

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
INDIAN BRANCH
- - - - -

Industrial and Labour Development in April, 1949.

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

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CHAPTER I. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

11. Political Situation and Administrative Action.

Bombay: Provincial Labour Advisory ~~Board~~ Board
Constituted.

The Government of Bombay has appointed a Provincial Labour Advisory Board, under the chairmanship of the Minister for Labour, to advise on matters affecting the interests of labour and relations between employers and employees, in particular. Members of the Board include members of the Bombay Legislative Assembly representing labour, industry and commerce constituencies, five representatives of consumers, six representatives ~~of~~ each of labour and employers and four officials.

(People's Raj, dated 14-4-1949, issued by
the Directorate of Publicity, Government
of Bombay).

United Provinces: Terms of Reference of the
United Provinces Labour Inquiry Committee
revised.

The United Provinces Government has, by a notification dated 9 March 1949, revised the terms of reference of the United Provinces Labour Inquiry Committee (vide page 9 of the report of this Office for December 1946) in view of the fact that during the period since the appointment of the United Provinces Labour Inquiry Committee, steps had been taken by the Government to deal with certain matters included in the terms of reference of the Committee. Among these steps, to mention a few, were the enactment of the Factories Act, 1948, and of the United Provinces Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; the provision and constitution of a new machinery of conciliation boards and industrial courts for the settlement of industrial disputes under the latter Act; the appointment by the Government of India of the Committee on Profit-sharing, whose report was under consideration, etc., etc. In view of these measures, was it was necessary to revise the terms of reference of the Committee so as to make them more appropriate and up to date.

The following are the revised terms of reference for the second report of the Committee. (The first report of the United Provinces Labour Inquiry Committee which was published in July 1948, was summarised at paragraph 46, pages 25-31 of the report of this Office for July 1948):-

(1) To inquire into the existing labour welfare activities provided for industrial workers by Government, local bodies and employers; to examine the need for their co-ordination and expansion, the ways and means of financing them, the distribution of financial liability between Government, local bodies and employers and the agency for their administration;

(2) To inquire into the causes and extent of indebtedness among industrial workers and to consider ways and means of eradicating or substantially reducing it and of preventing its recurrence in future;

(3) (a) To ascertain the extent of housing accommodation available at present to industrial labour in the province and the extent to which it requires to be supplemented in the immediate and near future; (b) to consider the need for increasing the floor-space area for the working class families and for improving sanitary and other requirements of industrial housing and to determine the minimum requirement of a working class family in this behalf; (c) to consider the ways and

means of financing industrial housing in the province and to examine the question of the responsibility of the Central and provincial Governments, local bodies and employers in sharing the financial liability; (d) to examine the question of rent to be charged from industrial workers for housing accommodations; and (e) to consider the question of protecting industrial labour from ejection in industrial disputes;

(4) To inquire into the growth and working of trade unions, the progress made and difficulties experienced by them in building up a sound and healthy trade union movement in the province, the attitude of the employers towards the trade unions of their employees in particular and the trade union movement generally;

(5) To ~~ex~~ examine the existing labour legislation, Central and Provincial, and the need for its amendment or augmentation in relation to the United Provinces;

(6) To examine the existing organisation and working of the Labour Department of Government, its strength, duties and functions and the need, if any, for its re-organisation and/or expansion so far as to bring within its jurisdiction all matters relating to industrial labour, including collection of labour statistics, enforcement of labour legislation and inspectorate;

(7) To consider other matters germane to the ~~inquiry~~ inquiry; and

(8) To make suitable recommendations.

(Notification No. 657(LL)/XVIII-55(LL)-49,
dated 9 March, 1949;
Government Gazette of the United Provinces,
Part I, dated 26 March, 1949, pages 230-231).

CHAPTER 2. INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND NATIONAL
NON-PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

22. Regional Institutions.

Third Session of the International Forestry and
Timber Utilisation Conference for Asia and the
Pacific, Mysore, 28 March-8 April, 1949:
Establishment of a Forestry and Forest Products
Commission recommended.

The third session of the International Forestry and Timber Utilisation Conference for Asia and the Pacific, convened under the auspices of the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, was held at Mysore from 28 March to 8 April 1949. The session, which was inaugurated by Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Food and Agriculture, Government of India, was attended by delegations from the following countries: Burma, Ceylon, France (for Indo-China), India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, Siam and the United Kingdom (for Malaya); observers were present from Bhutan, Korea, Nepal and Japan (SCAP). The following international organisations were also represented: UNESCO and the International Meteorological Organisation.

Sir T. Vijaya Raghava Acharya, leader of the Indian delegation was elected permanent chairman of the conference. The conference, among others, adopted a resolution recommending the establishment of a Forestry and Forestry Products Commission for Asia and the Pacific consisting of accredited representatives of all countries in the region, which should meet as and when necessary to co-ordinate matters of common interest to the region; to examine particular problems in the fields of forestry and forest products, both of immediate and urgency and long-term significance; and make recommendations to Governments through the Council of FAO.

Mr. Daulatram's address: plea for ruralisation of
forest research.- Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, in the course of his inaugural address, said that in almost every country and more so in the countries of the East there had been a progressive denudation of forests and to that extent soil had lost its natural guardian. The erosion of the top soil had become a grave danger to agricultural production required to meet the needs of the growing population. Half the population of the world crowded upon the fields of Asia and more and more

of the forest area was encroached upon to enable man to feed himself, and his crops went on pushing the trees out. The soil thus became more and more subject to erosion. To the nations of Asia and of the Pacific, even a country like the United States held up the finger of warning. The United States had a billion acres ~~under~~ ~~under~~ under crops and pasture. An official report indicated that considerably more than one quarter of that billion acres had now been ruined or severely impoverished and that the remainder was damaged in varying degrees. The situation in India was no less grave and it needed to be handled on a rational basis and with maximum inter-provincial and States co-ordination. India had resolved to achieve freedom from imports of foodgrains by the end of 1951. The provinces and States were being approached to join in attaining this objective of supreme national urgency. Though India was planning to concentrate on intensive cultivation with better use of water, manure and seed, it would be unwise not to design a national programme of soil conservation for simultaneous implementation.

Mr. Daulatram placed before the conference his suggestion that though forests could serve the cities and should serve them, it might be a proper and wise policy to let the forests serve primarily the vast rural areas in which nature had set them. The vast masses of Asia and the Pacific lived predominantly in the villages. Nowhere was the slogan of freedom from want more potent than in the villages and the limitless potentialities of forest wealth should be tapped to raise the standard of living of the rural masses. This needed to be done not only by developing rural industries based on forests but even in other ways which linked this up with the daily economy of the ~~agriculturists~~ agriculturist's life. In this connection an effective programme for the rapid increase in fuel wood for the rural masses which could be reconsidered with a rational policy of forest development would be a blessing for the ~~agriculturists~~ agriculturists in most Asiatic countries. While thus laying emphasis on ruralisation of forest, ^{he} he did not wish the conference to ignore the urgent calls of industry on forests' resources. These too had their place in the national economy and had to receive a response.

Discussion on labour conditions in forest areas.-

Among other subjects, the conference discussed on 5 April 1949, labour conditions in forest areas. Mr. M. Laloup, Director of Forestry and Forest Products ~~Branch~~ Division of the FAO ~~was~~ initiating the discussion stressed that the aim of the F.A.O. was to better the standards of living of the peoples of the world. It was therefore important that, in discussing forestry problems, the conference devote particular attention to the living conditions of workers in the forests, in wood working industries and wood utilisation in general. In certain parts of the world there had been difficulty in finding adequate labour supply and it would therefore be one of their main objects to discuss the means of removing this difficulty by providing living conditions that would ensure a constant and stable labour supply. Workers in the ~~present~~ forest and wood working industries had shown great interest in what was now termed 'integrated forest industries' and there was need to make a study

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authority, where necessary, to embody the principles enumerated above and ensure their implementation.

Regional Forestry Commission suggested.- As the effort required for tackling the problems of soil conservation, afforestation, flood control, etc., surpassed purely local or national interests, the conference recommended, by way of an international approach, the establishment of a Forestry and Forest Products Commission for Asia and the Pacific, consisting of accredited representatives of all countries in the region, which should meet as and when necessary to co-ordinate matters of common interest to the region; to examine particular problems in the fields of forestry and forest products, both of immediate urgency and long-term significance, and make recommendations to Governments through the Council of F.A.O.

Soil conservation, flood control and other technical problems.- The conference recognised that in most countries of the region, soil erosion was a national menace, threatening their welfare and requiring a nationwide effort to combat the dangers. It recommended the setting up of a central authority representing cognate interests, including forests, for the co-ordination of both planning and execution of land utilisation and soil conservation and the enactment of legislation appropriate to the needs of each country to provide for powers to control ^{use of} land and enforce the observance of soil conservation measures on all lands. The conference recognised that the damage which has been and was being caused by floods and siltation in some countries was often due to lack of conservation in the headwaters of rivers which originate in other countries. It therefore recommended that the countries concerned should come together with a view to such river basing, and that they should seek the good offices of F.A.O. for suggestions and technical advice. The conference recommended that the problems of weather in ~~relation~~ relation to forestry be included in the terms of reference of the permanent sub-commission of agricultural meteorology for Asia.

In many areas, forests were interspersed with cultivated lands, and therefore had to cater for the fodder and grazing needs ~~as~~ of live-stock. The conference recommended that ways and means be devised to maintain the optimum balance between tree growth and the adverse agency of grazing, so as to perpetuate both the forests and the pasture. The conference felt that the prevalence of the widespread practice of roving agriculture by both nomadic and settled populations in the countries of this region resulted in very low standards of living. It recommended that the menace of roving agriculture be brought to the notice of governments concerned, and that the practice be urgently and carefully regulated by the gradual introduction of a planned system of ~~re-forestation~~ reforestation by agri-silvicultural methods, and systems of permanent agriculture, involving the cultivation of paddy in irrigable areas, or dry farming of arable crops in rotation with pasture and fodder, under a system of alternate husbandry. The planting of permanent economic crops, provided that in all cases steps were taken to

adopt the necessary soil conservation measures, was also suggested.

Increase in forest area and production of forest products.- The conference recommended that forest areas be extended by vigorous and large-scale afforestation and reforestation programmes on all suitable lands. The conference urged that immediate steps be taken to increase the availability of firewood and charcoal by all possible means and that the availability of sawn timber and other house-building materials, be increased.

The conference urged the following measures for increased production: That forest authorities in all countries endeavour to develop the use of secondary species by propaganda and by research in wood seasoning and preservation; and ~~manufacturing~~ in modern processing methods and manufacturing technique; that the increased economic use of timber and bamboo in structural engineering be promoted through research and propaganda; that forest authorities examine and overhaul, if necessary, their silvicultural practices and their existing methods of felling, extraction and conversion with a view to the reduction of waste, at all stages, to a minimum; and that, through the good offices of F.A.O., governments seek to arrange for the supply at reasonable rates, of tractors, bulldozers, trucks and all types of modern extraction and milling machinery.

Trade in forest produce.- The conference urged that F.A.O. should determine the import requirements and export possibilities of the various ~~countries~~ countries of the region, with a view to achieving a reasonable balance between overall demand and supplies and that all countries, particularly the 'deficit' countries, make every endeavour to increase production. To facilitate the easy movement of timber from areas of production to centres of consumption, the conference recommended that governments take all possible steps to facilitate the movement of timber, especially from "surplus" countries to "deficit" countries, in particular, that interested countries press for the reduction of rail and ocean freight rates.

The conference urged that all countries in the region who had not already done so should initiate comprehensive inventories of their forest resources and should aim to complete them within the next five years. The most effective method of making such inventories was by a combination of air survey and ground sampling. The conference recommended that F.A.O. should act as a clearing house for information on the best methods of enumeration and in particular should disseminate the results of recent research on sampling methods. It also recommended that Governments should undertake quantitative and qualitative surveys of all important minor forest products with a view to determining to what extent supplies currently available met the various demands of trade and industry.

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Other resolutions related to questions of research,
statistics, exchange of information, etc, etc.

(The Hindu, dated 29, 30 and 31-3-1949,
and 5 and 9-4-1949).

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CHAPTER 3. PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

31. Workers' Trade Union Movements.

United Trades Union Congress formed:
New Central Labour Organisation.

A new central organisation of labour - the United Trades Union Congress - was formed at a meeting of the All-India Labour Conference, held at Calcutta on ~~Six April~~ 29 April to 1st May 1949, under the auspices of the United Trades Union Committee (vide paragraph 31, pages 6-7 of the report of this Office for December 1948). The resolution setting up the new organisation declared that the new organisation ~~was~~ "unlike other central trade union organisations, is formed to fulfil the urgent need of the period, to conduct trade union activities and build up a central platform of labour on the basis of the broadest possible trade union unity, free from sectarian party politics". It affirmed that the United Trades Union Congress would resist any attempt on the part of any political party, groups or cliques to dominate it and turn it into a ~~part~~ political platform of their own against the best interests of the Indian working class as a whole.

Prof. K.T. Shah, member of the Constituent Assembly, was elected President of the United Trades Union Congress, and Mr. Mrinal Kanti Bose, a former President of the All-India Trade Union Congress, General Secretary. The United Trades Union Congress claims the support of various trade unions in India with a total membership of about 350,000.

Government blamed for denying civil liberties.-
Various resolutions was adopted by the All-India Labour Conference. By resolution the Conference condemned what it called "rapidly growing fascist tendency of the present Governments in India as evidenced by constant recourse to measures such as the various Public Safety Acts etc. ; denying fundamental rights and civil liberties". It suggested the removal of such restrictions before the constitution was finally adopted. The Conference urged upon the Government the need to release all detenus and persons imprisoned in connexion with political activities or workers' and peasants' movements.

In a resolution on "May Day" the Conference expressed its "firm solidarity with the world working class and other exploited masses and oppressed peoples in their struggle for freedom, democracy, Socialism and peace". It condemned the attempt of the Indian National Trade Union Congress to set up a "so-called Asian Labour ~~Confederation~~ Federation".

(The Statesman, dated 3-5-1949).

Indian National Trade Union Congress
recognised as Organisation.

most representative L

It is understood that the Government of India has decided to recognise the Indian National Trade Union Congress as the most representative Organisation of Indian labour for the purposes of nominating the workers' delegate to the ~~XXXXXX~~ 32nd International Labour Conference to be held in June 1949. Membership claims made by the three all-India ~~Trade~~ labour organisations - the All-India Trade Union Congress, the Indian National Trade Union Congress and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha - in their latest reports to the Government show that the number of members and the number of affiliated unions of the respective organisations were as follows:

	<u>Members.</u>	<u>Affiliated unions.</u>
All-India Trade Union Congress-----	679,143	733
Indian National Trade Union Congress-----	986,985	707
Hind Mazdoor Sabha-----	618,802	380

The oldest of the three, the All-India Trade Union Congress, said to be dominated by Communists, has the largest membership (205,817) from Bengal with 173 unions. The next important place of its influence is stated to be the Madras where it claims to have a membership of 146,665 under 234 unions.

The Congress-sponsored Indian National Trade Union Congress ranks first in membership but second as regards the number of affiliated unions.

Led by Socialists, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha was started in December, 1948, and is reported to be dominating in Bombay, Ahmedabad and Bihar.

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The total number of registered unions in India is 2,278. This shows that there are 458 registered unions (with an aggregate membership of 50,000) outside the three all-India organisations. They represent small "politically unimportant" groups of workers.

(The Times of India, 19-4-1949;
The Statesman, dated 27-4-1949).

Asian Federation of Labour to be formed;
Preparatory Committee to meet at Indore,
May 8 and 9, 1949.

Reference was made at paragraph 31, pages 16-17 of the report of this Office for September 1948, to the setting up of a Preparatory Committee by various delegates who represented Asian workers' organisations at the 31st Session of the International Labour Conference, held at San Francisco during June-July 1948, with a view to forming a Central body of all national organisations of trade unions in Asian countries. The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee is scheduled to be held at Indore on 8 and 9 May 1949. The conference will discuss, among other things, the question of strengthening and consolidating the working class movement in Asia.

According to the convenor of the Preparatory Committee, Mr. Deven Sen, delegates from the Philippines, Australia, Indonesia, Iran, Turkey and Pakistan have already signified their intention to attend the session. A fraternal delegation from the American Federation of Labour will also attend. The session is also being attended by Mr. K.E. Matthew, Acting Director of the New Delhi Office.

Objectives.- According to the draft constitution of the proposed Asian Federation of Labour, the aims of the Federation would be: (a) To establish an order of society which is free from hindrances in the way of an all-round development of its individual members, which encourages ~~from which~~ the growth of human personality in all its aspects, and from which social political and economic exploitation and inequality and the anti-social concentration of power in any form have been eliminated; (b) To secure for the workers such wages, hours of work and other conditions of work as are adequate for the purpose of full development of human personality; (c) To ensure full employment and best utilisation of man-power; (d) To obtain for the workers various measures of social security, including adequate provision in respect of accidents, maternity, sickness, old-age and unemployment; (e) To promote organisation of workers in Asian countries on sound trade union lines; (f) To affiliate national organisations of workers and to co-ordinate the activities

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of ^{the} same; and (g) To promote the civic and political consciousness of the workers.

(Note: A special report on the subject has been sent to Geneva under this Office Minute No. C.1/980/49, dated 2 May 1949).

(The Hindustan Times, 7-4-1949;
Text of Draft Constitution received
in this Office on 24-4-1949 from
Mr. Deven Sen, Convenor, Asian
Federation of Labour).

East Punjab: Recognition of Trade Unions:
Draft Regulations published.

The Government Gazette, East Punjab, dated 14 January 1949 contains the text of the East Punjab Trade Unions (Recognition) Regulations, 1948 which the Government of East Punjab propose to make in exercise of the powers conferred by section 30 of the Trade Unions Act, 1926 read with section 29 of the said Act (as amended subsequently by the Act XLV of 1947). These Regulations will be taken into consideration after 15 April 1949.

(Indian Labour Gazette, February, 1949).

American Labour Federation to open Offices in
India and Japan.

According to a P.T.I.-Reuter message, the American Federation of Labour has decided to open offices in Bombay and Tokyo. Mr. Matthew Woll, Vice-President of the American Federation of Labour, is reported to have said that the Federation's task would be to promote trade unions in India and Japan in opposition to the Communists.

The Federation is deputing two of its international experts, Mr. Irving Brown and Mr. Richard Deverall, to the East for the purpose of opening these headquarters.

(The Hindustan Times, 23-4-1949).

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Second Annual Session of Indian National Trade
Union Congress to be held at Indore on 6 and 7
May 1949.

The second annual session of the Indian National Trade Union Congress is scheduled to be held at Indore on 6 and 7 May 1949.

The main problem before the session is stated to be the creation of a feeling among labour that they are identical with - and not different from - the whole society.

(Amrita Bazar Patrika, 22-4-1949).

Annual Session of All-India Trade Union Congress
to be held at Bombay, from 27-30 May 1949.

The 23rd annual session of the All-India Trade Union Congress will be held at Bombay from 27 to 30 May 1949.

The agenda of the session includes consideration of the present political and economic situation. The session is expected to issue a statement of policy on the task of the working class in the light of existing conditions in the country.

(The Hindustan Times, 15-4-1949).

33. Employers' Professional Organisations.

India - April 1949.

Annual General Meeting of Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Karachi, 13 April 1949.

The annual general meeting of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce was held at Karachi on 13 April 1949, under the presidentship of Mr. Graham, Chairman of the Chamber. The meeting was addressed by Khwaja Nazimuddin^d, Governor-General of Pakistan who, ^freputing the suggestion that Pakistan had been coerced into trade agreements with India, stated that in the economic and commercial sphere the Government of Pakistan had from the beginning recognised the mutual interest of India and Pakistan. East must find its preferred markets in the other. The Governor-General also emphasised that while the Government of Pakistan considered the association of Pakistanis in trade essential ~~or~~ it had no intention of discriminating against foreign firms established in Pakistan.

Presidential address.- Mr. Graham, in his presidential address, announced that membership of the Chamber had swelled from 60, in August 1947, to 105. He also announced the establishment of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Pakistan with the Karachi, West Punjab, Chittagong and Narayangunj Chambers of Commerce as members.

Criticising the Government's policy regarding the export of cotton, Mr. Graham complained against the large quota of cotton given to India and said that Pakistan was more or less forced into this agreement with India to get coal and cotton piecegoods. The Government's policy in encouraging the introduction of new blood in the cotton trade had resulted in muddle and confusion in the trade; while there could be no quarter to bring in more Pakistani nationals, it should be done gradually and should not be allowed to develop into a mad scramble.

Referring to imports, Mr. Graham said that the increase in the large volume of imports during 1949 was alarming and might lead to a slump, unless great care was taken by the Government and the situation watched carefully.

As regards agriculture, Mr. Graham emphasised the need for developing agriculture in Pakistan, introducing co-operative farming, instituting agrarian reforms and raising the standard of living of the cultivators.

In conclusion, Mr. Graham ~~had~~ complained that the Government had seen fit to pass laws affecting trade and commerce without consulting the commercial community, and demanded that the Associated Chambers of Commerce should get representation in the national Parliament to be set up under the new constitution.

Khawaja Nazimuddin's speech.- Khawaja Nazimuddin, the Governor-General of Pakistan, in his speech said that the association of Pakistan firms in the very important cotton trade was considered essential by the Government, and it was hoped that with the co-operation of trade, difficulties experienced in the first twelve months of this experiment would be eliminated. There should however, be no misunderstanding. The Government did not intend, and never had intended, to discriminate against firms with foreign roots established in Pakistan where, as in so many cases, these firms were contributing to the welfare of the State, and were serving the country as well as themselves. He did not agree with the Chairman's criticism of the Government's licensing policy and deplored the suggestion that Pakistan had been coerced into trade agreements with India. The Government of Pakistan taking a broader view, was satisfied that the agreed exchange of commodities represented a fair return to both Dominions.

Dealing with the need for developing agriculture, Khawaja Nazimuddin assured the Chamber that in the furtherance of the mission to raise the standard of living, the Government was fully alive to the importance of laying more and more emphasis on the development of Pakistan's agricultural resources. Although agriculture was at present a provincial subject and the activities of the Centre had been generally confined to co-ordination and advice, the Government felt that it was necessary for the Centre not infrequently to embark upon schemes involving tasks which provinces individually could not perform, or for which their current financial resources were inadequate. The aim of the Government was that the agricultural commodities exported from Pakistan should enjoy a very high reputation in foreign markets. In the interest, therefore, of the producers and of consumers in foreign countries, the Government had under consideration a scheme whereunder exporters would be compelled to conform to certain minimum standards of quality and grade.

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As regards the question of agrarian reforms, the Government of Pakistan was well aware of the importance and urgency of agrarian reforms. Among the first steps necessary was sound tenancy legislation. Certain measures had already been taken, or were under consideration, in the various provinces of Pakistan, but it was advisable to co-ordinate such measures as much as possible. The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Health was taking steps to ensure such co-ordination and to take the initiative in that field wherever necessary.

In conclusion, Khwaja Nazimuddin said that the liberalisation of imports ~~and~~ had resulted in the availability of consumer goods and in lowering prices. There was no evidence, however, of a slump setting in as a result of the liberalized import policy, but the Government had the situation under constant review, and ~~an~~ would take suitable steps, if it found any signs of such a situation arising.

('Dawn', dated 14-4-1949).

CHAPTER 4. ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

41. Industrial and Mining Production.

Conditions in Coal Industry during 1948:
Chairman's Review at Annual Meeting of
Indian Mining Association, Calcutta,
18-3-1949.

The annual general meeting of the Indian Mining Association was held at Calcutta on 18 March 1949. Mr. K. Basu, Chairman of the Association, in his presidential address ~~said~~ said that it had been ~~decided~~ decided to amalgamate the three different organisations which represented employers of the coal industry, namely, the Indian Mining Federation, the Indian Colliery Owners' Association and the Indian Mining Association into a single association and an ad hoc committee had been formed to go into the question.

Fall in production due to inadequate transport facilities.- Referring to the production side of the industry, Mr. Basu said that producers were faced with a change of official opinion on the country's requirements of coal. The Indian Coal Fields Committee estimated that the requirements by 1956 would be in the neighbourhood of 41 million tons and it suggested that the industry should provide for a progressive increased consumption of 1 1/2 million tons ~~per~~ a year. The Industries Conference held in December 1947 had also recommended "an increase in the movement of coal by 4 million tons per annum over the existing level of 25/26 million tons per annum to enable the existing requirements to be met". But the industry was still faced with transport difficulties and was unable to clear stock which lay deteriorating. In 1946 the Association's production in round figures ~~was~~ 16 million tons, in 1947, 17 million tons and in 1948, 17 3/4 million tons. Mr. Basu claimed that in 1948 the Association could have easily produced a further two million tons of coal, had transport been available. The position had been further aggravated by the Transport Ministry's decision to cut the already reduced quota of wagons to a figure 300 per day, lower than the minimum required to cope with existing production. While appreciating ~~difficulties~~ difficulties being experienced by the Railways, Mr. Basu said that the transport policy was hardly compatible with the need to increase production nor did it assist "in establishing what everyone admitted was a necessity in this basic industry - a settled labour force".

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Conditions of ~~labour~~ labour. - As regards labour, Mr. Basu said that labour relations were of the first importance to industry, and especially to the Coal Industry. Labour was no longer regarded as a commodity which could be 'hired or fired'. Conditions had now been made so attractive in coal mining that workers, mainly surface workers, ~~were~~ were flocking to the collieries. The industry, however, was unable to offer employment to all of this labour. The wagon shortage by putting a brake on raisings, has reduced the volume of employment which could be offered to labour. There was thus created a problem of surplus labour - surplus not only to the ~~amount~~ amount of work which was available, but also surplus in the sense that the output per manshift was lower today than it was 12 years ago. According to figures supplied by the Chief Inspector of Mines in 1935 the overall average output per head per week was 2.5 tons whereas in 1947 it had dropped to 1.16 tons. This state of things was bad for industry and what was bad for the industry was also bad for the workers. For them it destroyed security of employment and gave rise to dissatisfaction.

The Government had been preoccupied with the improvement of labour conditions during the past few years, while the Association did not cavil at the pursuit of an aim which was laudable in itself and the groundwork of industrial wellbeing. Mr. Basu claimed that the coal ~~industry~~ industry had of late been rapidly subjected to experimental labour codes which were regarded as far in advance of the labour conditions existing in other industries in India. The ~~same~~ benefits which labour had recently ~~had~~ showed on them had led unions to believe that they had only "to knock and it shall be opened up to them". There were many ways of "knocking" and today leadership of labour seemed to be such an attractive occupation that the industry was faced with the phenomenon of fragmentation of unions and, such was the competition to become labour leaders, mainly among men without experience in mines, that there were cases where more than one union operated in a colliery and both alleged affiliation to the same political party.

On the whole, however, relations between the industry and its labour force had improved over the year under review. The main reason for this could be attributed to the Conciliation Board Award (vide pages 21-24 of the report of this Office for May 1947) which had now completed its first full year of ~~its~~ effectiveness; both employers and the labour force had adjusted themselves to ^{altered} altered conditions. Mr. Basu emphasised that the award was an outstanding example of compromise between industry and labour, and was really an agreement voluntarily accepted by both sides and not an arbitrary piece of legislation imposed by Statute.

Future of industry. - Turning to the future of the industry, Mr. Basu said that the Indian Coal-fields Committee had recommended the establishment of a National Coal Commission operating under a Minister of Fuel and Power. It had visualised an organisation on the lines of a public corporation, acting with wide executive powers,

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but subject in policy to a Minister who, in turn, would be accountable to the Nation's Parliament. The plan had the merit of centralising the control of the industry in a single Government Ministry while, at the same time, leaving the execution of the general policy untrammelled by an excess of administrative procedure. At present collieries were under the jurisdiction of three different Ministries of the Dominion Government, and not unnaturally each legislated with an eye to a ~~specific~~ specific set of problems and objectives. Co-ordination of policy was vital in managing the affairs of the coal industry, and there was no time to be lost in implementing some of the more urgent recommendations of the Coalfields Committee. The establishment of the National Coal Commission along the lines of its recommendation was also a matter which had waited too long. Many of the recent problems of the industry, especially in regard to labour legislation and price fixing, would probably not have arisen if the control of the industry had been in the hands of a single authority.

There had been some advocacy of late, and even suggestions from authoritative quarters, that existing prices ~~be~~ should be changed from fixed prices into maximum prices so that coal might be sold below the present statutory quotations. It had to be realised that a transformation had taken place in the relationship between prices and wages and, ~~that~~ in order to give the workers a reasonable standard of life, it was necessary to put the wage factor before the demand-supply factor. This could only be done with a stabilised price; a return to cut throat price competition would inevitably mean casting the industry back into the slough which existed a decade ago. Competitive prices could never harmoniously fit in with the present system of control, and the present system of controlled prices were essential in order to have a contented and settled labour force.

There was a widespread impression that an important section of the industry was in the hands of foreigners. An examination of stock-holdings of about 30 of the largest coal companies, however showed that out of their aggregated total of approximately 49.8 million rupees issued capital, ~~38.9~~ 38.9 million rupees worth of shares were held by Indians and 10.9 million rupees by non-Indians, which expressed in terms of percentages was 78 per cent Indian and 22 per cent non-Indian.

(The Bombay Chronicle, 23-3-1949).

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Working of Railway Collieries: Inquiry
Committee appointed.

The Government of India has constituted a committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. B.P. Singh-Roy, to inquire into the working of Government Railway Collieries.

The committee will examine the methods of working in the railway collieries and their volume and cost of production as compared with private collieries in the vicinity. It will also recommend to the Government what steps should be taken to overhaul the working of railway collieries, to increase production and to reduce the cost of production.

(The Hindustan Times, 22-4-1949).

Increasing Production of Good Quality Coal:
Committee appointed.

The Government of India has set up an ad hoc committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. T.S. Krishnan, to review the position of production in the coal industry and to recommend the extent of compulsion necessary at the producers' and consumers' end for conservation of metallurgical coal ^{and to make} with suggestions for revision of ~~prices~~ price structure.

According to the terms of reference, the committee is to review the recommendations of the various fuel research organisations in the country and to recommend to the Government what measures should be taken to implement such of the findings of the research bodies as are considered desirable for adoption. The committee is also to ascertain the difficulties in the way of increasing production of good quality of metallurgical coal and estimate the probable increase in India's requirements within the next few years.

(The Hindustan Times, 11-4-1949).

Setting up New Steel Factories in India:
Recommendations of Consultant Firms.

The Government of India's scheme for setting up new steel plants in India (vide paragraph 41, pages 5-6 of the report of this Office for July 1948), has been unanimously supported by the three American and British firms appointed by the Government as consultants.

The three firms, Messrs. Koppers Co and Arthur McKee and Co of the United States of America and the International Construction Co of the United Kingdom, were appointed as consultants for making a preliminary technical survey and report on two alternative schemes for the establishment of steel plants in India. All the three consultants have pointed out that even after expending the existing plants, there will still be an annual deficit of over 1,000,000 tons between demand and supply. The adoption of a two-plant scheme is favoured in preference to a one-plant scheme. For one plant (500,000 to 600,000 tons capacity, the estimated capital cost will be between 500 million rupees to 600 million rupees.

All the three consultants have selected sites in Orissa and the Central Provinces for the two-plant scheme. They have ~~ruled~~ ruled out any site in Madras for the present due to the distance and transport difficulties in sending coking and steam coal from the present coal-mining areas. The International Construction Company has, however, added that if and when further additional steel capacity is required, selection of a site in South India should merit careful consideration.

(The Hindu, 15-4-1949).

Manufacture of Locomotives: Progress of
Government Plans.

Plans to manufacture locomotives in India are well under way and the first locomotive is expected to be turned out by 1951 from the State-owned plant at Chittaranjan, a town near Asansol in West Bengal.

Estimated to cost over 140 million rupees, the Chittaranjan workshops are designed to build about 120 steam locomotives and 50 spare boilers per year. Together with the Tatas' locomotive factory, they are expected to ~~make~~ make India self-sufficient in regard to locomotives. The workshops involve a heavy construction programme including about 14,000 tons of steel fabrication. About 10,000 workers are expected to be employed on the project. To begin with, the workshops will produce parts of standard locomotives.

About 1,200 machines will be used for manufacturing and assembling spare parts and locomotives at the plant, for this work involves a variety of operations embracing various trades, such as pattern-making, foundry work, forging and smithy work, die-sinking, boiler-making, tool-making, etc.

The estimated cost is divided broadly as follows: 85 million rupees for workshops and ancillaries and 55 million rupees for staff colony and welfare works. Out of the former, 36 million rupees have been earmarked for machinery, 10 million rupees for electrical fittings, 20 million rupees for workshop buildings, 10 million rupees for construction ~~xxxx~~ expenses and the balance for sidings, roads, water-supply, etc.

A modern township with the necessary auxiliary services has been planned to accommodate 6,000 families to start with.

(The Hindu, 20-4-1949).

Madras: Madras State Aid to Industries
(Amendment) Act, 1949 (No. IV of 1949).

The Madras State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Bill, (vide paragraph 41, page 16 of the report of this Office for February 1949) as passed by the legislature was assented to by the Governor of Madras on 10 March 1949 and has been gazetted as the Madras State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Act, 1949.

(The Fort St. George Gazette, Part IV-B,
dated 15 March 1949, page 45).

Pakistan: The Development of Industries
(Federal Control) Act, 1949 (Act No. XIII
of 1949).

The Development of Industries (Federal Control) Bill, 1949 (vide pages 21-22 of the report of this Office for March 1949) after having been passed by the Constituent Assembly (Legislature) of Pakistan, received the assent of the Governor-General ~~the~~ on 21 March 1949 and has been gazetted as the Development of Industries (Federal Control) Act, 1949 (Act No. XIII of 1949).

(The Gazette of Pakistan, Extraordinary,
dated 22 March 1949, pages 200-201).

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42. Production and Export of Agricultural Products.

India - APRIL April 1949.

India: Increasing Food Production:
Conference of Agricultural Authorities
of Provinces and States.

A conference of Secretaries and Directors of Agriculture of the provincial and State Governments was held at New Delhi on 16 April 1949 under the chairmanship of Mr. K.L. Punjabi, Agriculture Secretary of the Government of India. Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Food and Agriculture Minister of the Government of India, was also present. Fixation of provincial targets of increased production by concentration on irrigated areas, or those which have assured rainfall, quick supply of raw materials required for agricultural purposes ~~through~~ through a special machinery, diversion of 10 per cent of the present sugarcane area to food crops, inducement to private owners to reclaim culturable waste land by granting exemption from payment of land-revenue for a specified period, award of medals and prizes as encouragement to progressive cultivators, steps for organising an extension service to carry the results of research to the fields, were some of the important decisions taken by the conference.

Provincial plans.- Representatives of the provincial Governments indicated their plans of increased production during the next three years ending 1951 by intensive cultivation methods, including application of better seeds, manures, extension of minor irrigation, etc. These are to be confined to areas which are either irrigated or have an assured rainfall, so that the results of intensive cultivation would not be subject to adverse climatic factors and could be assessed without difficulty. In other areas, minor irrigation works were particularly recommended. The representative of Madras explained a three-year scheme of the provincial Government, which aimed at repairing or constructing 26,000 tanks which, when completed, would irrigate 5 million acres of land and bring in 2 million tons of additional foodgrains. Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram urged that the scheme should be accorded the highest priority, so that the estimated increased production could be realised within the target date for food self-sufficiency fixed by the Government of India.

In order to expedite the supply of iron, steel, cement, bricks, etc., required for agricultural purposes, a special officer is proposed to be appointed in the Central Ministry of Agriculture, who would keep personal touch with the provincial Governments for their requirements and would ensure a steady supply of these materials,

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so that production is not hampered by lack of essential implements.

The Central Ministry of Agriculture has arranged for a substantial increase in the quota of iron and steel for agricultural purposes and the provincial Governments have been asked to furnish their requirements to the special officer who would arrange for their requirements and supply.

Extension service.- The question of starting an extension service with a view to apply the results of research on improved methods of cultivation to the fields was discussed. Mr. K.L. Punjabi informed the conference that the Government of India had asked the United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organisation to give the assistance of an expert in extension service, who could advise the Government of India on this matter. The idea underlying the extension service is to enlist non-official support for increased food production activities of the Government and to ensure that the more progressive among the farmers themselves take an active interest in the Government's plan of food self-sufficiency and induce other cultivators to apply improved methods of production in their respective fields.

Supply of fertilizers.- The conference noted with regret a tendency among some of the cultivators to divert fertilizers, like sulphate of ammonia, from food crops, for which they have been allotted to them, to cash crops as the latter brought greater return. In view of the paramount necessity of immediate increase in food production, it was considered essential that such diversion must be checked. The conference suggested that the allocation of fertilizers should be restricted in such a way that only areas growing food crops received them and that they were distributed during the particular season in which food crops were ~~grown~~ grown. Besides, it was suggested that the import of nitrogenous fertilizers should be increased so that the inducement to divert fertilizers from food crops to cash crops was minimised.

The conference felt that a large quantity of manure, consisting of town refuse and sewage, was at present being wasted and recommended that effective steps should be taken to utilize this material for increased production. It was explained that of about 4,000 towns in India, with a population over 5,000, not more than a dozen had yet taken up compost production work, on any comprehensive scale. The conference recommended that municipalities must undertake preparation of compost and advised that the provinces should pass enabling legislation to compel municipalities to take up this work. The compost schemes of municipalities should normally be self-supporting, but it was agreed that financial assistance might be tendered as a special case, if a particular municipality ~~was~~ was in need of it.

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Increasing food acreage.- The conference decided that all land, either privately owned or otherwise, which had been reclaimed by Government ~~efforts~~ should be put under food production. Inducement should be given to private owners for reclaiming waste land by exempting them from payment of land revenue for a period of ~~a~~ five years; provided they put the reclaimed land under foodgrains. The difficulty experienced by private owners of tractors and tubewells in procuring diesel oil for their machineries were explained and it was decided that the Central Government would help them in this respect.

With regard to cultivable ~~land~~ ^{land} fallow, the conference suggested that legislation might be introduced to ~~make~~ ^{under} compel owners to put such lands ~~into~~ ^{under} cultivation. Otherwise, penalties might have to be imposed.

The question of diversion of some of the existing acreage from cash crops to food crops was considered, and it was recommended that 10 per cent of the existing sugarcane areas, constituting about 340,000 acres, should be diverted to foodgrain production.

A system of distributing prizes in order to stimulate the enthusiasm of the cultivators in increasing the yield of foodgrains and holding of exhibitions to demonstrate improved agricultural methods were recommended. The question of awarding special medals and trophies, ~~with which our leaders may be associated~~, to agriculturists who achieve high increase in foodgrain production was also considered.

(The Statesman, dated 18-4-1949).

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43. Foreign Trade and Exchanges.

India - April 1949.

India: Policy regarding Protection to Industries
to be reviewed : Fiscal Commission appointed.

The Government of India has appointed a Fiscal Commission to examine the policy that has been followed by the Government with regard to protection of industries since 1922, when the 1st Fiscal Commission reported. The Commission will also make recommendations as to the policy that should be adopted in future in regard to protection or assistance to industries.

The Commission will consist of Sir V.T. Krishnamachari (Chairman), Dr. B.N. Ganguli, Mr. B.M. Byla, Mr. Anantasayanam Iyengar, Chaudhri Mukhtar Singh, Mr. Khandubhai Desai and Mr. D.L. Mazumdar (Member-Secretary). The Government may appoint further members as and when necessary.

A press note issued ~~in~~ by the Ministry of Commerce, in this connection, states that a review of the Government's policy is now considered necessary, especially in view of the division of the country. Even otherwise, conditions, both national and international, have changed materially. The Government ~~gave~~ gave certain assurances to industries that were started or developed during the war, and the long-term policies in regard to these have to be settled. Economic conditions, seriously upset by the war in India, as indeed everywhere else, have not yet reached a state of normality or stability. The Commission may, therefore, have to distinguish between short and long-term aspects of the problem in formulating its advice. Further, in the light of the country's requirements, it will also have to consider how far it would be desirable for India to undertake international obligations of the kind involved in the general agreement on tariffs and trade, or the charter of the International Trade Organisation.

(The Hindustan Times, 22-4-1949).

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India: The Protective Duties (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1949: Passed by Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) 25 March 1949.

On 25 March 1949, ^{the} Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) passed the Protective Duties (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1949, granting extension of protection to the sugar industry for a year, and 18 other industries for varying periods upto three years. The Bill also grants protection to motor vehicle batteries, excludes certain types of nickel alloys from protection and terminates protection altogether for the gold and silver thread and manganese chloride industries. Among the 18 industries for which protection is extended are artificial silk and cotton mixed fabrics and certain chemical industries.

Commerce Minister's statement.- During the debate in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on 25 March 1949, Mr. K.C. Neogy, Minister for Commerce, Government of India, gave a brief indication of the periods during which protection had been enjoyed by each industry. The sugar industry, he said, had enjoyed protection from 1932 and it was now intended to extend that protection for two ~~year~~ more years. Explaining how protection was given to sugar industry for 14 years, Mr. Neogy said the industry enjoyed an import duty of 6 rupees 12 annas per cwt. on foreign imports. When the Legislature agreed to extend the protection to the industry in 1946, the Government gave an undertaking that further extension of protection would be asked for only after a proper inquiry by the Tariff Board. Accordingly, an inquiry was made by the Tariff Board in 1947 which recommended the continuance of protection for a further period of one year from 1947.

The Board expressed the view that the Indian sugar industry was likely to require protection for some time to come, but a further detailed inquiry should be undertaken. The Board thought that normal conditions would perhaps return before the end of 1948 and suggested that the proposed inquiry should take place about that time. In accordance with that understanding the Tariff Board was asked to make an inquiry into the position of the sugar industry, but as a result of representations made by nearly all the provincial Governments, research institutes and sugar mills associations to the effect that the conditions were still unstable, a detailed inquiry had to be postponed. The Board itself found that the ~~existing~~ conditions that prevailed today were not sufficiently normal to conduct an inquiry. Following a conference of various interests, the Board recommended the extension of the existing protection for two years in the hope that later it would be possible for the Board, if the Government so desired, to undertake a fuller inquiry into the position.

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Referring to the difficulties that confronted the industry, Mr. Neogy said though the effects of protection were gratifying in the first six years, during which considerable improvement took place, unfortunately the rate of progress had not been maintained. There had been deterioration in certain matters. The total acreage under sugarcane had not gone up and the yield had not improved. The cost of raw material now stood somewhere between 60 per cent and 70 per cent of the total cost of sugar. Recently the Government had declared a reduction in the price of sugarcane and the result would soon be felt. The Government had increased its grants to the funds of the sugarcane industry from one anna to four annas per cwt. and the amount thus made available to the committee would be nearly 5.0 million rupees. He hoped this additional help from Government would help the industry and sugarcane growers to improve the conditions.

Because of import control, imports of sugar had been negligible. It should be realized that import control under general tariff and trade agreements was not primarily intended for the purpose of giving protection to the industry. Such control could be justified only on the ground of balance of trade difficulties.

Shri Ghandal
Prof. Saksena moved an amendment seeking to reduce the period of protection to the sugar industry ~~from two years~~ from two years to one year. Continued protection to the industry, he said, should be conditional upon: liquidation of the sugar syndicate and restoration of internal competition; holding of an inquiry into the profits made by the industry in the last 18 years and the manner of their distribution among labour, cane-growers and industrialists; holding of an inquiry into the progress made in the development of sugarcane ^{industry} since 1932, when protection was first granted; and submission of a plan to place the industry on a sound footing within a limited period of three to five years, after which the industry should not ask for any further protection or aid. It was not fair to burden the consumer for an indefinite period. During the period of protection, the Government should fix minimum wages and minimum prices of sugarcane, but leave the internal price of sugar to find its own level.

Mr. Neogy accepted the amendment on behalf of the Government but said that within one year it would not be physically possible to do all that was intended to be done.

The Bill as amended was passed.

(The Gazette of India, Part V, dated
26-3-1949, pages 145-148;
The Statesman, 25 and 26-3-1949)

India: French Settlements in India declared
foreign territories for purposes of Indian
Tariff Act, 1934.

By a notification under the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 the Government of India has declared the French Settlements of Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe, Yanam and Chandernagore to be foreign territories with effect from 1 April 1949 for the purposes of the Act and has directed that on and from that date a duty of customs at prescribed rates will be ~~fixe~~ levied on articles imported into or exported from any of the settlements.

(Notification No.34-T(14)/49, dated
29 March, 1949;
The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
dated 29 March, 1949, page 557).

Liberalization of Export Control: More items
included.

In pursuance of its policy to ~~liberalization~~ liberalize the export of as many commodities as possible (vide paragraph 43, page 29 of the report of this Office for March 1949), the Government of India has added the following items to the list of goods, the export of which will be permitted to Pakistan without export licence: Machinery and spare parts of indigenous manufacture, coated abrasives (indigenous), storage batteries (indigenous) bobbins for textiles (indigenous) and steel pens.

Further, it has been decided that the following commodities, some of which are already on the free list for export to Pakistan, shall now be allowed export without licence to all destinations: Hurricane lanterns, G.I. buckets, builders' hardware (indigenous), plywood tea chests (indigenous), steel pens and electric ceiling fans (indigenous).

(The Statesman, 3-4-1949).

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India: Trade Agreement with Czechoslovakia
signed.

A trade agreement between India and Czechoslovakia, aiming at the promotion of direct trade relations between the two countries was signed by the representatives of the two Governments at New Delhi on 29 March 1949.

Value of the commodities forming part of the agreement is approximately 50 million rupees. Exports from India will consist mainly of raw jute, manganese ore, oilseeds and oils sillimanite, hides and skins, pepper, shellac, coir, fibre, palmyra fibre, mica and tea valued at about 17.0 million rupees. Exports from Czechoslovakia which consist mostly of capital goods, are valued at 33.0 million rupees. Other features of the Agreement are that Czechoslovakia will make available to India technical personnel for setting up various industries, while India has been able to obtain an assurance that Indian ships will be allowed to carry a reasonable proportion of the trade between the two countries.

The ~~xxx~~ Agreement is subject to ratification by the Governments of India and the Czechoslovakia Republic.

(The Statesman, dated 30-3-1949).

India: Trade Agreement with Hungary
signed.

A trade agreement between India and Hungary, providing for direct trade relations between the two countries, was signed by the representatives of the two Governments, at New Delhi on 8 April 1949.

Value of commodities forming part of the agreement is about 13 million rupees. Exports from India will consist mostly of raw jute, kyanite, cotton waste, linseed, oil and pepper, valued at approximately 2 million rupees. Exports from Hungary, valued at 11 million rupees, include transformers, switchgear, refrigeration plants, ammonia compressors, diesel engines, steam engines, lorries and trucks, transport equipment, concrete and asphalt mixing machines, machine tools, pipes and fittings, refrigerator vans and lithophone.

Hungary has also offered to export railway equipment. The offer is being considered by the Government of India.

The Agreement is subject to ratification by the Governments of India and of Hungary.

(The National Herald, 10-4-1949).

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44. Prices and Cost of Living.

India - April 1949.

Family Budgets of Industrial Workers
in Ahmedabad; Government of India
Report*.

The Government of India has published recently a Report on an Enquiry into Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Ahmedabad. Ahmedabad is the second largest textile centre in the Province of Bombay and also the second largest cotton manufacturing centre in the whole of India. The city has grown enormously in recent years and largely owes its prosperity and growth to the manufacture of cotton textiles. Ahmedabad had a population of 270,775 in 1921 while during the census of 1941 it had gone up to 591,267. During the war years the population of Ahmedabad rapidly increased and in December 1945 it was estimated to be 786,961. The enquiry, which was conducted during 1944-45, was undertaken under the All-India Cost of Living Index Scheme of the Government of India (vide pages 13-15 of the report of this Office for August 1943). The following details regarding family budgets of industrial workers in Ahmedabad are taken from the Report.

Number of budgets collected.- In all, a total number of 1,868 budgets were collected out of which 53 were rejected as they contained unsatisfactory information. No single men's budgets were collected at Ahmedabad as most of the workers live in families, the labour force being more or less local in character. The 1,868 budgets collected during the course of the enquiry constituted about 2.90 per cent of the total number of working class families in Ahmedabad. The number of budgets accepted for tabulation was 1820.

* Government of India: Report of an Enquiry into Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Ahmedabad: by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme. pp. vi x 53; price Re.1/- or 1sh.6d.

Composition of the family.- The average family in Ahmadabad consists of 4.33 persons, 1.52 adult men, 1.31 adult women, 0.80 male children and 0.70 female children. In addition it was found that 0.48 persons were dependants living away from the family. 18.30 per cent of the families were two member families; 23.40 per cent three member families, 23.35 per cent four member families while 34.95 per cent contained five or more members. In fact, 30 families contained as many as eleven persons each. The large size families were mostly in the higher income groups. An analysis of the budgets shows that the average size of the family, generally speaking, increased according to income. Also, that, in the higher income groups, there were many more dependants living away from the family than in the lower income groups.

Earners and dependants.- Of the 4.33 persons in the family 1.58 on an average were wage earners. Among the earners, 1.38 were men, 0.16 women, and 0.02 male children. A study of the frequency distribution of wage earners in the families falling under different income groups shows that in about 58.69 per cent of the total number of families there was only a single wage earner, in 32.64 per cent two, in 6.70 per cent three and in 1.48 per cent four. The percentage of families with five or more wage earners was 0.49. Generally, as the income increased, the average number of earners also increased. Thus, while in the income group below 40 rupees there was only one earner, there were as many as 3.70 earners in the income group 300 rupees and above. While, however, with the rise in income the average number of ~~men~~ men earners went up, there was almost a downward tendency in the number of women earners. The figures show that there is little employment of ~~children~~ children.

In the 1,820 families covered, there were in all 2,714 earners, 1,820 heads of families, 700 men earners and 194 women earners. Among the men earners other than the head of the family, in no fewer than 404 cases a brother was helping a brother, in 141 a son was helping a father, and in 55 a father was helping a son. The very large proportion of the cases in which a brother was helping a brother would seem to indicate that the joint family system still prevailed to a considerable extent in Ahmedabad. So far as women earners were concerned, in 135 cases out of a total of 194 it was the wife who was earning and helping the husband. There were 29 cases of mothers helping their sons and only nine of sisters helping their brothers.

Income and expenditure.- The composition of family income was as follows:-

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Composition of family income (1820 budgets).

	Rs.	As.	P.
<u>Average monthly earnings from regular employment</u>			
Wages including overtime pay -----	41	9	1
Dearness allowance -----	80	8	4
Others -----	5	4	9
<u>Average monthly income from sources other than regular employment</u>			
House rent -----	0	4	8
Others -----	6	10	10
<hr/>			
Total average monthly income-----	134	5	8

The average contribution of the head of the family was 75 rupees 12 annas and 6 pies. (In 35 cases heads of families were women). Other adult men contributed 41 rupees 3 annas and 4 pies, adult women, 10 rupees 13 annas and 2 pies, while 1 rupee and 11 annas were contributed by male children. The joint income from sources other than regular employment amounted to 6 rupees 13 annas and 8 pies.

The average monthly expenditure of a family was as follows:-

Average monthly expenditure (1820 budgets).

	Rs.	As.	P.	<u>Percentage to total expenditure</u>
Food -----	50	9	9	52.73
Fuel and lighting----	8	10	1	8.99
House rent -----	5	2	11	5.40
Clothing and footwear--	12	0	2	12.51
Household requisites--	2	0	4	2.11
Miscellaneous-----	17	8	1	18.26
<hr/>				
Total xxxx average monthly expenditure--	95	15	4	100.00

The above table excludes amount spent on interest on loans, remittance to dependants, insurance premia, etc.

The table below gives the number of surplus or deficit budgets by income groups:-

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Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in
Jalgaon: Government of India Report*.

The following information regarding family budgets of industrial workers in Jalgaon is taken from a report of an enquiry conducted during 1944-45 by the Government of India in connection with its scheme for the compilation and maintenance of working class cost of living index numbers on uniform lines. Jalgaon is the headquarter town of the district of East Khandesh of the Bombay Presidency and the principal crops of the district are cotton and groundnut. Out of a total number of 16,730 workers employed in perennial and seasonal factories in 1944, about 12,806 or 76 per cent were employed in cotton textiles and cotton gins and presses, the other industries of the district being chemicals, dyes, etc.

Number of budgets collected.- Out of a total number of 347 family budgets collected 190 or 54.76 per cent were re-investigated. In all, 338 family budgets were finally accepted for tabulation and the remaining 9 were rejected as they contained incomplete information. No singlemen's budgets were collected.

Composition of the family.- The Industrial labour in Jalgaon is mostly local in character. The average family is, however, somewhat large and consists of 5.58 persons, 1.65 adult men, 1.77 adult women, 1.05 male children and 1.11 female children. In addition, the enquiry shows that there were about 0.07 dependant persons living away from the family. The average size of the family almost progressively increased according to income. 96.46 per cent of the heads of families were married, 2.07 per cent unmarried while 1.47 per cent were widowers.

Earners and dependants.- Among the men earners, the bulk or 88.2 per cent of the total was in the age groups 15 years, and below 50 years, although there were as many as 45 or 9.6 per cent of the total who were 50 years or above. Of the 5.58 persons in the family, 1.66 are earners and 3.92 dependants. Among the former, there were 1.35 adult males, 0.28 adult females and 0.03 male children. Speaking generally, the average number of earners in the family increases as the family income increases.

* Government of India: Report on an Enquiry into the Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Jalgaon; by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme: pp. ix x37; price Rs.1-2-0/pr 1s.9d.

In the case of 181 families or 53.55 per cent of the total there was only one earner, in 109 or 32.25 per cent of the total, two, in 35 or 10.35 per cent of the total, three and in 13 or 3.85 per cent of the total, four or more earners. In the 338 families covered, there were in all 560 earners including the head of the family himself. Of these, in addition to the heads of the families there were 152 men earners and 70 women earners. Among the men earners (other than the head of the family), in 65 cases it was the brother who was helping ~~the family~~ and in 54 the son. In other cases relatives such as nephews, etc., were found to contribute to the family pool. Among the women earners, in 33 cases the wife was earning, in 16 a mother and in the remaining 21 cases other women relatives such as a sister, etc.

Income and expenditure.— The average monthly income of a family was 60 rupees 2 annas and 5 pies, and the average monthly income per capita 10 rupees 12 annas and 5 pies. An analysis of the contribution of the different earners to the family income shows that of the average monthly income of 60 rupees 2 annas and 5 pies, 47 rupees 4 annas and 5 pies was contributed by the head of the ~~family~~ family, 7 rupees 10 annas and 11 pies by other adult men earners, 2 rupees 2 annas and 1 pie by adult women earners, 5 annas and 1 pie by male children, while 2 rupees 11 annas and 11 pies was income from sources other than regular employment.

The average monthly expenditure of a family was as follows:—

<u>Average monthly expenditure (338 budgets)</u>				
	Rs.	As.	P.	Percentage to total expendi- ture.
Food -----	34	5	10	56.57
Fuel and lighting-----	5	4	4	8.68
House rent -----	2	5	2	3.82
Clothings and footwear--	10	9	6	17.44
Household requisites----	0	4	3	0.45
Miscellaneous-----	7	14	9	13.04
Total average monthly expenditure-----	60	11	10	100.00

The above table excludes amount spent on interest on loans, remittance to dependants, insurance premia, etc.

The table below shows the number of surplus or deficit budgets by income groups:—

Monthly Income Groups.	Total No. of budgets.	No. of Budgets where the income of the family exceeds expenditure.	No. of budgets where the expenditure of the family exceeds income.
Below Rs. 30-----	11	..	11
Rs.30 and below Rs.40.30		4	26
Rs.40 and " Rs.50- 68		23	45
Rs.50 " " " 60---- 82		36	46
Rs.60 " " " 70---- 69		40	29
Rs.70 " " " 80---- 29		19	10
Rs.80 " " " 90---- 21		15	6
Rs.90 " " "100---- 7		4	3
Rs.100 " " " 110---- 10		6	4
Rs.110 " " " 120---- 4		4	-
Rs.120 " " " 130---- 2		2	-
Rs.130 " " " 140---- 1		1	-
Rs.140 " " " 150---- 2		1	1
Rs.150 and above-----	2	1	1
All Incomes-----	338	156	182

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Madras: Madras Prevention of Black-Marketing
Bill, 1949.

The Government of Madras published on 22 March 1949 the Madras Prevention of Black-marketing Bill, 1949, which seeks to prevent black-marketing in the province.

The Bill contains a comprehensive definition of 'black marketing' and provides for deterrent punishment and for execution of bonds for good behaviour in the case of a second or subsequent ~~offences~~ offences. Special provision has also been made for giving wide publicity to convictions under the Act and also prohibiting offenders in certain cases from carrying on their business after their conviction.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons, appended to the Bill, declares that in spite of the vigilance of the police and the official machinery, black-marketing has been rampant in the Province due in some measure to lack of co-operation from the public. The absence of a clear definition of 'black-marketing' in the existing laws has also rendered difficult the successful prosecution of blackmarketees. The Government considers that it is essential to ~~er~~ eradicate this evil by legislation and the present Bill is designed to achieve this object.

(The Fort St. George Gazette, Part IV-A,
dated 22 March 1949, pages 211-212).

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45. Economic Development and Control.

India - April 1949.

Scope for Investment of Foreign Capital:
Prime Minister clarifies Government's
Policy.

On 6 April 1949, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, made a statement in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on the Government's policy in regard to participation of foreign capital in India. His statement followed the broad principles of the official resolution on industrial development adopted by the legislature in 1948 (vide paragraph 45, pages 32-36 of the report of this Office for April 1948).

Subject to the proviso that foreign capital is utilised primarily in the national interest, the Prime Minister mentioned the following four main conditions and terms for its operation: All foreign undertakings will conform to the Government's industrial policy in the same way as Indian enterprises and will be governed by conditions which are equally applicable to both. Foreign interests will be permitted to earn profits, to withdraw capital investments and to remit both overseas, subject to considerations of foreign exchange. Fair and equitable compensation will be paid when a foreign enterprise is compulsorily acquired and reasonable facilities given for the remittance of the proceeds. Apart from exceptional cases, the major interest in ownership and effective control of a foreign undertaking will be in Indian

hands. Non-Indian personnel may be employed to fill posts requiring high technical skill on a temporary basis.

The following is a summary of Pandit Nehru's statement:

Need for foreign capital to develop Indian industries.- Stating that the Government of India would gladly welcome the contribution of foreign investments in a constructive and co-operative role in the development of India's economy, Pandit Nehru said the policy as regards participation of foreign capital had already been announced in broad terms in the Government's resolution of April 1948. The stress on the need to regulate, in the national interest, the scope and manner of foreign capital arose from past association of foreign capital and control with foreign domination of the economy of the country. But circumstances today are different. The object of regulation should, therefore, be the utilization of foreign capital in a manner most advantageous to the country. Indian capital needed to be supplemented by foreign capital, not only because national savings will not be enough for the rapid development of the country on the scale planned, but also because in many cases scientific, technical and industrial knowledge and capital equipment can best be secured along with foreign capital.

Conditions for foreign investment.- Clarifying the Government's policy on certain matters, like the repatriation of capital, the remittance of profits, and the treatment of foreign enterprise vis-a-vis Indian enterprise, Pandit Nehru stated that in the first place the Government would expect all undertakings, Indian or foreign, to conform to the general requirements of its industrial policy. As regards existing foreign interests, the Government did not intend to place any restrictions or impose any conditions which were not applicable to similar Indian enterprise. The Government would also so frame its policy as to enable further foreign capital to be invested in India on terms and conditions that are mutually advantageous.

Secondly, foreign interests would be permitted to earn profits, subject only to regulations common to all. The Government did not foresee any difficulty in continuing the existing facilities for remittance of profits, and had no intention to place any restriction on the withdrawal of foreign capital investments, but remittance facilities would naturally depend on foreign exchange considerations. If, however, any foreign concerns came to be compulsorily acquired, the Government would provide reasonable facilities for the remittance of proceeds.

Thirdly, if and when foreign enterprises were compulsorily acquired, compensation would be paid on a fair and equitable basis as already announced in the Government's statement of policy.

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The Government had stated before that, as a rule, the major interest in ownership and effective control of an undertaking should be in Indian hands. It had also stated that power ~~would~~ would be taken to deal with exceptional cases in a manner calculated to serve the national interest. Obviously there could be no hard and fast rule in this matter. The Government would not object to foreign capital having control of a concern for a limited period, if it is found to be in the national interest and each individual case would be dealt with on its merits. In the matter of employment of personnel, the Government would not object to the employment of non-Indians in posts requiring technical skill and experience, when Indians of requisite qualifications are not available, but it attached vital importance to the training and employment of Indians even for such posts in the quickest possible manner.

Scope for British capital.— Pandit Nehru emphasised that although it ~~was~~ the policy of the Government of India to encourage the growth of Indian industry and commerce, including such services ~~like~~ banking, shipping and insurance to the best of its ability, there was and would still be considerable scope for the investment of British Capital in India.

In conclusion, Pandit Nehru stated that the Government of India had no desire to injure in anyway British or other non-Indian interests in India and would gladly welcome ~~its~~ ^{their} contribution in a constructive and co-operative role in the development of India's economy.

(The Statesman, 7-4-1949).

India: Centre to regulate Development of certain Industries: Bill introduced in Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative), 23 March 1949.

The Industries (Development and Control) Bill, 1949, to provide for the development, regulation and control of 25 groups of industries was introduced in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on 23 March 1949, by Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Minister for Industry and Supply, Government of India.

The 25 groups of industries enumerated in the schedule of the Bill are aircraft, arms and ammunition, ~~automobiles including tractors,~~ automobiles including tractors, cement, coal including coke and other derivatives, electric lamps and fans, electric motors, heavy chemicals including fertilizers, heavy machinery used in industry including ball and roller bearing and gear wheels and parts thereof, boilers and steam generating equipment, iron and ~~steel~~ steel, locomotives and rolling stock,

machine tools, machinery and equipment for the generation, transmission and distribution of electric energy, motor and aviation fuel, kerosene, crude oils and synthetic oils, non-ferrous metals including alloys, paper and newsprint, pharmaceuticals and drugs, power and industrial alcohol, rubber goods, salt, ships and other vessels propelled by steam or by electricity or mechanical power, sugar, tea, telephones, telegraph apparatus and wireless communication apparatus, and textiles made of cotton, jute or wool.

Provisions.- The Bill entitles the Central Government to (1) require an industrial undertaking to stimulate the development of the industry; (2) regulate its production and the use of raw materials therein and the fixation of standards of production; (3) issue directions for prohibiting it from resorting to any act or practice which might reduce its production, capacity or economic value; (4) require it to provide facilities for the training of technicians and labour; (5) collect any information or statistics in respect of any controlled industry; and (6) to submit special or periodical returns and reports to the Government. It confers ~~the~~ on the Government power to make rules for the registration of existing undertakings, and for consultation with provincial Governments. Provision has also been made for the constitution of a Central Advisory Council, prior consultation with which will be obligatory before the Central Government takes certain measures, such as the revocation of a licence, ^{and} taking over the control and management of any industrial concern.

The Bill further provides that contravention of these rules would be punishable with imprisonment extending to six months or with a fine extending to 5,000 rupees or both. In case of continuing contraventions an additional fine extending to 500 rupees for every day during which such contravention continues after conviction for the first contravention has been provided.

There is also a provision which entitles the Government to authorise some other person to take over control of an industrial undertaking if the rules are contravened or if it becomes necessary in public interest to do so.

Statement of Objects and Reasons.- The Statement of Objects and Reasons, appended to the Bill, points out that the object of this Bill is to provide the Central Government with the means of implementing its industrial policy, announced in April 1948 (vide pages 32-36 of the report of this Office for April 1948) and approved by the Central Legislature. The Bill brings under Central control the development and regulation of a number of important industries the activities of which affect the country as a whole and the development of which must be governed by economic factors of all-India import. The planning of future development on sound and balanced ~~in~~ lines is sought to be secured by the licensing of all new undertakings by the Central Government.

(The Gazette of India, Part V, dated 26 March, 1949, pages 151-156; The Statesman, 24-3-1949).

44

India: Control over Production of Mill Cloth:
Advisory Committee's Recommendations: Government
of India's Orders.

Reference was made in paragraph 45, page 42 of the report of this Office for November 1948, to the appointment of an Advisory Committee to advise the Government of India on measures of technical control over the production of cloth in mills. The Government of India published on 26 March 1949 the principal recommendations of the Committee and the orders of the Government thereof.

The Committee recommended inter alia (1) that production control measures should be flexible and that in the administration of such measures the Textile Commissioner and his Regional Directors should be assisted by the advice of a Central and Regional Manufacturing Committees consisting of the representatives of mills, the trade and technicians, (2) that the textile industry should not be prevented from producing better varieties of cloth for which a large demand exists in the country, and (3) that a careful study should be made of the production capacities of the different mills on one hand and consumers' preferences in different areas on the other with a view to bringing about a greater correlation between the varieties produced and the varieties in popular demand. The Government of India has accepted these recommendations and decided to take necessary measures to implement the recommendations.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, dated 26 March, 1949, pages 543-545).

India: Central Silk Board set up.

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Central Silk Board Act, 1948 (vide page 40 of the report of this Office for November 1948) the Government of India has constituted the Central Silk Board for the purposes of the Act. The Board will consist of 27 persons with the Minister for Industry and Supply as chairman.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, dated 11 April, 1949, page 619).

45

Control of Essential Commodities to
continue: Government's Powers extended
upto 31 March 1950.

On 23 March 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) passed a resolution moved by Dr. S.P. Mookerjee, Minister for Industry and Supply, seeking to extend by another year the Government's power to continue the existing controls and to requisition land and property.

(Temporary Powers) /
Moving the resolution, Dr. Mookerjee stated that whatever powers regarding control of production, regulation of prices and distribution the Central Government exercised today, were exercised by virtue of the Essential Supplies Act. Whatever powers the Central Government enjoyed today in respect of the requisition of land and property was done by means of the Requisition of Land Act. ~~This~~ power would expire on 31 March 1949; and the resolution sought to extend it by another year.

The commodities which were now controlled include foodstuffs, cotton and woollen textiles, paper, petroleum and petroleum products, iron and steel, mica and spare parts of mechanically propelled vehicles. Dr. Mookerjee pointed out that the main object of the resolution was to ask the House to extend the operation of the existing Act by another year, so that whatever powers were now being exercised by the Central Government today might continue without interruption.

During the debate on the motion some members expressed themselves in favour of decontrol of paper and petrol and partial relaxation of control of cotton and textiles. The Minister assured the House that control operated only against essential commodities whose prices were high and said that the Government would examine each case carefully.

(The Statesman, dated 24-3-1949).

Pakistan: Improving Varieties of Cotton:
Technological Laboratory to be set up in
Karachi.

A meeting of the Pakistan Central Cotton Committee was held at Karachi during the latter ~~part~~ ^{half} of March 1949. The ~~first~~ meeting, was inaugurated by Mr. Abdus Sattar, Minister for Food, Agriculture and Health, Government of Pakistan, and President of the Committee.

In view of the necessity of ensuring good ginning and pressing of cotton in Western Pakistan, the Committee decided that the allotment of ginning and pressing factories, wherever necessary, should be completed by the end of May 1949, and that, as far as possible, consistent with Inter-Dominion agreements, the allotment of these factories should be for a minimum period of five years and to the most suitable persons. It was also agreed that a census of cotton crop should be made and an officer or officers should be appointed to take charge of the census, analyse the causes of changes in the quality of cotton crop and suggest measures for its improvement.

The Committee further decided to set up a ~~technological~~ technological laboratory at Karachi and the Vice-President of the Committee was requested to prepare a scheme for the purpose.

(The Civil and Military Gazette,
dated 26-3-1949).

46. Wages.

India - April 1949.

Central Provinces and Berar: Three Months' Bonus for Textile Mill Workers: Premier's Award in Dispute.

A bonus equivalent to 3 months' wages for the year 1947-48 for the workers in cotton textile mills in Central Provinces and Berar - half a month's wages more than what the workers' representatives had actually demanded - was announced by Pandit R.S. Shukla, Premier, Central Provinces and Berar, at a meeting of textile workers held at Nagpur on 31 March 1949. Pandit R.S. Shukla had been entrusted, both by the millowners and labour unions of the Central Provinces and Berar, with the task of arbitrating on the question of bonus.

The labour leaders had demanded 2 1/2 months' wages as bonus, but, Mr. Shukla explained that in view of the satisfactory financial position and in the hope of maintaining uninterrupted production and satisfactory industrial relations he had awarded 3 months' wages as bonus.

(The Times of India, 1-4-1949;-
The Amrita Bazar Patrika, 2-4-1949).

46

47. Reconstruction Plans.

India - April 1949.

National Planning Committee of the Indian
National Congress dissolved.

The National Planning Committee appointed by the Indian National Congress in 1938 (for details see pages 30-31 of the report of this Office for October 1938), at a meeting held at New Delhi on 26 March 1948 decided to dissolve itself.

A Press note issued by the Committee states that soon after the National Planning Committee started work towards the close of 1938 it appointed 29 sub-committees with detailed elaborate terms of reference for each and comprising leading scientists, economists, educationists, industrialists and leaders of public opinion in the country; defined its own objectives; laid down a bold code of wide instructions for the guidance of these sub-committees and prescribed clear cut forms and stages for the completion of its comprehensive task. The sub-committees started work ~~immediately afterwards~~ immediately afterwards, and as each report was submitted, it was considered by the full Planning Committee at full sessions. The war and political developments, however, impeded the work and led to its complete suspension after the arrest of the chairman in 1940. After the formation of the Interim Government in August, 1946, the question was once again taken up, and, as a first step, it was decided to edit, bring up-to-date and publish the reports of the sub-committees. Not all reports had been submitted finally when the committee's work had had to be suspended; but whether interim or final or no report at all, the work of each sub-committee was brought together, edited, brought up-to-date and published in the National Planning Committee series.

These are now published in that series in ~~the~~ 26 volumes, containing the reports of the 29 original sub-committees and two ad hoc sub-committees, as follows:

Manufacturing industries; chemical industries; population; trade; power and fuel; women's role in planned economy; rural marketing and finance; labour; river training and ~~improving~~ irrigation; animal husbandry and dairying, fisheries, horticulture; national housing; educational (general and technical); communications; engineering industries; industries connected with scientific instruments; mining and metallurgy; soil conservation and afforestation; ~~and~~ insurance; land policy and agricultural labour and insurance; rural and cottage industries; industrial finance; crops-planning and ~~public~~ production; currency and banking; public finance; ~~and~~ transport services; national health; national planning, its principles and administration.

The note points out that the Committee's immediate task is thus completed. Many of the reports still remain to be integrated, their suggestions and recommendations co-ordinated and an over-all national plan prepared. Under the changed circumstances of today, the committee considers it unnecessary to do this as this function of right belongs to the Government of the country. Nevertheless, as it is desirable to keep up-to-date the material collected and published in this series, the committee has resolved to appoint a committee of the following: The President of the Indian National Congress, the Prime Minister of India, the Minister of Industries and Supplies, Prof. K.T. Shah, Dr. J.C. Ghosh and Mr. Ambalal Sarabhai. ~~It will~~ draw up a scheme for the purpose and, meanwhile carry on the work in connection with the series.

(The Statesman, dated 28-3-1949).

48. Public Finance.

India - April 1949.

Finance Bill passed by Central Legislature:
Tax Exemption Limit for Hindu Joint Families
raised.

The main taxation proposals of the Government of India for 1949-50 were reviewed at paragraph 48, pages 48-56 of the report of this Office for February 1949. The Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on 30 March 1949 passed the Indian Finance Bill with certain modifications ~~as~~ by a Select Committee of the House.

Initiating discussion of the Select Committee's report on the Finance Bill, Dr. John Matthai, Finance Minister recommended to the House not to accept the Committee's proposal to charge an additional air mail fee of half an anna per tola, and said that his original proposal to raise the postal ~~tax~~ envelope rate to two annas and postal card to nine pies should stand.

The Government accepted the Select Committee's suggestion to extend the export duty on jute to Bimlipatam and mesta fibre (coarser varieties).

Changes introduced by legislature.- The House accepted an amendment moved by Mr. Thakurdas Bhargava raising the minimum taxable income in the case of Hindu undivided families from 3,000 rupees to 5,000 rupees as against 3,500 rupees suggested by the Select Committee. The amendment specifies that a joint Hindu family must at least have two members entitled to a share on partition who are not less than 18 years of age or at least two members entitled to a share on partition, neither of whom is a lineal descendant of the other and both of whom are not lineally descended from any living member of the family.

According to the Finance Minister, loss in revenue from the proposed extension of the income-tax exemption limit could be met from the surplus already shown in the Budget and the export duty on the two jute varieties. He thought that the Budget would still show a small ~~surp~~ surplus.

(The Gazette of India, Part V, dated 5 March, and 2 April 1949, pages 89-104 and 163-172 respectively; The Statesman, dated 30 and 31 March 1949).

Chapter 5. Working Conditions.

52. Welfare and Workers' Leisure.

India - April 1949.

India: Ajmer-Merwara Factories Rules, 1937:
Draft Amendments for Provision of Canteens
in Factories.

The Chief Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara gazetted on 2 April 1949 draft amendments to the Ajmer-Merwara Factories Rules, 1937, for the provision of canteens in factories. The draft amendments require the occupier of every specified factory, employing more than 250 workers, to provide and maintain a suitable canteen for the use of the workers in accordance with the rules. Provision is made for separate dining accommodation for men and women and for the management of the canteen by a managing committee consisting of representatives of employers and workers. The draft amendments will be taken into consideration after 14 July 1949.

(The Gazette of India, Part-II-A; dated 2 April, 1949, pages 129-130).

India: Standard of Dispensary Services
in Collieries: Amendments to Coal Mines
Labour Welfare Fund Rules: Draft published.

By a notification dated 7 April 1949, the Government of India has published the draft of certain amendments which it proposes to make to the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Rules, 1949 (vide paragraph 52, page 68 of the report of this Office for February 1949). These amendments seek to insert a new chapter, namely chapter III-A to the rules, dealing with dispensary services.

Chapter III-A prescribes the standard of dispensary services to be provided by owners of collieries. The prescription of standards, as far as medical care is concerned, has been made on the basis of working population. The minimum staff and equipment requirements for a dispensary have also been prescribed.

It is further provided that the dispensary services maintained by owners of collieries shall be inspected at intervals not exceeding one year by such medical officer as may be appointed by the Chairman for the purpose. The medical officer shall, if the dispensary conforms to the standard laid down issue a certificate in the form prescribed for the purpose which shall be valid for a period of one year from the date of issue.

It is also laid down that each colliery owner whose colliery is served by the dispensary shall submit to the Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner:-

- (i) in January and July of each year a statement showing the total amount of coal and coke despatched during the preceding six months from his colliery, and
- (ii) in January of each year a ~~specific~~ certified statement of the expenditure incurred on the dispensary during the preceding 12 months.

The draft is to be taken into consideration after 14 May 1949.

(The Gazette of India, Part I-Section 1, dated 16 April 1949, pages 491-497).

Pakistan: Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund
Rules: Draft published.

The Government of Pakistan published on 8 April 1949 the draft of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Rules which it proposes to make in exercise of powers conferred by section 10 of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act (vide pages 22-23 of the report of this Office for June 1947). These rules provide, among other matters, for the constitution of an Advisory Committee and a Housing Board, prescribe their functions and powers, stipulate the procedure to be followed in the disposal of business, lay down the mode of recovery of excise duty, etc.

The draft is to be taken into consideration after 4 July 1949.

(The Gazette of Pakistan, Part I-Section 1, dated 8 April 1949, pages 162-166).

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59. General.

India - April 1949.

Delhi: Delhi Factories Rules, 1949:
Draft published.

The Chief Commissioner of Delhi published on 2 April 1949 the draft of rules proposed to be made in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 112 of the Factories Act, 1948 (vide pages 59-62 of the report of this Office for September 1948). The draft is to be taken into consideration after 29 June 1949.

The rules inter alia prescribe (1) the procedure for registration and licensing of factories, (2) the powers and duties of inspecting staff, (3) the standards of cleanliness, artificial humidification, lighting, provision of drinking water, sanitary conveniences, etc., (4) safety precautions in regard to fencing of machines, (5) the standards of first aid equipment to be maintained in ~~the~~ factories, (6) the standards in regards to provision of canteens, (7) the conditions under which exemption of adult workers from certain provisions of the Act may be granted, (8) special safety precautions relating to certain dangerous operations, (9) procedure in appeals, and (10) the various forms relating display of notices and submission of returns.

(The Gazette of India, Part II-A,
dated 2 April, 1949, pages 135-171).

India: Conditions of Work in Printing Presses:
Questions in Legislature.

Mr. Jagjivan Ram, Minister for Labour, Government of India, replying a question on 23 March 1949, in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on working conditions in printing presses, stated that the defects mentioned in the Labour Investigation Committee's report on labour conditions in printing presses were mostly confined to private unregulated presses. With the enforcement of the Factories Act, 1948, the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, it was hoped that there would be material improvement in the working conditions of the staff of privately owned newspapers. The Government proposed to bring in Central ~~legislation~~ legislation to regulate the conditions of work in all shops and commercial establishments. Several provincial Governments had

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already passed Shop Assistants' Acts with a view to giving protection to workers in commercial establishments. Workers in private newspapers could take advantage of these Acts.

The Government also intended to set up tripartite committees for the more important industries in which the Labour Investigation Committee's report indicated a prima facie case for improvement in working conditions. So far such industrial committees had been set up for plantations, coal mining, cotton textiles, tanning and ~~leather~~ leather factories and cement industries. The desirability of having such a committee for the newspaper industry would be considered.

(The Hindustan Times, 24-3-1949).

Bombay: Bombay Factories Rules, 1949:
Draft published.

The Government of Bombay published on 10 March 1949 the draft of a notification containing the Bombay Factories Rules, 1949, proposed to be issued under the Factories Act, 1948. The draft is to be taken into consideration after 10 June 1949.

The rules inter alia prescribe (1) the procedure for registration and licensing of factories and the fees to be paid therefor, (2) the powers and duties of the inspecting staff, (3) detailed standards of cleanliness, artificial humidification, artificial lighting, latrine accommodation and ~~six~~ spittoons in factories, (4) the safety precautions to be observed in cotton textile mills, cotton ginning mills, rubber mills, etc., (5) the maximum weights that may be lifted or carried by adult woman workers, adolescents and children, (6) the standards of ~~working~~ facilities and first ~~and~~ aid appliances to be maintained in factories, (7) the provision of suitable canteens in factories for the use of workers, (8) the conditions under which exemption of adult workers from certain provisions of the Act may be granted, (9) special precautions ~~at the time of any emergency~~ ~~(9) special~~ and special provisions relating to nine dangerous operations, (10) the procedure in appeals, and (11) the various forms relating to display of notices and submission of returns.

(The Bombay Gazette, Part IV-A, dated
10 March 1949, pages 216-319).

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Pakistan: The Adaptation of Central Acts
and Ordinances Order, 1949.

The Government of Pakistan gazetted on 28 March 1949, the Adaptation of Central Acts and Ordinances Order, 1949. The Order seeks to make certain adaptations of various Central Acts and Ordinances mentioned in the schedule to the Order. The adaptations are of a formal nature and relate to the substitution of the word 'Pakistan' for the words 'British India' occurring in the enactments. Suitable adaptations have been made to all the labour enactments in force in India in their application to Pakistan.

(The Gazette of Pakistan, Extraordinary,
dated 28 March 1949, pages 223-283).

Ceylon: Committee appointed to examine
working Conditions of Motor Drivers.

According to a Press communiqué a committee to examine and report on the question of introducing legislation to regulate the terms and conditions of employment ~~for~~ of private car drivers, has been appointed by Mr. T.B. Jayah, Minister for Labour and Social Services, Government of Ceylon. Mr. M.D. Banda, Parliamentary Secretary to the Labour and Social Services Minister, will be the Chairman of the Committee.

(The Times of ~~India~~ Ceylon, 23-3-1949).

Chapter 6. General Rights of Workers.

62. Right of Association.

India - April 1949.

Assam: Assam Trade Union (Recognition) Regulations, 1948: Draft published.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 29 of the Indian Trade Union Act, 1926, the Government of Assam published on 30 March 1949, the draft of the Assam Trade Union (Recognition) Regulations, 1948. The draft regulations seek inter alia to prescribe the procedure to be followed by a registered trade union in applying to a labour court for recognition or by the Registrar of Trade Unions, or an employer in applying for the withdrawal of such recognition; and to lay down the method to be followed by the labour court in disposing of such applications. The draft will be taken into consideration after 29 June 1949.

(The Assam Gazette, Part II, dated 30 March, 1949, pages 469-480).

64. Wage Protection.India - April 1949.India: Minimum Wages Act, 1948:
Delegation of Powers to Chief
Commissioners.

- In exercise of the powers conferred by section 94 sub-section (3) of the Government of India Act, 1935, and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India dated 27 April 1948, the Central Government has directed that the functions of 'the appropriate Government' under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, shall, in respect of every Chief Commissioners' provinces, be exercisable also by the Chief Commissioner.

(Notification No. LP24(1) dated 16 March 1949; The Gazette of India, Part I, Section 1, dated 19 March 1949, page 364).

East Punjab: Payment of Wages Act, 1936:
Extended to Transport Employees.

- In exercise of the powers conferred by section 1, sub-section (5) of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 the Government of East Punjab has extended the provisions of the Act to the payment of wages to all classes of persons employed in Government transport concerns and private transport companies operating in East Punjab. A notification to this effect has been published in the Government Gazette, East Punjab dated 24 December 1948.

(Indian Labour Gazette, February, 1949).

Pakistan: Proposal to extend Payment of Wages Act, 1936 to Persons employed in Mines .

By a notification dated 29 March 1949, the Government of Pakistan has given notice of its intention to extend the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, to persons employed in any mine in the provinces of Pakistan. The proposal will be taken into consideration after 30 June 1949.

(The Gazette of Pakistan, Part I, Section 1, dated 8 April 1949, page 162).

Pakistan: Payment of Wages Act, 1936 extended to Persons employed in Salt Mines and Salt Quarries.

By a notification dated 28 March 1949, the Pakistan Government has extended the provisions of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 to persons employed in salt mines and salt quarries. Reference was made to the proposal for extension of the Act to the above mentioned services at paragraph 64, page 58 of the report of this Office for December 1948.

(Notification No. IR-8(6)48; The Gazette of Pakistan, Part I, Section 1, dated 1 April, 1949, page 150).

Burma: The Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill, 1949.

The Government of the Union of Burma gazetted on 5 February 1949 the Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill, 1949. The Statement of Objects and Reasons, appended to the Bill, declares that the Payment of Wages Act, as it stands at present, is too limited in its scope of application and that the time has now come for extending its provisions to cover a range of "industrial establishments" including warehouses, hotels, cinemas and theatres. Another major defect noticed is the dual system of inspection and administration under the Act, whereby inspectors of factories appointed as inspectors for purposes of the Act are made responsible to the chief inspector of factories, ^{or} other inspectors, if any, to the authority under whom they may be working, e.g., the supervisor of railway labour. It is considered

desirable to abolish this multiple system of inspection under the Act and to centralise, as far as possible, all inspections and administration for purposes of the Act under the Chief inspector of factories. It is therefore proposed to amend the Act to rectify these defects therein, and also to provide for the following matters with a view to enhancing the protection afforded to workers under the Act:-

(i) provision for enabling trade union subscriptions to be deducted from wages, with the consent of the workmen and under due safeguards; (ii) simplification of the legal procedure involved in the adjudication of claims under the Act; (iii) raising of the qualifying limit of wages for benefit under the Act from 200 rupees to 400 rupees a month, as many workers who should normally receive the protection of the Act are not now entitled to such protection by reason of increases in their wages, including the cost of living allowance, having been granted since the War, enhancing their total wages beyond the qualifying limit of 200 rupees a month; and (iv) provision to discourage the use of the labour jobbing system and, where such system is still used, to remove one of its worst features by ensuring that due wages earned by the workers do actually pass into their hands.

(The Burma Gazette, Part I, dated 5 February 1949, pages 110-112, (received in this Office on 9 April, 1949)).

66. Strike and Lockout Rights.

India - April 1949.

Madras: Transport by Boats in Minor Ports
declared Public Utility Service under
Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

By a notification dated 8 March 1949, the Government of Madras had declared transport by boats in minor ports in the province, to be public utility service for the purposes of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for a further period of six months from the date of publication of the notification.

(G.O. Ms.No. 1164 Dev. dated 8 March 1949;
The Fort St. George Gazette, Part I,
dated 15 March, 1949, page 302).

CHAPTER 7. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

71. Organisation of the Labour Market.

Factory Employment in India during 1947.

The main trends in factory employment in the Indian Dominion during 1947 are reviewed ~~in~~ in an article on the subject appearing at pages 545-551 of the February 1949 issue of the Indian Labour Gazette. The figures for 1947, however, do not include the Province of East Punjab from which the annual returns for 1947 could not be obtained. The main trends of factory employment during 1947 were: (1) over-all employment in all provinces in the Indian Dominion with the exception of East Punjab was ~~22.4~~ 2.24 million and showed a slight increase of about 22,000 or 1.0 per cent compared to 1946; (2) employment in Government factories declined further to 0.26 million as against 0.28 million in 1946, i.e., by 7.9 per cent. The peak figure was 0.38 million in 1945. Ordnance factories, clothing factories and the general engineering workshops accounted for a major part of the reduction in the Government and Local fund group; (3) there was, however, a ~~marked~~ recovery in the employment level in private factories which increased from 1.93 million in 1946 to 1.98 million in 1947. This works out to an increase of 2.3 per cent as contrasted with a decrease by 3.8 per cent

in the previous year. Employment in textile group alone increased from 0.972 million in 1946 to 0.995 million in 1947. There was an increase in employment in all the other groups also with the exception of gins and presses, skins and hides and the miscellaneous groups; and (4) while Bihar, the Central Provinces and Berar, Delhi and the United Provinces recorded a further fall in employment, the rest of the provinces recorded increases.

Distribution of factory workers according to sex and age.- The total average daily employed in factories during 1947 was 2,235,138. The distribution of this total according to sex and age is given in the following table.

Average daily employed in Factories during 1947.

Adults	-----	
Men	-----	1,937,722
Women	-----	257,993
Adolescents	-----	
Males	-----	23,852
Females	-----	3,994
Children	-----	
Boys	-----	8,747
Girls	-----	2,830
Total average daily employed.		<u>2,235,138</u>

Adult men formed 88.1 per cent in perennial ~~workmen~~ factories and 74.2 per cent in the ~~annual~~ seasonal factories while adult women formed 10.1 per cent in perennial factories and 24.3 per cent in the seasonal factories. Adolescents and children formed 1.8 per cent in perennial factories and 1.5 per cent in the seasonal factories. Among the major provinces the proportion of women was the highest in Madras, being 21.6 per cent. Adolescents and children were also the highest in number in this province. The United Province recorded the lowest figures in regard to the proportion of women as ~~women~~ well as of adolescents and children. There was no change in the all-India proportion of men, women and ~~the~~ young persons as compared to 1946.

Distribution of employment according to types of factories.- Employment in Government and Local Fund Factories decreased from 279,166 in 1946 to 257,188 in 1947 or by 7.9 per cent. Reductions of employment in the Ordnance factories, clothing factories and the Government-owned General engineering workshops amounted to 24.2 per cent, 51.7 per cent and 23.0 per cent respectively. The post-war reductions in employment in the ordnance and clothing factories was about 90,000 so far. The Government-owned Engineering workshops recorded a fall of 17,000 in employment during the two years 1946 and 1947. This was off-set by the recovery of 2.3 per cent in the employment in other factories as contrasted with a fall of 4.3 per cent in 1946 below the 1945 level. Employment in seasonal factories accounted for 10.0 per cent of the total employment in 1947 as compared to 9.7 in ~~1946~~ 1946.

Statistics of employment in private factories classified according to major industry groups are ~~available in the statement~~ given in the following table.

Industry	Average daily number of workers employed		Percentage increase (x) or decrease (-) over 1946
	1947	1946	
Perennial-----			
Textiles-----	995,411	971,665	x 2.4
Engineering-----	207,016	206,188	x 0.4
Minerals and Metals--	86,630	83,708	x 3.5
Food, Drink and			-
Tobacco-----	136,486	140,461	- 2.8
Chemicals and Dyes--	98,182	94,169	x 4.3
Paper and Printing--	60,745	54,307	x11.9
Wood, Stone and Glass.	90,139	87,788	x 2.7
Gins and Presses---	17,481	16,721	x 4.5
Skins and Hides----	28,910	29,881	- 3.2
Miscellaneous-----	33,892	35,628	- 4.9
Seasonal-			
Food, Drink and			
Tobacco-----	159,725	148,117	x 7.8
Chemicals and Dyes--	1,934	2,200	-12.1
Gins and Presses---	61,284	63,502	- 3.5
Miscellaneous-----	115	54	x113.0

Textiles in general showed an increase of 2.4 per cent in employment although the woollen mills recorded a slight fall during 1947. Although apparently, Engineering showed little change, taking into account ~~the~~ the fact that the figure for 1946 included the employment in Railway Workshops in Madras, which in 1947, had been taken over by the Government and the employment figures included in the Government and Local Fund group, it would be seen that there was an increase of 15,000 in

the employment in Engineering during the year under review. Minerals and Metals recorded an increase of about 3,000 in the number employed and showed signs of recovery from the effects of the post-war reduction of 26.4 per cent in 1946. Food, Drink and Tobacco showed a slight fall in the perennial group mostly in Sugar and Coffee, which was compensated by a rise in the seasonal group, mostly Sugar. Chemicals and Dyes showed an improvement in spite of a small set-back in the seasonal group. The highest percentage rise among the major groups was in Paper and Printing. This is due to an increase in the employment in Printing and Book Binding; Paper Mills showed a slight fall. Wood, Stone and Glass recorded a little increase while Gins and Presses, Skins and Hides and the Miscellaneous group recorded over-all falls in employment during the year.

Distribution of Factory employment by Provinces.- During the year under review factory employment in most of the major provinces showed slight increases, but declined by 6.5 per cent in the United Provinces, 6.1 per cent in Delhi and by 4.1 per cent in the Central Provinces and Berar, as compared to 1946. The heaviest relative increase was in Coorg where the average daily number of workers employed rose from 53 in 1946 to 117 in 1947; in Orissa it increased from 7,443 to 10,592.

The following table shows the comparative figures of employment for 1946 and 1947 by Provinces.

Province	1947	1946	Increase(x) or decrease (-) in 1947 over 1946	Percentage increase(x) or decrease (-) over 1946
Ajmer-Merwara..	15,864	15,789	x75	x0.5
Assam-----	56,119	53,161*	x2,958	x5.6
Bihar-----	136,834	138,990	-2,156	-1.6
Bombay-----	702,465	680,896	x21,569	x3.2
C.P. and Berar-	97,219	101,355	-4,136	-4.1
Coorg-----	117	53	x64	x120.8
Delhi-----	31,320	53,349	-2,029	-6.1
Madras-----	276,686	262,292	x14,294	x5.4
Orissa-----	10,592	7,443	x3,149	x42.3
U.P.-----	240,396	257,140	-16,744	-6.5
West Bengal--	667,626	663,087	x4,539	x0.7
Total-----	2,235,138	2213,555	x21,583	x1.0

* The figure for the part of the Sylhet district which now forms part of Pakistan has been omitted. The figure deducted is 7,326.

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India: Employment Exchanges: Working
during February 1949.

Employment situation.- During February 1949 a slight improvement in the employment situation was reported from the Central Provinces and Berar, Madras and Bihar. In Bombay the Ciba Dyes ^{near} factory, which ~~was~~ is ~~nearing~~ completion, is expected to absorb some technicians, unskilled labour and clerical staff, while construction works in connection with the setting up of the National Chemical Laboratory near Poona and the Plywood Factory at Dandeli are expected to open up good avenues of employment, particularly in building trades. The Adjudicator's award in respect of the Railway Administration is also expected to lead to an increase in the present staff employed in certain departments. Further, the creation of reserved vacancies for displaced ^{As also} as also the relaxation of age limit up to 40 years in respect of displaced persons for entry into Government service, are expected to be helpful in the absorption of a large number of applicants of this class.

The all India shortage of skilled technicians continued to exist. Shortage of accounts clerks, stenographers and typists was also reported by almost all exchanges. On the other hand various exchanges reported a surplus of clerks, semi-skilled technicians and unskilled labourers.

Registrations and placings.- The total number of registrations for employment assistance effected at employment exchanges, district employment offices and the Special Employment Bureau, during the month are shown below:

and the number placed

	February 1949	January 1949	February 1948
Total number of registrations (including re-registrations)---	74,680	89,158	50,835
Total number of persons placed in employment----	23,311	24,327	17,153

Of these placed in employment, 1,946 were ex-Services personnel and 4,527 were refugees. Of the total number of placings effected, 466 were in posts carrying a basic pay of over Rs 100 rupees. Quite a few of these candidates were placed in jobs carrying salaries of 225 rupees to 700 rupees per month.

4,865 applicants declined to take advantage of the ~~opportunity~~ opportunity of being considered for employment. 2,220 declined because the pay offered was felt to be inadequate, while 2,645 declined for various other reasons. The number of applicants who failed to report for interview with employers, without offering any satisfactory explanation, was 5,068. The number of ex-service personnel who failed to take advantage of the opportunity of obtaining employment was 3,001 (about 30 per cent).

Placings by wage groups.- Figures relating to placings during the month analysed according to wage groups were as follows:

<u>Wage groups: basic monthly pay</u>	<u>Number of placings</u>
Above 101 rupees -----	466
61 to 100 rupees -----	2,305
56 to 60 rupees -----	13,410
21 to 35 rupees -----	6,001
20 rupees and below-----	1,129

Employment exchanges in Indian States.- Returns received from employment exchanges in Indian States show that up to end of February 1949, 95,448 applicants had been registered, of whom, 20,077 had been found employment. This information does not, however, illustrate completely the work ~~performed~~ performed by all State exchanges, as up-to-date information had not been received from many of them. These figures are in addition to the all India figures quoted above.

Employment of displaced persons.- 14,407 displaced persons were registered during the month as against 18,920 during January 1949. ~~The~~ The number of those placed in employment, mostly in the province of East Punjab, was 4,527. A number of Exchanges reported that displaced persons were reluctant to accept manual jobs. Bombay Region reported that it was proving difficult to find employment for displaced persons who were traders and shopkeepers.

Land colonisation and co-operative societies.- In the United Provinces Region, land colonisation schemes were reported to be very popular with ex-Servicemen and displaced persons. Over 400 ex-Servicemen had been selected for allotment of land as soon as fresh land was reclaimed under the Ganga Khadir colonisation scheme and about 300 families were awaiting allotment of land in the Naini Tal Tarai ~~the~~ colony.

Technical and Vocational Training.- During February 1949 there were 81 technical training centres and 104 vocational training centres functioning, with 5,245 and 2,830 ex-Servicemen trainees respectively under training. In the former group 509 trainees (both ex-Servicemen and displaced persons) passed the trade tests bringing the total of passed out trainees to 10,181. In vocational trades, 157 trainees passed out, bringing the total of

passed out trainees to 1933. 7,823 adult male displaced persons were undergoing training at the training centres in Bihar; Bombay, Central Provinces and Berar, Delhi and An Ajmer-Merwara, East Punjab, United Provinces and West Bengal. 225 disabled ex-Servicemen were undergoing training in the three Special Training Centres. 32 trainees passed the prescribed trades tests, bringing the total passed out to 1,274. 13 more firms (3 in Assam, 4 in Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara and 6 in West Bengal) agreed to participate in the Apprenticeship Training Scheme, while 13 firms (7 in Bombay, 5 in Madras and 1 in United Provinces) withdrew from the Scheme. The total number of apprenticeship training centres was thus 264 and 798 ex-Servicemen and 1,780 displaced persons were under training at these centres.

The number of ex-Servicemen selected and posted for technical training during February 1949 and to-date is shown below:

Administrative Region.	Technical Training		Vocational Training	
	During the month.	Cumulative to date.	During the month.	Cumulative to date.
Assam -----	16	362	9	255
Bihar -----	18	3,456*	6	1,272*
Bombay -----	154	4,692	16	2,380
Central Provinces and Berar-----	4	1,859	5	860
Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara--	28	1,706	5	714
East Punjab**-----	99	573	167	550
Madras-----	365	27,047	248	8,439
Orissa‡-----	23	65	16	66
United Provinces-----	94	7,180	139	9,273
West Bengal-----	6	2,951	91	1,256
Total -----	807	49,891	702	24,863

* Includes trainees appropriate to Orissa region selected and posted upto 30-9-1948, separate figures for which are not available.

** Cumulative figures are for the period beginning with 15th August, 1947.

‡ Cumulative figures are for the period beginning with 1st October, 1948. Figures relate to January, 1949.

(Review of Work done by the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment during the Month of February 1949, issued by the Government of India)

72. Vocational Guidance and Training.

India - April 1949.

Facilities for Technical Studies Abroad:
India to participate in United Nations'
Fellowships Scheme.

It is understood that the Government of India has agreed to participate in the fellowships scheme of the United Nations.

Under the scheme, India has been invited to nominate a limited number of persons for receiving advanced technical training in any field in other countries which participate in ~~this~~ the scheme. It is understood that the Government of India is also offering a limited number of fellowships to persons nominated by foreign countries for advanced training in India. India is expected to nominate persons for receiving foreign training in agricultural subjects and also for the following four subjects: study of trend of developments in the United States of America in utilization of wind power for rural electrification; study of recent trends in power, costs and tariffs; study of recent practices in the United States of America on methods of avoiding interference with tele-communication circuits from power transmission; and study of recent practices in thermal power development.

India herself is in a position of offer facilities for advanced training and study in all aspects relating to water control, navigation, flood control, etc. Facilities are also being offered in connection with agricultural, forest and veterinary research and certain aspects of tele-communication.

(The Hindustan Times, 2-4-1949).

West Bengal: Training Scheme for Water
Transport Technicians announced.

On 28 March, 1949, Dr. B.C. Roy, Premier of West Bengal, announced in the provincial Legislative Assembly a scheme for training technicians for the inland water transport service of the province.

The scheme envisages the training of various types of working personnel like sarangs, sukanies, engine drivers, engineering workers for inland steamers. A certain number of trainees will be taken for training on vessels which have been provided for the purpose by the Government of India while some others would be taken for shore establishments. For the present the West Bengal Government has decided to utilise the Calcutta Marine School at Ghushuri for the purpose. There would be an Advisory Board consisting of the Marine Superintendent, Assam, the Calcutta Port Commissioner, an Instructor of Technical Training Institute and an Administrative Officer as Secretary of the Board. Initially, the scheme will be in operation for 6 months and the period of training will be for three months.

Dr. Roy added that it was expected that in 6 months about 400 people will receive their training in various branches. If after that period the scheme proved a workable one then it would be continued.

(Amrita Bazar Patrika, 29-3-1949).

Bombay: Unified Control of Technical Schools.

On the recommendation of an Administrative Inquiry Committee, the Government of Bombay has decided in favour of unifying all control of technical education in the province.

A special organisation for industrial and technical education has already been established. It will ultimately form part of the Directorate of Public Instruction. The control of trade schools will vest in the Officer for Technical Education. There will be close co-operation between the officer in charge of technical education and the corresponding technical department of the Government.

The Board of Technical and Industrial Training will be continued and some supervision of these schools carried out by an officer of the Technical Department of Government. The intended supervision may relate only to the teaching imparted at the schools.

(The Times of India, 6-4-1949).

East Punjab: Assimilation of Technical Education with Normal Education proposed.

A committee appointed by the Government of East Punjab under the chairmanship of Mr. Prabh Singh Chawla, ISE, to go into the question of organising industrial and technical education has submitted its report to the Government.

The report envisages the training of a large number of people and raising technical education to a very high standard. It is ultimately proposed to assimilate technical and industrial education with normal education. It is hoped that thus the province will be in a position to meet the growing demand for technical personnel needed for industrial development of the province.

(The Statesman, dated 19-4-1949).

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CHAPTER 8. SOCIAL SECURITY.

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

81. Social Insurance.

India: Medical Benefit Council inaugurated:
Scheme to apply to industrial workers initially.

The first meeting of the Medical Benefit Council constituted under the Employees' State Insurance Act (vide paragraph 81, page 79 of the report of this Office for January 1949), was inaugurated on 21 April 1949 by Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Minister for Health, Government of India. The meeting was attended by Directors-General of Health and Surgeons-General of the various provinces and States.

Dr. Katial's speech.- Dr. C.L. Katial, Director-General of the Corporation, welcoming the provincial representatives, emphasized the urgency and importance of improving the health of industrial workers in India. He maintained that any achievements in this direction would directly augment not only the prosperity and health of the workers but also that of the entire nation by increasing production. Explaining the role of the Council, Dr. Katial said that the provision of adequate medical treatment formed an integral and essential part of the first instalment of social security in India. The medical benefits would be provided under the auspices of the provincial Governments and the Council would form a vital link between the Medical Departments of these Governments and the Corporation and the Central Government. It would thus be an expert body where all medical problems could be discussed and a well co-ordinated policy evolved.

Health Minister's address.- Raj Kumari Amrit Kaur, Minister for Health, Government of India, inaugurating the meeting, stated that India ~~would~~ could not afford "to see this new medical service for workers fail under any circumstances". She said that at its commencement the scheme was intended to serve only industrial employees who numbered about 2.5 million in perennial factories. These, in India, generally came from the rural areas and therefore, found themselves wholly divorced from the surroundings to which they had been accustomed to in the past. Overcrowding, insanitation, lack and poorer quality of certain essential articles of food such as cereals, vegetables, milk and fruits, to which they had greater access in the rural areas, all contributed to reduce their vitality. The temptations of urban life

also added to their share towards producing illhealth in these workers. The medical benefit which was proposed to be conferred on workers through the scheme, she pointed out, would constitute a considerable advance on the existing facilities for medical care for them. In the first instance, it was proposed to inaugurate mainly an out-patient service with adequate staff and equipment, which would mark a definite advance on the services now available to the general population. In addition, however, to this out-patient service there would be provision for domiciliary visits by the doctor and the nurse to the patient's home when he or she could not conveniently come over to the dispensary for receiving medical attention as also hospitalisation.

Stressing the need for devoting greater care and attention to the health of workers, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur - said that ~~this~~ she was confident that if properly developed and extended, the Council ought, in due course, to embrace, within the range of its operations, 80 to 85 per cent of the total population and should thus pave the way for the establishment of a national health service in which all members of the community would receive adequate medical care, irrespective of their ability to pay for such service.

(The Hindustan Times, 22-4-1949).

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85. Benefits Organised or paid by Employers.

India - April 1949.

India: The Armed Forces Personnel Provident
Fund Rules, 1949.

The Government of India gazetted on 1 April 1949 the Armed Forces Personnel Provident Fund Rules, 1949 regarding the creation and administration of a provident fund for the benefit of armed forces personnel other than officers, warrant officers of the navy and civilians. Persons eligible to join the Fund may subscribe to the Fund, every month, the sums prescribed and interest will be credited to the subscribers' accounts at the rate of for the time being allowed on subscription to the General Provident Fund. Other provisions of the rules relate to the grant of advances from the fund, nominations to be made by subscribers and the procedure for final withdrawal of amounts by subscribers from the fund.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
dated 1 April 1949, pages 585-594).

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Chapter 9. Living Standards.

92. Housing.

India - April 1949.

India: Government of India's new Scheme for housing of Industrial Workers: Central and Regional Housing Boards to be set up.

It is understood that the Government of India has circulated a new scheme of industrial housing to the provincial Governments. The Central Government is anxious that the execution of the scheme should commence immediately, so that the target of "one million houses in ten years" may be achieved. Under the scheme houses to be built will consist of two rooms with an area of 240 square feet, a kitchen, an independent bath, lavatory, varandah and courtyard. Each house, it is estimated, will cost about 7,500 rupees in Bombay and Calcutta and will have a life of 35 years. For the execution of the scheme Central and regional housing boards will be set up

Financing of the scheme: Centre to bear two-thirds of cost.— The capital required for industrial housing will be provided to the extent of two-thirds by the Central Government, and one-third either by the provincial Government or the employer sponsored by the provincial Government. The Centre will not grant any subvention to the provinces for this purpose. The capital provided by the Central Government will be given free of interest, but the provincial Governments will be required to build up a sinking fund to which contributions must be made from a date not later than two years after the loan has been paid by the Centre and in equated instalments, so as to enable the amount to be repaid to the Centre within 25 years from that date. The employer's contribution ~~will be~~ will be in the form of rent for the quarters occupied by their workers at a rate not exceeding three per cent of the total capital cost. The employers' contribution will be the rent at the rate of 20 per cent of the workers' wage, subject to two and a half per cent of the capital costs. This rate of rent will be in force for five years, after which it will be reconsidered. The provincial Government's share of the financial burden will be the residual amount.

(The Hindu, dated 19-4-1949).

Madras: Free House Sites for Agricultural
Labourers in Tanjore District: Madras
Government's Decision.

A press communiqué, issued by the Government of Madras, states that agricultural labourers in Tanjore district have been experiencing great difficulties in finding house sites on which to build permanent houses for living. Some of them are now occupying Government poramboke land, while the vast majority are living in houses put up on land belonging to mirādars. About 12,000 families are living in houses constructed on 710 acres of Government poramboke land scattered in various parts of the district and about 125,000 families are living in private sites belonging to mirasdars. With a view to providing house-sites to these labourers the provincial Government has decided to assign to them the 710 acres of Government land now occupied by them, as also as much land as possible out of an extent of about 1,825 acres of similar land available in different parts of the district within the easy reach of places where the labourers are living now on land belonging to mirasdars. The assignment will be free of land value and other charges and limited to three cents per family.

(The Hindu, dated 23-3-1949).

Ceylon: Housing Loans Bill introduced
in House of Representatives.

On 31 March 1949, Mr. S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, Minister for Local Government and Health, Government of Ceylon, introduced in the House of Representatives the Housing Loans Bill.

The Bill provides for the establishment of a Housing Loans Board, and a Housing Loans Fund, and its main purpose is to assist the middle classes to obtain loans from the Government on easy terms for construction of houses. It will also enable companies incorporated or registered under the Companies Ordinance, co-operative societies registered under the Co-operative Societies Ordinance, or any other society to obtain loans from the Housing Loans Board for any housing scheme. Besides assisting those directly concerned with any particular housing project, the bill also aims at giving loans to companies, associations, firms or individuals who have entered into contracts, or propose to enter into contracts for the execution of any housing scheme for any other person, or for the supply of building materials to be utilised by any other person in the execution of a housing scheme.

(The Times of ~~India~~ Ceylon, 1-4-1949).

95. Co-operation.

India - April 1949.

Assam: The Assam Co-operative Societies Bill, 1949, gazetted.

The Government of Assam gazetted on 23 March 1949 the Assam Co-operative Societies Bill, 1949, which seeks to facilitate the formation and working of co-operative societies in the province of Assam.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons, appended to the Bill, explains that the co-operative movement in Assam has been mainly confined to credit societies and consumers' stores. Consumers' stores sprang up with control measures during the last war and with decontrol these societies fell into decay. Credit societies, the aim of which is the encouragement of thrift, self-help and co-operation among members, have done very little in furtherance of their objects, other than the dispersing of credit. This credit has also proved far from productive. Although the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912, contains provisions for the formation of central credit societies and co-operative institutions of all types and for all purposes, experience has shown that the Act, which was designed primarily for the formation of credit societies, is inadequate for the needs of societies of more complicated structure, such as trading, agricultural, industrial, building, etc.

The Bill aims at reorganising the co-operative movement as a whole in the province of Assam and enables new societies to function properly under adequate safeguards and privileges.

(The Assam Gazette, Part V, dated 23 March 1949, pages 70-107)

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

INDIA - APRIL 1949.

11. Agriculture.

Organising Agricultural Census in India:
Technical Committee set up.

In pursuance of a recommendation made by the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation for organising an agricultural census in 1950 in member countries, the Government of India has appointed a technical committee consisting of 11 members with Mr. W.R. Natu, Economic and Statistical Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture, as Chairman.

Terms of reference.- The terms of reference of the committee are: (a) To examine the forms of returns at present used by the different provinces and States for routine collection of data and evolve standard forms of returns; (b) To consider whether any special modifications are necessary in the scope of enquiry in respect of areas where the system of land survey or record of rights is not introduced; (c) To explore the directions in which the data collected through the census of agriculture can be usefully integrated with the data collected through the census of population.

(The Hindu, dated 19-4-1949).

Pakistan: Tenancy Laws Inquiry Committee
set up by West Punjab Government.

The Governor of West Punjab has appointed a Tenancy Laws Inquiry Committee to consider the provisions of law governing the tenancy of agricultural land and other cognate matters in West Punjab and to make recommendations on the manner, if any, in which they should be amended, particularly in view of the increased pressure on land due to the recent increase in the agricultural population, ~~and~~ especially in those areas in which refugees have settled in large numbers.

The Committee consists of three members with Mr. Feroz Khan Noon as chairman.

(Dawn, dated 24-3-1949).

113. Navigation.India - April 1949.India: Tripartite Advisory Committee to be set up for Dock Workers in Major Ports.

The Government of India has decided to set up an advisory committee comprising of an equal number of representatives of the Government, the Dock Workers and the employers of Dock workers at the major ports in India, and has addressed the various organisations in the matter.

The advisory committee will be constituted under Section 5 of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948 (vide paragraph 113, ~~page 57~~ page 57 of the report of this Office for March 1949), and its functions will be to advise upon such matters arising out of the administration of the Act or any scheme made thereunder as the Government may refer to it for advice.

(Press note dated 19 April 1949, issued by the Press Information Bureau, Government of India; The Hindu, dated 23-4-1949).

Pakistan: Port Welfare Committee appointed for Karachi.

The Government of Pakistan has directed the appointment of a Port Welfare Committee for Karachi consisting of 10 members with the chairmanshi of Karachi Port Trust as chairman, in pursuance of Recommendation (No.48) concerning the promotion of seamen's welfare in ports, adopted by the International Labour Conference at Geneva in 1936, and of the resolution regarding organisation of seamen's welfare passed by the Joint Maritime Commission in 1942.

(The Gazette of Pakistan, Part I-Section 1, dated 25 March 1949, page 134).

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115. Working Conditions of Intellectual Workers
and Liberal Professions.
India - April 1949.

United Provinces: Report of the United
Provinces Newspaper Industry Inquiry
Committee: Minimum Salary Fixed for
Employees.

The United Provinces Government published recently the report of the United Provinces Newspaper Industry Inquiry Committee (vide page 53 of the report of this Office for June 1947). The report, besides fixing minimum salaries for employees in the industry, recommends suitable legislation to ensure the progress of the newspaper industry and improvement in the terms of service and the conditions of work of the employees. The following is a brief summary of the main recommendations of the report:-

Minimum salaries.- For the purpose of fixing salaries newspapers have been divided into three classes on the basis of invested capital, circulation and annual income, and employees in the industry have been divided into two sections, the editorial section and the managerial section. The minimum salaries recommended are: for ~~xx~~ editors and managers: in class A papers 600 rupees; in class B ~~papers~~ papers 525 rupees and in class C papers 450 rupees; for assistant editors and assistant managers: in class A papers 400 rupees; in class B papers 350 rupees and in class C papers 300 rupees; for sub-editors and staff reporters: in class A papers 200 rupees; in class B papers 175 rupees and in class C papers 150 rupees; and for proofreaders, clerks and typists in all the 3 classes: 100 rupees. It is also recommended that the basic minimum wages for inferior staff should be 40 rupees including dearness allowance, and that the emoluments of employees belonging to the same categories and performing the same duties should be the same in all newspapers of the same class.

Working conditions.- The report recommends that in newspaper offices the hours of work should be six in the day and five in the night. It emphasises the need to standardise hours of work, both during day and night shifts and overtime. It suggests that arrangements for shifts should be made after taking into consideration the requirements of health of the staff and timely publication of the newspapers.

Whenever any employee in the editorial or managerial section is called upon to work on a holiday for the full day or part thereof, or is required to work in an additional shift on one and the same working day, he

should be entitled to a complete day's additional salary whether he does one full day's additional work or only a part of it. Every employee must have one day 'off' every week for rest. In the case of the weekly and monthly journals, a particular day in the week should be fixed for all the employees. It should be provided that, if an employee is required to work on his rest day, he should have his rest day on the day following. It should be declared illegal for an employer to ~~make~~ make an employee work for more than eight days at a stretch. Employees in ~~his~~ the editorial and managerial sections should be entitled to all public holidays as are granted to newspaper employees coming under the Factories Act. As regards leave, the report suggests that employees should be entitled to 15 days' casual leave in a year. Provision for granting 30 days' earned (privilege) leave in a year should be made but employees should not be permitted to accumulate more than 60 days of privilege leave.

Provident Fund and other amenities.- The committee recommends that employees in the newspaper industry should be entitled to provident fund benefits at the rate of two annas per rupee of their salary. Fifty per cent of this should be contributed by the employers and the rest shall be deducted from the salaries of the employees. So far as insurance is concerned, the Government should enforce some scheme like the state insurance scheme in consultation with their experts and other insurance experts.

Other welfare measures such as rest-rooms for night duty workers, canteen managements, and facilities similar to those provided for press workers under section 13 and 19 of the Factories Act, are also recommended.

Security of service.- In order to give employees an assurance of security, the committee recommends that the following rules should be framed and enforced: (1) Every employee shall, at the time of his appointment, be given a letter of appointment clearly stating his basic minimum salary, designation, annual increment in pay and conditions for promotion. (2) The newspaper owner, in no case, shall have the right to impose a fine on a journalist. (3) An employee can be suspended from service only if he is suspected of having committed an act involving moral turpitude or is charged with breach of terms of employment. During the period of suspension the employee should be given a subsistence allowance equal to one-third of his pay, as is done in the case of government servants. The period of inquiry into allegations should not be prolonged beyond three months after suspension. In case the charges are not proved the employee must be reinstated. (4) No employee shall be dismissed without prior notice. An employee who has put in service up to five years must be given a month's notice before dismissal. In the case of employees whose service exceeds five years a longer notice should be given but the period of notice may not exceed three months. (5) Matters not covered by the above rules should be governed by the provisions of the Trades Dispute Act as they apply to employees in other industries in respect of similar matters.

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Settlement of disputes.- The report suggests that the settlement of disputes that might arise in the industry should be entrusted to a tribunal consisting of one representative of the editorial section, one representative of the proprietors and one high ranking judicial officer. The tribunal should enjoy powers which are exercised by tribunals constituted under the Central and provincial trades disputes acts and should be empowered to exercise the powers of wage boards.

The United Provinces Working Journalists' Federation should be recognised as the trade union of journalists for the purpose of putting up cases before the tribunal.

In conclusion, the Committee suggests that in the interest of progress of the industry and also for improving the working conditions of employees and their economic betterment, the provincial Government should undertake, without delay, legislation on the basis of the Committee's recommendations. All newspapers, big and small, should be brought within the purview of such legislation.

(The National Herald, dated 15-4-1949).

Setting up an All-India Body of Journalists:
United Provinces Working Journalists' Federation
to take Steps.

The United Provinces Working Journalists' Federation, at a conference held in Lucknow on 15 and 16 April, 1949, authorised its Standing Committee to take necessary steps to contact working journalists and their associations in other provinces and convene a conference for setting up an all-India body to be run on trade union lines.

(The Statesman, dated 18-4-1949).

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117. Shopworkers.

India - April 1949.

Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948:
extended to Partially excluded Areas.

In exercise of the ~~power~~ powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 92 of the Government of India Act, 1935, the Government of Bombay has extended the provisions of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948, to the partially excluded areas in the Province of Bombay.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-B,
dated 31-3-1949, page 787).

Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1948:
Exemptions.

By a notification the Government of Bombay has exempted shops dealing in milk from provisions of section 18 of the Act, relating to weekly holidays.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-B,
dated 31 March 1949, page 785).

Madras: Madras Shops and Establishments Act,
1947: Exemptions.

The Government of Madras, by a notification dated 31 March 1949, has exempted shops dealing mainly in fruits, betel leaves, plantain leaves and eggs from the provisions of section 11(1) of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947, (section 11(1) of the Act provides for closing of shops on one day of the week).

(G.O. No. 1712, Development, dated 31-3-1949;
The Fort St. George Gazette, Part I,
dated 12 April 1949, page 460).

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Madras: Shops and Establishments Act, 1947:
Authorisation for Deductions from Wages.

By a notification under the provisions of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act, 1947, the Government of Madras has authorised the exclusion from 'wages', as defined in clause 18 of the Act, charges on account of (a) blankets and clothing; (b) creche and free food for the children of persons employed; (c) elementary education provided for the children of persons employed; (d) firewood and fuel; and (e) medicines and diet in connection with medical attendance provided for the persons employed and their dependants.

By other notifications the Government has also authorised deduction from wages for (1) amenities and services which an employer in the ordinary course of his trade or business supplies to the person employed in his capacity as a member of the public and (2) the value of revenue stamps supplied by an employer to persons drawing more than 20 rupees as wages.

(The Fort-St. George Gazette, Part I,
dated 22-3-1949, page 342).

Central Provinces and Berar: The Central Provinces
and Berar Shops and Establishments (Amendment) Bill,
1949.

The Central Provinces and Berar Government published on 21 March 1949 the Central Provinces and Berar Shops and Establishments (Amendment) Bill, 1949 for registering shops and establishments and for levying a fee for the purpose.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons, appended to the Bill, explains that the Central Provinces and Berar Shops and Establishments Act, 1947 (vide page 3 of the report of this Office for May 1947), gives no power to the provincial Government for registering shops and establishments or for levying any fees. The measure is intended to enable Government to obtain relevant information regarding several matters contained in the Act and to tighten the administration of the Act.

(The Central Provinces and Berar Gazette,
Extraordinary, dated 22 March 1949, page 165)

LIST OF THE MORE IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED
IN THE NEW DELHI OFFICE DURING APRIL, 1949.

Economic Questions

- 1) Government of India: Report on an Enquiry into Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Ahmedabad, by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme: pp. ivx53, price Re.1/- or 1s.6d.
- 2) Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India: Trade Statistics relating to the Maritime States in Kathiawar and the State of Travancore: for period April to July 1947: Manager of Publications, Delhi: pp.80, price Rs.3-10-0 or 5s.9d.
- 3) Government of India: Report on an Enquiry into the Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Jalgaon, by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme: pp ix x 37; price Rs.1-2-0 or 1s.9d.
- 4) Government of India: Report on ^{an} Enquiry into the Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Sholapur City, by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme: pp. vix41; price Rs. 1-2-0 or 1s.9d.

Social Security

Memorandum on the Formation of an Integrated Industrial Health Organisation in India, 1948, by K.C.K.E. Raja, Director General of Health Services and V.M. Albuquerque, Additional Deputy Director of Health Services: pp. ix19: Published under the Authority of the Ministry of Health, Government of India.

