

INTRODUCTORY NOTES

The system of transliteration followed in this volume is the one in the Table of Transliteration in *The Indian National Bibliography*, Central Reference Library, India. There are, however, a few deviations, (but not in the case of Urdū) such as za for ज्ञ, ṛa for ऋ and ṛha for ॠ (Hindī); and ṭa or ḍa; śa or sa; and ra or ṛa, depending on pronunciation of the corresponding Tamil consonant. Attempt has generally been made to distinguish between the long and short sounds for e and o in the Pūnjābī and Dravidian languages. Some words and names have been spelt in the conventional way, e.g., 'Panchāyat', 'Chhorten', 'Shah', 'Chandra', 'Chatterji', 'Ramakrishna', 'Ishwar' etc. Diacritical marks have not been used for names of recent persons.

PRONUNCIATION

Vowel Sounds

a	—	like u in 'cut'
ā	—	like a in 'father'
i	—	like i in 'tin'
ī	—	like i in 'police'
u	—	like u in 'bull'
ū	—	like u in 'rude'
e	—	like e in 'grey'
ē	—	like ea in 'great'
ṛ	—	like ri in 'ring'
ai	—	like i in 'mine'
o	—	like o in 'bone'
ō	—	like o in 'potent'
au	—	like ou in 'mouse'

Consonants

k	—	has the sound of k in 'kind'
kh	—	has the sound of kh in 'inkhom'
g	—	has the sound of g in 'game'
gh	—	has the sound of gh in 'ghutto'
ṅ	—	has the sound of n in 'sing'

c	—	has the sound of ch in 'church'
ch	—	has the sound of chh in 'churchhill'
j	—	has the sound of j in 'jump'
jh	—	has the sound of dgeh in 'hedgehog'
ñ	—	has the sound of n in 'singe'
t	—	has the sound of t in 'ticket', 'temerity'
th	—	has the sound of th in 'port-hole'
ḍ	—	has the sound of d in 'bird'
ḍh	—	has the sound of dh in 'bird-house'
ṇ	—	has the sound of n in 'round'
t	—	has the sound of t in 'third'
th	—	has the sound of th in 'hit-hard'
	—	has the sound of d in 'dinari'
dh	—	has the sound of dh in 'madhouse'
n	—	has the sound of n in 'number'
p	—	has the sound of p in 'pun'
ph	—	has the sound of ph in 'up-hill'
b	—	has the sound of b in 'bank'
bh	—	has the sound of bh in 'abhor'
m	—	has the sound of m in 'mud'
y	—	has the sound of y in 'yes'
v	—	has the sound of v in 'vent'
ś	—	has the sound of sh in 'ship'
ṣ	—	has the sound of sh in 'should'
l	—	has the sound of l in 'lull'

In the case of current geographical names, the Survey of India system of spelling and diacritical marks has generally been followed. Ancient place names, however, carry full diacritical marks e.g., Kauśāmbī, Nāgārjunikoṇḍa, Dṛṣadvatī, etc.

Words in Indian languages other than proper nouns or those which have come into common use in English or represent a class of literature, cult, sect or school of thought, are italicised. Words which could not be italicised for want of type-faces have been enclosed in single inverted commas.

In order to avoid overcrowding, diacritical marks have not been used in the Political Map of India.

No glossary is given as abstruse, obsolete, local and technical terms have been explained in the text itself.

The metric system of weights and measures has been adhered to.

K. Gopalachari