

FOREWORD

A District Gazetteer is a repository of facts and information collected from various reliable sources relating to the district. In fact, it is a factual account, supported by figures and other data, of the life story of the district and its people from the earliest times. The economic, social and cultural details and information on the economic resources of the whole district with reference to its various regions is presented in the district gazetteers in proper historical perspective. This helps to visualise an integral picture of the whole district. Besides this, the District Gazetteers being rich source of authentic information serve a great deal in development planning of the area under district.

The Panipat district has a rich past. The Panipat town, known as *Panprastha* in the ancient times, is one of the five *Patas* or *Prasthas* which were demanded by Yudhisthira from Duryodhana in the Mahabharata period. During medieval period, it witnessed the famous three battles of Panipat that altered the fate of India. At present, it is one of the most important industrial towns of the State.

This volume is the first edition of Panipat district, and is the thirteenth publication in revised series of Haryana Gazetteers. It is presented in a lucid language and simple style with several illustrations that give the reader an experience of a voyage through the district Panipat.

In fact the work of compiling a district gazetteer required deep research, painstaking study, and lots of hard-work. I feel great pleasure to record my appreciation for the remarkable work done by the officers and other staff of the Gazetteer Organisation.

I am sure, this volume will serve as an important reference book not only for administrators, planners, research scholars and journalists, but also for tourists and general public as well.

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