INTRODUCTION

1. The Importance of the Theme

Research in Indian administration is of recent origin which started about half a century ago. The scope of administrative research was mostly confined, at this time, to historical themes. Moreover, the Government of the day was not willing to extend any facility to the researchers in regard to any study of the current problems in order to discourage any public criticism of the administration.

In this context, Dr. D. N. Banerji's "Early Administrative System of the East India Company in Bengal" (1943) and N. C. Roy's "A Critical Study of Some Aspects of Public Administration in Bengal" (1945) deserve utmost importance. The Indian Journal of Political Science published a series of articles in regard to the Congress administrations in the provinces during the period 1937-39. Professor S. V. Kogekar's article "The Bombay Presidency—An Interlude" was of very much importance (January-March 1941).

Among the doctoral theses the following may be mentioned as illustrations:

(1) Harnam Singh. Government and Administration of Jammu and Kashmir State (Lucknow University, 1943)

(2) I. D. Sharma. Government and Administration of Baroda State (Lucknow University, 1948)

(3) K. C. Markandan. Administration of the North-Western Frontier Province (Allahabad University, 1950)
The main theme of the study emphasizes that the growth of the patterns of the provincial administrations after Independence have their origins and course of development during the periods of reforms and provincial autonomy. Even this evolutionary course of the structure of administration had its lineage traceable to the advent of the British rule in India. With this object in view, the present study was undertaken. The special features of this study include: (1) the study of legislature, (2) the study of the executive and (3) the study of ad-hoc committees. From this point of view the study is very significant. No such systematic account has so far been attempted.

2. The Scope of the Study

The period of the study covers the two important phases of dyarchy and provincial autonomy with the addition of the first year of Independence. The study is mainly directed to examine the evolution of the provincial administration during the period from 1921-22 to 1947-48 along with its historical lineage especially since the downfall of the Peshwas of the Deccan in 1818.

The pattern of administration in the Bombay province after Independence is shaped by the evolution and the growth of the structure of administrative machinery before 1947.

On the advent of the British rule in India, the structure and nature of the revenue and magisterial administration and
land revenue settlement system were the base on which the future administrative edifice was built up. The administrative departments began to develop since the latter half of the 19th century. The Local Self-Government, the judiciary and the composition of the services underwent radical changes in a course of half a century. Since the dawn of the Provincial autonomy the administration started showing orientation to development and attempts were made to democratize the administration. The Centre-State relationships in the spheres of finance, legislation and administration were firmly established during this period and developed more or less on the same pattern after Independence.

These features of the provincial administration before Independence have certainly influenced the pattern and course of the future development of State administration. How the administrative machinery evolved in response to nation's aspirations and political movements in the country is one of the components of this study.

In addition the following aspects are also studied: (1) Evolution and development of the Headquarters and the Field Administration; (2) Growth of Financial and personnel administration; (3) Influence of legislature on administration; (4) Development of executive policies in regard to nation building departments. All these features significantly make up the study of the provincial administration.

3. Methodology and Sources

The thesis is essentially based on library material. The
books and journals relevant to the study of the subject are useful in the first instance. Similarly, legislative debates have been made extensive use of to expound the popular views about the Government and the administration. These debates have been useful as a supplementary source for the analysis of the growth of the administrative system.

The annual administration reports of the administrative departments of the Government of Bombay and reports of the important ad-hoc committees have been freely utilized. The original sources like the Montagu-Chelmsford Report, the Government of India Acts of 1919 and 1935, Reports of the Joint Parliamentary Committees, and the relevant reports of the Round Table Conferences have been carefully studied. The Report of the Reforms Enquiry Committee of 1924 and the Reports of the Indian Statutory Commission of 1928 may be regarded as the basic documents which proved useful for the further constitutional advance of the country. These two reports were often looked into to get an insight into the working of the problems of dyarchy.

In addition, secretariat and other valuable publications of the Government of Bombay have proved to be an important source of information. Contemporary newspapers have also been covered. In short, every available source has been carefully used to make the analysis authentic and comprehensive as far as possible.

4. The Scheme of the Chapters

The following are the various aspects of the theme which
are covered in the succeeding chapters.

I. The Historical Background

II. The Structure of the Provincial Government during Dyarchy and Provincial Autonomy

III. The Legislature and Administration

IV. The Executive: Its Policies and Their Implementation

V. The Administration of Judiciary

VI. The Secretariat Organization and Procedure

VII. The Land Revenue and General Administration

VIII. The Organization of the Provincial Departments

IX. The Financial Administration

X. The Personnel Administration

XI. The Local Self-Government

XII. The Ad-hoc Committees

XIII. Conclusion.