

ABSTRACT

Research into Spoken Indian English has not received sufficient attention so far. There are of course some very significant contributions by certain scholars which have been published and are being widely used. There is a belief that there are as many Indian Englishes as there are language communities in India. This naturally calls for a systematic investigation into this area.

The object of this investigation is to attempt a description of the Indian pronunciation of some common English words and see how far they conform to the claims of earlier scholars. It is also to single out other features if any and describe them.

In Chapter I three important works, that is, of Bansal, Nihalani et al and Balasubramanian have been reviewed. Common features posited by these three have been noted and the differences mentioned.

In Chapter II the aims of the investigation are stated and the materials used are described. Data on Common English words and their Indian pronunciation were collected from a cross-section of expert informants in India through questionnaires. Then the procedure followed for determining the common words is described and a list of 48 common words thus arrived at is given.

In Chapter III the Indian pronunciation/s supplied by the expert informants have been analysed one by one. Each segmental sound that deviates from its RP counterpart has been described. Such features occurring in other word/s in our data have been given for comparison. Finally such features as have been already noted in published works are stated to highlight them.

In Chapter IV different features of Indian pronunciation of the 48 words have been summarised under two heads. One, features that occur in our data which have been already noted in published works. And, two, the other features which have been noticed in our data. The limitations of our work have been stated and suggestions for further research have been made.

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