



GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESSES AND PUBLICATION OF BOOKS IN COLONIAL ANDHRA (1855-1905)

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ABSTRACT :

District Printing presses or Government Printing presses were established by the colonial British government in the year 1855 throughout the Madras Presidency. In Telugu districts of Madras Presidency, Printing presses were established in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatnam, Godavari, Kistna, Nellore, Cuddapah, Bellary and Kurnool in Andhra. Later, in the year 1883 one more printing press was set up at Ananthapur.



KEYWORDS : Madras Presidency , Government printing presses.

INTRODUCTION :

The reason behind establishing these Government printing presses had to spend much money on printing and publishing of books by the government, 'whenever there was a need for copies of books the Madras College requested the Fort William College for the books to be sent. When the Fort St George College was opened 600 copies of 6 titles in Hindustani were requisitioned and 300 pounds of Nastaliq types were asked for - all of it costing Rs. 11,150/-. Twenty copies of the Colebrooke treatise on Hindu Law of Inheritance and 50 copies of Hunter's Hindustanee Dictionary were supplied at a cost of Rs. 5,340/-. Later in the 1813 Rs. 24,740/- worth of books were obtained from Calcutta. Such expensive buying performance had its limits and A.D Campbell, the secretary of a committee to collect and prepare appropriate books of printing. Utilized private and Mission Presses for printing.'¹ This could also be a reason for government initiation of starting printing presses in Madras Presidency.

To cut down above expenditure made by the government on Printing presses at last, 'The Government ordered that presses be set up at all the important collectorates. Fifteen districts were supplied with printing machines in the Madras Presidency. The district presses were first established in 1855. It is interesting to note that 110 pounds of Telugu type, enough for 12 octavo pages cost Rs. 165/-. An American printing press, including freight, shipping and landing charges cost Rs. 565/-.² With these materials government started printing presses in Andhra. 'For the first in 1856 – 57, District Gazettes were printed, everything printed being diglot – English and the language of the District. The Presidency Gazettes followed the pattern of the Imperial Gazette.'³ This was starting point of the Government printing presses in Andhra.

The aim of the setting up these District Presses were 'maintained for the purpose of turning out economically and expeditiously such Government printing as it is desirable to have done locally. The press should be applied first to the production of the District Gazette and work for the Collector's office and then to that for other offices. Except under special circumstances, no large notifications which are already set in type

¹ Kesavan, B.S, *History of Printing and Publication in India., Vol. II, A story of Cultural Re-awakening* (New Delhi: National Book Trust, 1988), pp. 370-71.

² Ibid., p. 373.

³ Ibid., p. 374.

in the Government Press, Madras, and on blank forms common to several districts or offices (such as Civil Procedure Code, Accountant General's, etc., forms) should be printed in a District Press. Covers are not to be printed or made at District Presses. When private work cannot be done conveniently in private presses, it may be undertaken by the District Press, provided the out turn of Government work is not delayed thereby.⁴

Compositors newly entertained on salaries of Rs.15 and upwards must have passed the Matriculation or Upper Secondary Examination at least, and those below Rs. 15 must have passed the Primary Examination. In exceptional cases, however, deserving men who had not passed the prescribed examination may be recommended for exemption. Pressmen, ballers and wheelers were exempt from the examination rules.⁵ 'November 1902, 90 pupils from the several classes in the school appeared for the Government Technical examinations and 19 passed. Of these, 15 students appeared for compositor's work (elementary) and 4 passed in the second class; for the intermediate examination 5 appeared and 1 passed in the second class; for the proof-reader's work (elementary) 6 appeared and 2 passed in the second class; for machine work (elementary) 6 appeared and 2 passed in the second class; for book – binding (elementary) 11 appeared and 3 passed in the second class' for the intermediate examination 1 appeared and 3 passed in the second class; for the intermediate examination 1 appeared and failed; for stereotyping (elementary) 3 appeared and 1 passed in the second class.⁶ British employed some of the pupil who passed the exam in the District and other Government owned printing presses. Pupil who passed the exams and not able to secure a government job started working in the private printing presses. Knowing the knowledge of the technical printing, they had experimented on the printing press and brought cheap publications.

The problems confronted government printing press when the private printing presses were established. From 1870s onwards the establishment of private printing presses had sprung up. So until then the monopoly exercised by the government printing presses of the region gradually started incurring losses. 'There was an increase of Rs. 11,675, or 8.2 percent. In the value of work turned out during the year, due (1) to the establishment of a press in Anantapur in August 1883 (2) to the publication in the gazette of a large amount of useful information of general and local interest (3) to the issue of Acts and Bills with the gazette and (4) to the publication of a larger number of proceedings of the Municipal and Local Fund boards. The receipts showed a small decrease of Rs. 371. The charges amounted to Rs. 89,139, showing an increase of Rs. 16,537, or 22.8 percent. Fair progress was made in the printing of selections from old records in some of the districts.'⁷

'The receipts amounted to Rs. 47,699 and fell short of those of the preceding year by Rs. 21,553 owing partly to the competition of private presses, and partly to the enhancement of the rates of subscription for the District Gazettes. The charges came to Rs. 83,497 against Rs. 85,150 in 1885-86.'⁸

The District Gazette

General Contents: The Gazette should be published punctually each month in English and Vernacular of the District all the copies being issued on the same day. Should the publication day be a general holiday, the Gazette should be published on the next working day. As a rule, all notices should be in diglot, but, when the officer forwarding a notice considers that its publication in one language was sufficient, it should be so published unless the Collector was of opinion that an abstract translation was desirable. In such case the abstract may be prepared in the Collector's office and published but in other cases the copy, with translations, each language on separate sheets, must be sent to the press properly prepared for publication.⁹

⁴ Manual for District Presses in the Madras Presidency (Madras: The Superintendent, Government Press, 1901), p. 01. Here onwards (MDPMP)

⁵ Ibid., pp. 02 – 14.

⁶ No. 989, Public, 5th November 1903. Tamil Nadu State Archives, p.6.

⁷ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1883-84 (Madras: Government Press, 1885), p.209.

⁸ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1886-87, (Madras: Government Press, 1888), p.48.

⁹ MDPMP, Ibid., p. 14

‘All District Press charges are debited to Provincial Funds. With a view to relieve these funds of the cost of work properly debitable to other departments and funds, it is ordered during the year that the cost of such work should be recovered from the departments concerned. District Gazettes are now published fortnightly. The Board had recommended the substitution of a monthly issue. This proposal, if sanctioned, will enable Collectors to render printing aid to taluk offices, where, owing to the inadequacy of the establishments, considerable inconvenience is felt in copying the circulars and orders required for distribution among the large number of village officers.’¹⁰ ‘The value of the work done at the several District Presses amounted to Rs. 1,43,000, the cash receipts to Rs. 40,000 and the charges to Rs. 69,000, the corresponding figures for 1880-81 being Rs. 1,58,000, Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 72,000 respectively. The decrease in the value of work done and in the charges were due to the publication of the District Gazettes monthly instead of fortnightly as in the preceding year. The increase in the receipts was chiefly due to the larger amount of work done for the Local Fund and Municipal Boards. Selections were printed from old records in the District Presses of Kistna, Chingleput, Madura, Tinnevely, and South Canara.’¹¹ ‘The Government sanctioned the Revenue Board’s proposal for the issue of the District Gazettes monthly instead of fortnightly (cf. last year’s report, p.340). The main advantage contemplated by the adoption of this proposal was that the relief there by secured to District Presses would enable them to render printing aid to Taluk offices.’¹²

‘Supplements would also be published with the gazette containing only matters of interest to special departments, such as the Collector’s Standing Order sheet, Police sheet, Salt, Abkari and Customs sheet, Forest sheet, Educational sheet, Local Fund sheet, etc. The proceedings of every Local Fund meeting should be published in the gazette immediately following it. As many extra copies as required of a supplement or of any notice therein should be supplied to the department concerned, and be charged in the accounts to that department. Whenever Acts, Bills or other lengthy papers were published, they should be issued in supplements so that all may be filed consecutively, but the issue of supplements in other cases should be avoided. The issue of special or ‘extraordinary’ supplements apart from the gazette for late notices, etc., of any department should be avoided, as it entails additional expenditure on postage, paper, printing, etc. if this rule be rigidly enforced, the department concerned would soon accustom themselves to take steps to prevent their notices being delayed. It may sometimes be necessary to publish extra mid-monthly issues of the ‘Standing Order’ sheet containing special orders of the Collector, the Board of Revenue or of Government.

The calendar and the following statements should publish cultivation and rainfall, price list, and demand, collection and balance statement (monthly); vaccination statements, registration of births and deaths, lists of recipients of pensions, yeominahs and allowances, and statements showing the working of hospitals and dispensaries (annually). The gazette should also contain all orders of a general nature, particularly notices which require publication in one or more issues under any Act or rule; notices of appointments, promotions, leave, resignations, etc., among the district servants; abridgments or brief notices of the orders of Government or Acts or the Legislatures and other matters of general or official commencement, such as rolls of unclaimed sums in Regimental cash chests; sales of land and notices of Abkari rents, etc.; all circulars of the nature of standing orders issued by local authorities; circular orders of the Board of Revenue and High Court; changes of postal rules; advertisements inviting tenders for contracts; notices of dates of hearings in civil courts; decisions of civil courts; places where the Collector will hold his cut cherry during the ensuing month, and similar items of intelligence should also appear in the local gazette. Advertisements and circulars of other public departments should be published free of charge. The bulk of the gazette should be reduced as much as possible: orders should not, as a rule, be repeated in several consecutive issues, and Government Orders need not be printed in full only summaries couched in simple language. Editorial articles, mere news or correspondence on any subject or comments on the proceedings of courts or cut cherries had no place in an

¹⁰ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1878-79, (Madras: Government press, 1880), p. 340.

¹¹ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1880-81, (Madras: Government press, 1882), p.58.

¹² Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1880-81, (Madras: Government press, 1882), p.275.

official gazette. Approved private advertisements might be published on payment but should appear under a distinct heading at the end of the gazette. To reduce the postal charges the District Gazette should be registered at the Post office on the 1st January of each year the registered number being printed on the first page of each part and on the postal wrapper.

Diglot almanacs might be printed and published annually for sale. They should contain the Gregorian, Hindu and Muhammadan monthly calendar in parallel columns, with events of historical importance, market days, native holidays, tables of distances, weight and measures, rules of Government immediately affecting the people, and any other points likely to affect the well-being of the people. 'During the year orders were issued for the supply of Village Sheet of the District Gazette to all heads of villages in zamindaris, and the first Saturday of every month was prescribed as the date for publishing the District Gazette in each district. A few selections from old records were printed in Kistna, Chingleput, Madura, Tinnevely.'¹³ The printing of Gazette changed time to time, first it started publishing once in a month later published fortnightly.'¹⁴

Supply of Press Materials: (i) Articles of European Manufacture. Annual indents for articles of European manufacture required for the District Presses should be submitted by Collectors direct to the Superintendent, Government Press, before the 15th October of the previous year. A forecast should invariably precede the indent and should reach the Superintendent not later than the 30th of June. From the returns thus furnished by Collectors, the Superintendent would prepare consolidated returns for the Presidency, which would be included by the Board in its annual indent for European stores.

Locally-made Articles: A list of locally-made articles required for District Presses should be submitted by Collectors along with the forecast to the Superintendent, Government Press, for scrutiny and submission to the Board. When the sanctioned budget grant was known, Collectors may purchase such articles themselves on indents forwarded to the supplying firm through the Superintendent, Government Press. Petty articles may, however, be purchased as required, the cost being met from the ordinary district contingencies.

'French foolscap paper purchased locally cost Rs. 3,748/- The use of later paper has been discontinued and the quantity purchased during the year was that due on previous contracts.'¹⁵ 'Under the head of manufactures there is nothing special to notice, with the exception of the experiments made as to manufacturing paper from prickly – pear plant. The collectors of the districts in which country paper was known to be manufactured were asked to make experiments and to report on the suitability of the plant for the purpose. Inquires went to show that the preparation could be effected, but not with a prospect of profit.'¹⁶ This implies that if Government authorities used to churn out profits from the press, inquiry was not carried upon.

Stock-taking of Plant: At the end of every five years the foreman would ascertain the quantity of all plant in hand and its value, each article being estimated at its actual market value, any difference between the book and actual values or quantities being adjusted in the Register of Stock, as shown by the specimen entries. The foreman must submit a satisfactory explanation of all differences in quantity exceeding 4 percent. A statement showing the result of the stock-taking should be appended to the next annual report submitted to the Board after the stock was taken.

The number of people who subscribed the Gazettes in Telugu Districts of Madras were as follows.

¹³ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1881-82, (Madras: Government press, 1883), p.251.

¹⁴ MDPMP, op.cit, pp. 17-18.

¹⁵ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1884-85, (Madras: Government press, 1886),p.cxvi.

¹⁶ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1877-78, (Madras: Government press, 1879), p.48.

District ¹⁷	Number of Persons on full subscription	Number of persons on reduced Subscription	Total
Ganjam	103	228	331
Vizagapatnam	161	265	426
Godavari	399	1,457	1,856
Kistna	490	552	1,042
Nellore	52	108	160
Cuddapah	39	302	341
Ananapur	64	329	393
Bellary	227	442	669
Kurnool	23	1,194	1,217
Total	1,558	4,877	6,435

Valuation of Plant: No definite rules could be laid down for valuing press materials, as the value depends on the condition of the article and the market price of similar articles at the time. If the foreman was practical printer, he should have little difficulty in estimating the plant at its actual worth at the time of stock-taking. If the foreman was not practical man, or if, for any reason, there were doubts as to the value of an article, it would be better to adopt the stock book figures than to make a guess at the actual value. The book value was however very often of little use as an index to the real value. A press may have been in the office for twenty years, yet have had little wear, or its worn parts may have been renewed, thus making it worth as much as a comparatively new press which may, from ill usage, have its bearings or bed worn uneven, its platen uneven its platen unsteady, etc., defects that would detract from its value. With types, too, the actual value of a 'fount' which has been in the office for a long period, but has been rarely used, may be more than that of another type which was constantly in use for District Gazette, or for very long numbers. The latter although in use say for three years only may not give a clear and sharp impression, and consequently would not be worth more than old metal rate.

Statement of the value of work done during the triennium 1899-1900 to 1901-1902.¹⁸

District	Gazette work.			Book work.			Office or Job work			Total		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Ganjam	5,589	7	8	3,458	4	6	4,200	9	3	13,248	5	5
Vizagapatnam	5,547	3	6	627	11	8	5,074	2	4	11,249	1	6
Godavari	6,160	1	10	2,703	12	5	1,635	14	9	10,499	13	0
Kistna	8,831	8	4	---	---	---	3,255	2	2	12,086	10	6
Nellore	5,827	10	6	2,082	1	11	4,135	5	8	12,045	2	1
Cuddapah	7,593	2	7	3,340	0	8	3,052	10	8	13,994	13	11
Ananthapur	8,521	14	0	1,772	2	0	4,438	8	8	14,732	8	8
Bellary	8,287	6	7	1,813	10	11	6,153	2	0	14,254	3	6
Kurnool	6,095	0	6	1,386	1	0	3,003	8	3	10,484	10	2
Total	62,450	51	54	17,181	41	49	34,945	60	50	1,12,591	65	45
Total for the triennium ending 1898-99	1,45,176	8	8	26,380	6	2	84,859	13	2	2,72,038	12	0

The work done by the District Presses increased in consequence of the operation of the Local Fund and Municipal Acts, all the proceedings of Local and Municipal Boards being published in the District

¹⁷ No. 633, Revenue, 19th July 1902. Tamilnadu state Archivies, p.4.

¹⁸ No. 633, Revenue, 19th July 1902. Tamil Nadu state Archives, p.6.

Gazettes. The expenditure increased partly because two new presses were bought, and partly because the Postal Rules of January 1872 required that District Gazettes sent by post should be stamped with Service Stamps.¹⁹

Districts.	1872-73.		
	Estimate of the Value of Work done.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
Ganjam	Rs. 10,670	Rs. 784	Rs. 2,911
Vizagapatam	6,479	137	3,171
Godavery	11,516	1,231	3,177
Kistna	10,729	946	5,751
Nellore	16,140	1,058	2,828
Cuddapah	11,325	1,007	2,928
Bellary	16,046	1,118	3,078
Kurnool	9,121	687	2,317
Total...	92,026	6,968	26,161

Statement No. IV – Sale of Publications by Agents.²⁰

Name of agents	Value of publications on hand on 1 st January 1902.			Value of publications supplied during 1902.			Value of publications sold during 1902.			Value of publications on hand on 31 st December 1902.			Commission earned.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Messrs. Higginbotham & Co., Mount Road, Madras.	843	0	3	1,016	7	9	832	8	9	1,026	15	3	277	8	3
Messrs. V. Kalyanarama Iyer & Co., Madras	113	8	0	32	8	0	81	0	0	10	13	4
Messrs. Thaker, Spink & co. Calcutta.	67	12	6	67	12	6	...	...	...	22	9	6
Messrs. Newman & Co., Calcutta.	16	4	0	16	4	0	...	...	...	5	6	9
Messrs. Thaker & (Limited), Bombay.	13	0	0	13	0	0	...	...	...	4	5	4

¹⁹ Report on the Administration of Madras Presidency, during the year of 1872-73, (Madras: Government press, 1883), p.252.

²⁰ No. 989, Public, 5th November 1903. Tamil Nadu state Archives, p.09.

Messrs. A. J. Cambridge & Co., Bombay.	3	0	0	2	10	9	2	10	9	3	0	0	0	14	8
Messrs. A. J. Cambridge & Co., Mount Road, Madras.	...	...	...	12	4	0	10	12	0	1	8	0	3	9	4
Total...	846	0	3	1,241	15	0	975	8	0	1,112	7	8	325	2	9

Agents for the sale of Madras Government publications in India.²¹

1. Butterworth & co. (ltd.), 6, Hastings Street, Calcutta.
2. R. Cambray & co., Calcutta.
3. E. M. Gopalakrishna Kone, pudumantapam, Madura.
4. Hartleys, mount road, Madras.
5. Bigginbothams (ltd.), Mount road, Madras.
6. V. Kalyanarama iyer & co., Esplanade, Madras.
7. G. C. Loganadham brothers, Madras.
8. S. Murthy & co., Madras.
9. G. A. Natesan & co., Madras, the superintendent, Nazair kanun Hind press, Allahabad.
10. Nivasarkar, manager, "Hitawada," Nagpur.
11. P. R. Rama iyer & co., Madras.
12. Bamakrishna & sons, Lahore.
13. R. Sunder pandurang, Kalbadevi road, Bombay.
14. D. B. Taraporevala sons & co., Bombay.
15. Thackeit & co. (ltd.), Bombay.
16. Thacker, Spine & co., 3, Esplanade East, Calcutta.
17. S. Vas & co., Madras.
18. S.P.C.A. Press, Vepery, Madras.

In the United Kingdom.

1. B. H. Black w ell, 50 and 51, Broad Street, Oxford.
2. Constable & co., 10, Orange Street, Leicester square, London, w.c.
3. Deighton, bell & co. (ltd.), Cambridge.
4. T. Fisher unwin (ltd.), 1, Adelpbi terrace, London. W c.
5. Grindlay& co., 54, Parliament Street, London, s.w.
6. Kegan paul, trench, Trubner & co. (ltd.), 68-74, Carter lane. London,
7. E. C., and 39, New Oxford Street, London, w.c.
8. Henry s. King & co., 65, cornhill, London, e.c.
9. P. S. King & son, 2 and 4, great smith street, westminster, London, s.w.
10. Luzac &co., 46, Great Russell street, London, v.c.
11. B. Qua.ritch, 11, Grafton street, new bond street, London, w.
12. W. Thacker & co., 2, Creed lane, London, e.c.
13. Oliver and boyd, tweeddale court, Edinburgh.
14. E. Ponsonby (ltd.), 116, Grafton street, Dublin
15. Wheldon and Wesley (ltd.), 28, Essex street, strand, London.

On the continent:

1. Ernest Leroux 28, Rue Bonaparte, Paris.

²¹ G. T. Boag, *Census of India, 1921, Vol – XIII, part I*, (Madras: Government Press, 1922), end page.

2. Friedlarrer and Sohn, Berlin.
3. Martinus Nijjioff, The Hague, Holland.
4. Otto Iiarrassowitz, Leipzig.

Most of the sales shops of the Government published books like Gazettes available at the urban cities of India. This was because most of educated lived in urban cities, if any rural educated common people wanted these books means either they had to travel to city or subscribing books were the two options left to them. Zamindars were also the subscribers of the Gazette in the rural areas. Government official in the rural areas were the buyers of Gazettes. These books were sold in England and other European countries too because people who were interested to know about India used to buy these books. In this way our knowledge has been transcended to foreign countries.

Government Printing presses were established in 1855 by the British government in India. In Andhra there were eight printing presses established, later one more printing press established at Anantapur District. The aim of the establishment was to reduce the expenditure incurred on the printed material by the British Government. Initially British government was imported books from the London but the cost of books were too expensive and later try to publish books from the private printing presses which were already in existence at that point. Even these books proved too costly. Then British government in India decided to establish government printing presses throughout India. The first Gazette was printed through District printing presses established by Government in 1856-57. Of course this measurement was not proved a great relief from the charges of Printing press because British had imported most of the raw materials from England. When there was no competition from private printing presses, these government printing presses were gained profits. But once private printing presses established with in a couple of years, government presses were incurred in losses.

District Gazettes and Local Fund and Municipal Acts, all the proceedings of Local and Municipal Boards being published in the District Gazettes. Gazette used to publish in diglot, one in English, the other Vernacular language of that district. British government established the industrial training colleges though out India, 'repairing printing press technology' also one among the subject which means the ground had prepared before the establishment of District printing presses to support this luxury industry. So the pupil who passed the exam according to the rules and regulations laid by the British Government, given chance in District printing press to work, if there were any vacancies in the presses filled up with these students. Pupil who did not get government service, used to opt work in the private printing presses.

Printing machines were brought from England, reams of industrial paper were imported from England because of Industrial paper was developed at London. The stock and other available materials were bought from England. Even the idea of printing Gazette imported from England itself. Some experiments were made to manufacture industrial paper in British India but British were not satisfied by the prickly pear paper available near around Culctta. Letters were molded in India. Letter molding was the only industry in the part of printing press was fully indigenous.

In Andhra the total number of subscribers (full and reduced) were 6,435 in the year of 1902. which was very less people in Andhra subscribing the government publications. Until 1870s the Government printing presses in Andhra were incurring huge profits then onwards Government presses started facing competition from the Private printing presses. Government printing presses used to private persons printing work also until then. But once entering the private printing presses, the total environment had been changed. Private printing presses used to do printing work for fewer amounts, so obviously people attracted towards private printing presses. It was difficult that private persons to approach the government presses for their advertisement and other printing activities but in private printing presses were customer friendly.

The nature of work in the printing press depending on the Officials and their decisions. First printing presses used publish Gazettes once in a month later changed it to fortnightly so private people who want to give order for their work would become late. Then these people preferred the private printing presses. Even book binding was also a replica of the London book binding. Government hierarchy also a reason for the failure of Government publishing, for every small work in the press, order had to come from the higher authorities. There were discussions like how much salary should be paid to workers, many times discussed

and it left to collectors of region after establishing 50 years and about the timings of the press opening and closing.

Most of the sales shops of the Government published books like Gazettes available at the urban cities of India. This was because most of educated lived in urban cities, if any rural educated common people wanted these books means either they had to travel to city or subscribing books from the District presses were the only options. Zamindars were also the subscribers of the Gazette in the rural areas. Government officials in the rural areas were the buyers of Gazettes. These books were sold in England and other European countries too because people who were interested to know about India used to buy these books. In this way Indian knowledge has been transcended to foreign countries from British view point. The knowledge which they had earned, used against the Indians to separate or divide the Indian society into classes, castes, religion etc.

In the world inside the printing press room or unit workers were uncertain about their salaries and Jobs. There were a lot of discussion in the officials' letter how much work force had to be recruited in the unit.

Production of Gazettes also gives government thrust to know about India and Indians knowledge. British use of their soft power to control people of India through laws and those laws published through books. These books were elite and written for English educated Indians and politicians purpose. Its main aim was to keep Indian mass politically suppressed. The aim of the setting up these District Presses were partially successful, but indirectly immensely helped the Indians to know about Judicial and Democratic systems of erstwhile British India.