectively in 1905. The number of cases brought to trial in Courts subordinate to Sessions Courts was 113,517, the number of persons involved being 268,316. Cases under the Indian Penal Code brought to trial increased by 3,952, and cases under local and special laws by 1,078. The percentage of convictions was 27 as against 26 in 1905. Punjab.

Of the cases returned as true during the year, 89,422, or 68 per cent., were cases under the Indian Penal Code. Of these cases, those affecting life fell from 933 to 856, the number of murders being 389, or 47 less than in 1905. Robberies and dakaities rose from 443 to 495, and there was again a slight increase (5,410 to 5,561) in the number of offences relating to marriage. Cases of criminal force and assault declined by 700, but cases of hurt rose by 800.

District Magistrates disposed of 4,713 cases, as against 3,869 cases in 1905, and Honorary Magistrates rendered even greater assistance than usual

CRIMINAL JUSTICE. to the administration. The number of disposals in the Sessions Courts declined from 547 to 490.

The number of persons sentenced to death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment were 82, 119, and 12,909 respectively, while the number of persons whipped fell from 2,451 to 2,361.

Of the total number of persons convicted, 24 per cent. appealed. Of these appeals 30 per cent. were summarily dismissed and 32 per cent. dismissed after notice; while in the case of the remaining 38 per cent. the appeal was either wholly or partially successful.

In the Chief Court the number of appeals instituted was 793 as compared with 833 in 1905, 801 were decided and 141 were left pending at the end of the year. The number of unsuccessful appeals was 604. Applications for revision decreased from 1,853 to 1,845, and disposals numbered 1,641.

Burma. The total number of offences reported during the year in Burma was 90,804 as against 93,310 in 1905. This represents a decrease of 2,921 in Upper, and an increase of 415 in Lower, Burma. The percentage of true cases fell in Lower Burma from 87.2 to 85.6, and in Upper Burma remained practically the same as in 1905—namely, 88.5.

Magistrates of all classes tried 154,318 persons during the year. The percentage of persons convicted or committed was 61.3 in Lower and 62.8 in Upper Burma, as compared with 61.9 and 64.7 respectively in 1905.

The Sessions Courts in Lower Burma dealt with 839 persons, more by 61 than in 1905. The percentage of convictions was 57.9 as compared with 53.3 in 1905. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court was 85, involving 132 persons, and the percentage of convictions was 72.6. The average duration of trials in the Sessions Courts fell from 53 to 48 days and in the Chief Court rose from 35 to 40 days. In Upper Burma, Sessions Judges disposed of 112 cases, involving 155 persons. The percentage of convictions decreased slightly from 71 to 68, and the duration of trials rose from 29 to 37 days.

As regards punishments, the number of whippings increased from 2,919 to 3,185, while 87, 417, and 15,066 persons were sentenced to death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment respectively.

In Lower Burma there was an increase of only 43 in the number of appeals preferred; in 1905 there was an increase of 628, and in 1904 of 350. The percentage of sentences confirmed was 69.4 and the average duration of appeals was 17 days. The number of appeals preferred during the year in Upper Burma was 1,761. Sentences were confirmed in 59.5 per cent. of the cases, and the average duration was 13 days.

The number of cases called for in revision by District Magistrates in Lower Burma (5,853) was 219 more than in the preceding year, but there was a decrease of 110 in the revision cases called for by Sessions Judges. In Upper Burma there was an increase in the quantity of revision work done by District Magistrates but a slight decline in that done by Sessions Courts.

Eastern Bengal and Assam. There were 127,154 criminal offences reported during the year in Eastern Bengal and Assam, an increase of 9,142 on the figures of 1905. Cases under the Penal Code showed an increase of 8,586, and cases under special and local laws of 556.

Including cases which were under inquiry at the close of the preceding year, 85,121 cases coming before the courts were accepted as true during 1906. Of these, 58,506 were brought to trial. The figures, as compared with those of 1905, represent an increase of 6,584 under the former and of 1,239 under the latter head.

In the Courts of Magistrates, 56,913 cases, involving 85,912 persons, were finally disposed of during the year, the proportion of convictions being 49.3 per cent., and the average duration of cases 16.6 days. Courts of Session disposed of 913 cases, the pending file being 115 as against 117 in 1905. Of the 1,991 persons tried, 1,209, or 60.7 per cent., were convicted. The average duration of Session cases fell from 41.6 days to 40.4 days.

Punishments by death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment numbered 17, 151, and 12,434 respectively. Whipping was ordered in 616 cases. Twenty-nine sentences of death came before the High Court for confirmation; 10 were commuted for transportation, and two were pending at the end of the year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE. The High Court, Sessions Courts, and Magistrates' Courts disposed of 428, 2,675, and 2,301 appeals respectively, the percentages of wholly unsuccessful appellants being 76.1, 65.2, and 68.6. The number of revision cases was 1,039 less in 1906 than in 1905.

Central Provinces and Berar. The total number of cases reported in the Central Provinces and Berar, and the total number returned as true were, respectively, 40,056 and 32,092 as against 42,277 and 34,374 in 1905. If offences under local and special laws be excluded, there was an increase of 1,485 in the number of offences reported and of 1,476 in the number returned as true, but there was no serious increase under any head except under those of hurt and assault.

Magistrates disposed of 31,309 cases during the year. The percentage of convictions and committals was decreased from 45.8 in 1905 to 40.4 in 1906. Durations rose both in police and in complaint cases, in the former from 13.1 days to 14.9 and the later from 13.9 to 15.5.

Courts of Sessions disposed of 201 cases. The percentage of persons convicted or committed to the total of persons under trial during the year was 55.4. The average duration of Sessions cases further declined from 55.5 to 50 days, being higher in Berar than in the Central Provinces.

The percentage of appellate cases in which the sentence was confirmed was 65.5 in the Judicial Commissioner's Court, 71.7 in Sessions Courts, and 55.5 in District Magistrates' Courts.

The sentences of death, transportation, and rigorous imprisonment passed during the year numbered respectively 20, 99, and 3,956. The corresponding figures for 1905 were 14, 127, and 3,978. Whipping was awarded in 1,115 as against 1,195 cases in 1905.

North-West Frontier Province. The total number of offences reported during the year in the North-West Frontier Province was 18,171 as against 17,958 in 1905. Eight hundred and ninety-two cases were struck off as false and 4,621 complaints were dismissed *in limine*; these represent 29 per cent. of the offences reported, the proportion being the same as in 1905. The number of cases brought to trial was 12,148, which represents 91 per cent. of the offences admitted to have occurred. The percentage of persons convicted or committed to the total number of persons under trial was 48.1. Ten thousand three hundred and eighty-three offences under the Indian Penal Code were reported during the year, an increase of 200 on the figure for 1905. Of these, 5,519 were brought for trial as against 5,567 in 1905, and the percentage of convictions was 35, or 3 less than in the preceding year.

There were 20 sentences of death, 27 of transportation, and 2,479 of rigorous imprisonment, and 251 sentences of whipping were passed as against 295 in 1905.

The number of persons who appealed to District Magistrates fell from 561 to 553, while the number who appealed to Sessions Judges was 912, of whom 273 had their sentences reversed or altered. Out of 607 applications for revision 408 were dismissed summarily.

The average duration of criminal trials in Magistrates' Courts was 6.5 days, in Courts of Sessions 33 days, and in Superior Courts 28 days.

Coorg. The number of offences reported in Coorg (1,601) declined by 194 in spite of an increase of 106 under the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act. Trials held numbered 1,434, or 178 less than in the previous year. Excluding breach of contract cases, 1,160 cases were reported, and 1,009 were returned as true. These figures show a satisfactory reduction of reported crime, those for 1905 being respectively 1,460 and 1,268. There were 649 convictions, as against 679 in the preceding year, the percentage to total of persons under trial increasing from 29.44 to 37.58. There were only 8 convictions of heinous crime, and there was no sentence of death. Sentences of transportation, rigorous imprisonment, and whipping numbered respectively 3, 259, and 25.

The total number of appeals was 80, of which 63 were unsuccessful.

Madras. 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 291,542 and 9,964 respectively, as against 299,258 and 10,080 in 1905. The number of cases instituted in the Village Magistrates' Courts fell from 11,073 to 10,591. There was a

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decrease of 2,691 in the number of offences under the Indian Penal Code, and of 4,174 in the number of offences under special and local laws reported during the year. The percentage of convictions in cases brought to trial was 23·27 in the case of offences under the Penal Code and 87·13 in the case of offences under special and local laws, the average percentages for the preceding five years being 24·11 and 86·53 respectively.

Of 17,671 persons under trial in the Village Magistrates' Courts, 5,492 were convicted. In the regular Magistrates' Courts in the mufassal, 223,196 cases were instituted, as against 231,570 in 1905. The number of cases left pending at the end of the year was more than that of the previous year by 303. The total number of persons under trial in these courts was 388,774, of whom 381,231 were dealt with, the percentage of convictions being 48·92 as against 49·7 in the preceding year. The average duration of cases was nearly the same as in 1905, viz., 5 days. The number of appeals was 7,814; in 60·25 per cent. the convictions were confirmed.

The cases committed to Sessions Courts in the mufassal numbered 1,272, and 3,096 persons in all were tried, these figures showing an increase of 65 and 122 respectively on those for 1905. One thousand four hundred and fifty-nine persons were tried by jury, 1,366 with aid of assessors, and 44 partly by jury and partly with assessors. The percentage of convictions was 45·32, and the average duration of trials, 34 days. Appeals numbered 1,371, the sentence appealed against being confirmed in 71·86 per cent. of the cases.

The number of cases instituted before the Presidency Magistrates increased from 66,128 to 67,031. The percentage of convictions was 92·52. A sum of £211 levied as fines in cases of cruelty to animals was paid to the S.P.C.A.

In all, 48 persons were punished with death during the year, 173 with transportation, and 20,745 with rigorous imprisonment. Whippings numbered 3,508.

The High Court received for trial 43 Sessions cases, in which 56 persons were concerned. The percentage of convictions was 77, as against 74 in 1905. The cases of 80 persons who were convicted of murder and sentenced to death by Sessions Courts were dealt with by the High Court. The convictions of 66 were upheld, 48 sentences of death being confirmed and 18 being commuted to transportation for life. The number of appeals received during the year was 701; in 89 per cent. of the appeals against conviction the proceedings of the lower courts were not interfered with. In revision cases the proceedings of the lower court were confirmed in 74 per cent. of the cases.

Bombay.

The total number of offences reported during the year in Bombay (including Sind) was 159,751, as against 157,278 in 1905. Of the total number of cases, 148,276 were returned as true; of these 38·8 per cent. were under the Indian Penal Code and the rest under special and local laws. Cases brought to trial numbered in all 148,620, involving 237,821 persons, the figures for the preceding year being 150,439 and 239,581 respectively. Of the total number of persons under trial nearly 48 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, and nearly 47 per cent. were convicted. The total number of original cases decided was 148,540, as against 149,728 in 1905. Of these, 145,873 were disposed of by Magistrates. Of the total number of persons convicted, 65·6 per cent. were tried summarily. The average duration of cases fell from 5·06 to 4·40 days. There were 52 sentences of death, 138 of transportation, and 15,855 of rigorous imprisonment, as compared with 56, 128, and 14,833 respectively in the preceding year. Whippings increased in number from 1,414 to 1,654. The percentage of whippings to the total number of all punishments was 16·32 as against 14·58 in 1905.

Out of a total of 5,645 appeals, 42 per cent. were rejected; in 30 per cent. the sentences were confirmed and in 16 per cent. reversed. Applications for revision numbered 1,888, the sentence being reduced in 84 cases, reversed in 127 cases, and enhanced in 8 cases.

Persons tried by jury and with the aid of assessors numbered 455 and 1,214 respectively. In the High Court the verdict of the jury was approved in all cases. In the Courts of Sessions it was approved as regards 373 out of 388 accused persons, and disapproved as regards 15. In cases tried with

assessors, the Judge agreed with all the assessors in 70 per cent., with some in 9 per cent., and differed from all in 21 per cent.

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JAILS.

JAILS.

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

—	1906.	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Jail population of all classes on 1st January	98,244	93,781	93,881	101,664	108,741
Admissions during the year	480,098	464,660	436,569	440,948	471,529
Aggregate	578,342	558,441	530,450	542,612	580,270
Discharged during the year from all causes	479,280	460,202	436,668	448,984	478,532
Jail population on 31st December	99,062	98,239	93,782	93,865	101,738
Convict population on 1st January	88,344	85,034	85,209	93,682	98,873
Admissions during the year	163,956	161,783	153,380	156,112	171,256
Aggregate	252,300	246,817	238,589	249,794	270,129
Released during the year	160,022	155,220	150,289	160,503	172,202
Casualties, &c.	3,246	3,245	3,260	4,082	4,167
Convict population on 31st December	89,032	88,352	85,040	85,209	93,760

The total number of prisoners (480,098), including those under trial, admitted to jail during the year was 3·3 in excess of the previous year. Appreciable increases in admission occurred in Bengal (15 per cent.), Burma (4·5 per cent.), and Eastern Bengal and Assam (17·2 per cent.). There was a considerable decrease in Madras. The daily average number of prisoners rose by about 4 per cent.

The number of persons convicted and imprisoned during the year rose by 1·3 per cent. The increase was most marked in Bengal (12·3 per cent.), Eastern Bengal and Assam (12·5 per cent.), and Burma (5·8 per cent.). Madras showed a decrease of 10·5 per cent., and the Punjab of 4·1 per cent; elsewhere the jail population was nearly stationary. The offences for which convicts were imprisoned show that the cases connected with property increased by about 7·4 per cent., that those against the person decreased by 2·8 per cent., and that convictions under the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code were nearly the same as in the preceding year.

The escapes during the year, excluding Coorg, for which complete figures are not available, numbered 102 as against 85 in 1905, but 77 prisoners were recaptured before the end of the year. The largest number of escapes occurred in Eastern Bengal and Assam (30), the cause assigned being laxity of discipline on the part of the warders, and the defective structure of the Assam jails.

There was an increase of 9·3 per cent. in the number of juvenile offenders committed to prison during the year. This would seem to show a neglect on the part of magistrates to make sufficient use of the provisions of the law which empower them to send youthful criminals to a reformatory or to discharge them on security for their good behaviour.

The foundation in Calcutta of a Prisoners' Aid Society was a noteworthy feature of the year.

More than fifty-two per cent. of the persons admitted to jail came from the classes engaged in agriculture or cognate pursuits. Twenty per cent. were persons employed in miscellaneous callings, and about 10 per cent. gained their living by personal service. Four-fifths of the entire number were illiterate.

The number of previously convicted prisoners again rose, the increase being greatest in the United Provinces (56·1 per cent.). There was an increase of 14·1 per cent. over the figures for last year in the number of convicts sentenced to transportation.

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The progress made in the segregation of casual and habitual offenders was satisfactory.

There was a slight decrease in the number and percentage to daily average strength of offences committed by convicts during the year as compared with 1905, but there was an increase of 4.4 per cent. in serious offences dealt with by major punishment. The most noteworthy increases in the percentage of major punishments to daily average strength occurred in Bombay (16.16 per cent.) and the Central Provinces and Berar (14.95 per cent.). As in past years, the ratio of total punishments is still considerably higher in the Punjab, Burma, and the Central Provinces than elsewhere. The figures for the different provinces are given in the following table:—

	1906.			1905.			1904.		
	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 -	10,404	10	10,278	10,130	12	11,314	9,272	15	14,331
Bombay -	7,997	16	16,199	7,928	21	11,441	7,907	23	12,978
Bengal -	13,963	25	25,268	13,516	20	26,416	18,002	22	30,928
United Provinces	22,903	9	39,988	21,681	13	38,707	22,090	14	35,281
Punjab -	10,768	61	36,828	10,531	61	37,881	10,752	89	42,017
Burma -	12,606	17	42,092	11,951	25	41,891	11,113	41	41,241
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	6,733	53	8,292	6,277	29	7,418	1,430*	21*	2,051*
Central Provinces	3,062	23	9,405	3,282	30	8,360	3,553	21	8,710
North-West Frontier Province, Coorg -	1,091	1	1,539	1,077	1	1,560	1,055	1	1,501
	85	---	19	76	---	78	62	1	85
	86,612	218	189,928	86,419	215	191,069	85,235	218	190,156

* Assam only.

The aggregate number of corporal punishments was little more than half what it was five years ago. The total fell from 1,076 in 1904 to 799 in 1905, and to 668 in 1906, the proportion to total punishments showing a steady decrease in all provinces. The total number of cases in which penal diet (with and without solitary confinement) was prescribed was 6,505 as compared with 10,954 in the preceding year.

The result of the remission system during the year showed unimportant variations from those of the preceding year. The system of remission has been revised with the object of making it more intelligible to the average prisoner, and, in future, remission earned will be recorded in "days" instead of "marks." The special reward of 15 days' remission for committing no offence during the past 12 months was earned by 10,318 convicts.

There was again a marked increase in the total cost of maintenance of the prisoners in jail during the year, the figures for 1905 being exceeded by no less than £50,274. This was due in part to an increase in the jail population, but mainly to the high price of food grains, the average gross cost of maintaining each prisoner having risen to £1 15s. 10d., or 6s. 6½d. more than in the preceding year. At the same time the total cash earnings of prisoners fell off by nearly £10,000, with the result that the total net cost to the Government was just over £60,000 more than in 1905. Excluding Coorg, the provinces in which the average cost of maintenance was highest were the Central Provinces (£8 19s. 6d.), Eastern Bengal and Assam (£5 13s. 4½d.), and Bengal (£5 13s. 4½d.).

The year under review was an exceedingly unhealthy one; the northern provinces of India suffered severely from malarial fevers in the autumn, and cholera was rife through southern India. Although this led to an increase of sickness in the jails, and the ratio of admissions to hospitals rose from 647 to 658 per thousand, the death-rate was only 19.27 per thousand against 19.23

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in the previous year. There was a decrease in the death-rate in all provinces except Madras, Bombay, and the North-West Frontier Province. The principal causes of death were dysentery (3.25 per thousand), tubercle of the lungs (3.21), pneumonia (2.55), and cholera (1.10). There were 12 cases, all fatal, diagnosed as cerebro-spinal fever, an increase of 2 on the figure for 1905; but in 4 cases the *post-mortem* examination did not support the diagnosis.

PENAL SETTLEMENT AT PORT BLAIR.

The convict population of the Andamans at the end of the year 1906-07 was 14,496 (13,792 males and 704 females), being 200 less than at the end of the previous year. Discipline was well maintained, but the proportion of convicts punished increased by 8.82 compared with the previous year. The Viper Jail was closed as a jail on the 1st February 1907, and all prisoners who had been confined in it were transferred to the Cellular Jail. Twenty-three prisoners escaped during the year, of whom 14 were recaptured. The corresponding figures for 1905-06 were 35 and 32.

The revenue of the Settlement rose from £60,908* to £62,350, and the expenditure fell from £150,342* to £144,403, with the result that each convict cost the State £5 12s. to maintain against £6 3s. 7d.* in the preceding year. The estimated value of jail manufactures fell from £26,678 to £24,895, the principal decrease being in the value of building materials. The outturn of coconut oil was slightly larger. The experiment of issuing to convicts locally-grown rice was continued, and the net additional cost to Government was £96 against £150 in 1905-06. The police force was 50 under strength at the close of the year under review. The telephone system was completed and worked satisfactorily. The wireless telegraph service showed great efficiency, the monthly average number of messages sent being 613. The recorded rainfall of the year measured 99.23 inches, nearly 2 inches less than in 1905.

The health of the troops was better, and there was no death among them. The death-rate among convicts fell from 38.96 per 1,000 in 1905 to 27.30, the fall being due mainly to a reduction in the number of cases of dysentery. The death-rate attributed to malarial fevers was 3.47 per 1,000.

CIVIL JUSTICE.

CIVIL JUSTICE, Bengal.

The number of civil suits pending on the original side of the High Court at the end of 1905 was 1,100, including 31 pending suits received by transfer from other courts, and the number instituted during 1906 was 1,072. During the year 994 suits were disposed of, as against 1,121 in 1905, and the number left undisposed of at the end of the year was 1,178. There were 515 suits pending for over one year, showing a decrease of 5 from the figures of the previous year. The number of insolvency cases pending at the end of the year decreased from 228 to 207.

In the Civil Courts in the mufassal, the total number of ordinary suits and small causes instituted was 412,801. This figure is in excess of that of the previous year by 9,186. The increase occurred in title and money suits to the extent of 12.7 per cent. and 2.1 per cent. respectively. There was a slight decrease in the institution of rent suits. The number of suits disposed of was 420,856, the number being in excess of that for 1905 by 11,020. The average duration of cases showed an increase in the case of District Judges, but a considerable reduction in the case of Subordinate Judges.

In the Presidency Small Cause Court, both institutions and disposals showed an appreciable increase on the previous year's figures. The number of pending cases was less than in 1905 by 51.

The number of appeals decided by the High Court during the year (4,436) was less than that of the preceding year by 986, and the pending file was reduced by 880 to 4,401. In the Subordinate Courts, 12,194 appeals were instituted, an increase, as compared with the previous year, of 1,064, and

* Corrected figures.

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12,427, or 395 less than in 1905 were disposed of. The number of appeals pending at the close of the year (5,246) was more by 248 than at the end of 1905.

North-
Western
Provinces.

In the North-Western Provinces there has been a steady increase in institutions since 1902, but that in the year under review is exceptional, and the number of suits (105,470) is the highest on record, exceeding by 5 per cent. the previous highest figure, which was in 1887; last year's figure was 93,646.

The total number of suits before the courts was 119,165, as compared with 107,148 in 1905, but the pending file increased by only 1,031. The number of cases pending over three months increased from 3,126 to 3,210. In Subordinate Judges' Courts the average duration in contested cases was 37 days, as against 36 in 1905, but in all other courts the average duration decreased.

There were 11,073 civil appeals before the Subordinate Courts during the year, and the year closed with a pending file of 2,846 cases. Before the High Court there were 3,843 appeals for disposal, as compared with 3,813 in 1905. Of these 1,754 were disposed of, but in spite of the fact that the number of disposals was above the average, 2,089 cases, or only 25 less than in 1905, were pending at the end of 1906.

The number of applications for execution of decrees filed during the year was 92,646, representing a large increase of 13 per cent. over the figures for 1905. The pending file, however, increased by only 1,301. Realisation was complete in 22 per cent. of the cases and partial in 20 per cent., while 52 per cent. were wholly infructuous.

Village Munsifs decided 15,546 cases out of a total of 16,010 for disposal. Of these 1,231 were contested cases, as compared with 1,252 in 1905.

Oudh.

The total number of suits instituted in Oudh increased from 50,850 to 64,826. Disposals numbered 66,094 as against 51,674 in the preceding year, and the pending file rose from 7,219 to 7,257. The average duration of contested cases fell from 70 to 61 days, and that of uncontested cases from 30 to 28, the decrease being common to all courts, except the Courts of Honorary Munsifs and the Courts of Small Causes, City and Cantonment, Lucknow. The number of appeals before the courts was 3,224 as against 3,947 in the previous year. Disposals numbered 2,572 as against 3,259, and the pending file was reduced from 688 to 652. The Judicial Commissioner's Court decided 1,020 appeals. The total number of applications for executions of decrees during the year was 51,565, as against 44,343 in 1905; of these 25,116 were wholly infructuous. Village Munsifs disposed of 7,472 suits, as compared with 6,326 in the preceding year.

Punjab.

The decline in the volume of civil litigation, which has been a prominent feature of the reports of several years past, experienced a marked check during the year under review. The number of suits instituted (167,350) represents an increase of 7 per cent. over the figures for 1905. The fact that the rise in institutions was very largely under the head of suits for money or movable property seems to show that the check furnished by the extension of the period of limitation for suits for the recovery of money lent is now disappearing. The total number of suits brought by money-lenders against agriculturists again fell from 62,769 to 59,895, while suits to establish rights of pre-emption increased from 3,994 to 4,947, which would seem to show clearly that the new pre-emption Act has stimulated litigation.

Out of 193,295 suits for disposal in courts subordinate to Divisional Courts, 176,534 were decided. In spite of the large rise in institutions and disposals, the pending file rose by only about 900 cases during the year. The average durations of contested and uncontested cases were 51 and 27 days respectively, as against 51 and 29 days in the previous year. In proceedings for the execution of decrees the percentage of realisations remained the same as in the last three years, viz., 24.

The percentage of appeals to appealable orders rose from 28 to 29. In Divisional Courts 8,591 appeals were instituted, an increase of 573, and the pending file rose from 2,673 to 3,417. In District Courts appeals rose from 5,189 to 5,567, and the pending file increased from 472 to 518.

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In the Chief Court, 11 original cases were instituted. Institutions in the more important classes of civil appellate work were about the same as in 1905, except that the number of first appeals fell from 138 to 93. Disposals were very much larger than in 1905 in consequence of the strength of the Court being maintained at nine Judges throughout the year, and the pending file was reduced from 2,018 to 1,131.

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 82,971 to 88,402, the increase being common to both sections of the province, but was greater in Upper than in Lower Burma. The number of cases disposed of during the year was 88,344, as compared with 87,509 in 1905. Of this number 22,006 were contested. The number of cases left pending at the end of 1906 was 8,960, as against 2,015 at the end of 1905.

The total number of regular appeals increased from 5,302 to 5,840, of which 1,360 were pending at the close of the year. Decrees of lower courts in Lower Burma were confirmed, on appeal to District Courts, in 61.8 per cent. of cases, modified in 7.8 per cent., and reversed in 28.4 per cent., the figures showing little variation from those of 1905. Out of 1,524 appeals disposed of in District Courts in Upper Burma 62 per cent. were confirmed, as against 59 in the previous year. In Divisional Courts in Lower Burma the decrees were confirmed in 61 per cent. of the cases. In Upper Burma, only 11 appeals came before Divisional Judges, all of which were disposed of. The Chief Court disposed of 223 appeals, as against 300 in 1905. Decrees of lower courts were confirmed in 66.8 per cent. of the cases. The Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma disposed of 319 appeals, of which 66.5 per cent. were confirmed.

Applications for execution of decrees rose in Lower Burma from 34,784 to 41,334, full satisfaction being obtained in 9,064, and in Upper Burma from 10,725 to 12,201, of which 3,567 were fructuous.

The number of original suits instituted during the year in Eastern Bengal and Assam was 363,219, an increase of 4,573 on the figure of 1905. Of these 179,116 were suits for money or movables, 145,908 were rent suits, and 38,195 title and other suits. There was an increase in the number of suits instituted in all districts except four. Altogether there were 424,825 suits for disposal, and 365,263 were disposed of. This number was 494 less than the total disposed of in the previous year, but the decrease occurred entirely in uncontested suits, the number of contested suits having increased from 69,578 to 72,201. The pending file fell from 55,948 to 58,361.

In the High Court 1,125 appeals were preferred during the year. One thousand three hundred and eleven were disposed of, and the pending file fell from 2,094 to 1,908. In Subordinate Courts 10,181 appeals were instituted, and 10,084 disposed of, the pending file being increased by 321 to 5,549. The decisions of the lower courts were affirmed in 53.7 per cent. of the cases and reversed in 15.3 per cent.

The number of applications for execution of decrees made during the year was 277,934, and 54,836 were pending from the previous year. Full satisfaction was obtained in 69,154, and partial satisfaction in 61,291 cases, while 138,650 cases were returned as infructuous.

The number of suits instituted in the Central Provinces and Berar amounted to 90,782 as compared with 95,452 in 1905. The number of cases disposed of was 90,156, and the pending file rose from 22,446 to 23,023. The average duration of contested cases rose from 140 days to 160 days, and that of uncontested cases from 47 to 75 days.

In the Court of the Judicial Commissioner no proper comparison can be made with the previous year as regards the out-turn of work as a whole, owing to the change in the Appellate Jurisdiction of the Judicial Commissioner, Berar, on the 1st September 1905 (*vide* last year's Report). In Central Provinces cases the figures are fairly constant, except that the pending file tends to increase. For the Court as a whole the pending file has risen from 305 to 353. Divisional Judges disposed of 337 cases, as compared with 398 in the previous year, and there was but a slight rise in the number of pending cases. In the Courts of District Judges the number of appeals instituted rose from 5,409 in 1905 to 5,625 in 1906.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

CIVIL
JUSTICE.

Applications for execution of decrees numbered 97,420, as compared with 105,405 in 1905. Of the applications disposed of, 54·6 per cent. were wholly infructuous, and in 22·4 per cent. satisfaction was obtained in full.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The suits instituted in the North-West Frontier Province during 1906 numbered 22,282, as against 20,810 in the preceding year. This number is the highest recorded in any year since the province was created. Title and other suits rose by 1,169, and suits for money or movable property by 303. Bannu was still the most litigious district, while there was an extraordinary increase of litigation in Hazara.

Of the 26,053 suits for disposal in the District Courts, 24,081 were decided, 1,972 being left pending at the end of the year. The average duration of suits in the province remained at 20 days in uncontested cases, while that of contested suits rose slightly from 35 to 36.

District Judges and Subordinate Judges with appellate powers disposed of 675 appeals as against 666 in 1905. Divisional Courts disposed of 1,021 regular appeals, or 276 more than in the previous year. The increase was common to both divisions, but was more noticeable in the Pashawar Division. Applications for the execution of decrees numbered 16,518 as against 16,361 in 1905; 31 per cent. of the applications were satisfied in full, and 17 per cent. were partially executed.

Coorg.

There was no change in the number of Civil Courts (5) or their jurisdiction. The total number of institutions increased from 1,666 to 1,925. The total number of suits decided was 1,870, as against 1,698 in 1905, and the pending file was increased from 146 to 201. The bulk of the work as usual devolved on the two Munsifs, who together disposed of 798 suits and 1,152 small causes. The number of appeals for disposal was 67, as compared with 71 in 1904; 10 were successful. The Judicial Commissioner decided 7 appeals out of 11 preferred to his court; 5 were confirmed. The number of execution proceedings (2,100) was 299 less than in 1905. Wholly infructuous applications accounted for 73·6 of the total disposals.

Madras.

The number of suits instituted during the year in Madras was 398,798, or 30,682 more than in 1905. The increase occurred in all classes of courts, and in all the districts, except four. The disappearance of plague and the growth of trade are the main reasons assigned for the general increase in original litigation. During the last three years there has been a continuous increase, amounting to 66,900 suits in all. The number of appeals preferred increased from 10,371 in 1905 to 11,101 in 1906. There was a large increase of arrears in all the more important classes of courts.

Before Village Courts 96,040 suits were instituted, an increase of 2,112 on 1905, and 95,765 were disposed of. In Revenue Courts 8,456 suits were filed, or 1,126 more than in 1905. The number of both ordinary and small cause suits filed in District Munsifs' Courts was the highest on record, namely, 92,497 and 145,405, or 8,583 ordinary suits and 16,594 small cause suits more than in the previous year. The disposal was also a record, showing 89,661 of the former and 144,409 of the latter class of suit. In Subordinate Judges' Courts the numbers of ordinary suits and small causes disposed of were respectively 840 and 23,553, as compared with 960 and 22,553 in the previous year. In District Courts the numbers were 445 and 438, the figures for 1905 being 360 and 650 respectively. In the Presidency Small Cause Court 20,290 cases were disposed of and arrears increased from 2,043 to 2,689.

In the High Court an increase of 16 in the number of suits for disposal (467) took place, and the number of disposals was 259, or 26 more than in the previous year. The number of appeals before the High Court was 5,220, as against 6,064 in 1905, the number disposed of being 1,286, and the arrears in first appeals being reduced from 740 to 733. District Courts disposed of 6,183 appeals out of 10,935 for disposal, and Subordinate Judges' Courts of 1,819 out of 2,786.

The number of applications for execution of decrees for disposal during the year in courts in the mufassal was 285,088. Disposals numbered 254,120, and arrears increased from 28,644 to 30,970.

Bombay.

In the Bombay Presidency (including Sind) the total number of suits instituted showed a decrease from 142,207 to 132,478, which was attributed to the extension of the application of the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act

to the whole Presidency towards the end of the preceding year. Of these, 78 per cent. were for money or movable property, and 14 per cent. related to immovable property, all other suits totalling 8 per cent. The percentage of contested suits was 37 as against 22 in 1905. There was an increase in the average duration of contested suits, it being 243 as against 148 days in the preceding year, and the duration of uncontested suits rose from 79 to 91 days. The total number of suits disposed of was 131,419 as against 144,856 in 1905, and arrears increased from 33,954 to 37,020.

Including arrears from the previous year to the number of 3,444, there were 8,742 appeals before the courts, of which 4,672 were decided, the pending file rising to 4,070. In 2,440 cases the decrees of the lower courts were confirmed, while 752 were not prosecuted or were dismissed. The average duration of appeals was 249 days in the year under review as compared with 219 in 1905.

Applications for execution of decrees numbered 167,334, and 166,960 were disposed of, arrears increasing from 50,263 to 50,637. Excluding 702 applications disposed of by transfer, 66 per cent. of the applications proved wholly infructuous; full satisfaction was obtained in 16 per cent. of the cases, partial satisfaction in the remainder. The total amount recovered in execution fell from £396,999 to £370,590. The number of persons imprisoned in process of execution was 646, as against 973 in 1904.

The total number of applications for declaration of insolvency disposed of during the year was 303, of these 104 were withdrawn, 125 granted, and 75 rejected.

CIVIL
JUSTICE.

CHAPTER IV.

REGISTRATION OF ASSURANCES, &c.

REGISTRATION.

REGISTRATION.
General.

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 the registration of which 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 immoveable property, or other documents, excluding wills, which affect rights in such 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 immoveable property not included in the above-mentioned classes, deeds affecting moveable property, wills, and other documents. As concerns transfers of immoveable 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 immoveable property had to be registered, excepting that in the case of tangible immoveable 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 immoveable 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 1906-07 were £369,000 as compared with £361,900 in the preceding year; and the cost of the registration offices was £205,000, leaving a surplus of £164,000, against £174,300 in the year 1905-06.

In 1906, as in 1905, there was a general increase in registration transactions throughout the greater part of British India, due to the amending Act of 1904. Although this Act was in force during the whole of 1905, a part of its effect was delayed, as its meaning and requirements were at first not fully understood. The other causes to which changes are due, are local in character, and may be explained in a particular district either by unfavourable or by favourable circumstances. An expansion in the work of registration may be due on the one hand to plague, high prices, bad harvests, and declining credit, or on the other to the development of new lands, the growth of towns, and the general effects of economic progress. The following particulars are taken from the provincial reports for the calendar year 1906.

Bengal.

There was an increase of 16 per cent. in the total number of deeds registered in Bengal, from 793,200 to 922,700. The number of registrations of immoveable property under the compulsory classes is given as 792,500 compared with 680,400 in 1905. This considerable increase is ascribed partly to the operation of the Act of 1904, partly to favourable local conditions, such as the growth of trade in the large towns, the reclamation of waste lands, and the demand for land amongst cultivators of jute, and in some districts to scarcity and high prices. Sales of immoveable property increased from 250,100 to 295,000, of which 199,000 represented values less

than Rs. 100. The total value of the immoveable property affected by the registrations under the compulsory classes was £11,591,000, of which 32 per cent. was contributed by the comparatively small number of deeds (4,332) registered in Calcutta.

REGISTRATION.

The total number of deeds registered in Eastern Bengal and Assam rose from 735,300 in 1905 to 801,000 in 1906. The compulsory registrations affecting immoveable property in the province numbered 683,700, with a value of £4,766,000. An increase of 72,878 documents in the compulsory class is attributed to the operation of the Act of 1901, whose provisions are now becoming better known, and to the high price of food grains, which had the effect of increasing the number of sales and mortgages.

Eastern Bengal and Assam.

The number of documents registered in the United Provinces rose from 220,400 in the year 1905 to 248,600 in 1906; nearly half of the increase is due here, as elsewhere, to the further operation of Act VI. of 1904.

United Provinces.

In the Punjab, where the new Act is not in force, both the number of compulsory registrations of immoveable property and the value which they represented increased in 1906 by 16 per cent. The whole of the increase is due to registrations effected in the first six months of the year. It is suggested that the comparative freedom from plague during this period may have allowed the completion of transfers which had been held in abeyance.

Punjab.

The figures of registrations in the North West Frontier Province are small; but the decrease in the number of instruments registered in the districts of Hazara, Bannu, and Dera Ismail Khan, from 3,593 in 1903 to 1,917 in 1905, due to the introduction of the Land Alienation Act, has been followed by an increase to 2,411 in 1906. There was also an increase in Peshawar, partly due to the expected construction of the Upper Swat River Canal.

North West Frontier Province.

The number of registrations in Lower Burma increased from 42,400 to 47,700. This increase followed upon a similar increase in 1905, and was chiefly due to the legal change noted above. The value of the immoveable property concerned rose to £5,297,200; of this sum £2,353,000 was contributed by the comparatively small number of transfers (2,615) in Rangoon town, where 32 unusually large transactions occurred. In Upper Burma registrations were few in number. The Lieutenant-Governor decided not to recommend the extension of the Indian Registration Act to this part of the province, but revised rules under the Upper Burma Registration Regulations, 1897, were drafted for consideration.

Burma.

The number of registrations in the Central Provinces and Berar rose to 60,300, of which 36,700 occurred in Berar. The year's results show the continuance of steady progress. The presence or absence of plague was the chief factor in local fluctuations, plague or the fear of plague causing an increase in wills and deeds of gift *inter vivos* in certain districts.

Central Provinces and Berar.

In Madras the number of registrations rose from 1,061,600 to 1,142,500, the highest figure on record; there was an increase in the registration of all classes of documents, and in all districts except Nellore, where there was a decrease under mortgages, due to a liberal grant of State loans.

Madras.

The number of registrations in Bombay was 195,200, representing a slight increase over the number in 1905. There was a considerable increase in sales of all sorts and a corresponding decrease in the number of mortgages, due to the conversion of mortgage deeds into sale deeds by *savkars* in order to avoid the consequences of the application of the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act. The sections of the Transfer of Property Act, making compulsory the registration of documents affecting immoveable property of a less value than Rs. 100, have not yet been applied to Sind.

Bombay.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

The report on Joint Stock Companies registered in India under the Indian Companies Act, VI. of 1882, for 1905-06, the latest year for which statistics are available, shows that the number of new companies registered was 268, with a nominal capital of £5,186,000 and a paid-up capital of £387,900; while 90 companies, with a paid-up capital of £524,700, ceased to work.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

REGISTRATION.

On the other hand, the paid-up capital of 463 companies was increased by an aggregate amount of £1,158,000, while 82 companies reduced their paid-up capital by £117,000. The net result was that at the end of the year there were in operation 1,728 companies, with a paid-up capital of £27,890,000. There has been an increase of 36·8 per cent. in the paid-up capital in the last 10 years. The companies are most important in the provinces of Bengal and Bombay, which possess 40·5 and 37·7 per cent. respectively of all the paid-up capital; in Madras the number of companies (528) was larger than in either of the two former provinces, but the paid-up capital constituted only about 8·5 per cent. of the whole. The Bengal companies are, taking the figures as they stand, the richest, the average of paid-up capital for the 387 companies in that presidency being £29,200; while for the 390 companies of Bombay it is £27,000, and for the 528 of Madras £1,500. 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 -	3,002,400	Mills and presses -	13,570,100
Trading and shipping -	5,702,700	Tea and planting -	2,354,200
Mining and quarrying -	1,977,300	Other industries -	1,283,500

The group of companies with the largest aggregate subscribed capital, £13,570,100, constituting nearly half of the total paid-up capital, were for weaving and spinning or for pressing cotton, jute, wool, and silk; and nearly 55 per cent. of the capital of such undertakings belonged to the Bombay Presidency. The capital stated above represents in all cases share capital only; the total value of the debentures issued amounted to £3,846,700.

It is now possible for the first time to give statistics of companies which are registered elsewhere, but which carry on work with sterling capital exclusively, or almost exclusively, in India. The total number of such companies is 165, and the paid-up capital amounts to £68,970,294, besides £27,721,223 debentures. The railways represent £43,524,597 paid-up capital and £24,694,100 debentures; the tea industry £12,183,399 and £1,240,550 debentures. Of the rest the sterling share capital invested in jute mills is £2,403,891, in cotton mills £831,492, in rice mills £934,585, and in mining and quarrying £4,796,211. The gold fields in Southern India are mostly worked by companies formed in London, the paid-up capital being £2,353,451. Thus, while the railway, gold, and tea industries are mainly financed from abroad, the great bulk of the mill and press industries are registered in India.

PATENTS AND DESIGNS.

PATENTS.

The laws for granting exclusive privileges to inventors and for protecting patterns and designs were amended and consolidated by the passing of the Inventions and Designs Act, V. of 1888.

The total number of applications filed under the Act in 1906 was 620, or 34 more than in the preceding year. Of these, 44 were refused or abandoned, and 84 were undecided at the end of the year. Sixty-five only of the applications were made by natives of India, 144 by Europeans and others resident in India, and 411 came from outside India, of which 194 were from the United Kingdom. The categories under which most of the inventions are classed, so far as the subjects are enumerated, are bicycles, the manufacture of tea, railway materials, electric contrivances, chemical appliances and preparations, and spinning or weaving machines.

CHAPTER V.

FINANCE.

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 1905-06 and 1906-07 were as follows:—

		1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	
Revenue -	73,327,957	75,577,812	
Expenditure -	71,236,103	73,988,472	
Surplus -	£ 2,091,854	1,589,340	

Gross
Revenue and
Expendi-
ture.

In these figures all receipts are included in the total of revenue and all outlay in the total of expenditure, with the one exception that the working expenses of railways are treated not as expenditure but as a deduction from Revenue. 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 the interest charges as well as the working expenses of the Railways, the interest charges and working expenses of Irrigation Works, the cost of the cultivation and manufacture of Opium, and the charges against other revenue-earning departments are treated as deductions from revenue, and the receipts of spending departments are treated as deductions from expenditure.

FINANCE.

Net
Revenue
and Ex-
penditure.

NET REVENUE.*

	1905-06.		1906-07.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Land Revenue, &c. :						
Land Revenue - - - -	18,129,572		19,104,638		+ 975,066	
Forest - - - - -	1,775,124		1,763,627		- 11,497	
Tributes from Native States - -	396,867		401,633		+ 4,766	
		20,301,563		21,269,898		+ 968,335
Opium : Net Receipts - - - -		3,572,944		3,743,773		+ 170,829
Taxation :						
Salt - - - - -	4,109,939		4,095,172		- 14,767	
Stamps - - - - -	3,876,326		3,985,706		+ 109,380	
Excise - - - - -	5,631,395		5,845,799		+ 214,404	
Provincial Rates - - - - -	2,792,257		2,275,411		- 516,846	
Customs - - - - -	4,258,366		4,232,499		- 25,867	
Assessed Taxes - - - - -	1,314,678		1,416,327		+ 101,649	
Registration - - - - -	361,135		378,891		+ 17,756	
		22,344,096		22,229,805		- 114,291
Commercial Undertakings :						
Post Office - - - - -	75,541		148,213		+ 72,672	
Telegraph - - - - -	166,635		173,199		+ 6,564	
Railways - - - - -	2,001,966		2,313,541		+ 311,575	
Irrigation - - - - -	126,231		769,555		+ 643,324	
		2,037,103		3,058,110		+ 1,021,007
Mint - - - - -		201,194		252,600		+ 51,496
Exchange - - - - -		82,870		190,922		+ 107,152
Total Net Revenue - - - £		48,539,680		50,744,208		+ 2,204,528

NET EXPENDITURE.*

	1905-06.		1906-07.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-).	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Debt Services (excluding amounts charged under Railway Revenue Account and Irrigation).		461,949		932,291		+ 467,342
Military Services :						
Army - - - - -	18,077,434		18,440,276		+ 362,842	
Marine - - - - -	377,091		482,331		+ 105,240	
Military Works and Special Defence Works.	1,191,905		1,211,874		+ 22,969	
		19,646,433		20,137,481		+ 491,051
Collection of Revenue - - - -		5,470,083		5,635,479		+ 165,396
Civil Services :						
Civil Departments - - - - -	11,330,796		12,316,527		+ 985,731	
Miscellaneous Civil Charges - -	3,636,580		3,593,591		- 42,989	
Civil Works (including Railways charged to Provincial or Local Revenues).	4,871,991		5,024,697		+ 152,706	
		19,842,367		20,934,818		+ 1,092,451
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.		23,994		514,796		+ 490,802
2. Diminution of the Charge against Revenue of the year, owing to Expenditure being met from Provincial Balances.						-
Total Net Expenditure charged against Revenue.		46,447,826		49,151,868		+ 2,707,042
Surplus - - - - -		2,091,854		1,589,340		- 502,514

* It has recently been decided to exclude the "Local" Revenue and Expenditure from the Estimates and Accounts. Effect is given to this decision for the first time in the Financial Statement of the Government of India, and in the Return of Net Income and Expenditure of British India for the eleven years from 1896-97-1906-07, which will be published as Parliamentary Papers. The net figures in the above table, however, include the "Local" Revenue and Expenditure, and therefore differ from those exhibited in the Return of Net Income and Expenditure mentioned above.

Thus there was in 1906-07, as compared with the previous year, an increase in the net revenue of £2,204,528, and an increase in the net expenditure of £2,707,042.

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 1906-07 :—

FINANCE.
Net
Revenue
and Ex-
penditure.

Net Revenue.

Increases.—The largest increase is that under Land Revenue, viz. : £975,066. Agricultural prospects were not good at the beginning of the year but except in a few eastern districts harvests were good all over India. The improvement was greatest in Bombay (£423,239), the United Provinces (£184,616), the Punjab (£180,543) and Madras (£130,433). In Burma, mainly in consequence of floods in some districts, the expansion of the revenue (£17,360) was not so rapid as was expected.

Under Irrigation there was an improvement of £643,324, the net revenue for the year being the highest on record. The net receipts in the United Provinces were higher by £250,912 and in the Punjab by £226,916.

The increase in the net receipts from Railways amounted to £311,575. Of this improvement £123,762 occurred in connection with the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway, being mainly attributable to the increased share in the profits of the line enjoyed by the Secretary of State in consequence of his purchase of the line on the 31st December 1905. The remaining increase was the net result of a simultaneous expansion of the gross receipts and working expenses of the State Railways. As compared with 1905-06 the following are the chief variations in the net traffic receipts from State Railways :—*Increases*—North-Western State Railway £216,200, Eastern Bengal State Railway £95,442, Indian Midland Railway £80,667. *Decreases*—Great Indian Peninsula, £161,148 (due to unfavourable agricultural conditions in Western India), East Indian Railway £147,298, Rajputana-Malwa Railway £73,594.

Under Excise there was a net increase of £214,404. The Revenue under this head has been steadily expanding since 1897-98, when the net receipts were only £3,609,400. In the year under review the increase was greatest in Madras (£93,386), in the Central Provinces (£75,744), in Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam, where the increase for the two provinces taken together amounted to £67,023, and in Bombay (£43,741). There was a decline of £52,017 in the United Provinces and of £42,325 in Burma.

The net revenue under Opium showed an improvement of £170,829. 52,800 chests of Bengal Opium were sold for export at an average price of Rs. 1,391 per chest in 1906-07 as against 49,200 chests at an average price of Rs. 1,434 per chest in the previous year. There was a slight falling off in the exports of Malwa Opium.

There was an increase of £109,380 under Stamps. This improvement was shared by all the Provinces except Bombay and the Central Provinces. About two-thirds of the revenue is derived from Court fee stamps, and the remainder from commercial and other stamps.

The remaining increases of revenue were as follows, viz. :—Exchange £107,152, Assessed Taxes (mainly Income Tax) £101,649, Post Office £72,672, Mint £51,496, Registration £17,756, and Tributes from Native States £4,766.

Decreases.—The largest decrease is under Provincial rates, viz. :—£516,846. Village Service Cesses amounting to £547,900 a year were abolished in April 1906, and the reduction in 1906-07 is due to this cause.

There was a small diminution in the receipts from Customs amounting to £25,867, the most important variations occurring in the receipts from spirits, rice (Export duty), cotton manufactures, and silver. The duty on imported spirits and liqueurs was raised from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 per proof gallon with effect from 26th February 1906. The announcement of this measure led to large imports and withdrawals from bond towards the end of 1905-06 for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the old tariff; and in 1906-07 there was a marked falling off in the imports.

In March 1905 the Salt duty was reduced from 2 rupees to 1½ rupees per maund (82½ lbs.). In March 1907 a further reduction to 1 rupee per

FINANCE.

maund was made, at an estimated cost of over £1,250,000 of net revenue annually. The rate is now uniform throughout India and Burma. Consumers of salt have, as was hoped, benefited by the reduction of duty.

There were also decreases of net revenue under Forest amounting to £11,497 and under Telegraph amounting to £6,561.

Net Expenditure.

Increases.—The increase in the Expenditure on Civil Departments in 1906-07 amounted to £985,731. The chief increases occurred under Police (£339,160), Law and Justice (£186,116), Education (£169,441), and Political (£116,594). In April 1906 the permanent annual grants to the Provincial Governments of £333,000 a year for Police Reform, £233,000 for Education and £133,000 for the development of agricultural research and instruction were increased to £500,000, £266,700 and £160,000 a year, respectively. It was not possible to utilise these grants fully within the year, or the increase of expenditure under these heads would have been larger.

In 1905-06 the portion of the revenue which accrued to the Provincial Governments exceeded the expenditure chargeable to them by £23,994. This sum under the existing system of decentralised finance was added to their balances and charged against the revenue of the year. In 1906-07 the provincial surpluses amounted to £514,796, the charge against the revenue of the year due to the provincial adjustments being thus greater by £490,802.

The expenditure shown as attributable to the Service of Debt rose by £467,342. 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. Under this system the net interest payments other than those chargeable to Railways and Irrigation would have shown a diminution of about £80,000 in 1906-07. But certain changes in assessing the rate of interest charged on the capital invested in Railways and Irrigation were introduced with effect from 1906-07, and the increase above mentioned is the effect of these changes.

There was an increase of £491,051 in the net charges for Military services, of which £362,842 was under the head of Army, and was due to further expenditure on measures for improving the efficiency of the Army. The expenditure on Army Stores in England was £1,573,031, as against £714,080 in 1905-06. This increase 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. The increase of expenditure under the Marine head amounted to £105,240, and was attributable to the purchase of miscellaneous stores in England.

Under Collection of Revenue there was an increase of £165,396, of which £69,715 was due to heavier charges for collecting the Land Revenue. This increase is due mainly to changes in provincial and village establishments and variations in connection with survey and settlement operations. An increase of £58,103 under Stamps is due to the introduction of a unified Postal and Revenue Stamp; the cost of all stamps is now included under the head "Stamps," whereas formerly the cost of Postal and Telegraph Stamps was charged to "Post Office" and "Telegraph."

The increase of £149,706 under Civil Works is partly due to a further grant of £38,000 a year made by the Government of India in April 1906 to district and local boards in aid of their expenditure on roads, buildings, hospitals, schools, water supply, sanitation, &c., and partly to the application of a portion of the permanent grants made to Provincial Governments for expenditure on police reform, education, and agricultural development and research (*see* above under "Civil Departments"), to the construction of buildings. The money so spent goes to increase the charges under the head of Civil Works.

FINANCE.

Decrease.—There was a decrease under Miscellaneous Civil Charges amounting to £42,986.

The tables in the Appendix (page 195) show the net revenue and expenditure in India of the several Provinces under the chief heads for the years 1905-06 and 1906-07, 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.	1905-06.		1906-07.	
	Surplus.	Deficit.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	£	£	£	£
Bengal - - -	7,335,155	—	6,910,248	—
Eastern Bengal and Assam -	700,998	—	1,242,614	—
United Provinces - - -	3,194,773	—	2,935,337	—
Punjab - - -	1,419,015	—	1,557,719	—
Burma - - -	2,293,841	—	1,854,848	—
Central Provinces and Berar -	447,219	—	510,133	—
Madras - - -	4,791,703	—	4,707,861	—
Bombay - - -	4,616,671	—	4,969,802	—
North-West Frontier Province	—	—314,295	—	—238,286
India, General - - -	—	—4,726,993	—	—4,526,993
England - - -	—	—17,666,233	—	—18,333,943
Net result - - -	Surplus £2,091,854		Surplus £1,589,340	

CAPITAL OUTLAY ON PUBLIC WORKS.

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

Capital outlay on public works.

	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£
Amount supplied by State borrowing or from the Cash Balances, without being charged against the Revenue of the year:—	7,922,204	7,915,041
State Railways - - -	556,194	797,627
Irrigation Works - - -	1,487,995	—
Amount met by Debenture Stock issued by the East Indian and South Indian Railway Companies.	7,195	3,236
Amount defrayed from Revenue:—	9,687	—
Provincial Railways	55,278	3,442
Preliminary railway expenditure not originally charged to construction.	296,573	356,460
Protective Railways - - -	16,305	14,222
Protective Irrigation Works	—	—
Other Irrigation Works*	—	—
Total Direct Outlay by the State	10,351,431	9,090,028
Outlay by companies guaranteed or subsidised by Government	—315,744	1,809,714
Outlay by Local Boards	26,698	62,648
Total Capital Outlay on Railways and Irrigation - £	10,062,385	10,962,390

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

DEBT.

The following table shows the alteration in the amount of the debt that took place in 1906-07, the amount of the rupee debt in India being expressed in pounds at the rate of Rs. 15 = £1 :—

	Amount of Debt on 31st March 1906.	Amount of Debt on 31st March 1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
In India (permanent)	£ 84,054,041	£ 86,970,043	£ 2,916,002	—
„ (temporary)	—	—	—	—
In England (permanent)	146,157,439	147,518,634	1,061,195	—
„ (temporary)	—	—	—	—
Total	£ 230,511,480	234,488,677	3,977,197	—

In 1906-07 a loan of 4½ crores of rupees (£3,000,000) was issued in India at an average price of 97·3 per cent. In England, £2,000,000 three per cent. stock was offered for tender at a minimum price of £94 10s. per cent. The average price obtained was £91 16s. 5d. per cent. Of the proceeds of this loan £749,900 was used for the discharge of debentures of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, and the remainder for advances to railway companies.

Other obligations.

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 1906.	Amount incurred 1906-07.	Amount discharged, 1906-07.	Amount outstanding 31st March 1907.	Increase 1906-07.	Decrease 1906-07.
Savings Bank Deposits	£ 11,222,784	£ 4,440,380	£ 3,713,993	£ 11,949,171	£ 726,387	—
Deposits of Service Funds.	1,199,243	98,507	87,364	1,210,386	11,143	—
Excluded Local Funds	300,090	785,601	796,270	289,421	—	10,669
Railway Funds -	55,765	24,743	17,508	63,000	7,235	—
Deposits of Sinking Funds.	112,786	11,119	—	123,905	11,119	—
Special Loans	1,125,708	—	213	1,125,495	—	213
Treasury Notes	29,861	—	—	29,861	—	—
Departmental and Judicial Deposits.	4,222,969	21,990,348	21,608,615	4,604,702	381,733	—
Total	£ 18,269,206	27,350,698	26,223,963	19,395,941	1,126,735	—

LOANS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS.

FINANCE.

	Amount outstanding 31st March 1906.	Amount advanced 1906-07.	Amount repaid 1906-07.	Amount outstanding 31st March 1907.	Increase 1906-07.	Decrease 1906-07.
Loans by the Government of India to Port Trusts, Municipalities, Native States, &c.	£ 7,721,101	£ 340,755	£ 336,504	£ 7,725,352	£ 4,251	—
Loans by the Provincial Governments.	3,524,257	1,192,084	610,653	4,105,688	581,431	—
Total	11,245,358	1,532,839	947,157	11,831,040	585,682	—

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.	
	1905.	1906.	1907.	In 1905-06.	In 1906-07.
In India	£ 10,749,770	£ 11,781,457	£ 10,328,237	£ +1,031,687	£ -1,453,220
In England	10,262,581	8,436,519	5,606,812	-1,826,062	-2,829,707
Total	£ 21,012,351	20,217,976	15,935,049	- 794,375	-4,282,927

COINAGE.

Coinage.

The value of the coinage at the Indian Mints was—

	1905-06.	1906-07.
Silver	£ 13,334,297	£ 17,390,494
Bronze	—	124,420
Copper	144,659	55,652
Total	£ 13,478,956	17,570,566

The silver coinage in 1906-07 consisted of 253,703,283 rupees, 3,436,113 half rupees, 10,671,938 quarter rupees, and 22,144,650 one-eighth rupees. A portion of the heavy rupee coinage of the year was required in connection with the formation of the Silver branch of the Gold Standard Reserve, which it was decided to establish during the year. This Silver Reserve consists for the present of 600 lakhs of coined rupees of which 200 lakhs is held at the Calcutta Mint. The building up of this reserve was commenced from the beginning of the year, and was completed shortly before its close.

The gradual replacement of the copper coinage, consisting of pice, half pice, and pie pieces, by a coinage of bronze pieces of the same denominations, was begun in 1906-07.

FINANCE.

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

	1905-06.	1906-07.
Receipts - - - -	£ 321,183	£ 419,498
Expenditure - - - -	120,079	163,898
Net Receipts - £	201,104	252,600

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 £3,677,880 on the coinage of rupees in 1905-06, and of £4,014,426 in 1906-07. 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 1907 the Gold Standard Reserve consisted of Consols and other stock and securities of the nominal value of £13,313,297, £4,000,000 in coined rupees, £21,725 in gold held in India, and a sum of £301,305 held in India in the Treasury balances.

Paper
currency.

PAPER CURRENCY.

On the 31st of March 1907 the value of notes in circulation was £31,301,000, being greater by £1,530,000 than on the corresponding date in 1906. The paper currency reserve was, in gold £10,689,000, in silver coin £9,146,000, in silver bullion £3,476,000, 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 1905-06 the Secretary of State for India in Council sold Bills and Telegraphic Transfers on the Treasuries in India for Rs. 47,22,43,256, and received for them £31,566,973; the average rate was thus 1s. 4·0427352*d* per rupee. In 1906-07 the sales of Bills and Telegraphic Transfers amounted to Rs. 49,88,74,935; the sterling received was £33,432,196, and the average rate was 1s. 4·0836444*d*. per rupee.

CHAPTER VI.

SURVEYS.

SURVEYS.

SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT.

The work of the Survey of India Department falls under various heads, Survey of India. 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 1906. The separate Forest Survey Branch has now been abolished, and in future forest surveys will be carried out by the topographical parties as part of their ordinary work. Cadastral survey in Madras and Bombay is already undertaken by a local department, and in the other Provinces, with the exception of Burma, cadastral work is carried out by the Settlement Department. The question of definitely relieving the Survey Department of all responsibility for this work is now under consideration.

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 opens with an 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 then proceeds to deal with the revision of the topographical maps of India, 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 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, that they were deficient in heights and levels; and that in many parts of India were so obsolete as to be of little use, and even misleading, on account of the changes effected in roads, etc., 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, and their reproduction in colours. They advised that the surveys should be drawn, in the first instance, on the scale of 2 inches to the mile, and reduced to the 1-inch scale for publication. The Government of India still have under consideration a scheme for effecting changes in the light of the Committee's recommendations, and for ensuring that the principal duty of the Survey of India shall be the provision and maintenance of up-to-date topographical maps.

During 1905-06 the field operations were carried on by 22 survey parties and four detachments. Of these, one party was employed on triangulation; nine parties on topographical surveys; four on forest surveys; three parties with one detachment on cadastral surveys; one party on both cadastral and topographical surveys; four parties on scientific operations; and three detachments on cantonment surveys.

The programme of the triangulation party was to prolong the isolated Trigono-
Kalát Series eastwards and to connect it with the Great Indus Series. The
work was successfully accomplished, and this important series of triangulation

SURVEYS. now stretches from the Indus, through Northern Baluchistan, as far west as longitude $64^{\circ} 30'$. It will eventually reach Koh-i-Malik Siah, the trijunction point of Baluchistan, Afghanistan, and Persia.

Topographical. The total area of detail topographical and forest surveys during the year was 23,312 square miles. 9,248 square miles were covered in Burma, where a five years' programme of topographical survey was arranged in 1905, embracing a large area of the more important tracts of country. Topographical operations were also carried on in the Punjab and the North West Frontier Province, in the Central Provinces and Berar, and in Bengal and Eastern Bengal. Sixty-nine thousand square miles of gazetted forests throughout India have now been surveyed on various scales for forest purposes.

Special operations. Rigorous astronomical observations for azimuth have been regularly taken in past years at intervals of 40 or 50 miles along all series of the Principal Triangulation. A Professional Volume containing an account of the latitude observations taken in India and of the deduced deflections of the plumb-line has now been compiled for publication. Further pendulum operations were undertaken at stations lying between Simla and Quetta.

Systematic vertical observations of Himalayan peaks from stations near Dehra Dun were commenced. An account of the geodetic and other scientific work of the Department is to be found in the Annual Report of the Board of Scientific Advice for India.

Tidal and levelling operations. The recording of tidal curves by self-registering tide gauges, their reduction, and the publication of tide tables, were continued during the year at nine stations. The programme of levels along the Indus in Sind was completed. A line of levels was commenced that will connect Lahore with Rawalpindi and complete the Punjab levelling circuit.

Magnetic. Four detachments of the Magnetic Survey party continued and extended the work of the Magnetic Survey over different portions of the country. Very abnormal values of terrestrial magnetism have been found to exist in eight or nine different places in India, and more detailed surveys will be required.

OTHER SURVEYS.

Marine surveys. The marine survey vessel "Investigator" was employed in surveys in the Persian Gulf and neighbourhood, and was also used in connection with the scientific investigations of the Pearl Fisheries near Mergui and Tavoy. A programme of work for the five years 1907-08 to 1911-12 has been sanctioned, according to which the "Investigator" will be employed on the coast of Burma and the "Palinurus" on the west coast of India from Chaul Beacon to Cochin.

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 1906 by surveys in Baluchistan, the Northern Shan States of Upper Burma, Central India, and the Central Provinces. Various economic questions, which are becoming an increasingly important part of the Department's work, were also dealt with, in connection, for example, with building stone and road metal in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, coal in Assam, copper in Chota Nagpur, and bauxite. In July 1906 a special post of chemist was created. A complete memoir on the disastrous earthquake which occurred in the Kangra district of the Punjab on the 4th April 1905 will soon be ready for publication. Investigations were undertaken concerning the conditions regulating the secular increase or decrease of Himalayan glaciers, and the determination of the quantity of silt carried down by the Indus.

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. Work on the improvement of Indian wheat has been begun. Sugar-cane diseases were under study, and a scheme was drawn up for inquiry into the sugar-cane industry. Experimental cultivation of cotton was continued.

The year 1905-06 was one of exceptional activity in the Archaeological Department. The earthquake which overwhelmed Dharmasala did great damage among the monuments of Northern India, and the precarious condition in which some of them were left made it necessary to take measures at once to avert further ruin and danger. Altogether the expenditure on conservation was about £33,300, of which £20,000 was spent in the Northern Circle, mainly on the preservation of the Mughal monuments at Agra, Ajmir, Delhi and Lahore. Among the multitude of monuments in other parts of British India, that were the subject of special repair, the most prominent were the following:—In the Bombay Presidency, the Gol Gumbaz and Ibrahim Rauza, at Bijapur; in Madras, the remains at Hampi and Mahabali-puram, and the forts at Gooty, Sankaridrug and Gurrankonda; in Bengal, the Black Pagoda at Konarak, and the Sona Masjid at Firozpur; in the Central Provinces, the Hindu temples at Janjgir and Mandhata; and in Burma, the Kyaukku Onlmin and Nagayon Pagodas at Pagan and the spire of the palace at Mandalay. Excavations were carried out in various places, amongst which may be mentioned those on the Buddhist site at Kasia in the United Provinces. About 1,200 inscriptions were copied during the year, of which 605 were in Southern India. 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 265 in number at the close of the year 1906-07, ranging from the well-equipped observatories at Kodaikanal, Madras, Bombay, Alipore (Calcutta), Allahabad and Lahore, to small stations at which observations of temperature 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 seismographic observations. Experimental work for determining the conditions of the upper air by means of kites and small free balloons was continued during the year, and a memoir by Mr. J. H. Field, Imperial Meteorologist, was published, giving an account of the preparations which have been made. Other points investigated are rainfall, snowfall, barometric and thermometric readings, cloud movements, storms and atmospheric electricity. Daily charts and weekly and monthly weather reviews, as well as seasonal forecasts and storm warnings, are issued. In the course of the year a Climatological Atlas of India, prepared by the late Sir John Eliot, K.C.I.E., recently head of the Department, was published by Messrs. Bartholomew, of Edinburgh, and a Meteorological Atlas of the Indian Seas and the North Indian Ocean was prepared for publication by Mr. W. L. Dallas.

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; 990 such warnings were issued by the Meteorological Department during the year. The warnings are generally stated by the recipients to have been, with few exceptions, timely and satisfactory. A beginning has been made with a systematic attempt to obtain more detailed information as to when warnings are required and what form they should take.

SURVEYS.
Rainfall.

The average rainfall of past years and the actual rainfall of the three years 1904 to 1906, in the regions into which India has been divided, were as follows:—

Meteorological Division.	Average Rainfall of Past Years.	Actual Rainfall.			Variation of 1906 Rainfall from the Average.
		1904.	1905.	1906.	
	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>
Western Himalayas - - -	57.23	55.10	49.49	63.20	+ 5.97
Punjab Plains - - -	21.28	17.02	15.75	23.67	+ 2.39
United Provinces - - -	39.16	39.32	28.32	39.95	+ 0.79
Rajputana - - -	23.11	19.66	8.49	20.11	- 3.00
Central India States - - -	43.39	39.64	29.60	45.01	+ 1.62
Behar - - -	45.20	50.90	54.70	45.21	+ 0.01
Western Bengal and Chota Nagpur - -	53.70	60.93	54.91	52.29	- 1.41
Lower Bengal - - -	65.73	59.08	81.31	64.78	- 0.95
Eastern Himalayas - - -	124.14	114.43	145.43	127.77	+ 3.63
Assam and Eastern Bengal - - -	95.10	101.43	107.50	106.92	+ 11.82
Orissa and Northern Circars - - -	51.84	50.85	46.98	51.74	- 0.10
Central Provinces, South - - -	52.46	41.10	48.02	55.03	+ 2.57
Berar and Khandesh - - -	34.94	26.83	24.92	37.88	+ 2.94
Gujarat - - -	32.80	14.08	26.30	33.60	+ 0.80
Sind and Cutch - - -	9.04	3.47	4.36	9.93	+ 0.89
North Deccan - - -	30.78	22.72	19.60	28.74	- 2.04
Konkan and Ghâts - - -	134.46	113.23	85.26	109.75	- 24.71
Malabar and Ghâts - - -	114.93	120.73	108.66	101.22	- 13.71
Hyderabad - - -	33.14	25.78	27.06	34.16	+ 1.02
Ceded Districts and Mysore - - -	29.16	23.37	23.90	33.61	+ 4.45
Carnatic - - -	36.77	25.80	33.59	43.96	+ 7.19
Nilgiris - - -	46.60	33.67	66.94	61.79	+ 15.19
Arakan - - -	154.05	154.94	176.63	148.40	- 5.65
Pegu - - -	78.02	85.99	83.92	67.24	- 10.78
Tenasserim - - -	173.34	207.39	177.20	164.51	- 8.83
Upper Burma - - -	38.16	43.00	39.85	38.31	+ 0.15
Bay Islands - - -	113.82	105.15	94.98	98.51	- 15.31

Over the whole of India, excluding Burma, the rainfall of 1906 averaged about 43 inches, which was 1.16 inches, or about 3 per cent., above the normal.

CHAPTER VII.

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

LAND
REVENUE.

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 1906-07.

DETAILS of LAND REVENUE and EXPENDITURE.

	India (General).	Bengal.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North-West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Provinces, and Berar.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Ordinary Land Revenue -	88,472	1,903,571	4,168,551	1,678,014	131,212	1,580,379	1,125,052	1,210,502	1,182,169	2,765,707	18,866,829
Assessment of alienated lands, less quit-rents.	—	5,263	—	11,314	319	—	—	609	—	608,411	628,946
Sale of Proprietary Right of Government in Land.	—	767	127	455	—	—	—	28	16	—	1,395
Recovery of Survey and Settlement Charges.	—	6,192	—	—	—	—	—	12,337	—	—	6,146
Sale of Waste Lands and Redemption of Land Revenue.	56	6,624	471	63,023	1,036	2,076	2,613	543	2,755	—	78,199
Capitation Tax, or House Tax levied in lieu.	458	16	—	—	—	648,279	—	15,108	—	—	663,861
Fisheries and other Receipts classed as Miscellaneous.	12,997	17,942	45,002	57,241	13,283	343,045	10,556	21,050	28,222	43,222	593,260
Total Gross Revenue -	101,983	1,926,991	4,214,153	1,813,077	148,850	2,573,979	1,138,220	1,290,178	1,213,862	3,417,341	20,838,634
Deduct portion credited to Public Works for irrigation.	—	—	104,143	153,917	3,361	3,013	—	—	567,374	175,173	1,006,981
Total credited to Land Revenue for 1906-07.	101,983	1,926,991	4,110,010	1,659,160	145,489	2,570,966	1,138,220	1,290,178	3,546,488	3,242,168	19,831,653
Total for 1905-06 -	89,365	2,211,515	3,926,014	1,478,934	125,676	2,552,303	1,134,914	1,006,034	3,521,141	2,816,273	18,862,169
EXPENDITURE.											
District Administration -	19,412	172,022	269,841	136,568	22,265	175,056	74,946	122,929	291,906	223,557	1,508,168
Survey and Settlement -	12,120	91,115	24,742	69,232	13,056	56,482	17,401	49,596	61,136	5,886	406,806
Land Records -	8,949	5,641	246,761	107,151	10,345	55,060	59,602	17,494	141,341	182,694	835,058
Charges directly connected with the collection of Land Revenue.	817	32,224	21,595	1,281	1,995	133,149	70,979	40,230	263,843	88,377	654,490
Total Charges in India.	41,298	301,032	562,939	314,233	47,669	419,748	222,929	230,250	761,225	500,515	3,404,836
Charges in England -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	790
Total Charges, 1906-07 -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	£ 3,405,626

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, survey and Land Records, and the salient facts regarding the rights and relations of landlords and tenants in the year under report. A short section

is also inserted giving 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, LAND RECORDS, 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 prevailed during the year 1905-06. The figures are in thousands of acres:—

	Ryotwari (peasant proprietors).	Zamindari (larger proprietors) and Village Communities.		Total.
		Permanently settled.	Temporarily settled.	
Upper Burma	49,042	—	—	49,042
Lower Burma	54,963	—	—	54,963
Assam	26,000	3,910	1,433	31,343
Eastern Bengal	—	21,843	6,903	28,746
Bengal	—	60,141	15,110	75,251
United Provinces—Agra	—	6,160	46,438	52,598
Oudh	—	1,156	14,182	15,338
Punjab	—	—	62,220	62,220
North-West Frontier Province	—	—	8,357	8,357
Sind	30,054	—	—	30,054
Bombay	44,831	—	3,785	48,616
Central Provinces	1,649	—	40,713	42,362
Berar	11,333	—	—	11,333
Madras	60,167	30,518	—	90,685
Minor Provinces (Ajmere, Coorg, Manipur)	1,011	959	735	2,735

The Ryotwari area, therefore, embraces about 279 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 13 annas 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 Eastern Bengal the incidence is about 11 annas per acre of cultivated land; and in those of the Agra province about Re. 1½ per acre; 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 1905-06, is approximately Re. 1½ in the United Provinces, rather over Re. 1 in the Punjab, Re. 1½ in Berar, Rs. 2½ in Lower Burma, Rs. 2 in Upper Burma, Rs. 2½ in Sind, Re. 1½ in Bombay, 9 annas in the Central Provinces, Rs. 2½ in Madras, Re. 1½ in Bengal and Re. 1½ in Eastern 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 productiveness 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 1906 extended over portions of fourteen districts, and large areas were surveyed, in addition to the survey of the suburbs of Calcutta which was completed. The area for which a record of rights was completed during the year was 4,210 square miles, bringing the total area thus dealt with in the province as now constituted to 34,700 square miles. The experiment of placing the settlement staff in charge of cadastral survey and record writing in large district operations, referred to in the previous issue of this Report, proved financially successful. The settlement of fair rents on a large scale was confined, during the year, to the districts of Purnea and Bhagalpur. In the former the enhancement (1.09 per cent.) was trifling; in the latter it was considerable (16.79 per cent.) as the result of special circumstances affecting one large estate.

As regards the method of maintenance of the record-of-rights, on which there has been much discussion, it has been decided that in the temporarily settled districts of Orissa the records shall be kept up continuously, and a scheme for the purpose was prepared. The revision of the records was commenced in the district of Balasore.

Throughout the major part of the province the relations between landlord and tenant are governed by the Bengal Tenancy Act. On the whole, the Act continued to work satisfactorily, but instances still occur in which influential zamindars have managed to realise illegally enhanced rents. The Bengal Tenancy Amendment Bill came into force early in 1907. The Act contains provisions designed to secure greater facilities to landlords for collection of rent, but at the same time it guards against enhancement of rent on collusive compromises. Other important provisions are intended to secure the reduction of rents where they appear to have been oppressive to cultivators, and to remove ambiguities, anomalies, and defects in the Act, which have been brought to light from time to time during the 20 years of its existence.

In the United Provinces settlement operations during the year 1905-06 were confined to the province of Agra. In Mainpuri, Etah and Jalaun the work was completed. For Etah and Jalaun the final reports were submitted, and the settlement sanctioned in each case for 30 years.

It is not yet possible to give a final opinion on the effects of the Tenancy Act. But the expedients devised with the purpose of restricting ejectments do not seem to have proved effective, and the continued excess of ejectment

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The Land Records Department was reorganised during the year and its efficiency should be materially increased. Good progress continues to be made in reducing to accuracy the records of rent in the Basti district, in which widespread concealment of rent has been reported in the past.

Punjab. The settlement work in the Punjab during the year ending on the 30th September 1906 was of an uneventful character. Of the seven large settlements in progress, that of Jhang was completed, and the Rawalpindi settlement was drawing to a close. In the Department of Land Records the year was marked by two administrative changes of importance, the separation of the Department from that of Agriculture and the abolition of the Patwari cess. The latter change has afforded appreciable relief to the agricultural community. In lieu of the cess the Government of India sanctioned a compensatory recurring assignment from Imperial to Provincial revenues of £104,300 per annum.

An amendment of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act was passed during the year. Reports again indicate that the Act has been working well. The diversion of capital from money-lending to commerce must inevitably be a gradual process, but there were indications in Ferozepore that this process had begun. During the year under report, a portion of the province was, for the first time since the passing of the Act, exposed to famine conditions, and the Act seems to have stood the test; the contraction of credit was not of such a nature as unduly to embarrass the cultivator, though it seems to have led to an increase in the amount advanced by Government.

North-West Frontier Province. On the 30th September 1906 settlement operations in the Frontier Province were approaching completion; excellent progress had been made in Bannu. In the Department of Land Records it is reported that the Patwari establishment showed improvement both in respect of its educational qualifications and of its recruitment from the agricultural classes. As regards the survey, it was decided that there should be five parties on the frontier to prepare new topographical maps for the settled districts and the adjoining trans-border tracts. The Punjab Land Alienation Act, which has been applied to certain districts, continued to be unpopular with the money-lenders, but the zamindars fully recognised the advantages it confers on them.

Burma. In Burma revision surveys by special agency were carried out, during 1906-07, in five districts of Lower Burma, and other minor operations were in progress. As in the previous year three parties were engaged on regular original settlement work, one in Lower Burma and two in Upper Burma, and three on revision work. The revision settlement of parts of the Pyapôn district was completed, and resulted in a great increase of the revenue demand from 7·24 to 12·64 lakhs. The total area under supplementary survey amounted to 47,470 square miles, showing an increase over the previous year of 3,818 square miles. Of this increase 3,680 square miles were in the Shwebo District, in which a regular Land Records staff was at work, settlement operations having been completed. The area assessed by the Land Records Department rose by over 50,000 acres to 10,987,827 acres.

Central Provinces and Berar. During the year ending 30th September 1906 the bulk of the Sambalpur District of the Central Provinces was transferred to Bengal. In the Land Records Department the principal measure, here as elsewhere, was the abolition of the Patwari cess and the consequent payment from general revenues of the Land Record Staff. The abolition of the cess has given some relief to the people, and the Patwaris generally welcomed a change which substitutes the certainty of a fixed income paid from the treasury for one which, being partly collected from tenants by the Patwaris themselves, was liable to considerable fluctuations and troublesome to realise. In the Settlement Department operations continued in the districts of Chanda, Mandla, Raipur and Bilaspur, and in those parts of the Sambalpur District which were not transferred to Bengal.

In ryotwari villages there was a large increase, from 761,000 to 835,000 acres, in the area occupied for cultivation. A good deal was done in the improvement of the village sites by the sinking of wells. Much

progress has been made in the development of a once backward and neglected ryotwari tract in Balaghat by means of colonisation by good cultivating castes, communications, irrigation, agricultural improvements and experimental cultivation, the establishment of village schools, and a good forest policy.

LAND REVENUE. In the transferred districts of Eastern Bengal and Assam the main survey and settlement work during the year ending 30th September 1906 lay in Bakarganj and Faridpur, in both of which districts the preparation of a complete survey and record-of-rights has been ordered. In the Assam districts of Kamrup and Sibsagar survey and settlement operations were wound up and the final reports submitted. It is now the settled policy of Government to prepare an initial record-of-rights, not only where land revenue is about to be revised, but throughout the entire permanently-settled area of the province. In other parts of India the record-of-rights is invariably associated with the demand of land revenue, and the policy of keeping the initial record up to date by a process of annual revision has been readily adopted as a natural concomitant of the revenue system. Although in this province 90 per cent. of the records will refer to tracts in which Government is precluded from revising the land revenue, it has been decided after much debate that all records of right prepared under the Bengal Tenancy Act, whether in permanently settled areas or not, must be kept up to date.

Six survey parties were at work in Madras during the year 1906-07, in the districts of Ganjam, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Chingleput, Salem and Tinnevely, but the department was again unable to work up to the estimate. Four settlement parties continued their operations throughout the year; there is nothing of special interest to remark regarding their work. The work of the Land Records Department consisted mainly in the preliminary task of rectifying the mistakes of the past.

The relations between landlords and tenants in the larger zamindari were on the whole harmonious, and there was little resort to coercive processes for the recovery of rent. There was no appreciable increase in sub-letting, which is chiefly resorted to by the non-agricultural classes such as Brahmans and Vaisyas, absentee land owners, those engaged in professions other than agriculture, and large owners of landed property. The question of legislation regarding the relations of landlords and tenants was under consideration, the Madras Estates Land Bill, which had been introduced in the Legislative Council, being still under discussion.

Bombay. In survey work in the Bombay Presidency the greatest activity during 1905-06 was in the northern and central divisions. Revision settlement rates were introduced into two talukas, and proposals for revised settlements were prepared. Revised rates were also introduced into several Government and alienated villages. Revised Irrigational Settlements were introduced in three talukas of Sind. The Land Records Staff, in addition to their ordinary duties of inspection, supervised the training of village accountants and the preparation of the record-of-rights.

So far as can be judged, the signs seem to point to a growing emancipation of the tenant class from the power of the landlord. The Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act has done much to check the rapacity of the sâvkâr, while the bad seasons, by lessening the demand for land and decreasing the number of cultivators, have forced the landlord to court his tenants and thus to reverse their respective positions. To these causes may be added the spread of education, the increase in communication, and the growing mobility of the population. There were reports from several parts of the Presidency during the year under review of combinations on the part of tenants against landlords.

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. — Taking the province as a whole, it may be said that during 1906-07 the agricultural and labouring classes were benefited, but that beggars and those of the middle class on fixed incomes were subject to the considerable inconvenience owing to the high prices of food grains. In the Burdwan division the crops were disappointing and high prices prevailed;

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but wages were unprecedently high on account of the large demand for labour on railways, collieries, mills and brickfields. In the Presidency division the material condition of the people was not altogether satisfactory; but high wages and large profits from jute cultivation counteracted high prices to some extent. In the Patna division conditions were fair except in three districts where there was a failure of crops on account of floods. In the Bhagalpur and Orissa divisions the year was, from an agricultural point of view, poor; but in Chota-Nagpur the agricultural community was prosperous.

Eastern Bengal and Assam.—The year 1905-06 was one of considerable hardship to the people in most parts of the province. High prices told severely on the poor, especially the landless class and those dependent on private charity. Distress reached an acute stage in Noakhali and Bakarganj, where relief works had to be opened. Elsewhere agricultural loans were distributed. In the Assam valley the people not only suffered from poor harvests and high prices, but incurred heavy loss of cattle by flood and disease. On the other hand, the condition of the ryots who grew jute was excellent, and in the Rajshahi division, where the ryots got good prices for the rice they exported, there was little distress.

United Provinces.—The frost which occurred early in 1905 changed the expectation of a bumper crop into the certainty of a disastrous loss, and famine conditions were widely prevalent. Distress first declared itself in the Jalaun district, where famine was formally announced on the 1st November 1905. By the middle of April 1906 the number of people on relief works or in receipt of relief aggregated nearly 200,000, and the total did not fall below 150,000 until the monsoon broke towards the end of June. Relief works were then gradually closed, but the distribution of gratuitous relief continued until October. Outside the famine area the high prices of food caused hardship to the poorer classes and to those whose wages were paid in cash, but there was no marked scarcity of work.

Punjab.—The monsoon of 1905, which began well in most districts, was interrupted by a prolonged break of two months, and the copious rain which fell in most parts of the province in the middle of September was too late to save the bulk of the unirrigated crops. The result was that while the sown area was only 9 per cent. less than in the preceding year, a large area of crops failed, amounting to 41 per cent. of that sown. In addition, the cotton crop suffered severely from bollworm in the Lahore and Multan divisions, and in the Chenab Colony was a total failure. On the other hand, the rain which came too late to save the autumn harvest enabled the largest area on record to be put under spring crops with a yield estimated at 129 per cent. of the normal. Taking both harvests together, the total produce for the year amounted to 101·3 per cent. of the normal.

North-West Frontier Province.—The year was prosperous in the Frontier Province, and both harvests were good. In the late rabi harvest the demand for labour was so great owing to the large area to be harvested that the rate paid to labourers rose in some cases to 8 annas a day.

Central Provinces and Berar.—Except in a few scattered parts of the province the year was prosperous. The extreme north of the districts of Sangor and Damoh participated to some extent in the conditions which rendered famine relief necessary in a large part of Central India, but beyond suspensions of rent and revenue, liberal advances and forest concessions, no other special measures were required. The greater part of these districts enjoyed a year of prosperity such as they had not known since the days of the calamities which led up to the famine. The main difficulty which the agriculture of the provinces has now to face is scarcity of labour; but in the year under review labour for the reaping of a plentiful harvest was supplied by a horde of immigrants from the distressed areas of Central India. The rapid growth of the manganese industry, the extension of railway and irrigation schemes, and the expansion of cotton cultivation have created a greater demand for labour than can be supplied, and the high wages now obtainable more than compensate the labouring classes for the high prices of food grains. The rainfall in Berar was rather below the average and was unequally distributed, but the year was by no means a bad one for the agriculturist. The cotton crop gave a smaller yield than was anticipated, but the rise of prices compensated the cultivators for the loss of outturn.

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Burma.—If the province be considered as a whole, the circumstances of the year 1906-07 were, for the agriculturist, normal. Nowhere was there a bumper crop, but nowhere was there scarcity. Hanthawaddy and Tharrawaddy districts again suffered from floods, but Pegu escaped and secured an outturn above the average. Cultivators benefited generally from the high prices, except where they were tempted into trenching on the stock of paddy required for their own domestic use. There was a satisfactory decline in cattle disease. An Agricultural Association was formed in the Akyab District without the aid or intervention of Government, the object of which was to infuse more vigour into the Arakanese cultivator.

Madras.—The year ending 30th June 1907 may be described as prosperous. The south-west monsoon was plentiful and well distributed, but the north-east monsoon, which opened in a promising manner, was in the latter part of its course intermittent and unevenly distributed. As a consequence, while the total area under cultivation exceeded that of the previous year by 860 thousand acres, and the normal by 80 thousand acres, the area under second crop showed a decline of 126 thousand acres below the normal. The rise in the price of food grains continued, but wages do not seem to have risen in proportion.

Bombay.—The season of 1905-06 was marked by a general failure of crops and consequent scarcity in the East Deccan and Karnatak, and by local failures, especially of the rice crop, in Gujarāt. The cotton crop in Gujarāt was, however, good, and the high prices obtained for it compensated largely for the loss in respect of other crops. The season in Sind was favourable, both inundation and rainfall being very satisfactory. Successive years of plague and famine had reduced the local supply of field labour in several districts, and emigration and industrial development contributed to the same result. The wages of the agricultural labourer were, in consequence, maintained at a fairly high level. The wages of industrial labour, both skilled and unskilled, ruled high, owing to the increasing demand of the mills in Bombay and Gujarāt, of ginning factories in Khāndesh, and on large railway and other works in Bombay. In Khāndesh, notwithstanding the extensive immigration, the wages of unskilled labour rose by half. Many of the emigrants from the affected districts were thus enabled to save and remit money for the support of those whom they had left behind. Prices of food grains throughout the Presidency were very high, being in places as much as twice the normal. These high prices benefited the landholders generally, and in Sind the *hari* also, who receives a share of the produce as his wages.

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)	13,287,000	90·1
1866-70	13,327,000	90·4
1871-75	13,977,000	94·8
1876-80	14,076,000	95·4
	14,748,000	100·0
1881-85	15,445,000	104·7
1886-90	16,522,000	112·0
1891-95	17,217,000	116·7
1896-1900	17,503,000	118·7
1900-01 (single year)	18,288,000	124·0
1901-02	18,437,000	125·0
1902-03	19,234,000	130·4
1903-04	18,954,000	128·5
1904-05	18,862,000	127·9
1905-06	19,832,000	134·5
1906-07		

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The total advances made by Government to cultivators in the financial year 1906-07 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 -	£ 4,758	£ 154,387	£ 159,145
" relief of agriculturists and similar purposes.	18,357	693,626	711,983
" to co-operative credit societies.	143	8,637	8,780
Total - - -	23,258	856,650	879,908

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.

Bengal.

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

	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Permanently settled estates - -	£ 1,524,920	£ 1,524,989	£ 1,525,168
Temporarily settled estates - -	184,992	198,084	201,916
Estates under the direct management of Government.	179,198	182,530	186,282
Total - - -	1,889,110	1,905,603	1,913,366

The total amount of revenue collected during the year, including receipts on account of the small arrear demand, was slightly in excess of the current demand, while the receipts on account of the current year's revenue, taken separately, were 98 per cent. of the amount falling due, the balance outstanding of the current and arrear demand being £45,250. The number of estates which became liable to sale for non-payment of Government dues was 8,662, compared with 10,591 in the previous year, and of these only 734, or 8.4 per cent., were actually sold. Under the Public Demands Recovery Act, 140,510 certificates were filed for recovery of arrears of revenue, cesses, &c., compared with 150,446 in the previous year; payment was generally secured on issue of notices or on attachment of property, but actual sale was necessary in 6,324 cases, and warrants were issued in 1,758 cases, 16 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 nearly 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 often has the effect of producing payment; upon which they are released. Advances to agriculturists under the Loans Acts amounted to £124,700, the larger part under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.

The gross rental of the 30 districts in which the Bengal Cess Act was in force was returned for road cess purposes at £8,448,750 for the year 1906-07, which is slightly above the assessment of the previous year.

United
Provinces.

The latest report on land revenue affairs in the United Provinces relates to the year ending 30th September 1906. The year was one of great vicissitudes. The provinces had suffered severely from the great frost of 1905, and the monsoon of 1905 was late and scanty; but the rains of 1906 were plentiful, recovery was rapid, and the outlook at the end of the year

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was as promising as it had been gloomy at the beginning. The demand and collections of land revenue in the last three years are given as follows :—

	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.
	£	£	£
Land revenue, current and arrear { demand - -	4,240,638	4,257,395	4,276,848
{ collections - -	4,239,106	3,962,575	4,018,516

The collections thus fell short by about 6 per cent. of the demand; and this is accounted for by the remissions, amounting to £240,600, which were necessitated by the failure of crops in various parts of the provinces. Taking these and sundry other reductions of the demand into account, the percentage of collection was, as in the previous year, practically 100 per cent., a very satisfactory result considering the circumstances of the season. The net increase in the land revenue brought on the roll during the year was £12,800. The other headings of revenue dealt with in the land revenue report, but not strictly classed as land revenue, are the occupiers' rate (receipts, £642,400) and the owners' rate (receipts, £19,500), which constitute payments for irrigation, besides cesses (receipts, £524,400), &c. Certain of the canal rates were enhanced during the year, and the demand for occupiers' and owners' rates rose accordingly, being 48 per cent. above the demand of the previous year. The abolition of the rural police rate in five of the Oudh districts took effect during the year under report, and the total relief to proprietors due to the abolition or reduction of rates was large, amounting to £260,000 per annum. The abolition of the patwari rate took effect only from April 1906. As regards coercive processes, the figures for the severer forms were somewhat lower than in the preceding year. There were 157 attachments of immoveable property, 196 sales of moveable property, and 834 cases in which defaulters were detained in custody. Of the 231 estates under attachment, 154 were released during the year. On the whole, as compared with recent years, the figures indicate some increase in the difficulty of revenue collections, but they show also that collections were made without resort to any unusual or objectionable degree of pressure. A special feature of the revenue administration during the year was the large increase of advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, the total amounting to £174,600.

The latest Punjab land revenue report available is for the year ending Punjab. on the 30th September 1906. The fixed land revenue demand for the year amounted to £1,372,400, of which £1,223,200, or 89 per cent., was collected. After a year which was, on account of the excellent spring harvest, of more than average prosperity, so low a percentage of collections might seem disappointing. But owing to the failure of the autumn crops large suspensions were necessary, especially in the Delhi division, where this is the more important of the two harvests of the year. A total of £151,700 was suspended, of which all but £20,000 was in the Delhi division, and nearly £130,000 remained recoverable under suspension at the close of the year. The "fluctuating" system of land revenue, applied for the most part either to canal-irrigated lands or to lands subject to floods, is stated to have been unpopular in Rohtak and Ferozepore, but popular in Multan and Muzaffargarh; 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 rose from £275,600 to £307,000 in the year under report. In addition to land revenue proper, "miscellaneous land revenue" was collected to the amount of £83,300. Coercive processes for collection of revenue continued to show a satisfactory decrease. The total number of processes of all kinds was 15,851, compared with 18,964 in 1904-05 and 39,314 in 1902-03. Writs decreased from 12,577 to 10,588, warrants from 4,015 to 3,261, and sales of moveable property from 2,300 to 1,981. The total sum for the recovery of which processes issued was £102,700, compared with £144,000 in the previous year, while the amount thus recovered was £81,100. Cases of imprisonment numbered six

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only. It has been ascertained that the entry of 61 cases for the Gujranwala district, referred to in last year's statement, was due to a clerical error. The advances during the year under the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to £66,500, and £12,700 was advanced under the Land Improvements Act. A large increase under the former Act was due to the scarcity prevailing in the Delhi division.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The report for the North-West Frontier Province covers the same period as that for the Punjab. For the year as a whole the harvested area was 5 per cent. above the quinquennial average, and the outturn about 10 per cent. above the normal. Under these favourable conditions £101,700 of fixed land revenue was collected, or more than 99 per cent. of the total demand. Collections on account of arrears from previous years were also satisfactory. Fluctuating and miscellaneous land revenue, between them, contributed £23,300, compared with £13,700 in 1904-05, the increase being chiefly accounted for by the districts of Hazara and Dera Ismail Khan. The fluctuating system of assessment which is in force throughout almost the whole of the last-mentioned district is popular with the people, but, so far, owing partly to unfavourable seasons and partly to the liberality with which remissions have been granted, the financial results have fallen short of anticipation. The steady decrease in the number of coercive processes for the collection of revenue was maintained, the number of writs and warrants of demand falling from 3,234 to 2,201. The main decrease occurred in Peshawar, but this district is still responsible for 70 per cent. of the total number. The agricultural advances made during the year amounted to £1,900.

Burma.

The season in Burma ending 30th June 1907 was normal, and there was only a small increase of about 1 per cent. on the demand of the previous year. In Lower Burma the area of cultivation under assessment increased by nearly 200,000 acres, but it was counter-balanced by a decrease in Upper Burma of over 150,000 acres. It was not to be expected, however, that the expansion of cultivation and the increase of land revenue would be maintained to the same extent as in former years. The totals of revenue (exclusive of the arrear demand) under the various heads for the last two years are shown in the margin. The collections of current land revenue amounted to

—	1906-07.	1905-06.
Land Revenue	£ 1,629,473	£ 1,610,297
Household tax	309,199	309,898
Fisheries	179,129	194,165
Capitation tax	313,368	337,207
Other sources	173,442	164,884
TOTAL	2,634,611	2,616,451

£1,593,300, which is somewhat above the figure for 1905-06. There was again a substantial rise of 14,600 to a total of nearly 750,000 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, the yield slightly declined. There was a noticeable decline in the receipts from the river and other fisheries which are a considerable source of revenue in both the upper and the lower parts of the province. The heading "other sources" includes receipts from petroleum royalties, from ruby mines, from water rate, &c. There was an increase on the large figures of 1905-06 as regards processes for the recovery of revenue affecting property, but not as regards those affecting persons. The number of sales of real property rose from 1,271 in 1904-05 and 1,955 in 1905-06 to 2,637 in 1906-07, while the number of defaulters committed to jail fell from 80 to 65. The amount of agricultural advances rose to £57,100.

Central
Provinces.

The latest land revenue report available from the Central Provinces is for the year ending in September 1906. The harvests were on the whole satisfactory, and the provinces, with the exception of a few districts, enjoyed prosperity. The demand on account of the land revenue of the year stood at £562,300, reduced by suspensions and remissions to £547,000, almost the whole of which was collected. There was a further demand on account of cesses, land revenue not on the roll and miscellaneous revenue, current and arrear, amounting in all to £57,400; and the receipts under these heads came to £55,100. 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; the

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number of defaulters arrested fell from 263 to 172, of whom only two were imprisoned; attachments and sales of moveable property numbered 452 and 20 respectively, against 1,021 and 61 in 1903-04, and 783 and 47 in the preceding year; and no estates were sold. Advances made during the year under the Land Improvements Act and the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to £37,800. The amount of these loans outstanding at the end of September 1906 was £69,800, of which £14,600 had been advanced without interest.

The latest report available respecting land revenue administration in Berar. Berar relates to the year ending on the 31st July 1906. The year was generally less favourable to agricultural operations than the preceding year, but it was by no means bad and the high prices of cotton were beneficial to the cultivators. The land revenue demand for the year amounted to £585,100, a small increase over that of 1904-05; almost the whole of this amount was collected during the year, and very little resort to coercive processes was found necessary; in no single case was it found necessary to proceed against immoveable property. The demand for land for the extension of cultivation appears not to have been affected by the orders restricting the right of alienation of newly-occupied lands. In Berar the advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act continue to be comparatively small; in ordinary seasons the necessity for loans is less felt than elsewhere, as the credit of the cultivators enables them to raise small loans for seed and cattle without much difficulty.

The year 1905-06 was distinctly unfavourable from an agricultural point of view, excessive floods doing wide damage to the crops both in Eastern Bengal and Assam. Owing to the unfavourable distribution of rainfall, the outturn of the rice crops was, with a few exceptions, poor. Districts, however, which had a second crop to fall back on, such as jute, were comparatively well off. In spite of these conditions the revenue demand under all heads showed a considerable increase. The incidence of Government revenue on the permanently-settled estates is extremely light, having been calculated at a time when these lands had not attained to anything like their present value. The total land revenue demand, including arrears, was £1,278,700, of which £1,213,900, or 95 per cent., was collected. In the permanently-settled estates £651,100, or 98 per cent. of the demand, was collected. There was a slight increase of coercive measures in the districts of the Assam Valley, but the sale law continues to be administered with consideration in the permanently-settled estates, and the certificate procedure was also applied leniently where the circumstances required it. There was no case of imprisonment for failure to pay. The amount of agricultural loans granted in Assam is insignificant, and even in Eastern Bengal there is but a small demand for them.

In the Madras Presidency in the year ending on the 30th June 1907 the south-west monsoon was plentiful, but the north-east monsoon somewhat deficient. Crop areas and outturns were on the whole fair, and prices of staple food grains continued very high. The total demand on account of the year for land revenue, including charges for irrigation and miscellaneous receipts, was £4,189,700, besides cesses amounting to £419,300, and the total collections were £4,676,700, including arrears. The land revenue demand was £88,500 in excess of that of the previous year, but the demand under cesses showed a decline of £123,000 on account of the abolition of the ryotwari village-cess. The area of ryotwari holdings, from which more than 90 per cent. of the land revenue is received, was 24½ millions, being an increase of nearly 100,000 acres over the area of the year 1905-06. The uncollected balances of current dues and of arrears at the end of June 1907 amounted to £66,200, of which 61 per cent. had been collected by the end of October 1907. Of the above land revenue demand, a sum of £332,200 represents land revenue due from permanently-settled estates, and £51,100 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 were issued in 1904 to restrict the issue of demand notices to cases of real necessity, there

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was again a large decrease in the number of preliminary processes for the recovery of revenue. Distraint and attachment notices, sale notices, and sales were fewer considerably than in recent years; the number of demand notices, which was 6,212,162 in 1903-04, had fallen to 2,141,560 in 1906-07, and the number of sales fell from 9,479 in the former year to 7,111 in the latter. More than one-third of the land sold during the year 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 £32,300, the advances being chiefly employed for the sinking or repairing of wells and the purchase of cattle.

Bombay.

The most recent report available for Bombay relates to the year ending on the 31st July 1906. There was a general failure of crops and consequent scarcity in the East Deccan and Karnatak. In Gujarat a good cotton crop, for which high prices were obtained, compensated for the failure of the rice. Sind experienced a favourable season, both inundation and rainfall being very satisfactory. 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 £2,513,300. Collections amounted to £1,580,000, while £475,000 was under suspension. Considering the conditions of the year and the necessity for large suspensions of revenue, these results were not unsatisfactory. Of the suspended revenue more than 93 per cent. pertained to the affected districts of the Deccan and Karnatak. A large proportion of the unsuspended arrears was due to the districts of Kaira, Poona, and Satara. There was a satisfactory increase of over 60,000 acres in the area of occupied Government land. The number of distraints for non-payment of revenue fell from 1,996 to 1,679, while forfeiture was resorted to in 1,485 cases in the Presidency proper, and 5,728 cases in Sind, compared with 2,334 and 3,562 respectively in the previous year. Most of the forfeitures in Sind were carried out under the Sind Fallow Rules. A part cause of the increase in Sind was the large increase in the amount of revenue to be collected, the seasons being so favourable that the area under cultivation increased by 14 per cent. and the land revenue demand by 16 per cent. The agricultural advances made in the Presidency proper amounted to £224,000 in the year under report, while in Sind the advances amounted to £39,200.

WARDS'
ESTATES.

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 largely made 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 their own property, or of persons declared by the local Government, at their own request, to be disqualified for its management. 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 in the interests 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.

Bengal.

In Bengal 190 estates were under the management of the Court of Wards at the close of the year 1906-07, with a total rent and cess income of £500,600. The collection of rents and cesses due to the estates, including arrears, amounted to 97 per cent. of the current demand. With other items, the receipts of the estates amounted to £1,109,000. The disbursements were £998,700, of which £124,000 was for Government revenue and cesses, £21,900 for dues of superior landlords, £47,400, or 9·5 per cent. of the rent and cess demand, for cost of management, £84,300 for wards' and family expenses, and £395,000 for investments and payment of debts. The aggregate cash balances at the end of the year amounted to £110,200,

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together with Government securities to the value of £513,300. The total of the debts stood at £1,490,000, of which £106,800 represents the debts of the Bettiah estate, which is involved to the extent of more than three times the amount of the rent-roll, and £329,600 the debts of the Banaili estate in Bhagalpur.

The number of estates under the Court of Wards in the United Provinces at the close of the year ending 30th September 1906 was 170, with rental receipts amounting in the aggregate to £486,800, besides other receipts, which brought up the total to £725,200. The charges amounted to £725,600, of which £211,100 was for the Government demand, £95,400 for the education and maintenance of the wards, £15,200 for improvements, and £210,800 for repayment of debts, the cost of management falling at the rate of 9·2 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 £2,828,000, of which £1,271,000 had been repaid, while £972,000 had been replaced by more favourable loans.

The number of estates under the management of the Punjab Court of Wards during the year ending in September 1906 was 45. The gross income of all the estates under management amounted to £93,000, besides £19,500 obtained by loans and sale of properties; and the expenditure amounted to £105,400, of which £42,700 falls under the heads of investments and repayments of debt. The cost of management was about 5 per cent. of the gross income. The most important of the new estates which were brought under the Court of Wards was that of the late Sardar Hardit Singh of Rawalpindi, a commercial magnate, who left a property valued at nearly £300,000.

During the year ending in September 1906 there were 8 estates under the Court of Wards, which had been instituted in 1905, in the North-West Frontier Province. The total gross income amounted to £7,600 and the expenditure to £6,800, the percentage of cost of management to gross income being 4 per cent. The total assets at the end of the year were £20,100, 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 on the 30th September 1906 was 83; the policy of giving up the charge of estates, whose condition is hopeless, has resulted in the credit of the Court of Wards being fully restored, and there are now comparatively few estates under the Court in which there is any doubt as to the ultimate repayment of their debt. The total rental demand was £44,600, of which £41,600 was collected. Including other sources, the gross income of the year amounted to £67,700. The ordinary expenditure was £49,500, besides £37,400 invested during the year, or spent on repayment of debt. The cost of management stood, over the whole province, at 14 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 £15,600, leaving a balance of £55,400 still owing at the close of the year.

Twenty-six estates remained under the control of the Madras Court of Wards at the close of the year ending in June 1907. The estates released during the year included the large estate of Pithapuram, the administration of which had improved in every direction during the 14 years of the Court's superintendence. The gross land revenue demand of the estates was £133,600 for current revenue and £101,400 for arrears, and the receipts under these heads amounted to £123,200. The aggregate cash receipts from all sources amounted to £201,200; the expenditure to £197,200, including £63,300 invested and £8,000 spent on repayment of debts. The cost of management fell to 13·3 per cent. of the ordinary receipts. The balance at the credit of all estates, invested and uninvested, at the end of the year was £432,000. Eleven proprietors, who were minors, were under the care of the Court's European tutor.

In Bombay the estates under Government management are of several kinds, namely, estates under the management of collectors or other guar-

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dians, estates in charge of the Talukdari Settlement officer, and encumbered estates in Sind. Outside Gujarat, in which lie all those of the second category, the estates were of small area. Altogether 581 estates were under Government management. The manager of encumbered estates in Sind had 396 estates in charge. The year's revenue of these estates, including loans, advances, &c., amounted to £74,800, and the expenditure to £64,100, which included £15,700 spent in the liquidation of loans and private debts.

CHAPTER VIII.

TAXATION, AND OPIUM REVENUE.

OPIUM.

OPIUM.

The opium revenue is raised partly 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, 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, is permitted only in parts of Bengal and of the United Provinces. In these two provinces, the crop is grown under the control of a Government department, which determines the total area to be placed under the crop in each year. 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, who must receive a licence and is granted advances to enable him to prepare the land for the crop, is required to deliver the whole of the produce at a fixed price to Government 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. The chests become the property of the purchasers immediately after sale, but must be shipped under passes granted by the Board of Revenue and subject to conditions which prevent the opium being used for consumption in India. Opium (known as Malwa opium) is grown in Baroda and in some of the Native States of Rajputana and Central India. The Government of India interfere in no way with its production or local consumption; but Malwa opium may not pass into British territory, whether for export by sea or for consumption in British India, without a pass, which is granted only upon payment of a heavy duty. The duty on opium intended for export varied between Rs. 700 and Rs. 600 per chest (of 140 lbs.) during the thirty years preceding December 1894, when it was fixed at Rs. 600 to Rs. 650. It was reduced to Rs. 600 in July 1896, and to Rs. 500 in October 1897. The rate was restored to Rs. 600 per chest, with effect from the 7th May 1904, and remained at that figure during the year under report. The pass duty on Malwa opium destined for consumption in British territory is an excise receipt, and is, as a rule, Rs. 700 per chest.

Towards the end of the year 1906 edicts were issued by the Government of China having for their object the suppression within ten years of the habit of consuming opium, and of the growth of opium, in China. Proposals were 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. At the beginning of 1908 an arrangement was entered into by which the total quantity of opium (including Malwa opium) exported from India beyond seas will be limited to 61,900 chests in the calendar year 1908, 56,800 chests in 1909, and 51,700 chests in 1910. The question of making still further reductions after the year 1910 will depend upon whether China has, in the interval, effected a proportional reduction in its own production and consumption of opium. Papers giving further particulars, and including a report on the progress of the opium reforms in China, have been issued as Cd. 3881.

OPIMUM.

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

	1897-98.	1900-01.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-1905.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Opium Receipts :*	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Auction sales of monopoly opium.	2,660,697	4,109,249	3,662,600	4,678,371	5,079,541	4,703,571	4,895,505
Duty on Bombay (or Malwa) opium.	647,992	835,117	661,933	871,383	749,125	569,400	553,788
Cost of opium issued to the Excise Departments, and miscellaneous.	145,392	157,877	171,805	186,291	192,833	195,806	211,235
Total - - -	3,453,181	5,102,242	4,495,338	5,736,045	6,021,499	5,468,780	5,660,528
Opium expenditure, chiefly in Bengal.	1,592,744	1,785,875	1,618,483	2,225,744	1,967,085	1,892,441	1,913,292
Net Opium Revenue - £	1,860,437	3,316,367	2,876,855	3,510,301	4,054,414	3,576,339	3,747,236

* This does not include the licence fees and duty on opium consumed in India, which amounted to ₹931,054 in 1906-07, as shown below under "Excise."

Bombay.

The exports of Malwa opium to China in recent years are stated in the margin. The rise in 1903-04 was partly due to a rumoured failure of the China crop. With this exception the decline has been continuous, and the uncertainty engendered by the new opium policy in China led to a further fall in 1906-07. The average prices for opium in the Bombay market during the year under report, including export duty, were Rs. 1,362 per chest for one year old, and Rs. 1,473 per chest for two years old opium, against Rs. 1,556 and Rs. 1,688 respectively in the preceding year. The amount of Malwa opium imported and lodged in the Bombay warehouse during 1906-07 was 14,733 chests, against 16,194 chests in 1905-06; 972 chests were sold for consumption in the Presidency, including Native States, and 575 chests were supplied to the Madras Presidency.

Bengal.

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. For the year 1907-08, the Government of India decided to reduce the area under opium to about 500,000 acres. The opium is received and prepared at the Government factories at Patna and Ghazipur, where 51,136 chests were manufactured during the year 1906-07, of which 6,218 chests were issued to the Excise Department.

The number of chests (of 140 lbs.) sold by auction for export and the average price realised during each of the last six financial years are shown in the margin. The number of chests to be sold during the year 1908-09 will be limited to 45,900.

	Chests.	Average Price in Rs.
1902-03 -	48,000	1,115
1903-04 -	48,000	1,162
1904-05 -	48,000	1,587
1905-06 -	49,200	1,436
1906-07 -	52,800	1,391
1907-08 -	48,900	1,367

SALT.

General.

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. In March 1905 the general rate for India, excepting Burma, was reduced from Rs. 2 to Re. 1½ per maund. In Burma the rate remained at Re. 1 per maund on imported salt, and a system has been introduced by which the greater part of the salt which is locally produced pays a duty of 8 annas per maund. A further reduction of the rate of the salt duty to one rupee per maund was brought into effect from the 20th March 1907; this change, therefore, affected only the last few days of the year under review. Purchases had, however, been delayed by dealers in anticipation of a reduction, and large clearances were effected at the end of March. The records of price show that in almost all districts the consumer has certainly received the full benefit of the successive reductions of duty.

SALT.

Year.	Issues of Salt in 100,000's of Maunds.	Rate of Duty per Maund in Rs.
1901-02 -	369	2½
1902-03 -	369	2½
1903-04 -	376	2
1904-05 -	394	2
1905-06 -	407	1½
1906-07 -	431	1½
1907-08 -	443	1
	(Estimate)	

These successive reductions have led to a large increase in the consumption of salt throughout India, as will appear from the table in the margin. It was larger in 1906-07 than in 1905-06 by nearly 200,000,000 lbs., and the annual consumption is estimated to have increased between 1902, before the reductions of duty began, and 1907 by about 610,000,000 lbs. A comparison of the incidence of the salt duty in India and in European countries where a similar tax is levied will be found in the Financial Statement for 1908-09.

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 varying area 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, a 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 1906-07 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 - -	958,630	—	—	8,042	976,072	70,841	905,231
Burma - - -	25,542	33,766	56,058	—	115,367	1,917	113,450
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	—	52,020	76,386	1,700	130,106	1,563	128,543
Bengal - - -	—	173,171	592,599	6,804	1,072,574	22,048	1,050,526
Madras - - -	947,784	359	718	6,979	955,853	140,689	815,179
Bombay - - -	1,968,476	2,205	740	41,297	1,112,719	125,061	986,358
TOTAL 1906-07 -	3,009,832	561,521	726,531	64,820	4,362,706	353,119	3,999,587
TOTAL 1905-06 -	3,078,987	598,740	634,914	63,769	4,376,410	363,166	4,013,244

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 13·5 lbs. per head; in Behar, 10·9 lbs.; in the rest of Bengal, 11·2 lbs.; in Eastern Bengal and Assam, 6·6 lbs.; in Gujarat, 11·31 lbs.; in Bombay, excluding Sind, 11·65 lbs.; in Sind, 9·23 lbs.; in Madras, 18·7 lbs.; in the Central Provinces and Berar, 13·89 lbs.; in the United Provinces, 8·13 lbs.; in the North-West Frontier Province, 6 lbs.; in the Punjab, 8·42 lbs.; in Kashmir, 11·16 lbs.; in Central India, 10·41 lbs.; and in Rajputana, 7·62 lbs. These figures compare in most instances very favourably with those of 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 38 years are shown below. The figures have been taken from the returns of the

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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	1893-94 to 1897-98 (average)	31,211,000	5,505,000
1873-74 to 1877-78	24,184,000	3,971,000	1898-99 to 1902-03	35,177,000	5,781,000
1878-79 to 1882-83	27,761,000	4,393,000	1903-04	37,603,000	4,922,000
1883-84 to 1887-88	32,129,000	4,111,000	1904-05	39,132,000	5,045,000
1888-89 to 1892-93	33,132,000	5,351,000	1905-06	40,729,000	4,037,000

Northern India.

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, Wareha and Kalabagh mines, the Kohat mines, the Mandi mines, and the brine springs at Sultanpur. From these are supplied the main 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 5,083,000 maunds of salt were produced in 1906-07. Since the year 1870, when the lake was leased by the Government of India, nearly 132 millions of maunds of salt have been taken from it, and the financial results show a total credit balance of £261,230, 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 success of a long trench which has been recently excavated through the bed of the lake. The expenses of construction are not heavy, and extensions will render 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 1906-07 amounted to 5,302,800 maunds. In the Mayo mine 2,397,600 maunds of salt were excavated. This salt is sold at 9 pies per maund, or one anna at the Khewrah depôt. The price of Didwana salt is also 9 pies; Pachbadra salt is sold at the rate of 1½ annas with a charge of 3 pies for clearance; Kohat salt fetches on the average about 9 pies. The total amount of salt which was issued by the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for consumption was 8,925,023 maunds, as compared with 8,696,451 maunds in 1905-6.

The following table gives the total consumption of salt in the states and provinces mainly supplied by the Northern India Salt Department :—

	Total Consumption.	Average Retail Price.		Average Consumption per Head.*	
	1906-07.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.
	Maunds.	Per maund. Rs. A. P.	Per maund. Rs. A. P.	Lbs.	Lbs.
North-West Frontier Province	155,034	2 1 7	2 2 2	6·00	5·11
Punjab	2,533,089	2 2 1	2 2 9	8·42	6·22
Kashmir and Jammu State (excluding Frontier districts).	363,253	—	—	11·16	
United Provinces	1,969,672	2 10 11	2 11 11	8·43	8·67
Behar (Bengal)	3,224,885	2 9 9	2 11 2	10·94	10·62
Central Provinces and Berar	2,168,497	2 11 9	3 3 2	13·89	12·53
Rajputana	944,977	2 6 3	2 5 8	7·62	8·49
Central India	1,091,210	2 9 0	2 9 0	10·41	10·30

* No allowance has been made for increase in population since the census of 1901.

Bengal.

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.

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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 1906-07 was 11,656,142 maunds, as shown in the margin; there was an increase as

Salt Imports by Sea.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	Maunds.	Maunds.
From United Kingdom	4,175,819	5,464,681
" Germany	613,859	1,012,129
" Red Sea and Turkey	4,138,679	2,928,821
" Persian Gulf	61,528	57,768
" Madras	29,999	2,563
" Bombay	728,988	633,939
" Spain	767,032	1,556,235
Total	10,818,931	11,656,142

compared with 1905-06, but the total imports were about the same as in 1904-05. The proportions supplied by the United Kingdom, Germany, and the Red Sea districts respectively were also restored to those of 1904-05. 947,102 maunds of Madras salt were carried into Orissa by rail. This salt is specially manufactured, and being of high quality is able to compete with the Liverpool salt. The average wholesale price of salt, including duty, at the chief marts of Bengal was about Rs. 2½, having decreased by 1½ annas since the preceding year and by 8 annas since the second reduction of duty. The average wholesale price of Liverpool salt in 1906-07 was Rs. 48½ per 100 maunds from the ship's side at Calcutta, exclusive of duty, compared with Rs. 50¾ in 1905-06 and Rs. 48½ in 1904-05.

The net amount of salt consumed in the province, which had been 6,536,655 maunds in 1905-06, rose to 7,894,200 maunds, with a consumption per head of 13·5 lbs. in the saliferous tracts and Orissa, and of 11·2 lbs. in the rest of Bengal.

The Rawana system, under Act VII., 1864, by which permits were required to possess or transport salt, was abolished with effect from the 1st April 1906. This abolition renders the comparative statistics of consumption in the saliferous districts, quoted above, unreliable. The trade in salt has received a decided impetus by being set free from the restrictions which formerly hampered its free movement. Open competition has been encouraged, and there has been in some districts a notable increase in the number of retail shops, resulting in a slight diminution of price. An increase in the number of offences against the salt laws is stated to be due in some measure to an impression, which was disseminated, that the abolition of the Rawana system was accompanied by permission to prepare salt for domestic consumption.

The total consumption of salt in Eastern Bengal and Assam was 2,501,567 maunds, being an average consumption per head of 6·6 lbs. The average wholesale selling price per maund was Rs. 2.11.5, against Rs. 2.10.6 in 1905-06 and Rs. 3.1.11 in 1904-05. The salt trade was hardly affected by the boycott agitation: imports during the year were greater by 16·55 per cent. than in 1905-06. As in Bengal, the Rawana system was abolished with effect from the 1st April 1906.

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. Of the 65 factories worked during the year, 43 were under private and 22 under Government management; the quantity of salt manufactured was 11,235,000 maunds, of which 6,989,000 maunds was prepared under the excise system in private factories. This represents a further increase over the amount (10,580,000 maunds) produced in 1905-06, which was the highest on record up to that time. The imports by rail and sea from Bombay rose from 1,247,000 maunds to 1,411,000 maunds. Excluding the salt used for fish-curing, or bought by the French Government, the total issue of salt for consumption was 11,161,377 maunds in 1906-07, 10,583,571 maunds in 1905-06, and 10,737,983 maunds in 1904-05. The average consumption per head of the population was 18·7 lbs. in the whole Presidency, including Mysore and Coorg, with the Native States except Travancore and Cochin. The corresponding figure for 1905-06 was

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17·6 lbs. If the West Coast districts are excluded, this consumption figure would stand at 20·1 lbs. per head compared with 19·3 per head in the previous year, and 18·1 per head in 1901-05.

The average wholesale price of "excise" (*i.e.*, private factories' salt) decreased from 3 annas 8·2 pies to 3 annas 1·8 pies per maund, chiefly on account of improved stocks. Government salt is sold at a fixed rate (3 annas per maund at most centres) with a view to controlling the price of "excise" salt. The retail prices varied from Rs. 1.13.6 to Rs. 3.5.4 per maund, against Rs. 1.13.11 to Rs. 3.3.7 in 1905-06.

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 42,131 tons, the season, like that of 1905-06, being unfavourable for fishing, and 605,455 maunds of cured fish left the yards in a fit condition for use. Sir F. Nicholson was on special duty collecting information as to the migratory movements of fish on the coasts and for the improvement of the fisheries generally.

A substantial improvement in the conditions of service of the staff of the Salt Department was sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

Bombay.

The salt supply of Bombay comes from the Pritchard salt brine works, owned by the Government, on the Rann 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 less favourable to salt manufacture than in 1905-06, and the stocks in hand had decreased by the end of the year. The following table shows the issues of salt from each source for the last two years:—

	1905-06.		1906-07.	
	Total Issues.	For Local Consumption.	Total Issues.	For Local Consumption.
Baragra salt - - -	Maunds. 2,557,917	Maunds. 477,627	Maunds. 2,509,731	Maunds. 519,305
Sea salt - - -	7,995,357	2,084,830	8,271,117	2,183,489
Imported salt - - -	301,427	253,802	339,530	267,765
Total - - -	10,857,701	2,816,259	11,120,379	2,970,559

The issues of duty-paid salt in the Presidency, excluding Sind, were at the rate of 11·65 lbs. per head of the population, against 11·05 lbs. in the previous year. In Gujarat the rate of consumption rose from 10·65 lbs. to 11·34 lbs. per head. The market price in Bombay city fell from Rs. 3.7.5 in 1905-06 to Rs. 2.13.3 in 1906-07; in the rest of the Presidency the average price remained about the same as in the preceding year. The record of prices for the past five years show that the two reductions of duty have been felt by the consumer to the fullest possible extent; in Bombay city the price has fallen from Rs. 4.1.3 in 1902-03, when the duty was Rs. 2.8, to Rs. 2.13.3 in 1906-07, with a duty of Rs. 1.8; in the rest of the Presidency the average price has fallen from Rs. 3.4.4 to Rs. 2.4.0.

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. Thirty fish-curing yards were open at the end of the year. The quantity of fish brought to be cured in bond rose from 122,500 maunds to 200,207 maunds, and the quantity of cheap salt issued to fish-curers rose from 36,300 maunds to 63,400 maunds, the catches being unusually good.

Sind.

The Sind salt supply is derived chiefly from the sea-salt works at Maurypur, and in smaller quantities from salt deposits at Saran and Dilyar

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on the edge of the desert, and by importation. The amount passed into consumption during the year was 360,500 maunds. The consumption per head of the population is given as 9·23 lbs., the highest rate on record, against 8·87 lbs. in the preceding year, and 8·25 lbs. in 1901-05. The increase in consumption is attributed chiefly to the abolition of licences for the sale of salt, in consequence of which many petty dealers now stock salt in their shops. The average market price was about Rs. 2½. Two fish-curing yards were worked during the year. All the salted fish manufactured is exported.

A duty of Re. 1 per maund is levied on salt imported into Burma. Salt locally manufactured formerly paid an excise duty levied by a composition rate on vessels used for boiling brine; a system of levying duty at the rate of 8 annas per maund on actual output has now been introduced into all districts where any large quantity is produced. The imported salt is superior in quality, and salt locally produced only holds its own by reason of its cheapness. The consideration of the question of levying a uniform duty of Re. 1 on all salt, whether local or imported, has been deferred, pending the report of an officer who has been deputed to make a comparative examination of the salt industry as carried on in Madras and in Burma.

The amount of imported salt which paid duty in Burmese ports during the year 1906 was 1,261,380 maunds. Imports from the United Kingdom constituted about 43 per cent. of the total imported during the year, and salt from Germany about 35 per cent. From 1888 to 1897 English salt predominated in the Burmese market; from 1898 to 1905, Germany took the lead; since 1905 the United Kingdom has regained its position. The statistics relating to locally produced salt are untrustworthy, but the returns, as in 1905, show a tendency to increase. The output for 1906 is given as 812,500 maunds. The average price of foreign salt varied in different districts from Rs. 3.4.3 per maund to Rs. 1.13.6, and of local salt from Rs. 3.4.3 to Rs. 1.1.3; it is not clear in all cases whether the returns relate to wholesale or retail prices. There was a considerable decline in the imports of salted fish, which amounted to 256,900 maunds. The rate of import duty on salted fish is 6 annas per maund.

EXCISE.

EXCISE.

In September 1905, the Government of India convened a Committee to consider the progress of excise administration in respect of intoxicating liquors, and to promote reforms. In a Resolution, published in the "Gazette of India" of the 9th September 1905, they restated the general principles on which their excise policy is based, which are substantially the same as those laid down in a despatch by Lord Cross, when Secretary of State for India, in 1888. They declared, when appointing the Committee, that they had no desire to interfere with the habits of those who use alcohol in moderation, and deemed it necessary to make due provision for the needs of such persons; but their settled policy was to minimise temptation for those who do not drink, and to discourage excess amongst those who do. Fiscal considerations in connection with the liquor traffic were important, not as an end in themselves, but because the most effective way of forwarding this policy was to make the tax upon liquor as high as it is possible to raise it without stimulating illicit sales and productions, and without driving people to substitute deleterious drugs for alcohol or a more for a less baneful form of liquor.

The Committee's report, which is dated 4th July 1906, has been published as a Parliamentary Paper [Cd. 3327]. The orders, which the Government of India have passed on the Report, have been published as House of Commons Papers 142 and 209 of 1907 and Cd. 3816. As a result of the Committee's recommendations, an extensive programme of reform has been adopted, which will be gradually carried into effect. Some of the principal features of the Indian excise systems are outlined below, with reference to the Government of India's recent orders:—

1. The "out-still" group of systems, including all those prior in order of development to the imposition of a still-head duty, embraces various

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farming concessions over large or small areas, and privileges of manufacture and sale, under a control varying in its effectiveness, but in no cases very complete. In out-still areas there are no means of obtaining statistics of consumption; and the objections to a system which affords no adequate check on consumption by the imposition of a quantitative duty are clear. The systems of this group were already in process of abolition, and on the recommendation of the Committee a further reduction has been ordered, so that they will eventually 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, where it is impossible, under present conditions, to exercise the adequate control which the successful working of a distillery system demands. In these cases it is obviously better to impose a lump tax on liquor than to have none at all.

2. The distillery systems, the common principle of which is the levy of a stillhead duty, have also numerous forms, which vary from the *sadar* distillery systems, involving the collection of a number of distillers in a Government enclosure, to the contract supply system of Madras. Central distilleries, which are often mere collections of petty stills, will be gradually abolished in Bengal, Eastern Bengal and Assam, the Central Provinces, Sind, and certain parts of Bombay, which are now supplied by them. In the United Provinces, where the system will be maintained, the number of separate distillers will be reduced to a select few by an insistence on the introduction and maintenance of a proper plant. The Government of India have accepted the Committee's finding that, in existing circumstances, the most suitable system for most districts is the central distillery system of Madras. The essence of this system is that the contracts for the various districts should be given on the lowest terms as regards *ex-duty* price of liquor, consistent with the conditions :—

- (1) That the contractors should be men who have the means to carry out their contracts in a satisfactory manner.
- (2) That there should be an avoidance of such allocation of the various district contracts as would place the greater part of the country spirit production of a province in the hands of a single distiller or combination of distillers.

It is claimed for this system that it steadies prices and thus renders it easier to obtain the full rate of effective taxation, in respect both of duty and of the surtax raised on retail vend under the auction system. Contracts will be granted for terms of three years. District monopoly, which has been hitherto the typical Bombay system, has been found to lead to increased consumption, and will be replaced by the contract system as soon as circumstances permit. The Punjab system is one of competition for supply, but the competition is restricted by the situation of the distilleries, by the limitation of their number and still-power, and by other terms of their licences or distribution arrangements. It is not proposed to make any change in the Punjab at present.

3. The Committee's view has been accepted, that it will be feasible, in most provinces, to increase the existing local rates of still-head duty without giving rise to grave danger of illicit practices. The *minimum* rate will be 15 annas per proof gallon and the *maximum* rate Rs. 7, which is the present tariff rate on imported spirit. Within these limits rates will be varied according to local circumstances, and in general by steps of 10 annas per proof gallon.

4. In the case of country liquor the generally prevailing method of disposal of the right of retail vend is that of sale by auction. This has now been the accepted policy of the Government of India for some years past. The leading principle of the auction system is that as large a proportion as possible of the total revenue on country spirits should be derived from the fixed duty. But in some parts of the same duty area there may be a relatively larger consuming population than in others, and in these areas the right of retail vend will possess a monopoly value unless the still-head duty is reinforced by supplementary taxation varying from place to place.

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The disposal of vend licences by auction serves as a simple but sure guide to the local demand, and indicates whether the still-head duty is adequate or otherwise. The Government of India have laid down the principles : (1) that the privileges of manufacture and vend must be completely separate; (2) that large vend monopolies, where they exist, must be gradually broken up, a system of shops under separate management being the ultimate object in view. The Committee's recommendation, that a fixed fee system should be generally introduced, with security to vendors of privileges "during good behaviour," has been rejected by the Government of India, chiefly on the ground that such a system inevitably leads to the growth of vested interests in the liquor trade, from which India has so far been free. In order to allow greater security of tenure, where this may seem desirable, local governments will be free to replace the yearly auction system by one for a term not exceeding three years, if they think fit.

5. Among other general principles which have been laid down, mention may be made of those affecting the sale of foreign liquor, the taxation and sale of toddy or *tari*, the hours of sale, the categories of persons by whom or to whom liquor may not be sold, the arrangement and general conduct of shop premises, the limits of retail sale and private possession, and the regulation of liquor consumption amongst backward tribes. For details on these points reference may be made to the orders of the Government of India, published as House of Commons papers, which have been quoted above.

The normal excise system, which will eventually prevail over the greater part of British India, is, therefore, based on the grant by contract of the right of wholesale supply and the sale by auction of the right of retail vend. By these means the dangers of unrestricted competition for the supply of liquor and the attendant difficulty of proper supervision are avoided, while at the same time the largest possible part of the monopoly profits, brought into existence by these restrictions, is secured to Government.

The following table gives the excise revenue of 1906-07 and the preceding year under the different heads, as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts :—

	Licence and Distillery Fees and Duties.					Duty on Indian Consumption of		Fines, Confiscations, Miscellaneous.	Total Revenue.	Charges.	Net Revenue.
	Foreign Liquors, &c.	Country Spirits.	Toddy.	Opium and its Preparations.	Other Drugs.	Opium.	Ganja.				
	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
1906-07	297,396	3,153,908	904,022	218,268	374,520	712,786	213,212	24,107	5,898,219	274,609	5,625,610
1905-06	378,724	2,911,067	873,976	219,058	358,982	691,185	227,716	24,112	5,687,820	258,116	5,429,704

A net sum of £561,400 was yielded by customs duties* on exciseable liquors imported into India during the year 1906-07; the total net drink and drugs revenue amounting to rather more than 6 annas (sixpence) a head of the population affected. The net revenue from exciseable liquors and drugs (*i.e.*, total excise revenue less charges, plus Customs' duties on exciseable liquors) in previous years is given in the margin. 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.

* 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. (The duty on beer has been raised to 2 annas per gallon since the close of the year under report.) 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*.

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The number of retail shops and the gross excise receipts are shown in the following table, compared with the population, province by province :—

PROVINCE.	Number of Persons per Retail Shop licensed in 1906-07 for the Sale of				Gross Excise Receipts per 10,000 of Total Population to nearest Rupee.		Population of Excise Area by Census of 1901.
	Country Spirits.	Toddy and Rice-Beer or other Indian Fermented Drinks.	Opium and its Preparations.	Narcotic or Intoxicating Drugs, other than Opium.	In 1906-07.	In 1905-06.	
Bengal - - -	16,575	2,062	38,630	18,153	3,161	2,876	50,722,000
United Provinces - -	8,693	11,211	39,759	12,811	1,891	2,089	47,671,000
Punjab - - -	17,092	510,196	15,686	20,845	1,920	1,706	20,306,000
North-West Frontier Province.	47,120	—	22,320	21,860	1,024	960	2,120,000
Burma - - -	*	7,195	72,917	—	7,270	7,951	9,187,000
Central Provinces and Berar.	2,260	10,369	10,698	9,876	6,816	5,921	11,821,000†
Eastern Bengal and Assam	38,821	5,382	25,803	22,823	2,655	2,006	29,851,000
Madras - - -	3,338	1,965	34,102	58,052	5,095	4,730	38,196,000
Bombay - - -	6,095	1,515	18,894	26,836	8,124	7,852	15,323,310
Sind - - -	10,959	401,361	11,509	6,407	4,729	4,441	3,210,910

* For distillery spirits, 106,831; for out-still spirits, 124,401.

† Allowance has been made for growth of population since 1901.

Bengal.

In Bengal the total excise revenues of 1906-07 and the previous year as given in the departmental returns, were as follows :—

Receipts from	1905-06.	1906-07.
Country spirits - - -	£ 534,557	£ 579,425
Foreign liquors and rum - - -	32,504	30,451
Fermented local liquors, toddy, and rice-beer - - -	113,234	116,359
Opium - - -	149,537	156,779
Ganja, bhang, and their compounds - - -	190,171	187,472
Miscellaneous - - -	1,226	1,499
Total Excise Revenue - - -	1,021,229	1,071,985
Add,—Customs duties levied in the Presidency on imported liquors, &c.	190,422	158,482
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,211,651	1,230,467

The year was marked by a further extension of the area under the contract supply system which has been introduced in Darjeeling and three other districts. The new system is credited with having checked drunkenness among tea garden coolies in Darjeeling. The central distillery system, which is still predominant in the south-east, and the out-still system, which prevails in the north and west, contribute in fairly equal proportions to the excise revenue. 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 at contract prices by a few large distilleries employing improved plant and machinery and producing wholesome spirit free from impurities.

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Relatively high rates of consumption are mainly confined to three distinct tracts—one comprising Calcutta and its neighbourhood; the second, the Darjeeling district; and the third, the greater part of the Patna division, two districts of the Bhagalpur division and three districts of Chota Nagpur. No less than one-fourth of the total revenue from country spirit was collected in the town of Calcutta. As in the preceding year there was an increased consumption of liquor and a large increase in the number of convictions for drunkenness in this neighbourhood. A larger population and higher wages on the one hand, and increased police activity on the other, may go some way towards explaining these results.

Important cases of the smuggling of opium, the licit consumption of which slightly increased, were detected during the year, and it is believed that there is a considerable illicit trade with Burma which escaped detection. No shops are licensed for selling opium prepared for smoking, but the vice, which is confined for the most part to low-class Muhammadans, is prevalent throughout Orissa and is common in all populous towns in the Gangetic Valley. The vice shows no decided tendency to increase; it is practised in secret and known participants are looked upon with reprobation. The price in Orissa has been recently increased. The sale of cocaine is limited to qualified and duly licensed persons; 227 licences were issued during the year. In November 1906 the bringing of cocaine into British India by post was prohibited, and its importation was restricted to specially authorised agents. The active measures taken in recent years against the spread of the habit seem to have met with some considerable success.

The prohibition of the sale of intoxicants of all kinds to children under 14 years of age was introduced during the year.

The excise report for the United Provinces for the year 1906-07 shows that for the last three years the gross excise revenues have been :—

United Provinces.

Gross Receipts from	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Country spirits and fermented liquors - - -	£ 443,780	£ 387,839	£ 395,213
Foreign liquors and rum - - -	55,589	91,095	29,833
Opium - - -	56,096	56,440	56,504
Other drugs - - -	125,920	129,363	131,911
Miscellaneous - - -	286	312	643
Total - - - £	681,671	665,049	614,104

There was an increase in the consumption of country spirits in spite of the abnormally high price of the raw material of distillation. The fluctuations in the receipts from foreign spirit are due to withdrawals from bond in anticipation of the enhancement of duty enforced from the 1st April 1906. The sale and possession of cocaine were placed under restrictions during the year.

In the greater part of the province country spirit is dealt with at present under what is called the "ordinary distillery system," which corresponds in its main features with the central distillery system of Bengal. A further reduction was effected during the year of the out-still area, which consists of thinly populated and comparatively inaccessible tracts. The still-head duty on country spirit varied from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3½ per proof gallon in the larger towns and stood at Rs. 2½ elsewhere. The area of greatest consumption adjoins Bihar and stretches up the Gogra and Jamna rivers as far north as Lucknow, the bulk of the consumption, however, being confined to large cities and cantonments. The consumption in the districts of Agra, Bareilly, and Dehra Dun is also high.

Excise.
Punjab.

The gross excise revenue in the Punjab in the last four years was raised as follows :—

Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	£	£
Spirits made in India -	108,734	131,356	148,814	162,328
Imported liquors and beer -	14,840	15,349	17,476	19,991
Opium -	39,039	40,289	43,184	48,659
Other drugs and miscellaneous	24,080	23,061	28,148	35,733
Total - - £	186,693	210,055	237,622	266,711

High consumption is confined to a track consisting mainly of the Sikh districts of Lahore, Amritsar, Ferozepore, Jullundur, and Ludhiana, which with 23 per cent. of the population account for 56 per cent. of the country spirits consumed, and the cities and cantonments of Simla, Ambala, and Rawalpindi. In the Sikh districts, with the exception of Lahore, the experimental grant on low fixed fees of vend licences, to sell at lower rates country spirit 25 per cent. below proof, was continued during the year. The object of the experiment has been the reduction of illicit distillation, which was so rife in these districts in the past that the consumption of illicit liquor was estimated to be at least equal to that of licit. The experiment, which has been the subject of a special report, has resulted in a very great increase in recorded consumption, a large part of which is put down to the substitution of licit for illicit supplies and to export into neighbouring native states. The price of spirits in these districts was increased with effect from the 1st April 1907.

Outside the area affected by the experiment, there was an increase in consumption of about 5 per cent. The growth is attributed in these, as well as in the Sikh districts, to the stimulus of plague and high wages, and would have probably been greater but for the high price of gur. Plague has had a twofold influence in stimulating consumption. On the one hand, panic and a widespread belief that spirits are a prophylactic have driven the people to drink, and on the other hand plague has made labour so scarce as to enable the menials to earn much larger wages, which, in the absence of any prejudice to the contrary, their first impulse is to spend in the wine shops. No tari is consumed in the Punjab.

There was some increase in the consumption of opium during the year, perhaps due to its being taken sometimes as a supposed remedy for plague. About one-third of the amount retailed was grown in the province. Malwa opium is imported, and pays an import duty of Rs. 4 per seer, while that coming from Kashmir and the Hill States pays Rs. 2 per seer.

The trade in cocaine was brought under regulation during the year.

The excise receipts in the North-West Frontier Province amounted to £14,986 only, and there is nothing which need be noticed in the working of the excise system.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

In Burma the gross excise revenue during the past three years was raised thus :—

Receipts from	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£
Imported liquors -	76,462	62,537
Country spirit -	38,495	31,992
Toddy and rice-beer, &c. -	153,661	144,085
Opium -	322,533	307,587
Fines, &c. -	2,873	3,064
Total -	594,024	549,265
Add,—Customs duty on imported liquors -	114,838	102,122
Total revenue from drink and drugs - - £	708,862	651,387

Excise.

The receipts under all the main heads show a reaction from the increases of the two preceding years. This may be partly due to certain changes of policy which have been recently introduced, although Burma was excluded from the investigations of the Excise Committee. The category of "imported liquors" includes plain spirit from Java and the Straits Settlements, and is consumed by the class which in most other provinces confines its potations to country spirit. The decrease under this head may be partly due to a recent increase in the duty on imported liquors. The contract distillery system for the production of country spirit was introduced into the Tenasserim Division during the year, and the area under the out-still system was further reduced. The partial substitution of country for imported spirit, and the absence of evidence as to the value of licence fees under the new conditions, leading to a decrease in the receipts from their sale, render the figures of the year unreliable for comparison. In Upper Burma *tari* is the only alcoholic liquor whose sale to native Burmans is permitted.

Under the opium systems in force in Lower Burma, and recently introduced into Upper Burma, the revenue is derived chiefly from the sale of excise opium at fixed wholesale rates to the licensed retail vendors, the number of shops being now fixed at 88 for Lower Burma and 38 for the Upper province, and sales being restricted, as regards Burmans, to those who were registered as consumers in the year 1893. The falling off in the receipts for the year may be due to the closer supervision of sales at the shops by the officers in charge, but, as it is said that in Lower Burma little or no advance has been made in the suppression of opium smuggling into the province, it may well be that the success achieved in the control of licit sales has been counterbalanced by an increase in the illicit consumption. It is believed that there is a large contraband trade in opium both from China and Bengal. A scheme for the entire re-organisation of the excise staff in Rangoon, so as to allow of the better detection of smuggled opium, is now under consideration.

In the Central Provinces and Berar the excise receipts of recent years have been as follows :—

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

Receipts from	Central Provinces.				Berar.			
	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Country spirits and toddy.	111,990	143,834	181,067	230,008	101,862	130,159	182,163	198,325
Opium - -	58,079	65,983	67,446	72,900	27,782	29,952	39,564	50,388
Ganja - -	14,435	17,303	19,745	23,184	3,361	4,191	6,437	6,717
Miscellaneous, including foreign liquors.	3,605	3,835	2,588	3,494	599	545	873	859
Total - - £	188,109	230,955	270,846	329,586	133,604	164,847	229,037	256,289

This table shows a notable and progressive increase in the country spirit revenue, which constitutes nearly the whole of the first item. But this increase has not been accompanied by a corresponding growth in consumption. With the introduction and extension of the contract supply system, it was expected that there would be an increase in revenue from direct duty; but a large increase, at the same time, in the receipts from licence fees, on account of severe competition in the retail market, shows that the limit of expedient taxation of a direct kind has not yet been reached. In Berar the consumption of country spirit remained almost stationary during the year. In the areas of the Central Provinces for which exact comparison is possible consumption has risen by only 11 per cent., an increase wholly disproportionate to the increase in revenue. The consumption of hemp drugs has decreased by more than 5 per cent., the increased revenue receipts being due to higher rates of duty on ganja and bhang. The increase in opium revenue is also chiefly due to increased duties.

EXCISE.

The contract distillery system had been introduced by the end of the year into the whole of Berar and into twelve districts of the Central Provinces. Out-stills were responsible for less than 10 per cent. of the revenue from country spirit. The Government revenue from tari is derived from licence fees, the right to manufacture and sell being sold by auction annually. Since 1903-04 a reduction of nearly 25 per cent. has been effected in the number of shops for the retail sale of liquor and drugs. Consumption is highest in the town and cantonment of Jubbulpore, and in the districts of Bhandara, Chanda, Ellichpur, and Betul, the last three of which are largely inhabited by aboriginal tribes.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

The excise revenue of the new province of Eastern Bengal and Assam for the last three years was as follows:—

Receipts from	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Country spirits - - - - -	£ 107,983	£ 113,604	£ 124,622
Imported liquors and rum - - - - -	9,752	10,334	7,858
Opium - - - - -	157,783	163,718	173,309
Ganja and its compounds - - - - -	101,718	118,618	110,855
Miscellaneous, including toddy, &c. - - - - -	5,096	5,003	4,802
Total - - - - -	£ 382,332	411,277	421,446

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

No change was made during the year under report in the three systems—out-still, central distillery, and contract distillery—in force, the greater part of the province remaining under the out-still system. But plans for the complete introduction of the contract distillery system in all the plains districts of the province were under consideration. No comparison of the consumption of spirits with the consumption in the preceding year can be given, as under the out-still system no trustworthy records of output are available; the total number of out-stills licensed fell from 554 to 506. It is stated that sales of imported liquor were largely diminished by the *Swadeshi* movement.

Nearly 77 per cent. of the opium consumption was due to the Assam Valley districts; the total consumption was 1,871 maunds of opium, or about 6 per cent. more than in 1905-06. There seems to be some evidence of an increase in the habit amongst the cultivating classes resulting from the increased prosperity of recent years. Ganja is chiefly consumed in the Eastern Bengal districts; there was a further decrease in the total consumption, but it is said that the ganja habit is spreading among tea garden coolies in Assam, the drug to a certain extent taking the place of liquor.

Madras.

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

Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Country spirits - - - - -	£ 478,515	£ 512,616	£ 507,139	£ 573,879
Toddy - - - - -	585,706	621,837	639,547	661,510
Foreign liquors and miscellaneous - - - - -	33,330	34,058	39,212	37,400
Opium and other drugs - - - - -	76,719	82,619	86,134	92,602
Total - - - - -	1,174,270	1,251,130	1,272,032	1,365,391
<i>Add</i> ,—Customs duty on imported liquors -	76,631	77,232	85,387	75,511
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,250,901	1,328,362	1,357,419	1,440,902

EXCISE.

The contract distillery supply system which is in force over the greater part of Madras has now been 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 1906-07 in distillery areas is returned as 1,411,000 proof gallons, compared with 1,222,000 gallons in 1905-06 and 1,272,000 gallons in 1904-05. The increase is attributed to a favourable season. 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 was chiefly due to enhanced rates of tree tax which came into force over a large part of the Presidency, 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 is relatively high, and to the Madras Town Circle. The quantity consumed in the Presidency, excluding that issued to Native States, is given as 953 maunds, compared with 935 maunds in 1905-06 and 955 maunds in 1904-05.

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

Bombay.

Gross Receipts from	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Country spirits - - - - -	£ 579,003	£ 661,456	£ 685,738	£ 727,029
Toddy - - - - -	103,467	110,054	111,803	114,816
Foreign and Indo-European liquors - - - - -	23,353	25,497	21,498	23,738
Opium - - - - -	56,829	70,663	67,403	64,859
Other intoxicating drugs - - - - -	33,104	51,045	57,658	52,253
Miscellaneous items - - - - -	5,409	5,601	5,424	4,842
Total Excise Revenue -	801,165	924,316	949,524	987,537
<i>Add</i> ,—Customs duties on imported liquors -	215,148	213,265	255,736	229,341
Total Revenue from Drink and Drugs - £	1,016,313	1,137,581	1,205,260	1,216,878

According to the form of the central distillery system which obtains throughout almost the whole of the Bombay Presidency, 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. The contract supply system of Madras, by which the monopoly of manufacture is separated from that of retail vend and an appreciable part of the revenue is obtained from the auction sale of shop licences, has now been introduced into six districts.

More than one-third of all the distillery liquor drunk in India is consumed in the Bombay Presidency, and the issues of country spirit for consumption in the distillery areas exceeded 2½ million proof gallons, the average for the five years preceding being slightly in excess of 2 million gallons per annum. In Bombay city, where the rate of consumption is highest, there was a decrease during the year.

STAMPS.

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

STAMPS. exchange, receipts, and the like. The following table gives the stamp receipts, province by province, for the year 1906-07 :—

	India (General).	Bengal.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North- West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Pro- vinces and Berar.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
Sale of court fee stamps	£ 15,226	£ 680,248	£ 131,395	£ 473,346	£ 172,703	£ 17,667	£ 165,285	£ 39,189	£ 406,233	£ 216,616	£ 2,682,489
Sale of commercial and other stamps.	8,562	286,306	168,236	132,951	90,256	10,272	92,078	63,645	243,806	190,857	1,293,129
Fines and miscellaneous	1,474	13,193	1,379	2,357	6,933	171	7,747	898	10,153	3,985	54,290
Gross Stamp Revenue of 1906-07.	25,332	980,447	601,581	614,754	169,892	28,110	265,110	161,032	660,192	417,458	4,029,908
Deduct — Refunds and charges.	— 46,705	36,865	28,250	22,308	14,121	1,547	12,264	8,794	32,177	20,548	130,169
Net Revenue of 1906-07	72,037	943,582	576,331	592,446	155,771	26,563	252,846	155,238	628,015	396,910	3,899,739
Net Revenue of 1905-06	26,750	1,178,960	298,483	573,541	247,735	25,781	237,089	161,430	592,209	406,184	3,748,162

CUSTOMS.

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, machinery which is worked by power other than manual or animal labour, food grains, living animals, raw materials such as coal, jute, raw cotton, or wool, books, gold and unset precious stones, which are all admitted free of duty; petroleum, which pays 1 anna per gallon; and articles of 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 *ad valorem* was imposed on imported cotton goods and yarns, while a countervailing excise duty of equal amount 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 and thread, 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 imported from abroad or manufactured in India at power mills, 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 82½ lbs. 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 the sugar-growers of certain countries in their home markets, Act VIII. of 1902 was passed, by which the Government was further authorised to impose a special additional duty 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. Thus, under the legislation of 1899 as amended by that of 1902, the Government of India have power to impose countervailing duties in respect of direct and also of indirect bounties. But since the Brussels Convention took effect, sugar, which is the produce of any of the countries adhering to the Convention, has not been subject to any duty in excess of the ordinary tariff rate. Sugar entering India from the Argentine Republic, Chile, Denmark, or Russia was subject to various rates of countervailing duty during the year under report; 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.

The Tariff Schedule was revised in December 1906, the new schedule coming into force on 1st January 1907; the principal changes were in the valuations of cotton fabrics for tariff purposes and in the list of cotton goods recognised as piece goods. No important change in customs procedure was made during the year.

	1894-95.	1895-96.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Sea Customs, import duty :	£	£	£	£	£	£
Arms, ammunition, and military stores.	10,126	11,403	8,252	10,925	10,796	10,996
Liquors - - -	406,355	440,669	542,196	552,141	646,286	561,401
Petroleum - - -	213,118	270,782	291,303	303,465	241,125	246,120
Cotton manufactures -	256,631	776,483	653,193	803,324	877,330	850,479
Silver bullion and coin	230,557	231,859	267,069	267,691	194,685	260,637
Other metals - - -	135,078	168,641	222,827	227,170	202,911	226,776
Sugar - - -	630,450	686,725	211,993	218,061	266,216	284,936
Other articles - - -						
Export duty on rice -	594,017	609,581	780,863	858,958	751,115	681,816
Miscellaneous - - -	6,694	1,770	21,674	22,698	21,169	24,871
TOTAL Sea Customs	2,483,026	3,197,913	3,675,010	4,079,461	4,056,757	4,018,175
Land Customs - - -	15,884	13,397	21,307	24,630	20,059	20,351
Excise duty on cotton manufactures.	6,897	40,632	135,740	155,577	178,071	190,947
Miscellaneous (including warehouse and wharf rents).	10,773	18,672	18,767	19,044	17,523	17,290
TOTAL NET CUSTOMS REVENUE.	2,516,580	3,270,614	3,850,824	4,278,712	4,272,410	4,246,763

The receipts from import duties show an increase, following the course of the import trade, but the yield of the export duty on rice again fell. 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.

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 the cesses for the district post and practically all those levied under the various names of patwari cess, village service cess, and the like, in Madras, the Central Provinces, the United Provinces, the Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Ajmere, and Coorg, were abolished; 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 surrendered.

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 the restriction of provincial rates or cesses to those, supplementary to the land revenue proper, which are levied on the land, by, or on behalf of, local authorities, to meet expenditure by them on local objects; and their limitation 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.

88 STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

PROVINCIAL
RATES.

The following is a table of the rates and cesses collected during the year 1906-07 :—

	India (General).	Bengal.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North- West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Provinces and 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.	1,666	233,069	383,093	173,922	13,106	127,195	62,654	153,294	454,455	214,034	1,816,479
Provincial :											
Cess on land for ex- penditure on roads, schools, &c.	—	232,765	—	—	—	—	—	104,080	—	—	336,845
Cess on land for canals and railways.	—	—	—	1,043	1	—	—	—	—	—	1,044
Cess on land for village service and patwaris.	—	—	—	4,076	497	—	19,945	—	7,069	—	31,587
Assessment on wards' estates for establish- ment charges.	—	8,452	11,669	1,175	1,173	—	—	3,389	—	—	25,858
Miscellaneous - - -	2,448	—	61,196	—	—	—	—	—	2,120	—	68,764
Total Receipts -	4,114	474,277	458,958	180,218	14,777	127,195	82,599	260,762	463,644	214,034	2,280,577
Refunds and charges of collection.	3	18,579	889	470	12	5,479	177	7,450	352	3,936	37,346
Net Receipts, 1906-07 -	4,111	455,698	458,069	179,748	14,765	122,716	82,422	253,312	463,292	210,098	2,243,231
Net Receipts, 1905-06 -	5,970	576,950	634,598	285,909	21,681	116,302	116,348	154,427	637,161	205,699	2,755,045

The figures in the following table taken from the provincial reports give the income tax levied under Parts II. and IV. and the incidence per head of population in towns of more than 200,000 inhabitants :—

INCOME
TAX.

	Population.	Collections 1906-07.	Incidence per head of Population.	Collections 1905-06.
		£	s. d.	£
Calcutta - - - - -	1,067,911	145,919	2 9	138,768
Bombay - - - - -	977,822	143,688	2 11	101,781
Madras - - - - -	509,346	*	*	*
Lucknow - - - - -	264,049	*	0 3½†	3,801†
Rangoon - - - - -	240,970	40,380	3 4	43,782
Benares - - - - -	209,331	*	0 3½†	3,027†
Delhi - - - - -	208,575	9,680	0 11	7,368
Lahore - - - - -	202,964	3,969	0 4	3,822

* Figures not available.

† 1904-05.

INCOME
TAX.
General.

INCOME TAX.

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 6¼d. 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 (£66⅔) 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 and charges on account of income tax in each province were as follows :—

	Net Receipts, 1905-06.	1906-07.		
		Gross Collections, less Refunds.	Collection Charges.	Net Receipts.
India (General) - - - - -	£ 131,890	£ 135,939	£ 98	£ 135,841
Bengal - - - - -	327,458	326,846	10,015	316,835
Eastern Bengal and Assam - - -	38,204	68,784	1,905	66,879
United Provinces - - - - -	139,766	142,969	21	142,948
Punjab - - - - -	84,590	91,890	719	91,171
North-West Frontier Province -	7,693	8,308	57	8,251
Burma - - - - -	101,635	105,187	2,551	102,636
Central Provinces and Berar - -	36,690	39,791	688	39,103
Madras - - - - -	172,462	184,572	2,185	182,387
Bombay - - - - -	251,665	312,043	5,590	306,453
Total - - - - -	£ 1,292,053	£ 1,416,327	£ 23,828	£ 1,392,499

CHAPTER IX.

FORESTS.

FORESTS.

The subjoined table gives the forest receipts, expenditure, and net revenue for each province during the year 1906-07, as given in the Finance and Revenue Accounts :—

	India (General).	Bengal.	United Provinces.	Punjab.	North West Frontier Province.	Burma.	Central Pro- vinces and Berar.	Eastern Bengal and Assam.	Madras.	Bombay.	TOTAL.
REVENUE.	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹	₹
Receipts	59,638	71,053	166,844	107,029	12,214	654,169	160,977	88,039	219,378	228,165	1,766,501
EXPENDITURE.											
Conservancy and Works	23,785	21,863	59,939	53,081	4,411	155,352	34,996	25,740	101,399	65,564	543,151
General direction, Estab- lishment, &c.	30,289	20,303	29,780	23,213	1,892	90,907	54,523	24,451	67,979	67,153	403,406
TOTAL Expenditure	54,075	42,166	89,719	76,294	6,303	246,259	89,525	47,191	169,377	132,717	946,557
Net Revenue or Forest Surplus, 1906-07	5,563	28,887	80,134	30,735	5,911	407,910	70,542	30,848	54,901	95,448	820,044
Net Revenue or Forest Surplus, 1905-06	14,721	35,092	68,549	34,533	2,219	426,121	76,131	34,146	46,733	90,593	824,748
Net Revenue or Forest Surplus, 1904-05	10,172	31,926	67,949	57,472	1,069	367,522	46,190	20,801	56,207	74,151	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. Forest administration is based upon the principle that State forests should be administered for the public benefit; they are worked, therefore, with a view to 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 "unclassed." In the case of reserved areas the control of the Forest Department is more complete than in the case of the protected or unclassed 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 168,000 square miles of State forests, including 12,500 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, except where they have been leased to the Government, are 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 have organised a systematic forest administration, from which they 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 4,240 and 3,432 square miles, the latter figure including 600 square miles under the control of the local revenue officials. Working plans had been provided for 5,093 square miles, and the preparation of further plans was in progress during the year. Attempt was made to exclude fire from 1,879 square miles, and only 0.38 per cent. of this area was burnt, the season having been very favourable for fire protection. The rubber plantation (*ficus elastica*) in the Tista division has been so far very successful; good progress was also made with the teak plantation recently started in Southern Puri. The yield of timber was nearly five million cubic feet, a small increase on the yield of the previous year, the apparent decrease being due to a revised method of measurement; the out-turn of fuel (29,700,000 cubic feet) was rather larger than in the previous year; the number of bamboos taken from the forests was 11½ millions. Tigers are reported to have killed 114 forest workmen, against 166 in the previous year. The net financial result was rather better than in 1905-06. The forests are well provided with young growth of trees of valuable kinds, and the net revenue should show a steady increase in the future. Though the Department endeavours to sell marketable produce in such ways that it may obtain the benefit of increases in market prices, it is not its object to run up these prices; as large quantities as possible of the kinds of produce in demand are placed at the disposal of customers.

In the United Provinces the area of reserved forests was 3,934 square miles, in addition to 157 square miles of leased forests; there was also an area of 9,070 square miles of "district protected forests," which are under the Forest Act, but are controlled by district officers, and 43 square miles of unclassed forest. The greater part of the area under the Department is settled and surveyed, and worked under regular working plans. Protection from fire was attempted over 3,200 square miles; the year was favourable and only one per cent. of this area was burnt. The area thrown open to cattle, for the whole or part of the year, was 1,280 square miles, besides the large area of district protected forests. The yield of the forests was 7½ million cubic feet of timber, 11¼ million cubic feet of fuel, and 15½ 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 which have fallen considerably in value, and the manufacture of turpentine. The latter industry was being conducted in the Naini Tal division on an increasing scale and at a satisfactory profit.

The reserved forest area administered by the Punjab Forest Department at the end of 1906-07 comprised 1,808 square miles, besides 114 square miles under military or other control. The protected forests aggregated 5,241 square miles, while there is an area of 1,756 square miles of "unclassed" forest, and 526 square miles of leased forests. Some valuable additions were made during the year to the reserved forests of the province, but the total area in charge of the Forest Department was reduced by 48 square miles chiefly by transfer to the Colonization Department or disforestation on account of the new colonies. Working plans had been completed for 4,145 square miles of the 9,445 square miles of forest under the Department; 152 miles

FORESTS.

of paths were constructed as compared with 138 miles in the previous year, and this was an important part of the work of the department. The year was very favourable as regards forest fire protection, on account of the wetness of the season, and the area damaged was the lowest for many years; special fire protection was attempted over an area of 919 square miles, of which only 0.18 per cent. was burnt. The total timber out-turn was $4\frac{2}{3}$ million cubic feet or 52 per cent. less than that of the previous year; the fuel out-turn was $23\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet or 18 per cent. less than in 1905-06. The decline is ascribed to a variety of causes of which the chief were the shortage of labour and the gradual supersession of wood fuel by coal. As a result the net profits of the year (£27,200) were less by £6,900 than in 1905-06. More than 90 per cent. of the area of the forests was open to all cattle for grazing. The difficulty of protecting forests from damage by agricultural animals is increasing owing to the growth in the profits of pastoral farming. Flocks of sheep and goats have largely increased, and it is not easy to strike a fair balance between the immediate interests of the people on the one hand and those of forest conservancy on the other.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

In 1906-07 the total area of the reserves under the direct control of the Department in the Frontier Province was 234 square miles, and there were also 120 square miles of civil protected forests. It is not necessary to enter into the details of the working of this area; there has been a steady and substantial increase in the out-turn of timber, and the net revenue for the year was the highest on record. There was a decrease in the number of forest offences, and the amount of destruction by fire was almost negligible.

Burma.

The reserved forest area in Burma was increased by 1,028 square miles during 1906-07, bringing it up to 21,575 square miles; the unclassified forests, much of which will ultimately be cultivated, are given as covering 109,000 square miles, but the real area is unknown, and may be considerably greater than this. Good progress was made with settlement work during the year, and the Forest Survey Branch covered 525 square miles; but the progress of reservation is quicker than that of survey. Working plans had been completed for 4,208 square miles by the end of the year, and plans for a further 3,025 square miles were being compiled. The area in which fire protection was attempted covered 8,466 square miles, of which 5 per cent. was burnt. The question of the effects of fire protection has long been discussed by forest officers. The conclusion has been tentatively reached that it is beneficial in some cases and useless or harmful in others; where rainfall is abundant, protection is probably harmful by promoting growths which retard or destroy the growth of teak; while in dry forests it is probably beneficial. At the Mergui rubber plantation the area under rubber was 1,914 acres; the quality of the rubber has been favourably reported upon, and the lease of the plantation is being offered for sale. A valuable report on the prospects of a paper pulp industry in Burma from an expert, Mr. Sindall, engaged for the purpose, led to many enquiries. The quantity of teak extracted from the forests was nearly 12 million cubic feet, equivalent to 236,568 cubic tons; this is somewhat more than in 1905-06. During the year 400 tons of selected teak squares were supplied to the Admiralty under arrangements made with them. It has been decided to reduce the area worked by the Department, and to throw open to working under the purchase contract system forests which have been worked hitherto departmentally. Of other timbers, 12 million cubic feet were extracted, besides 14 million cubic feet of fuel; these figures show a decline as compared with those of the previous year. The forest surplus of the year amounted to £333,700, which was less by £38,000 than in 1905-06. The forest revenue in Burma appears to be at a standstill, and no great expansion is likely for the next few years. A certain fall must be faced owing to the curtailment of departmental works, and it is probable that the expansion of trade will do little more than counter-balance this until an increased establishment renders it possible to open out new sources of revenue. An important re-organisation of the Imperial and Provincial forest establishments, involving a substantial increase in the number of officers in each branch, was sanctioned during the year. The reconstitution of the local Forest School was being pressed on, and it is hoped that under the new conditions the training of subordinate officers will be much improved.

FORESTS.
Central
Provinces
and Berar.

The grand total of the area of the forests in the Central Provinces and Berar was 22,002 square miles at the end of the year 1906-07. Reclassification of the forests has been in progress, and it is considered that the area of permanent reserves, now fixed at 19,861 square miles, is approximately final. The working plans sanctioned up to the end of the year covered in all 11,847 square miles, or 54 per cent. of the whole, 996 square miles having been completed during the year; but in respect of 2,257 square miles of this area the prescriptions continue to be unsuitable to existing local conditions and are inoperative. For 4,686 square miles of the rest no working plans are required, and for 1,173 square miles they must be prepared in due course. Fire was excluded from 98 per cent. of the 10,660 square miles in which protection was attempted. The rules regulating the details of fire-protection in the Central Provinces have been recently revised, and for the future the system of partial protection has been abolished and replaced by the more thorough methods hitherto designated as "systematic protection." Eighty-two per cent. of the area of the forests was open to cattle for grazing during the whole or part of the year, and the number of cattle grazed was about $4\frac{2}{3}$ millions, as compared with $3\frac{1}{2}$ millions in the previous year; there has been recently a continuous increase in the number of cattle pastured in the Government grazing grounds. The question of making adequate provision for cattle-pasture presents serious difficulties. There is good reason to believe that grazing is excessive and accompanied by serious injury to the forests in many localities, but elsewhere over wide stretches of forest the pasture available is utilised to an extent far below its capacity. The main problem is to effect a more equable distribution of the grazing pressure over the available pasture grounds. The amount of timber removed from the forests during the year, chiefly by private persons, was nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet, that of fuel $19\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet. Only 1 per cent. of the total was collected by Government agency. The utilisation of lac and systematic endeavours to extend its spread in the forests were continued. The financial results continued to show steady improvement. The revenue, £163,200, exceeded that of 1905-06 by 7 per cent., and the average revenue of the three preceding years by 20 per cent. The surplus was £73,600, or 13 per cent. more than in 1905-06. As usual, the greater part (42 per cent.) of the revenue was yielded by grazing and fodder-grass; 37 per cent. being derived from timber and fuel.

The forests under the control of the Forest Department, Eastern Bengal and Assam, included 6,250 square miles of departmental reserves, 22,956 square miles of unclassified forests, and 11 square miles of other reserved or protected forests. The unclassified forests, however, consist very largely of grass or treeless waste in Assam, and part of their area is more or less regularly under cultivation. Working plans had been prepared for 1,103 square miles by the end of the year 1906-07. Special fire protective measures extended over 1,497 square miles, and were almost completely successful; protection was attempted on a less ambitious scale over about 200 square miles in Goalpara, about 4 per cent. of that area being burnt. The grazing question presents no difficulties in the province; about 26 per cent. of the reserves was opened to cattle, and the large area of unclassified forest was open to all animals throughout the year, on payment by professional graziers and free to ryots. The seeding of sâl was good—except in the relatively damp forests. The rubber plantations (*ficus elastica*) at Charduar were kept in good order; arrangements were being made for their disposal by lease. Efforts are being made to introduce the cultivation of *ficus elastica* elsewhere in the province. The gross yield of the forests is given as $5\frac{3}{4}$ million cubic feet of timber and $11\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet of fuel. In recent years there has been a steady growth of net revenue.

Madras.

The total area of reserves in Madras was 19,620 square miles, of which 18,541 square miles were classed as forests, 256 square miles being added during the year. 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. As regards the management of the forests, detailed working plans were

FORESTS. sanctioned for 602 square miles during the year, and plans for 1,041 square miles were under preparation; the area for which working plans have still to be prepared is estimated to be 8,913 square miles. Protection from fire was undertaken over 7,357 square miles, and was successful in only 92·8 per cent. of that area, on account of incendiarism and an abnormal season in several districts. 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 23,000 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 17,600 square miles. The yield of the forests according to the returns was about 2½ million cubic feet of timber and 21 million cubic feet of fuel, besides 39 millions of bamboos, and other minor produce; the timber included 238,000 cubic feet of teak, and many other valuable woods. The out-turn was greater than in 1905-06, and in spite of increased expenditure the net surplus has been only once exceeded in former years.

Bombay.

The area of the reserved forests in the Bombay Presidency was 13,356 square miles at the end of 1906-07, while that of the protected forests was 970 square miles, the total area of forest remaining much the same as in the preceding year. 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. Working results were generally good, natural reproduction being excellent almost everywhere. The area of forest fires, however, nearly doubled in Sind and increased by 3 per cent. in the Central Circle. There was a general increase in prosecutions for forest offences in the Central Circle. Financial results were most satisfactory, the Northern Circle showing an increased surplus of over £16,700.

Coorg.

The area of reserved forests in Coorg was 476 square miles, while that of the reserved lands was 30 square miles. The management of the protected forests, 570 square miles in area, consisting of village forests, or sacred groves, has been 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, which form a valuable part of the forest produce, continued to be successful in preventing the disease from spreading to new areas. 730 acres were disafforested for purposes of rubber cultivation. Protection against fire was undertaken over about 203 square miles, and was entirely successful, not a single fire having entered the forests. The out-turn of the forests included 273,000 cubic feet of timber and 79,000 cubic feet of fuel. Elephant catching operations met with good success.



CHAPTER X.

AGRICULTURE AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

AGRICULTURE.

AGRICUL-
TURE.

The greater part of the scheme for the development of agricultural experiment and instruction put forward in 1905, has now been realised in fact. Its objects are based on the principle, which has become generally accepted, that effective improvement in Indian agriculture depends largely, or mainly, on the application of European science to Indian conditions. India has been a land of skilled agriculturists for hundreds of generations, and it is chiefly necessary at present to prosecute, with more system and energy than heretofore, inquiries into the existing methods of Indian agriculture, which will enable the Government to improve and develop them on natural lines. There is, therefore, no intention to make any break in the continuity of work, which has been hitherto in the hands of Provincial Departments of Agriculture; but the necessary researches will be prosecuted with more scientific method and greater scientific knowledge than was previously possible.

This scientific knowledge must inevitably be obtained in the first instance by the recruitment of trained specialists from the United Kingdom; but it is an essential part of the scheme that facilities for the best agricultural training should be available in India, in order that the country may become self-supporting, so far as that is possible, in the scientific development of agricultural methods on lines suited to the local conditions. For this purpose, in addition to the Central Research Institute and Agricultural College at Pusa, which has been provided with a Director and six European experts, there is to be established, in each important province, an agricultural college and research station, equipped with laboratories and class-rooms, and connected with a farm of suitable size. The notes on the provincial reports which follow show that the organisation of several of these institutions is now nearly complete. A staff of specialists has been sanctioned, the number being limited to the minimum requirements in the first instance, the majority of whom have been already appointed and have entered upon their duties.

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. Deputy Directors also have been appointed in seven provinces.

The working of the Land Records organisations, formerly dealt with here, is now described in Chapter VII. The following provincial details on the subject of seasons and crops, and agricultural inquiry and experiment, are taken from the reports of the provincial Departments of Agriculture:—

The rainfall in Bengal was not well distributed during the year 1906-07. It was in defect from April to July; in July and August it was general and heavy, especially in North Behar, where the crops were seriously damaged by floods; in October, the critical period for the *aghani* and *rabi* crops, it was unequally distributed. The total area cropped in 1906-07 was 42¼ million acres, against 42½ millions in 1905-06, and a normal total of 45 millions. The three rice crops of the year covered 21½ million acres, falling short by 600,000 acres of the area of the previous year, and by 1,600,000 acres of the normal; there was a large increase in the area under jute. It has frequently been asserted that the rapid extension of jute cultivation has been at the expense of the rice crops; but experiment shows that even if the area under jute should enormously increase, the supply of rice need not

Bengal.

AGRICULTURE.

necessarily be endangered, for the ryot can take a crop of jute off the land and also grow his paddy as before. The final estimate of the outturn of autumn crops was 70 per cent. of the normal, and the winter rice crop was estimated to be 73 per cent. of an average crop. Besides the winter rice crop, which is the most important crop of the province, the following crop outturns may be quoted: Autumn rice, 65 per cent. of the normal; jute, 76 per cent.; sugar cane, 89 per cent.; gram, 79 per cent.

The abnormally high prices of food grains during the year were the subject of special inquiry; many causes probably combined to bring about the high range of prices, of which the principal were the poor rice harvests of the two preceding years, and the enormous sums of money received by the cultivators in payment for jute, enabling them to increase their own consumption and to withhold stocks that would otherwise have been thrown upon the market. The high prices naturally benefited those agriculturists who had a surplus to dispose of; but the landless middle classes and the poorer classes outside the jute districts were generally hard pressed. In several districts, however, there was a rise in wages side by side with the high prices of food grains, and the demand for labour was keen throughout the year. In Darbhanga famine was declared and relief works opened.

During the year ten students passed the final examination at the Sibpur College; in view of the establishment of a Provincial Agricultural College near Bhagalpur, the agricultural classes at Sibpur will be closed after November 1908. The organisation of the central seed store was completed. Important experiments with jute were continued with satisfactory results; an account of them was embodied in a vernacular leaflet, which was distributed in large numbers throughout the jute-growing areas of the province. Owing to the repeated failure of the experiments with exotic varieties of cotton, experiments were made with indigenous varieties, satisfactory results being obtained. Experiments were also made with *aman* paddy and the *ikri* variety of sugar cane. 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 Sibpur (jute, rice, sugar cane). Land was prepared for two new stations at Sabaur and Bankipore. Research work was also being conducted with regard to indigo at Sirsia and Pusa, as well as in England.

A scheme was under consideration to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the silk industry, which reported during the year.

United Provinces.

The rains set in gradually during the month of June, and they were exceptionally favourable throughout, except in the east and north-east; the cold weather was unsatisfactory, too dry at first and very much too wet late in the season. The cultivated area of the provinces exceeded that of the previous year by 3 per cent. and the normal by 2.6 per cent. The crop area of the autumn harvest was 24 million acres, and the area under spring crops nearly 20 million acres. Of the autumn crops, early rice (4½ million acres) yielded 101 per cent. of the normal, millets (6½ millions) from 93 to 107 per cent.; among spring crops, wheat (7 millions) yielded 102 per cent., barley (4½ millions) 105 per cent., gram (5½ millions) 98 per cent. The prevailing high prices were much felt by persons on small fixed incomes and by landless labourers; but there seems to have been a rise in money wages, and there was little unemployment.

Of the ten agricultural stations to be eventually provided in these provinces, four were already in existence. The agricultural college was definitely established, though in temporary quarters; the Economic Botanist and the Agricultural Chemist arrived at Cawnpore, the laboratories for their use being nearly equipped. Among the operations of the Agricultural Department an important place is held by the system of distribution of seed and implements, which is of great and increasing value to the public. The increased number of private farms and the growth of correspondence and of requests for personal advice, suggest a growing popular interest in the operations of the department. Further distribution of acclimatised American cotton seed of the upland type gave generally satisfactory results.

AGRICULTURE.

The first wage census of the United Provinces was carried out during the year.

The first phase of the monsoon of 1906 in the Punjab was satisfactory in districts dependent on the rainfall, and the second phase was everywhere excellent. The months of October and November were, as usual, rainless, and no rain fell until the 18th December; but during the season as a whole nearly every district received a rainfall above the average. The total area sown in the year is returned as nearly 30 million acres, or about 9 per cent. above the normal; the proportion of the autumn to the spring harvest was as 37 to 63. Wheat suffered severely both from rust and from heavy showers and hot winds in April; but the outturn was 97 per cent. of the normal. The cotton crop did not suffer so severely as in the preceding year from the attacks of bollworm.

The supply of labour was seriously affected by the ravages of plague among the rural population. Owing to the keen competition for its services, labour was master of the situation, and agricultural labourers certainly profited greatly at the expense of the zemindar class. In many villages, where the plague mortality amongst the male population was of unprecedented severity, the crops were left partly uncut owing to the deficiency of labour.

The total area of crops sown on irrigated land in the year 1906-07 was about 10¼ million acres, or 36 per cent. of the total cropped area; the figures show a shrinkage when compared with those of the previous year, as the copious rains enabled the cultivators to dispense largely with artificial irrigation. About 6¼ million acres of this area were served by Government canals, and 3¼ millions were irrigated from wells. Colonisation on the Chenab Canal, the extension of the Western Jumna, Bari Doab, and Sirhind Canals, and the construction of new canals elsewhere, have resulted in a steady increase of the area irrigated by Government canals during recent years; the area in each year since 1899-1900 is noted in the margin. Detailed comparison is not possible owing to the change by which the returns now refer to sown areas and not to matured areas only, as in previous years.

Acres irrigated by Government Canals.	
1899-1900	- 4,243,524
1901-02	- 4,530,766
1902-03	- 4,887,677
1903-04	- 5,508,896
1904-05	- 5,371,888
1905-06	- 5,606,237
1906-07	- 6,801,161*

* Area sown, not area matured as in previous years.

On the Chenab Canal the area allotted to cultivators has grown steadily from 230,800 acres in 1892 to 1,829,880 acres in the year ending in September 1906, only 97,515 acres remaining for allotment, so that the end of the colonisation operations was fairly in view. The area of crops sown was 1,818,000 acres, which was higher than in the previous year; as much as 15 per cent., however, failed. A good wheat crop and the high prices obtained for it did much to compensate for another failure in cotton. A census of the colony showed a population of 858,000.

In the Jhelum colony the area allotted by the end of the year was 338,782 acres, including 34,000 acres allotted during the year; the area sown with crops was 277,800 acres. Special conditions are imposed in the grants in this colony with regard to horse breeding. The enforcement of the condition of residence has worked satisfactorily, and nearly 8,000 new houses were erected during the year. In the Chumian Colony on the Bari Doab Canal 1,547 acres were allotted, bringing the total up to 74,638 acres, of which 71,795 acres were sown.

A separate Department of Agriculture for the Punjab was organised during the year. The European staff was completed by the appointment of a botanist. It was hoped that a college course would be started at Lyallpur in July 1908, where a combined Agricultural College and Research Institute is to be established. Experiments were conducted at the Lyallpur farm and in other parts of the province with respect to wheat varieties and other matters. Attempts were made to account for and to withstand the bollworm pest which ruined the cotton crop of 1905. No definite conclusion as to the value of indigenous cotton compared with the American and Egyptian varieties has yet been reached.

AGRICUL-
TURE.
North-West
Frontier
Province.

In the North-West Frontier Province the autumn crop for the year 1906 was excellent, the rains being copious and well distributed. Prospects for the spring harvest were very favourable up to February 1907, and, in spite of bad weather in March and April, the crops were above the average both in area sown and in outturn. The rainfall of the year was everywhere in excess of the normal. The total area sown during the year was nearly three million acres, exceeding that of the previous year by a quarter of a million acres; the area under irrigation was 835,000 acres. Wheat, the most important crop, occupied 1,153,239 acres, or 40 per cent. of the total cropped area. The area sown with cotton shows a steady expansion, and amounted to 62,036 acres.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

In the Central Provinces the monsoon of 1906 broke in good time, and the rain was generally ample and well distributed, though somewhat too heavy for the cotton crop. The rainfall was favourable for the generation of the spring crops, and enabled large areas of kharif land which had been somewhat damaged by excessive rain to be re-sown with rabi crops. In spite of the comparative deficiency of the cotton crop, the total outturn of agricultural produce was almost equal to the normal yield of a normal area, the rice crop generally, and the wheat harvest in Chattisgarh being excellent.

The Agricultural School was raised during the year to the status of a college with a three years' course; the progress of agricultural education, however, is still far from satisfactory. A new agricultural station to serve Berar was established at Akola in June 1906, and 11 series of experiments, principally with juar and cotton, were initiated. Further experiments and demonstrations were carried on at the other stations.

Substantial improvement and progress were made by the Agricultural Associations during the year. A general readiness was evinced by them to try the various seeds, implements, and manures recommended to them by the Agricultural Department.

Burma.

In Burma the rains began favourably; in the autumn there was a prolonged break, but the final rains were for the most part good, and allowed the crops to recover. The area of crops rose to 12½ million acres, and there was also an increase in the area under occupation. The rice crop covered about 9¼ million acres, which is about the same as in the two years preceding. The final forecast for the 15 chief rice-producing districts of Burma estimated an outturn rather above that of 1905-06, and an increase of 220,000 tons of cargo rice in the surplus available for export. Harvest prices of paddy were abnormally high in all districts. The price of wheat also was generally increased.

The appointment of Director of Agriculture in Burma was sanctioned early in 1906, and the first separation of the department from the Department of Land Records was effected during the year. Plans were under preparation for the establishment of an Agricultural College at Mandalay, which is to have an expert staff, consisting of an all-round agriculturist as principal, an agricultural chemist, and an agricultural botanist. The scheme for the Department contemplates three main agricultural stations; the land for that at Mandalay, in connection with the college, and that at Hmawbi in the Hanthawaddy district, for the study of paddy and other Lower Burma crops, has been already acquired. Some experimental gardens were in existence previously; and seeds of various products which appear to merit investigation are distributed for cultivation in suitable parts of the province. The remarkable advance within recent years of the cultivation of ground-nut is one of the greatest successes which have resulted from the working of this system.

Eastern Ben-
gal and
Assam.

The total area cropped in Eastern Bengal and Assam during 1906-07 was about 25½ million acres, or about 1 per cent. below the normal. The area under rice was 16 million acres, which is a million acres below the normal, the total outturn being 6¼ million tons. The area under jute rose to 2,665,257 acres. The average wholesale price of rice for the year at eight representative marts was Rs. 4.15 per maund, compared with Rs. 3.7 in the previous year and Rs. 2.11 in 1904-05, which is approximately the normal price of recent times. The great bulk of the population realised high

prices for all their surplus produce; the wages of agricultural labourers rose; and only those whose stock of food grains was considerably below their requirements were seriously affected.

During the year under report the Department of Agriculture was separated from that of Land Records, and progress was made with the organisation of the newly-constituted department, some of the sanctioned staff of expert officers having been recruited. The principal staple crops which were under investigation were jute, cotton, and wheat. The experiments in jute cultivation were in the main satisfactory, and a report published by the Government fibre expert, Mr. R. S. Finlow, shows that the area for jute cultivation is capable of almost indefinite expansion throughout Assam, and that in the Assam valley at least the results should be almost, if not quite, as good as those obtained in the Eastern Bengal districts. Experiments with various kinds of cotton were tried in all the divisions of the Province, and the result was almost universally a failure. The experiments with wheat in the neighbourhood of Lumding were also unsuccessful.

The land for the Government Central Farm at Dacca had been acquired and fenced, and the buildings were in process of erection.

The south-west monsoon in Madras was plentiful and well distributed. The north-east monsoon brought on the whole a normal rainfall, but the distribution was relatively unfavourable, and in consequence the late crops did not do as well as the early one. The total crop area of the year 1906-07 was 29¼ million acres, which was slightly in excess of the normal. The rice crop was normal, and covered about 7½ million acres; other food grains were grown on 15½ million acres. The cultivation of cotton, which covered 1¼ million acres, was slightly less than in the previous year, but was well above the normal. The agricultural labourers are still paid in kind as a rule, and they therefore benefit by the rise in prices in respect of the surplus which remains, after satisfying their own needs, for exchange for other commodities.

The year 1906-07 was the first of the Agricultural Department's working since its reorganisation. A Director was appointed, with two Deputies to assist him, and all the specialists whose appointment had been sanctioned joined their posts within the year. The buildings required for the Agricultural College and Research Institute at Coimbatore were being pushed forward, and it was hoped that they would be completed in the course of 1908. The large farm attached to the Institute was being brought into good order. A new farm was opened during the year at Nandyal. It is proposed to establish eventually an experimental agricultural station in each important and distinctive agricultural tract. Experiments in sugar cane at the Samalkota station were directed to the production of canes which shall be proof against disease, and some progress was made; there was a keen demand from the ryots in the Godavari delta for the new canes. Experiments were also conducted at the various stations in regard to cotton, jute, ground-nut, and agave. Ten installations for the extension of irrigation by pumping were erected by private persons under the auspices of the department.

The character of the season 1906-07 in the Bombay Presidency was on the whole fair. Autumn crops both in the Presidency proper and in Sind gave a fairly good outturn. The spring crops gave a tolerable outturn in Gujarat and the western parts of the Deccan and Karnatak, but were poor elsewhere. The area under crops in the whole Presidency was 29¼ millions of acres, of which 4½ millions were in Sind; the figures for the Presidency proper show an increase of about 9 per cent. as compared with the previous year, and those for Sind an increase of 10 per cent. owing to favourable inundations. Forty-five per cent. of the crop area of the Presidency consisted of millets; cotton covered 14 per cent. of it; and pulses 12 per cent. The area irrigated in the Presidency included 3½ million acres in Sind irrigated by Government canals, the area irrigated in the Presidency proper rising to 671,000 acres, chiefly of well irrigation.

Thirteen agricultural stations were in charge of the Department of Agriculture, and the season was good on the whole, compared with those of the past few years. The most important work was in connection with cotton, and was directed to the breeding of new varieties, the distribution of selected

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seed, and the investigation of the varieties grown in Khandesh. 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 the construction of the new buildings, at an estimated cost of £23,000, was in progress. Meanwhile, the work is being carried on at the Poona College of Science. In 1905-06 there were 113 students on the College rolls compared with 27 in 1902-03.

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The following tables show the area under different crops, in British India, and their territorial distribution, for 1905-06, the most recent year for which complete figures are available. 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.

TERRITORIAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE PRINCIPAL CROPS IN 1905-06.

Figures in Thousands of Acres, omitting 000.

Administrations.	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar or Cholum (Great Millet).	Bajra or Cumla (Spiked Millet).	Ragi or Marua (Millet).	Maize.	Gram (Pulse).	Other Food- Grains and Pulses.	Total Food- Grains and Pulses.	Oilseeds.	Sugar.
Bengal - - -	25,352	1,259	1,531	158	33	910	1,825	973	1,451	36,522	2,201	501
Eastern Bengal - -	12,986	160	61	6	1	5	22	63	1,203	14,507	1,477	177
Assam - - -	3,803	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	107	3,922	303	49
United Provinces (Agra). - - -	4,253	4,791	3,137	2,096	1,793	138	1,371	3,697	1,219	25,527	602	954
United Provinces (Oudh). - - -	2,826	1,712	991	353	373	100	797	1,545	2,418	11,115	153	266
Punjab - - -	493	8,505	1,206	694	829	17	896	2,943	1,285	16,868	1,195	155
N. West Frontier Province. - - -	30	917	315	33	71	—	312	113	79	1,909	72	26
Upper Burma - -	1,964	35	—	856	75	—	95	77	332	3,434	869	32
Lower Burma - -	7,320	—	—	—	—	—	18	2	29	7,368	63	11
Central Provinces -	4,178	3,020	12	1,861	11	19	134	863	1,209	14,337	1,861	18
Berar - - -	28	424	—	2,660	57	—	2	153	534	3,859	267	2
Madras - - -	7,471	15	3	4,702	2,978	1,699	72	135	6,218	23,293	1,907	163
Bombay - - -	1,512	963	23	6,570	4,351	469	158	332	2,575	16,949	1,181	56
Sind - - -	1,014	585	17	670	867	1	1	123	255	3,535	323	3
Minor Provinces (Ajmere, Coorg, and Manipur). -	79	5	30	43	32	5	47	7	13	262	7	—
Total - - -	73,310	22,402	7,327	20,703	11,501	3,385	5,786	11,921	27,956	183,398	12,486	2,413

Administrations.	Cotton.	Jute and other Fibres.	Opium.	Tea and Coffee.	Tobacco.	Fodder Crops.	Orchards and Garden Produce.	Miscellaneous Crops.		Total Area cropped.	Deduct Area cropped more than once.	Net Area cropped.
								Food.	Non- Food.			
Bengal - - -	73	679	209	†53	165	123	732	808	922	42,983	6,666	36,317
Eastern Bengal - -	1	2,581	—	†83	364	2	580	581	456	20,809	1,894	15,915
Assam - - -	8	38	—	†339	6	32	363	36	37	5,134	312	4,822
United Provinces (Agra). - - -	1,318	97	254	8	83	870	362	181	136	30,911	5,212	25,699
United Provinces (Oudh). - - -	44	31	184	—	15	122	144	80	12	12,167	2,872	9,295
Punjab - - -	686	44	7	†10	68	2,107	164	391	66	*28,144	1,032	24,112
N. West Frontier Province. - - -	42	—	—	—	10	74	8	38	3	2,584	387	2,197
Upper Burma - -	163	—	—	†1	27	26	41	101	8	4,703	305	4,398
Lower Burma - -	10	—	—	—	49	2	362	61	79	8,005	4	8,001
Central Provinces -	1,658	87	—	—	12	298	83	52	2	18,407	1,182	16,925
Berar - - -	3,192	27	—	—	14	—	20	—	1	7,121	10	7,411
Madras - - -	1,889	99	—	†64	132	257	893	511	491	29,771	3,539	26,232
Bombay - - -	3,700	108	—	—	65	23	120	240	4	22,401	421	21,977
Sind - - -	280	1	—	—	9	2	42	77	38	4,241	374	3,867
Minor Provinces (Ajmere, Coorg, and Manipur). -	28	—	—	§48	—	—	4	43	1	357	22	335
Total - - -	13,092	3,792	654	607	1,018	3,940	3,917	3,090	2,265	238,010	30,535	207,505

* This total represents the area sown, but details of each crop are conventional harvested areas of normal productiveness, the sum of which falls short of this total.

† Tea.

‡ 51 Coffee; 13 Tea.

§ Coffee.

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Regarding some of the more important staples of Indian agriculture, particulars for the year 1906-07 are given below; they are taken from the crop forecasts published by the Government of India, which in many cases do not correspond exactly with the figures given above for the year 1905-06, the chief difference being due to the inclusion here of Native States.

The estimated area and yield of wheat is given thus :—

Wheat.

	1906-07.		1905-06.		Average for last Five Years.	
	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.
	Aeres.	Tons.	Aeres.	Tons.	Aeres.	Tons.
Punjab - - -	9,037,800	3,282,900	8,572,100	3,510,300	7,366,500	2,618,900
North-West Frontier Province. - - -	1,146,400	305,200	1,024,600	279,700	900,900	247,300
United Provinces - -	7,039,100	2,161,500	6,478,900	2,428,700	7,131,400	2,577,200
Bengal - - -	1,402,600	388,700	1,248,300	396,600	1,274,700	391,700
Eastern Bengal - -	158,700	44,000	159,800	50,900	193,600	83,000
Central Provinces and Berar. - - -	3,689,800	994,700	3,113,800	834,400	2,877,900	616,300
Bombay - - -	1,596,200	328,200	1,347,200	275,100	1,835,300	386,000
Sind - - -	623,600	176,600	628,100	196,200	491,400	127,300
Hyderabad - - -	1,039,500	58,000	934,500	41,800	823,000	59,000
Rajputana - - -	810,000	215,000	604,000	145,000	845,000	190,000
Central India - - -	2,895,900	639,800	1,852,100	420,600	1,613,800	376,200
Mysore - - -	4,600	440	2,400	140	4,500	410
Total - - -	29,444,200	8,508,040	26,295,800	8,578,540	25,357,400	7,673,310

The following figures give the quantities (in sers) sold for a rupee in the first half of the months mentioned :—

	Punjab.	United Provinces.	Central Provinces and Berar.	Bombay.
March 1903 - - -	15·01	14·75	12·94	10·35
" 1904 - - -	16·85	15·67	14·1	13·24
" 1905 - - -	14·81	12·13	13·64	12·47
" 1906 - - -	13·15	10·56	11·36	8·86
" 1907 - - -	16·28	12·69	13·34	9·97

Wheat exports are subject to great fluctuations, as will appear from the following particulars :—

2,500 tons in - - -	1900-01	2,150,000 tons in - - -	1904-05
515,000 " - - -	1902-03	938,000 " - - -	1905-06
1,296,000 " - - -	1903-04	802,000 " - - -	1906-07

The combination of a considerable increase in the area under wheat cultivation with a small decrease in the estimated yield is explained by the prevalence of rust, which dull weather rendered very serious over wide extents of country. The yield, however, was well in excess of the average of the five years preceding. 57 per cent. of the total area under wheat in India is in the Punjab and the United Provinces, 51 per cent. of the wheat area in each of these provinces being irrigated.

	Average of previous Five Years.	Previous Year.	Year under Review (a).
Outturn, thousands of tons - - -	7,675	7,582	8,578
Exports, thousands of tons - - -	1,053	937	802
Average export value per ton, rupees - - -	86	91	90·5
Imports, thousands of tons - - -	7	23	10

(a) In respect of area and outturn, the "year under review" is 1905-06. In respect of exports and imports, the "year under review" is 1906-07. The wheat exported in one financial year is drawn mainly from the crop of the previous year.

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OIL SEEDS.

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.		1905-06.		1906-07.	
	Area.*	Yield.	Area.*	Yield.	Area.*	Yield.
	Aeres.	Tons.	Aeres.	Tons.	Aeres.	Tons.
Rape and mustard	3,539,200	1,012,600	4,052,800	968,700	4,196,500	1,073,600
Linseed	2,908,600	412,200	2,711,800	352,900	3,028,200	422,300
Sesamum	3,424,100	357,000	3,154,100	292,700	3,101,000	420,600
Groundnut	444,700	Not available	485,900	211,200	601,400	299,000

* 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 this, the figures given above are very unreliable, in regard to both area and yield.

The rape and mustard-seed crop is grown chiefly in the United Provinces, the Punjab, Eastern Bengal, and Bengal; linseed in the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, and Bengal; sesamum in the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, Bombay, Madras, and Hyderabad; and the groundnut area lies chiefly in Madras and Bombay. For oil seeds generally the season was satisfactory. Details relating to the export of seeds, which represent about 16 per cent. of the entire exports of Indian raw produce, are given below :—

Quantity of each Seed exported in the last Five Years (Unit 1,000 cwts.).

	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Linseed	6,328	8,616	11,182	5,789	4,379
Rape	3,927	4,313	5,155	1,994	3,725
Cotton	3,974	2,677	2,529	3,891	4,391
Sesamum	3,733	3,513	2,517	1,685	2,741
Groundnuts	1,036	1,922	1,674	1,374	1,725
Castor	1,725	1,567	1,461	1,299	1,501
Poppy	966	1,315	1,363	797	803
Other sorts	478	528	993	747	466
Total	22,194	24,681	26,874	17,576	19,731
Value - £	9,922,000	9,677,000	9,607,000	7,073,000	8,680,000

In the last two years a much larger proportion of the linseed grown was retained in the country than formerly, in spite of a rise in the export price. The price of rapeseed per cwt. (at Bombay) rose from Rs. 5½ in 1904 to Rs. 7¼ in 1905, Rs. 8¾ in 1906, and Rs. 9¾ in 1907. There was a rise of 12 per cent. in the price of cotton seed during the year under review, which is attributed partly to the dearness of linseed.

The provinces for which rice crop statistics are given below ordinarily include 78 per cent. of the Indian rice crop :—

	Area in Acres.			Yield in Tons of Cleaned Rice.		
	Average of preceding Five Years.	1905-06.	1906-07.	Average of preceding Five Years.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Bengal	21,061,600	25,150,600	24,506,200	10,654,900	11,398,000	9,773,100
Eastern Bengal and Assam	Not available	15,369,200	16,105,800	Not available	5,069,900	6,123,800
Madras	7,031,000	6,604,400	6,934,900	2,554,900	2,291,700	2,519,800
Lower Burma*	6,622,000	6,713,400	6,988,500	2,917,000	2,724,000	2,840,300
Total	—	51,428,600	54,535,400	—	21,483,600	21,257,000

* Final estimate not available

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The total yield of these provinces was expected to be slightly below the yield of 1905-06, chiefly owing to a falling off in Bengal. Other provinces, notably the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, and Madras, produce a large quantity of rice.

Exports of rice represented 67 per cent. of the total value of food grains exported from India in 1906-07. The most salient features of the trade were the strong internal demand, high prices, the large shipments from Burma to India proper, and the substantial diminution of exports to foreign countries. These facts are probably to be explained partly by a shortage in the crop, and partly by exceptional prosperity and enhanced consuming and holding power amongst cultivators and the population generally. The following statement shows the quantity and value of the exports abroad, which are subject to an export duty of three annas per maund, during each of the last five years :—

	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Quantity - in tons	2,374,240	2,250,100	2,474,300	2,151,800	1,935,200
Value - in £	12,595,000	12,722,000	13,079,000	12,423,000	12,348,000

The shipments of rice from Burma to India proper amounted in 1906-07 to 821,000 tons, being an increase of 78·4 per cent. on the figures of the previous year, and nearly 171 per cent. on those of 1904-05. In former years almost the whole of these shipments were to Bombay and Madras; but in 1906-07 about two-thirds went to Bengal and Eastern Bengal. The average declared price for the year of rice exported from Calcutta was Rs. 7 per cwt., compared with Rs. 5¼ in the previous year, which was itself an exceptionally high rate. The increase of price in Rangoon was not so marked, but there was, nevertheless, an advance of 19 per cent. during the year. The unprecedented price of rice in Bengal must be largely attributed to the extraordinary prosperity of the cultivators of jute.

The area under cotton in India is returned and estimated as follows for Cotton. the last three years :—

	1904-05.		1905-06.		1906-07.	
	Area (Acres).	Yield in Bales (of 392 lbs. each).	Area (Acres).	Yield in Bales (of 392 lbs. each).	Area (Acres).	Yield in Bales (of 392 lbs. each).
Madras (ryotwari areas only)	1,755,000	132,000	1,597,000	145,000	1,544,000	157,000
Bombay, with Native States, Sind, and Baroda.	6,176,000	893,000	6,948,000	1,282,000	7,458,000	1,895,000
United Provinces	1,201,000	368,000	1,372,000	394,000	1,489,000	638,000
Punjab and North-West Frontier Province.	1,674,000	418,000	2,079,000	205,000	1,469,000	370,000
Central Provinces and Berar	4,553,000	1,229,000	4,849,000	818,000	4,852,000	882,000
Nizam's Dominions	2,731,000	330,000	2,537,000	303,000	3,486,000	430,000
Burma	189,000	39,000	183,000	35,000	186,000	35,000
Central India	846,000	136,000	979,000	130,000	1,177,000	227,000
Rajputana	469,000	186,000	291,000	61,000	428,000	176,000
Bengal	78,000	20,000	71,000	16,000	75,000	16,000
Eastern Bengal and Assam	50,000	17,000	61,000	17,000	57,000	14,000
Mysore	71,000	5,000	76,000	5,000	89,000	10,000
Ajmere-Merwara	52,000	53,000	29,000	15,000	40,000	58,000
Total	19,918,000	3,826,000	21,072,000	3,426,000	22,344,000	4,908,000

Of this total area, some 13,537,000 acres are in British territory. This is less than the area cultivated in 1905-06, on account of the shrinkage in the Punjab, where the preceding season had been disastrous for cotton. The total area showed a marked increase, and the character of the season was generally favourable, although the crop suffered from disease and insects in various quarters. The average yield per acre was expected to be about 88 lbs. This would be the largest recorded average yield for all India, but it has often been exceeded in single districts or provinces, and compares very poorly with the estimated average of 233 lbs. per acre in America in 1906.

The exports of raw cotton from India in recent years which, in 1906-07 represented 27 per cent. of the whole value of Indian raw materials exported, have been as follows :—

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1899-1900	-	-	-	4,373,000 cwts., valued at £6,617,000
1901-02	-	-	-	5,700,000 " " 9,617,000
1903-04	-	-	-	7,931,000 " " 16,251,000
1904-05	-	-	-	5,657,700 " " 11,623,000
1905-06	-	-	-	7,396,000 " " 14,222,000
1906-07	-	-	-	7,397,000 " " 14,644,000

Prices were somewhat higher than in 1905-06, and the textile trade was very active throughout the world. In India, however, there was a considerable slackening in the late months, and mill consumption fell from 7,234,800 cwts. to 6,948,900 cwts. References have already been made, in the earlier part of this chapter, to the work that is being done in the various provinces with a view to classifying the Indian cottons, introducing the most suitable varieties, and extending the area under cotton cultivation.

TEA.

The following is an estimate of the cultivation and the production of tea in British India and Travancore during recent years; for Southern India and Travancore the figures are not reliable:—

	Area under Tea, in Acres (Mature and Immature Plants).			Production of Tea in Lbs.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Bengal	53,000	53,000	51,000	13,953,000	12,781,900	15,531,700
Eastern Bengal	81,700	83,100	83,300	39,933,000	40,788,800	41,602,900
Assam	337,800	339,200	340,500	143,197,000	151,904,800	162,468,000
Madras	13,000	13,500	13,500	1,653,000	1,538,500	3,094,500
United Provinces	8,000	7,900	8,000	2,573,000	2,474,700	2,290,200
Punjab	9,300	9,400	9,400	1,917,000	1,432,300	1,237,700
Travancore and Cochin	24,700	25,300	25,900	9,074,000	10,147,600	11,186,300
Burma	1,400	1,500	1,500	266,000	419,500	438,600
Total	528,900	532,900	533,300	212,566,000	221,488,000	240,849,900

These figures show that the yield continues to increase much faster than the area under cultivation; since 1885 the area has increased by 86 per cent., and the quantity produced by 236 per cent. The production of green tea was reported to be 4,871,000 lbs. in 1904, 3,999,000 lbs. in 1905, and 3,587,000 lbs. in 1906. The year under review was, on the whole, one of the most prosperous recorded in the Indian tea trade. The reduction of the British duty stimulated the market, and the demand for Indian tea was further increased by a contraction of some 3 million lbs. in Ceylon's production and by a shortage in the shipments from China. The tea gardens of India are reported to have given employment during 1906 to 489,000 persons permanently and 81,600 temporarily, there being an addition of 22,000 permanent employes during the year. The capital engaged in the production of tea in India is returned at £14,540,900, but this takes no account of the large but unknown quantity of private capital engaged. An estimate of the consumption of tea in India which appeared in the *Indian Trade Journal* of 12th July 1906 put the consumption of rather less than half the total population at 4·2 million lbs., or 103 lb. per head. The exports of Indian tea during the last three years are returned as follows:—

	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
To United Kingdom	167,844,000	166,754,000	176,341,000
" Canada	12,607,000	15,019,000	14,491,000
" Australia and New Zealand	6,601,000	7,729,000	9,499,000
" Ceylon	1,293,000	2,101,000	4,825,000
" China, Hong Kong	1,201,000	1,364,000	1,401,000
" China, Treaty Ports	612,000	1,708,000	3,419,000
" Russia	9,332,000	9,988,000	13,761,000
" Germany	930,000	795,000	1,201,000
" Persia	3,136,000	1,102,000	929,000
" Turkey	4,372,000	3,846,000	3,713,000
" United States	2,237,000	2,175,000	1,749,000
" Other Countries by Sea	2,321,000	2,343,000	3,077,000
" " " Land (chiefly Kashmir)	2,258,000	2,373,000	2,300,000
Total	214,784,000	217,297,000	236,732,000

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In 1906, 20,806,000 lbs. were re-exported from the United Kingdom, and of this amount 8,250,000 lbs. were consigned to Russia. According to the British returns, the tea imported into the United Kingdom for home consumption or re-export has come from China, India, and Ceylon in the following proportions:—

In the Year	From China.	From India.	From Ceylon.
1865	93 per cent.	2 per cent.	5 per cent.
1875	86 "	13 "	0 "
1885	66 "	30 "	4 "
1895	16 "	46 "	32 "
1905	5 "	54 "	36 "
1906	4 "	57 "	33 "

The duty levied on tea imported into the United Kingdom was reduced from 6d. to 5d. with effect from the 14th May 1906. There was also a reduction in the German import duty, which from the 1st March 1906 was equivalent to 1½d. per lb., compared with 5½d. before that date. Prices of the principal grades of tea at the Calcutta sales showed a rise of about 8 per cent., and prices generally stood at a higher level than in any year since 1899.

Jute is chiefly grown in Northern and Central Bengal and the eastern districts of Eastern Bengal. Outside the Bengal provinces an appreciable amount is grown in Madras, where the fibre is obtained from a different species of jute, and the cultivation of the plant is also progressing in Nepal. High prices have recently encouraged jute cultivation in Behar, and several thousand acres were under the plant in 1906. The ryot in Bengal is highly susceptible to the influence of prices, and is reported to vary his cultivation from rice to jute and *vice versa* according to which product commands a better profit in the market. The high prices of recent times have unquestionably favoured jute as opposed to rice. In July 1906 a pamphlet by Mr. R. S. Finlow on the extension of jute cultivation in India was published by the Agricultural Department.

The yield of the crop in a normal season is expected to average 15 maunds per acre. The season of 1907 was moderately favourable for jute. The figures for acreage and outturn in the Bengal provinces in recent years have been estimated as follows:—

	Acreage.	Outturn in Bales (of 400 lbs. each).
1891	1,403,445	5,717,400
1895	2,242,700	5,551,000
1900	2,093,403	6,526,000
1905	3,128,300	8,088,093
1906	3,482,900	9,127,400
1907	3,883,200	9,585,800

These figures do not include statistics for Cooch Behar, Nepal, Madras, and Upper India; the outturn of these tracts in 1906 was reported to be 140,000 bales.

The year under review was one of extraordinary activity and unprecedented profits. It has been computed that the cultivators received some £26·6 millions in payment for jute, and that of this sum about £10 millions was profit, due to the abnormal prices to which the raw material attained. For the 10 years ending with 1897-98 the average price per ton was £13 3s. 10d., the highest price obtained being £20 and the lowest £7 10s. Since then the sterling highest and lowest prices for medium jute per ton, and the highest and lowest rupee prices for the same quality per bale, at the commencement of any month have been:—

AGRI-
CULTURAL
PRODUCE.

	Per Ton in £.						Per Bale in Rs.			
	Highest.			Lowest.			Highest.		Lowest.	
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Rs.	a.	Rs.	a.
1899 - - -	14	12	6	11	5	0	39	0	28	8
1900 - - -	15	15	0	12	15	0	39	0	34	0
1901 - - -	15	0	0	11	2	6	36	8	30	0
1902 - - -	13	7	6	11	7	6	36	0	29	0
1903 - - -	14	15	0	12	5	0	37	0	28	8
1904 - - -	15	5	0	13	2	6	38	8	30	0
1905 - - -	19	10	0	16	5	0	46	8	39	0
1906 - - -	28	0	0	19	5	0	72	0	47	0
1907* - - -	26	15	0	22	10	0	62	8	54	0

* For the first portion of the year; these prices were not maintained at the close of 1907, and there were symptoms of a fall to the level of 1905.

The total Indian consumption in 1906-07 is estimated at 15 million cwts. For details regarding jute manufactures in India reference may be made to Chapter XV. The fluctuations of the jute export trade during recent years have been as follows:—

Year.	Raw Jute.		Jute Manufactures.	Total Exports.
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Value.
	Cwts.	£	£	£
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 - - -	14,480,000	11,417,000	8,299,000	19,716,000
1906-07 - - -	15,970,000	17,892,000	10,477,000	28,369,000

Of the raw jute exports in 1906-07, about 43 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 22 per cent. to Germany, 13 per cent. to the United States, and 10 per cent. to France.

Prior to 1825 imports of jute into Europe were confused with hemp. In 1832 a Dundee manufacturer showed that it could be used as a substitute for hemp, and since that time jute has steadily gained in favour, although shipments were not large for many years. India has enjoyed so far a virtual monopoly in the production of the fibre. Jute of a satisfactory quality can be successfully grown in the United States and Brazil, but not at a price which enables it to compete with the Indian product. The recent rise, however, has stimulated experimental cultivation in Rhodesia, West Africa, and other parts of the world. The position of Indian jute in the past has depended primarily upon its cheapness, which has enabled it to defeat its possible substitutes, and has prevented the existence of any sufficient stimulus for competitive production elsewhere.

Since 1905 complaints have been widely made of the adulteration and watering of jute, and the question engaged the attention of the local governments concerned.

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

AGRI-
CULTURAL
PRODUCE.
SUGAR.

	Area in Acres.			Outturn in Tons.	
	Average of Five preceding Years.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.
Bengal - - -	461,400	421,600	423,500	426,700	419,300
Eastern Bengal - - -	—	201,500	199,900	188,500	193,500
United Provinces - - -	1,181,300	1,228,900	1,386,700	884,000	1,264,600
Punjab and North-West Frontier Province. - - -	359,300	198,300	286,200	111,800	245,600
Madras - - -	50,000	60,700	52,500	114,500	100,400
Total - - -	—	2,111,000	2,348,800	1,725,500	2,223,400

These provinces ordinarily contain some 95·5 per cent. of the whole sugar cane crop of British India. Too much reliance, however, must not be placed on the figures given in this table. In many of the areas in which the largest quantities of sugar cane are grown no accurate records are available, and it is stated that sugar cane is often grown in small and irregular clumps whose extent is not easily estimated. The estimates of outturn have been based on the assumption that in India a yield of one ton per acre is *normal*. It is possible that this calculation, which compares unfavourably with the estimated yield of 4 tons in Hawaii, 3·14 tons in Java, and 2 tons in Cuba, leads to results somewhat below the correct figure. The season 1906-07 was generally favourable. The improved yield in the United Provinces and the Punjab, where the crop in 1905-06 was exceptionally poor, was the principal cause of the increased total production. To the sugar cane cultivated in British India must be added the extensive but uncalculated crops grown in Native States. In stating the total output account must also be taken of the production of palm sugar, which for Bengal and Eastern Bengal has been estimated at 163,000 tons. The total normal output of sugar products in India has been reckoned, somewhat hazardously, as being the equivalent of between four and five million tons of raw sugar. By no means all of this amount is ever converted into "refined" sugar; for a considerable quantity both of cane in the raw state and of the unrefined sugar or gur is consumed as food. The imports of sugar, including confectionery and molasses, during recent years are given as follows, the figures representing for the most part refined sugar:—

	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
From—	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Austria-Hungary - - -	66,065	112,897	44,401	14,963	72,062	117,036	80,859
Germany - - -	20,100	28,857	7,284	365	8,824	35,636	100,070
Mauritius - - -	124,476	109,158	118,309	144,156	89,830	115,370	139,861
China - - -	24,372	9,138	28,430	17,449	14,250	6,535	2,568
Java - - -	11,262	16,033	28,653	66,777	100,167	96,463	206,762
Other Countries - - -	17,565	21,654	74,686	72,982	61,686	42,516	25,082
Total - - -	263,840	297,737	273,110	316,692	346,819	413,556	555,202

The imports from Austria and Germany were of beet sugar, and those from Mauritius, China, and Java of cane. The large increase in the total amount was no doubt due in part to the failure of the cane crop of 1905-06 in Northern India; but the imports must also have been influenced by the general decline from the prices which obtained in the preceding year.

The countervailing duties imposed in 1899 and subsequent years have not been levied since 1903 on the produce of countries which adhered to the Sugar Convention and abolished sugar bounties, *i.e.*, nearly all large sugar-producing countries.

A revised edition of "Notes on Sugar in India," by Mr. Noel-Paton, Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, was published during the year.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

The latest reports on societies formed under the Co-operative Credit Societies Act of 1904 refer to the fifteen months preceding 30th June 1907. In September 1906 the Registrars of the societies in the various provinces met in conference, and conclusions were reached regarding the policy to be pursued during the early years of the movement in respect of a number of points of detail. It is, however, still too soon to say what measure of success the societies are likely to achieve. They are still for the most part somewhat artificial products, and the ability to continue in virtue of their own internal force, which is essential for the success of any co-operative movement, has only begun to be developed. It is difficult to know how far it is wise to bestow the fostering care of Government, and how far the societies should avail themselves of the services of well-wishing friends outside their own ranks, or of funds philanthropically provided. At the present stage also, when one failure would more than counterbalance a number of successes, it is necessary for the Registrar to pay a minute attention to the affairs of each society, which ought to give place eventually to experienced management on the part of the co-operators themselves. In spite of initial difficulties, however, the tables which follow and the notes on the working of the societies in the various provinces in which they have been established show that substantial progress has been made. No information is yet available as to how the societies have fared under the recent stress of scarcity and famine in Northern and Central India.

The societies are divided into central, rural, and urban societies. A Central Society, or "Co-operative Union," is an institution the members of which are representatives of a number of small affiliated societies standing to it in the same relation as individual members stand to their village society. The Co-operative Union is empowered to raise loans or accept deposits, as may be advisable in the interest of the affiliated societies, the profits being credited to a reserve fund upon which each society has a claim in the case of bad debts caused not by mismanagement but by misfortune or calamity. A union of this kind may be in a position to deal with capitalists or with joint stock banks, and to raise money on more favourable terms than is possible for the smaller societies. District Banks, which are of the nature of joint stock lending societies, exist in numbers, and as a regular part of the system, in the United Provinces only, and a few Central Societies exist here and in the Central Provinces. In addition a Central Bank has been founded in Madras with the object of financing village societies, and there is a city bank in Bombay with similar objects; these banks are less truly co-operative than the Co-operative Unions. Of the other societies, a large majority are rural, but the urban societies have the larger average membership. Not quite all the societies are engaged in the business of co-operative credit. Grain banks have been started in Mysore, Bengal, the Punjab and elsewhere, but their success is at present doubtful; a few co-operative weaving or tailoring societies have been formed, of which two societies in Madras, two in Bombay, and the Benares Silk Weavers' Association may be mentioned, and there were three very successful co-operative stores in Madras.

Except in Madras, the general rule of rural credit societies is to work with unlimited liability and without share capital; the majority of urban societies, on the other hand, have limited liability. The Indian Act does not permit rural societies to pay dividends. The principle of unlimited liability, when it is understood, has no terror for the ryot; he has been long accustomed to it in his family relationships, while the principle of limited liability is relatively unfamiliar. But the former system must naturally be accompanied by the power to exclude all in whom the majority have no confidence.

There is a considerable variety in the rates of interest charged in different provinces, but the rates are in nearly all cases considerably lower than those charged by local moneylenders. There is a remarkable difference between the rates obtaining in the Northern and Southern districts of Bombay. Too

much reliance must not be placed on the figures given in the following table, but they will serve for the purpose of a rough comparison. The rates attributed to village moneylenders are those normally charged on agricultural loans to ordinary cultivators on good security; in individual cases very much higher rates are not infrequently charged, varying from 40 to 175 per cent.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

Province.	Village Moneylenders.	Co-operative Credit Societies.	
	Rates per Cent. per Annum charged on good security.	Rate per Cent. charged on Loans to Members.	Rate per Cent. paid on Members' Deposits.
Madras - - - - -	12 to 15	9	7
Bombay, excluding Gujarat - - - - -	9 on large loans 12 to 15	9½	6½
Bombay, Gujarat - - - - -	15 upwards 6 upwards to rich borrowers.	6½	3 to 4
Central Provinces - - - - -	18 to 25	9½ to 12	7
Bengal - - - - -	18 to 25	12½	6½ for six months or longer. 3½ for shorter periods.
Eastern Bengal - - - - -	18 to 37½	9 to 18½, the ordinary rate being 12½	6½
Punjab - - - - -	18 to 24	9 to 9½	5
United Provinces, Oudh and Meerut - - - - -	12 to 18	12½	6½
" " other divisions - - - - -	37½		
Burma - - - - -	2 to 5 per month	15	9
Mysore - - - - -	12	12	9

In many cases the moneylenders have not unnaturally disliked the movement; but the only reported instances of active hostility occurred in the Punjab and the United Provinces, and in Madras they actively assisted it in several cases. The ideal solution would be that the capital and hereditary knowledge of the money-lending class should be eventually combined in joint stock institutions, or that they should be collected into central banks with the function of advancing money to village societies. A system by which the moneylender dealt with village societies instead of with individuals might ultimately prove much to his advantage, and it is by no means impossible that such a solution may be in some degree realised. At present the societies derive their resources from members' deposits, Government loans, loans from other co-operative societies, and loans from non-members. The following table shows the extent to which they depend on each of these various sources:—

		Year ending 31st March 1906.	15 Months ending 30th June 1907.
Capital -	Loans from private persons - - - - -	£ 9,369	£ 43,739
	Share capital - - - - -	8,747	37,054
	Deposits by members - - - - -	8,262	38,402
	Loans from Government - - - - -	4,677	18,983
	Reserve - - - - -	493	3,907
Total - - - - -		£ 31,548	£ 142,085
Loan transactions	Loans repaid to private persons - - - - -	£ 1,357	£ 10,079
	Loans issued to members - - - - -	22,696	158,931*
	Total - - - - -	£ 24,053	£ 169,010

* No returns are available of the loans repaid by members during the year.

Except in the Central Provinces and Bengal, in which all loans have been issued for productive purposes, loans are granted by village societies without restriction as to their employment. In Eastern Bengal half the amount

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES.

borrowed has been for payment of prior debt bearing exorbitant rates of interest. Cases were reported from Eastern Bengal and the United Provinces in which loans for marriages had resulted in more moderate expenditure than would otherwise have been the case; and there is a society in the Punjab which requires the submission of a schedule of expenditure to be scrutinised and amended, if necessary, before loans for marriages are granted. Such a system can evidently exist only in societies where members are either of the same caste or of castes of approximately the same social standing. It is reported, on the other hand, from the United Provinces, that the caste system is a hindrance to the progress of the movement, and that the lower castes cannot easily obtain the benefits of co-operation; other registrars deny that questions of caste have acted detrimentally so far as their provinces have been concerned.

On the 30th June 1907 there were 816 registered societies with a total membership of 91,343, of which 14 were central societies, 89 urban and 743 rural. The great advance which was made during the year under report becomes evident when it is remembered that in March 1905 there were altogether 35 rural and 6 urban societies, and in March 1906 237 rural, 37 urban, and 9 central societies, with a membership of 28,629. The apparent expansion of business is, however, somewhat exaggerated by the omission from the 1906 returns of societies which were actually working without having been registered. These figures, and the table which follows, do not refer to Mysore, in which an Act has been introduced similar to the British India Act.

Province.	No. of Societies.	No. of Members.	Receipts of the Year.	Disbursements of the Year.	Loans issued to Members during the Year.	Liabilities on Account of Deposits at close of the Year.	Subscription or Share Capital.	Reserve Fund.
Burma	Urban (limited)* - 3	103	£ 428	£ 412	£ 363	£ —	£ 292	£ —
	Rural (unlimited) - 37	1,925	12,999	12,217	11,183	107	2,959	903
Punjab	Urban (limited) - 3	279	59	57	863	5	634	17
	Rural (unlimited) - 174	17,254	20,213	17,816	17,510	7,494	6,295	—
Bengal	<i>Registered:—</i>							
	Urban { limited, 4 - 1	8	725	2,804	2,715	2,450	459	578
	Urban { unlimited, 4 - 1	8	725	2,804	2,715	2,450	459	578
	Rural (unlimited) - 165	6,903	7,691	7,462	6,906	833	136	735
	Grain (unlimited) - 4	256	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bengal	<i>Unregistered:—</i>							
	Rural (unlimited) - 15	654	190	182	132	117	—	49
	Grain (unlimited) - 24	6,770	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eastern Bengal and Assam	Urban (limited) - 12	1,029	5,101	4,929	4,389	461	1,455	23
	Rural (unlimited) - 48	2,424	2,375	2,111	2,018	1,081	—	21
Coorg	Rural (limited) - 14	957	1,819	2,068	1,863	299	568	163
Madras	Central (limited) - 1	43	5,851	5,986	5,393†	4,413	460	—
	Urban { limited, 18 - 1	21	3,533	44,345†	43,520†	12,530	3,991	2,278
	Urban { unlimited, 3 - 1	21	3,533	44,345†	43,520†	12,530	3,991	2,278
	Rural { limited, 12 - 1	41	2,863	11,635	14,228	13,182	2,455	2,321
	Rural { unlimited, 29 - 1	41	2,863	11,635	14,228	13,182	2,455	2,321
Bombay	Urban { limited, 16 - 1	20	1,945	10,012	9,473	7,637	1,618	2,265
	Urban { unlimited, 4 - 1	20	1,945	10,012	9,473	7,637	1,618	2,265
	Rural (unlimited) - 50	3,578	9,527	8,944	8,670	2,819	56	310
United Provinces	Central - 10 (161§)	2,669	10,786	10,831	7,904†	1,000	—	134
	Urban and District 17 (1,539§)	21,751	57,732	56,266	47,866†	4,210	9,105	595
	Rural - 130	16,339	18,097	16,729	14,776	2,111	—	174
	Seed - 12	144	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Silkweaving - 1	567	4,934	4,588	—	—	2,200	42
Central Provinces	Central - 3	49	654	620	600	45	—	13
	Urban (limited) - 4	667	3,505	3,451	2,704	438	1,028	123
	Rural (unlimited) - 63	2,870	3,995	3,772	3,492	1,084	2,098	236
Ajmer	Rural (unlimited) - 8	186	79	56	19	15	—	2

* Two of these are clerks' friendly societies, with monthly subscriptions from members.

† Including loans to other societies.

‡ These figures are deceptive, for comparison, since they include the turnover of three distributive stores; the sale proceeds of these stores amounted to £15,860.

§ Number of affiliated societies.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

Horse, mule, and donkey breeding.

In those districts of the Punjab, Baluchistan, the United Provinces, and the Bombay Presidency in which the breeding of equines specially flourishes, the entire control of horse, mule, and donkey breeding has been transferred from the Civil Veterinary Department to the Army Remount Department; the work of the Civil Department being confined to questions connected with cattle. Outside these districts the Civil Department controls breeding operations of every sort. Government stallions are allotted only to selected districts, but the stallions provided in the now selected districts, partly from District Board funds, and partly from provincial revenues, with the assistance of grants from the Government of India, are controlled by the Department. Of these there were on the register, at the end of 1906-07, 59 horse stallions, 112 ponies, and 65 donkeys, a large proportion in each case being located in the United Provinces and the Punjab. The district stallions covered 10,240 mares in the year under report. A further supply of donkey stallions is urgently needed, and an officer of the Department was deputed to Europe to purchase the number required. Mules are also bred at the Government Cattle Farm, Hissar.

As regards cattle, the operations of the Department are directed towards improvement of the breeds, investigation of diseases, inoculation, and maintenance of veterinary dispensaries. There were during the year 20 Government bulls and 386 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 proposals for the establishment of such farms in the United Provinces and elsewhere have been under consideration. The most important centre of cattle-breeding is the Hissar Government Cattle Farm, in the Punjab. The farm contained 19 herd bulls and 1,038 cows, selected with great care as good specimens of the Hariana and Nagore breeds, besides a large number of young stock and cultivation bullocks, and some mules, donkeys, and zebras. Ninety-nine bulls were sold from the farm during the year for work in the districts of the Punjab. They were carefully reared, pure-bred Hariana 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 1,200 cows, so as to meet present demands for ordnance bullocks and for bulls required by the districts and at the farm. Some progress was also made with sheep-breeding. 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 out of both Imperial and local funds.

Revised rules for dealing with glanders and surra were in force in Bengal and the Punjab. Eight hundred and seventy-five cases of glanders were reported from Bengal, but the disease does not seem to have been prevalent elsewhere. Bombay city and the neighbourhood suffered heavy losses from surra. Only 48 cases of anthrax amongst equines were reported in the whole of India.

Among cattle, rinderpest continued to be very destructive, and spread throughout the Bombay Presidency, where it had appeared in the preceding year; 50,000 attacks and 25,000 deaths were reported, but it is stated that the actual losses were considerably greater. The available staff was insufficient to cope with the outbreak, but considerable progress was made in breaking down the opposition of the people to inoculation, which was performed in 40,000 cases. In the whole of India 214,000 cattle were inoculated against rinderpest, of which a considerable proportion was in the Punjab, where the Department is most developed. The value of the results obtained is undoubted. Anthrax was less prevalent than formerly, except in Madras, which was responsible for 12,000 cases out of a total of 16,000 for the whole of India. Inoculation, which seems to give almost complete immunity, was performed in 11,000 cases. There were 24,000 cases of hæmorrhagic septicæmia, chiefly in the Punjab and Madras. The use of preventive inoculation against this disease, which was first introduced in 1905-06, was greatly extended. There were 21,000 deaths from foot and mouth disease,

Horse and cattle disease.

CIVIL
VETERINARY
DEPART-
MENT.

which was widely prevalent. The preparation "Blacklegoids" was used with success against black quarter. Altogether 339,000 cattle were reported to have died from the various contagious diseases during the year. The sera for inoculation were prepared at the Bacteriological Laboratory, Muktesar. A number of papers on the subject of tropical diseases were published by the Department during the year.

Subordinate
Staff.

Fifty-four veterinary inspectors and 446 veterinary assistants were employed, against 30 inspectors and 417 assistants in 1905-06. Forty-one thousand six hundred and fifty-seven villages were visited by assistants on tour, and 212,000 cases treated. The veterinary hospitals and dispensaries, at which 268,000 animals were treated during the year, increased in number from 290 to 315.

Veterinary
instruction.

The number of students who graduated at the four veterinary colleges, viz., Punjab, Bengal, Bombay, and Madras, was 139, compared with 75 in the preceding year. At the end of the year there were 570 students under training at the four colleges and the Burma school. The buildings and equipment of the colleges were much improved during the year, especially those at Bombay. The demand for trained veterinary graduates still remains far in excess of the supply.

The total cost of the Department, both Imperial and Provincial, amounted during the year to £106,329, being an increase of £20,912 over the amount expended in 1905-06.

MINERAL
RESOURCES.

MINERAL RESOURCES AND MINING.

The following table gives a summary of the returns for mineral production in India during 1906. The estimate relates to all production for which returns were available, but as it is based in many cases on local value in a country where metallurgical industries are still in a rudimentary condition, it cannot serve for comparison with the output of other countries. The estimate serves, however, for the comparison of one year with another:—

Mineral.	1905.	1906.
	£	£
Gold - - - - -	2,416,971	2,230,284
Coal* - - - - -	1,419,443	1,912,042
Petroleum* - - - - -	604,203	574,238
Salt* - - - - -	441,392	420,901
Saltpetre† - - - - -	235,723	270,547
Manganese ore‡ - - - - -	248,309	435,268
Mica† - - - - -	142,008	259,514
Ruby, sapphire, and spinel - - - - -	88,340	96,867
Others - - - - -	93,469	113,127
Total - - - - -	5,689,948	6,312,818

* Spot prices.

† Export values.

‡ Very unreliable.

Although there were considerable variations in the production during the year, the total value of the recorded minerals of 1906 exceeded those of 1905 by £622,870, or an increase of 10·9 per cent.

COAL.

The details of the Indian output of coal are given below:—

	Coal produced in					
	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bengal - - -	5,487,600	6,259,200	6,361,200	7,063,700	7,234,100	8,617,820
Hyderabad - - -	421,200	455,400	362,700	419,500	454,300	467,900
Assam - - -	254,100	221,100	239,300	266,800	277,200	285,500
Rewah State (Central India). - - -	164,400	171,500	193,300	185,800	157,700	170,300
Central Provinces - - -	191,500	197,000	159,200	139,000	147,300	92,800
Other provinces or states. - - -	116,900	120,300	122,700	141,900	147,100	148,900
Total - - -	6,635,700	7,424,500	7,438,400	8,216,700	8,417,700	9,783,200

MINERAL
RESOURCES.

The colliery at Warora in the Central Provinces has been definitely closed, in consequence of a serious subsidence in March 1906; arrangements are being made for new mining developments in the provinces. The coal sources included under "other provinces" were in Baluchistan, the Punjab, and Rajputana (Bikanir). The exports of Indian coal, though still small compared with the production, have shown a tendency to increase in recent years. In the three years 1904-05 to 1906-07 the exports averaged 9 per cent. of the production, Ceylon and the Straits Settlements being the two principal markets. Of the coal left available for consumption in the country, 97 per cent. was Indian coal and 3 per cent. imported, the greater part of the latter coming from the United Kingdom.

For the three years 1904-05 to 1906-07 it is estimated that the average total amount consumed in the country may be divided as follows:—

	Tons.
Railway consumption - - - - -	2,700,000
Bunker coal - - - - -	1,000,000
Inland steamers (in Bengal, Assam, and Burma) - - - - -	450,000
Jute mills - - - - -	500,000
Cotton mills - - - - -	610,000
Other forms of industrial consumption and domestic consumption - - - - -	2,965,000

The average estimated wholesale price of coal at the pit's mouth ranged from Rs. 3-6 in 1890 to Rs. 2-15 in 1906. The coal now being worked is near the surface, and labour is cheap; as a consequence Indian coal has a lower value at the pit's mouth than that of any other country. From the 15th November 1906 railway freights for distances of over 1,000 miles were reduced from Rs. 14-3 to Rs. 9-13 per ton. This change was followed by a continuous rise in price, due to the expanding commercial demand both for exports and for local consumption, further stimulated by the reduction of freights. The dividends declared by the different companies show that the trade was exceedingly profitable during the year.

The average daily attendance of persons employed in coal mines during 1906 was nearly 100,000, two-thirds of whom were men.

The production of iron ore in India is almost negligible, and amounted during 1906 to 74,106 tons, against 102,529 tons in 1905. The output is dominated by the quantity raised for the Barakar ironworks in Bengal, which is the only institution smelting on European lines. For the Barakar works the quantity raised in 1906 was returned as 69,397 tons, valued at about 2s. 11d. a ton. There was a considerable increase in the number of small native furnaces in the Central Provinces, the total for 1906 being 379, against 279 for 1905. So far as can be estimated from the available returns, the average daily attendance of workers in 1905 amounted to 2,060 and in 1906 to 3,269.

The production of gold amounted to 581,545 ounces, valued at £2,230,284, in 1906, compared with 630,818 ounces, valued at £2,416,971 in 1905. The year 1906 marked the first interruption in the increase of gold production from the Kolar gold fields in the Mysore State, whence almost the whole of the Indian output comes, the value having fallen below that of 1905 by £195,821. Reef mining has been recently commenced at the Hutti mine in Hyderabad, the yield increasing from 3,809 ounces in 1903 to 13,784 ounces in 1906.

The mining of manganese ore in India only commenced some 15 years ago. Operations were first carried on in the Vizianagram State, in the north of the Madras Presidency, but the greater portion of the output is now obtained from an extensive series of deposits in the Central Provinces and Central India. The ores worked are for the most exceedingly rich, as the high cost of transport renders the working of the lower-grade ores impossible. All the workings are superficial, and might be classed as quarries. The work of quarrying is mostly performed by hand, the rock being hand-drilled and blasted, or the ore dug out with crowbars. The labour returns for 1905 showed an average daily attendance at the quarries of 6,811, while in 1906

MINERAL RESOURCES. the total rose to 12,607, exclusive of the workers employed in Sandur and Mysore. There is at present no smelting plant in the chief producing centres, and the ore is shipped in bulk exactly as mined, to be smelted either in the United Kingdom, Germany, or Belgium. The output has increased very greatly during the last two years, the industry having been stimulated by the high prices resulting from the disorganisation on account of political disturbances of manganese mining in Russia, which formerly supplied more than half the world's output. In 1906 India was probably the largest producer of high-grade manganese ore, and supplied nearly half the total output of the world, which cannot much exceed a million tons. The figures for the Indian output in recent years are given in the following table :—

Year.	Madras.	Central Provinces.	Central India.	Bombay.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1898 - - -	60,449	—	—	—	60,449
1901 - - -	76,463	44,428	—	—	120,891
1904 - - -	53,699	85,034	11,564	—	150,297
1905 - - -	63,695	159,950	30,251	10	253,936
1906 - - -	117,380	320,759	50,073	7,517	495,729

No reliance is to be placed on the returns of estimated value, which have therefore been omitted.

MICA. The returns of the mica output show a remarkable increase from a total of 25,600 cwt. in 1905, valued at £83,500, to a total of 51,200 cwt., valued at £258,800, in 1906. The returns for production are now in fair agreement with the more accurate figures obtainable for exports. The increase is largely due to the increased demand for small mica films. Small mica, which formerly was thrown away, is now saved, the result being that a greater output is produced by a smaller number of workers. In spite of the largely increased output, the average daily attendance at the mines rose from 15,244 in 1905 only to 15,723 in 1906. The mines are situated in Bengal, Madras, and Rajputana.

RUBIES. The ruby industry in Burma has been prosperous during recent years, the yield of rubies, including small quantities of sapphire and spinel, rising to 326,855 carats in the year ending in February 1907, compared with 266,600 carats in the preceding year. The output is derived almost entirely from the Mogok mines of the Burma Ruby Mines Company. Rubies are also obtained by native miners working under licence from the Company, but accurate returns are not available.

PETROLEUM. There was a slight drop in the production of petroleum in 1906 (140,553,000 gallons) compared with 1905 (141,798,000 gallons); but compared with 1901 (118,191,000 gallons) there was a large increase. About 2,900,000 gallons of oil are extracted in Eastern Bengal and Assam; and the rest of the product, with the exception of an insignificant amount in the Punjab, comes from Burma, the principal oilfields being at Yenangyaung, in Magwe district, and at Singu, on the left bank of the Irrawaddy. In the latter area the output was artificially restricted. The local value is estimated at about 1 anna (1*l.*) per gallon of crude oil. The number of workers employed on the Burma oilfields amounted in 1906 to no more than 1,837. There was a further fall in the imports of kerosene into India, as a result of the continued political troubles in the Russian oilfields. The imports from Russia fell from 71,995,767 gallons in 1902 to 42,256,738 in 1904, to 17,205,175 gallons in 1905, and to zero in 1906; the total imports during the same period falling from 81,958,387 gallons to 48,527,775 gallons. Exports of mineral oil from Burma to places outside India fell from 2,422,589 gallons in 1905 to 903,545 gallons in 1906. The figures both for imports and for exports were reduced by an agreement made between the Burma Oil Company and the producers in the Dutch East Indies.

SALTPETRE. The value of the saltpetre industry is gauged most uniformly by the figures for exports, which increased from 313,122 cwt. in 1905, valued at £235,723, to 347,251 cwt. in 1906, valued at £270,517. The average export during the last five years was 370,936 cwt., valued at £266,936. The local

importance of the saltpetre industry is shown by the returns for labour, which show that in 1906 50,469 workers were employed in Behar, where most of the saltpetre is obtained. **MINERAL RESOURCES.**

The Indian Mines Act, 1901, extends to the whole of British India and regulates all mineral workings in that area which are either true mines worked underground, or open pits, quarries, or excavations more than 20 feet deep, or any part of which extends beneath the superjacent ground. **Inspection of Mines.**

The number of mines of all kinds coming under the Act in 1906 was 748, of which 307 were coal mines, situated chiefly in Bengal. They gave employment to an average daily number of 128,666 persons, of whom 83,053 were men, 39,582 women, and 6,031 children under twelve years old; 80,158 persons, including 24,921 women and 1,420 children, were employed below ground. The number of all persons employed was 19,079 more than in 1905.

Mining, particularly coal-mining, is a comparatively new industry in India. Miners of the second generation form a very small percentage of the mining population. Until recently, also, the workers have seldom depended solely upon mining for their livelihood. This period in the development of the industry is now passing away. There are signs that the evolution of a mining caste or class has already begun, and the Indian seems to be capable of acquiring considerable skill in most mining operations. Owing to the rapid increase of the mining population in the coal districts, all the land near the mines capable of raising crops will soon be under cultivation, and it will be no longer possible to combine the work of agriculture and mining. The demand for labour in Indian mining districts exceeds the supply, but the numbers of Indians who drift to the coal mines of Natal are evidence of the fields of recruitment which would be speedily opened by the offer of higher pay, shorter hours, and better housing.

There were 84 fatal accidents, causing 106 deaths, during the year 1906. Compared with the average for the five years during which the Act has been in operation, this is an increase of 20 in the number of accidents and 29 in the number of deaths. The increase is due to the expansion and activity of the industry and to the increasingly difficult and dangerous conditions of mining work. 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 is by far the most important mining centre in India. The Board held four meetings during the year. The Mining and Geological Institute of India, which was inaugurated at the end of 1905, made good progress during the year. The mining branch of Sibpur College was finally organised, and a Mining Advisory Board appointed.

CHAPTER XI.

PUBLIC
WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS.

GENERAL.

General.

During the year under review the Public Works Department was represented in the Council of the Governor-General, jointly with the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, by Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I.

Under the arrangements introduced in the previous year and explained in the Report for 1905-06, the Railway Board carries on the duties which formerly belonged to the Railway Branch of the Public Works Department. The Board was composed during 1906-07 of the members originally appointed to it, *viz.*, Sir F. R. Upcott, K.C.V.O., C.S.I., Chairman, Mr. W. H. Wood, English Member, and Mr. T. R. Wynne, C.I.E.

The Department of Commerce and Industry, through which the Railway Board has access to the Government of India, was represented in the Council of the Governor-General at the beginning of the year by Sir Charles Lewis Tupper, K.C.I.E., C.S.I. He was relieved in the post at the end of 1906 by Mr. J. F. Finlay, C.S.I.

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.

The following statement shows the composition of the superior engineer establishment as it stood on the 30th June in 1906 and 1905 :—

	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	1	2	34	51
Other military officers -	1	1	—	2	7
<i>Civil Engineers :</i>					
Appointed from Europe -	241	51	50	98	440
Europeans appointed in India -	111	6	6	34	157
Indians appointed in India -	75	21	28	6	130
Total for 1906 -	445	80	86	174	785
Total for 1905 -	423	83	83	176	765

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

	Public Works Department.			Public Works Department (Railway Branch).	Total.
	India.	Madras.	Bombay.		
Europeans -	135	48	31	33	247
Indians -	333	130	185	13	691
Total -	468	178	216	76	938

PUBLIC
WORKS.

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.

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 1906-07 is compiled from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the year :—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.		
			Charged to Revenue.	Not charged to Revenue.
Railways -	£ 26,276,288	Construction -	£ 3,236	£ 7,915,041
		On Revenue Account -	23,962,746	—
Irrigation -	3,538,260	Construction -	97,598	797,627
		" from Famine Relief Grant.	356,460	—
		On Revenue Account -	2,768,705	—
Buildings and roads -	532,640	Military Works -	*	*
		Civil Works -	5,554,101	—
TOTAL -	30,347,188		32,742,846	8,712,668

* Expenditure on account of Military Works now appears in the Finance and Revenue Accounts under the head of "Military Services."

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

	£
Railways -	5,039,985
Irrigation -	935,231

On the 31st of March 1907, £168,344,748 of permanent public debt had been incurred on account of railways, and £28,226,677 on account of irrigation.

The amount paid under the head of "Annuities in purchase of railways," which is included in the Railway Revenue Account, is £2,869,366.

RAILWAYS.

Financial results to the State.

In the financial year 1906-07 there was a surplus of revenue over expenditure amounting to £2,313,512. The table below is taken from the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India for 1906-07 :

RAILWAYS.

	Imperial.	Provincial and Local.	England, (Sterling converted at £1=Rs. 15.)	TOTAL.
REVENUE.				
Railways—	£	£	£	£
State railways—(Gross traffic receipts).	25,775,102	45,967	230	25,821,299
Guaranteed companies—(Net traffic receipts).	398,801	—	—	398,801
Subsidised companies—(Repayment of advances of interest).	25,916	—	30,272	56,188
TOTAL	£ 26,199,819	45,967	30,502	26,276,288
EXPENDITURE.				
Railway Revenue Account—				
State Railways—				
Working expenses	12,850,004	28,757	—	12,878,761
Share of surplus profits, &c.	396,300	—	—	396,300
Interest on debt	2,276,683	—	2,763,301	5,039,984
Annuities in the purchase of railways.	—	—	2,869,367	2,869,367
Sinking funds	—	—	148,896	148,896
Interest chargeable against companies on advances.	243,784	5,451	264,641	513,879
Interest on capital deposited by companies.	39,941	4,723	1,369,081	1,413,745
Guaranteed companies—				
Surplus profits, land and supervision.	41,702	—	—	41,702
Interest	—	—	584,751	584,751
Subsidised companies—				
Land, &c.	28,758	5,734	—	34,492
Miscellaneous railway expenditure	38,936	1,933	—	40,869
TOTAL	£ 15,916,108	46,601	8,000,037	23,962,746
Net gain	-	-	£ 2,313,512	

Statistical results of working.

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 1907 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 5·91 per cent. on the total capital outlay on open lines, against 5·96 per cent. in the previous year :—

RAILWAYS.

Class.	Length of Line open on the 31st December 1907.	Total Capital Outlay on Open Lines to the 31st December 1907, 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.								
State lines worked by companies	Miles. 7,913·81	£ 191,857,267	No. 98,086,800	Tons. 27,868,000	£ 13,626,333	£ 6,329,200	£ 7,297,133	
State lines worked by the State	5,375·27	58,326,267	60,768,000	13,560,000	7,063,867	3,299,100	3,004,467	
Companies' lines guaranteed under old contracts.	905·02	9,672,000	11,737,000	1,809,000	1,045,067	667,867	381,200	
Companies' lines guaranteed under modern contracts.	32·04	195,133	329,800	85,000	24,800	12,400	12,400	
Assisted companies' lines	947·94	4,251,133	9,030,000	1,531,000	606,533	300,866	305,667	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies.	711·31	4,797,733	3,803,500	1,374,000	410,600	132,800	277,800	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency.	204·68	798,067	3,301,000	466,000	135,067	71,667	63,400	
TOTAL FOR 1907	16,987·17	183,497,600	187,056,100	46,793,000	22,856,267	11,514,200	11,312,067	6·18
TOTAL FOR 1906*	15,765·46	174,881,867	165,664,300	41,768,000	21,498,267	10,373,533	11,124,734	6·36
3' 3½" Gauge.								
State lines worked by companies	7,961·09	50,591,333	70,538,700	11,387,000	5,702,467	3,160,133	2,542,334	
State lines worked by the State	766·14	5,023,867	8,947,200	1,705,000	749,400	372,733	376,667	
District Boards' lines	163·36	319,534	1,881,000	254,000	41,867	22,733	19,134	
Assisted companies' lines	1,571·55	7,319,133	21,277,700	6,902,000	861,733	410,400	451,333	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies.	801·96	3,292,133	5,766,000	796,000	329,166	161,200	167,966	
Lines owned and worked by Native States.	1,305·93	3,103,067	4,864,100	805,000	418,267	199,867	218,400	
Lines in foreign territory	73·60	1,173,200	829,000	372,000	56,733	32,267	24,466	
TOTAL FOR 1907	12,583·63	70,822,467	111,196,700	22,221,000	8,159,333	4,359,333	3,800,000	5·37
TOTAL FOR 1906*	12,145·53	68,415,267	100,103,000	16,371,000	7,636,900	4,135,667	3,500,933	5·12
Special (2' 6" and 2' 0") Gauges.								
State lines worked by companies	423·23	1,337,533	288,000	16,000	83,867	51,800	32,067	
State lines worked by the State	91·19	1,241,667	295,000	61,000	67,467	39,333	28,134	
Assisted companies' lines	396·38	1,176,666	3,637,300	229,000	170,800	94,600	76,200	
Unassisted companies' lines	33·27	70,733	530,500	32,000	7,267	4,867	2,400	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies.	372·41	662,600	1,115,900	167,000	60,223	31,000	29,223	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency.	33·60	101,467	204,000	63,000	11,600	4,667	6,933	
Lines owned and worked by Native States.	32·37	103,734	21,400	11,000	6,533	3,400	3,133	
TOTAL FOR 1907†	1,382·45	4,694,400	6,421,900	579,000	403,467	232,667	175,800	3·74
TOTAL FOR 1906*†	1,178·64	4,060,667	5,255,800	527,000	276,667	162,400	114,267	2·81
TOTAL OF ALL RAILWAYS FOR 1907.†	30,053·25	259,011,867	307,584,700	69,593,000	31,424,667	16,106,200	15,318,467	5·91
TOTAL OF ALL RAILWAYS FOR 1906.*†	29,089·63	247,360,600	271,063,100	58,869,000	29,411,531	14,671,600	14,739,934	5·96

* As corrected from later information.

† Excluding the Thaton-Dnyinzaik Light Railway.

It will be observed that, with an increase of 963·62 miles, or 3·31 per cent., in the open mileage, as compared with 1906, the gross earnings and working expenses increased by £2,013,133, or 6·84 per cent., and £1,434,600, or 9·78 per cent., respectively, resulting in an improvement of £578,533 in the net earnings.

There was an increase of 36,521,600 in the number of passengers and of 10,721,000 tons in the weight of goods carried as compared with the previous year.

3. The transactions of the Madras railway, the only old guaranteed line that was in existence during 1907, are shown in the following table, in which the rupee is converted into sterling at contract rates :—

Guaranteed railway transactions.

RAILWAYS.

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 1907.	12,792,725	299,621	290,978	357	—	—
Half-year ended the 31st December 1907.	13,086,919	234,601	291,651	60,050	—	—
Total for the year 1907.	13,086,919	525,222	585,629	60,407	—	—
Total for the year 1906.	12,651,532	567,072	584,751	17,679	—	22,917

Mileage opened.

1. The total railway mileage opened during the year was as follows :—

	Miles.
5' 6" gauge	320·70
3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " "	458·45
2' 6" "	170·35
2' 0" "	12·76
Total -	962·26
Add	
Corrections of mileage	1·36
Net total addition to open mileage	963·62

Mileage sanctioned.

5. The additional mileage sanctioned for construction was :—

	Miles.
3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " gauge	325·91
2' 6" "	34·94
Total	360·85

Mileage under construction.

6. The total mileage under construction or sanctioned for construction at the close of the year 1907 was :—

5' 6" gauge—	Miles.	Miles.
State lines worked by companies	898·68	
State lines worked by the State	301·75	
3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " gauge—		1,200·43
State lines worked by companies	237·46	
State lines worked by the State	225·33	
District Boards' lines	49·47	
Assisted Companies' lines	228·31	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	45·84	
Lines owned and worked by Native States	197·03	
Special (2' 6" and 2' 0") gauges—		983·44
State lines worked by companies	247·15	
State lines worked by the State	6·80	
Assisted companies' lines	70·50	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by companies	92·83	
Lines owned by Native States and worked by State railway agency	22·02	
Lines owned and worked by Native States	46·63	
Total	485·93	
		2,669·80

RAILWAYS.

Important works completed and in progress.

7. The following is a brief abstract of important works completed and in progress during the year 1907. Further particulars will be given in the Administration Report on Indian Railways for 1907, which will be published as a Parliamentary paper.

Bengal-Nagpur Railway System.—The 5' 6" gauge lines from Bhojudih to Gomoh (Hariharpur), 25·64 miles, and Kamptee to Ramtek, 14·24 miles, were opened to traffic during the year. Construction work was also in progress on the Vizianagram-Parvatipuram and Vizianagram-Raipur lines, on remodelling the Gondie station yard, relaying the track between Sini and Nagpur, strengthening the Damooda bridge and fitting 200 brake vans with vacuum brake gear.

The 2' 6" gauge railways from Khirsadoh to Barkuhi, 5·05 miles, Purulia to Ranchi, 72·28 miles, were opened to traffic. Progress was also made in the construction of the lines from Gondia to Chanda and Brahmapuri to Nagpur.

Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway System.—On the 5' 6" gauge section extensive works were carried out at Kankra Khari station; and the restoration of the General Offices in Bombay, which were damaged by fire in 1905, was completed. Work continues in connection with the strengthening of the Nerbudda bridge in consequence of the heavier engines and rolling-stock now being built. The renewal, with 90-lb. rails, of the 69-lb. rails on wooden sleepers on the main line was commenced in view of the heavy traffic which is expected from the Nagda-Muttra railway. All passenger stock on the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India railway proper, not already so fitted, is being fitted with apparatus for intercommunication between passengers and guards and drivers.

Of the southern section of the Nagda-Muttra railway, *i.e.*, from Nagda to the Chambal river, the portion from Nagda to Morak, 101 miles, was opened for traffic on the 15th July 1907, and the remaining 39 miles were nearly completed. On the northern section, Kotah (crossing of the Chambal river) to Muttra, 200 miles, good progress was made on earthwork, bridges, and culverts. Rails were laid from Siwai Madhopur for 20 miles northwards to the Banas river.

On the 3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " gauge section of the Company's system the following works were completed :—the conversion of Fatehgarh, on the Rajputana-Malwa railway, into an engine-changing station; the improvement in the alignment of the line near, and entry into, Sabarmati station, with the view to rendering it less liable than in the past to damage by floods; the improvement and enlargement of Mhow Station; and the construction, on account of the heavy traffic at that point, of the Martindale over-bridge at the Lal Phatak level-crossing north of Ajmer station.

The remaining portion of the Jaipur (Siwai Madhopur) 3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " gauge railway, *viz.*, from Nawai to Siwai Madhopur, 40·66 miles, was completed and opened for traffic on the 17th October 1907.

Work continues on the construction of the lines from Manund Road, *via* Chanasma, to Bechraji, with a branch from Chanasma to Harij, 38·11 miles, and from Kheralu to Dhabora, 7·73 miles; also in connection with the renewal of all weak bridge girders on the main line between Delhi and Rewari and between Phulera and Ahmedabad, by girders equal to the stress of broad gauge standard loads, under a programme of expenditure over a series of years.

Eastern Bengal State Railway System.—On the 5' 6" gauge section, the chord line between Tiljala (Gobra) and Kakurgachi, 2·26 miles, and the additional double line between Kakurgachi and Dum Dum Junction were opened for traffic on the 1st February, thus affording a direct route (avoiding Sealdah station) for the heavy coal traffic to the Kidderpore Docks. The erosion of the river bank at Goalundo rendered it necessary to remove the combined service ghats to Durgapur on the Ganges river. The new Chur line, Durgapur to Rajbari station, was completed and opened to the traffic of the combined service on the 1st July 1907. The remaining portion, Lalgola to Lalgola Ghat, 2·75 miles, of the Murshidabad branch project, was opened to traffic on the 15th July 1907.

On the Katihar-Godagari, 3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " extension, 105 miles, and on the remaining (unopened) portion of the 3' 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " gauge extension of 148·68 miles

RAILWAYS. from Golokganj to Gauhati, viz., 112·93 miles from Kokrajhar (at mile 35·75) to Gauhati (at mile 148·68), considerable progress was made in construction during the year.

Progress continues in the construction of the 3' 3½" gauge line from Forbesganj to the Nepal Frontier, about 7·40 miles.

East Indian Railway System.—The double line between Dhanbaid and Barakar, the Khurja-Hapur branch, and the new bridge over the Jumna river at Agra with the line from Agra Junction to Agra City (Balinganj), have been completed, and were opened to traffic. Construction work, which had been in abeyance for want of funds, on the Barharwa-Dhulian section of the Barharwa-Azimganj-Katwa Railway, has been resumed and is progressing satisfactorily.

The work of strengthening the girder bridges throughout the line has made satisfactory progress. All single line stations between Allahabad and Delhi have been interlocked, with the exception of Rasulabad which is in hand. The northern block of the new joint passenger station at Howrah has been completed with the exception of the electro-pneumatic interlocking; work on the southern portion of the station, as well as several other important works, are in abeyance for want of funds.

Great Indian Peninsula Railway System.—Of the 5' 6" gauge lines under construction it is expected that the Warora-Chanda-Balharshah extension will be opened for traffic early in 1908; the Harbour branch in March 1908; and the Mahim Chord connection, which forms part of the branch, probably towards the end of 1908.

Of the double line between Lonavla and Poona, 39 miles, the section Lonavla to Karla was opened in May 1907; the remainder is nearing completion and is expected to be opened in March 1908. The strengthening of the girders of bridges continues. The reconstruction of the Godavari and Kara Nala bridges has been completed; work on the Ganjal bridge is in hand. The Agra Goods Depot at Balinganj (Agra City) was completed and Agra Road station was practically finished.

Of the Baran-Kotah railway, 40 miles, the first 14 miles from Baran to Antali have been completed and are expected to be opened for traffic during the first-half of 1908. The bridge (2 spans of 60', 11 of 100' and 4 of 150') over the Kali Sind river, and the great approach bank and training bund of the bridge, are well in hand. On the remainder of the line the formation, bridges and culverts are nearing completion. The whole line was temporarily opened on the berm in February 1907.

The Matheran Light railway, Neral to Matheran, 12·76 miles on the 2' 0" gauge, was opened for traffic in March, closed during the rains and re-opened thereafter.

Progress continued in the construction of the extension of the Gwalior light railways, 2' 0" gauge, from Sabalgarh to Sheopur, about 66·39 miles.

Madras Railway System.—On the 15th March 1907, the North-East line was afforded direct access to the Central station, Madras, by a chord line from Korukkupettai to a new station at Basin Bridge, and the loop line connecting Washermenpet with Basin Bridge was opened on the same date. The junction arrangements at Tirupattur and Morappur, excepting the signalling arrangements, were completed during the year. Alterations and additions to the Perambur Workshops, the strengthening throughout the system of certain spans of weak girders by the substitution of new steel girders, and the provision of additional waterways between miles 160 and 180 on the North-East line, were in hand.

The remaining portion of the Azhikal-Mangalore 5' 6" gauge railway, viz., from Kumbha to Mangalore, 20·91 miles, was opened for traffic on the 3rd July 1907, thus effecting through connection from Azhikal to Mangalore. The Netravati Bridge on this extension was opened on the 4th November 1907.

Progress continues on the Coonoor-Ootacamund extension of the Nilgiri Railway, 11·75 miles on the 3' 3½" gauge, which it is expected will be opened up to Fernhill in April 1908.

Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway System.—The renewal, with new girders of the standard type, of the girders on all 4, 6 and 12 metre span bridges on the Wadi-Secunderabad section was completed.

North-Western Railway System.—The Shahdara-Sangla 5' 6" gauge chord railway was opened for traffic on the 10th April 1907. Progress continues on the first section of the Loi Shilman Railway, on the Chichoki-Burada section, of the Shorkot Road-Chichoki Railway, and on the Lodhran-Khanewal Railway all on the 5' 6" gauge. The conversion from the 2' 6" to the 5' 6" gauge of the Khushalgarh-Kohat section, 30·25 miles, of the Khushalgarh-Kohat-Thal Railway, and the construction of the new bridge over the Indus river at Khushalgarh, were completed during the year and opened to traffic on the 5th January 1908. The conversion to the 5' 6" gauge of the Kohat-Thal section of the line, and the construction of the Thal-Parachinar Railway on the same gauge, are still in abeyance.

The doubling of the line from Samasata to Khanpur, 76 miles, from Khanpur to Reti, 62 miles, and from Reti to Rohri, 70 miles, was completed.

The second wing of the new Central Offices and the new engine-erecting shops at Lahore were completed and taken into use.

Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway System.—The remainder of the Allahabad-Jaunpur railway from Mariahu to Zafarabad, with a temporary pile bridge across, and diversions at the approaches to, the river Sai, was opened to traffic in January 1907. The permanent bridge was opened for traffic on the 27th June 1907. The renewal of girders of the Ganges bridge at Rajghat on the Aligarh branch was commenced and is making good progress. Forty miles of the main line from Lucknow towards Saharanpur have been relaid with 90-lb. section flat-footed rails on wooden sleepers, in substitution of 75-lb. rails on pots.

Assam-Bengal Railway.—Proceedings in connection with the acquisition of land for the commencement of work on the Kalaura-Khooseara river section of the Kalaura-Sylhet branch, and construction work on the Akhaura-Ashuganj (Bhairab) branch on the same gauge, both of which were stopped for want of funds in 1906, were resumed during 1907, and it is expected that the latter branch will be opened for traffic in April 1909. Work has been commenced on the fourth jetty at the Chittagong port.

Bengal and North-Western Railway System.—On the open line of the Company's section, the 3 spans of 80' girders of the Babai bridge on the Nanpara-Katarnian Ghat branch, which were washed away during the rains of 1906, are being replaced by 4 spans of 60' girders.

Of the lines that were under construction on the Company's section the extension from Gorakhpur to Chhitauni Ghat (Bagaha), and those from Savan to Thawe and Daronda to Maharajganj were opened to traffic in 1907.

Construction work on the first 53 miles of the Benares-Allahabad line was put in hand in March 1907.

On the open line of the Tirhoot section, the erection of the new Boor-Gundak bridge on the Eastern branch at Samastipur, in replacement of the previously existing pin girder bridge which was considered weak for heavy engines, was completed; and the two pin girder bridges over the Bagmati and Korai rivers on the same branch are being similarly reconstructed. Considerable additional waterway was provided on the Samastipur-Darbhanga and Samastipur-Muzaffarpur sections during the year, as a protection against floods which caused heavy damages in 1906.

Of lines on the Tirhoot section that were under construction, the section of the Mansi-Bhaptiahi extension from Makhana Bazar to Bhaptiahi was opened to traffic in March 1907; the section of the Bettiah-Bagaha extension from Narkatiaganj to Bagaha in May 1907; the section of the Mansi-Bhaptiahi extension from Mansi to Makhana Bazar and the extension from Bairagnia to Narkatiaganj in December 1907. The branch from Saharsa to Budham Ghat is nearing completion.

Bengal Doonars Railway.—The reconstruction of the Ghatia bridge on the Eastern extension (which collapsed during the year) is in hand and will shortly be completed.

Burma Railways.—The Pegu-Martaban (Moulmein) extension was completed and opened for traffic on the 25th September 1907. Of the Henzada-Kyangin extension, 65·66 miles, the section from Henzada to Danbi was opened to traffic on the 15th April 1907. The remainder of the line is nearly completed.

With the exception of the arrangements at the stations, the doubling has been completed of the line between Togyangale and Dabein on the main

RAILWAYS. line, and between Hlawga and Wanetchaung on the Prome section. On the main line 26 miles, and on the Rangoon-Prome section 6 miles, of 41½-lb. steel track were re-laid with 60-lb. steel rails, and on the latter section an additional 1½ miles of similar track have been re-laid with 50-lb. rails. The north shore siding to the river bank at Henzada and the ferry arrangements, both there and at Tharawaw shore, have been completed.

Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway System.—Construction work has been commenced on the Degana-Hissar 3' 3¾" gauge extension, 197·03 miles.

Rohilkhand and Kumaon Railway.—The line from Lalkua, *via* Kashipur, to Ramnagar was opened to traffic on the 20th April 1907; that from Moradabad to Kashipur on the 11th January 1908.

South Indian Railway System.—The renewal of certain spans of weak girders with metre-gauge standard requirements on the Madura-Tuticorin and Maniyachi-Tinnevely sections was completed. The re-arrangement of Egmore station at Madras is in hand.

Southern Mahratta Railway System.—The Sangli Railway, which was under construction during 1906, was opened to traffic on the 1st April 1907. The Bezvada-Masulipatam Railway is nearly completed. The construction of the Dhone (Kurnool Road)-Kurnool Railway, preliminary operations in connection with which were started in 1906, is well in hand.

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

Dholpur-Bari Railway.—The construction of this line, 19·25 miles, on the 2' 6" gauge, is nearing completion.

Dibru-Sadiya Railway.—The construction of the branch line, from Talap Station to Shaikhowa Ghat on the south bank of the River Brahmaputra, is in hand. The survey, earthwork, and the first four culverts are completed; about 3 miles of the permanent-way are finished, and work on the Dangri bridge is in progress.

Dwara-Therria Light Railway.—The construction of this line, 19·50 miles, on the 2' 6" gauge, which was suspended in June 1904 for want of funds, continues at a standstill.

Shahdara (Delhi)-Saharanpur Light Railway. The construction of the main line was completed during 1907; the section of 54·64 miles from Delhi-Shahdara to Shamli was opened for traffic in May, and the remainder of the line on the 15th October 1907.

8. The following were the principal matters which received attention during the year 1907:

Government Control of Railways.—On the 1st January 1908 a new system was introduced under which the Government of India exercised its control over railways. The Consulting Engineer was abolished and railways placed under the direct control of the Railway Board. Extended powers of sanction and administration were delegated to Boards of Directors, with option to delegate their powers to their Agents in India.

Strikes and Board of Conciliation.—The year 1906 saw several petty strikes among different classes of employes, and during 1907 strikes again occurred on certain lines. The discontent on the North-Western and the Bengal and North-Western railways was removed without inconvenience to the public; but that on the Eastern Bengal State Railway, which resulted in the native drivers and firemen going on strike, was of a more serious nature and involved the temporary dislocation of goods traffic. In November 1907 the European and Eurasian drivers of the Howrah-Jhajha district on the East Indian railway submitted a long list of grievances, and they ultimately struck work and were joined by the traffic staff to some extent, the strike spreading over a large portion of the line. This strike was the most serious in the history of railways in India, and for a time completely dislocated traffic generally and the trade of Calcutta in particular. It was only terminated by the appointment by the Government of India of a special Board of Conciliation (based on the lines of the Boards recently introduced in England) to consider the representations of the men. The Conciliation Board dealt mainly with the questions of (i) higher pay or mileage allowance; (ii) extra pay for working overtime and on holidays; and (iii) improved leave rules.

Re-arrangement of the Railways in Southern India. The contracts of the Southern Mahratta and Madras railways having approached their period of termination, it was decided to take advantage of the opportunity and to re-arrange the railway systems of Southern India. Arrangements were, therefore, made for the Southern Mahratta Railway Company to take over, from 1st January 1908, the South Indian metre gauge lines north of Katpadi, and the existing Madras Railway, excepting the Jalarpet-Mangalore section and branches. The amalgamated undertaking has been called the "Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway," with head-quarters at Madras. The Jalarpet-Mangalore section of the Madras Railway and its branches were handed over to the South Indian Railway Company, and arrangements were also made by which that Company will exercise running powers over the Madras-Bangalore section.

Indian Railway Conference Association.—The Association held meetings at Simla from 23rd September to 7th October 1907, and, in addition to the ordinary questions before it for consideration, dealt specially with the question of the revision and simplification of the existing goods tariff. The Simplification Committee's report, showing in draft a portion of a simplified tariff drawn up on the lines decided upon by the Committee, which met at Delhi soon after their appointment in 1905, was considered and adopted. It was decided by the Association that the final report, when submitted, should be printed and circulated by the secretary for consideration. Meanwhile certain questions of principle connected with the preparation of the simplified tariff have been referred to, and are under consideration by, the Railway Board. During the year, the appointment of a "whole-time" secretary to the Association, with necessary office establishment, was sanctioned by the Secretary of State, who further authorised the Association being empowered to incur expenditure connected with its own working up to an annual maximum of Rs. 40,000. Mr. Ross Johnson was elected secretary to the Conference Association, and on return from leave in England assumed charge of his duties on the 23rd December 1907.

Communication between Passengers and Guards and Drivers of Trains.—Means of communication between passengers and guards and drivers have been fitted to many fast trains and its more extended adoption is being pressed on all lines.

Concessional Rates for Famine Traffic.—Owing to grave prospects of a serious fodder famine in the United Provinces, Central India, Rajputana, the Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province in consequence of the failure of the last monsoon, the railways at the request of the Government of India in October 1907 agreed to co-operate in the measures adopted by Government for the protection of cattle by quoting specially reduced rates for the carriage of bhoosa, grass, karbi, &c., between stations within the areas affected and from stations outside those areas to stations within them. The Government of India, however, realising that even greater assistance than this was necessary in order to effect the movement of fodder in quantities sufficiently large to provide for the safety of cattle within the famine area, decided that freight on consignments of fodder (excepting fodder for the Army Department), booked to stations in the provinces mentioned from places without them, should be recovered from the consignor or consignee at the rate of half an anna per four-wheeled wagon per mile and one anna per bogie wagon, and that the balance of freight calculated at the special reduced rates agreed to by railways, or at the ordinary tariff rates in cases where the rate had not been specially reduced, should be paid by Government.

Revised Rules for the Carriage of Military Traffic.—The revised rules for the carriage of military traffic by rail as recommended by the Indian Railway Conference Association were accepted by the Government of India and introduced, with effect from the 1st January 1908, as a tentative measure for a period of one year.

Committee of Enquiry as to the Provision of Funds for Expenditure on Indian Railways and the System of Working of the Railway Board.—In May 1907 intimation was received of the appointment by the Secretary of State of a committee to inquire into the provision of funds for expenditure on Indian railways and the system under which the Railway Board works. It was at first arranged that Sir James Mackay, chairman of the Committee, and

RAILWAYS.—Sir Walter Lawrence, one of the members, accompanied by Mr. Brereton, director of Indian railway companies, should visit India in the winter to discuss matters with the Government of India and the Railway Board, and also to receive evidence on the subject of the enquiry from officials engaged in railway management and from representatives of the mercantile community. The deputation of these gentlemen was subsequently abandoned, since it was considered sufficient for the Committee to receive by letter the views of those interested in the subject in India. The Chamber of Commerce and other public bodies were accordingly directed to send any representations on the subject they desired to make direct to the secretary of the Committee at the India Office, London.

Provision of additional Rolling Stock to meet increased Demands of Traffic.—For the year 1907-08 the Railway Board made a provision of £3,786,670 for additional rolling stock. In view, moreover, of representations received by them from commercial bodies in connection with serious inconvenience caused to the trade owing to insufficiency of rolling stock, an additional million sterling was allotted for the purchase of broad gauge open and covered goods wagon stock, to be distributed among the various Indian railways (with the exception of the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway). Contracts for the supply of 2,900 covered and 1,450 open goods wagons have accordingly been let in England. The majority of this stock is to be sent out in 1908-09, it being impossible to arrange for the delivery of such a large order in the current year.

Use of Local Manufactures for Railway Purposes. The arrangement entered into by the Government of India in 1897 with the Bengal Iron and Steel Company, for the supply of 10,000 tons of pig iron and castings annually to State railways for a period of 10 years commencing from 1st April 1897, was not renewed.

Standardization of Locomotives.—Further standard designs of broad gauge mail, passenger and goods engines, prepared by the Engineering Standards Committee in England, were circulated for adoption on the various Indian railways.

Electrification of Railways.—Proposals for working the Kalka-Simla railway and the Nilgiri railway and its extension to Ootacamund by electricity are still under consideration.

The Railway Board also received a report on the question of working the proposed Bharno-Tengyueh railway with electricity, which is being considered.

Abolition of Bridge Tolls.—In February and July 1907 Government agreed to abolish tolls on the East Indian Railway Company's Tonse bridge and on the Jumna bridges at Delhi and Allahabad, and on the Oudh and Rohilkhand State railway Dufferin bridge over the Ganges at Benares, the bridge over the Ganges on the line between Lucknow and Cawnpore and the bridge over the Ramganga at Moradabad.

Rules to regulate the Transport and Importation of Explosives. In July 1907 revised rules were promulgated for adoption on all railways in India.

Terms for Construction of Sidings to Kerosine Oil Installations within railway limits.—The form of agreement approved in July 1905 for the extension of State-worked railways into private premises for traffic from mills or other industries made it a condition that a sum of Rs. 200 per mile or part of a mile must be paid by the applicants for a siding to cover the survey charges entailed. It having been represented that this charge was inequitable in the case of the short sidings that are laid to kerosine oil installations within railway limits, orders were issued in February 1907 that it may be remitted in the case of such sidings.

Steamer Service between the Assam-Bengal Railway Terminus at Shahab Ghatta and the Islands of Sundip and Hatiya.—In November 1907 sanction was accorded to the concession given to Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co. in Assam-Bengal railway terminus at Shahab Ghatta and the islands of Sundip and Hatiya being transferred for a period of one year, in the following modified form, to the India General Navigation and Railway and Rivers Steam Navigation Companies, viz., the grant of a rebate of 10 per cent. from the earnings derived from the through traffic interchanged between the

Assam-Bengal railway and the Steamer Companies, subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 500 per mensem, but not subject to any minimum.

Flood Damages.—The Tharaway branch of the Burma railways, 24 miles, i.e., the link between the main line and the Bassein-Henzada branch, was closed to traffic from the 28th June 1907: two miles of line near the Tharaway end were dismantled, and three large gaps of a total length of 800 feet were made in the railway embankment to pass an expected high flood of the Irrawaddy river, as it was feared that the railway bank would cause a heading up of the flood waters, throw them back into the river and endanger the bund, which protects the town of Henzada. Happily these fears were not realised, and the line was restored, diversions being put in at the sites of the gaps, and traffic over the branch was resumed with effect from the 5th November 1907. Floods breached the Bengal and North-Western railway between Pertabganj and Khanwa Ghat in several places, and the Mirehya river changed its course and encroached; the line will consequently have to be abandoned, in view of which an alternative line is under survey. The Bhikna-Thoree branch was closed on account of heavy floods in July, and re-opened for traffic in December 1907.

Chittagong Jetties, Assam-Bengal Railway.—Considerable loss of property was caused by fires, which occurred in October and December 1907, at the jetties at the double moorings at Chittagong.

Projects for New Lines.—No communication from the respective projectors having been received during the year in connection with the construction of the following lines, which were mentioned in the reports for the two previous years, it would seem that the projectors have abandoned the projects:—

	Gauge.	Miles.
(i) Rawalpindi-Murree Railway (Punjab) - -	3' 3½"	40
(ii) Extensions of the Dacca State Railway—		
(a) From Mymensingh, <i>via</i> Netrokoma, to Bara Ari, with a branch to Gauripur (Eastern Bengal and Assam) - -	3' 3½"	36½
(b) From Singhjani, <i>via</i> Sherpur, to Nalita-bari (Eastern Bengal and Assam) - -	2' 6"	25
(iii) Serajganj-Ullapara Light Railway (Eastern Bengal and Assam) - -	2' 6"	18

The proposals for establishing rail connection between Dholka and Ranpur, which were also mentioned in the two previous reports and which contemplated—

- (i) An extension, on the 3' 3½" gauge, of the Ahmedabad-Dholka railway from Dholka to Dhandhuka (Bombay), 41¼ miles;
- (ii) The construction of a steam tramway from Dhandhuka to Ranpur (Bombay), 18 miles;
- (iii) Extending, as an alternative to (i) and (ii), the Bhavnagar-Gondal-Junagad-Porbandar Railway's 3' 3½" line from Ranpur, *via* Dhandhuka to Dholka;

have been negatived by the Government of India, as the parties interested therein, viz., the Bombay, Baroda and Central India and Ahmedabad-Dholka Railway Companies and the Bhavnagar-Gondal-Junagad-Porbandar Railway Administration, were unable to formulate terms acceptable to each.

The proposals for the construction of the following light railways in Bengal, which were put forward in 1905, are still awaiting a decision on the proposals of the Bengal and North-Western Railway for extending the Tirhoot State Railway from Darbhanga to Khagaria:—

- (i) Samastipur-Rowsara Railway, 17½ miles, to be financed by the District Board of Darbhanga;
- (ii) Rowsara-Khagaria Railway, 44 miles, to be financed by the District Board of Monghyr.

The Darbhanga-Khagaria line has been surveyed by the Bengal and North-Western Railway and the project report is awaited.

The grant of a concession to the Amritsar-Patti Railway Company for the extension of their line from Patti to Kasur (Punjab), a distance of 30 miles, has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and the terms of the concession have since been communicated to the promoters.

RAILWAYS.

The Secretary of State has signified his willingness to grant a concession to the Barsi Light Railway Company for the portion (about one mile) of the proposed extension of their line from Tadwala to Latur (Nizam's Hyderabad and Bombay), 37 miles, which lies in British territory, and has authorized the company to enter into negotiations with His Highness the Nizam's Government for the portion (about 36 miles) which is in Hyderabad territory. The negotiations with His Highness' Government are in progress.

Proposals were received during the year from the Mysore Durbar for the construction by private enterprise of a 2' 6" gauge railway, 39 miles in length, from Taragapet (near Bangalore) to Chickballapur (Mysore). Revised estimates of costs have been called for and are awaited.

Definite proposals were made to the Government of Bengal during the year for constructing, under the provisions of the Bengal Tramways Act, an extension, on the 2' 6" gauge, of the Bukhtiarpore-Bihar Light Railway from Behar to Silao (Bengal), 10 miles. They are under the consideration of the Local Government.

Negotiations are in progress between the Secretary of State and the railway companies noted below for the construction, on the 5' 6" gauge, of the following chord lines :—

- (1) The Southern Punjab Railway Company for a line from Kasur down the Sutlej Valley to Lodhran on the North-Western Railway (Punjab), 210 miles ;
- (2) The Delhi-Umballa-Kalka Railway Company for a line from Kaithal on the Southern Punjab Railway to Thanesar on the Delhi-Umballa-Kalka Railway (Punjab), 29 miles.

Proposals have been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the construction of an extension, on the 3' 3½" gauge, of the Ahmedabad-Parantij Railway from Idar Road to Brahna-Khed (Bombay), 32 miles.

A detailed project was received during the year from the Agent, Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway Company, for a 3' 3½" gauge line from Pilibhit to Barmdeo (United Provinces), 38½ miles, and proposals for its construction by the Company have since been submitted to the Secretary of State.

The proposals, which were received towards the end of the year, for the construction, on the 2' 6" gauge, of a railway from Murtajapur to the Pilsaon coal fields (Central Provinces), 150 miles, by a Company to be domiciled in England, are under submission to the Secretary of State.

Consideration of the proposals for the construction of the Kumbakonam-Mannargudi Railway (Madras), 22½ miles, by the Tanjore District Board, is still in abeyance pending information from the Government of Madras as to the method by which it is intended to raise the necessary capital.

A proposal for the construction, on the 2' 6" gauge, of a steam tramway from Jalesar Road to Kasganj (United Provinces), 50 miles, having been received by the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, the receipt of a draft order under the provisions of the Tramways Act (XI. of 1886) is awaited.

Preliminary proposals having been received by the Government of Bombay for the construction, by private enterprise, of a light railway on the 2' 6" gauge from Nadiad, *via* Kapadvanj, to Meghraj, with a branch to Godhra (Bombay), 112 miles, an estimate for the survey of the lines has been sanctioned in view to enabling the projectors to put forward definite proposals.

The project by the Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway Company for converting the Dudhwa branch 3' 3½" gauge line, 36·74 miles, into a permanent line and bridging the Sardah river was sanctioned, but was not taken in hand owing to a settlement not having been arrived at as to the terms under which funds were to be provided.

The northern route, *via* Radhanpur and Nagar Parkar, has finally been decided upon for the proposed Bombay-Sind Connection Railway, and a detailed survey is now in progress from Virangam on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway to Badin on the North-Western Railway.

In connection with a proposal of Messrs. Tata and Sons, of Bombay, for building iron and steel works near Sini, a broad gauge line from Sini to Gurumaishini has been sanctioned for construction when required. A detailed survey is now in hand for a line from Gurumaishini to join the main

line at Amda instead of at Sini, the former being expected to prove the better route.

The commercial value of a canal and harbour at Rameswaram and the probable cost of the necessary marine works are under investigation by the Marine Department and the Government of Madras. In the meantime a modified scheme for the closing of the Pamban Pass and the provision, as a substitute, of a shallow draft canal across Rameswaram island is under consideration.

Considering the large extension of the use of the 2' 6" gauge, the Railway Board have thought it desirable, after consulting the 2' 6" gauge railway administrations on the various dimensions to be adopted, to introduce a schedule of dimensions for this gauge on the lines of the broad gauge and metre gauge schedules of 1905, and following the numbering of chapters and items of those schedules.

Through Metre Gauge Connection between the Railways in Northern and Southern India.—The lines comprised in the scheme are—

- (1) from Khandwa, *via* Akola and Hingoli, to the vicinity of Amda ;
- (2) from Hyderabad to Guntakal, *via* Kurnool and Kurnool Road.

His Highness the Nizam's Government have intimated their willingness to provide for the construction of the sections lying in Hyderabad territory, *viz.*, from Nanded to the British frontier and from Hyderabad to Kurnool, and to commence construction as soon as the work on the British section (Khandwa-Akola-Hyderabad frontier) has been started. The latter was included in the triennial programme, 1908-11, as one to be commenced in 1909-10; but, owing to the reduction of the grant for 1908-09 to meet probable outlay on famine relief, its commencement is likely to be further delayed.

Improvement of the Vizagapatnam Port.—The question of improving this port so as to render it suitable for ocean-going steamers is under consideration.

Vijapur-Vadnagar Railway.—The detailed project for this line, the construction of which has been proposed by the Baroda Durbar and which, together with the Durbar's Kalol-Vijapur railway, will eventually form a chord between the Rajputana-Malwa and the Gaekwar's Mehsana railways, has not yet been submitted for sanction. The question of the routing of traffic over the projected chord after its completion, which has been raised by the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India railway and which has an important bearing on the matter, is, however, under consideration.

IRRIGATION.

IRRIGATION.

The nature of the climate and the inequalities of the rainfall will account for the great antiquity of the practice of irrigation in India. Many of the irrigation systems now administered by the officers of the Public Works Department are founded on the lines of old native works which have been restored and extended or re-modelled.

The class of works dealt with by the Public Works Department under the head of irrigation may be roughly divided into canals and tanks, though these two kinds of works are frequently used in combination.

The storage of water in tanks for the purpose of irrigation is very common in Southern India. In the Madras Presidency alone there are some 60,000 tanks. The works are for the most part of native origin; but much has been done under the British Government in repairing and improving old tanks, and in constructing new works in Madras, the Bombay Deccan, and in Ajmere-Merwara.

In size the tanks vary from the small works formed by earthen embankments thrown across local drainages, often of only two or three square miles in area, to the costly reservoirs constructed by the Imperial Government such as the Periyar and Rushikulya Works, the reservoirs of which have surface areas of 6,395 acres and 7,900 acres respectively.

Canal irrigation, in which the water is drawn directly from a river, has been practised on the largest scale and with the most successful results in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, the Punjab, and the deltas of the large rivers in the Madras Presidency. Irrigation canals are of two descriptions,

IRRIGATION. viz., "perennial" and "inundation." The former are furnished with permanent headworks and weirs, and are capable of irrigating large tracts of country throughout the year, independently of the local rainfall. The magnitude of some of the works of this class, which are almost entirely due to British enterprise and skill, may be judged by a few instances. The Upper Ganges Canal, which has been in operation since 1854, and has cost £2,183,027, comprises 520 miles of main canal and 3,001 miles of distributaries, and in the year 1906-07 supplied water to 931,502 acres. The Lower Ganges Canal with the Fatehpur branch, also in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, with a capital expenditure of £2,717,139, has 665 miles of main channel and 2,959 miles of distributaries, and in 1906-07 irrigated an area of 924,026 acres. The Sirhind Canal in the Punjab, which was completed in 1887, has cost £1,661,437, and consists of 319 miles of main channels and 2,011 miles of distributaries, while the Lower Chenab Canal in the same province, which was completed in 1900, has cost £1,881,850, and consists of 127 miles of main and branch channels, and about 2,308 miles of distributaries, with an estimated irrigable area of 1,638,886 acres. In Madras the great deltaic irrigation systems of the Godaveri, Kistna, and Cauvery have respective lengths of main channel of 503, 379, and 811 miles, and together irrigate upwards of 2,500,000 acres. The inundation canals, which are peculiar to the Punjab and Sind, are of a much simpler and less costly description than the perennial canals. They are for the most part simply earthen channels, made without the expensive machinery of masonry dams and sluices, and are supplied with water by the annual rise in May of the Indus and its affluents. They constitute a very useful class of irrigation works, and in some cases have produced most successful financial results. The irrigation from them is, however, to some extent precarious. If the annual flood from the melting of the snows of the Himalayas does not sufficiently raise the level of the water in the river, it is impossible to pass the necessary volume of water on to the fields or even to give any water at all to many of them.

The works to which the preceding paragraph applies take off, in most cases, 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 1901-05, 1905-06, and 1906-7:—

	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	29,079,585	3,383,827	1,038,883	2,344,944	8.06	13,551,159
Minor Works	4,250,079	377,899	153,269	224,630	5.28	2,218,399
Total for 1906-07	33,329,664	3,761,726	1,192,152	2,569,574	7.71	15,769,558
Total for 1905-06	32,091,250	3,220,047	1,147,003	2,073,044	6.45	16,815,927
Total for 1901-05	31,079,615	3,247,610	1,092,066	2,155,544	6.93	14,618,084

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.

IRRIGATION.
Bengal.

The general results for 1906-07 of working all the irrigation and navigation systems in Bengal 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.
	£	£	£	£		Aeres.
1901-1902	5,167,553	147,136	193,432	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	163,491	95,648	67,843	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	71,215	1·38	813,105
1906-1907	5,432,579	188,927	124,172	64,455	1·19	904,087

* Includes 19,104 and 19,039, expended on two abandoned projects, viz., Tihut, 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 1906-01, and are still in course of construction, the capital expenditure at the end of the year amounting to £31,081 and £152,482 respectively.

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.
	£	£		Aeres.
Major Works :—				
Orissa Canals - - -	1,775,303	4,624	0·26	268,048
Midnapur - - -	566,025	—1,029	—	61,012
Sone Canals - - -	1,782,196	62,732	3·52	563,812
Hijili Tidal Canal - - -	174,344	1,179	0·68	—
Total Major Works - -	4,297,868	67,515	1·57	892,902
Minor Works :—				
Calcutta and Eastern Canals - -	604,861	3,066	0·51	—
Orissa Coast Canal - -	298,635	—5,935	—	—
Saran Project - - -	47,682	—150	—	1,965
Total Minor Works - -	951,148	—3,019	—	1,965

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 472 miles of channel, is used for navigation purposes only.

The capital expenditure for the year amounted to £1,747 on major works (excluding protective projects), £32,803 on minor works and navigation, and £44,135 on protective irrigation works.

In the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, the capital outlay on canals during 1906-07 was nearly £253,000, including £46,700 each on the Betwa and Dhassan Canals, and £75,500 on the Ken Canal, which was formally opened in December 1906. The three protective works, the Betwa, Ken and Dhassan Canals, have so far cost £697,350, more than half having been spent on the Betwa Canal, which is the only protective work at present in operation. The total loss on working this canal now exceeds £276,000, but the annual deficit, after paying expenses and interest on capital, is being steadily reduced, and was only £4,460 in the year under review. Productive works, which have cost in outlay £7,961,717, yielded in 1906-07 a net profit of £377,890, the enormous extension of irrigation in the spring of 1906 having raised the gross revenue to the record figure of £798,806. The total realisations of the year from all canals amounted to £839,432, and the net surplus accruing to the Local Government under the terms of the provincial contract was over £220,000. The length of working channels increased by 218 miles, and was nearly 14,000 miles at the end of the year. Relief should be experienced in the tracts most liable to famine, not only by the completion in the near future of the Ken Canal, but also by the construction of tanks in Bundelkhand, and by the progress of the Fatehpur-Sikri distributary extension of the Agra Canal, a portion of which was opened for irrigation during the year. The demand upon the canals in 1906-07 was restricted by the copious rainfall which occurred in both harvests, and the area irrigated—2,588,457 acres—though above the average for nine years, was less by nearly a million acres than it had been in the previous year of drought. The figures for sugarcane and cotton show a steady demand for water for these valuable crops.

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.*
	£	Aeres.	£
1901-02 - - -	6,744,839	5,065,134	1,015,069
1902-03 - - -	6,998,734	5,256,040	1,066,436
1903-04 - - -	7,164,461	5,963,102	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
1906-07 - - -	8,120,936	6,088,629	1,213,021

* 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	1,803	1,155,840	134,161	11·61
Upper Bari Doab - - -	369	1,590	1,337,674	174,367	13·04
Sirhind (British portion) - - -	319	2,041	1,661,437	141,256	8·50
Lower Chenab - - -	227	2,308	1,881,850	453,372	24·09
Lower Jhelum - - -	113	1,116	1,030,241	55,902	5·43
Upper Sutlej (including Lower Sohag and Para).	328	390	116,736	23,431	20·07
Sidhmali - - -	68	131	87,095	23,556	27·05
Indus Inundation - - -	668	107	136,896	7,135	5·21
Minor Works :—					
Shahpur (Imperial) - - -	72	80	14,394	2,654	18·44
Ghaggar (British portion) - - -	44	24	22,888	—1,559	—
	2,754	9,590	7,445,051	1,014,275	13·62

IRRIGATION.

The financial returns for the various works in 1906-07 are considerably greater than those earned in 1905-06, due largely to the development of irrigation on new systems and to new colonies being settled. Large remissions, however, continued to be made on account of the partial failure of the cotton crop through attacks by boll-worm, and of the prevalence of plague in certain districts. None of the canals earned less than 5 per cent. The Sidhnai Canal showed a return of 27·05 per cent., the highest of any of the Punjab canals. It was, however, closely followed by the Lower Chenab with 24·09 per cent. and the Upper Sutlej with 20·07 per cent. The Lower Jhelum earned a return of 5·43 per cent., and for the first time showed an excess over its interest charges for the year.

On the Native States branches of the Sirhind Canal the area irrigated was 473,293 acres, as compared with 425,656 acres in the preceding year. The profit earned by these branches amounted to £90,811, giving a return of 9·65 per cent. on the total capital expenditure of £940,730 incurred up to the end of the year.

The capital expenditure for the year on works for which full accounts are kept amounted to £64,327, of which £33,925 was incurred on the Lower Jhelum Canal, £15,519 on the Indus Inundation Canals, and £5,599 on the Upper Bari Doab Canal. In addition, £249,631 was expended on the Upper Chenab Canal, £178,287 on the Upper Jhelum Canal, and £7,110 on the Lower Bari Doab Canal, which are still under construction.

The navigation operations on the Western Jumna Canal resulted in a profit of £4,419. The Sirhind Canal navigation was worked at a loss of £683.

At the end of the year under review, the accumulated net profits on the Lower Chenab Canal amounted (after defraying interest charges) to £2,257,729, while the capital invested to the close of the year amounted to £1,881,850. In other words the profits now exceed the cost of the canal by £375,879.

Burma.

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 Mōn. Of these, the Mandalay and Shwebo were the only works that earned revenue during 1906-07. The capital outlay on these two works to the end of the year amounted to £341,570 and £306,996 respectively, on which the net receipts of £13,151 and £4,295 gave returns of 3·85 and 1·4 per cent. 46,282 acres were irrigated from the Mandalay Canal as compared with 41,839 in the previous year, and 44,639 acres were served for the first time from the newly constructed Shwebo Canal. The results on the Mandalay Canal have not come up to expectations, owing mainly to the slow rate at which land covered by heavy jungle is being occupied and cleared for cultivation, and in a smaller degree to water-logging in the Aungmyé Lake and on the Patheingyi and Tamokso distributaries. Drainage schemes are under consideration.

Work on the Ye-u Canal continued during the year, the capital expenditure to 31st March 1907 amounting to £41,478. On the Mōn Canal progress was slow owing to insufficient arrangements having been made for obtaining labour; the capital outlay to the end of the year amounted to £114,540.

The various minor canal systems in the dry zone of Upper Burma supplied water to 246,733 acres, as compared with 287,766 acres in 1905-06. The net revenue from these works amounted to £8,267. The most important works during the year were carried out on the Nyaungyan-Minhla Tank, the Meiktila Lake, the Ngapyauung Canal, and the Shwetachauung. 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.

The generally plentiful rainfall of the year led to a decrease in the area under irrigation in the Central Provinces, but in Berar, where irrigation is mostly confined to garden crops, there was a small increase. Less than 5,000 acres were irrigated from State tanks, but important progress was made in familiarising the people with the irrigation policy of the Government, and

there is every indication that they are awaking to the value of irrigation. Altogether nearly £93,000 were expended on State irrigation works. The large Khairbandha tank was completed at a cost of £18,300, and a commencement was made on the Ramtek Reservoir, which is estimated to cost £86,670. There were in all 181 works of all kinds under construction, and 113 projects were under investigation or revision. In the Nagpur division work was, as in all departments, much obstructed by the scarcity of labour.

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.

There are at present in operation 9 major works and 28 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 28 minor works for which full accounts are kept, 24 are irrigation systems, and four are tidal canals intended for purely navigation purposes.

Two new protective major works, the Mopad Reservoir and the Bhavanasi tank, and two productive major works, the Nagavalli River project and the Divi pumping project, were under construction during the year. The Divi pumping project, referred to in the previous year's report, is an experimental scheme and, if successful, will pave the way for the introduction of similar schemes in other parts of India. It was recommended by the Irrigation Commission as a project of considerable importance. Its estimated cost is £120,400, and of this amount £51,464 was expended up to the close of the year under review.

In addition to the 28 minor works referred to above, eight others, belonging 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 3,500 miles, and of distributary channels 7,713 miles. The area irrigated during the year ending 31st March 1907 by these works was 3,631,599 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 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.	£	
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	484,615	7·29
1906-07	6,815,915	3,631,599	520,423	7·63

* Including expenditure on works under construction.

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 irrigation works show slight increases under all the systems with the exception of the Godavari and Cauveri delta systems. In the former case the percentage dropped from 19·75 in 1905-06 to 19·47 in the year under review, and in the latter from 24·82 to 22·90, both decreases being very slight. The only major protective work in operation—the Rushikulya project—showed a decrease from 1·14 to 0·60 per cent.

IRRIGATION.

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.	£	£	
Godavari Delta - - - -	872,849	938,220	182,722	19.47
Kistna Delta - - - -	661,171	1,029,989	162,021	15.73
Pennér River Canal - - -	165,162	432,883	28,271	6.53
Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal -	43,156	1,462,382	8,907	0.61
Barur Tank - - - -	6,902	29,100	903	3.10
Cauvery Delta - - - -	983,106	237,522	54,388	22.90
Srivaikuntham Ancient - -	41,431	108,524	7,724	7.12
Periyar Project - - - -	159,732	661,711	28,077	4.22
Rushikulya (Protective Work) -	103,324	337,275	2,013	0.60
Total - - - -	3,043,133	5,210,606	475,026	9.06

The minor works for which full accounts are kept irrigated an area of 588,466 acres and earned a net revenue of £45,360, equivalent to a percentage of 3.16 on the capital expended on them. The purely navigation works were in each case worked at a loss, the total sum involved amounting to £1,947.

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 1906-07 was £616,162, as compared with £556,398 in 1905-6; the area irrigated by them was 3,150,713 acres, being an increase of 147,364 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 1907 an expenditure of over £632,500 had been incurred under this scheme, and approximately 55,640 square miles had been investigated.

The capital expenditure for the year on major works amounted to £150,384, of which £51,461 was spent on the Divi pumping project, £31,207 on the Periyar project, £19,743 on the Nagavalli River project, £18,580 on the Mopad Reservoir project, and £10,687 on the Godavari delta system. The capital expenditure on minor works and navigation, for which full accounts are kept, amounted to £11,310, of which £2,822 was expended on the Hajipuram tank and £897 on the Berijan project.

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.

During the year the total expenditure upon irrigation works throughout the Presidency and Sind fell from £322,184 to £316,667. Of the total amount £73,333 were spent upon works, about £145,000 upon repairs, and £86,667 upon establishment. The expenditure upon Famine Relief debitable to "Irrigation" was £15,329. The total area irrigated from the Deccan and Gujarāt works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept was 108,787 acres, against 105,716 acres in the previous year. The gross assessed revenue rose from £59,555 to £63,144. The area irrigated by all classes of works in Sind was 3,487,653 acres, against 3,349,488 acres in the previous year and 2,923,928 acres in the year 1904-05. The gross assessed revenue amounted to £569,962, the corresponding figures for 1905-06 and 1904-05 being £543,425 and £413,153 respectively. The areas irrigated and the assessed revenue are the largest yet obtained in Sind. The increase of 138,000 acres of irrigation over the previous year's total, which was itself a record total, illustrates the eagerness with which facilities for irrigation are

seized by the cultivators in Sind and the necessity for increasing the means of irrigation. This increase of area is most satisfactory.

In Bombay the season was, on the whole, a good one, the rainfall being ample and fairly well distributed. In the Central Division, however, the late rains partially failed in some places, and in Dharwar the monsoon was weak, and several tanks were dry from April to June. Irrigation from the new tanks in the Panch Mahals and Kaira was small, as the tanks did not fill. In the Poona, Nasik, Ahmednagar, Sholapur, Belgaum, and Bijapur Districts, several canal and tank works were opened for famine relief purposes, but fortunately there was little scarcity and the number of workers was never large. Sanction was received during the year for the Godavari Canal project estimated to cost £636,700, and the works were commenced. Work on the Girna Left Bank Canal and the Waghad Tank in the Nasik and Ahmednagar Districts was in progress.

In Sind the existence of cultivation depends upon irrigation, and there is 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 year was exceedingly prosperous and the inundation exceptionally favourable, in fact in the case of several canals the flow developed into floods accompanied by burst banks and flooded fields.

The area of cultivation under the Jamráo Canal decreased by 39,000 acres owing to the scarcity of labour. The crops under the Nasrat and Fuleli Canals were excellent and the Dád Canal worked well. The Indus River Commission carried out topographic and hydrographic surveys, and made a number of borings for the Sukkur weir.

The only major work in operation in the North-West Frontier Province is the Lower Swat River Canal with a length of 22 miles in the main and branch channels and 186 miles in distributaries. This work was originally designed as a protective scheme, but was transferred from the commencement of 1906-07 to the class of productive works. Another major work, the Paharpur Inundation Canal, is in the course of construction as a productive work, and expenditure amounting to £34,415 had been incurred on it up to the close of the year. The project estimate, amounting to £1,216,016, for a 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 has been commenced.

The capital expenditure on the Lower Swat River Canal to the end of the year under review amounted to £280,724, and the net revenue for the year to £29,227, giving a return of 10.41 per cent. In the previous year the profit and percentage were £26,480, and 9.5 respectively. The area irrigated in 1906-07 was 151,460 acres, as compared with 158,808 acres in 1905-06, the decrease being due to ample rainfall throughout the rabi season, the demand for canal water falling off.

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 1907 amounted to £66,652, and the net receipts for the year realised £3,229, equivalent to a return of 4.85 per cent. The total area irrigated during the year was 35,395 acres, against 31,668 acres in 1905-06; this is the highest on record, and is due to the opening of the Hazar Khani branch and to improved methods of irrigation.

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.

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 £3,680, 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 1906-07 amounted to £46,700 and £68,498 respectively, and the net gain for the year was £577 and £4,368, representing a return of 1.21

Bombay including Sind.

North-West Frontier Province.

Baluchistan.

IRRIGATION. and 6·38 per cent., respectively. The area irrigated by the Shebo Canal was 2,371 acres, and by the Khushdil Khan Reservoir 6,633 acres. A loss of £192 was incurred on the Anambar Flood Channel, representing the expenditure for the year on the maintenance of the canal.

Coorg. The expenditure on irrigation in Coorg during the year was £2,616, against a grant of £2,533, the excess being due to the pushing on of the work at Devanur when labour was available. The major works completed were improvements to the Kudhur Hirikere and Doddakanagala tanks and the investigation of the Harangi project. Works in progress included the construction of a dam with channels on the right and left banks of the Kire hole stream at Devanur, and improvements to the Nagavala, Taveri and other tanks throughout the province.

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 the head of Civil Works. The Military Works which in previous reports were included with Civil Works in this section are now dealt with separately in the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India under the head of Military Services, and are consequently not now referred to in this chapter. The expenditure on Civil Works is chiefly met from provincial and local resources. The classification of the expenditure for 1906-07 is shown in the following table :—

	Imperial.	Provincial.	Local.	Total in India.	Expenditure in England.	Grand Total.
Civil Works, 1906-07	£ 650,139	£ 3,262,611	£ 1,572,593	£ 5,485,343	£ 68,758	£ 5,554,101
" 1905-06	718,220	3,020,385	1,541,579	5,280,184	75,023	5,355,207

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.

Bengal. In Bengal the expenditure in 1906-07 on Civil Works was as follows :—

	£
Imperial	- - - - 160,494
Provincial	- - - - 458,699
Local	- - - - 299,887
Total	- - - - <u>919,080</u>

* The Imperial works undertaken during the year were not of great importance. Owing to the accommodation in Government House and its attached buildings being insufficient for present requirements, land and buildings were acquired in the vicinity in order to provide additional accommodation. As no room is available in any of the Imperial Secretariat buildings for the new Department of Commerce and Industry, land was acquired near the present Secretariat buildings for the purpose of constructing an office for that Department.

Under Provincial works, the needs of the High Court and the Civil and Criminal Courts in the Province continued to receive attention. Good progress was made with the new Presidency Jail at Alipore, while materials were collected for constructing a District Jail at Howrah in place of the present sub-jail. Police training schools for constables were established at Bhagalpur and Purulia. Several works in connection with hospitals and dispensaries were constructed or in progress in Calcutta and at other stations. Adequate attention was given during the year to the housing of Government officials.

Under communications, the lighting of the Calcutta Maidan was improved at important road junctions. Metalling of the Tista-Rishi road was in progress and the survey of the Bengal-Tibet road was completed.

In the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh the outlay under the different heads of service was as follows :—

	£
Imperial	- - - - 56,423
Provincial	- - - - 362,628
Local	- - - - 230,751
Total	- - - - <u>649,802</u>

BUILDINGS AND ROADS (CIVIL).

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

The quarters of the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun were furnished and subsidiary buildings constructed. At Cawnpore the currency office made some advance, and a new Commissioner's Court was being built at Meerut. Large improvements and extensions were made at the Thomason College, Roorkee, the Medical School at Agra, and the new Agricultural College at Cawnpore. Over £6,700 was spent at Naini Tal and Allahabad on the construction of quarters for Secretariat clerks. The new civil hospital at Allahabad approached completion, and numerous dispensaries, schools, offices, jails, and police buildings were being constructed or improved. At Agra £5,000 was spent on archaeological restoration. The most important bridge under construction was a new one over the Jumna at Agra, estimated to cost £126,670. The metalled roads under maintenance had a length of 6,070 miles, which was increased by 120 miles during the year.

Famine relief works costing £66,670 were carried on by the Public Works Department during the year.

In the Punjab the expenditure for the year on Civil Works was as follows :—

	£
Imperial	- - - - 47,252
Provincial	- - - - 333,561
Local	- - - - 91,693
Total	- - - - <u>472,506</u>

The most important Imperial works completed during the year were additions and alterations to Ranbir Villa at Kasauli to adapt it for use as a Central Research Institute, construction of peons' quarters for the Imperial Secretariat at Simla, improvements and additions to Windcliffe and Knockdrin at Simla, a new postal Stock Dépôt at Lahore, and alterations to the Post Office at Ferozepore. In addition, the following buildings were in progress,

* These particulars relate to 1905-06, the details for 1906-07 not having as yet been received.

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

viz., the addition of a third storey to the Central Library at Simla, quarters for the Superintendent of the Jhelum Colony at Sarghoda, a new office for the Accountant-General at Lahore, and stables for the General Post Office at the same place.

Under Provincial Civil Works, the new Public Works Secretariat Offices at Lahore, which were commenced in the previous year, were built up to roof level. An office at Delhi for the Commissioner, Delhi Division, the O'Brien High School at Mianwali, a Sessions House at Lyallpur, the District Jail at Campbellpore, an Assistant Commissioner's Court at Pindi Gheb, and a Court House at Sakesar were completed. The European clerks' cottages at Lahore were also completed and are proving very popular.

The expenditure on new roads continues to increase. A five-year programme for the construction of new feeder roads to railways was drawn up during the year, and an expenditure of £26,667 was incurred under it. The maintenance outlay continues very heavy, and it is likely to increase owing to the rapid extension of the road mileage and the increasing price of labour.

Boat bridges were maintained over the Jhelum at Khushab, the Ravi at Shahdara, and the Indus at Dera Ghazi Khan; the usual steam ferry service at the latter place was worked by the North-Western Railway during the hot weather. A boat bridge was constructed over the Phalku Nalla at Wazirabad, and the District Boards maintained certain other boat bridges over the Jumna and Beas.

Various miscellaneous public improvements were undertaken at Simla and Lahore, and waterworks, estimated to cost £28,700, were under construction at Ludhiana.

Famine relief works were opened at the beginning of the year in the Rohtak district owing to the failure of the preceding monsoon and winter rains. The labourers were employed on digging large tanks at Mandauthi, Bakhra and Mokhra, and on the excavation of kunkur for the Rohtak-Mahim and Thajjar-Bahadurgarh roads. All these works were closed by the end of August. The total expenditure to the end of the year amounted to £5,779.

Burma.

In Burma the total expenditure on Civil Works for the year was :—

	£
Imperial	543
Provincial	704,211
Local	122,066
Total	826,820

Progress was made with various important building operations in Rangoon. The Secretariat buildings were completed, and improvements were made in the old General Public Offices in Strand Road. Fair progress was made with the works in connection with the new General Hospital at Rangoon, and the erection of a new Chief Court was advanced a stage. The extension of the Currency buildings was in hand, and a commencement was made with the new Press building. Outside Rangoon new buildings for the use of the various departments of the Administration were in course of construction all over the country. In the Southern Shan States nearly £20,000 was spent in moving the Kengtung post to a healthier site at Loimwe, which is about 5,000 feet above the sea. Work on the Rangoon Town Lands Reclamation Scheme progressed satisfactorily, the outlay amounting to about £43,300. The Hlawga waterworks were completed and handed over to the Rangoon Municipality on 1st July 1906.

The amount of the expenditure for the year was :—

	£
Imperial	5,213
Provincial	328,479
Local	47,594
Total	381,286

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

The re-organisation of various departments and the formation of the new district of Drug necessitated a very heavy programme of construction, and almost one-half of the total expenditure on provincial works was devoted to original buildings. Unfortunately the outburst of activity coincides with a sharp upward rise all over the provinces in the cost both of materials and of labour, and also with a great dearth of the latter. Good progress has, however, been made. The inauguration of the station-house system in Raipur and Drug necessitated the construction of a large number of police buildings of all kinds in these districts. Excise reforms similarly involved the construction of several bonded warehouses. At Drug, buildings had to be provided for every branch of the Administration, quarters had to be provided for various officials, and it was necessary to open up many new roads to connect the headquarters of the new tahsils, and to give a more ready outlet to the produce of the district. The rapid growth of Nagpur has also thrown a great deal of work on the Department, both in the provision of accommodation and in the construction of new connecting links in the civil station. The largest individual work in hand during the year was the new Secretariat building at Nagpur. On original communications more than £53,000 was spent, special attention being given to the vast and hitherto almost roadless region of the Chanda Zamindari, and also to the new district of Drug. Over £76,000 was expended on the upkeep of existing roads.

The total expenditure in Eastern Bengal and Assam for 1906-07 was as follows :—

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

	£
Imperial	5,763
Provincial	321,274
Local	177,796
Total	504,833

Under Imperial works, land was acquired for Telegraph and Post Offices at Dacca, Patiya, and Comilla. Temporary extra accommodation was provided for the Accountant-General's Office, and a building for the Telegraph Sub-Divisional Office at Gauhati was completed.

In the class of provincial works, extensive repairs to the Government House at Shillong were in progress, and petty additions and improvements were carried out in the temporary Government House at Dacca. The staff quarters at Dacca were completed; a site was acquired for the Government House at Chittagong, and 762 acres of land were under acquisition for the new civil station at Dacca. The School of Engineering at Dacca was completed, while the Arts College, hostel, and subsidiary buildings in the same town were well advanced. A dispensary was built at Dinapur, and two male wards were added to the Lunatic Asylum at Tezpur.

Among miscellaneous public improvements, the most important were the acquisition of the site for the new civil station at Jorhat, improvements to the Gauhati waterworks and to the navigation on the Dialeswari river, and the construction of four masonry wells in the Sylhet municipality.

Communications received attention in the Naga Hills and Surma Valley Divisions, where several new works were completed. Improvements to the Assam Trunk Road between Lakhimpur and Fakirganj, to the Dhubri-Kachugaon Road, to the North Trunk Road, to the Gauhati-Shillong Road, and to the Shillong-Charra Road were in progress. Several other new works were also in hand or under survey.

In Madras the expenditure for the year on Civil Works was as follows :—

Madras.

	£
Imperial	13,492
Provincial	336,868
Local	409,778
Total	760,138

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).

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.

Among buildings completed during the year were the Gass Forest Museum at Coimbatore and the Pasteur Institute at Coonoor. The collector's office at Cocanada was nearly completed and that at Guntur was under construction. Structural alterations and improvements were also in progress at Government House, Ootacamund. The Central Record Office at Madras was also commenced.

Under the head of Communications a few important roads are in the hands of the Provincial Public Works Department, chiefly in the Nilgiris, Shevaroy's, and Eastern and Western Ghâts. Existing ghât roads were maintained, and the new road in the Palnis from Aiyampalayam to Tandigudi was practically completed. A proposal for a road to Kodakanal *via* "Law's Trace" is now under consideration. The greater part of the road system of Madras, 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.

Archaeological excavations were carried out during the year throughout the Presidency.

Bombay.

The expenditure on Civil Works in the Buildings and Roads branch in the Bombay Presidency for 1906-07 was as follows :—

	£
Imperial - - - - -	59,922
Provincial - - - - -	416,892
Local - - - - -	180,920
Total - - - - -	<u>657,734</u>

The principal buildings completed during the year were the new Observatory at Alibag, a District Prison at Sukkur costing £18,374, the new Central Prison at Karachi costing £23,771, numerous land revenue and excise buildings, and additions to St. George's Hospital, Bombay, the Male Training College, Bombay, and the College of Science, Poona. In connection with the Agricultural College and Research Institute at Poona, an expenditure of £5,680 was incurred during the year on constructing Chemistry and main buildings, planting trees, constructing roads and buildings in connection with the Demonstration Farm, and payment of land compensation, against an estimate of £35,330. Progress was made with the construction of the new General Post Office, Bombay, the extension of the Central Telegraph Office, Bombay, new civil hospitals at Belgaum and Karachi, and numerous other buildings. A sum of £7,532 was spent in acquiring certain land at Parel required for the site of the new prison for the City of Bombay. Considerable expenditure was also incurred on the preservation of archaeological antiquities throughout the Presidency.

During the year £41,300 was expended on original works connected with roads. Out of this £16,583 was provided by Provincial and £24,717 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 continued, the expenditure during the year amounting to £400.

The Famine Relief works opened in the Central Division towards the close of the year 1905-06 were closed by the end of September generally. In the Southern Division the works started during 1905-06 were continued and some new ones were also opened. These works were mainly of the nature of improvements to roads and tanks.

The expenditure on Civil Works in Coorg was as follows :—

	£
Imperial - - - - -	20,004
Local - - - - -	2,732
Total - - - - -	<u>22,736</u>

BUILDINGS
AND ROADS
(CIVIL).
Coorg.

The principal civil buildings completed during the year were quarters for revenue officials at Ponnampet and Hudikeri, a segregation ward at Sidapur, police lines at Fraserpet and Bhegamandala, and a girls' school at Ammatti. Major works under construction were the Mercara and Virajendrapet hospitals, improvements to the Mercara High School and primary school, and police lines at Mercara Town, Virajendrapet, and Mercara taluk. The total expenditure on communications was £8,743 against a grant of £8,646, the excess being due to the execution of additional repairs to roads to keep them in good order during the monsoon and to the advantage taken of labour when available to push on with the works. An inspection bungalow at Sidapur, bridges on the Mercara-Kodlipet road, and the metalling of part of the road from the Cauvery to Virajendrapet were completed, while the Wynaad road and the metalling of numerous other roads were in progress. Excluding the usual outlay on the upkeep of bungalows, coolie lines, and bridges, the expenditure on account of repairs amounted to £6,787. The existing communications were maintained in good condition, the mileage under metalled and unmetalled roads being 162 and 51 respectively.

In the North-West Frontier Province, the expenditure for the year on Civil Works was as follows :—

	£
Imperial - - - - -	101,896
Local - - - - -	7,892
Total - - - - -	<u>109,788</u>

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The principal buildings completed during the year were a Court-house and Residence for the Assistant Commissioner at Nowshera, a new telegraph office at Nowshera, a Militia and Civil post at Miranshah, Militia posts at Tanai and Spinkai Kach, a new Civil post at Sarwakai, a Divisional Judge's Court at Dera Ismail Khan, and a Munsiff's Court at Bannu. Under communications, the Murtaza-Wana road was completed with all bridges and culverts, the road from Dera Ismail Khan to Zam Choudwan was opened to traffic, and a steel girder bridge over the Gomai River and numerous other bridges on the Dera-Tank-Murtaza 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.

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.
	₹	₹	₹
1904-05	1,575,980	1,519,813	56,167
1905-06	1,651,477	1,575,936	75,541
1906-07	1,751,116	1,602,933	148,213

Extent of Postal Operations.—The extent of the operations of the Post Office, and their development during the last three years, are shown in the tables in the margin.

YEAR.	Post Office.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	Telegrams.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1904-05	16,033	36,037	8,322	118,836
1905-06	16,775	37,197	8,376	151,871
1906-07	17,189	39,523	8,383	153,000
Increase in 1906-7 over 1904-5	456	2,416	7	1,754

* Including the Bombay-Aden line.

YEAR.	Letters (including Postcards).	Newspapers.	Book and Pattern Packets.	Parcels.	TOTAL.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1904-05	597,707,867	37,075,187	39,553,910	1,541,367	678,929,131
1905-06	645,126,912	40,200,838	43,719,064	1,663,379	734,002,223
1906-07	683,797,568	44,945,566	46,531,568	5,281,881	779,556,583
Increase in 1906-7 over 1904-5	185,089,701	7,125,381	7,007,658	3,740,514	199,923,254

the margin, show an increase of 15 millions of articles (excluding money orders) carried by post in 1906-07, as compared with the figures for 1905-1906. Of the additional articles 21 millions were postcards.

The Rome Postal Congress.—The sixth Congress of the Postal Union was held at Rome in April and May 1906. Of the measures adopted the most important was a reduction of Foreign Letter rates, but this reduction did not take effect within the year under report. Another important result of the Congress is that statistics of foreign mails are in future to be taken once every six years, commencing with November 1907.

Improvements in 1906-07.—There were comparatively few changes during 1906-07; the regulations relating to postcards of private manufacture were revised, and the transmission of mails—especially the inland transmission of foreign mails—was accelerated in many cases owing to improvements in the train service.

The Parcel Post rates for a large number of foreign countries were reduced in October 1906 in consequence of India having consented to the reduction of a surtax specially conceded to her by the Washington Postal Convention of 1897.

Amount of Postal Matter dealt with.—The total number of articles received for delivery, including money orders, was over 800 millions, of which 95·06 per cent. were delivered, as compared with 95·09 in the preceding year.

The work of the dead-letter offices has increased considerably in the last two years, owing to a strict application of the postcard rules: postcards which infringe these rules are treated and charged as letters, in which case the addressees frequently refuse to accept them. In 1906-07 the receipts of postal articles (other than money orders) at the dead-letter offices were 7,612,026; of this number 5,592,354 articles were either delivered to addressees or returned to senders, and 2,049,672 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 29,525,000 in 1906-07, as compared with 26,971,000 in 1905-06—an increase of 9 per cent.

The number of parcels exchanged with the United Kingdom rose from 333,749 in 1905-06 to 358,155 in 1906-07—an increase of 7½ per cent. The traffic with the United Kingdom formed about two-thirds of the whole foreign parcel traffic. In the exchange of parcels with other countries there

	* Parcels not exceeding		
	3 lb.	7 lb.	11 lb.
Via Gibraltar	1s.	2s.	3s.
Via Brindisi	2s.	3s.	4s.

was again a satisfactory development of the traffic in both directions, the number of parcels showing an increase of 12 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 £16,974, as compared with £15,613 in the preceding year. The number of articles insured increased by 25 per cent., and their value by 31 per cent.

The average value for which each article was insured was, in the case of letters, Rs. 233, as compared with Rs. 232 in the previous year, and in the case of parcels, Rs. 310, against Rs. 283 in 1905-06. The number of claims for compensation preferred in respect of insured articles was 50, as compared with 47 in the preceding year. Twenty-one claims were admitted, the loss being due in 19 cases to fraud or negligence on the part of the servants of the Post Office, in one case to accident, and in one to highway robbery. This involved the net payment, after deducting recoveries, of £312, or 1·85 per cent. of the total amount realised from insurance fees, against a percentage of 2·01 in the preceding year.

Value-payable Post.—The business of the value-payable post continues to show considerable progress. The number of articles sent was 5,943,385, and the amount declared for recovery by the Post Office from the addressees was over £4,333,000, the commission on which was £62,966. There was an increase of 3·98 per cent. in the number of articles, of 8·75 per cent. in the value specified for recovery, and of 8·84 per cent. in the commission realised. Calcutta was responsible for over a quarter of the entire business.

During the year under review 74,394 value-payable articles were despatched from India to Ceylon, as compared with 54,232 articles in the preceding year.

Money Orders.—The total value of money orders issued has risen from £22,707,000 in 1905-06 to £24,150,000 in 1906-07, and that of orders paid in India from £23,546,660 to £25,124,795. The amount of commission realised has increased by 6·69 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 continued tendency to decline: in 1905-06 it was Rs. 16-14-3; in 1906-07 it was Rs. 16-13-7. This tendency, and a similar tendency in the case of value-

Post
Office.

payable articles, shows that both systems are becoming popular among poorer classes.

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 £152,891 and £189,870. 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 1905-06 was 216,597 for £1,486,335, and in 1906-07, 260,948 for £1,627,325. The average value of a telegraphic money order was Rs. 93. 8. 8.

The foreign money orders for and from the United Kingdom, most of the British colonies and possessions, foreign European countries and most of their colonies and possessions, and Egypt, are issued in sterling. The value of these orders issued by India rose from £390,257 in 1905-06 to £397,688 in 1906-07, and of the orders paid in India from £654,908 to £673,501. 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. 5d., and that of a sterling money order paid in India was £9 16s. 0d.

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 £82,694 in 1905-06 to £93,430 in 1906-07, and the orders paid by India rose from £626,578 to £797,979—the increases occurring chiefly in the Federated Malay States, British and German East Africa, Ceylon, and Somaliland.

Savings Banks.—At the close of the year there were 8,049 offices performing savings bank business, against 8,071 in the preceding year. The number of accounts in the Post Office savings banks rose from 1,115,758 to 1,190,220, the total value of the deposits from £9,328,417 to £9,844,652, of which £9,602,541 is held at call and £242,111 subject to 6 months' notice of withdrawal. The new deposits amounted to £4,767,919, the withdrawals to £4,528,502, and the interest on deposits to £276,788. The average balance at the credit of each depositor was Rs. 133.99 as against Rs. 130.83 in the previous year. The table in the margin shows the number of depositors in different classes for the years 1905-06 and 1906-07.

Class of Depositors.	Average Number of Deposits.		
	1905-06.	1906-07.	Increase.
I. Professional -	362,868	383,873	21,005
II. Domestic -	194,583	206,221	11,638
III. Commercial -	43,291	47,015	3,724
IV. Agricultural -	19,573	23,822	4,249
V. Industrial -	38,589	42,366	3,777
VI. Indefinite -	456,854	486,923	30,069
Total -	1,115,758	1,190,220	74,462

The purchase of Government securities through the Post Office has been facilitated by revised rules introduced in August 1906, and during 1906-07 the total amount invested in Government securities by savings bank depositors through the agency of the Post Office was £149,200, against £111,800 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 £277,200, compared with £188,200 on the 31st March 1906.

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 30,800.

Life Insurance and Annuities.—During the year under review 1,532 new policies of the aggregate value of £147,168 were granted by the Postal Insurance Fund. Of these 1,313 were Endowment Assurance Policies, of the total value of £125,605. Claims, amounting in all to £16,189, were paid on the death of insured persons. At the close of 1906-07 there were 12,651 active policies in existence (5,087 held by Post Office servants and 7,564 by servants of other Departments), and the aggregate sum insured was £1,247,900. Nine life annuities were purchased by local bodies for their servants under Article 807 of the Civil Service Regulations.

Post
Office.

Offences.—During the year under review there were 24 cases in which the mails were plundered by highway robbers, of which 21 were in British territory and 3 in Native States. The figures for the preceding year were 7 and 6 respectively.

The number of cases in which the servants of the Post Office were found guilty of offences punishable by the law was 373. The defalcations and losses amounted to £3,595, as compared with £2,456 in 1905-06. A sum of £1,592 was recovered from the offenders or their sureties; £612 was charged against the Post Office Guarantee Fund, and the remainder was written off as irrecoverable, or remained unadjusted at the close of the year.

Complaints by the Public.—The number of complaints made by the public was 42,185, against 38,505 in the previous year. In 32.34 per cent. of the whole number the complaints were ascertained to be well founded; 3.20 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. The increase in complaints, especially in groundless complaints, was due mainly to the enforcement of the rules laid down by Government as to postcards.

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 an increase since 1905-06; this is, however, mainly due to change in the procedure introduced recently.

TELEGRAPHS.

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 system, extending from Karachi to Teheran and Fao, for which, as usual, a separate account is given. The system now consists of 67,197 miles of line, 58,860 miles of wire, and 390 miles of cable.

Among the events of interest during the year may be mentioned the visit of His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan to India and of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught to Rangoon, Mandalay, and Calcutta, when special arrangements were made for the delivery of their telegrams and for the opening of camp telegraph offices at the principal places of halt on their respective routes. In view of the reduction in rates for British State telegrams exchanged between India and Europe which came into operation in 1905-06, the Government of India agreed to reduce to one-half, from 1st July 1906, the terminal rates on such messages exchanged between India and places served by the cable companies which carry these telegrams at half the ordinary rates. From 1st January 1907, the Indian transit rate was reduced to one-half for all British and Colonial Government telegrams transiting India. Another new feature of the year's working was the proposed introduction of telegraph forms with embossed stamps, which, it is hoped, will prove a convenience to the regular telegram-sending public.

A proposal to improve the existing service with Burma by laying a deep-sea cable between Madras and Cape Negrais was not proceeded with, pending the construction of the Sara Railway bridge, by which it is hoped to be able to obtain a land route to Burma, which would be more reliable and less of maintenance than the existing lines.

The Committee appointed by the Government of India to investigate certain matters relating to the methods of working and the recruitment of the staff of the Indian Telegraph Department, and to submit proposals for the improved organisation thereof in all its branches, entered on their duties on 28th September 1906, and concluded their inquiry during the year under review. Their Report has since been issued, and is now under consideration. In connection with the work of this Committee, a telegraphic expert, Mr. Newlands, was lent by the General Post Office to advise and assist the Government of India in the reforms contemplated. Mr. Newlands

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proceeded to India in September 1907, and is expected to complete his special duty within 12 months from that date.

The results of working for the year 1906-07 are as follows. The gross receipts are the highest ever recorded, and exceed those of 1905-06 by £22,978. This increase occurs mainly under the head of message revenue, the number of telegrams during the year having increased by 8·85 per cent. and their value by 3·04 per cent. A satisfactory feature in the rise in value is the increase of £19,103 in the revenue from private telegrams, indicating as it does the appreciation by the public of the extended facilities for communicating by telegraph. As compared with the previous year, the working expenses have increased by £45,153, due chiefly to heavier repairs to lines which were executed during the year under review and to the expansion of the Department, a larger staff being required to cope with the work, which has steadily increased since the introduction of the reduced inland tariffs in January 1904. The net revenue for the year amounted to £194,385, representing a return of 2·95 per cent. on the capital outlay. This return is the lowest recorded since 1878-79, the year after the Department first showed a profit on its working.

Capital expenditure was increased during the year by £379,251. Of this amount £33,437 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 2,856 miles of line and 16,108 miles of wire, including cable. The total capital outlay at the close of the year amounted to £6,583,756.

The number of telegraph offices open to the public at the end of 1906-07, including railway and canal offices, was 6,694, of which 5,327 were maintained by the Department. The net addition to the number of offices during the year was 271.

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 1902-1903	£ 4,975,964	55,827	190,604	283	2,006	3,286	5,292
During 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
" 1906-07	379,251	2,814	15,648	42	129	142	271
To end of 1906-07	6,583,756	67,197	258,860	390	2,438	4,556	6,994

* Excludes £6,861 cost of cable lines transferred to Military Works Department on the 1st April 1899.

A general view of the operations of the Department in 1906-07, 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.
		£	£	£		
1902-03	6,742,094	737,211	528,982	208,229	28·24	3·92
1903-04	7,397,087	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
1906-07	11,385,166	827,744	644,205	183,539	22·17	2·79

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

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revenue account for the maintenance and working of the system, are defrayed from the revenues of the Government of India. In 1906-07 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 £195,712.

The total number of paid telegrams sent in 1906-07 amounted to 11,385,166, as compared with 10,461,117 in 1905-06, showing an increase of 924,049, or 8·83 per cent. The increase in the value of these messages, however, amounted only to £18,103, or 2·93 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.	1905-06.		1906-07.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Inland State - - -	857,606	£ 106,797	891,145	£ 107,075
Foreign State - - -	15,963	4,895	15,859	3,617
Total State - - -	873,569	111,692	907,004	110,692
Inland Private - - -	8,496,677	355,240	9,308,342	377,832
Foreign Private - - -	1,090,871	149,492	1,169,820	146,003
Total Private - - -	9,587,548	504,732	10,478,162	523,835
Total State and Private	10,461,117	616,424	11,385,166	634,537

Inland private traffic continues to improve, the figures for the year showing an increase of 811,665 messages, or 9·55 per cent. in number, and £22,592, or 6·35 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 :—

	£
1897-98 - - -	263,573
1898-99 - - -	244,915
1899-1900 - - -	294,485
1900-1901 - - -	294,071
1901-02 - - -	278,106
1902-03 - - -	291,339
1903-04 - - -	303,705
1904-05 - - -	322,668
1905-06 - - -	355,240
1906-07 - - -	377,832

Foreign private telegrams (including press and foreign transit traffic) show an increase of 78,949, or 7·23 per cent. in number, with a decrease of £3,489, or 2·33 per cent., in the Indian share of their value. The decrease in the value is partly accounted for by the reduction of rates for foreign telegrams between India and Europe, which took effect from the 1st August 1905, and to the reduction by one-half of the Indian transit charges on British and Colonial Government telegrams transiting India from 1st July 1906. The revenue from foreign State telegrams transiting India is included under foreign private.

Foreign State telegrams decreased by 104, or 0·65 per cent. in number, and £1,278, or 26·11 per cent. in value. The decrease in the value is due to the reduction in the terminal rate for foreign telegrams, and to the decision of the Government of India to charge half rates on British, Indian, and Colonial

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Government telegrams between India and Europe from 1st August 1905, and to the further reduction in the rates for Government telegrams which came into operation during the year under review.

The subscriptions to the Telegraph Department for telephone and similar services rendered during the calendar year 1906 amounted to £17,769, being an increase of £2,245 over the figures of the previous year. The average annual subscriptions for the past five years amount to £14,273.

The gross receipts of the telephone companies during 1906 amounted to £41,574, being an advance of £2,913 over those of the previous year. Their average annual earnings during the past five years amount to £36,411.

Communication with Europe *viâ* Suez was maintained uninterruptedly throughout the year, but some of the traffic had to be diverted *viâ* Teheran, as one of the Bombay-Aden cables was interrupted from 23rd June to 8th October, and another developed a bad fault on the 30th June which reduced the speed of working until it was removed on the 9th October. The repairs to these two cables had to be delayed owing to the monsoon, which was the most severe experienced for many years. The Teheran route was interrupted for 108 hours, against 513 hours in the previous year. The Turkish route was interrupted for 725 hours, as compared with 920 hours in the previous year.

The proportion of international traffic to and from India, exclusive of transit traffic, over the several routes to Europe for the year 1906-07 was as follows :—

	Per Cent.	
	No.	Worls.
Indo-European :—		
<i>Viâ</i> Teheran - - - - -	44·52	47·59
<i>Viâ</i> Turkey - - - - -	1·54	1·20
Persian Gulf, <i>viâ</i> Karachi - - - - -	1·17	1·74
Red Sea :—		
<i>Viâ</i> Suez - - - - -	52·77	49·47
Total - - - - -	100·00	100·00

The bulk of the transit traffic was, as usual, carried *viâ* Suez.

Communication with Siam over the Moulmein-Bangkok line *viâ* Kanburi was interrupted for 24 days, as against 74 days in the previous year, beyond but was not interrupted within the Indian frontier. The line from Moulmein to Raheng *viâ* Myawaddy was interrupted for 19 days, as against 45 days in the previous year.

The land route to China was interrupted beyond the Indian frontier for 76 days, against 83 days in the previous year. There was only one interruption, lasting four hours, within the Indian frontier.

Wireless telegraphic communication between Diamond Island and Port Blair, and between Saugor Island and the pilot steamer at the Sand Heads, was maintained throughout the year. Some trouble was experienced during May and June on the Diamond Island—Port Blair section, due to atmospheric disturbances; the installations at Saugor Island and the pilot steamer were scarcely affected by these disturbances.

In November, experimental wireless installations were set up on the North-West Frontier at Peshawar and Landikotal. These were entirely successful, and demonstrated the possibility of communicating by wireless telegraphy through intervening ranges of mountains running up to 6,700 feet above sea level, and between places situated at widely different relative elevations. The distance between these places is about 24 miles.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

INDO-
EUROPEAN
TELEGRAPH
DEPART-
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 1,949 knots of cable, 1,428 miles of line, and 3,584 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 Indian frontier, 798·75 miles, was commenced in December 1902 and completed in March 1907.

The line which was commenced on 14th September 1905 from Karachi to Panjgur was completed on 25th June 1906, and a combined post and telegraph office was opened at Panjgur on 2nd October 1906. The line to this point is 301·93 miles in length. A route has now been selected for the extension of this line to Nok Kondi, where it will join the Indian line from Quetta to Robat.

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.
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
1906-07 - -	988,204	102,674	72,104	30,570	3·09	70·22

* This represents the revenue of the Department after adjustments made in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Purse arrangement.

During the year under review the capital expenditure amounted to £30,713, of which £17,846 was incurred on the reconstruction of the line from Teheran to Ardistan, £9,376 on the India extension of the Central Persia telegraph line, £2,935 on the Central Persia line proper, and £189 on the Henjam to Bundar Abbas telegraph line. The total capital expenditure at the end of the year amounted to £988,204.

The gross earnings of the Department show a decrease of £8,408 as compared with 1905-06, which was due to the extent of £5,741 to a falling-off in trans-Indian traffic.

Notwithstanding the efforts made to keep down expenditure, working expenses increased during the year by £12,647, due mainly to the increased

cost of the maintenance and repairs of cables, which exceeded that for the previous year by £11,972.

The net result is a profit of £30,570, or 3·09 per cent. on the capital outlay. This return is less than any that has been earned by the Department since 1891-92.

The number of messages forwarded during the year amounted to 259,355, being an increase of 22·91 per cent. as compared with 1905-06.

Under the Joint Purse Agreement, the share of the Department was £4,926 less than last year, being £107,961, as against £112,887 in 1905-06. This was principally due to the falling-off in trans-Indian traffic mentioned above. The amount paid into the Joint Purse for the year under review was £70,408.

The Departmental receipts from the Australasian Message Fund for 1906-07 amounted to £6,016, being £9 less than in 1905-06, and a decrease of £219 on the receipts for 1899, on which the original Australasian Message Fund was based.

Interruptions aggregating 4 days 1 hour 57 minutes occurred on the Indo-European Company's lines between Teheran and London. There was only one interruption stopping traffic between Karachi and Teheran; this occurred in the Persian section in February 1907, and lasted for 10 hours and 7 minutes. On the Turkish route interruptions occurred between Fao and Constantinople lasting 38 days 2 hours 20 minutes. The working of this route continues to be unsatisfactory. The Fao-Bushire cable was interrupted for 2 days 4 hours 55 minutes during the year. Acts of wilful damage show an increase of 222 as compared with 1905-06, aggregating 746, and involving an amount of krans 14,094. Of this sum krans 4,242 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 1903-04.

The following review is based on quinquennial reports received from the various local governments for the period from 1902-03 to 1906-07. As comparison is made between the circumstances of five years ago and those of the present time, the figures given are of necessity more general than those given in previous reports of a single year's work. Detailed statistics are, however, to be found in the Statistical Abstract relating to British India (Cd. 3724).

The quinquennium from 1902-03 to 1906-07 was a period of great progress in the educational system of the United Provinces. The most urgent needs felt at the beginning of the period were satisfactorily met. Thus there was a large rise in the number of primary schools and in their attendance; and by the increase in the number of normal schools from four to six the training of teachers for primary schools was greatly advanced, the prospects of teachers were materially improved, the inspecting staff was considerably increased and reorganised, and the pay of subordinate officers enhanced. Some impetus was given to female education, though progress in this direction was retarded by the conservatism of the people and the want of competent teachers.

At the end of 1906-07 there were 606,174 scholars under instruction, as compared with 452,773 five years before. Expenditure rose from £216,561

EDUCATION. to £308,502. The percentage of scholars to the population of school-going age increased from 11·70 to 15·33 in the case of boys and from ·6 to 1·16 in the case of girls.

The most important event in connection with collegiate education was the enactment of the Universities Act, involving the extension of the jurisdiction of the University, the remodelling of the Senate, the Syndicate, and the Faculties, and the complete revision of the regulations. Among many useful reforms those relating to the better inspection of colleges and the residence and discipline of students may be mentioned. A further important change was that which aimed at the introduction of more practical work into the course for the degree of Bachelor of Science.

There was a large increase in the number of students in the secondary stage. High schools increased in number from 101 to 108, and pupils attending them from 10,220 to 21,460, of whom 21,344 were learning English. The great defect in secondary education at present is the manner in which English is taught, and this became more apparent with the large increase in the number of pupils.

Attendance at primary schools rose from 324,699 to 418,480 in boys' schools and from 14,486 to 22,486 in girls' schools. Yet the advance in the extension of primary education cannot but be considered slow, the percentage of boys attending primary schools to the population of school-going age being still only 11·1.

Technical education has received considerable attention. The Thomason Civil Engineering College, Roorkee, the Industrial School at Lucknow, and the Agricultural School at Cawnpore, all underwent extension and development.

The progress of Muhammadans was not so great as that of the rest of the community, and they are very backward in female education. There was, however, a satisfactory increase of their number at colleges.

The continuous decline in the number of private schools is to be regretted. Five years ago they numbered 6,071, attended by 84,278 pupils, whereas now they number only 4,570 with an attendance of 69,277.

Punjab.

In the Punjab the quinquennium was a period of great activity in the department of Public Instruction. Expenditure on education increased by about £133,333, a thousand new teaching establishments were opened, and the roll of scholars rose by fifty thousand.

In particular, the facilities for primary education were greatly developed, in consequence largely of the grant of £20,000 per annum made by Government in 1905. Nine hundred new primary schools for boys and 200 for girls came into existence; and 40,000 more boys and 7,700 more girls are now receiving this stage of education than in 1901-02.

The number of secondary schools decreased largely owing to the abolition of inefficient unaided schools, which could not satisfy the Recognition Rules, and to the destruction of the high and middle schools at Kangra and Dharmasala in the earthquake. There are now 33 Government secondary schools (all Anglo-Vernacular), against four in 1901-02, this being due to the Government having taken over one Municipal Board school in each district in 1905, and to the conversion of Vernacular into Anglo-Vernacular schools. As the result of these changes, there has been a fair improvement in attendance.

The development of female education was a prominent feature of the quinquennium. Rapid progress in this branch was not to be expected in view of the many difficulties to be encountered, but there was a most satisfactory increase in the number of female schools and an obvious growth in the interest shown by all classes alike in the importance of the education of girls. Five new secondary and 216 new primary schools for girls were opened, and there were, at the end of 1906-07, 37,283 girls under instruction.

With regard to special education, the most notable points are the development of the female medical school at Ludhiana and of the Mayo School of Art at Lahore. The Government School of Engineering, though not yet organised on a satisfactory basis, obtained employment for 50 per cent. of its passed students.

There was an encouraging advance in the education of Muhammadans, and it appears that the leaders of the Musalman community are beginning to make some response to the efforts of Government to stimulate this section of

the people in a desire for the advantages of the public educational institutions. EDUCATION. There were 131,238 Muhammadans under instruction at the end of 1906-07.

Other noteworthy features of the quinquennium were the reinforcement of the inspecting staff, the creation of chairs for chemistry and biology at Lahore, the establishment of a school for engineering, and the marked increase in the interest taken by local bodies in the cause of education. An important change was effected in collegiate education by the passing of the University Act of 1904 and the consequent arrangements for the re-organisation of the Punjab University and for the periodical inspection and affiliation of colleges.

In the North-West Frontier Province the quinquennium was characterised by steady progress in almost every direction. It appears that the old private village schools, in which instruction goes little further than the teaching of religious books by rote, are now declining in popular favour, and that the people are learning to appreciate the more intelligent education offered by Government schools. So great, indeed, was the increase in the number of public institutions that, in spite of a decline of 99 in the number of private schools for boys, the decrease in the total number of institutions was only five, while the attendance in institutions of all kinds increased by over 9 per cent. Although the attendance of Hindus showed an increase of 24 per cent., that of Muhammadans, who at the 1901 census constituted 92·12 per cent. of the total population, showed a small decline.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

As regards female education, though the active opposition of earlier days shows signs of disappearing, the advance in the case of Muhammadans has been very slow as compared with Hindus and Sikhs, the increase in the number of Muhammadan girls under instruction being actually smaller than the increase for other religious despite the great preponderance of the Muhammadan population.

Expenditure on education increased by over 60 per cent., the allotment from Imperial funds being more than trebled, while the expenditure from all other sources rose by less than 50 per cent.

Much difficulty was experienced in obtaining an adequate supply of trained and qualified teachers, but it is hoped that, in the case of primary schools, this difficulty will be solved by the Peshawar Normal School, opened in 1906.

Between 1902-03 and 1906-07 there was, in Burma, change and advance in almost every department of education. Substantial progress was made, especially in primary education: the numbers of schools and scholars increased, the salaries of masters were raised, and the curricula were revised.

Burma.

The state of collegiate education was, however, scarcely satisfactory. Neither of the two colleges showed great progress in the five years. The average daily attendance at the Rangoon College was 126 in 1901-02, rose to 161 in 1905-06, and fell to 104 in 1906-07. The figures of the Baptist College rose from 13 at the beginning to 20 at the end of the quinquennium. The total number of students who took the degree of B.A. during the whole period was 34. Reasons for this lack of interest may be found in the under-manning of the teaching staff at the Rangoon College, and in the restriction of the curriculum to the old B. or scientific course, in which the choice of subjects is limited to physics and chemistry.

Progress in secondary education was satisfactory. The expenditure from Provincial Funds was more than doubled, and stood at £26,666 in 1906-07 as compared with £11,666 in 1901-02. The number of secondary schools directly managed by Government increased from 3 to 20, with a daily average attendance of 2,500. The total number of pupils receiving secondary education on the 31st March 1907 was 8,825 boys and 1,107 girls, as compared with 5,739 boys and 735 girls five years before.

The fact that there is an indigenous system of primary education in the monastic schools closely interwoven with the religion of the people and their daily life puts primary education on a different footing from secondary education in Burma. The extent to which the indigenous system has been brought into relation with the Education Department is shown by the fact that, out of 4,925 aided primary schools for boys, 2,369 are monastic schools. It is estimated, however, that there are some 15,000 monastic schools yet unregistered, which receive no assistance or guidance from the Education

EDUCATION. Department. A noticeable feature of the period is the extent to which Government undertook the direct management of primary vernacular schools. There was only one such school in 1901-02; at the end of 1906-07 there were 24 for boys and 4 for girls. The percentage of the male population of school-going age under instruction increased by 3 per cent.

Social customs do not form such an obstacle to female education in Burma as in the rest of India. There are, however, no indigenous schools for girls, and female education depends entirely on lay schools. Considerable progress was made during the quinquennium in this branch. Secondary schools for girls increased from 39 to 65, primary from 323 to 473, and the total number of female scholars from 36,755 to 58,665. Four-fifths of this total still attend boys' schools.

A satisfactory feature of the quinquennium was the improvement in the supply of trained teachers.

Central
Provinces
and Berar.

Although the progress of education in the Central Provinces was not checked by famine during the period from 1902-03 to 1906-07, as it was in the previous quinquennium, yet it was to a great extent retarded by plague and local scarcity. Nevertheless a distinct advance was made, and the way was prepared for further improvement. It is impossible to make any useful comparison of the figures at the end of 1906-07 with those at the end of 1902-03, owing to the territorial changes caused during the intervening period by the amalgamation of Berar with the Central Provinces and the transfer of the Sambalpur District to Bengal. It is clear, however, that there was a satisfactory increase in the percentage of children of school-going age who actually attended school. Nearly one-tenth of the total number under instruction were aborigines and low-caste boys; and the difficulties arising from the association at school of high-caste with low-caste boys continued, though in many places the objection was overcome.

As far as can be judged, expenditure on education increased in the Central Provinces by 32 per cent., and in Berar by 20 per cent., while the superior inspecting staff was more than doubled.

An important feature in connection with collegiate education was the affiliation of colleges with the Allahabad University. It is disappointing to find that there was practically no increase in the number of students at the colleges, in spite of the greater prosperity of the province and the addition of Berar. This may be attributed chiefly to plague, to the old system of fees, and to the fact that the colleges teach only as far as the B.A. and B.Sc. standard. Considerable improvements in building, personnel, &c. have been effected at both the Jubbulpore College and the Morris College; the Hislop College continued to do excellent work.

The development of secondary education was a prominent feature of the quinquennium. The demand for it increased and is still growing. In fact, the provision of buildings was not able to keep pace with the increase in the number of scholars, and several of the schools suffered from overcrowding. An obstacle was the difficulty of obtaining suitable teachers, and English appears to have been the worst-taught subject.

There was also a steady rise in the number of primary schools, which now make up nearly nine-tenths of the total number of schools. The number of pupils increased in greater proportion than the number of schools, and there was a great improvement in the average daily attendance. The proportion of villagers who can read and write is still, however, very small.

In regard to the training of teachers results cannot be said to be satisfactory. The only institution for training secondary teachers is the Training Institution at Jubbulpore, and in 18 years only three trained teachers were provided for each school. There are four normal schools for training primary teachers, but in their case, owing to the poorness of the material sent up, much of the time was devoted to general instruction to the detriment of training in teaching.

A marked feature of the period was the increased attention paid to technical education, and two students were selected from the province for Government technical scholarships in England.

There was a satisfactory advance in female education, which was greatly due to the appointment of a female inspecting staff; and the Jubbulpore School was very successful.

The education of Muhammadans made slow progress, owing to the importance attached by them to religious education, and consequently to the necessity for separate schools.

On the whole, the conduct of pupils in colleges and schools was good, though there were a few outbreaks of disorder owing to political influences. It does not appear that the influence of masters was as strong as it should be, their interest in the boys not always extending beyond the mere teaching in class.

The record of education in Coorg during the period is one of all-round progress, in spite of the evil effects of plague during part of it. There were 119 schools with 4,865 pupils at the close, as compared with 99 schools with 4,758 pupils at the beginning, of the quinquennium. Total expenditure advanced from £2,666 to £3,266. Satisfactory progress was made in female education. At the end of 1906-07 there were five girls' schools, as compared with one in 1901-02, and the number of girls under instruction rose from 975 to 1,118. Good work was done by the training school at Mercara.

The period from 1902-03 to 1906-07 was characterised in Madras by considerable activity in educational matters, and many reforms were carried out as a result partly of the natural expansion of administrative progress in the sphere of education, and partly of the recommendations made by the Educational Conference held at Simla in 1901, and in pursuance of the educational policy formulated by the Government of India in 1904. The total expenditure on education rose by £120,000 to £650,060, of which increase 18 per cent. came from Provincial revenues.

During the quinquennium the total number of institutions, public and private, rose from 26,491 to 28,734, and their attendance from 861,641 to 1,007,118. Government institutions numbered only 378, against 419 in 1901-02, although their strength rose from 25,673 to 28,453. The percentage of scholars to population of school-going age rose from 25.6 to 29.8 in the case of boys and from 4.4 to 5.7 in the case of girls.

The passing of the Indian Universities Act of 1904 modified in many respects the constitution of the Madras University, and the forming of new regulations under the Act effected important changes in the courses of studies and the examinations in Arts. In 1905 a Committee appointed by the University carried out an inspection of the affiliated colleges.

One of the most important educational events was the payment to aided schools of the full grants admissible under the Grant-in-Aid Code. From 1902-03 Government were enabled, with the help of a special assignment from the Government of India, to pay the grants at maximum rates. The primary and lower secondary examinations were abolished, the primary examination being replaced by an inspecting officer's examination *in situ*, and an elementary leaving school certificate was instituted. As a result, the old term "primary" used in the classification of schools became obsolete. The Code introduced a sharp distinction between elementary and higher education, and the majority of the old lower secondary schools became primary schools. Under the present Code the term "secondary" denotes schools designed to impart instruction which will fit a student for a collegiate course.

As regards female education, the Government girls' schools were reorganised, the teachers better paid, and the accommodation improved. There was a satisfactory increase from 130,432 to 164,706 in the number of girls under instruction, but there was little advance in the indigenous education of girls.

Improvements were made in the system of training teachers in the training schools. These increased in number by two, with an increase of 506 in attendance.

Schools for technical and industrial education increased, but the condition of this branch cannot be considered satisfactory. A considerable number of Government scholarships were available, but in no year of the quinquennium was the full number awarded.

In spite of special facilities and concessions offered to Muhammadans, there has been but little progress in their education, especially in the higher stages.

The record of educational work in Bombay for the quinquennium 1902-03 to 1906-07 was one of satisfactory progress in the face of adverse conditions.

EDUCATION.

Madras.

Bombay

EDUCATION. There were serious epidemics of plague in 1902-03 and 1904, and the remaining years were not free from this disturbing influence. In all, there were some 26,000 deaths among school-going pupils from this cause. Nevertheless, under practically every head an advance was recorded. The number of secondary schools rose from 494 in 1902-03 to 517 in 1906-07, and of the pupils in them from 48,533 to nearly 58,000; primary schools at the end of 1906-07 numbered 10,842 with 579,629 pupils, against 8,987 with 513,211 pupils at the close of the preceding quinquennium; the pupils in training schools increased from 848 to 1,332; and the total number of persons under tuition throughout the Presidency rose from 639,868 to 720,547.

The chief causes to which the results are due appear to have been a slowly increasing desire for education among the masses, the careful work performed by the inspectorial staff, and the grants made by the Government of India for both primary and secondary education. In addition to these grants, help was accorded to the University and aided colleges; the reduction of expenditure due to famine and plague at the commencement of the period was made good by a grant of £51,851, and a permanent assignment of £11,133 was made for the advancement of technical education.

With regard to the collegiate institutions of the Presidency, these were in a tolerably flourishing condition. The number of students at the Elphinstone College was higher than ever in 1906-07; the Deccan College and the Fergusson College added to their popularity, the one by an increased accommodation, the other by the provision of a chemical laboratory and six new scholarships. A new and commendable departure was initiated by St. Xavier's College in sending its Natural Science pupils on a tour through Northern India and Rajputana. The Gujarat College showed a deficiency in staff and equipment, and the Samaldas College at Bharnagar in accommodation and facilities for the teaching of science.

The increase in the percentage of boys in the secondary stage of instruction may be ascribed to the general improvement in the system of teaching. More practical methods have been adopted, and the judicious introduction of inter-school matches and tournaments have given to secondary school life elements of interest which were lacking in previous years.

As in secondary, so in primary education, the Northern Division has lagged behind the rest of the Presidency; for whereas the percentage of boys in primary schools throughout the whole Presidency rose during the quinquennium from 22.3 to 24.9, the number in this stage of education in the Northern Division has fallen by 2,131. Speaking as a whole, however, the progress made during the five years is matter for congratulation. Local Board schools increased from 3,940 to 5,196, and the number of their pupils rose by nearly 50,000. Municipal schools show an increase of 188 from 717, and they have now a larger attendance than in the years immediately preceding the outbreak of famine. A further satisfactory feature is the considerable increase of girls' schools and girl pupils. At the same time, though the total number of female scholars has risen from 93,063 to 108,716, the circumstance of female education are not entirely satisfactory. The European schools still need an increased staff, and the Anglo-Vernacular schools are hampered by unsuitable curricula and indifferent accommodation.

The total number of Muhammadans under instruction has increased from 23,684 to 28,216, while the number in secondary schools has nearly doubled. Their schools, however, still suffer from deficiency of staff. A hopeful feature of the period was the awakening of interest among leading Muhammadans to the educational needs of their community.

The extension and improvement of vernacular training colleges has led to their increased popularity, and there is evidence that the deep-rooted social prejudices which have hitherto militated against the recruitment of native schoolmistresses are gradually being undermined.

There was a considerable advance in technical education, the Government grant permitting of extension of equipment and improvement of apparatus.

The growing popularity of the hostel system is shown by the increase of 43 in the number of these institutions.

Bengal.

In Bengal the quinquennium was a period of great activity and development. In nearly every branch of education existing arrangements were overhauled, and expenditure largely increased.

The whole course of collegiate education was affected by the passing of the Universities Act of 1904 and the promulgation of the revised regulations of the Calcutta University in 1906. Heavy expenditure is needed for the proper development of colleges according to the new ideals, and the funds available are insufficient to do more than ensure bare compliance with the regulations. During the quinquennium there was a decrease of one college and of 1,354 students, but expenditure rose by £7,846, the whole being borne by public funds.

A marked feature of the period was the steady increase in the number of English secondary schools accompanied by a decrease in the number of secondary vernacular schools. The number of boys attending the former rose during the period by 2,337 to 122,937; attendance at the latter decreased by 11,291 to 24,350. Expenditure on secondary education increased by some £20,000. It appears that the standard of efficiency of the majority of teachers in these schools leaves much to be desired.

The expansion of primary education was one of the most satisfactory features of the period under review. The number of schools increased from 32,024 to 33,954, and the number of pupils from 818,537 to 953,455. At the end of 1906-07 out of every 1,000 boys of school-going age there were 253 actually at school; the corresponding figure for 1901-02 was 217. Total expenditure on primary education increased by £30,000 during the quinquennium, the expenditure in 1906-07 being £170,051, of which public funds contributed £59,650.

The work done hitherto by training institutions has been far from satisfactory, and the whole question of the training of teachers is now under revision. The great difficulty, especially in the case of female teachers, is to find suitable candidates and induce them to take up the profession and undergo the necessary training.

As regards technical education, progress was made in engineering and mining at the Sibpur Engineering College and the Behar School of Engineering at Patna, but in other subjects results were disappointing. The commercial classes attached to the Presidency College failed to attain popularity, the agricultural classes at the Sibpur College attracted only an average of 23 students during the quinquennium, and the "B" classes attached to Zillah schools proved a failure.

At the end of March 1907 there were 121,195 girls and women in public educational institutions, being 1 in every 33 girls of school-going age, as against 1 in every 58 at the end of March 1902. The total expenditure under this head in 1906-07 was £36,453, of which public funds contributed £18,708. The scheme of zenana instruction by house to house visitation failed of success owing to the absence of proper teachers.

At the close of the period there were 184,355 Muhammadans under instruction in institutions of all kinds. This shows a satisfactory increase of 23.2 per cent. during the quinquennium.

In Eastern Bengal and Assam there was a considerable increase during the quinquennium in both the number of schools and the number of pupils. Public schools increased by 2,711, and pupils reading in them by 137,841. Private institutions showed a large increase in number, but there was a slight decrease in the pupils attending them. There were 11 Arts Colleges at the end, as at the beginning, of the quinquennium, but the number of pupils fell from 1,673 to 1,197. The total expenditure on education was £234,247 in 1901-02 and £341,605 in 1906-07, fees accounting for £103,987 of the former and £123,415 of the latter.

Since the creation of the new province much has been done to advance collegiate education. The Dacca College is being provided with new buildings, and its staff has been strengthened. Improvements in accommodation and increase of staff are being effected also at the Rajshahi College, at the Chittagong College and at the Cotton College, Gauhati.

Secondary education experienced a check during the quinquennium. Twenty-five new high schools were opened, but the total number of pupils at the end of the period (about 47,000) was practically the same as at the beginning. This was partly due to the introduction of the vernacular scheme of education, and political excitement may perhaps be held responsible to some extent. It is noticeable that the falling off in secondary

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

EDUCATION. education is confined to Hindus, the number of Muhammadan pupils in high schools having risen from 7,220 to 8,869.

There are now over 600,000 boys in primary schools or classes, the number having risen by about 80,000 during the last five years. The quality of primary education in this province does not, however, appear to be satisfactory. The defects of the indigenous schools are notorious, and the difficulties of finding funds to train and support teachers, to provide buildings and equipment, and to maintain an adequate system of inspection for the enormous number of primary schools have proved insurmountable. With the aid of subventions from Imperial and Provincial Revenues improvements have been and are being made. The primary schools of Assam are more efficient than those of Eastern Bengal.

The successful development of schools of engineering has been an encouraging feature of the period, but little progress has been made with industrial education.

There are 80,000 girls under instruction, an increase of 33,000 since 1901-02. The figures show progress, but only about one girl in thirty is attending school.

More than half the population being Muhammadan, the backwardness of Muhammadan education is a serious matter. This backwardness lies especially in the domain of higher education, as in elementary instruction they are little behind the Hindus. Every attempt to encourage this section of the community is being made, and the zeal for education which has arisen among them gives hope of steady progress in the future.

Breaches of discipline in connection with the agitation attending the formation of the new province have been of rarer occurrence during 1906-07, but the tone of some institutions is still very unsatisfactory.

LITERATURE.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS.

	English.	Bi-lingual (English and another language).	Sanskrit.	Arabic.	Persian.	Urdu.	Hindi.	Bengali.	Punjabi.	Marathi.	Gujarathi.	Tamil.	Telugu.	Burmese.	Kanarese.	Assamese.	Urdu.	Bi-lingual (Oriental) in a Classical and Vernacular Language.
Madras	499	0	129	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	425	265	—	44	—	21	Polyglot, 8.
Bombay	88	50	60	6	13	60	48	—	—	228	299	—	—	—	15	—	—	91 (mostly Gujarati, Hindi or Marathi and Sanskrit).
Bengal	317	0	36	1	7	25	116	939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	231	*Total number of Bi-lingual, 402.
Punjab	127	0	15	27	35	708	125	—	523	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*Total number of Bi-lingual, 121.
Burma	8	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	89	—	—	—	104 (Pali and Burmese).
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	7	10	6	—	—	—	—	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	—	—
Central Provinces.	5	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1.
Mysore	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	*Total number of Bi-lingual, 6.
Total number of publications in Oriental languages, 56.																		

Note.—The figures for Madras include 496 periodicals, and those for the Punjab 176 periodicals; in other Provinces books alone are shown.

No detailed figures have been received for the United Provinces; the total number of publications in that province was 1,701.

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 Latin, French, Italian, Malayalam, Konkani, Tulu, Kodagu, and Sourashtra (in Madras); Javi, Kutchi, Magadhi, Marwadi, and Gurumukhi (in Bombay); Bodo, Lepcha, Manipuri, Mundari, Bengali, Oraon, Pahary, and Santali (in Bengal); Kashmiri, Pashtu, and Balti (in the Punjab); Pali, Sgan-Karen, Shan, Chin, Peguan, and Talaing (in Burma); Lushai (in Madras and Bengal); Sindhi (in Bombay and the Punjab); and Khasi (in Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam).

Madras.

Of the total number of publications (1,410) registered in Madras for the year 1906, 496 were periodicals. Of the 460 returned as of a religious nature, none can be said to have risen above the ordinary doctrinal or

polemic level. Considered as a whole, the year's publications showed an increased literary activity, which was, however, somewhat restricted in its nature. The number of books which indicate real intellectual progress, originality of conception, or power of healthy assimilation evidenced by the native mind, is exceedingly small. There were few publications of a political nature, perhaps owing to the fact that the Swadeshi movement was not so strong in Madras as in other parts of India, but Dr. Miller's dissertation on *Coriolanus*, as illustrative of Indian politics of to-day, may be mentioned. A bold attempt at Shakespearean criticism was made by R. Venkatasubba Rau, whose *Othello Unveiled* aims at explaining difficulties and inconsistencies which have hitherto escaped the notice of scholars or been imperfectly dealt with by them. The *Brief Biographies of Twelve Standard Tamil Poets*, by Diwan Bahadur V. Krishnamachariar, contains a valuable essay on Tamil literature. Under the head of Language and Philosophy the majority of the publications were of an educational nature, and none deserve notice except, perhaps, an ingenious attempt made by L. A. Venkatachala Aiyar in *Sivasthi Lippi* to formulate a common alphabet for all Indian languages. There were no noteworthy books on Law and Medicine, and Science was represented mainly by Government publications. In the province of History, however, there was a work of original research. In his *History of Vijayanagar* B. Suryanarayana Rau shows great pains taken to obtain information first hand, but little capacity for sifting authorities and weighing evidence.

In Bombay during 1906 the number of publications registered was 1,695, an increase of 419 on the figures for last year. Of these, 661 were periodicals. There is not much that is of value in the vernacular literature, and a striking feature is how little it reflects the main interests of the times, though there are occasional references to Japan, boycotting, and Swadeshi. Among dramatic pieces there were fairly good translations of *Measure for Measure* into Gujarati and of *The Tempest* into Marathi, but no original work of interest. In the sphere of Fiction the most noteworthy production was a theosophical romance, *The Himalayan Saint Sacramogogo*, by a Parsi named Ghadiali. There was also a series of novels, comparable to the modern English society novels, exhibiting the extravagance and immorality of the Parsi "smart set." The most important historical work was Rao Bahadar G. C. Wad's second volume of the Poona Daftar diaries, a book indispensable to students of Marathi history and administration. Under the heading of Language, the appearance of another part of Mr. Ranade's English-Marathi dictionary is noteworthy. In *The State of India* Mr. K. G. Ghamat grumbles at the manners of Anglo-Indians and the indifference of Government to education. There were a few collections of Marathi verse which show little originality and are overweighted with pedantry. In Philosophy, Mr. Phadha continues his account of Spencer's *Principles of Sociology* in Marathi; and Mr. P. A. Wadia's *Political Philosophy of Burke*, in the same language, deserves notice. A work on *Zoroaster and Zoroastrianism* in English and the theosophical writings of Mr. Vaidya were, perhaps, the chief religious publications of the year. Under the heads of Voyages and Travels, there is a fairly comprehensive account of Nepal by a Marathi writer.

There was in Bengal in 1906 a remarkable fertility in almost all the domains of literature. Political, social, and industrial questions attracted the best talent of the province, and in the treatment of these subjects a greater and more sustained intellectual vigour was displayed, showing itself principally in the expression of a desire for increased political power and industrial improvement, but also in the higher and quieter walks of literature. In the field of Drama interest centres in historical and other works written in support of the Swadeshi movement. In *Durgadas* Babu Dwijendra Lal Ray employs the story of Aurangzeb's war against the Rajputs as a means of stirring his countrymen up to seek for larger political rights, while in *Mir Kasim* and *Kedar Ray* the authors, speaking on behalf of Hindus, make overtures to the Muhammadans with the object of inducing them to make common cause against the powers that be. In the sphere of Fiction the boycott movement is encouraged by alleged stories of oppressions committed on the weaving classes in the time of Warren Hastings; and in Poetry the character of Seraj-ud-daula is portrayed in a favourable light and the English held up to opprobrium. The journal *Bhandar* inculcates a "creed of India"

LITERATURE. by the adoption of which men shall be obliged to regard themselves as Indians, as distinguished from residents in different provinces of India, and shall devote themselves to the interests of the country at large while preserving their own special religious beliefs. An important contribution to Bengali fiction was made by Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore in his novel *Naukadambi*, which is distinguished for its general culture and for the masterly way in which delicate problems of every-day life are handled. There were two interesting works of historical research, one giving the history of Bengal from the accession of Kasim Ali Khan to his defeat by the East India Company, and the other the history of Raja Pratapaditya of Jessore. The year was rich in both philosophical and religious productions, the most notable of the latter being an original work by Babu Viresvar Pande entitled *Dharmasastra-tattva o Kartavya-Vichar*. This work is a defence of the Hindu religion and an inquiry into the downfall of the Hindu races, and the author counsels Hindus to eschew Western habits of luxury and to resuscitate the indigenous arts and manufactures of the country.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

In Eastern Bengal and Assam the most notable feature of the year as regards literature was the considerable number of publications devoted to the Swadeshi movement. These, with some exceptions, were moderate and sensible in tone, advocating industrial and social reform and a more practically useful system of education. There were also writers opposed to the movement, and some were found even to defend the Partition. An interesting publication was *The National Problem and its Solution*, a series of essays published by Jagadish Chandra Ghosh, which may be regarded as an expression of the tenets of the moderate Congress party. A new history of the Province whitewashes Seraj-ud-daula and describes the Black Hole of Calcutta as a myth invented by Holwell and resuscitated by Lord Curzon. There is little worthy of note among Assamese publications. Among Bengali works there are several poems dealing with the present condition of the Indian people, some not without merit. *Priti-Pushpanjali*, a poem on various subjects, by a Hindu widow, may be noticed. There was no religious work of great value during the year. Under the head of Biography may be mentioned a collection of biographies of Europeans, in which the author takes the opportunity to descant upon political subjects. A deplorable characteristic of the year's work is the continued production of "keys" to the simplest primers.

United
Provinces.

The number of publications registered during 1906 in the United Provinces shows an increase of 15 per cent. in that for 1905. The total output of religious works during the year was enormous, and constitutes a record, but there was perhaps less than usual of any interest or value. An exception must be made in favour of the Reverend Ahmad Shah's controversial *Studies in the Quran*, the purpose of which is to show the indebtedness of the Quran to the Bible. There was a large output of verse during the year, mainly consisting of historical epics in Hindi, but little of it can be styled true poetry. Two volumes of the *Mahabharata* were produced in Nepali by a band of Nepalese scholars at Benares. A book of verse, called *Banita Bandhu*, by a lady member of the Arya Samaj, contains a trenchant attack on Indian men for their treatment of women, and occasionally rises to the height of true poetry. Fiction increased, the old-fashioned stories of adventure gradually giving way to short stories and novels dealing with the common experiences of every-day life, many of which are disfigured by the most shameless indecency. The Arya Samaj showed great literary activity during the year, its productions consisting mainly of virulent pamphlets against Government, and songs, to be sung by women, some of which are said to be marked by gross indecency. There was a falling-off in historical publications, but there were a few books of considerable interest, as, for instance, the *Asar Khair* of Muhammad Sa'id Ahmad. There were two histories of the Russo-Japanese War, one in Urdu and one in Hindi, and a Hindi treatise on the training of women in Japan. Biographies were few and commonplace. A treatise entitled *Plague in India* by Rai Bahadur Lala Baij Nath, assisted by Major Vasu, I.M.S., is a useful and practical work.

Punjab.

Religion was again the favourite subject in the Punjab. Noteworthy productions were the *Brahma Darshan*, an exhaustive exposition of the

religious beliefs of the Hindus, and the *Rama Updesh*, or the teachings of Rama, by the late Swami Ram Tirath, which is remarkable for its earnestness and sincere sympathy. The year was fruitful in translations. Further parts of the translations of the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana* were issued, and the *Satyarth Prakāsh* was creditably translated into English by Dr. C. Bhargava. There was no original historical work of any note during the year, the only remarkable productions being the continuations of the Urdu versions of the *Tamaddun-i-Islam* and *Ibn-i-Khaldūn*. There was some diminution in the production of novels, and the decline was most marked in the case of novels of merit. In the sphere of Poetry there were signs of the growth of a new spirit infused by the Swadeshi and other movements of the times. The *Bharat Darpan*, perhaps the most important poem of the year, examines the present social and industrial condition of the Indian people, and preaches sincere love of country, religion unhampered by petty caste prejudices, and unity of purpose. There were several good pieces of poetry for the young, written by ladies. In Philosophy a remarkable work was the *Sankhya Darshan*, the so-called atheistic system of Indian philosophy, with a lucid Hindi commentary.

The figures for Burma show a steady growth in religious literature, and a paucity of work on other subjects. The religious productions deal only with Buddhism, are intended solely for the edification of students of Buddhism, and are neither polemical nor proselytising. The dramatic works have no literary merit, and are for the most part vulgar and obscene. Works on astrology, astronomy, and medicine have no scientific value, being merely reproductions of old treatises. The fiction is negligible.

Burma.

In the Central Provinces 50 publications were registered during 1906. None of these were worthy of special notice. No publications were registered in Coorg during the year. Mysore registered 66, as against 59 in the previous year. Among these a long religious poem on the Virasaiva faith and a good translation of the *Arabian Nights' Entertainments* alone deserve mention.

Other
Provinces.

CHAPTER XIV.

EMIGRATION AND MIGRATION.

EMIGRATION.

EMIGRA-
TION.

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.

No important administrative measures were adopted during the year under review.

Calcutta.

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 8,157 in 1905 to 13,276 in 1906. The number supplied during the year was 13,362. The results of the recruiting operations indicate that, as in the previous year, there was not much difficulty in securing recruits, owing no doubt to the continuance of scarcity in the recruiting districts. An Ordinance was passed by the Government of Fiji laying down that in future the right of an emigrant to a free return passage to India should be forfeited unless exercised within two years from the date when it accrues; otherwise there was no alteration in the terms offered to intending emigrants. The number of recruiting licences granted was 768, as compared with 870 in 1905, and of these 43, or 5·6 per cent. of the whole, were subsequently cancelled. Although the number of recruiters was smaller, the number of emigrants (23,366) recruited by them was larger than in the preceding year. This number was contributed by the different provinces in the following proportions:—United Provinces, 73·82 per cent.; Bengal, 11·39 per cent.; Bihar, 6·26 per cent.; Central Provinces, 3·70 per cent.; Punjab, 3·06 per cent.; Ajmere, 1·74 per cent.

The number of emigrants admitted to the Calcutta depôts was 19,414. Of the remainder, 2,862 were rejected subsequently to registration as unfit to emigrate. The percentage of deaths in the depôts was ·68 as compared with ·24 in the preceding year, and the percentage of rejections decreased from 10·6 to 9·4. The percentage of desertions increased from 2·49 to 2·54. After deducting casualties of all kinds, there remained 14,827 emigrants available for despatch to the colonies, of whom 14,035 actually embarked during the year, as against 9,322 in the previous year. They were distributed as follows: Demerara, 2,337; Trinidad, 2,514; Mauritius, 619; Natal, 3,866; Jamaica, 835; Fiji, 2,594; Surinam, 1,270. The total number shipped included 3,718 women and 679 returned emigrants who re-emigrated. The death rate on the ships carrying emigrants was 1·75 per cent., 11 out of the 184 deaths which occurred being due to cerebro-spinal fever, 100 to measles, and the rest to chest affections and other diseases. There were no deaths from cholera.

The number of emigrants who returned from the several colonies was 5,718, and their ascertained aggregate savings amounted to upwards of £60,818. The average savings per head varied from £32 1s. 7d. in Fiji to 10s. 1½d. in Mauritius. But 1,071 adults—18·7 per cent. of the total number of returned emigrants—brought back no savings.

There was a slight increase in the average amount remitted by resident immigrants in Demerara, Natal, and Jamaica, and a slight decrease as regards Trinidad, Mauritius, and Fiji. The average was again highest in the case of Natal (about £1), and Fiji was again the only other colony where the average remittance exceeded one rupee.

EMIGRA-
TION.

The numbers of emigrants embarking from Madras for Natal and Fiji respectively were 7,994 and 879. The corresponding figures for 1905 were 6,498 and 1,731. More than half the emigrants to Natal were from Madras and Chingleput and North Arcot districts. Madras and North Arcot and Tanjore districts supplied more than half the number for Fiji. No emigrants went to Trinidad, Mauritius, or the Seychelles, and there was no emigration to the French colonies during the year. Two thousand three hundred and eighty-six emigrants returned from Natal with savings amounting to £18,922 and 268 returned from Mauritius with £147.

Madras.

As regards non-regulated emigration, the number of emigrants to the Straits Settlements increased from 49,900 to 52,306, most of whom started from ports in the Tanjore district. There was a continued increase in the number of passengers to Burma and Ceylon, the increase in the former case being mainly due to reduction in steamer fares.

The number of emigrants leaving Bombay under agreements made under the Indian Emigration Act showed a large decrease from 256 in 1905 to 52 in 1906. Of these, 30 were engaged for railway work in British Central Africa. One hundred and eighty-six former emigrants returned to Bombay. At Karachi, there was a large increase in the number of Punjabi emigrants from 252 to 901, 861 of whom left for service on the Uganda Railway. Forty-eight emigrants returned to Bombay, having served their time. There was a further increase to 2,000 of emigrants to South Africa from Surat and to 310 from Broach, in spite of the restrictions imposed in that country. Remittances from Africa to Surat are estimated at nearly £26,666.

Bombay.

MIGRATION.

The Assam Labour Enquiry Committee submitted its Report during the year under review, and its recommendations are receiving the attention of Government. Among them may be mentioned the encouragement of *sardari* recruitment, the abolition of local contract, and the withdrawal of the right of private arrest.

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 684,208 at the end of June 1907, 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 6,911 to 69,841, while the number classed as "non-Act" labourers rose from 600,625 to 614,367. Of the total labour force in the province 61·25 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 falling off in immigration, the total number of labourers and their dependants imported during the year being 25,617, against 31,830 in 1905-6, in spite of facilities afforded by Railway Companies and arrangements made for the stimulation of *sardari* recruitment. The importation from Madras alone showed an increase, while those from Chota Nagpur, the Sonthal Parganas, and the Central Provinces showed the largest falling off.

Of the 6,009 adults imported during the year under the Act, 3,060 were recruited by *sardars* and 2,949 by contractors; the corresponding figures for 1905-6 being 9,443, 5,482, and 3,961.

The number of deaths which occurred during the journey increased from 58 to 96, of which 73 were due to cholera.

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. There was a small increase of those who passed through the river depôts.

MIGRATION.

The number of complaints of fraud and irregularity in recruitment was 89, as compared with 74 in the previous year. Fraud or irregularity was proved in 21 cases.

Among the Act coolies, the average rate of wage for men on the total labour force increased from 7s. 8½d. to 7s. 9½d., and for women from 6s. 3½d. to 6s. 8½d. The average wage earned by non-Act men was 6s. 8½d., compared with 6s. 7½d. in 1905. The average earnings of women rose from 4s. 9½d. to 4s. 11½d., and of children from 2s. 11½d. to 2s. 11½d.

The registered rate of mortality fell from 25·77 per mille in 1905-6 to 24·12 per mille in 1906-7. The mortality among Madras coolies was the highest, being 30·88 per mille, the figures for the Central Provinces falling from 31·18 to 30·31. Coolies from Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas had a death-rate of 23·53 per mille, while in the case of those from the plains of the United Provinces and Bengal there was a decrease from 25·8 to 22·89. There was a considerable decrease in deaths from cholera. The number of cases recorded of complaints laid by coolies against managers of ill-treatment unconnected with re-engagement was 2, as in 1905-6. Miscellaneous complaints filed by coolies declined from 162 to 157, and 452 applications for discharge certificates were made, certificates being granted in 297 cases. Cases in which managers were the complainants in criminal proceedings increased by 3 to 14. The number of desertions was 2,525, or 206 less than in the preceding year.

Burma.

The number of emigrants who arrived in Burma during the year under review rose from 239,000 to over 360,000. On the other hand the number of emigrants who left the country also increased from 176,000 roughly to 320,000. The net addition to the population from this cause (40,718) was below the figure of the previous year (62,837). The increased activity was probably due, partly at any rate, to the continued prevalence of reduced passage fares.

Madras.

The number of passengers arriving at the several ports of the Madras Presidency during the year was 294,919, of whom 120,684 came from Ceylon and 135,354 from Burma.

Bombay.

Owing to the general improvement in agricultural conditions, the tide of emigration flowed less strongly than in the preceding year. There was the usual influx of labourers from the Deccan, Poona sending 115,000; but their stay was only temporary. The horde of Marwaie wanderers who infested Sind last year were got rid of during 1906-7 owing to the favourable harvest in Rajputana, while a similar cause accounts for the return of over 1,000 Cutchi labourers to Cutch and the comparatively small amount of immigration from that district into Sind.

CHAPTER XV.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

TRADE.

(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 1907, was valued as follows:—

	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
By SEA.	£	£	£	£	£
Imports :					
Private Merchandise	52,525,272	56,548,862	64,452,192	68,722,713	72,205,055
Government Stores -	4,687,504	5,179,320	5,156,305	6,019,781	5,956,410
Total Merchandise	57,212,776	61,728,182	69,608,497	74,742,494	78,161,465
Treasure, Private -	16,837,152	21,295,508	22,018,353	13,947,526	18,133,990
„ Government	82,085	4,388,564	4,320,430	7,153,159	11,585,884
Total Treasure -	16,919,237	25,684,072	26,338,783	21,100,676	29,719,874
Total Imports -	74,132,013	87,412,254	95,947,280	95,843,170	107,881,339
Exports :					
Private Merchandise :					
Indian Produce and Manufactures -	83,919,801	99,755,597	102,760,848	105,459,482	115,388,249
Foreign ditto -	1,957,108	2,217,458	2,248,715	2,352,540	2,322,693
Government Stores :					
Indian -	346,702	331,705	111,503	53,542	51,660
Foreign -	40,788	40,013	26,969	24,850	20,280
Total Merchandise	86,264,399	102,344,773	105,148,035	107,890,414	117,782,882
Treasure, Private -	5,873,341	5,364,782	5,392,377	4,299,838	3,808,672
„ Government	565,084	4,596,339	5,634,834	6,013,499	3,497
Total Treasure -	6,438,425	9,961,121	11,027,211	10,313,337	3,812,169
Total Exports -	92,702,824	112,305,894	116,175,246	118,203,751	121,595,051
Total Sea-borne Trade	166,834,837	199,718,148	212,122,526	214,046,921	229,476,390
By LAND.					
Imports -	4,580,733	5,229,592	5,711,753	6,266,261	6,609,306
Exports -	3,870,514	3,964,335	4,501,241	4,903,864	5,178,598
Total Trade by Land	8,451,247	9,193,927	10,212,994	11,170,125	11,787,904
Excess imports of treasure by sea -	10,480,812	15,722,951	15,311,572	10,787,339	25,907,705
Net excess of exports over imports of merchandise and treasure by sea, private and Government -	18,570,811	24,893,640	20,227,966	22,366,098	13,713,712

TRADE.
Imports.

The large and steady increases in the value of imports during recent years continued in 1906-07, and all previous figures were again exceeded. The bulk of the cotton goods imported was somewhat reduced, on account partly of their high price, partly of the dearness of food-grains and the consequent contraction in some districts of the people's purchasing power, and perhaps also as a result of the *swadeshi* movement; but the value was not far short of the record figures of 1905-06, and the bulk was greater than in any of the years preceding 1905-06. There was a further increase in the imports of sugar from 7,700,000 cwt. to 9,700,000 cwt., of which 5,900,000 cwt. was cane sugar, chiefly from Java and Mauritius. The increase was probably partly due to the failure of the cane crop in Northern India. There was a small decline in the quantity of metals imported, in spite of the rise in value. The mineral oil imports show only a slight recovery from the low figures of 1905-06, on account of the rapid development of the Burma oil industry, and the continued disturbances in Russia. 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 £5,662,000, compared with £1,493,000 in the previous year.

Imports.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton woven goods -	18,766,000	19,246,000	23,706,000	26,012,000	25,130,000
Cotton yarns -	1,532,000	1,128,000	1,658,000	2,284,000	2,149,000
Silk, raw and manufactured	1,456,000	1,618,000	1,902,000	1,742,000	1,595,000
Woollen goods -	937,000	1,440,000	2,051,000	1,617,000	1,368,000
Metals -	5,331,000	6,153,000	6,213,000	6,028,000	6,693,000
Hardware and cutlery -	1,248,000	1,468,000	1,486,000	1,417,000	1,675,000
Machinery and millwork -	1,869,000	2,235,000	2,685,000	3,283,000	3,860,000
Railway material -	1,074,000	935,000	940,000	1,082,000	2,772,000
Liquors -	1,189,000	1,218,000	1,249,000	1,345,000	1,238,000
Provisions -	1,227,000	1,352,000	1,444,000	1,590,000	1,616,000
Sugar -	3,303,000	3,957,000	4,602,000	5,183,000	5,825,000
Mineral oils -	2,310,000	2,300,000	2,217,000	1,491,000	1,618,000
Chemicals, medicines, dyes	1,333,000	1,502,000	1,498,000	1,541,000	1,610,000
Apparel -	1,188,000	1,331,000	1,493,000	1,478,000	1,408,000

Exports of
Indian
Merchandise.

Among exports of Indian merchandise the outstanding feature was, as the following table shows, the unprecedented value of jute, both raw and manufactured. The table below brings out clearly the immense preponderance amongst Indian exports of raw agricultural produce, and the figures consequently fluctuate widely according to the character of the season. This is most marked in the case of wheat. The steadiness in recent years in the value of rice exports has not been accompanied by a corresponding steadiness in the quantities shipped. Attention may be called to the growing importance of the exports of lac; this is principally due to the continuous rise of price as a consequence of the activity in the electrical industry, and the demand for high-class varnishes. It has been alleged, however, that the high level of prices has induced reckless gathering prejudicial to succeeding crops. The trade in indigo showed a slight improvement; but it is impossible to say at present whether the lowest point of depression due to the competition of the synthetic dye has yet been reached. Further details in regard to the trade in some of the principal agricultural products have been given in Chapter X.

TRADE.

Exports of Indian Produce.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	£	£	£
Raw cotton -	9,838,000	16,251,000	11,623,000	14,228,000	14,652,000
Cotton yarns -	5,693,000	5,894,000	6,544,000	8,258,000	6,931,000
Cotton piece goods -	978,000	1,087,000	1,218,000	1,359,000	1,181,000
Raw jute -	7,118,000	7,812,000	7,977,000	11,417,000	17,892,000
Jute manufactures	6,000,000	6,307,000	6,624,000	8,296,000	10,156,000
Wool, raw -	777,000	913,000	1,261,000	1,410,000	1,618,000
Rice and rice flour -	12,597,000	12,723,000	13,080,000	12,425,000	12,353,000
Wheat and wheat flour	3,321,000	7,746,000	12,399,000	6,115,000	5,227,000
Oilseeds -	9,922,000	9,577,000	9,697,000	7,073,000	8,684,000
Tea -	4,908,000	5,705,000	5,644,000	5,898,000	6,572,000
Coffee -	881,000	912,000	1,107,000	1,171,000	664,000
Opium -	5,345,000	6,980,000	7,082,000	6,315,000	6,205,000
Indigo -	804,000	717,000	556,000	391,000	467,000
Hides and skins -	5,623,000	5,957,000	6,604,000	9,171,000	10,230,000
Lac -	1,205,000	1,787,000	1,988,000	2,068,000	2,247,000

In comparing the trading interests of various countries with India much care is necessary; for in the case of imported goods, the countries containing the ports from which the goods were shipped direct to India were formerly credited with the trade, and exported goods are credited to the countries containing the ports at which the goods are discharged, whether destined for that country or not. From the figures as they stand, the trade with the United Kingdom in 1906-07 constituted 42 per cent. of the total trade in merchandise on private account. Taking imports and exports separately, about 67 per cent. of the total import trade and 27 per cent. of the export trade was conducted with the United Kingdom. In consequence, however, of the re-exports of Indian produce, the value of the amount retained in that country is lower by about one-third than the figure given above. 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 most of this trade is re-shipped to foreign countries. Of the other Colonies, apart from Ceylon and Mauritius, the largest trade was done with Australia (£2,055,000).

Trade by
countries.

The value of India's trade in private merchandise with some of the chief countries, imports and exports combined, for the last five years, is as follows:—

	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom -	56,442,000	64,204,000	70,784,000	72,969,000	79,812,000
China -	12,128,000	13,360,000	14,420,000	15,510,000	13,689,000
Germany -	8,225,000	11,827,000	12,026,000	12,742,000	16,586,000
United States -	6,499,000	6,890,000	7,478,000	10,181,000	12,131,000
France -	7,017,000	7,650,000	7,576,000	7,536,000	8,408,000
Japan -	4,446,000	6,494,000	7,279,000	7,490,000	5,813,000
Belgium -	5,371,000	7,317,000	7,946,000	7,324,000	7,680,000
Straits Settlements -	6,731,000	6,581,000	6,340,000	5,976,000	6,280,000
Austria-Hungary -	3,817,000	4,692,000	5,804,000	5,948,000	8,194,000
Ceylon -	3,489,000	3,608,000	3,823,000	4,212,000	4,907,000
Italy -	2,836,000	3,959,000	3,695,000	3,966,000	4,546,000
Russia -	2,064,000	2,191,000	1,504,000	583,000	574,000

STATEMENT EXHIBITING THE MORAL AND MATERIAL

TRADE.

The notable decline since 1905 in the trade with Russia is due to the falling off in imports of oil, owing to the disturbances in the Russian oil districts. Germany has, for the first time, taken the second place; this may be due in part to improved methods of registration, there being a decrease in the exports to Holland. It may still be noted that much of the trade attributed to Belgium belongs to Germany.

Provinces and Ports.

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.	1906-07.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
PROVINCES:								
Bengal and Eastern Bengal.	39.7	39.9	40.7	39.1	39.2	40.9	43.7	46.9
Bombay and Sind	41.7	42.1	43.9	43.8	40.5	39.4	37.1	34.6
Madras	8.9	8.8	7.5	8.4	9.9	9.4	9.6	9.9
Burma	9.7	9.2	7.9	8.7	10.4	10.3	9.6	8.6
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
CHIEF PORTS:								
Calcutta	39.5	39.7	40.1	38.9	37.1	38.9	41.9	44.1
Bombay	35.3	34.1	35.1	35.1	31.9	28.0	30.0	25.7
Karachi	6.5	8.0	8.4	8.7	8.7	11.4	7.1	8.9
Madras	7.2	7.3	6.1	7.1	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.8
Rangoon	9.5	9.0	7.8	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.1	6.9

The value of the exports from Calcutta was swollen by the high price of jute. The aggregate foreign trade of Bombay showed a small decrease in absolute amount; the heavy falling off in exports was due to the decline in wheat, cotton twist and yarn, and opium. As a result, Calcutta was in the year under report still further ahead of the port of Bombay, the combined value of the export and import trade in private merchandise of the former rising from £72,882,000 in 1905-06 to £80,324,000 in 1906-07, and of the latter falling from £56,673,000 to £55,592,240.

Treasure.

The net import of gold, which was exceptionally small in 1905-06, increased from £305,000 to £9,901,000, the highest figure on record; including the production in the country the amount absorbed was £12,055,000. The net import of silver reached the unprecedented total of £16,003,700. The amount of silver coinage struck in the mints showed a further increase over the high figures of 1905-06. The average price of silver in London in 1906 was 30½d. per oz., the highest since 1893.

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 six years are given in the margin. The trade with Afghanistan showed a marked increase, the visit of His Majesty the Amir causing exceptional facilities for communication. The most important item is the trade with Nepal, which, however, declined slightly during the year. The figures given under the heading of land trade include a considerable trade with such regions as Kashmir and the Shan States, much of which can scarcely be called trans-frontier trade. Taking the frontier trade as a whole, the chief items were, among imports, grain and pulse, chiefly rice, to a value of £1,060,000, and timber (value £700,000), and, among exports, cotton, cotton yarn, and cotton goods (value £2,338,000) and sugar (value £236,000).

The combined import and export trade in merchandise and treasure carried on by coasting vessels is said to have represented a value of £31,820,000 during 1906-07, which is 15.5 per cent. more than in 1905-06. 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 Bengal coal, in gunny bags, which were sent from Calcutta to Burma and Bombay, and in rice, a large amount of which was exported from Burma to Bengal.

Coasting trade.

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:—

	£
1901-1902	9,573,000
1902-1903	8,451,000
1903-1904	9,158,000
1904-1905	10,213,000
1905-1906	11,227,000
1906-1907	11,788,000

The following statement gives the numbers and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels with cargoes and in ballast in Indian ports which entered from and cleared to all countries:

TRADE.
Shipping
and freights.

	No.	Tons.	Average Tonnage.
1902-03	9,089	10,926,560	1,202
1903-04	9,530	12,559,260	1,318
1904-05	9,798	13,881,336	1,417
1905-06	9,269	12,598,321	1,359
1906-07	9,329	13,775,436	1,477

In 1906-07 5,944 of these were steamers with an aggregate burden of 13,469,417 tons. The entries from and clearances to the United Kingdom were 3,121,861 tons, as against 3,140,281 tons in 1905-06.

The number of vessels under the principal flags are given below:—

	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
British	4,257	4,772	5,633	4,838	4,920
German	325	393	339	387	371
Austro-Hungarian	112	131	156	162	159
Norwegian	116	173	141	174	195
French	157	143	91	105	67
Italian	54	63	74	85	76

Freights were low in 1906 on account of the cessation of the abnormal demands in the Far East caused by the war. By March 1907, there had been an appreciable rise. The following statement gives minimum quotations for typical rates of freight from the principal Indian ports to London in March of each of the last five years. The Calcutta ship ton is one of 50 cubic feet, while that recognised at Bombay and Karachi is of 40 cubic feet.

	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Calcutta—Rice	0 15 0	0 17 6	1 0 0	0 15 0	0 17 6
Wheat	0 15 0	0 17 6	1 0 0	0 15 0	0 17 6
Jute	0 17 6	1 0 0	1 2 6	0 17 6	1 0 0
Linseed	0 17 6	1 0 0	1 2 6	0 17 6	1 0 0
Tea	1 11 3	1 11 3	1 16 3	1 13 9	1 15 0
Bombay—Wheat and seeds	0 15 6	0 16 0	0 15 0	0 13 6	0 14 6
Cotton (to Liverpool)	0 15 6	0 16 6	0 15 6	0 14 6	0 15 0
Karachi—Wheat	0 15 0	0 16 0	0 15 6	0 14 0	0 13 0

MANUFACTURES.

MANUFACTURES.
Cotton mills.

There were at the end of the year 1906-07 in British India and Native States 217 cotton mills containing 59,400 looms and 5,546,300 spindles, and giving employment on an average to 211,100 persons a day. Of these, 106 were exclusively spinning mills, 10 were exclusively weaving mills, and in the rest both spinning and weaving were carried on. The capital invested, including an estimate for 26 mills worked by private proprietors, for which accurate returns are not available, was £11,330,000 (paid-up capital and debenture loans); 152 of the mills containing 71 per cent. of the spindles and 79 per cent. of the looms, are located in the Bombay Presidency, while there are 13 mills in the territory of Native States and in French possessions in India.

MANUFACTURES.

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. In 1900-01 there was a great decline in

	Counts Nos. 1 to 25.	Above No. 25.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Average : 1896-97 - 1900-01 -	423,906,900	20,082,800	443,989,700
1901-02 -	527,448,600	32,556,200	560,004,800
1902-03 -	523,565,000	35,217,900	558,812,000
1903-04 -	515,203,400	40,987,400	556,190,800
1904-05 -	510,075,100	45,873,300	555,948,400
1905-06 -	610,602,900	45,015,900	655,618,800
1906-07 -	581,378,000	49,175,300	630,553,315

low-count yarns, due partly to the famine in India, and partly to the collapse of the Chinese market. 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, several mills being 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 all the spindles were brought into full use, and a state of unusual financial prosperity was created; this prosperity was, on the whole, maintained during 1906-07. The mills of the Bombay Presidency produced nearly 75 per cent. of the yarn, Bengal 7 per cent., Madras 5 per cent., the United Provinces about 5 per cent., and the Central Provinces 4 per cent. The continued increase in the production of yarns of counts above number 25 was noticeable, the production of these counts being 8 per cent. of the total; the Bombay mills especially spun an appreciable quantity (9 per cent. of their output in 1906-07) of the 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 the year under report. The Bombay mills also spun an appreciable quantity of yarns of No. 40 and upwards, using Egyptian or other imported cotton.

The imports of yarn from the United Kingdom and other places are about 6 per cent. of the total production in India. The figures are as follows:—

	Nos. 1 to 25.	Above No. 25.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Average, 1896-97 to 1900-01 - - - -	5,654,200	38,315,500	43,969,700
" 1901-02 to 1905-06 - - - -	3,571,800	29,095,600	32,667,400
" 1906-07 - - - -	2,538,600	32,070,900	34,609,500

The production of woven goods in recent years is given in the margin. Weaving is concentrated to an even greater degree than spinning in the Bombay mills, which in 1906-07 produced about 85 per cent. of the total output of British India; Madras, the Central Provinces, and the United Provinces each contributed about 5 per cent. These goods are mainly unbleached grey fabrics; only in Madras did any considerable proportion of the weaving consist of finer goods, and there these fabrics were 52 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 fabrics.

	Grey.	Other Kinds.	Total.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Average: 1896-97 to 1900-01	80,557,484	11,295,460	91,852,949
1901-02 -	96,210,200	19,756,000	115,966,200
1902-03 -	95,615,500	21,639,100	117,284,600
1903-04 -	106,515,100	25,361,100	131,876,200
1904-05 -	124,363,200	28,378,600	152,741,800
1905-06 -	126,687,400	29,912,900	156,600,300
1906-07 -	129,599,300	29,402,200	159,001,500

Jute mills.

Jute fabrics were formerly produced by hand for the clothing of the poorer classes, and when its use for this purpose was checked by the importation of cheap European cotton goods, a demand arose for the manufacture of gunny bags for the export of grains. The hand-loom export trade culminated in 1856-57, in which year the first mill on record in the neighbourhood of Calcutta was established. Since that time the record of the jute industry has been one of uninterrupted and increasingly rapid progress, the number of looms in the Calcutta mills having doubled in the last decade.

MANUFACTURES.

The number of jute mills in 1906-07 was 44, containing about 25,000 looms and 520,000 spindles, and employing a daily average of nearly 167,000 persons. The exports, the principal destination of which is the United States, rose from 201,000,000 gunny bags and 575,000,000 yards of gunny cloths, with a value of £5,626,000 in 1904-05, to 258,000,000 gunny bags and 696,000,000 yards of cloths, with a value of £10,177,300 in 1906-07. The rise in value is principally due to the extraordinary increase in the price of raw jute, which rose in the same period from Rs. 36½ to Rs. 65½ a bale. All the mills, with the exception of one at Cawnpore, which was not worked during the year, and one in the Madras Presidency, are in 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 £7,780,000, including debentures issued; of which nearly 3 millions are sterling capital. About £600,000 was added to the paid-up capital and debentures during the year under report.

There is now considerable activity in the manufacture of jute in Germany and the United States; but the principal centre outside India is at Dundee, where a capital of some £5,000,000 is employed in the industry, although the number of looms is only about half of the number running in Bengal. It is questionable how far there is actual competition between the two centres. The Calcutta mills are employed chiefly in coarse weaving, whereas those of Dundee are engaged in finer work, and their looms are adapted for a much wider range of cloth. While in 1906-07 the value of the Calcutta exports was four times that of the exports from the United Kingdom in 1906, it has been estimated that the consumption of raw material at Calcutta was sixteen times that at Dundee.

There were six woollen mills at work at the end of 1906, containing 759 looms, and 27,100 spindles, employing 3,400 persons, and producing goods valued at £232,120 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 in 1906 the production fell off considerably, though the value was more nearly maintained on account of the high price of wool. 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. The exports of Indian carpets and rugs during the year were valued at £137,500.

There were eight paper mills at work in India, employing a daily average of 4,700 hands, and producing in 1906 about 47½ million lbs. of paper, valued at £420,700. 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 industry has not shown much progress in recent years. Forty-five per cent. of the total value of the paper used in India is produced in the country, and 55 per cent. is imported. 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.

In 1906 there were 25 breweries at work, which produced during the year about 5½ million gallons of beer. 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 its output was about a million gallons. More than one third of the whole production is brewed in the Punjab. Indian beer is sold for the most part at prices varying from 12 annas to one rupee a gallon. The quantity of beer imported into India during the year was about five million gallons.

In 1906 the officials administering the Factories Act recorded that there were within the scope of the Act 92 factories belonging to the State and to local bodies, such as municipalities, port trusts, and railways. Among these were 16 printing presses and 14 railway workshops, 10 canal and engineering workshops, and a considerable number of military arsenals and factories.

Other industries.

MANUFACTURES.

Factories worked by steam, and owned by private persons, numbered 1,687, compared with 1,442 in 1905. There were also 76 factories not worked by steam. The factories created by the cotton industry exist principally in Bombay, those relating to the jute industry in Bengal and Eastern Bengal and Assam; while rice mills and saw mills are mainly concerned with the exploitation of the two principal products of Burma—rice and teakwood. The number of works engaged in the principal industries, together with the number of persons employed, is given in the following table:

	No. of Works in 1906.	No. of Persons employed.	
		1906.	1905.
Cotton presses	962	91,894	81,664
Cotton mills	217	211,156	212,720
Jute presses	126	23,639	20,304
Jute mills	44	166,895	141,879
Rice mills	92	12,756	13,939
Sawmills	62	7,731	8,517
Iron and brass works and foundries	74	26,123	24,001
Indigo factories	196	102,148	80,043
Tile factories	86	15,615	12,628
Printing presses (private)	33	11,828	13,548
Printing presses (Government and municipal)	14	7,524	6,087
Dockyards	11	9,170	10,111
Railway open lines	34	391,865	373,252
Railway workshops	87	87,119	73,781
Government arsenal, arms, and ammunition factories	11	16,037	13,159

The progress of the tea industry and also that of the coal industry have been noticed in Chapter X.

The average number of men, women, and children shown in a table below to have been employed in 1906 in the factories coming under the Factories Act is 690,712. 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, 128,666, a total of 819,378 results.

FACTORIES ACT.

FACTORIES 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.

FACTORIES ACT.

- (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 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 Inspector for Dangerous Trades in England, and there were two other members. The Committee's report was submitted in April 1907, and was presented to Parliament (Cd. 3517). It is not necessary to enumerate here the definite suggestions put forward by the Committee as the result of their inquiries. They pointed to a number of important reforms, and their conclusions are now forming the basis of investigation by a representative Commission, which is expected to report by June 1908.

STATISTICS OF FACTORIES IN INDIA, INSPECTED UNDER THE FACTORY ACT DURING THE YEAR 1906.

PROVINCE.	Number of Factories registered under the Act.	Average Number of Hands employed daily.				Number of Factories.			Number of Persons employed under the Act.	Number of Accidents Reported.			
		Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	With Sunday Holiday.	With other Weekly Holiday.	Exempted from Sunday Stoppage.		Fatal.	Serious.	Minor.	Total.
Bengal	130	210,014	31,864	24,223	266,095	156	—	34	—	34	328	600	962
United Provinces	151	106,133	5,316	1,880	113,329	126	26	2	2	9	54	65	128
Punjab	182	22,330	3,405	1,150	26,885	136	40	11	2	9	32	238	279
North West Frontier Province.	1	28	32	—	60	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Burma	219	22,904	652	313	30,869	195	19	5	—	6	89	58	153
Central Provinces and Berar.	315	21,796	12,795	1,619	36,171	170	117	1	19	2	57	78	137
Madras	67	37,585	3,049	2,183	42,817	78	6	3	1	—	24	259	313
Bombay	478	153,253	44,719	8,659	212,637	332	144	2	13	25	137	1,367	1,529
Eastern Bengal and Assam.	39	16,506	787	709	18,002	57	—	42	—	1	13	7	21
Ajmere	4	8,678	905	96	9,679	2	2	—	—	—	4	36	40
Total, 1906.	1,732	546,693	102,796	41,223	690,712	1,253	381	109	28	86	738	2,739	3,563
Total, 1905	1,545	501,227	93,131	37,978	632,336	1,133	395	96	22	111	499	2,642	3,252
Total, 1904	1,419	466,721	85,221	35,618	587,560	1,094	314	116	22	91	586	2,383	3,060

The steady increase during recent years in the number of factory operatives in India appears from the table in the margin, which gives the average total number employed daily in each of the last five years.

1902	527,617
1903	553,422
1904	587,560
1905	632,636
1906	690,712

The total number of factories registered under the Act rose from 1,600 in 1905 to 1,855 in 1906. The increase was most marked in the Central Provinces and in Bombay, where 137 and 40 new factories respectively were brought within the Act's operation. In the case of the Central Provinces, however, the actual increase was 9 only, and the large nominal increase was due to imperfect registration in previous years. The increase in Bombay and the United Provinces was due to the expansion of the cotton industry. The advance in the case of Burma is ascribed to the increase in the number of rice and saw mills, while that in Eastern Bengal and Assam

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was due to the erection of new jute mills. The decrease in the number of operatives in the Punjab is noticeable, and probably resulted from the fact that many cotton gins and presses remained closed owing to the failure of the cotton crop during two successive years.

The members of the Jute Association in Bengal agreed not to work with artificial light for six months from the 1st January 1906. The agreement was not renewed at the end of this period; but it is reported that the operatives do not work long hours, and that even with electric light the different batches seldom work for more than 8½ hours each. As the result of a resolution passed at a conference of Indian and Ceylon Chambers of Commerce inquiries were instituted regarding the supply of labour in the United Provinces and in Bengal. It seems that, though there is a shortage in the supply of skilled artisans who require to be trained, there is no real deficiency in the amount of labour potentially available, and that no difficulty in that direction need be anticipated, if the condition of work in the mills be made more congenial to the labourer and if the manufacturers adopt more systematic methods of recruitment. Considering the enormous increase in recent years in the demand for industrial labour, it is surprising how readily the supply has responded, and a small increase in the wages offered would largely increase the possible field of recruitment. There is apt, however, to be difficulty in Bengal during the three hot months of the year, when the up-country coolies prefer to return home.

As in previous years, there were but few instances reported of the infringement of those provisions of the Act which relate to the working hours and the employment of women and children. The local governments report that inspection work was, on the whole, satisfactorily performed, although some factories escaped inspection altogether during the year. There was a small increase in the number of accidents reported, but this increase was not disproportionate to the increase in the number of operatives, the proportion of accidents to operatives being 1 in 193 compared with 1 in 194 for the year 1905. The condition and general health of the labourers is reported to have been satisfactory.

CHAPTER XVI.

FRONTIERS AND NATIVE STATES.

FRONTIER
STATES.

FRONTIER STATES.

The seasons in Baluchistan during the year under review were favourable, the harvests were good, and the area of land under cultivation increased. The public health was generally good, but there was a considerable increase in the number of cases of malaria. The Province was practically free from plague. As in the preceding year precautionary measures were taken against the disease. A segregation camp was kept open at Hirok in the summer, and at Sibi in the winter; and observation camps were maintained on the Seistan trade route. The Provincial receipts for the year amounted to £198,700 and the expenditure to £220,800, as against £200,500 and £209,000 respectively in the preceding year. The grant for Civil Works for the year amounted to £32,300. Progress was made with the work of Land Survey and Settlement. The work of Settlement in the Nasirabad Tehsil was finished in April 1907. The important Quetta revision settlement work was commenced, the original settlement having expired on the 31st March 1907. The total value of the Foreign land trade with Afghanistan and Persia amounted to £186,600, showing a decrease of £17,100 as compared with the preceding year. The decrease was in a measure due to the plague conditions existing in Seistan. The work of the Police was generally satisfactory, and crime was normal. The two drilled and disciplined corps, viz., the Zhob and Makran Levy Corps, were maintained at the same strength as in 1905-06. The total strength of the district Levies, excluding the Zhob and Makran Corps, was 2,270. The conduct of these Levies was generally satisfactory. The Province is still in a backward stage as regards education, but the progress initiated in recent years was maintained.

The administration of the Kalat State was generally satisfactory. In the summer of 1906 some disturbance of the peace was caused on the borders of Las Bela and Jhalawan by a conflict between the Mengals and the Jamots in the course of which several tribesmen were killed. The disputes of the tribes were referred for settlement to the Sibi Shahi Jirga in February 1907, and an award was given by the Jirga which was subsequently confirmed by Government. The Political Agent has since visited the district, and steps are being taken for the better control of this remote and backward part of the country. In October 1906 an amicable settlement of the long-standing Phailawagh land case in the Sibi District was arrived at between the Marri and Bugti tribes. Hostile opposition was, however, offered by one section of the Marri tribe to the demarcation of the land in dispute, which was undertaken by the Political Agent, and it became necessary to provide him with a military guard. The Marri Chief was able to arrest a number of men who participated in these demonstrations. They were subsequently convicted by a Jirga and sentenced to imprisonment.

A few offences of a fanatical nature occurred during the year. The most serious of these resulted in the death of a Government mule driver in charge of a Government tonga, who was shot dead on the Harnai-Loralai road on the 12th December 1906. The necessary measures were taken to effect a settlement.

No incident of a serious nature involving the peace of the border occurred in the Chagai and Quetta Pishin Agencies. In the Zhob Agency the general attitude of the tribes, with the exception of the Sheranis, was satisfactory. On the 14th May 1906 the Political Rest House and Dāk Bungalow at Shinghar were burnt by certain Sherani malcontents. The offenders were followed by parties of the Zhob Levy Corps, and shots were exchanged, but they eventually made good their escape across the border.

On the 29th September 1906 a patrol of the Zhob Levy Corps, escorting mails between Mir Ali Khel and Moghal Kot, were ambushed by a party of

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raiders. Two Sowars of the escort were killed and three wounded. The raiders evaded pursuit and got away into the Wana Agency, North-West Frontier Province. It is believed that the raiders consisted of a party of Waziris under Mianji, the notorious Mabsud outlaw, and Anji, his brother, together with ten or twelve Sheranis.

The Khoidad Khel section of the Suleman Khel tribe, Wana Agency, caused some anxiety in January and February 1907, in consequence of the flight, across the Gomal border into the Province of Baluchistan, of the widow of the late Khoidad Khel Chief with a young man of the tribe. The Khoidad Khel as a tribe were greatly incensed. They assembled on the border and demanded that the guilty pair should be given up to them. Having regard to the policy always adopted with regard to refugees their demand was not complied with. The tribesmen then took up a threatening attitude, crossed the border, and cut the telegraph wires in the Zhob Agency. The Political Agents in Wana and Zhob met, and subsequently a settlement was arranged with the Khoidad Khel, under which they paid for damage done to the telegraph line. The offending tribesman was ordered to find security for £200 to keep the peace.

A tribal dispute, in which two factions of the Jogezei tribe, the Ishak and Nawab Kahols were concerned, occurred in the spring of 1906. On the 1st May an affray in connection with this dispute took place at Killa Saifulla, in the Zhob Agency, in which Sardar Bahadur Nawab Bangal Khan on the one side was killed, and Sardar Bahadur Akbar Khan and Baram Khan, on the other side, were wounded. The case was referred to a special Jirga, convened at Quetta on 1st September 1906, and in July 1907 a settlement was effected.

North-West
Frontier
Province.

The relations with the tribes on the North-West Frontier during the year under review were on the whole peaceful. The Peshawur and Kohat districts, however, continued to be the scene of the depredations of gangs from Afghan territory in which the Zakka Khel Afridis took a principal part. In view of this, following on the misbehaviour of the tribe referred to in last year's Statement, it was decided not to summon this section for their allowances in the winter. The border of Lower Kurram was the scene of some disorder owing to the incursions of raiding parties from Khost; while in Upper Kurram the Khani Khel Para Chamkanni were the cause of some annoyance.

In Waziristan the position of affairs was as follows: At the beginning of the year the Mahsuds petitioned for pardon for the murder of Captain Douaddson. Their prayer was granted on the understanding that Pashakai, the only one of the abettors of the murder, still at large, should be surrendered, if found in Mahsud country, and, failing his surrender, a sum of £6,666 should be deducted by way of fine from the Mahsud allowances. A grant of land in British territory to the Mulla Powindah was also sanctioned, together with a redistribution of the Maliki allowances. In spite of a settlement effected on the above basis, affairs in the Mahsud county remained in an unsatisfactory condition.

In the North the border was peaceful, except for the dispute between the Khan of Dir and his brother, which still continued; and the usual family feuds between the rulers of Nawagai and Bajaur. In Chitral the administration of the Mehtar was satisfactory, and the people were contented and prosperous.

Climatic conditions in the Province were favourable. The autumn harvest of 1906 and spring harvest of 1907 were both above the average. The year as a whole was therefore prosperous, and land revenue was collected without difficulty. The public health, however, was seriously affected by an epidemic of malarial fever, which prevailed throughout the Province during the closing months of 1906, and business was further disorganised by an outbreak of plague in the spring of 1907.

The work done by the Frontier Militia Corps was satisfactory. The Kurram Militia showed a marked improvement in discipline. In Southern Waziristan it was found necessary to discharge the Mahsuds in the Militia, owing to the refusal of the tribe to accept the principle of tribal responsibility for the conduct of individual tribesmen. The work of the Police was generally satisfactory. Difficulty was experienced in obtaining suitable

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recruits for the force in spite of the improved remuneration now offered. The steady diminution of serious crime observed in the three preceding years was continued during the year under review.

The survey of the Mullagori, Shinwari, and Shilman country of the Khyber Valley and Lashora Hills was completed in June 1906, and the duplication of the Khyber Road was nearing completion at the end of the year. Work on the railway under construction, from Jamrad to the Kabul river, progressed smoothly and without interruption.

No administrative changes took place in the Kashmir State during the year under review. The seasons were generally favourable, but the public health was not entirely good. Cholera broke out in the Kashmir Valley in November 1906, and up to June 15th, 1907, there were 14,131 cases and 7,819 deaths. Plague again visited the Province of Jammu, and though not so severe as in the neighbouring districts of the Punjab, 4,790 cases occurred and 2,928 deaths were recorded between the 1st of January 1907 and the end of May.

The financial position of State was sound. The revised figures show that the actual expenditure in 1905-06 was £670,000, and the receipts £660,000. The budget estimates for 1906-07 were as follows:—Expenditure, £699,600; receipts, £693,000. The actuals for the year 1906-07 have not yet been reported.

The total budget grant for the Public Works Department for 1906-07 was £316,300. Amongst other irrigation works in hand, the works in the Rumbir Canal were pushed on, and the portion from the head at Akhnoor to Jammu was practically completed. The work of carrying the canal beneath the Tawi River, in order to reach the irrigable country on the south, was commenced. On the carrying out of this important work the success of the canal largely depends. A survey of the Jhelum Valley was made during the year for the purpose of determining finally on the alignment of the projected Kashmir Railway. Good progress was made with the works in connection with the electric power scheme, referred to in last year's Statement.

The seasons were not altogether favourable to sericulture, but the industry was thriving, and good prices were realised for the silk turned out, which finds a ready market in Europe.

The administration of the Poonich Bhaqua was satisfactory, and the State enjoyed a prosperous year. In Leh, Gilgit, and other dependencies of Kashmir no events of importance occurred during the year under review.

The *personnel* of the Nepal Government remained unchanged during the year under review. Maharaja Sir Chandra Shum Shere Jang, Rana Bahadur, G.C.S.I., continued in office as Prime Minister. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India paid a visit to Nepal in November 1906, and a most cordial welcome was extended to him by the Prime Minister and the Nepal Durbar.

The trade returns show some falling off in the volume of trade. The following are the figures:—

	1905-06.	1906-07.
Exports	£ 2,219,000	£ 1,981,000
Imports	1,028,000	923,800

As regards exports, the most important decrease appears in grain and jute. This is attributed to the partial failure of the autumn crops in Terai. The principal imports affected were cotton piece goods, twist and yarn, and salt. The fall in value of the two first-named articles is attributed partly to the fact that prices ruled high during the year, which tended to reduce the importation, and partly to depression of trade from the bad harvest. The decrease in the value of the salt imported is partly accounted for by the reduction in the duties charged and the consequent reduction in price.

FRONTIER
STATES.
Sikkim and
Bhutan.

The seasons in Sikkim were favourable, and the crops were plentiful. The ryot consequently enjoyed a prosperous year, but the market was affected by the scarcity prevailing in Eastern and Southern Bengal, and the price of food grains in Sikkim was high. There were a few cases of small-pox of a mild type, but the public health was generally good. The finances of the State were satisfactory. The reserve fund amounted to £8,600. The gross total revenue during the year was £13,700, and the expenditure amounted to £11,200.

Friendly relations with the Bhutan State were maintained during the year under review. The Political Agent, Sikkim, who made a tour in the State in May and June 1906, was received with every mark of respect and attention. The State was satisfactorily administered by Sir Ugyen Wangchuk, K.C.I.E., the Tongsa Penlop.

Frontier
Tribes of
Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

Information as to the Native State of Manipur is given on p. 187. The frontier tribes of Eastern Bengal and Assam were generally well-behaved throughout the year, and no serious disturbance of the peace occurred. The blockade instituted against two sections of the Mishmis, owing to the murder in 1905 of three British subjects, was maintained during the year under review. Relations with the Naga Hill tribes were friendly, but several inter-tribal raids occurred during the year. In the Garo Hills there was some unrest in connection with an agitation to recover for the Garos possession of a large tract of country which has for years formed part of a zamindari in the Goalpara District. Two outrages were committed on the southern border of the Lushai Hills District during the year under review. The offenders in both cases were men of Zongling, a village about seven miles south of the southern border of the district. In one case a man named Raiawanga and his wife and son were carried off from a revenue paying village, presumably within the border. The man was strangled on the way. The wife and son subsequently effected their escape. In the second case a boy, eight years old, was seized and carried away from the village of Siata in order to enforce payment of a claim made by the Zongling people against the Siata villagers. The boy having been released, action to obtain redress was postponed until the cold weather. In connection with these incidents the whole question of the arrangements on the southern boundary of the Lushai Hills District may probably have to be considered.

In the Khasi and Jaintia Hills there were many disputes during the year between the various Chiefs as to the boundaries of their States. These matters were almost all settled by local enquiry. No incident of political importance occurred. Measures were taken to fix the number of guns held by the different States, and the Chiefs were reminded that ammunition can only legally be obtained from the licensed vendor in Shillong on a permit signed by the Deputy Commissioner.

BURMA.
The Chin
Hills.

The most noticeable event of the year under review in the Chin Hills and adjacent frontier tracts was the massacre of twenty-seven Shandus by Kongs at the village of Bahe in the unadministered territory north of the Hill District of Arakan. This incident occurred in December 1906. Measures were taken to protect the Northern Arakan Frontier in case the Shandus might attack the Kongs and follow them into administered territory. The Shandus were, however, prevailed on not to make reprisals pending the orders of Government; and measures for a settlement of the case were deferred till the cold weather.

Apart from the feeling of unrest caused by these disturbances, the year was uneventful in the Chin Hills, and relations between tribes in the administered and unadministered tracts were satisfactory. Crime in the district was light. Agricultural conditions were for the most part satisfactory. New crops and new methods of cultivation were commending themselves to the people. A Chin Civil Police Force was instituted during the year. A large number of unlicensed guns were withdrawn from the northern tribes.

The Kachin
Hills.

In the Kachin Hills District, relations with the trans-frontier tribes under Chinese control continued on the whole to be satisfactory. The comparative immunity from disturbance enjoyed on the Chinese frontier was not shared by that part of the Myitkyina District which borders on unadministered territory. On the eastern section of the northern administrative boundary of

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that district several raids of a serious nature were committed during the year by Kachins from across the N'Maikha. The gravest outrage was a preconcerted attack on the temporary military police post at Anche by Kachins from the Sana tract west of the Malikha. The post had been forewarned, and the attack was easily repulsed. The general condition of the people in the administered Kachin area was prosperous, and no difficulty was experienced in collecting the year's tribute. The experiment of enlisting Kachins in the Military Police Force continued to give satisfactory results. Steps were taken to regulate the possession of firearms in the hill tracts in the east of the Myitkyina District.

Conditions on the external frontier of the Northern Shan States continued normal during the year under review. The annual conference between the local officers and the Chinese authorities of the adjoining prefectures of Yunnan took place in December 1906, and an amicable settlement of many pending cases was arrived at. The internal condition of the five States which form the charge of the Superintendent of the Northern Division was one of undisturbed tranquillity, and the people were prosperous and contented. Economic conditions were on the whole satisfactory. The rainfall was normal and the rice crop was above the average. The cultivation of tea continued to extend in the Western States. Among adverse agricultural occurrences the chief were the continued mortality of cattle from rinderpest and a plague of caterpillars. Both imports into and exports from Burma increased in value. The increase under the former head is attributed to heavier extraction of forest produce. So far as could be judged the financial position of the several States continued to be satisfactory.

Northern
Shan States.

The external frontier of the Southern Shan States remained undisturbed throughout the year. The construction of permanent boundary pillars on the Chinese frontier proceeded smoothly and rapidly, the work being facilitated by the ready co-operation of the Chinese officials. Cordial relations existed with the French officials beyond the Mekong. No incidents of importance occurred on the Siamese frontier. The internal political affairs of the 38 States which form the charge of the Superintendent of the Southern Division were generally satisfactory and call for but little comment, except in the case of Mawknai, where a series of incendiary fires has been attributed to the dissatisfaction with financial reforms instituted by Hkun Nè, who was appointed administrator on the death of the young Chief in November 1906 and the succession of his brother who is a minor. The rainfall in the Southern Division was irregular, and agricultural conditions were not favourable. The only crops which were moderately successful were potatoes and cotton. There was no fresh outbreak of cattle disease, but in some districts the outbreak of the previous year had not yet been stamped out. Rules were recommended to the Chiefs with the object of preventing a recrudescence of the disease. Trade was adversely affected by the prevalence of plague in Burma, and the heavy mortality of the previous year among beasts of burden. Nevertheless the volume of trade with Burma is reported to have shown a considerable increase, which is attributed chiefly to larger imports. The year was comparatively free from serious crime, while ordinary crime was dealt with more successfully than in the past. Amongst Public Works, the principal work of the year was the completion by the Sawbwa of Yawngghwe of a navigable canal from Yawngghwe Lake to Mawlibsat, a point on the railway to the Southern Shan States, the construction of which is under consideration. Good progress was made during the year in locating the proposed line, and a final survey has now been commenced. Useful work was done by the Chiefs in most of the States in road-making and communications.

Southern
Shan States.

The rainfall in Karenni was irregular and unsatisfactory, and the price of food-stuffs was very high. The trade in lac and cutch flourished, and on the whole the condition of the people was prosperous. The State of Kantarawadi sustained a great loss in the death of its Sawbwa Sarolawi. He had administered the State with ability and success for many years. He has been succeeded by his step-son Hkun Nan.

Karenni.

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Hyderabad.

The report on the administration of the Hyderabad State for the year 1906-07 was not available when the present Statement was prepared.

The following information in regard to the affairs of the State during the year 1905-06 was given in last year's Statement:—

"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 His Highness 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.

The rainfall in the Mysore State during the year under review was 44.44 inches, as against 27.37 in the preceding year. From an agricultural point of view the rains, though somewhat late, were, on the whole, favourable, and greatly relieved the anxiety caused by the deficient rainfall of the two previous years. The public health was not, however, so good as in the preceding year. There was an increase in the number of cases of both cholera and small-pox, and plague was still prevalent. The Representative Assembly held their twenty-third session at Mysore on the 1st October 1906, when 220 out of the 280 delegates were present. The original Land Survey and Settlement operations of the whole State were completed during the year, and the bulk of the work to be done by the Survey Department will, in future, consist of revision survey. Amongst the Legislative Regulations passed during the year under review, the following may be noted:—

Regulation IV. of 1906.—To consolidate and amend the law relating to Mines in Mysore. This Regulation, amongst other things, makes illegal the possession of unwrought gold within the mining area, provides for the weeding out of the mining area of all undesirable characters, and empowers the Sanitary Board to frame bye-laws and to levy taxes and rates in the area under its administration.

Regulation I. of 1907.—To establish a Legislative Council in Mysore. This Regulation is intended to associate with the Mysore Government a certain number of officials and non-officials qualified by practical experience and knowledge of local conditions and requirements, so as to secure the

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benefit of criticism from different points of view in the discussion of measures before the Council. The Legislative Council, under the terms of the Regulation, is constituted by the Dewan and two Councillors as *ex-officio* members and not less than 10 or more than 15 additional members to be nominated by Government and to hold office for two years at a time, not less than two-fifths of the additional members being non-officials. The work of the Council is confined to the consideration and passing of measures introduced at its meetings; the enactment of every measure resting with His Highness the Maharaja.

The work of the Police force was satisfactory, and crime was light. The Forest Administration was good and the results were satisfactory. In the matter of mining and prospecting for minerals the year was one of considerable activity. Reference has been made to the gold production of the Mysore gold mines in Chapter X. of the present Statement. The aggregate expenditure incurred in connection with Public Works during the year under review amounted to £311,200, being £22,500 less than in the year 1905-06. The outlay on the Cauvery Power Scheme during the year amounted to £39,000. The total capital invested in the scheme up to the 30th June 1907 was £133,000, and the net revenue realised in 1906-07 was £118,000. During the year under review no new railway construction was undertaken by the State. The length of lines remained the same as in the preceding year, viz., 401 miles metre gauge and 10 miles standard gauge. Special attention continued to be paid to education. The expenditure on education from all sources amounted during the year under review to £96,300. Over 56 per cent. of this sum was provided out of State Funds. The financial condition of the State was satisfactory. The revenue collected during the year amounted to £1,477,400, as against £1,435,800 in the preceding year. The expenditure amounted to £1,348,700, as compared with £1,358,800 in 1905-06. The cash balance at the close of the year was £660,000.

The latest information available as to the administration of the Baroda State is contained in the Report for the year ended 31st July 1906. Baroda.

During the period dealt with, His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar was absent on a tour in Europe and America, and the affairs of the State were conducted by the Council of Administration.

The rainfall in 1905-06 was below the average of the five preceding years, and was badly distributed. In the Kadi district damage was caused by heavy rains, while in the Amreli district the rains were generally scanty, and it failed in the latter part of the season. Famine conditions ensued, and it again became necessary to open relief works. These conditions were confined to the Amreli district. The relief operations were well conducted. Liberal *tacavi* advances and timely suspensions and remissions of land revenue were granted. The arrangements for the supply of fodder were successful in preserving many of the agricultural cattle. There was no loss of life through famine, and the public health throughout the State was generally satisfactory. Expenditure on famine relief, apart from *tacavi* advances, during the year under review, amounted to about £25,000, as against £21,000 in the preceding year. There was a very considerable decrease in plague cases and deaths.

The most important new Acts passed during the year were the Hindu Marriage Act and the Benevolent Societies' Act. The Acts for the Prevention of Infant Marriages and the Religious Endowment Act, referred to in last year's Statement, were in operation and showed good results. The measure for the separation of Judicial and Executive Duties was further developed during the year under review. The decentralisation of the Revenue Department, which was effected in 1904-05, is reported to have been attended by satisfactory results.

During the year under review more waste land was brought under cultivation, and less land was relinquished by cultivators. The land-revenue demands and collections were greater than in the preceding year. The following are the figures:—Demand and Collection in 1905-06 were respectively £569,000 and £259,000, as against £499,000 and £337,000 in the year 1904-05.

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Satisfactory progress was made in land settlement and revision of settlement operations in the various Talukas of the State. The reforms instituted in the system of State Customs Duties, in 1904-05, were virtually completed in the year under review. Under the revised rules a double system of taxation has been generally avoided, and a large number of articles have been exempted from duty altogether. A marked advance in Industries has been made within recent years, but Baroda is reported to be still somewhat backward as compared with the great industrial towns of Western India. There were 59 ginning factories and 5 cotton presses in different parts of the State during the year under report. These figures show an increase of 10 factories and one cotton press over the figures of the preceding year.

The Expenditure on Public Works during the year under review amounted to about £126,000. The State Railways covered 250 miles, open for traffic, while 40 miles were under construction. The total capital expended on railways was £566,000, and net profit in the year 1905 was over 7 per cent.

The financial condition of the State was generally satisfactory. The receipts for the year ending 31st July 1906 amounted to £1,175,000, and the disbursements to £1,047,000—as against £758,700 and £972,400 respectively in the preceding year.

Satisfactory progress in all branches of Education is reported during the year. The total expenditure under this head during the year under review amounted to £10,000. The most important reform was the extension of free and compulsory education to the whole State. The system had been in force in one Taluka of the Amreli District since 1893 with satisfactory results. The rule adopted is that all boys between the ages of 7 and 12, and all girls between 7 and 10, should attend schools under penalty for non-attendance. The special grant for the purpose has been increased to £33,000 per annum.

Some useful reforms in Police administration were initiated during the year. The work of the Force was generally satisfactory, and crime was normal.

Rajputana.

The following information as to the Native States of Rajputana is for the year 1905-06. The report for the year 1906-07 had not been received when the present Statement was prepared.

Scarcity existed in most parts of Rajputana during the year owing to deficient rainfall. In Bikaner, Jhalawar and Jaisalmer, the failure of the monsoon was partial and there was no marked distress; but famine conditions prevailed in Jodhpur, Udaipur, Tonk, Kishangarh, Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur, Karauli, and Dholpur. Prompt action to meet distress was taken by the Durbars of these States. Relief works were organised; revenue demands were suspended; and loans and advances were made to cultivators. The public health during the year was satisfactory on the whole, but plague was prevalent in Alwar and Tonk, and in a less degree in other States. The number of deaths from the disease recorded in Alwar during the year was 4,715, and in Tonk 600. In the latter State epidemics of cholera and small-pox are also recorded. In spite of the adverse conditions caused by drought, and consequent losses of revenue sustained by many States, some progress was made with administrative measures, especially in matters connected with Public Works and Irrigation. The total outlay on Public Works in the Native States for a period of 18 months, ended 30th September 1906, amounted to £440,000. The expenditure for the 12 months, ended 31st March 1905, as shown in last year's Statement, was £228,900. Investigations in connection with the Rajputana Protective Irrigation Works were continued during the year under review by the Superintending Engineer, and schemes for 72 projects were worked out and forwarded to the Durbars concerned. The result of the investigations carried out during the 3½ years ended April 1906 is briefly as follows:

- (i) Every State in Rajputana, with the exception of Karauli and Jaisalmer, was visited by Colonel Sir Swinton Jacob, the Consulting Engineer, and by the Superintending Engineer, Protective Irrigation Works.
- (ii) Reports on irrigation in each State have been prepared and printed.
- (iii) In the seven States which have engineers of their own and a recognised Public Works Department, the Consulting Engineer has recorded his opinion on all the projects on which his advice was requested.

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- (iv) In the remaining eleven States without engineers or recognised Public Works Departments of their own, and for the Istimrari area of the Ajmer district, 100 projects in all were approved by the Consulting Engineer.

The total expenditure incurred by the Government of India on the investigation up to the year 1906-07 amounted to about £17,000. It may be noted that when the rains failed in 1905 seven irrigation projects, the estimated cost of which was £32,700, were put in hand by the Shahpura, Bundi, Tonk, and Karauli States, the intention being to complete them before the rains of 1907.

The total Imperial outlay on Public Works for the year ended 31st March 1906, excluding Irrigation and Famine Works in British territory, amounted to £26,000 as against £10,000 in the preceding year. As regards State Railways, the following was the position at the close of the year 1906-07:—

- (1) The Jaipur Sawai-Madhopur Railway, under construction by the Jaipur Durbar: 32·18 miles open, and 40·66 miles under construction.
- (2) Dholpur Bari Railway, under construction by the Dholpur Durbar: 19·25 miles under construction.

The following administrative changes took place during the year under review:—The Chief of Kishangarh, His Highness Maharaja Madan Singh, was invested with ruling powers on the 11th December 1905, and in April 1906 a reorganisation of the State Council, giving greater power and responsibility to individual members, was introduced. In the Tonk State, the arrangement under which the Political Agent had exercised a certain measure of control in all the Departments of the State was modified at the close of the year. The Chiefs of Bharatpur and Jaisalmer being minors, the States continued 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 Resident, Western Rajputana States.

Information as to the Central India Agency for the year 1906-07 was not available when the present Statement was prepared. The following are the facts and figures for the year 1905-06:—

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales paid a visit to Indore in November 1905. On the 16th of that month His Royal Highness held a public Durbar, which was attended by a large number of chiefs and notables.

In the southern and south-eastern portions of Central India, the rainfall during the year under review was good and well distributed, but in the greater part of Malwa it was much below the average, while in North Gwalior and Bundelkhand there was a serious shortage, which was also the case, though in a less marked degree, in the Baghelkhand Agency. Scarcity which deepened into famine began to make itself felt in September 1905. Relief works were instituted in the Gwalior State, the Bundelkhand Agency, and the Alampur Pargana of Indore. The total number of units relieved in these districts during the year under review was 9,213,781. At the close of the year—31st March 1906—there were still 103,595 persons in receipt of relief. The history of the famine belongs more properly to the year 1906-07, but it may be noted that the States faced the situation with courage, and that the arrangements made were on the whole excellent and successful. It is believed that there was practically no loss of human life attributable to starvation, but the loss of cattle was very severe.

Apart from an epidemic of small-pox, the year was on the whole healthy. There was a marked decrease of plague in the earlier part of the year, but hopes which were entertained of the disappearance of the disease were disappointed by a recrudescence in 1906-07.

The report on the working of the Agency Police was generally satisfactory and a further decrease of crime is noted. The report on the working of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department of the year 1905 shows that 98 cases of Thagi and Dakaiti occurred in Central India during that year, as against 108 cases in 1904. There was, however, an increase in the value of the property plundered, while the number of persons killed and wounded was reported to have been 7 and 69, as against 4 and 50 in 1904.

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Four cases of poisoning occurred during the year 1905. Of these, three occurred within the Indore State, while the remaining one took place in the Dhar State.

The total outlay on Imperial Public Works amounted to £11,000 as against £31,600 for the preceding year. Of this amount, £9,800 was spent on "Communications," £7,500 on "Establishments," £9,000 on "Civil Buildings," £1,000 on "Military Works," and £1,800 on "Protective Irrigation Works." As regards "Communications," the position at the end of the year 1905-06 was as follows:—

Metalled roads—

	Miles.
Maintained by the Imperial Public Works Department	785
Maintained by Native States	1,866

At the close of the year 1906-07, 183.53 miles of the Gwalior Light Railway were open to traffic, and 66.39 miles were under construction by the State.

The survey for the Nerbada Valley Railway, to connect Barwaha on the Rajputana-Malwa line with Bodeli on the Gackwar's State Railway, was commenced in March 1906. Investigations as to protective irrigation works were carried out by the consulting engineer, who personally visited many of the Native States during the year under review. The Imperial outlay under this head amounted to £1,333.

Some progress was made in educational matters. The States of Central India now possess over 900 educational institutions, which include four colleges teaching up to the University B.A. standard, and 25 High Schools teaching up to the entrance standard. The Gwalior and Indore States have efficient and well-organised Educational Departments. States in the other Agencies are more backward, and much remains to be done there in regard to arrangements for the inspection of schools and for the supply of a qualified teaching staff. The foundation stone of the new buildings of the Daly College at Indore was laid on the 4th November 1905. The interest displayed in the movement was active and widespread, and the money subscribed in Central India amounts to a total of over £74,000.

The administration of the Indore State under the Council of Regency continued to be satisfactory. The finances of State were in good order, and there was a closing balance of £1,534,000; the expenditure on extraordinary Public Works amounted to about £68,000.

Bengal.

The seasons in the Cooch Behar State during 1906-07 were not entirely favourable to agriculture. A heavy flood, which disorganised traffic and did much damage to the early rice, occurred in August 1906, while the late rice suffered owing to drought. The jute crop was good, however, and the general condition of the people was prosperous. Some further progress was made in the cultivation of tobacco, but the industry was still in an experimental stage. The public health was normal. Malaria was less prevalent than in the preceding year, but the number of cases of cholera increased. The administration of criminal justice continued to be satisfactory. There was very little heinous crime, and only one case of murder was reported during the year. The financial condition of the State was satisfactory. The total revenue amounted to £165,000 and the expenditure to £161,000, as against £161,000 and £155,000 respectively in the preceding year. There was a closing balance of about £76,000. The outlay on Public Works amounted to £12,500 as compared with an outlay of £8,000 in 1905-06. The gross earnings of the State Railway amounted to £11,000 as against £10,000 in the preceding year. The progress of education continued to be satisfactory. The Victoria College building was completed during the year.

In the Native States in the Chota Nagpur Division and the tributary Mahals of Orissa the seasons were favourable to agriculture. In many of the States the crops were excellent; the only marked exception being the Narsingpur State, where the rainfall was neither timely nor well distributed and the harvests were poor. A brisk export trade in food grains was carried on, and there was a rise in prices, whereby the cultivators were benefited, while the labouring classes who are usually paid in kind were not adversely

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affected. The public health was generally good. The benefits of vaccination were more widely appreciated by the people; and the State dispensaries continued to increase in popularity. The Chiefs continued to take considerable interest in the agricultural, industrial, and educational development of their States, and were beginning to realise the great economic importance of proper management of their forests. The increased interest taken by them in this matter was shown in a general strengthening of forest establishments and in a stricter enforcement of forest rules.

The following administrative changes took place during the year under review:—Owing to the death of the Chiefs of Rehrakhol and Hindol, and the abdication of the Chief of Keunjhar, the administration of these three Orissa States was undertaken by Government. The other States under Government management at the close of the year were Baramba, Bonai, Kalahandi, Nayagarh, Narsingpur, Nilgiri, Pal Lahera, and Kharsawan.

The financial position of the States under Government management was considerably strengthened. The same remark applies to the States under the administration of their chiefs, with the exception of four small Orissa States, viz.:—Athgarh, Rampur, Daspalla, and Khondpara. The expenditure on public works in the several States was adequate, and many improvements were effected in roads, buildings, &c.

There was a slight increase in cognisable crime. The behaviour of the Police forces employed in the States was generally satisfactory. Administrative reforms were being introduced in some States, and the Police forces in other States were being reorganised. The reorganisation of the Police in the Kalahandi State was effected, and the results were satisfactory. The progress made in the matter of education was satisfactory. There was an increase in the number of schools and of scholars.

During the year under review arrangements were made for entrusting the administration of the Manipur State to His Highness Raja Chura Chand Singh, who had attained his majority. The change was effected on the 15th May 1907, when the Superintendent formally made over the charge to His Highness and a Darbar. The State was in a sound financial position. The revenue amounted to about £38,000 and the expenditure to £36,000, and there was a closing balance of £17,700. From an agricultural point of view the year was not a prosperous one. The price of rice rose, and it was found necessary to place some restriction on its exportation. The hill tribes caused no trouble during the year. Measures for their disarmament were proceeded with. A reduction of the strength of the Military police from 330 of all ranks to 180 was effected during the year.

Eastern
Bengal and
Assam.

In Hill Tippera unseasonable rain injured the cotton crop in the uplands and the early rice crop in the plains. The price of food-stuffs rose and occasioned some distress among the hill people. Test relief works were opened, but they attracted very few of the people. The public health was, on the whole, good, and the number of immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants. The State dispensaries and the Victoria Memorial Hospital, Agartala, were reported to have done good work and to be growing in popularity.

Information as to the frontier tribes of Assam will be found on p. 180.

The harvests in the Rampur State were good, and the year from an agricultural point of view was a prosperous one. The prices of food grains were however high, and plague was again prevalent in the State. Remedial measures were adopted, and a special hospital was opened. Sanitation and lighting were improved, and vaccination operations made some progress. The financial position of the State was satisfactory. There was a closing balance of about £16,000. Collections of land revenue were satisfactory, and outstanding arrears were somewhat reduced by timely remissions. His Highness the Nawab made a donation of £4,441 towards the Medical College at Lucknow.

United
Provinces of
Agra and
Oudh.

The Tehri State enjoyed a prosperous year, which was not marked by any event of political importance. The finances of the State were in a satisfactory condition, and a surplus of nearly £106,000 is shown. Some progress was

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made in matters of sanitation, education, and public works. The valuable forests in the State, many of which are managed by the Imperial Forest Department, yielded a much larger income than in past years.

Punjab.

The arrangements for the purposes of supervision of the Native States in the Punjab remained as in 1905-06, the States being grouped as follows:—

- (i) Patiala, Jind, Nabha, and Bahawalpur, in the charge of the Political Agent for Phulkian States and Bahawalpur;
- (ii) Kapurthala, Mandi, Maler Kotlah, 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) Chamba in the political charge of the Commissioner of Lahore; and
- (v) Bilaspur, Bashahr, Naagarh, Keonthal, and numerous other small States in the Simla Hills, in the charge of the Superintendent of Hill States, Simla.

In the Phulkian States and Bahawalpur the seasons were favourable, and good harvests were secured. The year was uneventful except for the death of the Nawab of Bahawalpur, which occurred on the 7th February 1907, as recorded in last year's Statement. The Nawab's infant son was recognised as his successor, and arrangements were made for the administration of the State by a Council of Regency of Native officials, under the direct supervision of the Political Agent. The finances of the State were in good order, and there was a balance of £190,700.

In the Patiala State there was no change during the year under review in the Council of Regency appointed to conduct the administration of the State during the minority of the Chief. The finances of the State were in a very satisfactory condition. The returns for the year show a credit balance of £305,000. The expenditure on public works amounted to about £86,000. The year was an unhealthy one in the Patiala State owing to a prevalence of malarial fever and plague. The States of Jind and Nabha enjoyed a fairly prosperous year, but plague was prevalent in the latter State.

The administration of the States in the Jullundur Division proceeded smoothly. The Raja of Kapurthala was absent in Europe for five months of the year under review. During his absence the State was managed by the Administrative Council. In the Mandi State excessive rain did considerable damage to roads and buildings; and a destructive fire occurred in the town of Mandi. The shops burnt down have been rebuilt by the State, and opportunity has been taken to effect various improvements in the streets. The public health was generally good.

The administration of the Sirmur State continued to be efficiently conducted by the Raja, who was invested during the year with enlarged powers as a ruler. The harvests in the Maler Kotla State were good, and apart from the plague the public health was satisfactory. The finances of the State were well managed.

The administration of the Faridkot State was satisfactorily conducted by the State Council. The Raja, who is a minor, entered the Aitchison College as a pupil in November 1906. The finances of the State were in good order. Considerable progress was made with public works. The health of the people was good, except for the plague which broke out again in the State in January 1907.

In the Delhi Division plague was prevalent during the year in all the States except Loharu. Full ruling powers were conferred on the Sardar of Kalsia State in February 1906. His conduct of affairs was satisfactory. Owing to the unstable condition of the finances of the Loharu State, an officer of the Punjab Commission was deputed with Nawab's concurrence to investigate them. Measures were being taken to effect the necessary reforms.

In the Chamba State, which, as before mentioned, is in the political charge of the Commissioners of Lahore, the year was on the whole a

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prosperous one. The financial condition of the State was sound. Considerable attention was paid to public works. The health of the people was not good owing to prevalence of fever.

In the Simla Hill States the year was an uneventful one. The measures taken to restore order in the Doira Kawan tract of the Bashahr State, referred to in last year's Statement, were attended by success and no further trouble arose.

There was no change during the year under review in the form of administration of any of the 15 Feudatory States of the Central Provinces. Nine States were under the rule of their own Chiefs; and six, viz., Bastar, Sarangarh, Kawardha, Chhuikadan, Nandgaon, and Udaipur, the chiefs being minors, remained under the management of Superintendents appointed by Government. The five States—Sirguja, Udaipur, Jashpur, Korea, and Changbhakhar, taken over from the Bengal Government in October 1905—are reported to have cheerfully fallen into line with the other Feudatories. There was a general and steady improvement in the material prosperity of all the States. The crops were good, and favourable rains ensured adequate employment for agricultural labourers, whilst trade was generally brisk. The year was on the whole a healthy one, though the death-rate was somewhat higher than that of the preceding year. Slight outbreaks of cholera occurred in Khairagarh and in Chhuikadan, and there was also an epidemic of plague in Nandgaon, which was, however, quickly stamped out. The financial condition of the States was satisfactory. Government securities to the value of £36,000 was held by the Chiefs, as compared with £23,000 in the preceding year. Steps were taken to introduce a regular system of land settlement. Crime continued to be very light, and on the whole justice, both civil and criminal, was administered with reasonable promptitude. Excise revenue increased by about 30 per cent. The increase was distributed over all the States, and was accompanied by a satisfactory reduction in the number of liquor shops. Education continued to make steady progress in the States, and several new schools were started. The Rajkumar College made satisfactory progress during the year. The total expenditure of all States on Public Works was about £15,000.

There was a great improvement in the agricultural condition of the Native States under the political supervision of the Government of Bombay during the year 1906-07. The improvement was general and was not confined as in the preceding year to Kathiawar and Gujarat, but was shared by the States in the southern part of the Presidency. While, therefore, the Northern States enjoyed another good year, the Southern States, which, as shown in last year's Statement, had been fighting against the adversities of famine and scarcity, were afforded welcome relief. Janjira was the only State where the climatic conditions were unfavourable and the harvests were poor.

In nearly all the States returning prosperity was accompanied by a decrease of crime. Revenue was collected without difficulty, and the chiefs and administrators, being freed from the necessity for heavy expenditure upon famine administration, were for the most part able to devote money to works of utility, and an increased expenditure on public works, education, and medical relief is recorded.

There was a rise in the general death rate, but no great reliance can at present be placed on the returns furnished by the States. Though there was a general decrease in the number of deaths from plague, the disease was severe in Mahi Kantha, and an outbreak of cholera in the Southern Maratha States caused nearly 1,000 deaths.

There was a general rise in the number of schools accompanied by a general fall in the number of scholars. The decrease in attendance is accounted for by the agricultural prosperity, which created a demand for the employment of children in the fields.

His Highness Jam Shri Javatsinghji of Navanagar died on the 14th August 1906. He was succeeded on the *gadi* by His Highness Jam Shri Ranjitsinghji Vibhaji, who was installed by the Agent to the Governor on the 11th March 1907. This is the only administrative change of importance which occurred in the States during the year under review.

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The Khairpur State (Sind) suffered a severe loss in the death of the Vigir, Sardar Muhammad Yakub Khan, C.I.E.

There was an increase in the total value of the sea-borne trade of Cutch and Kathiawar. The following are the figures :-

	Value of Exports.		Value of Imports.	
	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.
	£	£	£	£
Kathiawar -	861,000	1,567,000	1,559,000	1,436,000
Cutch	80,000	101,000	588,000	607,000

Madras.

The State year in the Travancore State closes on the 15th August. The following facts and figures as to the State are for the year ending the 15th August 1906 :

The seasons during the period under review were generally unfavourable to agriculturists and prices ruled high. The total revenue of the State, excluding deposits, &c., amounted to £633,000 and the expenditure to £694,000, the result being a deficit of £61,000. The year closed with a balance of about £149,000. There was a loss of revenue in salt of £53,000, which is accounted for by reduction of taxation.

The total value of the external trade was £3,017,000 as compared with £1,528,000 in the preceding year. The exports contributed 63 per cent. of the total; but the imports also increased by 11 per cent., as compared with the preceding year. The outlay on Public Works under all heads amounted to £143,000, of which sum £30,000 was devoted to the Kodayar irrigation project, the main dam of which was completed on the 15th June 1906 after 9½ years' work. In the matter of education steady progress was maintained during the year. The public health was good, and crime was light.

As in Travancore, the State year in Cochin closes on the 15th August. The following facts and figures as to Cochin are for the year ending 15th August 1906.

Climate conditions in the summer were favourable to agriculture, but there was a failure of the winter rains. Prices rose and remained high throughout the year. The year was on the whole a healthy one, and there was a decrease in the number of small-pox cases. The total receipts and disbursements under service heads amounted to £222,500 and £226,000 respectively, as against £222,000 and £221,000 in the preceding year. The revenue collections realised 98·5 per cent. of the demand, and coercive processes and sales were rarely resorted to. Nearly £133,000 of old arrears were written off. Revenue from salt declined owing to the reduction of duty, but consumption increased. The Forest Department was reorganised, and good progress was made with measures for the development of the State forests. Further progress was made with the forest tramway, mentioned in last year's Statement, and at the close of the year under review 26½ miles were open for traffic. The total expenditure on Public Works amounted to about £20,000.

The report from the Pudukottai State is for the year ending the 30th June 1907. His Highness the Raja visited Europe for reasons of health, and was absent from his State throughout the year. The rainfall during the period under review was ample and well distributed. The harvests were good. The condition of the people who had suffered from two successive years of scarcity was much improved, but large arrears of land revenue were still outstanding. The public health was not good, and 309 deaths from cholera and 327 deaths from small-pox are recorded. The receipts for the year were £111,600 and the expenditure £81,600, leaving a surplus of £30,000 and a closing balance of £84,800 as against an opening balance of £54,800. The working of the Police was not wholly satisfactory, and a scheme of reorganisation was under consideration. Educational matters continued to receive attention, and a scheme for promoting elementary instruction was sanctioned during the year.

NATIVE
STATES.

The Banganapalle State remained under the administration of the Assistant Political Agent during the year under review. The Nawab, who succeeded his father in 1905 and who has not yet received full powers, took a prominent part in the judicial and administrative work. The early crops were above the average, but the later crops suffered owing to a shortage of rainfall. Prices of food grains rose, and the rise was accompanied by an increase in the rate of wages. The revenue collections were good, and coercive measures were seldom resorted to. Small-pox was prevalent during the year, and there was an increase in the general death rate. Crime was light. The Police force was reorganised during the year, and satisfactory progress was made with the work of reorganising other branches of the administration.

The Sandur State continued to be administered by the Divan under the control of the Political Agent, owing to the minority of the Chief. The rainfall during the year was insufficient and the crops were poor. There was no actual scarcity in the State itself, and prices rose owing to scarcity in the adjoining British districts. The principal feature of interest was an increase of the mining revenue. The chief mineral product of the State is manganese, which is now being worked by a Calcutta firm.

CHAPTER XVII.

MILITARY AND MARINE SERVICES.

ARMY.

ARMY.

The sanctioned establishment for 1906-07 was as follows :—

British Troops	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74,516
Miscellaneous Officers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,137
Native Troops (including European Officers)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	160,686

Total - - - - - 236,339

Corresponding Total for 1905-1906 - - - - - 232,269

The actual strength and distribution of the Army in India on the 1st April 1907 were as follows :—

	Number of Officers and Men.		Number of Officers and Men.
NORTHERN COMMAND.		EASTERN COMMAND— <i>cont.</i>	
<i>British.</i>		<i>Native.</i>	
Cavalry (3 regiments)	1,920	Cavalry (8 regiments)	5,070
Artillery (24 batteries and companies, with ammunition columns)	3,882	Artillery (with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	300
Engineers	8	Sappers and Miners (6 companies)	1,122
Infantry (14 battalions)	14,514	Infantry (26 battalions)	23,684
	20,324		30,176
<i>Native.</i>			51,104
Cavalry (16 regiments)	9,974		
Artillery (9 batteries, with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	1,518	SECUNDERABAD DIVISION	
Sappers and Miners (5 companies)	826	<i>British.</i>	
Infantry (14 battalions)	40,583	Cavalry (2 regiments)	1,304
	55,931	Artillery (11 batteries and companies with ammunition columns)	2,004
	76,255	Engineers	33
		Infantry (5 battalions)	5,172
			8,513
WESTERN COMMAND.		<i>Native.</i>	
<i>British.</i>		Cavalry (3 regiments)	1,907
Cavalry (1 regiment)	630	Artillery (with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	171
Artillery (34 batteries and companies, with ammunition columns)	5,634	Sappers and Miners (7 companies)	1,178
Engineers	96	Infantry (13 battalions)	9,526
Infantry (14 battalions)	14,314		12,782
	20,704		21,295
<i>Native.</i>		BURMA DIVISION.	
Cavalry (12½ regiments)	7,837	<i>British.</i>	
Artillery (with ammunition columns and Native drivers of British batteries)	1,263	Artillery (2 companies)	341
Sappers and Miners (10 companies)	1,622	Infantry (4 battalions)	4,235
Infantry (44 battalions)	35,672		4,576
	46,394	<i>Native.</i>	
	67,098	Artillery (2 batteries)	657
EASTERN COMMAND.		Sappers and Miners (2 companies)	220
<i>British.</i>		Infantry (7 battalions)	5,895
Cavalry (3 regiments)	2,029		6,772
Artillery (21 batteries and companies, with ammunition columns)	3,561		11,348
Engineers	48		
Infantry (15 battalions)	15,290		
	20,928		

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— <i>cont.</i>	
<i>Native.</i>		<i>Native.</i>	
Bodyguards (Governor-General's and Governors')	271	Cavalry (39½ regiments)	25,059
Resident's escort, Nepal	89	Artillery (11 batteries, and Native details of ammunition columns, and Native drivers of British batteries)	6,939
	360	Sappers and Miners (30 companies)	4,968
		Infantry (134 battalions)	115,449
			152,415
GRAND TOTAL.			227,460
<i>British.</i>		Officers on the Staff	
Cavalry (9 regiments)	5,883		371
Artillery (92 batteries and companies, and British details of ammunition columns)	15,422		228,434
Engineers	185		
Infantry (52 battalions)	53,555		
	75,045		

In January 1907 the number of battalions of Native Infantry which are regularly employed in the Colonies and are not reckoned as part of the Indian Establishment, was reduced from five to four by the return of a battalion from Mauritius. Two battalions from the Indian Establishment, however, were still absent on service in China throughout the year.

The total of the Native Army Reserve in India on 1st April 1907 was 32,941.

The net expenditure on the Army (exclusive of Special Defence Works) in 1906-07 was as follows :

	£
Effective charges	15,162,027
Non-effective charges	2,978,249
Total	18,140,276

The corresponding figures for 1905-06 were :—

	£
Effective charges	15,137,287
Non-effective charges	2,940,147
Total	18,077,434

The number of Volunteers in the whole of India on 1st April 1907 was as under :—

	Enrolled strength.	Efficient.
Northern Command	2,322	2,195
Western Command	7,072	6,344
Eastern Command	13,623	12,734
Secunderabad Division	7,792	7,601
Burma Division	2,797	2,682
	33,606	31,556

ARMY.

On the 1st April 1906 the number of enrolled Volunteers was 32,156, of whom 31,556 were efficient. The number of Volunteers enrolled in the Reserve at the end of 1906-07 was 1,717.

The following changes in organisation, &c., came into effect during 1906-07 :—

With a view to rendering service in the native ranks more attractive, the kit-money on enlistment was raised and an annual boot allowance was introduced; it was decided that free grass was to be given to sildar cavalry when on the march or at manoeuvres; and free passages (within certain limits) were sanctioned for men called home on urgent private affairs.

The number of British officers of a native regiment permitted to be absent on combined leave out of India at the same time was raised from four to five. A new rate of pension (£132 a year for 26 years' service) was instituted for officers of the Indian Army.

The military branch of the Indian Medical Service was entirely decentralised; and for the allocation of officers to areas of service on appointment to the civil branch, a system was instituted analogous to that in force in the Indian Civil Service. There was also a reorganisation of the headquarters office of the Director-General of Military Works.

Steady progress was made in carrying out the schemes of the Commander-in-Chief for the reorganisation and redistribution of the Army in India.

MILITARY WORKS.

MILITARY
WORKS.

The expenditure on military works in 1906-07 amounted to £1,076,516. There was also an expenditure of £133,358 on Special Defence Works.

MARINE.

MARINE.

The net expenditure on marine services amounted to £182,321 in 1906-07, as against £392,733 in 1905-06. 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 1907 the Royal Indian Marine consisted of eleven 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 102 executive officers, 72 engineer officers, and 66 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 1,890.

APPENDIX A.

TABLE showing the NET REVENUE and EXPENDITURE in the several PROVINCES of INDIA and in ENGLAND.

	Bengal.		United Provinces.		Punjab.		Burma.		Central Provinces, including Berar.		Eastern Bengal and Assam.	
	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.
REVENUE.												
Land revenue	2,196,357	1,915,452	3,904,658	4,089,274	1,471,201	1,651,744	2,344,400	2,561,769	1,131,154	1,134,361	997,773	1,281,977
Forest	74,491	79,961	160,941	166,394	118,705	107,007	687,855	652,345	162,994	159,417	73,886	87,890
Tributes	—	—	—	—	16,355	14,434	29,351	29,751	—	—	1,671	923
Opium	2,869,259	3,038,807	38,268	40,274	4,900	5,554	40,554	38,478	20,519	31,336	35,787	42,977
Salt	1,076,486	1,062,170	—	—	—	—	114,254	114,254	—	—	60,110	130,092
Stamps	1,213,311	970,783	589,937	607,703	257,098	265,818	244,891	260,346	168,957	162,449	312,439	601,744
Excise	1,121,014	1,071,378	663,363	611,346	237,214	265,475	552,093	509,768	477,337	553,681	397,733	424,422
Provincial rates	602,078	473,235	634,597	658,070	285,910	179,748	121,237	126,693	116,347	82,422	158,380	255,819
Customs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assessed taxes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Registration	1,316,265	1,251,265	7,761	8,145	—	—	80,782	81,240	11,201	10,824	1,848	4,426
Post office	337,778	326,846	139,786	142,969	85,326	91,890	104,108	105,187	37,420	30,791	39,074	68,784
Telegraph	96,474	81,789	33,911	33,204	17,245	18,158	13,493	14,194	15,397	13,996	25,916	55,275
Railways	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Irrigation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	10,734,562	10,691,797	6,266,714	6,515,545	3,193,991	3,527,341	5,206,862	5,165,174	1,959,698	2,017,125	2,009,603	2,954,385
EXPENDITURE.												
Interest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Collection of revenue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General administration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Law and justice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ports and Harbours	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ecclesiastical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Political	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scientific and minor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous civil charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Civil works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Army	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3,399,407	3,181,549	3,071,971	3,380,208	1,771,976	1,969,625	2,913,021	3,310,326	1,512,479	1,506,992	1,308,605	1,711,771

TABLE showing the NET REVENUE and EXPENDITURE in the several PROVINCES of INDIA and in ENGLAND—continued.

	Madras.		Bombay.		North-West Frontier Province.		India. General.		England.	
	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.	1905-06.	1906-07.
REVENUE.										
Land revenue	3,479,152	3,609,785	2,194,994	2,618,233	123,664	143,369	86,210	98,883	—	—
Forest	218,547	218,547	227,440	227,440	8,569	12,178	38,270	58,939	1,269	2,310
Tributes	298,649	298,214	101,912	91,510	—	—	103,727	116,986	—	—
Opium	—	—	565,365	548,068	583	617	—	—	—	—
Salt	1,016,524	919,217	1,060,746	1,102,273	—	—	781,098	766,895	—	—
Stamps	617,454	653,272	410,921	410,921	26,983	27,728	24,941	24,941	—	—
Excise	1,273,394	1,306,780	993,457	947,198	14,080	14,983	80,766	80,766	—	—
Provincial rates	637,161	463,292	298,894	213,218	21,981	14,775	5,971	914	—	—
Customs	300,597	390,267	1,739,820	1,793,183	—	—	1,065	—	—	—
Assessed taxes	174,652	184,572	256,801	312,643	7,750	8,398	131,932	135,439	—	—
Registration	111,085	115,995	44,695	43,438	1,763	1,866	1,246	1,227	—	—
Post office	—	—	—	—	—	—	262,997	210,899	—	—
Telegraph	—	—	—	—	—	—	143,718	134,535	—	—
Railways	—	—	—	—	—	—	8,756,805	10,288,710	—	—
Irrigation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8,238,254	8,396,501	7,756,601	8,460,487	213,206	248,304	10,046,828	11,909,957	—	—
EXPENDITURE.										
Interest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Collection of revenue	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General administration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Law and justice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Police	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ports and Pilotage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eccelesiastical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Political	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scientific and minor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous civil charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Civil works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Army	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marine	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Military works	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other heads	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3,476,576	3,688,640	3,139,930	3,434,085	527,509	486,599	14,773,817	16,436,959	10,466,700	9,851,733

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing the Number of Municipalities in British India, their Receipts and their Expenditure, for the Year 1906-07.

	Bengal.		United Provinces.		Punjab.	North-West Frontier Province.	Central Provinces and Berar.		Madras.		Bombay.		Minor Provinces.	Total.
	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.	Presidency Corporation.	District Municipalities.		
Number of Municipalities	1	123	89	138	10	43	58	49	1	60	1	162	9	719
Population within municipal limits	847,796	2,354,836	3,110,254	2,086,512	161,571	9,37,86	882,638	624,796	59,946	1,915,208	977,822	2,367,418	131,586	16,876,639
Receipts :														
Octroi	—	1,952	227,702	216,555	24,988	—	52,785	—	—	—	117,470	160,247	23,917	823,876
Other Taxation	408,855	214,949	99,977	28,228	1,073	265,919	37,556	37,398	8,706	151,283	439,109	118,227	2,725	1,869,515
Revenue from municipal property and powers apart from Taxation.	55,601	25,788	77,559	57,159	9,191	155,033	23,258	7,968	23,798	48,549	—	79,630	6,454	607,906
Grants and contributions	2,564	31,165	32,168	29,955	399	37,585	10,878	9,914	23,640	18,894	—	36,943	588	234,052
Extraordinary and Debt	92,792	67,725	92,592	30,890	120	169,376	33,031	10,425	46,652	41,897	1,514,345	65,581	1,610	2,173,417
Miscellaneous	21,211	10,134	14,323	29,546	315	15,530	12,215	1,072	8,886	16,526	22,220	7,971	4,308	170,250
Total (1906-07)	584,022	350,812	535,181	391,435	35,187	582,542	169,723	91,787	191,642	277,135	2,138,631	489,249	38,732	5,879,977
Total (1905-06)	572,618	331,142	478,223	360,274	36,285	531,605	143,595	99,043	224,718	275,216	2,646,102	548,400	41,181	6,282,132
Expenditure :														
Cost of Collection and Administration	55,776	26,503	54,863	56,208	4,110	36,722	15,779	6,560	11,401	19,813	46,964	53,923	4,222	391,944
Public Health and Convenience	—	213,529	310,175	188,372	19,679	326,988	83,893	63,254	79,705	153,172	312,615	215,435	17,713	2,353,409
Public Safety	—	20,821	19,610	48,940	5,535	21,789	3,871	3,915	5,017	9,395	57,356	26,584	3,541	261,368
Public Instruction	—	9,431	20,519	29,529	4,006	29,876	15,317	3,300	3,639	26,759	11,054	64,646	2,413	222,547
Interest and Miscellaneous	—	24,282	59,258	31,179	2,212	49,548	7,254	3,799	25,318	19,279	177,550	29,641	6,104	563,534
Extraordinary and Debt	—	48,205	33,917	26,718	181	97,109	26,812	11,294	38,766	48,864	1,496,432	79,331	2,602	1,981,148
Total (1906-07)	—	342,771	498,374	380,946	35,722	561,133	152,927	92,121	163,815	277,282	2,131,071	463,561	36,596	5,776,949
Total (1905-06)	—	318,891	474,897	366,340	36,087	538,810	139,878	90,489	213,033	260,446	2,646,682	536,596	42,458	6,267,980