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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
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Industrial and Labour Development in June, 1950.

N.B.- Each Section of this Report may be taken out separately

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CHAPTER 1. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

INDIA - JUNE 1950.

11. Political Situation and Administrative Action.

Hyderabad Cabinet reconstituted: Mr. V.B. Raju
to be in charge of Labour.

On the advise of the Chief Minister of Hyderabad, the Nizam of Hyderabad recently reconstituted his Council of Ministers. The new Government includes four representatives of the Hyderabad State Congress; the portfolio of labour, forests, customs and cottage industries have been taken over by Mr. V.B. Raju.

(The Statesman, dated 13-6-1950).

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CHAPTER 3. PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

INDIA - JUNE 1950.

31. Workers' Trade Union Movements.

✓ Workers' Opposition to New Labour Bills:
Petition to be presented to Parliament.

✓ A "workers' petition to Parliament", initiated by the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, is being signed by employees in different establishments in various parts of the country for being forwarded to Parliament with a view to bringing to its notice the fundamental grounds on which the workers are 'opposed to the enactment' of the Trade Unions Bill and the Labour Relations Bill.

The petition urges the immediate withdrawal of these two Bills as they "militate against the right of association and the right to organise, inherent rights of workers, recognised and adopted as such by the International Labour Organisation". It further states that the Labour Relations Bill, while itself recognising the workers' right of collective bargaining, deprives them and their trade unions of this right by making arbitration compulsory, which is the "negation of the very right". The Bill further provides through compulsory arbitration "a complicated machinery for settlement of labour disputes and will instill a litigious spirit in the workers instead of encouraging collective bargaining; the sheet ~~anchor~~ anchor of genuine trade unionism".

The petition points out that the Labour Relations Bill militates against the fundamentals of free trade unionism by providing for Government interference at every stage of a labour dispute, even at the grave risk of endangering the independence of the judiciary, when the Government may choose not to give effect to or modify or alter the award or order of the labour court, industrial tribunal or appellate tribunal. The Bill, in addition, it is stated, will deprive workers of their democratic right to choose their bargaining agent in full freedom through secret ballot and will encourage company unions and "yellow" unions, which, according to the petition, contravenes the principle of democracy in the trade union movement.

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The petition takes serious objection to the freedom given to employers to sack so-called "surplus" labour. This will serve to place employers beyond the interference of even the Government, as it cannot refer for adjudication any dispute regarding retrenchment of ~~working~~ workers, which does not come within the purview of the definition of "labour dispute".

In conclusion, the petition records its "vehement protest against these obnoxious bills" and demands of the Members of Parliament their total withdrawal "to compel the Government of India to replace them by healthy labour legislation in keeping with the fundamental principles of free and democratic trade unionism.

(The Hindu, dated 6-6-1950)

All-India Railwaymen's Federation Silver Jubilee Convention, Nagpur, 7 to 9 June 1950: Withdrawal of Labour Bills demanded.

The Silver Jubilee Convention of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation was held at Nagpur from 7 to 9 June 1950. Mr. Jai Prakash Narain, President of the Federation, presided. The Convention, among others, passed a resolution demanding the "immediate withdrawal of the Labour Relations Bill and the Trade Union Bill, as these Bills were " a vicious attack on the ~~mental~~ mental rights of ~~the~~ free trade union organisation of the Indian Working Class in general and the railwaymen in particular". The following is a brief summary of the meeting.

General Secretary's Report: progress of negotiation with Government surveyed.— The Convention adopted the Report for 1948-1950, presented by the General Secretary, Mr. S. Guruswami. The report after a rapid survey of the history of the Federation, briefly reviews the progress made since the last Convention of the Federation, which was held at Lillooa on 30 and 31 August 1948 (vide pages 14-16 of the report of this Office for September 1948). The 1948 Convention adopted three basic resolutions

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containing the railwaymen's demands on which the Federation decided to ask for a settlement by 31 October 1948. A reply was received from the Government on 28 October 1948, conceding none of the principal demands.

The first resolution related to dearness relief. The Government announced its acceptance of the Railway Grainshops Enquiry Committee Report. ~~This~~ This meant cash dearness allowance as given to other Central Government employees in respect of those who opted for it and reduced relief to others who wished to continue the concessional supply through the Railway Grainshops on a considerably reduced scale and for a fewer items. Due to vagaries in the working of the Railway Grainshops, there was a demand for dearness relief being given entirely in cash on the part of a section of employees having small families and out of 786,000 employees eligible for individual option, less than 50 per cent exercised their option in favour of full cash benefits. The others were forced to accept reduced relief in kind. This was resented.

In regard to the second Resolution, ~~the demands~~ of the Federation urged upon the Government to rectify the anomalies arising out of the application of the Central Pay Commission's recommendations, to improve certain scales of pay fixed unsatisfactorily by the ~~said~~ commission, to implement the Central Pay Commission recommendations regarding leave rules, temporary service, educational assistance etc., to confirm the temporary staff and grant adequate weightage for service in fixation of pay.

The third Resolution called upon the Government to ensure uniformity of service conditions on all Railways and to nationalise them all under a common management. The Government repudiated its liability in the matter pending the decision of the Constituent Assembly on the question of future relations between the Government of India and Indian States in relation to Railways owned and managed by the latter.

In view of the unsatisfactory nature of the replies received from the Government, the Federation decided to take a strike ballot. This prompted the Government to invite the President of the Federation to discuss the grievances with the Railway authorities. As the result of these discussions the Federation resolved to stay action on the results of the ballot for the strike.

The report states that the discussions yielded the following results:-

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(1) In regard to Resolution No.1, cash benefits, ^{were} increased by 10 rupees for those who opted for cash and 5 rupees for those who opted to continue grain-shop concessions. It points out that none of these ~~benefits~~ benefits meet the requirements of the situation and much less come upto the scale recommended by the Central Pay Commission for the present cost of living index.

(2) In regard to Resolution No.2, partial or total victories were secured in several of the twenty demands such as those relating to leave rules, running staff, railway school teachers, etc. There were improvements in the scales of pay of some categories like Assistant Surgeons Class II, MacLagan College Trained Train Examiners, Switchmen, Shed Clerks, Assistant Draftsmen, Certain Traffic Technical Staff, Keymen, Gangmates, unskilled supervisors etc. The Railway Joint Advisory Committee which was constituted to examine these demands, has made several recommendations which are still under ^{the} consideration of the Government. Those already accepted partially or in full involve an additional financial benefit of about 9 million rupees per annum.

In regard to Resolution No.3 about extension of ~~uniform~~ uniform service conditions ~~to~~ to all Railways. The report says that the liability of the Indian Government to pay the Railwaymen on former State Railways the scales of pay and allowances on Central Pay Commission basis from the same date as the financial integration has taken place has now been accepted.

In conclusion the report refers to the Labour Relations Bill and the Trade Unions Bill and ~~the~~ says that these "constitute the greatest threat to organised working class movement on the railways. This is the first serious attempt to disenfranchise more than 150,000 railwaymen to prevent them from belonging to a common recognised organisation. Works Committees will be given new functions to act as rival machinery to Unions".

President's address: Co-operation with other labour bodies urged. - Mr. Jai Prakash Narain in the course of his ~~address~~ presidential address, warned railwaymen against the internal and external dangers confronting them. The external danger ~~was~~ was the ~~threat~~ threat offered by the rival unions and the trade unions. The Labour Relations Bills before Parliament, the lethargy and weakness of the affiliated trade unions and the party and personal politics that was not based upon any principles or ideology were responsible for internal danger, he added. Mr. Narayan declared that they would run themselves if the internal weaknesses were not rooted out from the body of the federation. He stated that "a unified working-class struggle alone could save India and her people from the orgy of triumphant reaction".

Speaking about the external forces working against the solidarity of the Federation, he referred to the Communist-led railwaymen, who had been an erstwhile part of the All India Railwaymen's Federation, trying to enfeeble the structure of the Federation. He appealed for a planned action, not confined to paper or hot slogans, to extend their whole-hearted co-operation to other labour bodies in the country, for launching an opposition to the two Labour Bills now before the Indian Parliament. Mr. Narayan hoped that the Federation would give its full co-operation to the opposition.

Resolutions.- The Convention adopted twenty resolutions among others, relating to the new Labour Bills, working of the Joint Railway Advisory Committee, housing, dearness relief, etc. The more important among these are noted below.

Withdrawal of Labour Bills urged.- This resolution states that: "The new Labour Relations Bill and the Trade Unions Bill of the Government of India, in the considered opinion of the Convention of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation are a vicious attack on the fundamental rights of free trade union organisation of the Indian working class in general and the railwaymen in particular, and are designed to undermine and destroy their solidarity. Under the provisions of these Bills, railway employees are denied the right to belong to their industrial organisation. By recognizing craft and sectional unions and regional associations, they disrupt the class unity of the workers. They restrict the right of the workers to criticise or carry on their propaganda and organize support for the issues before the Industrial Tribunal. For all these and other objectionable provisions of these black Bills, the Convention demands their immediate withdrawal.

"The Convention ~~is~~ ~~convinced~~ ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~new~~ ~~Labour~~ ~~Relations~~ ~~Bill~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~Trade~~ ~~Unions~~ ~~Bill~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Government~~ ~~of~~ ~~India~~ ~~are~~ ~~a~~ ~~vicious~~ ~~attack~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~fundamental~~ ~~rights~~ ~~of~~ ~~free~~ ~~trade~~ ~~union~~ ~~organisation~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Indian~~ ~~working~~ ~~class~~ ~~in~~ ~~general~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~railwaymen~~ ~~in~~ ~~particular~~, ~~and~~ ~~are~~ ~~designed~~ ~~to~~ ~~undermine~~ ~~and~~ ~~destroy~~ ~~their~~ ~~solidarity~~. ~~Under~~ ~~the~~ ~~provisions~~ ~~of~~ ~~these~~ ~~Bills~~, ~~railway~~ ~~employees~~ ~~are~~ ~~denied~~ ~~the~~ ~~right~~ ~~to~~ ~~belong~~ ~~to~~ ~~their~~ ~~industrial~~ ~~organisation~~. ~~By~~ ~~recognizing~~ ~~craft~~ ~~and~~ ~~sectional~~ ~~unions~~ ~~and~~ ~~regional~~ ~~associations~~, ~~they~~ ~~disrupt~~ ~~the~~ ~~class~~ ~~unity~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~workers~~. ~~They~~ ~~restrict~~ ~~the~~ ~~right~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~workers~~ ~~to~~ ~~criticise~~ ~~or~~ ~~carry~~ ~~on~~ ~~their~~ ~~propaganda~~ ~~and~~ ~~organize~~ ~~support~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~issues~~ ~~before~~ ~~the~~ ~~Industrial~~ ~~Tribunal~~. ~~For~~ ~~all~~ ~~these~~ ~~and~~ ~~other~~ ~~objectionable~~ ~~provisions~~ ~~of~~ ~~these~~ ~~black~~ ~~Bills~~, ~~the~~ ~~Convention~~ ~~demand~~ ~~their~~ ~~immediate~~ ~~withdrawal~~.

upon the railwaymen and all affiliated unions to consciously realize the seriousness of these new bonds of slavery that are being forged by the Indian Government, and call upon them to be ready for struggle for the withdrawal of these Bills. The Convention is conscious that for a successful and effective resistance of these Bills, the railwaymen must combine with the rest of the working class and other labouring masses in India, and, for the purpose resolves to invite all concerned labour organizations in the country to meet in the immediate future at a representative conference to forge a united front of action of workers of all shades of opinion in all

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industrial organizations and decide upon a common programme of resistance for the defeat and total withdrawal of these Bills".

Working of Joint Railway Advisory Committee.- The resolution on this subject expressed dissatisfaction at the manner in which the recommendations of the Joint Railway Advisory Committee have been disposed of by the Government and also at the unsatisfactory results obtained on important issues referred to the Committee. Owing to the restricted terms of reference of the Advisory Committee and in view of the urgent necessity of early action on longstanding important issues, the resolution instructed the Federation's Representatives in the Committee to formulate urgent demands requiring settlement by direct negotiation.

Housing.- On the question of housing the Convention stressed that there should be no curtailment in the house building programme for railwaymen in view of the increasing difficulties experienced in performing work and carrying out transfers and ~~urged~~ urged upon the Railway Board to take necessary steps to provide quarters to all needy railwaymen within the next three years. It drew the attention of the Board to the serious hardships suffered by the refugee staff who were accommodated in temporary shelters, and were ~~denied~~ denied even normal standards of housing comforts. The resolution demanded immediate relief for such staff.

Appellate Tribunals.- By a resolution the Convention strongly urged the Ministry of Railways to set up joint standing appellate tribunals to review appeals concerning disciplinary cases and those relating to suppression in promotions, ~~It~~ demanded that such tribunals "should consist of an equal number of representatives of organised labour". ~~It~~ requested the Railway Ministry to take mechanized labour into its confidence by "associating their representatives in all inquiries and measures that are undertaken" in this behalf.

Dearness relief.- The resolution on dearness relief rejected the plea advanced by the Government in regard to its attitude on the Federation's demand for dearness relief on the scale recommended by the Central Pay Commission for the present cost of living index and warned the Government against the grave consequences which would follow by its continued inability to reduce the cost of living and compensate the workers adequately as required by the Central Pay Commission.

This resolution pointed out that the continued deterioration in the standards of living due to rising prices constituted a national threat which

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required all the combined strength of the working classes to defend their interests.

Educational facilities for workers children.--
By a resolution the Convention appealed to the Government to extend every possible assistance to railwaymen in regard to the education of their children, and urged the Ministry to provide their children with education at least up to the high school standard.

Regrouping of railways.-- The Convention discussed the Government's proposals regarding regrouping of the railways into six sections. It decided to call a conference during August 1950 to further consider the question. The conference will consist of the Working Committee of the Federation and one representative from each affiliated union, and will prepare a memorandum for submission to the Government.

Office bearers.-- The Convention elected the following office bearers for the coming year.

~~President~~

President - Mr. Jai Prakash Narain; Vice-Presidents - Mr. G.V. Raghavan, Mr. Fatmi and Mr. Sibnath Banerjee; General Secretary - Mr. S. Guruswamy; Assistant Secretaries - Mr. Peter Alvares and Mr. M.C. Das Gupta.

(Summarised from the Minutes of the Silver Jubilee Convention and copy of the General Secretary's Report, received in this Office; The Statesman dated 10 and 11-6-1950; The Times of India, dated 8-6-1950)

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All-India Stationmasters' And Signallers'
Conference, Bombay, 28-30 May, 1950.

The All-India Stationmasters and Signallers conference, attended by over 200 delegates from all parts of the country, was held at Bombay from 28 to 30 May 1950.

The conference passed a resolution protesting against what it described as the "dilatory tactics of the Railway Board" in not considering the repeated ~~demands~~ demands of railwaymen in key posts. The demands included increase in salaries and grant of dearness allowance, in accordance with the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. It "warned the Government against further delay" in conceding their demands, as that "would cause serious discontent".

By another resolution stated that "acute shortage of housing and frequent ~~backtransport~~ transfers make the employees live a wretched life, without rest, and this endangers the safety of the travelling public, because of the consequent fall in efficiency".

The Conference also urged the Government of India to withdraw the Labour Relations Bill and the Trade Unions Bill, which it said, were "checks on a free and genuine trade union movement in the country".

(The Statesman, dated 31-5-1950).

Punjab: Labour Training Centre to be opened at
Ludhiana.

On 4 June 1950, Mr. Prithvi Singh Azad, Labour Minister, Punjab, while receiving a deputation of labour leaders which was ~~led~~ led by Mr. Amar Nath Vidyalankar, President of the provincial Indian National Trade Union Congress, stated that the Government had decided to open a training centre for the workers of the State to train them on methods of labour organisation.

The Centre, which will be situated at Ludhiana, is to be opened early in August 1950.

(The Tribune, dated 5-6-1950).

33. Employers' Professional Organisations.

India - June 1950.

Employers' Memoranda on Labour Bills: Changes suggested.

The All-India Organisation of Industrial Employers, has submitted ~~two~~ memoranda to the Government of India setting out its differences with the Labour Relations and the Trade Unions Bills.

Labour Relations Bill.- While the Organisation welcomes the Bill as "an important and necessary piece of legislation", it considers that some of its provisions tend to defeat the very object of the Bill.

In the opinion of the Organisation, the purpose of the appellate tribunal, coming into being under the Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Act, 1950, will be better served if it is also authorised to issue directives to industrial courts and tribunals regarding the general principles on which various issues have to be settled. The existence of such principles will reduce the number of appeals to the appellate tribunal, the memorandum says.

Another provision of the Bill which, according to the memorandum, the industry needs most and which was long overdue is Clause 46 which provides that no dispute relating to the termination of service of an employee who is surplus to the requirements of the employers shall be referred to a tribunal. Favoured the retention of this provision as it reads now, the memorandum says that any curtailment of the freedom of the employer to bring about an economic combination of the factors of production will result in an organisational maladjustment ~~in~~ within the industry which is not in the interest of either ~~the~~ the industry or labour.

The memorandum also appreciates the principle of collective bargaining introduced in the Bill and expresses the hope that the facility will help achieve a healthy trade union movement.

The Organisation feels that in regard to certain industries which are spread over many States and which demand, from the point of view of harmony and efficiency, uniform conditions and terms of employment throughout the industry, the Central Government

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should be declared the appropriate Government. It has cited the instance of the plantation industry in the South and suggested that the Central Government may be declared the appropriate Government in such cases.

In the definition of "employee", "employer" and "establishment" contained in the Bill, the memorandum suggests certain modifications. On grounds of discipline and organisational efficiency, it considers it necessary that the term "employee" should exclude persons employed as apprentices, supervisors and those employed in confidential capacity. The definition of "employer" should include all commercial and business offices and factories employing less than 25 persons.

Among other suggestions made are:

To make the Works Committees effective, disputes on which unanimous agreements have been arrived at by them should not be referred to a court or tribunal.

The terms of reference of the Commission of Inquiry proposed for going into matters connected with labour disputes should be restricted to only such fields as ~~it~~ are connected with or are relevant to a labour dispute.

A labour court should be presided over by only a person who is or has been in judicial service in a State for at least five years.

The provision entitling a person who has been Secretary to the Government of India to become a member of the appellate tribunal should be deleted and a chartered accountant appointed to the tribunal.

There should be provision to enable the parties concerned to challenge, on adequate grounds, any appointment made by the Governments to boards, commissions etc.

It should not be the function of the certifying officer or appellate authority to adjudicate upon the fairness or reasonableness of the provisions of any standing orders.

The Clause laying down that there shall not at any time be more than one bargaining agent in respect of the same establishment should be amended to make it possible to have different bargaining agents for clerical labour and manual labour.

No dispute, the cause of which is older than three months shall be referable to a labour court for adjudication.

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The Clause relating to wrongful dismissal should be so amended as to give the option to the ~~man~~ employer either to reinstate an employee or in lieu of such reinstatement to pay compensation.

The appellate tribunal should have jurisdiction to hear appeals both on questions of law and questions of facts. It should also have power both to review and interpret awards when approached by the parties to do so.

The provis~~o~~o permitting declaration of a strike during the pendency of any proceedings on a fresh issue should be ~~inserted~~ deleted.

The Clause providing that in the case of a lock-out, which is illegal, the employer shall, for the period of such lock-out, pay twice the average pay to the employees, should be amended as to reduce the rate to the usual average pay.

The principle of awarding pay for the period of strike is unjustifiable and the relevant Clause should be deleted.

The provision that a trade union or certified bargaining agent not complying with any terms of settlement shall forfeit its rights of recognition is not adequate. It should also be provided that if the same set of persons, who did not comply with the terms, apply for fresh registration, the same shall not be granted.

The Clause that the appropriate Government shall take over control of an undertaking, the management of which cannot see its way to implement the terms of any agreement, is objectionable and more so because it is laid down that the appropriate Government shall not be held liable for any loss incurred in the undertaking during the period of ~~such~~ such control. The clause should be deleted in toto.

The Employers' Organisation does not see any justification for making directors and executives ~~of~~ of a company liable for offences under the Act, such as non-implementation of an award, which is the liability on the company as a body corporate and could be given effect to only if the company has got sufficient funds. It has, therefore, urged for suitable amendments in this regard.

Trade Unions Bill.— The Organisation, in another memorandum, on the Trade Unions Bills, notes that the Bill is primarily a consolidating measure. It, however, makes various comments on certain provisions of the Bill.

In the opinion of the Organisation, for purposes of clarifying ^{the} definition of "member" of a trade union should be included in the Bill. It ~~suggested~~ suggests that the clause defining 'labour disputes' should be amended so as to mean that any dispute or difference becomes a "labour dispute" under the Bill only when it occurs between an employer and at least 40 per cent of his employees. Further, "slow-down" strikes should be included within the definition of "strike" to mean any concerted slow-down or other concerted interruption by employees.

On the question of registration of trade unions, it is suggested that provision should be made for a declaration by each of the applicants that he has not committed any unfair practice or participated in any illegal strike. This is necessary to prevent members of a trade union which has lost its registration for committing an unfair practice from forming another union and getting it registered. The rules of a trade union which is entitled to registration should also provide for the procedure for declaring strikes. No union shall have an honorary or temporary member who is not an officer.

As regards recognition of trade unions, the memorandum suggests that no strike shall be declared before a ballot is taken of the members of the union on declaring a strike and unless 80 per cent of the members of the union have voted in favour of adopting such a course of action. It should also be provided that the executive of a recognised trade union shall be entitled to display notices of the trade union in only such places where notices are usually displayed and not in "any" premises as laid down in the Bill.

As regards unfair practices, the Memorandum suggests that the word "recognised" occurring in the title of this clause should be replaced by the word "registered". This will prevent all registered trade unions, although unrecognised, from committing unfair practices. It should also be provided that employee executives who have committed unfair practice shall be debarred from holding any office in any trade union for a period of three years.

(Summarised from texts of the Memoranda received in this Office; The Statesman, dated 20-6-1950).

Labour Relations Bill Criticized:
U.P. Commerce Chamber's Memorandum.

Strong opposition to the Central Labour Relations Bill, has been voiced by the Uttar Pradesh Chamber of Commerce in a memorandum to the Government of India. The memorandum characterized certain provisions in the Bill as "too arbitrary". While reminding the Government that the chief aim of all labour legislation in the country should be to improve and develop the industrial production of the country, the Uttar Pradesh Chamber points out that certain provisions in the Bill are bound to make the running of industries and commercial houses very difficult, and may defeat the very purpose of the Bill.

The Chamber feels the definition of the word employee, as provided in the Bill, is too wide. It suggests that the definition should exclude those employed as officers or in a supervisory or confidential capacity; watch and ward staff; and any person employed as an apprentice. The Chamber suggests that both in the interest of economy and practicability, the scope of the Bill should, for the time being, be restricted to industrial establishments. The definition of establishments should be so amended as to include only those commercial concerns which employ 50 or more people and factories employing more than 25 ~~people~~ people. The definition of the term "labour dispute" destroys the sanctity of a private contract, as any matter which is already covered by an agreement can also be made the subject of a "labour dispute" says the memorandum. The Chamber pleads for employers' rights in regard to unforeseen retrenchment. Criticising Sub-Section (1) of Sec. 66 of the Bill which empowers the Government to reject or modify an award given by a labour tribunal, the Chamber holds it is fundamentally wrong that the executive should interfere with judicial decisions. The Chamber contends that it has been the sad experience of employers that awards in industrial disputes have not always been given with full appreciation of the facts involved and the evidence produced in the proceedings. There is a considerable danger of such abuse continuing. The deletion of the proviso is urged so that all orders passed by a labour court are made appealable to the Tribunal.

While appreciating the restrictions on strikes and lock-outs, the Chamber points out that the penalties provided for them do not hold the balance equally between employers and workers, in as much as an employee who goes on illegal strike forfeits his claims to wages, leave and bonus, whereas the employer

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who declares an illegal lock-out must pay wages at double rate for the period of lock-outs and grant leave and other concessions. As disposal of labour disputes can be prolonged without any fault of the employers, it does not appear to be just to impose upon them any obligation to pay compensation for the strike period. The imposition of such a burden would also increase the cost of production which is already ~~unduly~~ unduly high.

The memorandum adds that the Chamber is, however, in complete agreement with the Government's intention to introduce uniformity in the basic laws governing labour relations. It, therefore, welcomes the provision in the Bill aimed at setting up an appellate tribunal to ensure all possible co-ordination and uniformity in the settlement of labour disputes throughout the country.

(The Statesman, dated 15-6-1950).

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Chapter 4 Economic Questions

45. Foreign Trade and Exchanges.

India - June 1950.

India and Pakistan ratify Trade Agreements:
New Schedule for Jute Deliveries.

At a recent trade talks held in Delhi between the Governments of India and Pakistan, certain amendments for the April Trade Agreement (vide page 13 of the report of this Office for April/1950) were agreed to. The amendments have been ratified by the Government of India and Pakistan.

Besides providing a new schedule of deliveries to make up arrears in the jute despatches from Pakistan, the amendments envisage a limited extension of the scope of the Agreement. India will now permit the export of 200,000 rupees worth of giant tyres of Indian manufacture, and of a further quantity of 2 million lbs. of flue-cured tobacco. Payment for these exports is to be made from the special jute account opened on credit earned by Pakistan from her jute exports to India. Cement, originally meant for East Bengal may now be exported to West Pakistan. The quantity to be made available is 50,000 tons. Inclusion of more items of a domestic and perishable nature in the freelist is considered likely.

Each Government has undertaken to provide facilities for rebooking to consigners in the other country goods which consignees are not prepared to accept.

According to the revised schedule, Pakistan has to deliver, in two instalments, the quantity of jute outstanding for the period up to 31 May 1950. In addition, she will fulfil her commitments for June and July, which involve 1,600,000 ^{maunds} mds. Up to 10 June 1950 India is stated to have received about 590,000 mds of jute from Eastern Bengal. The Pakistan Government has so far released for despatch to India about 800,000 mds. According to the original agreement, 2,400,000 maunds should have arrived in India by 31 May 1950. Deliveries fixed for June and July are to be made in two equal monthly instalments.

To expedite delivery of goods, a joint review of all cases where goods destined for one country have been detained in the other will be undertaken. Each Government will depute an officer for the purpose.

(The Statesman, 18-6-1950)

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Import Tariff on Automobile Components:
Inquiry Committee appointed.

The Government of India has appointed an Inquiry Committee, under the chairmanship of the Director-General of Industries and Supplies to re-examine the position in regard to the inclusion of particular automobile parts in categories bearing different rates of duty.

The committee is required to study the plant and equipment, the raw material and technical man-power resources of factories engaged in the manufacture of automobiles and components in India and examine their programme of manufacture and in the light of foregoing report on the classification of automobile components and parts; to report whether components manufactured in India are of adequate standards and to suggest methods of improvement, where possible; to examine the specification and designs of parts and components manufactured in India and report on the extent to which their use is being restricted by multiplicity of designs and ~~specific~~ specifications and to suggest methods of maximum utilization of resources by their standardization.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
dated 12-6-1950, pages 192(27) to
192(32))

44. Prices and Cost of Living.

India - June 1950.

Indian National Income: Increase in Per Capita Earnings from 204 Rupees in 1945-46 to 228 Rupees in 1946-47.

The Economic Adviser to the Government of India has recently published a brochure on the national income of the Indian Union States for 1946-47. According to the brochure though there has been an increase in the national income from 204 rupees per capita in 1945-56 to 228 rupees per capita in 1946-47, the increase is not real as allowance has to be made for a rise in the general level of prices by about 12.5 per cent. The total net national income in 1946-47 stood at ~~Rs 55,800 million~~ 55,800 million rupees. This figure is for the whole of the Indian Union States as constituted after partition and does not include the States merged into them subsequently.

The following is the summary table of the national income for the Indian Union Provinces for 1946-47:-

(Rupees in Million)

A. Primary production:	23,980
(a) Net output of agriculture and animal husbandry.....	22,920
Gross output of agriculture and animal husbandry.....	30,660
Output of Agriculture.....	25,450
(i) Food.....	20,020
(ii) Non-food.....	5,430
Output of animal husbandry.....	5,210
(i) Milk.....	4,040
(ii) Meat, fish and egg.....	900
(iii) By-products of slaughter..	240
(a) Hides and skins.....	200
(b) Other by-products.....	40
(iv) Miscellaneous.....	30
Less	7,750
Seed and wastage.....	2,070
Maintenance of cattle (roughages and concentrates).....	5,010
Repairs and depreciation of agricultural implements.....	400
Interest on agricultural debt.....	270
(b) Net output of forest products...	460
(c) Net output of mining.....	610

(Rupees in Million)

B. Non-primary production:	31,150
(a) Income assessed to tax....	5,820
(i) From Government sources	850
Service	720
Pension	20
Interests on securities	110
(ii) From non-Governmental sources	4,970
Manufacture Excess profits	
charged to tax	950
All other income	4,020
(b) Income not assessed to tax	25,330
(i) From Government sources	2,600
Service	2,330
Pension	110
Interest on productive debt	160
(ii) From non-government sources	22,730
House rent	850
Interest on agricultural	
debt	270
All other incomes	21,650
Urban	11,200
Factory labour	1,230
Domestic service	3,260
Industry, trade, private	
transport and profession	6,710
Rural	10,430
Cottage industry, trade	
and village profession	10,430
C. Adjustments:	
Deduct-	160
Profits of Mining companies	100
Income assessed to tax of	
persons employed in mining	
industry	60
Add-	850
Net profits of government-	
owned enterprises	510
Payments in kind (food and	
clothing) to military personnel	320

Total Net National Income at	
Factor Cost	55,800

Total Estimated Population	244.4 millions
Per Capita Income	228 rupees.

Occupational distribution.- The following table shows the occupational distribution of the estimated working population in the Indian Union Provinces in 1946-47.

Work

(Note Working population means: Principal workers plus the balance of subsidiary workers in terms of principal workers at the rate of three subsidiary and two dependent for one principal worker.)

	Working population Numbers (in Thousnads).	Per cent of total
Exploitation of animals and vegetation	68,300	64.48
Exploitation of Minerals	520	.49
Industry	19,500	18.40
Transport	1,600	1.52
Trade	4,500	4.25
Public Force	2,400	2.27
Public Administration	900	.85
Professions and Liberal Arts	1,400	1.32
Domestic Service	6,800	6.42
Total	105,920	100.00

Gainfully employed have been classified by sectors of income below:-

(in Thousands).

Gainfully occupied	105,920
I. Primary production	68,820
(a) Agriculture and Animal Husbandry	68,300
(b) Mines	520
II. Non-Primary Production	37,100
(a) Taxed	900
Government	200
Non-Government	700
(b) Not taxed	36,200
Government	3,200
Non-Government	33,000
Rural	18,300
Urban	14,700

(Note: Figure are correct upto a ~~thousand~~ hundred thousand).

(The Hindu, dated 13-6-1950).

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Survey of Incomes in Bombay for 1948-1949:
Improved Living Conditions of Rural Population.

A survey ~~conducted~~ conducted by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Bombay, estimated the total income in the Bombay State during 1948-49 at 5,761 million rupees. Of this 2073.6 million rupees or 36 per cent is derived from agriculture and forest produce; 2166.9 million rupees or 37.6 per cent from industry, wages and salaries; and 1520.5 million rupees or 26 per cent from incomes from distributive trades, financial and insurance activities and income of services.

The value of agricultural production, according to the survey, was 1766.1 million rupees in 1948-49. This was more than four times the value of production in 1938 which was only 436.8 million rupees. Among the agricultural commodities jowar, rice and groundnut follow in importance so far as the value was concerned. The survey points out that even ~~after~~ after making an allowance for increase in the cost of living, the rural population was "better off" in 1949-50 in comparison to conditions in 1938-39.

Organised industries.- The income from organized industries during 1948 was 1732.2 million rupees. Salaries and wages for the year amounted to ~~approximately~~ 900.1 million rupees ~~which~~ while the net value added by the manufacture was 832.1 million rupees. In 1946, the income of organized industries was 1135.2 million rupees with wages at 490.6 million rupees, salaries at 80.4 million rupees and net value added by the manufacture at 564.2 million rupees. The total wage bill in the State rose from 150 million rupees in 1939, to 780 million rupees in 1948. The textile industry contributed almost consistently more than 65 per cent to the total wage bill. ~~But~~ But the increase had naturally to be related to the increased cost of living and increase in employment.

The production of milk, meat, hides, skins, and wool in the State in 1948 was to the value of 460 million rupees compared to 133.9 million rupees in 1940. The total value of forest produce increased from ~~Rs~~ 4.257 million rupees in 1938-39 to 27.023 million rupees in 1948.

In 1948-49, the income of Municipal and Local Board employees was 58.0 million rupees, the Bombay Government employees' was 156.9 million rupees and that of the Central Government employees 334.0 million rupees. Wages and salaries roughly made up 30.7 per cent of the total income.

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From 1941-42 till the end of 1948-49 the land revenue remained practically low and static, that is between 31.4 million rupees and 40.3 million rupees. According to the survey over six million urban population had a total income of 3627.2 million rupees with a per capita income of 603.5 rupees while about 17 million rural population with a total income of 2133.2 million rupees had a per capita income of 124.7 rupees.

(The Statesman, 4-6-1950).

Increase in Raw Cotton Price approved
Machinery for Collective Purchasing
to be set up.

The Government of India has decided to increase, for the 1950-51 crop, the basic ceiling price of each of the 24 varieties of Indian cotton by 150 rupees per candy (two bales). It has also decided to devise an effective machinery for collective purchase of cotton and for the maintenance of prices at reasonable levels, subject to the ceiling. The proposed machinery will be of non-official character, representing the interests in the cotton trade and textile industry. It has to work in close liaison with the Government in ~~the operation~~ its operation.

Indian cotton is used mainly for the manufacture of coarse and medium varieties of cloth. The production of such cloth during 1950 is estimated at 2,600 million yards, nearly 65 per cent of the country's total.

The industry had been making a grievance for some time that Indian cotton was not available in the open market even at the controlled ceiling prices, which ranged between 450 rupees and 830 rupees per candy. The Textile Advisory Committee, at a meeting held in Bombay recently recommended an increase of 150 rupees per candy in the basic ceiling prices.

The revised prices of the 1950-51 cotton crop are likely to result in a nearly 12 per cent increase in the prices of textiles made of this cotton.

Announcing the decision to raise the ceiling price an official communique points out that there is no question of any change, during the next six months, in the present price structure for cloth made of Indian cotton. Prices of textiles manufactured with the 1950-51 crop will be fixed on the basis of the prices ruling at the time of fixation.

(The Statesman, 17-6-1950).

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45. Economic Development and Control.

India - June 1950.

Regrouping of India's Railways: Proposed
Division into Six Zones.

The Government of India has tentatively decided to regroup the Indian Railways into six zones of administration. The scheme, set out in a memorandum of the Railway Board, has been circulated to State Governments, Chambers of Commerce, railway labour organisations, and the public for ascertaining their views.

According to the memorandum, the main principles governing the regrouping are:

(1) Every railway administration should serve as far as possible a compact region.

(2) It should be large enough to provide a headquarters organisation of the highest calibre, capable of following and assimilating up-to-date improvements in railway techniques and equipped with adequate workshop facilities and statistical training and research institutions.

(3) The regrouping should cause the minimum dislocation in the existing arrangements and should be so phased as to prevent any dislocation or even temporary diminution of the quantity or efficiency of railway service.

(4) While the existing proposals do not indicate the nature of the internal administration of each group, viz., whether it should be on a divisional or district system, it is not proposed to adopt any dogmatic attitude in the matter and the vital necessity of causing minimum dislocation will also govern the decision on this important issue.

The memorandum says that the total route mileage of the Indian Railways, which is of the order of 33,000 has been divided into six zones.

The first zone, northern railway, will consist of the EP Railway, the western portion of the EI Railway, ~~the~~ between Lucknow-Kanpur and Delhi-Saharanpur, metre gauge portion of the BB and CI Railway between Agra and Kanpur and the OT Railway west of Chupra.

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The second zone, western railway, will consist of metre gauge portion of the BB and CI Railway, except Kanpur-Agra section and the States railways of Saurashtra, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaipur, Rajasthan and Kutch. In this zone, consideration has been given to the development needs of Kandla port and the business and economic connection of Saurashtra, etc., with Rajasthan.

The Central Railway, which forms the third zone will consist of the broad gauge section of the BB and CI Railway, major portion of G.I.P. Railway, Scindia and Dholpur State Railways. In this zone not only the alternative routes from the major port of Bombay to northern India, but also the lines of communication between Bombay and the industrial areas around it have been placed under one administration.

Zone four, southern railway, will consist of the S.I. Railway (both broad gauge and metre gauge) major portion of (broad gauge) and entire portion of the (metre gauge) of the M and SM Railway and the entire Mysore State Railway. Both geographically and from the railway operating point of view, grouping together of all southern railways is the ideal arrangement.

Zone five, the Eastern Railway will consist of the Nizam State Railway portions of the G.I.P. and M and SM Railways and the BN Railway, excluding the coalfield area of Bengal and Bihar and Howrah-Khargpur section.

Zone six, North Eastern Railway will consist of the EI Railway east of Lucknow-Kanpur, the coalfield area of Bengal and Bihar at present with BN Railway, Howrah-Khargpur section, OT Railway east of Chupra and the Assam Railway, including the Assam rail link and the Darjeeling-Himalayan railway.

(The Statesman, dated 5-6-1950).

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The Insurance (Amendment) Act, 1950
(No. XLVII of 1950).

The Insurance (Amendment) Bill, (vide pages 37-38 of the report of this Office for November 1949) as passed by Parliament was assented to by the President on 20 May 1950 and has been gazetted as Act No. XLVII of 1950. The Act, among other things, provides for measures preventing designing financiers from acquiring control over insurance companies.

By a notification dated 29 May 1950, the Central Government has fixed 1 June 1950 as the date on which certain sections of the Act shall come into force, while on 1 September 1950, the remaining sections shall come into force.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
Part II-Section I, dated 23 May 1950,
pages 192(43)-192(90) ;
The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
Part II-Section 3, dated 29 May 1950,
page 49).

Repatriation of Foreign Capital: Relaxations
announced.

The Government of India announced on 2 June 1950 certain concessions in respect of repatriation of foreign capital invested in India by residents of countries outside India. The repatriation of capital owned by the residents of sterling areas and Norway, Sweden and Denmark will be freely allowed. In respect of the countries other than these there will be two-fold relaxation: firstly capital invested after 1 January 1950 in projects approved by the Government of India may be repatriated at any time thereafter to the extent of the original investment and from the ~~proceeds~~ proceeds of that investment. Secondly, any part of the profits derived from investment and ploughed back into projects with the approval of the Government of India may be treated as investment for the purpose of permitting repatriation.

Announcing this, the Finance Ministry in a Press Note states that appreciation of any capital so invested or ploughed back would not qualify for repatriation and the amount available for repatriation will be restricted to the amount of rupees originally invested or ploughed back. In the case of investment by means of goods and services, the amount will be the rupee value of such goods or services as recorded

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in the books of the company or firm concerned at the time of investment.

Such repatriation facilities would not apply to the purchase of shares in the stock exchange unless it is an integral part of an approved investment project, nor would they apply to capital owned by the residents of countries other than those mentioned and invested in India before 1 January 1950. The Reserve Bank of India would receive all applications for investment of capital in India as well as repatriation and they would refer them to the Government of India and obtain their orders.

(The Hindu, dated 3-6-1950).

Reports on Development Plans Called for:
Planning Commission's Request to States.

It is understood that the Planning Commission has asked the State Governments for full reports on all their development schemes undertaken during the last five years. This is to make a comparative study of the plans and to place them in the right perspective of an all-India programme. To facilitate careful appreciation of the development programmes, the Commission has proposed the grouping of these schemes under various heads and sub-heads. The Commission has asked State Governments to pay special attention to any new ideas which may have been decided, or to experiments which may have been made as an important object of the proposed development programme. ~~is to pool the experience gained in different parts of the country.~~

The State Governments have also been asked to set out clearly and briefly the principal features, the estimated expenditure, the expenditure actually incurred, the extent of Central assistance involved and the quantitative statements of the results, which have been secured of individual schemes under different heads. They have to fill in separately for every individual scheme whose estimated cost is ~~to~~ 1 million rupees or more, a schedule outlining the main features of the scheme and to attach to each schedule a brief note explaining the background of the existing facilities and requirements in the States against which the scheme is to operate, the contribution the scheme is expected to make and the results in quantitative terms which have been achieved so far or are expected to be achieved from the scheme.

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For the purpose of reviews, the approved development schemes are to be divided into three categories: (A) schemes already completed or terminated; (B) ~~se~~ schemes in progress; and (C) schemes not yet in operation. For schemes which have not ^{been} begun so far (category (C)) the schedule provides specifically for answers on the following points: (1) degree of priority attached to the scheme by the State Government in its development ~~with~~ programme; (2) precise statement of the reasons for not having ~~been~~ taken up the scheme so far; and (3) whether the scheme has been technically worked out in all respects and whether it can be implemented immediately if finances were available.

(The Statesman, 20-6-1950).

Panels of Experts for Planning Commission:
Officials and Non-Officials to be included.

To secure the association of officials and non-officials who have special knowledge and experience in subjects in which the Planning Commission is interested, it is proposed to constitute panels of experts for obtaining their constant help and advice. The main headings under which panels are being set up are:- Industry, Trade and Communications; Food and Agriculture; Development of Natural Resources; and Employment and Social Services. The panels proposed to be set up under Industry Trade and Communications are: Industry, Transport, Commerce and Cottage Industries.

There will also be a panel of technical consultants. Under Food and Agriculture the panels proposed are:- Agriculture and Agrarian Reform. Under Development of Natural Resources, the panels proposed are: Irrigation and Power, Coal and Minerals, and Scientific and Technical Manpower. To deal with the subject of Employment and Social Services the panels proposed are: Labour and Employment, Health Programmes, Educational Programmes, Housing and Public Co-operation.

The Planning Commission has already decided to set up a Planning Board consisting for the greater part of persons nominated by associations connected with commerce industry and labour, and other associations in the technological and socio-economic field. This Board will meet ordinarily once in two months, but sections of the Board dealing with particular groups of subjects, to which others may also be co-opted, may meet more often.

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For consultations on particular questions, the Commission proposes to request individual members of the panels to join meetings of sections of the Planning Commission Advisory Board and assist in the study and consideration of specific problems.

(The ~~Hindustan~~ Hindustan Times,
dated 16-6-1950).

46. Wages.

India - June 1950.

The Minimum Wages (Extension of Time) Ordinance, 1950 (No. XVII of 1950): Time Limit for fixing Minimum Rates of Wages extended.

The Government of India promulgated on 16 June 1950, the Minimum Wages (Extension of Time) Ordinance, (No. XVII of 1950), providing for the extension of time limit for fixing minimum rates of wages in employments specified in Part I of the Schedule to the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

The Ordinance provides that minimum rates of wages shall be fixed in all scheduled employments before the expiry of three years from the commencement of the Act or in the case of employments included in the schedule by a notification under section 27 of the Act, two years from the date of the notification. The Ordinance further validates all acts done or any fixation of the minimum wages made between 15 March to 16 June 1950.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II-Section 1, dated 16 June, 1950, pages 203-204).

Central Advisory Board Under Minimum Wages Act set up.

In pursuance of section 8 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and rule 3 of the Minimum Wages (Central Advisory Board) Rules, 1949 (vide page 41 of the report of this Office for November 1949) the Central Government has constituted a Central Advisory Board, consisting of Mr. V.K.R. Menon, Secretary, Ministry of Labour, as chairman, five independent members, nine representing Part A States and 15 representatives each from employers and workers representing the scheduled employments.

(Notification No. LWI-24(8) dated 30 May 1950; The Gazette of India, Part II-Section 3, dated 3 June 1950, pages 133-135).

Ajmer: Draft Minimum Wages Rules, 1950.

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 30 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Government of Ajmer State published on 10 June 1950, the draft of the State of Ajmer Minimum Wages Rules, 1950 for carrying out of the purposes of the Act. The draft will be taken into consideration after 15 July 1950.

(The Gazette of India, Part III-Section 3, dated 10 June 1950, pages 195-201).

Bihar: Draft Minimum Wages Rules 1950, published.

The Government of Bihar published on 31 May 1950, the draft of the Bihar Minimum Wages Rules, 1950, under section 30 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, for carrying out the purposes of the Act. The draft will be taken into consideration after 30 June 1950.

(The Bihar Gazette, Part III, dated 31 March, 1950, pages 130-143).

Bombay: Fixing of Minimum Rates of Wages in Stone breaking and crushing Employment and Oil Mills: Enquiry Committees set up under Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

The Bombay Government has set up two committees under section 5 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, to hold enquiries and advise the Government in fixing minimum wages in respect of employment in stone breaking or stone crushing and oil mills respectively. The committees consist of equal number of representatives of employers and workers.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part I, dated 8 June, 1950, pages 3252-3253).

Bombay: Draft Minimum Wages Rules, 1950,
published.

The Bombay State Government published on 18 May 1950, the draft of the Bombay Minimum Wages Rules, which it proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 30 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for carrying out the purposes of the Act. The draft will be taken into consideration after 18 June 1950.

(The Bombay Government Gazette Part IV-A,
dated 18 May 1950, pages 294-312).

Madras: Schedule of Minimum Rates of Wages in
Oil Mills and Rice Mills, Flour Mills or Dal
Mills: Draft published.

In exercise of powers conferred under section 5 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Madras Government has published the following draft schedule of minimum rates of wages in respect of employments in oil mills and rice mills, flour mills or dal mills:-

Oil Mills

Class of workers.	Minimum rate of daily wages.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
Carpernters.....	2	4	0
Cake carriers.....	1	2	0
Coolies.....	1	0	0
Electricians.....	1	10	0
Engine drivers.....	1	12	0
Expeller maistris.....	1	12	0
Firemen.....	1	4	0
Fitters.....	1	4	0
Filtermen.....	1	4	0
Oilers.....	1	4	0
Press men.....	1	4	0
Sweepers.....	0	12	0
Watchmen.....	1	0	0

II. Rice Mills, Flour Mills or Dal Mills.

Class of workers.	Minimum rate of daily wages.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
Amalis or kata coolies.....	1	4	0
Bag stitchers.....	1	4	0
Bag weighers.....	1	5	0
Carriers of husk.....	1	0	0
Carriers of rice.....	1	0	0
Coolies.....	1	0	0
Engine drivers.....	1	12	0
Electricians.....	1	10	0
Firemen.....	1	4	0
Fitters.....	1	4	0
Hullermen.....	1	2	0
Mechanics.....	1	8	0
Maistris.....	1	4	0
Oilers.....	1	0	0
Paddy boilers.....	1	2	0
Paddy drivers.....	1	2	0
Paddy millers.....	1	2	0
Paddy soakers.....	1	2	0
Sweepers.....	0	12	0
Shellerman.....	1	2	0
Winnowers.....	0	12	0
Water carriers.....	0	12	0
Watchmen.....	1	0	0

(The Fort St. George Gazette, Part I, dated 30 May, 1950, pages 1581-1582).

Orissa: Draft Minimum Wages Rules, 1950.

In exercise of powers conferred under section 30 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Orissa Government published on 2 June 1950, the draft of the Orissa Minimum Wages Rules, 1950, for carrying out the purposes of the Act. The draft Rules will be taken into consideration after 30 June 1950.

(The Orissa Gazette, Part III, dated 2 June 1950, pages 551-563).

U.P.: Government Order implementing Labour Enquiry Committee's Recommendations extended for Six Months.

By a notification dated 26 May 1950, the Uttar Pradesh Government has extended the Government Order issued on 6 December 1948, implementing the decisions on the Labour Enquiry Committee's Report (vide page 38 of the report of this Office for December 1948) for a further period of six months with effect from 6 June 1950.

(Notification No. 1272(LL)/XVIII-894(L)-1948, dated 26 May 1950, Government Gazette of the Uttar Pradesh, Extraordinary, dated 27 May 1950).

Higher Pay Scales for Calcutta Corporation Employees: Tribunal's Award.

The tribunal appointed by the Government of West Bengal in October 1949, to adjudicate in the dispute between the Calcutta Corporation and its 30,000 employees has published its award, recommending revision of pay scales for certain categories of employees. Among other things, the tribunal has suggested the raising of the maximum salary of the lower grade clerical staff to 190 rupees including the temporary special increase of 15 rupees and an ad interim increase of 4 rupees, already granted.

As regards, unskilled labour, the standard grade has been raised from 25-30 rupees to 25-34 rupees and the upper grade from 27-32 rupees to 30-36 rupees. The minimum and the maximum of the pay of skilled labour in grades starting with 35 rupees, 40 rupees and 45 rupees has been increased by 5 rupees in each case. Besides conveyance allowance of certain groups of employees has been increased.

(The Statesman, dated 3-5-1950;
The Calcutta Gazette, Part I,
dated 31 May 1950, pages 615-670).

49. Rehabilitation.

India - June 1950.

750 Million Rupees to be spent on Rehabilitation in Three Years: High Power Committee's Recommendations

The Government of India has released for publication salient features of the report of the High Power Committee appointed last year under the chairmanship of Mr. N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar to examine the existing rehabilitation schemes and suggest a plan of rehabilitation for the future, (vide pages 30-31 of the report of this Office for October 1949).

The Committee has made upwards of 60 recommendations under 13 separate heads. Most of these have been accepted by the Government of India, in some cases with slight modifications. An important recommendation accepted by the Government relates to the provision of adequate funds for dealing satisfactorily with the rehabilitation problem. The Government of India has agreed that a total sum of 750 million rupees should be provided during the three financial years beginning from 1950-51, and that the sum for 1950-51 should be raised from 200 million rupees to 250 million rupees exclusive of the amounts required for East Pakistan displaced persons (for whom a separate sum 50 million rupees has been agreed to). Also, a review would be undertaken in July to examine the possibility of further raising the total sum available during 1950-51, which is considered a crucial

year in the solution of this problem.

The provision of a loan of 10 million rupees every year for the next three years to the Punjab ~~(P)~~ Government for its capital project, attraction of private capital for financing housing schemes for displaced persons, the State's permanent liability for the care of the aged and the infirm and unattached women and children form the subjects of some of the other recommendations made by the Committee and accepted by the Government.

The Committee points out that two big projects which do not fall strictly within the sphere of the Ministry of Rehabilitation but would nevertheless help considerably in rehabilitation of displaced persons are the Bhakra and Nangal project and the Punjab ~~(P)~~ capital project. The Committee has recommended that both ~~of~~ these projects should be "pushed forward with vigour". It has expressed the hope that other Ministries of the Government of India and the Punjab ~~(P)~~ Government would do their best to help the early completion of both these projects.

Plan of rehabilitation.- The Committee in its report has set out in outlines the general plan of rehabilitation which is being followed at present by the Ministry of Rehabilitation. This plan, the key note of which is to provide, as far as possible, gainful employment and shelter to every displaced family, has been generally accepted by the Committee. The Committee has noted that plans already exist for catering to the needs of all ~~sex~~ classes of displaced persons, although the scale on which assistance is provided might be considered inadequate. It observes every displaced family is likely to view whatever assistance is given to it against the background of its pre-partition status, and much of the criticism

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and discontent has been engendered by the fact that for obvious reasons it has not been possible to restore every displaced family to the status it held in Pakistan. Dissatisfaction amongst the propertied classes, which is mainly attributable to the non-settlement of the evacuee property question. If a fairly reasonable settlement in regard to evacuee property can be arrived at, the Committee says, a major cause of discontent would have been removed.

Recommendations.- The Committee's recommendations deal separately with various aspects of rehabilitation. The main recommendations are given below under different heads, and an indication is provided wherever the views of the Government of India are different from those of the Committee.

The Committee has observed that in the matter of housing first priority should be given to those who are living in tents or are without any shelter. It has noted that housing schemes for these categories are already being vigorously pursued, particularly in Delhi, and has recommended that every effort should be made to expedite these schemes.

Rural housing.- The present policy of making full use of available rural evacuee houses should continue. New houses should be as cheap as possible, and the cost should not generally exceed 500 rupees per house. Loans for house construction may, however, be granted to displaced persons up to 1,000 rupees per house, interest being charged on the amount advanced in excess of 500 rupees.

Urban housing.- The problem of urban housing has been divided into three categories - cheap, middle class and higher class houses. For cheap houses, interest-free loans upto 750 rupees are recommended, while a further 500 rupees may be sanctioned with interest. For middle and lower classes, loans on interest may be advanced upto 5,000 rupees, but displaced persons should be asked to contribute 50 percent of any sum they require in excess of 3,000 rupees per house. Finally, displaced persons with some resources who wish to live in better types of houses may also be sanctioned financial assistance, but not more than what is recommended in the case of the middle and the lower classes. They should also be helped, as far as possible, with building materials at controlled prices. All loans should, as far as possible, be given in instalments and in the form of materials, and suitable safeguards should be provided to ensure that these are actually utilized for the purpose for which they are given. The cost of acquisition of land and development should invariably be borne by the Government. In the selection of sites for cheap houses, the primary consideration should be that of finding gainful employment. Further construction of mud houses has been disfavoured by

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the Committee.

The Government of India has been unable to agree with the Committee that loans should be interest-free. Owing to financial limitations moreover, the Government would have to follow a less liberal policy in sanctioning loans than envisaged by the Committee. Acceptance of the Committee's recommendations in full in this respect, it is pointed out, would involve the Government in expenditure of about 375.0 million rupees even at the uniform rate of 500 rupees and 1,250 rupees only per house in the rural and urban areas respectively, to complete the housing programme for displaced persons.

State Governments had generally favoured establishment of a housing finance corporation to attract private capital to finance housing schemes for displaced persons. The Committee ~~should~~ has recommended that all efforts should be made to "rope in private capital". The Government of India, accepting these suggestions, has already announced arrangements to launch a housing company in Delhi, and negotiations are under way for ~~similar~~ similar action in some other States, (vide page 47 of this report).

Townships.- New townships for displaced persons, in the Committee's opinion, should be constructed only in such places where means of gainful employment can be provided, as rehabilitation does not end merely with the provision of houses. The Committee considered the Punjab ~~the~~ Government's request for the provision of funds for the construction of the new Punjab ~~the~~ capital, which would absorb at least 60,000 displaced persons, and has recommended that a sum of 10 million rupees may be made available every year for three years beginning from 1950-51, subject to certain conditions. This has been agreed to by Government.

The Committee considered a proposal for the setting up of integrated rural-cum-urban units catering to a population of about 40,000 displaced persons each, and came to the conclusion that such a scheme could only be applied to new areas or to such existing areas where the economy of the area undergoes a radical transformation by reasons of a change in the production structure, as for example, in the Bhakra Dam area in Punjab ~~the~~, where new irrigation and power facilities are likely to make a vital change in the economy of the area. The Committee, however, recommended that in the new townships at Faridabad, Rajpura and Nilokheri, the scheme should be given effect to the extent possible.

Education of refugees.- Arrangements already exist in relief camps for free primary education, and in some cases up to the middle standard. The Committee has recommended that liability for free primary education, whether in camps or outside, should be assumed by State Governments and integrated with their own schemes of free primary education with effect from 1 April 1950. Where free primary education is not imparted by any State Government, assistance in the shape of school fees to displaced students and other expenses in connection therewith should be reimbursed to that Government to the extent they are unable to meet them from their own resources.

While ~~agreeing~~ agreeing with these recommendations of the Committee, the Government of India has addressed that assistance to displaced studentsⁿ should be given only for a specified period of two to three years.

The Government of India has also agreed with the Committee that in place of the present schemes for advancing loans to students, a system of stipends should be introduced with necessary safeguards. The payment of loans would, however, have to be continued in the case of students in medical, engineering or other technical courses as well as those studying abroad who have not completed their courses.

The Committee has laid down the scales of assistance which should in future be given to displaced students. A recommendation the Government of India has agreed to relates to the sanctioning of 250 stipends of 25 rupees each to displaced women for training in nursing and midwifery. The Government of India has also agreed with the Committee, that, subject to the availability of trained teachers, the system of basic education should, as far as possible, be introduced in schools in camps.

Vocational and technical training.- The Committee feels that the existing arrangements regarding vocational and technical training for displaced persons should not only be continued, but intensified. Training is at present provided in the centres run by the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Rehabilitation, State Governments, and non-official organizations. The possibility of training in existing private workshops and factories should be fully explored. In such cases the Government should bear 50 per cent of the cost of training. The Government has accepted the recommendation, that 10,000 displaced persons should be trained in masonry in various States and absorbed in the respective States after they have completed their course. This training should, in particular, be given at Rajpura.

Financial responsibility.— The Committee has recommended that with effect from 1 April 1950, State Governments should undertake 50 per cent of the financial responsibilities for running camps for displaced persons. The Committee states that the liability of the Government for the maintenance and care of displaced unattached women and children, ~~says the Committee,~~ "is a permanent liability and should continue". Efforts should, however, be made to impart training of productive nature to able-bodied women and also to give education to unattached children and children of unattached widows. An adequate number of homes should also be provided for unattached women who are still outside such homes. Similarly, the liability of Government for the maintenance and care of the aged and the infirm amongst displaced persons who have no one to support them "is a permanent one and should be assumed by the Government".

Displaced Harijans.— In view of the backwardness and disabilities from which Harijans have suffered for a long time, the Committee has recommended that in all schemes of rehabilitation, adequate consideration should be paid to the problem of displaced Harijans.

Other recommendations.— A recommendation of the Committee, that a sum of 400,000 rupees should be earmarked for expenditure on the medical treatment of displaced tuberculosis patients during 1950-51 has been agreed to by the Government. The sum will be placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Health.

The Government of India, in accordance with the Committee's recommendation, has decided to increase the funds available for rehabilitation from 200 million rupees to 250 million rupees for the year 1950-51. A separate sum of 50 million rupees has been provided for East Pakistan displaced persons. A review of the availability of funds will be undertaken in July 1950.

Housing for Displaced Persons: Company to be floated in Delhi.

A Government of India Press Note states that for some time the Ministry of Rehabilitation has been making efforts to enlist private capital and float housing companies for providing roofed accommodation to displaced persons. Large sums of money are required for housing displaced persons, and it is necessary to augment Government funds with the help of private capital. It was also felt that a housing company will be able to construct houses speedily, not being encumbered with rigid rules and regulations.

The Ministry of Rehabilitation has accordingly been negotiating with various insurance companies and banks in Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi. Negotiations have now been completed with a bank in regard to the floating of a housing company in Delhi. This company will have an authorized capital of 5 Million rupees of which 50 percent will be subscribed for the present. The Government will invest 51 per cent of the capital and 49 per cent will be open to public subscription. It is proposed to start this housing company in Delhi immediately with a subscribed capital of 2.5 million rupees of which 2 million rupees will be subscribed by the Government and 500,000 rupees by the ~~bank~~ bank. The company will be registered as a joint stock company. To begin with, the housing company will ~~have~~ have five directors, four of whom will be nominated by the Government and one by the participating bank.

Similar companies will be floated in other States where housing schemes have to be implemented for displaced persons.

(The Statesman, 1-6-1950)

Rehabilitation Schemes of Different States:
Joint Board set up.

To co-ordinate the relief and rehabilitation activities in West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Orissa and Tripura, the Government of India has set up a Joint Rehabilitation Board. The first meeting of the Board was held in Calcutta on 26 June 1950. The meeting was attended by the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Assam, and Orissa; Irrigation Minister, West Bengal, the Rehabilitation Ministers of Assam and Bihar; and the Chief Commissioner of Tripura. Mr. A.P. Jain, Central Rehabilitation Minister, presided. The Board had general discussions relating to questions of gratuitous relief in camps, relief against work and dispersal of refugees from relief centres to places of rehabilitation.

Prime Minister's address.- Addressing the meeting, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister, said that displaced persons should not be kept for long in relief centres. If there was delay in resettling them, they should be provided with work. Where possible centres should be organized to give them vocational training. The task was gigantic and no half-hearted measure would be of any avail. It could only be tackled successfully provided the Governments ~~concerned~~ concerned pooled their resources and co-ordinated their efforts in this direction.

(The Statesman, 26-6-1950)

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Chapter 5 Working Conditions,

52. Welfare and Workers' Leisure.

India - June 1950.

Welfare of Coal Mine Workers: Review of Activities
Financed under the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund
during the Year 1948-1949.

The Government of India published on 27 May 1950, the report of activities financed from the General Welfare Account of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947, during the year 1948-1949.

Extension of scheme.- As the Korea and Talcher States merged into the Indian Dominion, the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 was extended to these territories with effect from the 19 June 1948 and 4 November 1948 respectively.

Levy of cess.- Welfare Cess continued to be levied at the rate of annas 6 per ton of coal and coke despatched by rail. Out of this, one anna and four pies was apportioned to the Housing Account and four annas and eight pies to the General Welfare Account of the Fund. A scheme for the collection of cess on despatches of coal and coke by ~~sea~~ means of transport other than rail was under examination.

Medical facilities.- One of the principal objects of the Fund is the improvement of public health, sanitation, and the provision of medical facilities for coal miners. To implement this, two regional hospitals and two maternity and child welfare centres at Katras and Tisra in the Jharia coalfield started functioning from July 1948. Similarly, two regional hospitals and two maternity and child welfare centres at Chora and Searsole in the Raniganj coalfield started ~~functioning from~~ functioning from August 1948. Due to absence of water supply and sanitary and electrical arrangements, indoor wards could not be opened during the year. Out of the four maternity and child welfare centres, only two were functioning during the period, as only 2 lady doctors with requisite qualifications could be recruited. The Central Hospital at Dhanbad the foundation of which was laid in April 1948 by Mr. Jagjwan Ram, Labour Minister, is expected to be completed by the middle of the year 1950. A complete set of instruments and apparatus of a 125 bedded American Hospital Unit for use in the Central Hospital has already been purchased at a cost of about 25,000 rupees from the American Surplus Stores.

As an interim arrangement till the indoor wards of the regional ~~hospitals~~ hospitals and maternity and child welfare centres start functioning, the Fund has been making a monthly grant of 5,250 rupees to the Sanctoria Hospital of Messrs. Andrew Yule and Co., for reservation of 25 beds for free treatment of miners. In addition to the X-Ray unit installed at the ~~State~~ State Railway Colliery at Giridih, another unit, at a cost of 26,950 rupees was purchased during the year and installed at the Barqui Hospital of Messrs. Shaw Wallace and Co., for use of the miners of the Madhya Pradesh coalfields.

Anti-tuberculosis measures.- Construction of three static T.B. Clinics - two for the Jharia Coalfield and one for the Raniganj Coal field for implementing the scheme drawn up ~~by~~ by the T.B. Specialist, has been sanctioned. In the Jharia Coalfield, one clinic will be located at Chandkunya for which a site has been acquired. For the other clinic, a site near the regional hospital at Katras is under acquisition. In the Raniganj Coalfield, the clinic will be set up in the regional hospital at Searsole. Plans and estimates for the clinic and staff quarters have been prepared.

Anti-malaria operations.- Anti-malaria operations in the coalfields of Jharia, Raniganj, Hazaribagh, Pench Valley and Margherita continued as before under the control of the Malaria Institute of India. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee at its meeting in January 1947, the annual recurring grant of the Fund for the anti-malaria operations was reduced during the year from 1.25 million rupees to 1 million rupees. The grant is exclusive of capital outlay on ~~account~~ account of the cost of construction and maintenance of anti-malaria buildings in the various coalfields. With a view to make an all-out attempt to eradicate malaria from the coalfields, the meeting ~~the~~ of the Advisory Committee held on 28 January 1949 decided to give an additional grant of 300,000 rupees for the year 1949-50 to enable the Anti-Malaria Organisation to carry on intensive operations, as an experimental measure, in the coalfields of Jharia and Raniganj.

Anti-veneral diseases measures.- The scheme prepared for the eradication of veneral diseases in the coalfields was under examination. Till the question of setting up anti Veneral Diseases laboratories and clinics for examination and treatment of patients is finalised, the possibility of the Jharia and Asansol Mines Board of Health undertaking blood tests in their existing laboratories is being explored. The existing laboratories are not well equipped for the purpose. Cost envisaged by the Jharia and Asansol Mines Boards of Health in setting up well equipped serological laboratory with expert staff is 60,000 rupees non-recurring and 15,000 rupees recurring

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per annum and 11,400 rupees non-recurring and 9,804 rupees recurring per annum respectively.

Sanitation.- Annual recurring grants have been sanctioned to the Jharia and Asansol Mines Boards of Health for extending their sanitary services. The payment of the grant to the Jharia Mines Board of Health to the extent of 43,170 rupees was continued as before. The Advisory Committee in a meeting held in January 1949 decided to increase the amount of grant to the Asansol Mines Board of Health from 33,000 rupees to 40,000 rupees for the year under report. The Boards, however, could not spend the full amount within the year.

Water supply.- The scheme prepared by the Chief Engineer, Public Health Department, Bengal for supply of water to the Asansol Mining Settlement area, was examined during the year by the Central Water Power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission as well as by the Central Technical Power Board. Both stated that detailed investigation carried out by the ad hoc Committee on water supply for Sindri Fertiliser Factory has proved that the surface flow of the river fall below the requirements of the Fertiliser Factory for 4 months of the year and suggested linking the Asansol scheme with the Damodar Valley Project or with any other dams contemplated under that project. According to the Damodar Valley Corporation scheme the entire water required for the scheme could be drawn from the river. It was however estimated that the capital cost of the entire scheme, exclusive of the cost of preparation of detailed scheme and supervision charges, would be 17,956,000 rupees and the recurring cost of 682,000 rupees. As the cost involved was beyond the resources of the Welfare Fund, the Government of West Bengal was informed that the Welfare Fund would consider the question of giving a grant if the Asansol Mines Board of Health or the Provincial Government itself decided to implement the scheme. Preliminary investigation recommended in Mr. Berry's report on water supply for collieries in the Pench Valley Coalfields was carried out through the Central Public Works Department.

Pithead baths and creches.- The Pithead Bath Rules 1946 made it obligatory on the part of the colliery owners to complete construction of Pithead Baths by the 1 July 1947. Similarly nine months from the date of notification was fixed as the time limit for the construction of creche buildings, which colliery owners were to construct, in accordance with the Mines Creche Rules, 1946 issued in July 1946. Difficulty in the supply position of materials like steel and cement was responsible in a large measure for non-compliance with the provision of the rules. The last date for construction of Pithead Baths was accordingly extended to 1 July 1948. The extension of the date, however, did not improve the

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position. On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, Colliery Associations were informed that the time limit was further extended till 1 January 1949. To encourage speedy construction, it was also decided to continue to grant subsidies to those colliery owners, who completed construction of Pithead Baths by that date. On 31 March 1949, 37 pithead baths had been completed and 87 were under construction. As regards creches 12 had been completed and 43 more were under construction.

Grants and subsidies.- During the year 1948-49, the grants were made from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund granted, among others, for leprosy relief and a refresher course of training for colliery medical officers, for which a sum of 14,000 rupees was contributed.

Women's welfare.- 13 Welfare centres were functioning at the beginning of the year. During the year, 8 more centres were opened including two at Bokaro and Bermo, thus extending the activities of the section from Jharia and Raniganj fields to Bokaro field also. Three centres at Sripur, Phoothi and Bhagaband had to be closed as facilities for accommodation provided by the management were withdrawn. The normal activities of the centres include: (1) imparting primary education to the miners' children; (2) handicrafts and education to women and grown-up children; (3) daily talks on current affairs on Health and Sanitation and other general subjects; (4) visits to the creches, pithead baths, etc., and supervising other welfare measures and suggesting general improvement of sanitary conditions; and (5) looking into sick and cases and reporting them to the hospitals and where maternity benefits have been denied to deserving cases, reporting them to the proper authorities.

The welfare facilities financed from the Fund included a mobile shop, mobile canteen, mobile cinema and vegetable gardens.

The statement of accounts appended to the report shows that for the year 1948-49, receipts amounted to 16.57 million rupees including an opening balance of 11.07 million rupees, and the expenditure amounted to 3.07 million rupees thus leaving a closing balance of 13.50 million rupees.

(The review of the activities financed under the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund during the period 1946-1948 was reported at pages 49-51 of the report of this office for November 1949).

(The Gazette of India, Part I, Section 1, dated 27 May 1950, pages 165-169).

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Apportionment
Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund: ~~Assignment~~
between Housing Account and General Welfare
Account.

In exercise of the powers under section 4 of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947, the Central Government has directed that during the year 1950-51, the proceeds of the duty levied under the Act and credited to Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund shall be ~~apportionment~~ apportioned between the Housing Account and the General Welfare Account in the following proportion, viz., Housing Account: 4 annas; General Welfare Account: 2 annas.

(Notification No. M-4(7)/50 dated 25 May 1950
The Gazette of India, Part II-Section 3,
dated 3 June 1950, page 132)

Bihar: The Draft Bihar Factories (Welfare Officers)
Rules, 1950.

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 49 of the Factories Act, 1948, the Bihar Government has published the draft of the Bihar Factories (Welfare Officers') Rules, 1950. The Rules, provide for the appointment of one welfare officer in factories employing 500 or more but less than 2,000 workers and two welfare officers in factories employing more than 2,000 workers and prescribe their qualifications, salary grades and other conditions of service. The draft rules will be taken into consideration after 17 August 1950.

Duties of welfare officers.- According to the Rules, the duties of ~~the~~ a welfare officer shall be the following: (i) to establish contact and consultations and to maintain harmonious relations between factory management and workers; (ii) to take up with the factory management the grievances of workers individual as well as collective, with a view to securing their expeditious redress and to act as negotiating officer with trade unions; (iii) to help the management to shape and formulate labour policies of the factory and to interpret these policies to the workers in a language they can understand; (iv) to watch industrial relations with a view to use his influence in the event of dispute arising between the management and workers to effect a settlement by conciliation and arbitration; (v) to deal with wage and employment matters in collaboration with the management; (vi) to ensure fulfilment on the part of the management obligations, statutory or otherwise concerning applications of the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948, and the rules made thereunder

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and to establish liaison with factory inspector and medical services concerning medical examinations of employees, health records, supervision of hazardous jobs, ~~sick~~ sick visiting and convalescence, accident prevention and supervisions of safety committees, investigation of accidents and administration of workmen's compensation; (vii) to promote relations between the management and workers which will ensure productive efficiency as well as amelioration in the working conditions and to help workers to adjust and adapt themselves to their working environments; (viii) to encourage the formation of joint production committees, works committees, co-operatives, safety first and welfare committees and to supervise their work; (ix) to secure provision of amenities, such as canteens, shelters for rest, creches, adequate latrine facilities, drinking water, sickness and benevolent scheme payments, pension and superannuation funds, gratuity payments, granting of loans, leave and legal advice to workers; (x) to secure welfare provisions, such as housing facilities, food-stuffs, social and recreational facilities, sanitation advice, on individual personnel problems and education of children; (xi) to advise the occupiers of factory on questions relating to training of new starters, apprentices, workers on transfer and promotion, instructors and supervisors, supervision and control of notice board and information bulletins, to further education of workers and to encourage their attendance at technical institutes; (xii) to take measures which will serve to raise the standard of living of workers and in general promote, their well-being; (xiii) to maintain a neutral attitude during legal strikes or lock-outs; (xiv) to exercise a restraining ~~influence~~ influence over workers against going on illegal strikes and over the management in declaring illegal lock-outs; to help in preventing sabotage and other illegal activities; (xv) to detect and check bribery and corruption and to bring such cases to the notice of the manager of the factory; and (xvi) to submit such reports, and supply such information with regard to management-labour relations as may be called for by the Labour Commissioner, Bihar, from time to time.

(The Bihar Gazette, Part-II, dated
24 May, 1950, pages 674-676).

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56. Labour Administration.

India - June 1950.

Training of Labour Officers in U.K.: Scheme
Postponed.

The Government of India has dropped the proposals to send a batch of Indian Labour Officers for training to the United Kingdom this year (vide page 39 of the report of this Office for April 1950). The proposal has been suspended, as sufficient nominations were not forthcoming from State Governments.

The question of sending a batch of candidates next year (1951) is understood to be under consideration of the Government.

(The Hindu, dated 8-6-1950).

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59. General.

India - June 1950.

Workers to be known as Mazdoors: Government
of India's Decision.

✓ By ~~amendment~~ a resolution dated 27 May 1950, the Government of India has decided that the term "coolie" to signify Indian labourers should ~~not~~ no longer be used in official correspondence and that it should be replaced by the word "mazdoor". Terms like "khalasis, lascars, chowkidars, etc." which are well-known in certain trades, will, however, continue to be used. The change in nomenclature is not intended to affect the present position of the workers belonging to the class of "coolies", as regards pay or allowances or pension in any way.

(The Gazette of India, Part I-Section 1,
dated 3 June, 1950, page 178).

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Chapter 6 General Rights of Women.

64. Wage Protection.

India - June 1950.

Burma: The Payment of Wages (Amendment) Act, 1949:
Date of Enforcement.

By a notification dated 30 January 1950, the Government of the Union of Burma has directed that Section 4 of the Payment of Wages (Amendment) Act, 1949 (vide page 82 of the report of this Office for May 1949) shall come into force with effect from 1 February 1949. All sections of the Act except section 4 was enforced with effect from 1 August 1949 (vide page 57 of the report of this Office for August 1949).

(Notification No. 30, dated 30 January, 1950;
The Burma Gazette, Part I, dated 4 February,
1950, page 78).

66. Strike and Lockout Rights.

India - June 1950.

Assam: Rice and Oil Mills and Motor Transport Services declared Public Utility Services under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

By a notification under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Assam Government has declared rice and oil mills and motor transport services in Assam to be public utility services for the purposes of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for a period of six month, with effect from 14 June 1950.

(The Assam Gazette, Part II-A,
dated 14 June 1950, page 1097)

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67. Conciliation and Arbitration.

India - June 1950.

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The Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal)
Act, 1950 (No. XLVIII of 1950).

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The Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Bill, 1950, which was passed by the Parliament on 11 April 1950 (vide pages 44-47 of the report of this Office for April 1950) received the assent of the President on 20 May 1950 and has been gazetted as Act No. XLVIII of 1950. The Act, among other things provides for the setting up of a Central Appellate Tribunal to hear appeals from awards on industrial disputes.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II -
Section 1, dated 23 May 1950, pages 192(90)-
192(102)).

Bombay: Industrial Relations Act 1946, extended
to Woollen Textile Industry.

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 2 of the Bombay Industrial Act, 1946, the Government of Bombay has directed that the provisions of the Act shall apply to the following concerns with effect from 15 June 1950:-

(a) all concerns, using power and employing twenty or more workers, which are engaged in spinning wool or worsted and in all processes incidental or supplemental thereto;

(b) all concerns, using power and employing twenty or more workers, which are engaged in woollen worsted weaving and in all the processes incidental thereto with or without an admixture of cotton, silk, rayon, artificial silk or any other artificial or natural fibres or one or more of these provided such concerns use more than 50 per cent of wool or worsted;

(c) all concerns, using power and employing twenty or more workers, which are engaged in wool or worsted knitting or the manufacture of wool or worsted hosiery with or without an admixture of cotton, silk, rayon, artificial silk or any other artificial or natural fibres or one or more of these provided

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such concerns use more than fifty percent of wool or worsted; and

(d) all mechanics' shops, dyeing, bleaching and printing departments in any of the above mentioned concerns.

(Notification No. 550/48, dated 27 May 1950; The ~~En~~ Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-B, dated 1 June 1950, pages 1002-1003).

Ajmer: Industrial Statistics (Industrial and Labour Disputes) Rules, 1950: Draft published.

The Chief Commissioner of Ajmer published on 17 June 1950, the draft of the Industrial Statistics (Industrial and Labour Disputes) Rules, 1950, which he proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred under section 12 of the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942, for the purpose of collection of statistics in respect of industrial and labour disputes. The Rules, ~~provide that within three months of the commencement of the Rules, and thereafter each year, all apply to~~ specified establishments including factories, mines, railways, plantations, post and telegraph department, municipalities and local boards, banks and insurance companies and oilfields.

(The Gazette of India, Part III-Section 3, dated 17 June 1950, pages 215-217).

Bihar: Draft Industrial Statistics (Industrial and Labour Disputes) Rules, 1950 Published.

The Bihar Government published on 14 June 1950, the draft of the Industrial Statistics (Industrial and Labour Disputes) Rules, 1950, which it proposes to make under the Industrial Statistics Act, 1942, for the purpose of collection of statistics in respect of industrial and labour disputes. The Rules, which are on the same lines of the Ajmer draft Industrial Statistics (Industrial and Labour Disputes) Rules, applies, among other things, to factories, mines, railways, plantations, post and telegraph department, municipalities and local boards, banks and insurance companies and oilfields.

(The Bihar Gazette, Part II, dated 14 June, 1950, pages 789-793).

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Burma: Employers to be made Responsible for
Relief During Unemployment: Industrial Court's
Award.

On 29 May 1950, announcing an award in a trade dispute between Steel Brothers and Company and the Saw Mill Workers' Union, the Burmese Court of Industrial Arbitration said ~~at~~ that employers in Burma must within reasonable limits be responsible for relief when there is involuntary unemployment, so long as private industries exist and Burma has no social security scheme.

The dispute arose on the company's workers demands for compassionate allowances, cost of living allowances, gratuity and other relief, following dismissal. The company contended it had to close down its saw mill employing 579 workers, because logs were not available. The company was now dependent for its supply of logs on the State Timber Board, as all its forest leases had been nationalised.

The Court decided that retrenched employees with at least two years' service should be paid a compassionate allowance equivalent to two months' wages, and cost of living allowance. The company had of its own accord paid a gratuity but the Court did not consider this adequate. It directed that those with over 30 years' service should be paid a gratuity at the rate of one month's basic pay and ~~xxx~~ others a half month's basic pay for each year of service. The timber board was a necessary party to this case, and the award applied to them for the period they were partners in the same mill, the Court added.

As a number of Indian workers had already returned to India, the Court directed the company to inform them of the amounts due to them under the award and pay them through the Director of Labour in Burma.

(National Herald, 31-5-1950).

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CHAPTER 7. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

INDIA - JUNE 1950.

71. Organisation of the Labour Market.

Over Twenty Two Thousand Government Servants
retrenched during January 1950.

According to official statistics, during January 1950, 22,476 Central Government employees were retrenched. New employment in the Central Government offices during the month totalled only 84. The net result of appointments and discharges in these offices since October 1949 has been a reduction of 48,392 in the total employment. The employees retrenched during the period number 51,842 and those appointed 3,450.

Since October 1949 the number of the discharged employees has been continually much in excess of the new recruits, the difference in January being the biggest. In February, 12,307 employees were dismissed and 583 were given new employment. Of the retrenched staff of 51,842, 127 were administrative and executive hands; 1,092 clerks; 5,402 skilled and semi-skilled men and 45,221 unskilled workers. New employment related mainly to administrative and executive posts, the total being 1,640.

The Government has decided that retrenched personnel should be given preference next only to permanent Government servants in the matter of new appointments. Central Government offices have been instructed to observe the prescribed channels of recruitment and the order of priority. They have been told that no recruitment should be made except after consultation with the Home Ministry and the Employment Exchanges. All vacancies in Central Government establishments except those in the Eastern zone are to be notified to the local Employment ~~Bureau~~ ~~Ministry~~ ~~of~~ ~~Labour~~ Exchanges, the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Special Employment Bureau, Ministry of Labour. No vacancy is to be filled by direct recruitment unless these offices certify that they are unable to supply suitable candidates. ~~Although~~ Although no general relaxation has been made of the educational qualifications normally prescribed for recruitment, the conditions regarding maximum age have been slightly relaxed in the case of retrenched Central Government employees. This concession would apply to any person who was employed under the Central

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Government for a continuous period of not less than six months and who was discharged because of retrenchment not more than three years before the date of his registration at ~~the~~ an Employment Exchange or of application otherwise for employment under the Government of India.

(The ~~Statesman~~ Statesman, dated
14-6-1950).

Work done by the Directorate General of Resettlement
and Employment during May 1950.

Employment situation.- According to the Review of the Work done by the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment for May 1950, the statistics recorded by employment exchanges during May 1950, indicated that the employment situation had definitely improved. Never before were so many applicants found employment and only once before were as many vacancies notified to the Exchanges. The number of employers who used the Exchanges was the highest ever recorded and so was the number of ~~persons~~ persons submitted to employers by the exchanges. Reports show that over a 100,000 of applicants registered during the month. This was another record and represented an increase of more than 17,000 over the previous month. The rise was not necessarily caused by a general deterioration in the employment situation. Abnormal registrations of displaced persons from Eastern Pakistan, the close of the academic year with the inevitable registration ~~in the employment exchanges~~ of "freshers", the addition of 10 new exchanges in Part B States, the increase in the number of vacancies notified to exchanges during the last three months and the growing popularity of the employment service, all contributed to the flood of registrants. It was encouraging to note that private employers engaged more than twice as many workmen through the exchanges in May than they did a year ago. Skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers were re-employed fairly rapidly, but there were no signs that the employment opportunities for educated persons had improved.

Registrations and placings.- The total number of registrations for employment and the total number placed in employment during the month ~~is~~ are shown below:-

	May 1950	April 1950	May 1949
Total number of registrations...	108,921	91,897	78,314
Total number placed in employment....	29,456	23,837	24,443

Of those registered during May 1950, 9,937 were ex-Service personnel, 20,348 were displaced persons (a rise of 5,135) and 4,591 were discharged Government employees. Of these placed in employment, 2,683 were displaced persons, 1,684 were ex-Service personnel and 1,244 discharged Government employees. 17,346 were placed with private employers and 12,088 in Central and State Government Departments. All regions excepting Orissa and the Punjab contributed to this increase. The number of vacancies notified to employment exchanges during May 1950 rose to the encouraging figure of 39,735 as compared with 34,938 during the previous month, i.e. a rise of 4,797. Of the vacancies notified 16,927 were by Government establishments and 22,808 by private employers. The number of persons submitted to employers during May was 77,710, an increase of 12,935 over April 1950. This was also a record. The number of employers who used the exchanges was, 5,940, the figure being the highest ever recorded, so far.

Placings by wage groups.- Figures relating to placings during May 1950, analysed according to wage groups were as follows:-

<u>Wage group: basic monthly pay</u>	<u>Number of placings</u>
Above 101 rupees	428
51 to 100 rupees	2,960
30 to 60 rupees	22,061
Below 30 rupees	3,985

Employment of displaced persons.- During the month, 20,348 displaced persons were registered but only 2,683 of them were placed in employment. This was discouraging in view of the efforts made on their behalf. Registration figures rose noticeably in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal due to the influx of displaced persons from Eastern Pakistan. Exchanges in Assam reported that in spite of bulk demands from the Assam Railway, the Forest Department and some Tea Estates, it was difficult to persuade displaced persons to accept the employment offered. Displaced agriculturists desired to settle down on their own land, and were reluctant to work as landless labourers. Bihar reported a similar difficulty and also found it hard to find suitable jobs for displaced persons who did not know the local language. A large number of displaced persons in Bihar were said to be asking for loans from Government in order to set up their own business. Against a demand for unskilled labourers, 30 families together with a batch of 35 unattached labourers were resettled in the Andamans. A number of displaced persons were submitted to steel processing factories, which were allotted a special quota of steel on condition that they

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would employ a number of displaced persons. Results were reported as unsatisfactory. Three jute mills in the Calcutta area were reported to have agreed to recruit some displaced persons as apprentices in spinning and weaving trades. In spite of various difficulties in the resettlement of displaced persons such as, lack of accommodation, lack of skill necessary to fill the posts vacated by Muslims who went over to Pakistan, the exchanges in West Bengal placed 1,226 displaced persons in employment during the month as against 315 during the month of April, 1950.

Total number of persons remaining unemployed.— The number of persons on the Live Register seeking employment assistance through the exchanges on the last day of May was 305,003, as against 281,972 in April, an increase of 23,031. Of these 49,632 were displaced persons (~~29,928~~ 9,928 more than last month) 37,014 ex-Services personnel and 15,561 discharged Government employees.

Inspection of employment exchanges.—The second round of inspections was launched by the Central Inspectorate and the working of 9 employment exchanges was examined in detail. A general review of the work of the Central Inspectorate during its six months' operation revealed that such inspections do a lot to improve the general efficiency of the employment service. These reports also revealed that a steep rise in registrations, submissions, placings and vacancies notified during the last six months is placing a very heavy strain on the reduced staff of the exchanges.

Technical and vocational training.— The Technical and Vocational Training Scheme for Adult Civilians made further progress during the month. The re-organisation of most of the training centres was completed and the equipment and staff adjusted to the needs of training. The number of persons under training as on 31 May 1950 was 2707 of whom 2352 were undergoing training in technical trades and the rest in vocational trades. Selection of displaced persons for training was in progress in the States in which the training has been sanctioned. There were 537 displaced persons undergoing training in Uttar Pradesh under the old scheme. The number of ex-Servicemen undergoing training in technical and vocational trades, as on 31 May 1950, was 1,530. In addition, 298 political sufferers and Harijans were undergoing training in Uttar Pradesh under arrangements made with the State Government. 581 trainees, both ex-servicemen and displaced persons, passed the prescribed trade tests during the month, bringing the total of passed out trainees to 30,691. 142 women were undergoing training at the two women's training centres at New Delhi and Dehra Dun respectively.

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Training of Instructors.- The fifth Session for the training of Instructors at the Central Institute, Koni, commenced on during May 1950. 94 Instructors and Supervisors including nominees of some of the State Governments had joined the course up to the end of May 1950. Facilities were also provided for training in woodwork to 201 primary school teachers at the training centre at Aundh under arrangements made with the Government of Bombay.

Apprenticeship training.- There were 44 Apprenticeship Training Centres functioning during the month and 128 ex-servicemen were undergoing training at these centres.

(Review of the Work done by the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment during the Month of May 1950, issued by the Government of India).

Over Seven Thousand Employees to be Axed by
Bombay Government.

On 31 May 1950, the Bombay Civil Supplies Department gave 500 employees notice of termination of their services, from 1 July 1950.

This is the first batch of a total of about 7,500 Bombay Government employees to be "axed", to effect a 6 1/4 per cent saving in administration expenses amounting to about 20 million rupees.

The Government's Economy Committee is understood to have decided that there should be a 5 per cent retrenchment in all cadres, including that of gazetted officers. Meanwhile, the Government has decided to set up a central machinery for re-absorption of the retrenched personnel by the compulsory retirement of re-employed pensioners and employees over the retirement age. The Government hopes to reabsorb the entire retrenched staff within two or three years.

Hereafter, about 1,000 employees are expected to be retrenched every month till the end of the financial year.

(The Statesman, 3-5-1950).

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Punjab: Government warns Officials against
extracting Forced Labour.

The Government of Punjab has issued instructions to Deputy Commissioners and heads of departments in the State asking them to impress upon all officials working under them that no forced labour should in future, be taken from any class of persons. The Government has warned that officials responsible for infringement of the instructions would be severely dealt with. It has been pointed out that taking forced labour (beggar) from any person in the State is undesirable and objectionable under Article 23 of the Constitution of India.

The Government had received complaints that police officials in a certain part of Punjab had been taking forced labour from a certain class of ~~the~~ people, particularly Harijans.

(The Statesman, 26-6-1950)

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73. Migration and Colonisation.

India - June 1950.

Indian Labour in Ceylon: Statistics published *

According to the addendum to the administration report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1949, the mean Indian labour population on estates ~~was~~ in Ceylon was about 757,000 in 1949, as against 742,000 in 1948. At the beginning of 1949 the population was 752,056 (219,146 men ; 214,861 women and 318,049 children); in the middle of the year it was 755,584 (217,935 men; 215,572 women and 322,077 children); and at the end of the year it was 764,183 (220,476 men, 217,736 women and 325,971 children). The estate records, therefore show a net increase of 12,127 in the Indian labour population between the beginning and the end of the year.

The term "Estate" in the report means an estate in which labourers are employed, having ten acres of land actually cultivated in tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, cardamoms, cocoa, camphor, pepper and chincona.

India not to attend Round Table Conference:
Protest Against South African Group Areas Bill.

On 19 June 1950 the South African Senate passed the third reading of the Population Registration Bill, to which reference was made at page 71 of the report of this Office for May 1950.

Meanwhile, the Government of India informed the United Nations that the attitude of the South African Government on the pending "discriminatory" legislation in the Union Parliament had compelled it to withhold participation in the proposed round table conference

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* Ceylon: Part I-Civil (F): Addendum to the Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1949, May, 1950: To be purchased at the Government Publications Bureau, Colombo: Price: 15 cents.

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on the treatment of Indians in South Africa (vide
page 36 of the report of this Office for February
1950).

(The Statesman, 11-6-1950;
The Hindustan Times, 20-6-1950).

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CHAPTER 8. SOCIAL SECURITY.

INDIA - JUNE 1950.

81. Social Insurance.

Health Insurance for Workers: Pilot Scheme
for Delhi and Kanpur postponed.

The Employees State Insurance Scheme, which was to come into operation in Kanpur and Delhi from 1 July 1950, has been postponed. According to an official of the Labour Ministry this has been done owing to the absence of the Labour Minister, who is at present away from India. Lack of adequate accommodation, he added, was another contributing factor for the delay in the introduction of the scheme.

Employers' opposition.— Employers' organisations in northern India have forwarded a joint memorandum to the Labour Ministry protesting against the Central Government's decision. ~~They have also sent a telegram urging postponement of the scheme.~~ Their main argument is that employers' statutory contributions to the health insurance fund which work out at two-thirds of the total, will lead to an increase in production costs. They contend that industry will not be able to bear, in the present economic conditions, losses resulting from such an additional burden of expenditure. Employers' contributions towards the expenses of the pilot scheme for Kanpur are estimated at 3.75 million rupees. The textile industry will account for 3.2 million rupees, leather for 250,000 rupees, and other industries for 300,000 rupees.

The Labour Ministry official emphasised that the Government was determined to introduce the scheme as early as possible.

(The Statesman, 10 and 22 June 1950).

85. Benefits Organised or Paid by Employers.

India - June 1950.

Provident Fund for Textile Labour: Ahmadabad
Labour Association's Proposals.

The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad, in a notice given by it to the Ahmedabad Millowners Association has asked for the introduction of a compulsory provident fund scheme applicable to all permanent textile workers. The notice states it is desirable that employees, engaged in the textile industry, should have some amount to their credit when they leave service or retire. The Association has suggested that the amount to be deducted as the employees' contribution per month should be regulated as follows: (1) for basic wages upto 35 rupees, 12 annas per month, employee's contribution 12 pies per rupee, per month, and employer's contribution 36 pies per rupee, per month, (2) for basic wages above 35 rupees 12 annas and upto 52 rupees per month employee's contribution 12 pies per rupee, per month, and employers' contribution 18 pies per rupee, per month, (3) for basic wages above 52 rupees per month employee's contribution one-twelfth of pay per month and employers contribution also one-twelfth of pay per month.

The Association, further, states that instances have been brought to its notice of old, invalid and incapacitated employees being discharged without any compensation or retiring allowance. As this causes great privation and hardship to dismissed employees and their families, the following procedure should be adopted. Whenever the services of an employee are terminated by the mills on grounds of old age, invalidity, incapacity or natural death, the employee or his heirs, as the case may be, should be held entitled to payment of gratuity at the rate of one month's wages (inclusive of dearness allowance) for every year of service. In computing such service, interruption caused by a break of six months should be calculated from the date entered in the service card except in cases when an employee can prove by evidence that the date in the service card is wrong. In calculating wages, the wages paid to the employee at the time of the termination of service should be taken into account. It is added that no condition should be attached to payment of gratuity and it should be paid within a fortnight of the termination of service.

(The Times of India, 14-6-1950).

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Chapter 9 Living Standards.

93. Co-operation.

India - June 1950.

Co-operative Movement in Far East: F.A.O.
deputes Madras Official for study Tour.

The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation has deputed Mr. J.C. Ryan, Registrar of Co-operative Societies, to tour the Far Eastern countries as consultant on co-operation.

Mr. ~~Rajan~~ Ryan will spend about 10 days in Ceylon, three weeks in the Philippines and three more weeks in Thailand. ~~He~~ He is expected to make a study of economic conditions obtaining in these countries and render their Governments such assistance as they may need. In particular he will endeavour to implement the resolutions passed by the Co-operative Conference held at Lucknow during 1949 ^{under} the auspices of the F.A.O. on rural upliftment through co-operation, (vide pages 8-10 of the report of this Office for November 1949).

(The Hindu, dated 7-6-1950).

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CHAPTER 11. PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO CERTAIN
OCCUPATIONS OR CATEGORIES OF OCCUPATIONS.

INDIA - JUNE 1950.

111. Agriculture.

The Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act, 1950,
(No. XLII of 1950): Provision for Acquisition
of Ownership by Tenants.

On 10 May 1950, the President gave his assent to the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act, 1950 (No. XLII of 1950) which amends the law relating to agricultural tenancies; records of rights and certain other matters in Ajmer. The Act also provides for the acquisition of proprietary rights by tenants other than non-occupancy tenants.

Classes of tenants and their rights.- ~~The~~ For the purposes of the Act, there will be four classes of tenants, viz., occupancy tenants, ex-proprietory tenants, hereditary tenants, and non-occupancy tenants. All classes of tenants (other than sub-tenants) shall have among other things, the right to possess a house site in the village in which his village is situated and to use the village wasteland for cattle-grazing. A tenant may not be evicted from his holding otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and from his house merely because he has surrendered or has been ejected from his holding. A tenant may not be compelled to render any service to his landholder with or without remuneration.

The interest of these four classes of tenants is heritable but not transferable. A tenant may also sub-let his holding, except in consideration of a debt, to agriculturists for a period not exceeding one year in the case of occupancy tenants and three years in other cases. In the case of occupancy, ex-proprietory and hereditary tenants, a period of three years should ~~intervene~~ intervene before a ^{new} sub-lease is given. The rent payable by a sub-tenant may not exceed one and one-fifth of the rent payable by his chief tenant to the land-holder.

Acquisition of proprietary rights by non-occupancy tenants.- A tenant, other than a non-occupancy tenant, may acquire proprietary right in his holding, by applying to the Collector. The Collector, may, if he finds the applicant entitled to acquisition, assess the amount of compensation at 12 times the annual rental value of such holding. He shall also assess

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the revenue payable on the holding. By acquiring the holding the tenant shall become the bisavadar of his holding. The Collector's orders shall have to be confirmed by the Chief Commissioner of Ajmer.

The Act also gives the tenants some other rights, for example the right to obtain from the landlord a written lease of ~~xxxxxx~~ his holding and to get it registered in certain cases; in case of doubt or dispute the landholder or the tenant may apply for a declaration as to the rent payable or any other particulars prescribed in the lease, etc.; an occupancy, an expropriatory or a hereditary tenant may make any improvement on his holding but he may not construct a tank unless he has obtained the written consent of the land holder. Acceptance of premium for admitting a person to a holding is prohibited as also levies in cash or kind known as lag or neg.

Payment of rent.- The Act prescribes the scale of rent to be paid by all classes of tenants, which will be ~~xxxxxx~~ (a) a hereditary or a non-occupancy tenant, other than a sub-tenant-one-fifth of the produce of his holding; (b) for an occupancy tenant-one-sixth of the produce of his holding; and (c) for an expropriatory tenant - one-eighth of the produce of his holding; provided that if in any area bighori (money rent for a bigha of land) at customary rate is payable for any crop, a tenant may elect to pay such rate for such crop. In the case of cotton crop, the rent is double the bighari. In the case of batai system of rent (division of the produce at the threshing floor) the Act provides for certain safeguards for tenant such as the tenant's right to exclusive possession of the crop and to cut and harvest without interference from the landlord.

Ejection of tenants.- A tenant may be ejected for arrears of rent, acts detrimental to the holding or inconsistent with the purpose for which it was let, failure to cultivate the holding for three successive years in the case of batai and for sub-letting his holding in contravention of the provisions of the Act.

The Act provides for preparation of a record of rights and in certain specified estates revision of record of rights or survey or resurvey or the determination of rent-rates for the various classes of soils. It also provides for exchange of land for the purpose of consolidation of holdings.

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The Act which except for certain sections comes into force immediately, repeals the Ajmer-Merwara Agrarian Relief (Second) Ordinance, 1949 (vide page 87 of the report of this Office for December 1949).

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
Part II-Section 1, dated 12 May 1950,
pages 74-129).

Bihar: State Management of Estates and Tenures Act, 1949 declared Void: ~~High~~ High Court's Ruling.

On 5 June 1950, the full Bench of the Patna High Court declared that the Bihar State Management of Estates and Tenures Act, 1949 (vide page 91 of the report of this Office for November 1949) was void and 'ultra vires'. Their lordships held that the Act was void "ab ~~initio~~ initio", both before and after the coming into force of the Constitution. They also held that the certification of the Act by the President had not the effect of saving it from invalidity.

The Act provides for State management of estates and tenures in the State of Bihar. About 50 estates with an annual income of over 50,000 rupees each have already been taken over by the Government under the Act.

The High Court was trying a suit instituted by Maharajadhiraja Sir Kameshwar Singh of Darbhanga. In this suit the plaintiff asked for a declaration that the Bihar State Management of Estates and Tenures Act, 1949, was unconstitutional and prayed for an injunction restraining the Government from taking possession of his estate.

(The Statesman, dated 7-6-1950).

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Protection of Tenants in Hyderabad: New Act
promulgated.

On 1 June 1950, the Government of Hyderabad promulgated ^{the} Hyderabad Tenancy and Agricultural Land Act, under which all tenants actually cultivating agricultural lands on 1 June 1950, will be deemed to be protected tenants and enjoy all the rights and privileges covered by that protection.

There will be no absentee landlordism after 1 June ~~1950~~ 1953 - no tenancies and no leases, under the Act. Nor will any landholder have the right to recover land, unless it is required for his personal cultivation. The Government will insist that every landholder shall cultivate his land personally. In case of mismanagement or improper cultivation, the Government would take over the management and cultivation of such land.

The maximum holding has been fixed at ten times ~~and~~ an economic holding, which is defined as one that yields an income of 150 rupees per mensem. Pre-emption rights have been granted to all tenants and their privileges have been enlarged. No landholder shall charge a rent exceeding one-third of the value of the crop in respect of ~~the maximum~~ irrigation lands and one-fourth in the case of other lands. All disputes between landlords and tenants will be decided by tribunals and all rights of protected tenants shall be heritable and transferable.

(The Statesman, dated 1-6-1950)

Tenancy Reform in Saurashtra: Enquiry Commission
appointed.

The Government of India has, at the request of the Saurashtra Government, appointed a Commission with Mr. J.A. Madan as chairman and two other members, to study the revenue and tenancy problems of Saurashtra and make suitable recommendations, in order that this question may be settled in a satisfactory manner.

The Terms of Reference of the Commission will be to examine and report on the following:-

(1) The history and the present position of the relations between land-holders (including zamindars; jagirdars, talukdars etc.) and their tenants in non-Khalsa ~~xx~~ areas.

(2) The state of land revenue administration including survey, settlement, maintenance of village records in the non-khalsa areas of Saurashtra;

(3) the existing tenancy legislation regulating the relations between land-holders and the tenant, the mode of realisation of rent, the status of the tenant and the security of the tenure and quantum of Gharkhed (private land of the landowner), if any, to be given to the land-holder;

(4) the need and the desirability of re-determining in the light of present day conditions and the requirements of ~~modern~~ modern administration and in particular, the need for improving agrarian conditions, the respective shares of the State, the land-holders and the cultivator in the produce and the assets of the holding;

(5) the desirability of abolishing differences between the Khalsa (land cultivated by tenants) and non-Khalsa areas so as that a uniform land revenue and land tenure system could be established throughout Saurashtra, the manner in which this should be brought about and the administrative organisation and legislation necessary therefor;

(6) the steps to be taken to improve the economic condition of the smaller land holders and tenants having regard to the effects of tenancy and agrarian ~~reform~~ reform on them; and

(7) any other constituent or cognate matters which the Commission may consider as arising out of the foregoing terms of reference.

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U.P. to extend "Pilot Project" to Deoria and Gorakhpur Districts.

An official review of the "pilot project", an integrated development ~~scheme~~ scheme based on the principle of self-help introduced in Etawah district in 1948, estimates that as a result of the experiment the agricultural income of the villages concerned improved during 1949-50 by 270,000 rupees in regard to improved wheat, 20,000 rupees on account of improved potatoes and 5,000 rupees in regard to vegetables. The Government of the Uttar Pradesh has decided to extend the experiment to the Gorakhpur and Deoria districts.

The experiment was first conducted in 64 villages in Etawah district. The following year it was extended to 97 villages with a population of 75,000 divided into 12,720 families. An effort was made to broaden the mind of the villager and to improve his tools and his surroundings. The approach was persuasive and educative because the object was that the villagers should come forward and help in their improvement. The programme included improved agriculture and animal husbandry practices, a scheme of public health, group discussions, training camps and adult literacy. Sinking of sanitary wells, irrigation by pumps, control of soil erosion and construction of roads, etc., followed in due course. About four acres of semi-barren land was cleared of jungle and about 15 families have settled there. More land is being cleared.

The efficiency of improved implements, better seed and manure was demonstrated to the cultivators and a rural workshop was set up to train the local people so that they could repair, improve and adapt their agricultural implements. Cottage industries were also developed and the farmer was trained in providing his cattle with protection against disease. The health and sanitation programme was combined with village improvement and 11 villages on their own accord undertook a programme of cleaning up and widening lanes

Summing up, the official review says that though the results are yet far from perfect the experiment has proved that "the material is mouldable and that the adage that the villager is ignorant, conservative and incapable of improvement is an outmoded one".

(The Statesman, dated 12-6-1950)

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112. Indigenous Workers.

India - June 1950.

Travancore-Cochin: Government's Measures for
the Advancement of Backward Communities.

By an order dated 1 June 1950, the Travancore-Cochin Government has announced the measures it is adopting for the amelioration of the backward communities in the State, including, establishment of colonies, educational concessions, collective farming and rural reconstruction.

The Backward communities in the State will hereafter be classified into three categories, viz., Scheduled castes (Harijans), hill tribes, and other backward communities. The scheduled castes and hill tribes will be eligible for all-round amelioration and the other backward communities will be eligible for educational concessions only on the merits of individual applications, such as, consideration of their financial position, exceptional merits, etc.

As regards scheduled castes and hill tribes, the activities of the Government mainly relate to (i) ~~xxx~~ assignment of land; (ii) establishment of colonies, settlements and house sites; (iii) construction of common buildings, e.g., prayer halls, library and reading rooms, etc.; (iv) sinking of wells; (v) provision of burial grounds; (vi) construction of pathways; (vii) rendering assistance in securing employment in public service; (viii) starting of ~~and~~ schools; (ix) organisation of reading rooms and night schools; (x) maintenance of free hostels; (xi) ~~xxx~~ grants to institutions and organisations of backward communities; (xii) provision for sweeping, street-lighting and latrines where these communities live in compact areas; (xiii) provision of facilities for vocational and technical training; (xiv) Organisation of co-operative societies; (xv) collective farming and rural reconstruction; (xvi) educational assistance; and (xvii) other miscellaneous ameliorative measures. The benefits to other backward communities include educational concessions, and provision of peiramboke lands (waste lands) for house sites and cultivation.

(Travancore-Cochin Government Gazette;
Part I, dated 6 June 1950, pages 667-668).

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114. Officials.

India - June 1950.

West Bengal: Government Officials' Pay
Scales Revised.

The West Bengal Government published on 13 June 1950, the West Bengal Services (Revision of Pay) Rules, 1950, providing for revised higher salary scales for West Bengal Government officials. Under these Rules, among other things, the maximum percentage increases have been given to the lowest scales; for example the scales for lower division clerks have been raised from Rupees 35-80 to rupees 55-120. The new salary scales come into effect with effect from 1 April 1950.

At present there are 500 scales in the various grades of services and the pay structure is unnecessarily complicated. The new scheme has simplified and rationalised the pay structure and a set of 63 standard scales have been devised and the existing grades fitted in. A number of existing anomalies e.g., the difference between the pay of men's and women's branches in the education branch have also been abolished.

Revised scales.- Lowest scales have been generally allowed the maximum percentage increases. Thus the scales for lower division clerks in the districts have been up-graded from 55-80 rupees to 55-120 rupees; West Bengal Junior Civil Service scale of 125-350 rupees has been up-graded to 200-450 rupees with a selection grade of 500 rupees and so on. In fixing the highest pays, similar pays in other States and the recommendation of the Central Pay Commission that "the scale of 1,800-2,000 rupees is intended for the heads of the biggest departments" have been kept in view. ~~Revised scales~~
In the past time-scales rose from the minimum to the maximum - in some cases after 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 12th, or 15th years of service and in others after 18th, 20th, 23rd, 24th, 25th or even 30th years of service. In the revised scales the period of rise has been made uniform, viz., 20 or 24 years for posts where recruitment is wholly direct or partly direct and partly by promotion; and 5 or 10 years for posts which are filled up either exclusively by promotion or by persons who, though recruited direct, cannot be expected to start on a long time-scale. A good skilled labourer--say, a carpenter--requires time to acquire sufficient skill in his trade or calling and must of necessity be advanced in years. A longer scale in this case will not therefore be appropriate and a

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a 10 years' scale has been adopted for him. In the past the stage of the time-scales at which ~~efficiency~~ efficiency bars were placed varied widely. They have been uniformly placed after 10th and 18th stages in the Provincial Services, and 12th stage in the Subordinate Services.

(The Calcutta Gazette, Part I, Extraordinary dated 13 June 1950, pages 685-924).

117. Shopworkers.

India - June 1950.

Bombay: Shops and Establishments Act, 1948:
Exemptions.

By a notification dated 2 June 1950 under Section 4 of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948, the Government of Bombay has exempted, among other things, dal (pulses) manufacturing establishments from the operation of sections 16 and 18 of the Act, dealing respectively with spread-over and weekly holidays respectively.

(Notification No. 8/48, dated 2 June 1950
The Bombay Government Gazette, Part
IV-B, dated 15 June 1950,
page 1151)

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LIST OF THE MORE IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED
IN THE NEW DELHI OFFICE DURING JUNE, 1950.

INDIA - JUNE 1950.

International Labour Organisation

Second Year of Freedom, August 1948-August 1949. Published by the All India Congress Committee, pp.128, price Rs.3-8.

Economic Questions

- (a) Government of India: Ministry of Industry and Supply: Directorate of Industrial Statistics: First Census of Manufactures, India - 1946. (Statistics by Industries and Provinces). Volume I and II, pp.x x 637.
- (b) Industrial Progress in Madras. Issued by the Director of Information and Publicity, Government of Madras, 1950, pp.23.
- (c) Economic Relations of India with South-East Asia and the Far East. N.V. Svani. Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, pp.137.
- (d) National Income of the Indian Union Provinces, 1946-47. Government of India: Ministry of Commerce, pp.17.

Working Conditions

- (a) Part I-Civil(F). Addendum to the Administration Report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1949. To be purchased at the Government Publications Bureau, Colombo. Price: 15 cents pp.88-91.
- (b) Report on the Activities of the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the Amelioration of the Working and Living Conditions of Labour, 1949. Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, Allahabad, pp.98.

Social Security

Ceylon: Part I-Civil(Q). Administration Report of the Director of Social Services for 1949: To be purchased at the Government Publications Bureau, Colombo. Price 35 cents. pp.17.
