

Income Concentration in British India, 1885-1946

Facundo Alvaredo, Augustin Bergeron, Guilhem Cassan



PII: S0304-3878(17)30007-X
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2017.01.005>
Reference: DEVEC2128

To appear in: *Journal of Development Economics*

Received date: 24 March 2016
Revised date: 23 January 2017
Accepted date: 30 January 2017

Cite this article as: Facundo Alvaredo, Augustin Bergeron and Guilhem Cassan Income Concentration in British India, 1885-1946, *Journal of Development Economics*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2017.01.005>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting galley proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

Income Concentration in British India, 1885-1946*

Facundo Alvaredo[†], Augustin Bergeron[‡] and Guilhem Cassan[§]

February 8, 2017

Abstract: *We use a novel income tax data set to present evidence on the evolution of income concentration in the last 60 years of colonial rule in India. These data allow us to study the evolution of income concentration at the country level as well as the location of top income earners across provinces. We identify three key facts: (1) the evolution of income concentration in British India was non linear, following a U-shape, (2) the majority of top income earners were non-Europeans, and (3) the geographical location of top income earners changed over time with the province of Bombay gaining in importance in the early XXth century. We provide an interpretation of these results in the light of the economic and political changes in British India over the period.*

JEL Classification: N35; O10; D31

Keywords: Inequality, India, Colonization, Top Incomes

*We thank Gaël Cassan Brun, Denis Cogneau, Tirthankar Roy, Thomas Piketty, the seminar participants at New Delhi Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, the Paris School of Economics, the EUDN Conference, the ISI conference, three anonymous referees and the editor for valuable comments and suggestions. All remaining errors are our own. We are grateful to Lorenzo Cerda Planas for outstanding research assistance. Funding from the CEPREMAP, ESRC-DFID Joint Fund and INET is gratefully acknowledged.

[†]Paris School of Economics, Oxford University and CONICET.

[‡]Harvard University

[§]University of Namur. Corresponding author: firstname.name@unamur.be

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5094255>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/5094255>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)