FOREWORD

ON BEHALF OF the Publication Committee of the Comprehensive History of India, I have great pleasure in presenting the Volume IV, Part I, covering the period c. AD 985-1206.

The Volume has been split into two parts: Part I deals with political history and political organisation, and Part II treats social, economic, religious and cultural developments together with coinage, science and technology, and India's contacts with the outside world. In order to make it self-contained, each part is being provided with an index, a bibliography and a select reading list for each chapter.

The Volume has been long overdue. Most chapters were planned and assigned to contributors more than 25 years ago. The editors have made laudable efforts to update them through editorial notes and appendices. I would like to sincerely thank the editors of the Volume, Professor R. S. Sharma and Professor K. M. Shrimali, for their efforts in making this publication possible. I would also like to thank the scholars, including those who are no longer with us, for their efforts in bringing this work to fruition. Finally, I would like to acknowledge with thanks the keen interest and cooperation of the People's Publishing House and in particular of the General Manager Shri P.P.C. Joshi, the editor Ms. Shipra Lahiri and its editorial staff for bringing out this Volume in a comparatively short time.

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