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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
INDIAN BRANCH

Industrial and Labour Development in January 1953.

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

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CHAPTER 1. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

11. Political Situation and Administrative Action.

Tenth Session of Labour Ministers' Conference:
Agenda.

The tenth session of the Labour Ministers' conference will be held in New Delhi on 6 and 7 February 1953. According to the agenda, the main item for consideration will be "legislation on industrial relations and trade unions".

The conference will also discuss the problem of surplus labour in tea plantations; strengthening of factory inspectorates and appointment of medical inspectors of factories; and uniform standards for national and festival paid holidays in private undertakings.

(The Statesman, 14-1-1953).

Fifty-eighth Session of Indian National Congress:
Hyderabad, 17-18 January 1953: Five Year Plan
Endorsed.

The 58th Session of the Indian National Congress was held at Nanalagar (Hyderabad) on 17 and 18 January 1953. Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, who had earlier been re-elected President of the Congress, presided. The meeting, among other things, passed a resolution pledging its support to the Five Year Plan.

Presidential address: Five Year Plan answer to challenge of times.- In the course of his presidential address, Mr. Nehru appealed to the people to "march with good heart and faith in the destiny of our country" in building up the new Republic "in a more conscious, deliberate and planned way". Surveying the achievements since independence and the problems before the country, Mr. Nehru laid great stress on the implementation of the Five Year Plan. Describing the Plan as "modest but with far-reaching consequences", Mr. Nehru said: "I have no doubt that if we succeed in implementing this Plan, we shall then be in a position to go ahead at much faster pace".

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Appealing for co-operation in the tasks ahead, Mr. Nehru said: "The path has been chalked out. The journey, however, is not an easy one. But then let us remind ourselves constantly that we have not been used in past to soft living or easy reward. We have to develop that old spirit again, that temper which forgets self and is not depressed by any difficulty or temporary lack of success. I invite you all to march along this path with good heart and faith in the destiny of our country".

Other points made by Mr. Nehru were:

India's record.- In these brief five years, India has built up for herself a position which commands respect and which brings additional responsibilities. He thought he was justified in saying that the record in the economic front ~~has~~ had been an creditable one which could bear comparison with any elsewhere.

Land policy.- The abolition of zamindari, jagirdari and like systems should be completed as rapidly as possible. A ceiling should be put on land, and co-operative farming should be encouraged.

Foreign policy.- India's foreign policy was based on friendly relations with all countries and no interference with any. Her relations with other countries were good. The only country which unfortunately was somewhat of an exception to this was her neighbour, Pakistan.

Resolutions: Five Year Plan endorsed.- The meeting passed the resolution on the Five Year Plan moved by Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri. The resolution said:

"The most important and urgent task before the country is to ensure economic advance for the nation and to raise the living standards of the people with a view to ending poverty and unemployment by greater production and equitable distribution, and thus realise the objective of social justice and equality laid down in the Constitution.

"To this end all the resources of the nation must be directed in a planned manner, aiming more particularly at providing productive employment for all, so that everyone becomes a partner in the welfare State, sharing in its burdens and benefits alike.

"The Congress welcomes the first Five-Year Plan, the adoption of which is an event of great significance and promise for the people of India as it initiates a process of planned economic development of the country with the purpose of realising progressively the objectives aimed at.

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The Plan is a realistic and flexible approach to this great problem and its full implementation will lay the sound foundation of rapid progress in the future.

"The Congress agrees that the programme for rural development and increase in agricultural production in respect of both foodgrains and industrial raw materials is of the first importance and food self-sufficiency must be realised at the earliest possible date. The Congress welcomes the recommendations in the Plan in regard to land policy and the emphasis laid on the expansion and strengthening of village and small-scale industries, and the building up of the community on co-operative lines.

"The Congress views the Plan as a first planned and important step designed to prepare the way for much more rapid advance on all fronts of national activity and welcomes it as the promise of the progressive fulfilment of its aims and objectives. The Plan depends for its success on the co-operation of the people in the largest measure in every phase and at every stage of the process of implementation. It is a call to the country and an invitation for leadership at all levels, to mobilise this co-operation and voluntary effort of the people. To this great enterprise and magnificent adventure of building up a new India, the Congress invites all the people of the country".

Moving the resolution, Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri said that planning was an important ingredient of a modern State. The economy of India was gravely disturbed by the Second World War and when the Congress assumed office, the economic condition was "pretty bad". Partition and the events that followed worsened the crisis. The large food imports and the expenditure on the army had overburdened the Exchequer. It was in this context that the Five-Year Plan was framed with a view to laying sound foundations for the future development of India. Mr. Shastri said the Plan gave the utmost priority to the development of agriculture by fair distribution of land and eliminating the "middle man"; zamindaris and jagirdaris had been abolished in a number of States. The President of India had directed all the State Governments to abolish these systems at the earliest. Mr. Shastri expressed the hope that within two or three years there would be no more zamindaris and similar systems in India. Besides making provision for the distribution of land to the landless and its purchase at easy instalments, the Plan had accepted the Bhoodan movement (land-gift movement) started by Acharya Vinoba Bhave. While accepting the need for the nationalisation of key industries, the Plan gave scope for private enterprise and emphasised the development of small-scale and cottage industries.

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Mr. Shastri said that the success of the Plan depended on public co-operation and the availability of finances. He deplored opposition to the taxes, especially the recent agitation against sales tax in Bombay and Saurashtra. Taxes were one of the important sources of revenue and the people should not grudge paying them for the economic improvement of the country.

Seconding the resolution, Mr. H.C. Dasappa (Mysore) observed that side by side with the increase in the national wealth by 10,000 million rupees at the end of five years, the population would also increase. Therefore, there was need to popularise family planning in the country. Mr. Dasappa urged that the Government would do well to sponsor the industries in the private sector by subscribing a portion of the share capital. That would create confidence in the public.

Replying to the discussion on the resolution Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda (Central Minister for Planning) said that as far as possible the Government would try to implement the Plan without foreign aid; however, foreign aid without any strings would be acceptable. Mr. Nanda said a survey of the backward areas was being made with a view to improving their condition during the next few years. Community projects had been started in those areas. He emphasised that the Government's two-fold aim was to remove unemployment and increase production.

Among other resolutions was one sympathising with the passive resistance movement in South Africa and another criticising the disabilities imposed on Indian nationals in Ceylon.

(The Times of India, 16-1-1953;
The Hindu, 18 and 19-1-1953).

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CHAPTER 2. INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

25. Wage-Earners' Organisations.

Petroleum Workers to form Federation:
Decision taken at Delhi Convention .

A convention of representatives of petroleum workers from all over India decided at a meeting held in Delhi to form a federation of their unions "to co-ordinate union activities and force a united front against exploitation by employers".

The convention, which was attended by 30 delegates representing 15 unions, claiming a total membership over 16,000, had called upon petroleum workers throughout the country to observe February 20 as "all-India bonus day" by holding public meetings, the object being to bring pressure on the oil companies to enhance bonus rates.

These decisions were announced at a public meeting of petroleum workers held in Delhi on 28 January 1952. Mr. K.P. Shankara, Congress member ~~Representative of the Delhi State Assembly~~ of the Delhi State Assembly, presided over the meeting. Representatives of oil workers from Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Poona were among the speakers.

(The Hindustan Times, 29-1-1953).

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28. Employers' Organisations.

India - January 1953.

Annual General Meeting of Employers'
Federation of India, Bombay, 22 December
1952: Chairman's Address.

The annual general meeting of the Employers' Federation of India was held at Bombay on 22 December 1952. Mr. V. Chandavarkar, President of the Federation, presided.

Presidential address.- In the course of his presidential address Mr. Chandavarkar said that private enterprise should do everything possible to make known to the public and the Government not only its achievements, but also the handicaps it was subject to from time to time. It was only by this means that public goodwill and support, which were so essential for progress and development, could be built up.

Referring to the Five-Year Plan, Mr. Chandavarkar said that employers would certainly do their best to assist the Government in achieving the object in view, mainly, the rapid development in the standard of living. While a good deal of general support would be found to what the Planning Commission had stated about the method of resolving differences between the employer and the employee, it was rather strange, he stated, that the Commission should have gone into such a minute detail as to recommend that there should be no appeal from the decisions of an Industrial Court or a Tribunal, barring the very exceptional case of a decision which might be found to be perverse or against the principles of natural justice. The agitation of trade union leaders that the Labour Appellate Tribunal should be done away with could, however, be no grounds for making a demand for the abolition of the appellate authority which was constituted by the Government after careful consideration of the actual working of industrial tribunals all over the country.

Commenting on the right of a worker to strike, Mr. Chandavarkar stated that in the prevalent economic conditions the workers' ~~fund~~ effort should be directed towards securing the fundamental right to work, rather than ~~in~~ making a negative approach in the direction of claiming a right to strike.

Referring to the Employees' State Insurance Act, Mr. Chandavarkar said that while the interests represented by the Federation were in favour of the principle of social insurance legislation, they were strongly of the opinion that the imposition of a levy of special contribution without any

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return whatsoever was unfair, inequitable, and illegal, and the scheme, as embodied in the Act of 1948, was unworkable and needed a radical change if the Act were to be made effective in the near future. He stated that the question of ~~filing~~ filing a test case to challenge the validity of the special levy without any return was receiving the serious attention of the Federation as the chances of extending the scheme of benefit to other parts of India in the near future appeared remote.

Mr. Chandavarkar stated that there appeared to be much force in the criticism that had been publicly levelled against the Government that the ordinance providing provident fund for workers was a but a piece of election stunt and a vote-catching device by the party in power. However, he hoped that, since the benefit of the provident fund had come into force, the measure would result in creating a stable industrial force.

Election of President.- Mr. H.P. Mody was elected President ~~of~~ of the Federation for 1953.

(The Times of India, 24-12-1952).

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29. International Co-operation.

India - January 1953.

Community Project for Fishery Development:
India signs Pact with Norway.

The first supplement to the Tripartite Agreement between the U.N., the Government of Norway and the Government of India (vide page 26 of the report of this Office for October 1952) was signed in New Delhi, on 24 January 1953. Under this agreement, a community project for fishery development in Travancore-Cochin at cost of 3.76 million rupees, to be shared jointly, during the year 1953-54 will be undertaken.

The purpose of the project, according to the agreement, is to bring about: (a) an increase in the return of fishermen's activity; (b) an efficient distribution of fresh fish and improvement of fish products; (c) an improvement of the health and sanitary conditions of the fishing population; and (d) in general, a higher standard of living for the community in the project area.

To achieve this, intensive work will be started in a limited area in Travancore-Cochin. Initially, two fishing communities on both sides of the Neendakara bridge covering an area of about 10 sq. miles and with a total population of about 12,000 have been selected.

Present fishing boats in this locality, which number about 400 will be supplied, to the extent feasible, with suitable motors. Repair facilities will be provided, and new types of nets will be introduced. The possibilities of supplementary employment of the fishermen will also be explored.

Improvement in the handling and distribution of fresh fish will be introduced by providing one or more plants for producing ice, insulated sheds for short term storage of ice, and insulated vans and, if desirable, motors for transporting fresh fish. Efforts will be made to organise the distribution of fresh fish increasingly by fishermen's co-operatives which will be assisted in such manner as may be necessary. Equipment will be introduced for the extraction of fish oil, and the possibilities of improving curing methods and producing fish meal from waste products will be examined.

Improvement of environmental sanitation will be carried out, the main stress being on the supply of safe drinking water, construction of latrines and disposal of sewage. A small health unit will be

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established which will have a dispensary with a small number of beds, and contributions will be made to the running of such a unit by providing a certain amount of equipment, medicines, etc. Emphasis will be placed on preventive measures and health education.

In order to ensure effective use of equipment and gear and continuity in the health and sanitary services, technical personnel will be provided for demonstration, operation and maintenance of the various parts of the project and training of fishermen and local personnel.

Medical assistance from Norway may include equipment and medicines needed for the tackling of health problems which may not be of major importance within the area selected, but which exist along the coastal area of Travancore-Cochin e.g., filariasis.

In view of the importance of marine fisheries research, equipment for work at sea will be provided for the use of the Marine Biological Laboratory of Travancore-University.

Administration of the project. The project will be administered by the Government of Travancore-Cochin under the general supervision of the Government of India and in consultation with the Representative of the Board of the Norwegian Foundation. Items purchased from Norwegian funds under the agreement and brought to India will, unless otherwise agreed ~~upon~~ upon, become the property of the Government of India. It will be the endeavour of the Government of India eventually to enable fishermen's organisations to take over, on terms to be determined by the Government of India, project equipment which is of direct importance to the fishermen.

The contribution by the Norwegian Foundation will include provision of equipment, technical personnel and scholarships and fellowships for training of Indian students in Norway.

The contribution of the U.N. to the project through its Technical Assistance Board and the organisations represented thereon shall take the form of the provision of such assistance appropriate to the project as the Board may provide, subject to the provisions of the main agreements.

The contribution ~~of~~ by the Government of India will be mainly towards the local cost of the project, e.g., building of sheds and houses, cost of local labour, provision of Indian personnel for supervision and for training in taking over the functions of the Norwegian personnel, provision of a site for the project and to meet the local costs of the Norwegian personnel according to such agreement as may be agreed upon from time to time.

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The joint cost of the project for the year 1953-54 is estimated at 3.76 million rupees of which the contribution of the Norwegian Government will be 2.7 million and the Government of India 1.06 million rupees.

(The Hindustan Times, 25-1-1953).

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CHAPTER 3. ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

31. General Economic Situation.

All-India Economic Conference: Presidential
Address: Objectives of Planning.

The thirty-fifth All-India Economic Conference was inaugurated at Trivandrum by the Rajapramukh of Travancore-Cochin on 22 December 1952; Prof. R.A. Wadia presided.

In the course of his presidential address, Prof. Wadia said that planning for a better life in terms of economic standards would be a disastrous failure if it was not accompanied by planning in terms of a fuller and richer life for the individual. "Planning in terms of our economic life, we have naturally to adjust ourselves to the new world order that had been inaugurated by the advances in scientific knowledge and technological discoveries, to a world of gas and electricity, of telephone and radio and television, hydro-electric schemes and large-scale production of cheap and standardised goods".

Prof. Wadia was against "depersonalisation or dehumanisation of the individual and degradation of human beings to units in statistical law and degrading labour to the condition of a numerical label shorn of all claims to human personality and reckoning it as a commodity with its buying and selling price to be adjusted in case of dispute by Arbitration Courts and Judicial Tribunals, in the huge production enterprises of modern times".

Stressing the fact that the problems that faced India in the attempt to initiate a mixed economy were fundamentally different from those which faced Great Britain, Prof. Wadia said in Great Britain, a mixed economy was made possible by an educated electorate with a civic sense, ready to co-operate with the Government. Britain had a growing body of technicians and industrialists ready to lend themselves to basic nationalised industries. It could command capital resources in spite of an exhausting war, not only through a lowered rate of consumption ~~xxxx~~ but through its traditional friendly relations with the United States of America. It was not faced with the problem of a huge population, living under conditions that sapped the vitality and health of its manpower.

Prof. Wadia pointed out that if the mixed economy of the Indian Five-Year Plan could not be worked and could not be attended even with such limited success as the Labour Government in

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Great Britain could claim for their own effort, the blame could not rest on those responsible for the Plan so much as on the socio-economic environment with which the planners had to deal.

Dealing with the moral issue of co-operation between the rulers and the ruled and extent of co-operation of industrialists and big business with Government on the one hand and with the millions whose needs they supplied on the other. Prof. Wadia said that the country needed men at the helm of affairs whose humanity, sincerity and earnestness of purpose can win the hearts of the rural population and make them feel that it was their duty in turn to do their best in the common enterprise of increasing agricultural production. "We need men, who even in the drab, prosaic, price-governed, economic sphere of life would realise the need for sacrificing immediate considerations of security and popularity and money-getting by offering procurement prices that can stimulate increased production in a capitalist set-up of society. The increase in the amounts of subsidies may be less burdensome than the huge sums spent abroad, from year to year, in the purchase of grain whose poor quality may further deteriorate in the absence of adequate storage facilities".

As regards co-operation of industrialists and big business with the Government on the one hand and with the millions whose needs they supplied on the other, Prof. Wadia said that no good can come to a country where essentials of life for the millions, like cloth and sugar, can be regarded by those responsible for their supply as instruments of profiteering.

Prof. Wadia appealed to the younger generation to line up with "our good-intentioned reformers and planners", but to have no illusions about achieving results. "What we all need, and specially the younger generation, is the will for service and sacrifice, not prompted by any prospect of rewards, or even success in the cause for which we work, but by the service of life".

(The Hindu, 24-12-1952).

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34. Economic Planning, Control and Development.

India - January 1953.

Production Trends in the Cotton Textile Industry.

The following information regarding the trends of production in cotton textile industry in India in recent years is taken from an article on the subject published in the November 1952 issue of the Indian Labour Gazette. The article analyses in detail the reasons for the decline in production in the cotton textile industry during the post-war period.

General.- The cotton textile industry is the largest organised industry in India. The working capital employed in the industry in 1950 was 1272.8 million rupees and the total number of hands employed was about 0.677 million. India exported in 1950-51 alone 1,269 million yards of cloth out of a production of 3,718 million yards. The outbreak of the world war in 1939 gave a fillip to the industry and production was at its highest during the years 1942-44. During the war period the industry could not replace the worn out machinery, much less could it install new ones. These factors coupled with the shortage of raw materials created to a certain extent a gap between demand and supply. This necessitated the introduction of controls over the production and distribution of yarn and cloth. The ~~production and~~ partition of India in August 1947, led to a further deterioration in the situation, as some of the cotton growing areas came to be included in Pakistan resulting in short supply of cotton, which is calculated to be of the order of 1.5 million bales per year. It is estimated that the total requirements of raw cotton, for the production of 4,500 million yards of mill cloth per year and also for feeding the hand loom industry are 4.5 million bales per year, of which only about 3 million bales can at the most be produced in India. In the year 1950 alone the import of raw cotton was estimated to have cost 400 million rupees worth dollars. The National Planning Commission envisages an increase of 1.2 million bales in the internal production of cotton. Of late, however, there has been a continual increase in the production of textile goods and the industry is finding it a little difficult to market its production, specially after March-April 1952. The position appears to have worsened due to the entry of Japan in the field of export of cotton textiles.

Production trends.- The following table compiled by the Bombay Millowners' Association gives figures of production of cloth from the year 1939 onwards.

Period	Quantity of cloth woven* (in million yds.)		Wholesale price Index** (year ended Aug. 1939-100)	Profit** index (Base 1939 - 100)	Man-days lost§ due to Industrial disputes (in thousands)	
	Absolute figure in million yds.	Index number			6c	7
1	2	3	4	5	6c	7
1939.....	4,116	100	100	100	1,469	
1940.....	4,092	99	-	142.5	5,574	
1941.....	4,531	110	-	316.6	1,807	
1942.....	4,025	98	-	491.3	2,852	
1943.....	4,749	115	-	640.0	1,344	
1944.....	4,850	118	-	492.1	1,988	
1945.....	4,712	114	-	423.3	1,140	
1946.....	4,025	98	-	408.9	5,299	
1947.....	3,810	93	255	317.7	7,398	7,103
1948.....	4,423	107	354	548.1	3,749	2,274
1949.....	3,806	92	367	292.0		2,551
1950.....	3,645	89	354	356.6		10,331
1951.....	4,076	99	400			145.6
January.	338.9	99§§	354			107.9
February.	308.3	90	379			243.3
March.	325.7	95	382			95.9
April.	337.6	98	410			140.6
May.	340.7	99	410			155.3
June.	349.6	102	410			136.8
July.	350.7	102	410			60.1
August.	358.2	104	410			34.7
September.	340.3	99	410			91.2
October.	334.4	97	410			72.2
November.	334.1	97	410			273.8
December.	349.9	102	410			
1952						
January.	344.6	100	410			535.8
February.	340.6	99	410			35.9
March.	345.0	101	410			12.4
April.	369.0	108	410			
May.			390			
June.			394			

Source-

- * Upto 1950 Report of Bombay Millowners' Association for 1950 (page 421). Thereafter-Monthly Statistics of Production of Selected Industries (Director of Industrial Statistics).
- ** Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Supply, Government of India.
- § Figures in Column 6 include those for woollen and silk also.
- ¶ Labour Bureau.
- §§ This and the following figures in the column are calculated with the monthly production converted into annual by multiplying by 12.

It will be seen that production in most of the years has been a little above 4,000 million yards, but in a few years it has gone even a little lower. Except for the subnormal year of 1942, when specially disturbed conditions prevailed, the production

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was increasing upto 1945. During the period 1945-45 production remained more or less steady at a much higher level, which is above the target of 4,500 million yards envisaged by the National Planning Commission. Since then, production has been showing a steady decline except in the year 1948, the figure for 1950 being the lowest recorded in any year since 1939. In 1951 there was a recovery almost to the prewar 1939-40 level. The monthly production figures since January 1951 are also given to indicate how production has been increasing steadily. The production during the last four months of 1952 shown in the table was clearly above the corresponding figures in the preceding year.

The sudden fall in production in 1946 and 1947 may be attributed mainly to strikes and work stoppages. The figures for man-days lost on account of industrial disputes as shown in the table for the years 1946 and 1947 were the highest recorded in any year. In 1947-48, minimum wages and dearness allowances were fixed statutorily in most of the centres. Further, the wholesale price index of cotton textile products was 354 in 1948, as against 255 in 1947. It is not unreasonable to consider that higher prices encouraged higher production, particularly in view of the fact that the index of profits also increased from 318 in 1947 to 548 in 1948, as shown in the table. The reduction in production in 1949 is attributed partly to a "virtual breakdown" in the cloth and yarn distribution scheme in the first half of the year leading to an accumulation of cloth and yarn and partly to the shortage of cotton, necessitating curtailment of production in some of the mills. The further reduction in 1950 is due to the virtual closure of all textile mills in Bombay on account of a general strike lasting for nearly two months, viz., from 14 August 1950 to 16 October 1950 resulting in a loss of production estimated at 203 million yards. The production figures of 1951 and of the first four months of 1952 are encouraging. This is more so, considering the reduction of power supply in the Bombay region, which necessitated a reduction in the hours of work of textile operatives.

The other main reasons for the declining production during the post-war period, 1946-50, that are advanced are (i) maximum utilisation of machinery without replacement during the war period, (ii) reduction in hours of work from 54 to 48 as from 1946, (iii) high cost of production coupled with a fall in the consumer's purchasing capacity resulting in the closure of marginal units, (iv) shortage of raw cotton, and (v) a possible fall in labour productivity.

The industry has to depend very largely on foreign countries for not only initial equipment but also for current replacement of textile machinery and other accessories and mill stores like bobbins, spindles, shuttles, pickers, reeds, raw material for bleaching, dyeing and printing, etc. During World War II foreign sources of supply of machinery and accessories were virtually cut off and the cotton mills had to run without proper replacements and repairs. At the same time, they had to work to their fullest capacity to meet the demands created by war. This left the machinery in a poor state at the end of the war, resulting in a decline in production. Although there were ~~xx~~ 11 units in the country producing textile machinery, the production was found insufficient to meet the needs of the industry. During the last few years the industry had, therefore, to import a large quantity of textile machinery from the United Kingdom, Japan, United States of America and Switzerland.

On account of the partition of India some of the cotton growing areas were included in Pakistan resulting in short supply of cotton. Attempts are being made to increase the area under cultivation of medium and long staple varieties of cotton, to enhance the yield per acre and to conduct technological research for evolution of improved types of cotton. Legislative measures have also been introduced banning cultivation of inferior cotton in some States and establishing standard varieties for cultivation in certain other States.

The developments in the industry forced by the war-time demands have brought the need for rationalisation to the forefront. The Industrial Tribunal, set up by the Government of Central Provinces and Berar in 1948, fixed the wages and the normal work loads for the operatives of textile mills in Central Provinces and Berar. The fixation of work load, however, resulted in a general strike in all the mills in the province in the middle of December 1948. A Standardisation Committee appointed by the Government of Madras in 1947 prescribed higher work load for the textile operatives, as a result of which there was a prolonged strike of textile operatives in Coimbatore mills early in 1948 causing a loss of about 1.9 million man-days. These instances showed the difficulties in securing proper co-operation of management and labour in the implementation of the schemes of rationalisation. The employers, however, have been pressing their demand for rationalisation. In the session of the Standing Committee of the Central Industries Council held in November 1949, the principle that an industry aiming at rationalisation could retrench surplus labour was accepted. In one of the resolutions, the meeting also recommended appointment of Working Parties for several industries including cotton textile. These Working Parties were set up to examine measures to increase production, reduce output costs, raise the quality of goods.

for the cotton textile industry

increase efficiency of labour, achieve rationalisation and improve marketing methods. The report of the Working Party is awaited.

Various other attempts are being made to improve the efficiency of workers in cotton mills, and in this connection mention may be made of the T.W.I. (Training Within Industry) - methods now being experimented on in Ahmedabad, the Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association work ~~studies~~ studies and the visit of the I.L.O. team of experts to demonstrate the introduction of the system of payment by results in the textile industry of Bombay.

Price level and profits.- An interpretation of the trends of production shown in the table is intimately connected with the price level and profits. It will be seen from the table that the wholesale price index registered a steep rise of 155 points between 1939 and 1947. Consequent upon the decontrol policy adopted early in the year the index shot up to 354 in 1948, recording a rise of 99 points. The controls were reimposed later in the same year and the price index remained more or less stationary in the years 1949 and 1950. However, during 1951, the index increased to 400. The increase ~~was~~ was recorded in the month of ~~April~~ April 1951 when the index advanced from 382 to 410. The index remained at this figure till April 1952. In May and June 1952, it declined slightly.

Profits affect production, since higher profits provide a direct incentive for higher production. From the indices of profits given, it will be observed that the profits were the highest in 1942-44, when the production also was at the highest. The highest profits were made in 1943, due, no doubt, to conditions created by war. Since 1943, the profit index declined continuously till 1947. The sharp rise in 1948 may largely be attributed to the decontrol of textiles in the early part of that year; this again had its effect on production, which increased from 3,810 million yards in 1947 to 4,425 million yards in 1948. During the year 1949, the profit index again came down to 292, which is below the level obtained in any year after 1940. The index for the following year increased substantially.

Industrial Relations.- Industrial Relations have a direct bearing on production. The figures from 1939 to 1945 include those relating to woollen and silk mills also. In spite of this inclusion, the figure of time-loss in any year upto 1945 is clearly below that in the following years, the only exception being 1940. It is seen that during the war-period the number of man-days lost in any year was less than two million except in 1940 and 1942. During the period of war proper machinery for speedy adjudication of industrial disputes was set up under the Defence of India Rules. This kept

the time-loss due to industrial disputes under check. In 1940, there was a general strike in the textile mills of Bombay which resulted in a loss of about 4.5 million man-days. The year 1942 was a year of great political turmoil in the country which resulted in a number of ~~work~~ work-stoppages. These facts explain the exceptions noticed here. Immediately after the war, however, the number of man-days lost ~~suddenly~~ suddenly went up to 5.3 million in 1948 and 7.1 million in 1947. This increase in loss was connected with the large number of strikes and work-stoppages due to disturbed civil ~~conditions~~ conditions in the country in 1946 and to industrial disputes in 1947 demanding increase in wage in view of the rise in cost of living. It is also likely that the number of man-days lost in 1947 was high partly because of the disturbed conditions which followed the partition of India in August 1947. The years 1948 and 1949 were comparatively peaceful, mainly due to the Industrial Truce concluded in December 1947 and the fixation of minimum wages and dearness allowances, etc., during 1947-48, in States having important centres of industry such as Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Madras. A Tripartite Industrial Committee for the cotton textile industry was set up in addition to the elaborate machinery for arbitration and conciliation of industrial disputes for all industries in general. In the year 1950, the number of man-days lost exceeded 10.3 million - the highest figure recorded between 1939 and 1951. Of this loss, 9.4 million are accounted for by the two-month general strike in Bombay in protest against the award of the Industrial Court relating to profit bonus for the year 1949. The strike at one time involved over 200,000 workers. The number of man-days lost in 1951, was 1.56 million - the lowest in any year after 1946.

Absenteeism was another factor that affected production in as much as the industry had either to fill up the gap by employing temporary hands or to go without replacing them. The figures for the percentage of man-shifts lost to manshifts scheduled to work in important centres of industry are given below.

Period	Bombay	Ahmedabad	Sholapur	Bombay State	Kanpur	Coimbatore
1939	10.5	3.3	10.8	7.5	-	-
1940	9.1	3.9	12.2	7.1	-	-
1941	9.6	4.2	15.1	8.2	-	-
1942	14.0	5.3	15.4	11.6	-	-
1943	10.8	4.8	14.7	9.2	10.6	-
1944	11.48	5.7	15.3	9.8	10.6	-
1945	11.8	6.8	16.1	11.2	10.9	-
1946	14.2	7.4	20.1	12.6	12.9	12.8
1947	14.4	6.4	19.1	12.0	16.1	13.8
1948	13.3	5.9	18.1	11.1	16.1	9.6
1949	15.9	7.4	21.3	13.2	15.6	8.1
1950	14.5	8.4	20.1	12.6	16.1	9.7
1951	12.7	8.3	18.7	11.5	12.0	10.0

From the figures it would be seen that the level of percentage absenteeism in the industry had been steadily increasing, although the data for the last two years showed signs of a declining tendency. The percentage was above the usual level in the years 1942, 1946 and 1949. The available figures for 1952 for the various centres for January to April seem to suggest a reversal of the declining tendency noticed during 1950 and 1951.

Employment and earnings.— The average daily number of persons employed in the industry increased sharply from 490,800 in 1940 to 595,700 in 1941 and the number employed continued to rise steadily in the subsequent years till 1945 when it was 657,800. After 1945 production declined sharply by 15 per cent in 1946 but employment recorded a comparatively smaller fall of 4 per cent. The production figures went further down in the subsequent years except in 1948 but the employment figures showed a gradual and steady increase up to 1949 when it was 652,400. In 1950 the employment figures showed a marked decline and were at 621,700.

The figures for average annual earnings per worker collected under the Payment of Wages Act generally show a continuous increase. During 1939-41 the average annual earnings per worker kept to the level of 325 rupees or near about, during 1943-47 the level was about 725 rupees; and during 1947-49 it was above 1,000 rupees. Most of these increases were dictated by the rising ~~and~~ cost of living. The fixation of minimum wages and dearness allowances during 1947-48 in the important centres of the industry, which no doubt took account of the prevalent cost of living, ~~is~~ is largely responsible for the sharp increases in the average earnings in the period 1947-49. Dearness allowance is now a regular feature in wage payments and is considerably higher than the minimum basic wage rate fixed for the textile industry. In Bombay City, dearness allowance

is fixed at 1.9 pies per day per point of rise above the figure of the Bombay cost of living index number in 1939, which is 105. On this basis the average dearness allowance per worker was 57 rupees 4 annas per month in 1951. The extent of compensation for the rise in cost of living ~~and~~ varies considerably from centre to centre. The awards of the Industrial Tribunals, which laid down the extent of such compensation, show that in Ahmedabad 100 percent of the rise over the minimum wage fixed with reference to 1939 is neutralised by the dearness allowance, in Bombay 90 per cent and in Sholapur 66 2/3 per cent. Dearness allowance in cotton mills situated in smaller centres is generally fixed at a rate slightly below that for the major centre ~~nearby~~ nearby. The general effect on earnings of a linking up of dearness allowance with cost of living has been a sharp increase in the ~~earnings~~ earnings at the time of this linking and a steady increase thereafter, since the cost of living has generally been increasing. The following table shows the minimum basic wage and dearness allowance paid to cotton mill workers in the most important centres:

Months	Bombay		Ahmedabad		Sholapur		Baroda	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
Minimum basic wage.	Rs.30		Rs.28		Rs.26		Rs.26	
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
D.A.								
January.....	52 4	52 12	68 14	64 10	52 11	52 15	61 15	58 2
April.....	50 11	58 6	68 1	69 4	54 2	54 14	61 4	62 5
July.....	53 4	59 11	73 14	78 14	51 1	57 2	66 7	70 15
October....	56 1	56 10	76 2	72 5	52 1	58 5	66 8	65 1

Months	Indore		Nagpur		Kanpur		Madras	
	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951
Minimum basic wage.	Rs.26		Rs.26		Rs.30		Rs.26	
	Rs. A.							
D.A.								
January...	47 7	45 15	41 11	41 5	53 7	53 15	42 9	42 6
April.....	47 4	48 9	39 11	41 11	52 8	54 11	42 3	42 15
July.....	48 6	52 2	40 4	43 8	54 9	56 14	42 6	44 7
October...	49 2	51 9	41 1	43 10	55 8	59 4	42 12	45 0

The table shows that generally the dearness allowance paid in 1951 was higher than that in 1950.

The rate of bonus paid ~~for~~ varies from centre to centre. The awards of the industrial tribunals have followed the principle that the rate of bonus in the cotton textiles should be uniform for each centre depending on the profits made by the units

in the centre. Of late, the view has been to award bonus only in the case of units which have enough surplus left after making provision for prior charges such as depreciation and fair return on capital, etc. The addition to the earnings of workers, during the last four or five years has generally been quite ~~substantial~~ substantial.

The bonus given to cotton textile workers in some of the important centres of the industry are given below:-

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Bombay	25% of wages	37 1/2% of wages	16 2/3% of wages	15% of the basic earnings	25% of the basic earning
Ahmedabad	20% of wages	Do	Do	16 2/3% of the basic earnings	25% of the basic wages
Kanpur (9) (Cotton mills)	25% of wages	25% of wages	25% of wages	25% of wages	25% of wages
Madras (Madura Mills)	25% of wages	25% of wages	25% of wages	-	-

In general, it may be stated that the cotton mill workers get the highest remuneration compared to all other industrial workers in India. One reason for this is that the workers of this industry are highly organised and possess strong bargaining power. In 1949-50 the number of textile workers, who were members of some trade unions, was 324,743 while the total number of workers in 1949 was 650,000. Thus, almost every second worker of this industry is member of a registered trade union. Through collective bargaining the workers of this industry have been able to ~~see~~ secure for themselves large concessions in regard to minimum wages, quantum of dearness allowance and profit bonus.

(Indian Labour Gazette, Vol. X, No. 5, November 1952, pp. 361-376)

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The Iron and Steel Companies Amalgamation Act,
1952 (LXXIX of 1952).

The Iron and Steel Companies Amalgamation Bill (vide pages 21-22 of the report of this Office for November 1952) as passed by Parliament received the assent of the President on 29 December 1952 and has been gazetted as India Act No. LXXIX of 1952. The Act makes special provision, in the interests of the general public and the Union, for the amalgamation of certain companies closely connected with each other in the manufacture and production of iron and steel, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act which is deemed to have come into force on 29 October 1952 repeals the Iron and Steel Companies Amalgamation Ordinance, 1952 (vide pages 31-32 of the report of this Office for October 1952).

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
Part II, Section I, 31 December 1952,
pages 355-360)

The Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952
(LXXIV of 1952): Measure to provide control over
Forward Trading.

The Forward Contracts (Regulations) Bill (vide pages 18-20 of the report of this Office for January 1951) as passed by Parliament, received the assent of the President on 26 December 1952 and has been gazetted as India Act LXXIV of 1952.

The Act provides for the regulation of certain matters relating to forward contracts, the prohibition of options in goods and for matters connected therewith. Provision is made for the setting up of a Forward Markets Commission to assist the Central Government in the administration of the Act and to provide for a continuous study of the problems relating to forward markets. The main principle underlying the Act is that forward contracts, other than non-transferable specific delivery contracts in goods to which the regulatory provisions are made applicable, should be allowed to be entered into only in accordance with the rules and bye-laws of a recognised association. The rules and byelaws of every recognised association will be subject to the approval of the Central Government. The Central Government will have the power (a) to direct any recognised association to amend its rules, (b) to amend the bye-laws of such association, and (c) to appoint one person as the representative of the Central Government, and not more than three persons representing interests not directly represented through the membership of the association, as member of members of governing body of such association. The Central Government will also have the power to call upon a recognised association to furnish information or explanation and also to direct the governing body of the association to institute

Central government may

an inquiry, regarding the affairs of the association or those of any of its members, and to associate one or more Government representatives with such inquiry. In emergencies, the Central Government may have to suspend the business of a recognised association, and in certain extreme cases, to supersede the governing body of a recognised association, or even to withdraw recognition. Where the exclusion of non-transferable specific delivery contracts from the regulatory provisions of the Act is found to have led to abuses, ~~it will be necessary to make any or all of those provisions applicable to such contracts.~~

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1, 29 December 1952, pp. 326-339).

The Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1952.

on 12 December 1952

Mr. T.T. Krishnamachari, Minister for Commerce and Industry, introduced in the House of the People a Bill to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (vide pages 16-18 of the report of this Office for November 1951).

The Bill seeks to add to the schedule five more industries and thus apply the provisions of the measure to - the silk, artificial silk, dyestuff, soap and plywood industries - and clarify certain existing items in the schedule. The Bill is also designed to remove certain practical difficulties that have come to light in the working of the Act since its coming into force on 8 May 1952.

(The Gazette of India, Part II, Section 2, 20 December 1952, pp. 601-605).

Electro-Chemical Research: New Institute opened.

On 14 January 1953, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President of India, declared open the buildings of the Electro-Chemical Research Institute at Karaikudi, Madras State. The Institute is the ninth of the series of National Laboratories set up in India under the auspices of the Council of Industrial and Scientific Research, Government of India.

Dr. S.S. Bhatnagar, Director of Scientific and Industrial Research, said on the occasion, that in addition to its use for motive purposes, the use of electricity for bringing about chemical changes had increased during recent years so enormously that electro-chemical reactions had, in many cases, replaced the orthodox technique. While developments of a far-reaching character had taken place in other parts of the world, the use of electro-chemical methods in India was just beginning and even the production of such elementary substances as chlorine, caustic soda and aluminium was only established during and just after the second world war. There was

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an immense scope for development in India of new electro-chemical industries. Whatever might have been ~~in~~ excuse for not starting these in the past, with the ready availability of large blocks of electric power from hydro-electric and multipurpose projects, now being completed, it would be wrong to delay the expansion of existing industries and undertaking the establishment of new materials such as calcium carbide, carbon disulphide, potassium chlorate, potassium permanganate, phosphorus and phosphatic fertilisers and abrasives, refractories and other similar items. Preliminary investigations towards the availability of the right type of raw materials should be undertaken without further delay.

Dr. Bhatnagar said it would be the main function of the Institute to work out the details of the technique and instal pilot plants to demonstrate their practicability and working. Electro-metallurgy in its various aspects presented an almost virgin field awaiting development, and besides production of steel and steel alloys such as ferro-silicon, ferro-manganese, ferro-chrome, etc., by electric furnaces, it was possible to arrange production of metals like chromium, magnesium, beryllium, manganese, cerium, thorium, lithium and zirconium, etc., with the help of electricity. These projects from the chemical and metallurgical standpoints, could be speedily developed by the collaborative efforts of this Institute and the National Metallurgical Laboratory at Jamshedpur.

The Manufacture of 'heavy water' by various methods, Dr. Bhatnagar continued, had assumed special significance. Particularly in its applications to atomic energy development, the U.S.A., Norway, Switzerland, Italy and the U.S.S.R. had made great strides in keeping research ready to meet any emergency. Its use as a tracer had provided useful information in the study of intermediary metabolism of facts and other foods. As a moderator, it found use in slowing down nuclear reactions. The Institute would be a centre for research relating to 'heavy water' and funds and arrangements were being made to provide pilot plants at an early date.

Dr. B.B. Doy has been appointed Director of the Institute.

(The Hindu, 16-1-1953)

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Central Leather Research Institute opened
at Madras.

On 15 January 1953, Mr. T.T. Krishnamachari, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, declared open the Central Leather Research Institute at Madras. The Institute is the tenth of the series of National Laboratories set up in India under the auspices of the Council of Industrial and Scientific Research, Government of India.

Speaking during the ceremony, Dr. S.S. Bhatnagar, Director, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research said that it was only in comparatively recent times that science had been brought to bear upon the technology of leather making. This had led to improvements and modification of its various qualities. ~~This~~ Although some organised factories, based on improved practices followed in foreign countries have been established in India, the bulk of India's production was still carried out on a cottage industry basis and the methods employed by these craftsmen, were empirical. It was obvious that if India was to retain her export market and build up her industry to suit modern requirements, these empirical practices had to be modified to bring them in line with modern scientific methods. It was to meet this need that the Institute was being established.

Dealing with the work of the Institute, Dr. Bhatnagar said that an important problem for the Institute would concern detailed investigations into the quality of leather from 'fallen' animals. It was well known that leather from animals that died a natural death, either by disease or due to old age, was inferior in quality to the leather obtained from 'slaughtered' animals. The Institute would enquire into the basic causes of the deterioration and evolve methods to reduce the adverse effects as far as possible. The imperative need for investigations of this nature was evident from the fact that India had a total cattle population of 255 million comprising 136 million head of cows and bulls, 40 million buffaloes, 465 million goats, 37.7 million sheep and 3.2 million other animals.

Dr. Bhatnagar said that the tannery of the Institute was one of the best and most modern tannery attached to a scientific institution in any part of the world. "The principles of tanning may be discovered in a test tube, but it is the pilot plant backed by a large laboratory that alone can give the help which the industry needs to withstand competition and to make production more economical and more effective. We have no doubt that this institution will be able to fulfil the demands".

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Uttar Pradesh: Inquiry into Rationalization
in Textile and Sugar Industries.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh announced on 21 January 1953, that it had decided to inquire into rationalisation in the textile and sugar industries through its own specially trained officers.

The decision to carry out an investigation was taken by a tripartite conference of representatives of employers, labour and the Government held at Naini Tal and Lucknow earlier.

As regards the textile industries the Government expert on time and motion study has already taken up the work of examining the various schemes, which the textile mill owners have put up in collaboration with their own efficiency experts.

The present study will take into account the wage structure, standardization of musters, work load, efficiency, productivity, rationalisation of musters, including supervisory, managerial and all other staff, and other connected matters. As soon as preliminary investigation work is complete, the Government expert will consult labour and management representatives in regard to the scheme under consideration.

As regards the industry, the industry has agreed to pay for the expert inquiry in selected factories. Part of the funds has already been remitted to the Government. The Government intends to depute consultants on this work immediately.

(The Hindustan Times, 23-1-1953).

India - January 1953.

Structure and Trends of Agricultural Wages in
Hyderabad State

The structure and trends of wages in the State of Hyderabad in recent years are reviewed in an article published in The Hyderabad Government Bulletin on Economic Affairs, Volume V, No. 10, October 1952.

Census of wages of labour are being taken in Hyderabad since 1928. So far three quinquennial wages census covering both agricultural and non-agricultural labour were taken in 1935, 1940 and 1945 respectively. The classes covered among the agricultural labour were ploughmen, sowers and transplanters, weeders, reapers and other field labourers. Among non-agricultural labour, village artisans like blacksmiths and carpenters in rural areas, and skilled workers, coolies, domestic servants and factory labourers in urban areas, were covered. As more recent data is not available, it is not possible to depict the wage structure as it exists now. However, on the basis of the available data for the previous years it would be useful to formulate some concrete ideas about the structure and the patterns of wages in the pre-war and war periods. Similarly it would also be useful to study the trends of both the money and the real wages during these periods. An attempt is made in the article to study the structure and trends of wages of agricultural labour which constitutes the most important single class of gainfully occupied population. According to the 1941 census, out of 3.57 million workers who were gainfully occupied in cultivation, with cultivation as their principal means of livelihood, 1.41 million or 42 per cent were wage-receivers. The levels of wages of this class of workers and the differences in their wages from occupation to occupation, and region to region are therefore bound to be of great economic significance.

The data obtained through the quinquennial census does not cover all the labourers, but a sampling process was adopted with a view to obtain wages which were representative of the wage situation prevalent in the year in the different divisions of the State. This process has the advantage of giving fairly reliable data at a greatly reduced cost. It is therefore felt that, in spite of the small coverage, the data obtained on this basis should be able to give a fairly acceptable picture of the wages situation.

The scope of the analysis is threefold. In the first place the pattern of agricultural wages in the State and in the two sub-divisions of the State, viz., Telingana and Marathwada, which more or less correspond to economic sub-divisions, are studied for the different periods for which the census was taken. In the second place the fluctuations and trends in the wages are assessed for these periods. Thirdly an attempt has been made to examine the movement and trend of real wages according to regions and occupations.

Regional and occupational variation. The table given below shows the average wages prevailing in the State and separately in the regions of Telingana and Marathwada, along with the percentage wage-relatives for different classes of workers as compared to the basic class of workers, viz., reapers. The average wage for reapers was by far the highest among the wages for different classes of field labour and as it would be of considerable interest to determine the relationship between the highest wage in any region and the wages for the other classes of labour in that region, the reapers' class is taken as the basic class for computing wage-relatives.

Class of Labour	1955		1940		1945	
	Average daily wages	Percentage wage relatives (Reapers 100)	Average daily wages	Percentage wage relatives (Reapers 100)	Average daily wages	Percentage wage relatives (Reapers 100)
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Telingana Zone						
1. Men						
Ploughmen	0 3 2	84	0 4 6	88	0 7 10	76
Sowers and Transplanters	0 3 9	100	0 4 0	100	0 8 10	86
Weeders	0 12 11	78	0 3 0	75	0 7 4	72
Reapers	0 3 9	100	0 4 0	100	0 10 3	100
Other Field labourers	0 3 6	93	0 3 6	88	0 8 0	78

(Table continued on the next page.)

Ⓢ The wage rates are given in Hyderabad currency (Hyderabad Rupees 116-10-8 = Indian rupees 100).

(Table continued from the previous page)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					
2. Women												
Sowers and Transplanters	0	2	4	88	0	2	2	87	0	5	5	76
Weeders	0	2	2	81	0	2	6	100	0	5	0	71
Reapers	0	2	8	100	0	2	6	100	0	7	1	100
Other field labourers	0	2	2	81	0	2	2	87	0	5	2	73
I. Marathwada Zone												
1. Men												
Ploughmen	0	4	8	98	0	4	0	89	0	9	8	75
Sowers and Transplanters	0	4	1	86	0	4	2	93	0	11	1	84
Weeders	0	3	11	82	0	3	0	67	0	9	8	75
Reapers	0	4	9	100	0	4	6	100	0	13	2	100
Other field labourers	0	4	9	100	0	4	0	89	0	10	4	78
2. Women												
Sowers and Transplanters	0	2	11	95	0	2	8	89	0	6	8	82
Weeders and	0	2	2	70	0	2	6	85	0	6	0	73
Reapers	0	3	1	100	0	3	0	100	0	8	2	100
Other field labourers	0	2	6	81	0	2	4	78	0	6	4	78
II. State												
1. Men												
Ploughmen	0	3	11	92	0	3	9	88	0	8	9	74
Sowers and Transplanters	0	3	11	92	0	4	1	96	0	10	0	85
Weeders	0	3	5	80	0	3	0	71	0	8	8	74
Reapers	0	4	3	100	0	4	3	100	0	11	9	100
Other field labourers	0	4	2	98	0	3	9	88	0	9	2	78
2. Women												
Sowers and Transplanters	0	2	8	91	0	2	5	88	0	6	0	78
Weeders	0	2	2	74	0	2	6	91	0	5	6	78
Reapers	0	2	11	100	0	2	9	100	0	7	8	100
Other field labourers	0	2	4	80	0	2	3	82	0	5	9	75

The average wages for reapers in the State were 11 annas 9 pies for men and 7 annas 8 pies for women, at the end of the war, (i.e. in 1945). The average wages in Telingana were 10 annas 3 pies for men and 7 annas 1 pie for women, whereas in Marathwada they were 15 annas 2 pies and 8 annas 2 pies for men and women respectively. The wages for reapers in Marathwada were 28.5 percent higher than those in Telingana, in the case of men, and 15.5 per cent higher, in the case of women.

The most frequent wages for reapers (men) were in the group "between annas 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in both and 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ " the zones. 51.5 per cent of the selected villages reported wages in this group in Telingana and 29.6 per cent of the villages in Marathwada.

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The highest wages reported for reapers were between 1 rupee 7 annas and 6 pies and 1 rupee 11 annas and 6 pies in Telingana with 2.1 per cent of the villages reporting wages in this group. In Marathwada 2.3 per cent of the villages reported wages between 1 rupee 15 annas and 6 pies and 2 rupees 3 annas and 6 pies (the highest wage group).

In the case of women reapers, the most prevalent wages were between annas 3 1/2 and 7 1/2 in both Telingana and Marathwada. In Telingana 54.3 per cent of the villages reported wages in this group whereas in Marathwada this percentage was 40.6. However, 0.5 per cent of the selected villages in Telingana reported wages between 1 rupee 7 annas and 6 pies and 1 rupee 11 annas and 6 pies, whereas in Marathwada 6.1 per cent of the villages reported wages between 15 annas and 6 pies and 1 rupee 3 annas and 6 pies (the highest wage-group).

The average wages for reapers in the State in 1940 were 4 annas and 3 pies for men and 2 annas and 9 pies for women. The average wages in Telingana were 4 annas and 2 annas and 6 pies for men and women respectively, whereas in Marathwada they were 4 annas and 6 pies and 3 annas respectively. The average wages in Marathwada were 12.5 per cent higher, in the case of men, and 20.0 per cent higher in the case of women, than those in Telingana. In the prewar period (1935), the average wages in Marathwada were 26.7 per cent higher than those in Telingana, in the case of men, and 15.6 per cent higher, in the case of women.

Next to reapers, the sowers and transplanters were the highest paid class of labourer in 1945. Their wages were 85 per cent of the wages of reapers, in the case of men, and 78 per cent in the case of women. Taking regionwise, the wages of this class in Telingana were 86 per cent and 76 per cent of the wages of reapers respectively for men and women in that region. In Marathwada, the corresponding percentages were 84 and 82. The disparity between the wages of sowers and transplanters on the one hand and reapers on the other was not so wide in the prewar period. The wages for sowers and transplanters were 96 per cent of the wages of reapers in the case of men in 1940 and 88 per cent in the case of women, whereas the respective percentages in 1935 were 92 and 91.

The average wages for sowers and transplanters were 10 annas for men and 6 annas for women in 1945. Taking regionwise, in 1945, the wages in Telingana were 8 annas and 10 pies for men and 5 annas and 5 pies for women whereas in Marathwada the respective wages were 11 annas and 1 pie and 6 annas and 8 pies. Thus, the average wages in Marathwada were 25.5 per cent higher than those in Telingana in the case of men and 23.1 per cent higher in the case of women. The most frequent wages for sowers and transplanters were in the group "annas 7 1/2 and 11 1/2" in the case of men in both Telingana and Marathwada with 51.4 per cent of the selected villages reporting wages in this group in Telingana and 45.2 per cent of the villages in the case of Marathwada. For women, the most frequent wages were between annas 3 1/2 and 7 1/2 with 70.2 per cent of the villages reporting wages in this group in Telingana and 65.2 per cent in Marathwada.

The lowest wages paid during 1945 were for weeders which constitute 74 per cent of the wages for reapers in the case of men and 72 per cent in the case of women. Considering regionwise, these percentages were respectively 72 and 71 in Telingana and 73 and 73 in Marathwada. In the prewar period (1935), these percentages were 80 in the case of men and 74 in the case of women for the State as a whole. This shows that the disparity between the wages of reapers and the wages of weeders increased during the war period.

The average wages for weeders were 8 annas and 8 pies for men and 5 annas and 6 pies for women in 1945. Taking regionwise, the average wages in 1945 were 7 annas and 4 pies for men and 5 annas for women in Telingana and 9 annas and 8 pies for men and 6 annas for women in Marathwada. The average wages in Marathwada were 31.8 per cent higher in the case of men and 20.0 per cent higher in the case of women than those in Telingana. In the prewar period (1935), the wages in Marathwada were 34.3 per cent higher for men but they were the same for women.

The most frequent wages in 1945 for weeders (men) were between annas 3 1/2 and 7 1/2 in Telingana (47.1 per cent of the selected villages reported) and between annas 7 1/2 and 11 1/2 in Marathwada (41.5 per cent of the villages reported). For women, the corresponding wage group was "annas 3 1/2 and 7 1/2" in both Telingana and Marathwada. In Telingana 64.0 per cent of the villages reported wages in this group whereas in Marathwada this percentage was 68.4.

The most frequent wages in 1945 for weeders (men) were between annas 3 1/2 and 7 1/2 in Tilingana (47.1 per cent of the selected villages reported) and between annas 7 1/2 and 11 1/2 in Marathwada (41.5 per cent of the villages reported). For women, the corresponding wage group was "annas 3 1/2 and 7 1/2" in both Telingana and Marathwada. In Telingana 64.0 per cent of the villages reported wages in this group whereas in Marathwada this percentage was 68.4.

Changes over time.- The following table shows changes in the index numbers and constructed with 1928 as 100 of the average wage levels in the State for the different classes of field labour.

Classes of Labour	Telingana zone			Marathwada zone					
	Average wages in 1928	Index Numbers 1935	Index Numbers 1940	Index Numbers 1945	Average wages in 1928	Index Numbers 1935	Index Numbers 1940	Index Numbers 1945	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	Rs.A.P.			Rs.A.P.					
Men									
Ploughmen	0 4 2	76	84	188	0 7 2	65	56	135	
Sowers and Trans-planters	0 4 0	94	100	221	0 7 5	55	56	149	
Weeders	0 2 9	106	109	267	0 5 9	68	52	168	
Reapers	0 4 4	87	92	237	0 8 6	56	53	155	
Other field labourers	0 3 9	93	93	213	0 6 8	71	60	155	
Women									
Sowers and Trans-planters	0 2 5	97	90	224	0 4 0	73	67	167	
Weeders	0 2 1	104	120	240	0 5 5	63	73	176	
Reapers	0 3 1	86	81	230	0 4 10	64	62	169	
Other field labourers	0 2 10	77	77	182	0 3 8	68	64	173	

Classes of labour	State			
	Average wages in 1928	Index Number 1935	Index Number 1940	Index Number 1945
	10	11	12	13
	Rs. A. P.			
Men				
Ploughmen	0 5 8	69	66	154
Sowers and Transplanters	5 9	68	71	174
Weeders	0 4 3	80	71	204
Reapers	0 6 7	65	65	178
Other field labourers	0 5 3	86	71	175

	10	11	12	13
Women				
Sowers and Transplanters	0 3 3	82	74	185
Weeders	0 2 9	79	91	200
Reapers	0 4 0	73	69	192
Other field labourers	0 3 3	82	69	177

Movement of Real wages.- An attempt has also been made on the basis of available data to measure the movement and trends in real wages during the period 1928 to 1945. Since food covers the bulk of the expenditure in an agricultural working class family budget and since jawar is their staple diet, the price of jawar is taken as an indicator of the cost of living. The following table shows the average real wages in the State as a whole and in the Telingana and Marathwada regions separately, expressed in equivalent quantities of jawar calculated at the prevalent prices.

Class of labour	Telingana zone				Marathwada zone			
	1928 (srs)	1935 (srs)	1940 (srs)	1945 (srs)	1928 (srs)	1935 (srs)	1940 (srs)	1945 (srs)
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Men								
Ploughmen	2.21	2.52	2.35	2.63	3.95	3.99	2.84	3.47
Sowers and Trans-planters	2.13	2.99	2.69	2.97	4.08	3.49	2.96	3.98
Weeders	1.46	2.32	2.02	2.46	3.16	3.35	2.13	3.47
Reapers	2.30	2.99	2.69	3.44	4.68	4.06	3.20	4.73
Other field labourers	1.99	2.79	2.35	2.69	3.67	4.06	2.84	3.71
Women								
Sowers and Trans-planters	1.28	1.86	1.46	1.82	2.20	2.49	1.90	2.40
Weeders	1.11	1.73	1.68	1.68	1.88	1.85	1.78	2.16
Reapers	1.64	2.13	1.68	2.38	2.66	2.64	2.13	2.93
Other field labourers	1.51	1.73	1.46	1.84	2.02	2.14	1.64	2.07

Class of labour	State			
	1928 (srs)	1935 (srs)	1940 (srs)	1945 (srs)
	10	11	12	13
Men				
Ploughmen	3.05	3.20	2.58	3.01
Sowers and Transplanters	3.10	3.20	2.81	3.44
Weeders	2.29	2.79	2.06	2.98
Reapers	3.55	3.47	2.92	4.04
Other labourers	2.83	3.67	2.23	3.15

(Table continued from the previous page.)

	1	10	11	12	15
Women					
Sowers and Transplanters	1.75	2.18	1.99	2.06	
Weeders	1.48	1.77	1.72	1.89	
Reapers	2.16	2.38	1.89	2.64	
Other field labourers	1.51	1.75	1.73	1.73	
	1.09	2.18	0.97	1.98	

For the whole State, the average real wages during the prewar period (1935), varied between 2.79 seers of jawar for weeders and 5.67 seers of jawar for "other field labourers" in the case of men, and between 1.77 seers of jawar for weeders and 2.38 seers of jawar for reapers, in the case of women. Taking regionwise, the real wages in Telingana in the prewar period varied between 2.32 seers of jawar for weeders and 2.99 seers for sowers and transplanters and reapers, in the case of men, and between 1.73 seers for weeders and "other field labourers" and 2.13 seers for reapers, in the case of women. In Marathwada, the average real wages varied between 3.35 seers for weeders and 4.06 seers for reapers and "other field labourers", in the case of men, and between 1.85 seers for weeders and 2.64 seers for reapers, in the case of women. The real wages in Marathwada exceeded those in Telingana by 16.7 per cent (lowest) for sowers and transplanters and by 58.3 per cent (highest) for ploughmen, in the case of men; and by 6.9 per cent (lowest) for weeders and 35.9 per cent (highest) for sowers and transplanters, in the case of women.

In 1945, the average real wages in the State varied between 2.98 seers of jawar for weeders and 4.04 seers for reapers, in the case of men, and between 1.89 seers for weeders and 2.64 seers for reapers, in the case of women. Thus in both the prewar and war periods, the real wages of weeders were the lowest among all the classes of agricultural labour. Taking regionwise, in 1945, the real wages in Telingana varied between 2.46 seers of jawar for weeders and 3.44 seers for reapers, in the case of men, whereas in the case of women, they varied from 1.68 seers for weeders and 2.38 seers for reapers. In Marathwada they varied from 3.47 seers for ploughmen and weeders to 4.75 seers for reapers, in the case of men, and between 2.07 seers

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for "other field labourers" and 2.93 seers for reapers, in the case of women. The wages in Marathwada were higher than those in Telingana by 31.9 per cent (lowest) for ploughmen and 41.1 per cent (highest) for the sowers and transplanters. Another noticeable feature is that, excepting for the wages of sowers and transplanters among men and weeders among women, the disparity in real wages between the two regions was considerably reduced during the war period.

Madras: Draft Notification fixing
Minimum Rates of Wages in Agriculture

The Government of Madras published on 31 December 1952 the draft of a notification fixing the minimum rates of wages payable to workers employed in agriculture, which the Government proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The proposed rates of wages are given below:

Agricultural operation	All inclusive minimum rates of wages per day		
	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Ploughing*	1	8	0
2. Sowing	0	12	0
3. Transplanting	0	12	0
4. Weeding	0	12	0

* With bullocks and ploughs.

Note: Every minimum rate of wages specified in column (2) above is an all-inclusive rate allowing for the basic rate, the cost of living allowance and the cash value of the concessions, if any.

The draft will be taken into consideration by the Government after 1 March 1953.

(GOMs. No. 5421 Development dated 17 December 1952; the Fort St. George Gazette, Part I, 31 December 1952, p. 2038.)

38. Housing.

India - January 1953.

A survey of Housing Problem in India.

The position of housing in India deteriorated considerably during World War II, caused to some extent by lack of employment in villages, and growth of industry in towns and cities with higher wages and attractive amenities. The problem was aggravated by the influx of refugees after partition in 1947, who preferred to settle down in cities. The result was overcrowding, deterioration of estates, development of the puggree (premium taken by landlords) system, haphazard growth of industrial towns and development of slums. Private enterprise in the building industry was also deterred by scarcity and high prices of materials, rent control legislation, and requisitioning of premises by Government; and therefore the State had to step in to fill the gap.

State enterprises.- The history of State housing enterprise in India is of recent years. Bombay took the first step in 1921, when a Development Board was set up to reclaim land and construct 50,000 one-room tenements, and to organise the supply and distribution of building materials. This did not prove successful and after 15,000 tenements were built by the Board, it was wound up; the cost of construction proved high and the rents were beyond the means of workers. In 1949 the Bombay Government resumed this activity by setting up a Housing Board under an Act of the Legislature. The Board which was given 43.7 million rupees as loan up to March 1952 towards initial capital, constructed 7,000 tenements for industrial workers and low-income groups. The Board also constructed over 9,000 tenements for displaced persons at a cost of about 20 million rupees provided by the Central Government. It is now developing, at a cost of about 10 million rupees, nearly 4,000 acres of land for co-operative housing societies.

Recently the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Hyderabad have set up housing boards and Mysore and Bihar are contemplating similar measures. In Uttar Pradesh the Board has begun construction of housing for workers of sugar factories; in other States, activity has yet to start.

Till recently the Central Government had confined its housing activities to providing houses for its employees. Other organisations like improvement trusts and municipalities have also started modest schemes within their own jurisdictions. Similar schemes for employees have been undertaken on smaller scales by factories, both Government and private, and some big trading houses.

Housing of displaced persons.- But all these efforts have not been able to meet the demand for housing that developed after independence. It was, therefore, in connection with the housing of displaced persons from Pakistan that the Central Government first launched its big programme for persons other than public servants. Colonies and townships were planned in various parts of the country. The total number of houses built for refugees from Western and Eastern Pakistan up to June 1952 was about 250,000 and many more thousands were constructed by refugees themselves with financial assistance from the Central Government.

Economies in construction.- One of the consequences of Government initiative has been that new experiments have been undertaken in housing, both as regards material and methods of construction. Such experiments were carried out at Nilokheri and Faridabad, and a number of other towns in the Punjab and West Bengal by the Ministry of Rehabilitation. It eliminated contractors and also arranged for material and other components by organising their production.

There was thus a considerable reduction in the cost, which in the case of Nilokheri was 4 rupees 8 annas to 4 rupees 12 annas per sq.ft. of the plinth area as against 7 rupees per sq.ft. with standard materials, 6 rupees per sq.ft. with inferior specifications. In West Bengal similar construction work at Fulla revealed the cost to be 4 rupees 13 annas per sq.ft. The Punjab Government experimented with the building of 4,000 houses in stabilised soil with cement plaster on both inner and outer walls.

Housing co-operatives.- After the war a number of co-operative housing societies have been started. In Madras 295 societies constructed 3,295 houses up to March 1952, and another 12,000 were under construction on that date. There are similar societies in Bombay and Uttar Pradesh. The Government gives them facilities by way of sites and loans at low rates.

Industrial housing.- The extent of the housing problem may be realised from the fact that for housing the increased population of 21.4 million in towns having 5,000 and more inhabitants, at least 4,300,000 houses at the rate of five persons per house will be required. To help ease the situation, the Government of India has formulated industrial housing schemes and the number of houses built under this scheme so far during 1950-52 is 3,187. The last such scheme was announced during the latter part of 1952. It envisages the construction of 28,500 tenements during 1952-53 at a cost of 71.6625 million rupees. Of this amount 32.4 million rupees will be by way of subsidies and 39.2625 million rupees in loans. The construction will be undertaken through

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the agency of State Governments, statutory housing boards, employers, and registered co-operative housing societies for workers. The Central Government will bear the major share of the financial burden involved in the construction, while the State Governments will meet any short-fall in the maintenance charges of housing estates constructed by them or by the housing boards. The maximum standard rents for tenements have been fixed at 10 rupees per mensem for one-room single-storeyed tenements and 17 rupees 8 annas per month for one-room tenements in multi-storeyed buildings.

Housing in the Five-Year Plan.- The Five-Year Plan has provided a sum of 385 million rupees for housing. Under the Plan the amount of loans and subsidies payable by the Centre to the State Governments would be each 50 per cent of the cost of construction, including the price of land. The loan will be given at the Government's rate of borrowing plus the cost of servicing such loans and made repayable within 25 years.

Under the Plan, the Central Government is also urged to assist employers of labour and co-operative societies of industrial workers in housing projects. The Plan suggests that the extent of subsidy should be 25 per cent of the total cost of construction including land. Also loans up to 37 1/2 per cent of the cost of construction at a reasonable rate of interest repayable over a period of 15 years should be granted. It is hoped that co-operative housing would thus attract private capital and pave the way for aided self-help in housing, reducing the cost of construction.

The Planning Commission further suggests the establishment of a National Building Organisation to co-ordinate the results of research in building techniques and their implementation by all agencies. It urges the setting up of a central board and regional boards for executing housing programmes. These boards should be statutory autonomous bodies with independent sources of income, besides subsidies from the Central and State exchequers from time to time. Suitable amendments in the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 to facilitate the acquisition of slum areas and virgin lands for housing have also been recommended.

Rural housing.- On account of financial limitations the Plan does not prescribe a programme for rural housing. But it stresses the fact that the pressure on cities can only be relieved by attempts to ameliorate living conditions in rural areas. For the time being, the Plan views the opportunities created by the land tenure system reforms and the establishment of community development projects as means through which a start could be made in the improvement of rural housing.

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The Plan recommends that the State Governments should assist house building activity in rural areas and disseminate information regarding experiments in cheap housing which are being conducted in various parts of India, e.g., pot tile vaulted roofing in Hyderabad State and the stabilised soil construction in Punjab. Another experiment of value in areas receiving heavy monsoon is the use of bituminised sunbaked bricks. This has been successfully tried by the HiraKud research laboratory where houses built of such bricks have withstood heavy rains during the last monsoon.

(Republic Day Press Release dated 20 January 1953, issued by the Press Information Bureau, Government of India).

Bombay's Industrial Housing Scheme:
Centre to give 10 Million Rupees Loan.

About 2,500 two-room tenements for industrial workers in Bombay and Ahmedabad are to be constructed in the course of this year at an estimated cost of 10 million rupees.

The Government of India has agreed to bear the entire cost of these tenements by granting a loan and subsidy to the State Governments. The Union Government has also promised to allot more funds for this purpose.

Plans for the construction of the tenements were finalised in Bombay on 15 January 1953 at a conference between Sardar Swaran Singh, Union Minister for Works, Housing and Supply, and Mr. G.D. Tapase, Minister for Housing and Rehabilitation, Bombay, Dr. Jivraj Mehta, Finance Minister, and other officials.

After the conference Sardar Swaran Singh told the Press that he had asked the Bombay Government to go ahead with its programme of industrial housing and had suggested to the State Minister in charge of housing to prepare new schemes and forward them to him as early as possible. He said that the Government of India was prepared to give financial assistance to the Bombay Government in the form of loans and subsidy to implement those schemes.

The Union Minister explained that out of the 10.4 million rupees, to be granted to the State Government for the implementation of the scheme for the construction of 2,500 tenements, 4.4 million rupees would be in the form of loan while the remaining 6 million rupees, half would be subsidy and the other half loan.

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Mr. Tapse said that 840 tenements would be constructed - 720 in Bombay and 120 in Ahmedabad - out of the loan of 4 million rupees. The work of these tenements was in progress and he expected them to be ready for occupation by the end of March this year.

(The Times of India, 17-1-1953).

Houses for Industrial Workers in Hyderabad;
New Colony inaugurated.

On 8 January 1953, Mr. B. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Minister of Hyderabad State formally inaugurated the Government's 10,000 unit industrial workers' colony at Hyderabad.

Speaking during the ceremony Mr. Raju, Minister for Labour and ~~RE~~ Planning said that the State Government had set up a Housing Advisory Committee in 1950 to formulate a plan for providing housing accommodation to industrial workers. The committee chalked out a plan for the construction of 10,000 houses in five years in the various industrial areas of the State. The number of houses earmarked for each of the industrially important places in the State was as follows: Hyderabad and Secunderabad cities including suburbs, 5,000; Warangal, 1,200; Aurangabad, 800; Gulbarga, 800; Nanded, 800; Jalna, 200; Raichur, 200; Nizamabad, 200; Latur, 150; Khammam, 200; and Reserve, 450.

In the same year the State Government took advantage of a scheme sponsored by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, and obtained a loan of 2 million rupees. The State Government also sanctioned a loan of one million rupees. Out of these amounts 300 double-room tenements have been constructed at a cost of 1.2 million rupees in the Mushirabad industrial area which were now available for occupation. The double-room tenement contained two living rooms, two verandahs, kitchen, a bath room and a lavatory; each tenement was built at a cost of 4,000 rupees inclusive of electrical, water and sanitary fittings. The scheme of the Government of India visualized a capital sharing of two-thirds by the Centre and one third by the State and the collection of rent from the employee being at the rate of two and half per cent on the cost of construction and three per cent by the employer.

Before the State Government proceeded further with the scheme the Government of India sponsored a new scheme called subsidized housing scheme. The salient features of this scheme were that the Government of India would provide half the capital cost as subsidy and the other half as loan repayable

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in 25 years at four and half per cent interest. In this scheme there was neither the State Government's participation in the capital cost nor the employers' contribution towards the rent. The ceiling of 10 rupees had been fixed as the maximum rent that could be recovered from the worker who occupies it. The standard of accommodation provided was one living room, a verandah, a kitchen and a bath-room. Basically the new scheme differed from the original scheme in the capital contribution, accommodation and the realization of rent.

*The Government of Hyderabad revised its original plans to conform to the new scheme and secured an assistance to the tune of 3.7 million rupees from the Government of India for building 1,480 single-room tenements in the year 1952-53. The balance of 0.6 million rupees of Government of Hyderabad's share in the original scheme was also being utilised for building 240 single-room tenements, thus making a total of 1,720 tenements as the target for the year 1952-53. These 1,720 tenements would be located in Mushirabad, Chikkadpalli and Sanatnagar.

Mr. Raju added that it was interesting to note that the agency to build these houses was not going to the traditional contractor. His place had been taken by the "labour co-operatives" which was the first of its kind in India. Five thousand building workers were organised into 50 primary labour co-operatives, each containing 100 workers with the following objects: (1) To organise the semi and unskilled man-power into co-operatives; (2) to promote corporate life among the workers; (3) to encourage thrift; (4) to avoid middlemen's profiteering; (5) to secure return for the output of the labour; (6) to increase the efficiency of worker; and (7) to train the workers to become more skilled in their trades. These primary units had been organised into an apex body known as Federation of Labour Co-operatives which would help and guide its members. It was programmed that each unit would be able to complete the construction of 30 houses in a period of four months. The Government was hopeful that this new venture would release the full energies of the workers and would pave the way for a firm co-operative economy. If this succeeded Hyderabad would be leading the rest of the country in the gradual elimination of the middleman and making the real worker ~~responsible~~ responsible and eligible for the full fruits of his labours.

The scheme had thus three objects in view, namely, housing for the lower income group, co-operative organisation of the unorganised building workers, and employment to the urban unemployed.

(The Hindustan Times, 9-1-1953).

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CHAPTER 4. PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO CERTAIN
BRANCHES OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY,

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

41. Agriculture.

Bihar Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1953.

The Government of Bihar published on 25 January 1953 the text of the Bihar Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1953, to be introduced in the Bihar Legislative Assembly.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill declares that after the Supreme Court upheld the validity of the Bihar Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Bihar Act XXX of 1950) (vide page 83 of the report of this Office for October 1950), in substance, the State Government decided to take over, in the first instance, all zamindaries with a gross annual income exceeding 50,000 rupees. The actual working of the Act has, however, disclosed certain practical difficulties in notifying the estates and tenures of particular proprietors and tenure-holders and also in taking possession thereof. The State Government has given the matter ~~the~~ most anxious consideration and reached the conclusion that it is necessary that the provisions of the Act should be modified, not in substance, but only in certain matters of ~~the~~ procedure, in order to ~~facilitate~~ facilitate the acquisition of all zamindaries and intermediary interests in the whole of the State or in a part of the State on a single date. The Bill seeks to give effect to this decision of the Government.

The amendments envisaged in the Bill contemplate to achieve three different objectives, but all relating to the same plan-

(i) The first category of amendments seek to ~~insert~~ insert certain new provisions in the Act with a view to enable the State to take over all the remaining zamindaries either in the whole of the State or area-wise on a single date and to evolve a machinery and procedure for the speedy determination of compensation payable to intermediaries.

(ii) The second category of amendments have been drawn up with a view to provide facilities to such of the intermediaries as are anxious to get the amount of their compensation determined and receive payment of compensation, so determined, with the least possible delay. As Government will be incurring huge expenditure from the public exchequer on the maintenance of the establishment for determining the amount of compensation, payable to each intermediary, it is in the public interest that this work is completed with the least possible

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delay, but this object cannot be realised without the willing and implicit co-operation of the entire body of intermediaries. The Bill consequently seeks to penalise all such vexatious intermediaries who withhold their co-operation in the matter.

(iii) The third category of amendments are purely formal and consequential and relate only to matters of procedure. Other amendments provide for certain concessions to the landlords which are not likely to affect the object or the working of the Act.

(The Bihar Gazette, Extraordinary,
25 January 1953, pp. 1-37).

Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Amendment)
Act, 1952 (Bombay Act No. XXXIII of 1952).

The Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands (Amendment) Bill (vide page 17 of the report of this Office for August 1952) as passed by the Bombay Legislature received the assent of the President on 6 January 1953 and has been gazetted as Act No. XXXIII of 1952.

The Amendment Act makes a number of important amendments to the Bombay Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act of 1948. Under the Act of 1948 no tenancy shall be for less than 10 years. The Amendment Act provides that such tenancy will be renewed for a further period of 10 years; it will, however, be open to the landlord to terminate the tenancy at the end of each period if he requires it for personal cultivation. Other important features of the Amending Act are: a landlord must give three months' notice if he desires to terminate a tenancy; powers are given to mamlatdars before whom an application for the eviction of a tenant is made on the ground of non-payment of rent, to give to the tenant one year to pay the arrears of rent if the failure of the tenant is due to the failure of crop or similar calamity; the Act enables a tenant to get takavi loans by the mortgage of his interest in the his land to Government; the Act provides that the purchase money might be paid by a protected tenant in a lump sum or in instalments not exceeding six. It also provides that in the case of backward classes, scheduled classes, and scheduled tribes it should be open to Government to fix the maximum rate for the purchase of various kinds of lands.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV,
12 January 1953, pp. 1-7).

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Report of Madhya Pradesh Agricultural Committee
published: Collective Farming advocated.

The Agriculture Policy Committee of the Madhya Pradesh Government has recommended encouragement of co-operative and collective farming in concentrated blocks and of mechanization of agriculture.

The 9-member committee, appointed in 1949, under the chairmanship of Dr. P. S. Khankhoje, examined the whole field of State agricultural policy, including questions of agricultural education, research and administrative set-up, farming and animal husbandry. The committee visited Bombay, Uttar Pradesh, Madras, Mysore and Punjab before framing and submitting its report to the Government.

The report states that fragmentation of holdings was on the increase and the tendency should be checked by encouraging co-operative and collective farming without breaking the village unit. Land neglected by cultivators, it said, should be pooled together in consolidated blocks forming co-operative units. It adds that the future of agricultural development would depend largely on mechanization leading to efficiency of work. Cultivators using tractors should be encouraged and helped by the Government in maintenance and repairs.

On agricultural finance, the committee recommended the enactment of a law to enforce a system of savings to be collected along with land revenue. The Government should also contribute ~~ka~~ 50 to 100 per cent of the savings collected.

The committee proposed higher priority to irrigation schemes, harnessing all water sources, village planning and utilisation of electricity wherever possible.

(The Hindustan Times, 8-12-1952).

Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill, 1952.

The Government of the Punjab published on 22 November 1952 the text of the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Bill, 1952, proposed to be introduced in the Punjab Legislative Assembly. The Bill seeks to provide for the security of land tenure and consolidates and amends the law relating to land tenures in the State.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill states that the Bill is a consolidating measure replacing the Punjab Tenants (Security of Tenure) Act, 1950 (vide page 55 of the report of this Office for November 1950), and the Punjab Tenants (Security of Tenure) Amendment Act, 1951, in the light of administrative difficulties and experience gained as a result of the working of the two Acts. Such of

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of the provisions as were considered inexpedient have been removed and others for which provision was considered necessary included. The Bill will apply also to the land allotted under the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950.

The provisions of the Bill deal, inter alia, with reservation of land by small landowners, minimum period of tenancy, heritability of tenancy, ejection of tenants under certain circumstances, maximum rent, right of tenants to pre-emption, sale, procedure for ejection, etc.

(Punjab Government Gazette, Extraordinary,
22 November 1952, pp. 1367-1379).

Uttar Pradesh: U.P. Bhoodan Yagna Bill, 1952.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh published on 21 November 1952 the text of the U.P. Bhoodan Yagna Bill, 1952, to be introduced in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly. The Bill seeks to facilitate donation and settlement of lands in connection with the Bhoodan Yagna (land gift movement) initiated by ~~Sri~~ Acharya Vinoba Bhave.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill declares that in the last cold weather Acharya Vinoba Bhave started the Bhoodan Yagna movement with a view to obtain land so that it could be distributed among the landless persons of the State. The response of the people of the State was very encouraging. The zamindars as well as tenants donated their land to Acharya ~~Jr.~~. There were, however, certain ~~numerous~~ legal difficulties. The donations made by the zamindars were defective according to the provisions of section 23 of the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950. The tenants did not possess any rights to transfer their lands by ~~gift~~ gift. This Bill is intended to remove these and certain other legal difficulties and so ensure the achievement of the object of this Movement, both in regard to the donations of land to the Bhoodan Yagna and its distribution to the landless persons.

(Government Gazette of Uttar Pradesh,
Extraordinary, 21 November 1952, pp. 1-6).

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42. Co-operation.

India - January 1953.

Training Workers in Co-operation: Classes
to be started by Bombay Government .

The Government of Bombay has decided to organise training classes for labour leaders and industrial workers in the principles of co-operation in order to enable them to help and promote the co-operative movement among industrial workers.

The training classes will be conducted by the Bombay Provincial Co-operative Institute in Bombay and Ahmedabad.

(The Times of India, 5-1-1953).

West Bengal: Working of Co-operative Societies
for the Year ending 30 June 1949.

The Government of West Bengal recently published* the annual report on the working of the co-operative societies in the State for the year ending 30 June 1949. A brief summary of the report is given below.

General.- During the year under review a restrained optimism permeated the co-operative movement and in spite of the complications born of partition, progressive trend was maintained in most of the branches. The number of societies, their membership and working capital which in the previous year stood at 13,488, 680,521 and 145,683 million rupees, had by the end of the current year increased to 14,310, 746,911 and 181,534 million rupees. Progress, however, was more marked among multipurpose societies, consumers' societies, colony societies and weavers' societies.

There were signs of a general enthusiasm among people for the formation of co-operatives and a keener desire to tackle their many sided

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Government of West Bengal; Annual Report on the Working of Co-operative Societies in the Presidency of West Bengal for the year ending 30th June 1949; Printed at West Bengal Government Press, Calcutta, 1952: pp. 59. Price: Rs.1-8 or 2s.6d.

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problems through co-operative organisations. Non-official social workers also gave the movement considerable support and this helped immensely the progress in improving the tempo of the movement with the result that co-operatives today covered about 30 per cent of the villages and their membership corresponded to approximately 14.8 per cent of the families of the State.

Agricultural credit societies.— The basic structure of the movement still continues to be "credit" and the credit societies continued to play their useful part in the provision of rural agricultural credit. The agricultural credit societies whose number recorded a rise from 9,590 of the previous year to 9,646 had shown a slight decrease in the membership which stood at 217,660 as against 218,033 of the previous year. But the volume of loan issued to individual members rose to ~~2.24~~ 2.294 million rupees as against 2.250 million rupees of the previous year and the total recovery of loans stood at 2.175 million rupees as against 2.141 million rupees of the previous year leaving a balance of 5.926 million rupees as against 5.937 million rupees of the previous year. Of the total outstandings, the percentage of overdues worked ~~was~~ at 62.87 as against 63.87 of the previous year. Deposits due to members and non-members amounted to 0.354 million rupees and 0.457 million rupees respectively as against 0.284 million rupees and 0.380 million rupees of the previous year. The working capital of the societies amounted to 10.623 million rupees as against 10.425 million rupees of the previous year while the owned fund worked at 51.1 per cent of the working capital as against 51.7 per cent of the previous year. The working of the agricultural societies did not show any sign of appreciable improvement from that of the previous year.

In fact the working of the old loan societies was not satisfactory during the year while the crop loan societies maintained an even record of slow progress. In order to revitalize these old loan societies, it has been the policy of the Directorate to make them broadbased. With that end in view, a number of credit societies having necessary funds had been allowed to take other economic activities for the last few years. The volume of the business done by these societies in this connection in controlled commodities, seeds and manures amounted to 0.083 million rupees as against 0.015 million rupees of the previous year.

Non-agricultural credit societies.— The urban co-operative banks and the salary earners' credit societies form the non-agricultural credit structure of the Province. During the year the number of such societies, their membership,

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share capital, working capital, reserve fund and other funds rose to 368, 255, 706, 16.688 million rupees, 85.565 million rupees and 10.184 million rupees respectively from 357, 252, 219, 13.712 million rupees, 71,776 million rupees and 8.266 million rupees respectively of the previous year. The total amount of loan issued to members stood at 42.581 million rupees as against 33.344 million rupees of the previous year. Recovery of dues amounted to 30.235 million rupees while the corresponding figures of the previous year was 21.811 million rupees.

The percentage of recovery worked at 30.3 per cent as against 25.3 per cent of the previous year. Deposits from members and non-members stood at 34.918 million rupees and 23.400 million rupees respectively as against 26.450 million rupees and 23.104 million rupees of the previous year. The percentage of owned capital to working capital was 32.5 per cent during the year as against 30.6 per cent ~~of~~ of the previous year. One significant feature of their activities during ~~the year~~ the year was the increased financial accommodation offered to other institutions the amount of which stood at 15.03 million rupees as against 7.368 million rupees of the previous year.

previous
under review

Other Agricultural Societies: Purchase and sale societies. - There was a drop in the number of societies from 18 in the last year to 16 during this year although their membership recorded a slight rise from 11,684 in the last year to 11,707 during the year. The activities of these societies - their normal function being marketing of paddy and rice - had been greatly hampered by the control orders and movement restrictions on cereals since the war time emergencies and similar restrictions continuing upto now.

Multipurpose co-operative societies. - There was a phenomenal rise in the number, membership, share capital and working capital of these societies as will be evident from the following table:-

	1947-48	1948-49
No. of members -----	16,086	54,711
No. of Societies -----	90	537
	(Million)	(Million)
	Rs.	Rs.
Share capital -----	0.098	0.569
Working capital -----	0.283	1.522

These societies functioned mainly as retail distribution agencies in the rural areas for mill-made cloth and other commodities in short supply. Some of the multipurpose societies played some part in the distribution of seeds and manures.

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For the refugees these multipurpose societies were helpful in acquiring land for cultivation.

Irrigation societies.- The number of irrigation societies rose from 1,006 of the previous year to 1,021 during the year with corresponding increase in their membership and working capital from 17,727 and 0.464 million rupees respectively during the ~~year~~ preceding year to 18,616 and 0.549 million rupees of this year.

The total irrigable area stood at 137,955 bighas as against 129,769 bighas of the previous year. Out of the 15 irrigation societies organised during the year - two societies had been able to execute big embankments projects.

Other agricultural societies.- The fishermen's co-operatives also made considerable progress and their number and membership increased to 244 and 10,128 as against 190 and 7,799 of the last year. The fishermen's societies also functioned as retail distributors of yarn and kerosene oil.

The number of milk societies decreased slightly during the year and now stood at 144 as against 154 of last year. Although their number decreased slightly their volume of business in milk, however, showed a slight increase. As against their business of 0.568 million rupees last year, their business during current year stood at 0.586 million rupees. The Better Living and Anti-malarial societies were generally in a moribund condition and failed to make any appreciable improvement during the current year.

Non-agricultural societies.- The consumers' co-operatives recorded an increase in the urban areas amongst the middle-class people. The number of societies, their membership, and working capital stood at 538, 46,971 and 1.244 million rupees respectively as against 285, 39,092 and 0.910, ~~0.910~~ million rupees respectively of the previous year. The volume of sales effected stood at 5.530 million rupees to members and 0.294 million rupees to ~~members~~ non-members as ~~gx~~ against 4.139 million rupees to members and 1.110 million rupees to non-members in the previous year. The societies participated in the distribution of controlled goods, besides supply of other consumer goods.

Weavers' societies also registered considerable improvement during the year. Their number, membership and working capital which stood at 778, 50,828 and 0.832 million rupees in the previous year, rose to 907, 60,035 and 1.098 million rupees by the end of this year. In most subdivisions, central banks and industrial unions were appointed wholesale agents for yarn and

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mill-made cloth. The volume of sales effected by the industrial unions increased from 3.480 million rupees of the previous year to 5.487 million rupees.

Colony and housing societies.- The number of housing societies rose from 12 in the previous year to 17 during the year while their membership stood at 1,692 as against 369 of the previous year. The colony societies also recorded a rise from 2 in the previous year to 32 during the year under report. The total membership and working capital of the societies stood at 547 and 0.326 million rupees respectively during the year as against a very meagre corresponding figure of the previous year.

The colony societies which were organised amongst the refugees succeeded in purchasing lands and constructing houses for settlement of their refugee members within their limited resources.

About 1,200 bighas of land were purchased by these societies and nearly 540 hutments and houses were built by them during the year.

Refugee settlement and rehabilitation continued to be one of the burning problems of the State during the current year and the co-operatives despite their limited resources contributed their share in meeting the problem in their own way. The part which co-operatives have played in this direction may easily be seen from the fact that no less than 17 colony housing societies were organised amongst the refugees.

(A copy of the Annual Report was sent to Geneva with this Office Minute No. 23/103/53 dated 15-1-53).

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43. Handicrafts.

India - January 1953.

All India Khadi and Village Industries Board
set up.

The Government of India, by a Resolution dated 14 January 1953, has set up an All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board consisting of 15 members including the chairman Mr. V. L. Mehta; representatives of the Ministries of Finance, Commerce and Industry and Rehabilitation and of the Planning Commission will attend meetings of the Board and participate in its proceedings on behalf of the Government.

The Board will work in close co-operation with the State Governments and the All-India Spinners' Association. Its headquarters will be at Bombay.

The Board will be responsible for preparing and organising programmes for the production and development of khadi (hand spun hand woven cloth) and village industries, including training of personnel, manufacture and supply of equipment, supply of raw materials, marketing and research and study of the economic problems of different village industries. It will also function as a clearing house of information and experience relating to these industries.

The Government of India would set up a khadi fund, for financing through grants or loans, activities relating to the development or improvement of khadi industry. Separate funds for the development of village industries would also be made available.

(The Gazette of India, Part I, Section 1,
17 January 1953, page 20).

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44. Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

India - January 1953.

West Bengal: Towing of Barges^{es} Rules, 1953.

The Government of West Bengal published on 7 January 1953 the Towing of Barges Rules, 1953, made in exercise of the powers conferred under the Inland Steam-Vessels Act, 1917, and in supersession of the old rules of 1936. The rules prohibit the towing of barges carrying passengers by inland steam-vessels or motor vessels plying on inland waters except on the authority of a certificate of inspection granted under the rules. Certain minimum requirements have been laid down for the grant of the certificate of inspection. These include provision of certain equipments including medicines, provisions of drinking water, latrines, lifebuoys, and precautions for the storage of kerosene oil to minimise the danger of fire.

(Notification No. 195 WT dated 9 January 1953; the Calcutta Gazette, Extraordinary, 7 January 1953, pp. 15-18).

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CHAPTER 5. WORKING CONDITIONS AND LIVING STANDARDS.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

50. General.

Delhi Shops and Establishments Bill referred
to Select Committee.

The Delhi Shops and Establishments Bill, introduced in the Delhi State Assembly on 30 December 1952, was after discussion referred to a Select Committee of the House for report.

The Bill, introduced in the House by the Development and Education Minister, Mr. Shafiqur-Rehman Kidwai, provides for improving the employment conditions of assistants in shops and commercial establishments in Delhi State. Speaking on the Bill the Minister said that present employment conditions in shops and commercial establishments in the State were governed by the Punjab Trade Employees' Act of 1940, as extended to Delhi State. The working of the Act had revealed several defects which had been making it difficult to enforce the Act properly and to safeguard workers' interests against the unfair practices of some employers. In this Act there was no effective provision for preventing arbitrary dismissals or discharges nor was there any provision to enable employees to get their wages in time or realize arrears.

The present Bill, the Minister added, dealt with the regulation of hours of work, payment of wages, leave, holidays, and other conditions of work of persons employed in shops and commercial establishments. In the Bill, there was provision for sick leave, compensation in case of accidents and prohibition of employment of children.

Recently, the Minister added, in other States much more comprehensive and progressive legislation had been enacted to safeguard and promote the interests and welfare of employees and therefore it was essential to enact separate legislation in this State on similar lines. The new Bill, he said, would apply to over 40,000 shops and commercial establishments in Delhi State.

The Bill provides that no adult will be employed or allowed to work in a business establishment for more than nine hours on any day or 48 hours in a week. Every shop and commercial establishment will remain closed on a close day. (The Statesman, 31-12-1952).

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Uttar Pradesh: Holidays fixed for Workmen
in Sugar Factories.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has, in exercise of the powers conferred under the U.P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, fixed 18 festival holidays with wages for the vacuum-pan sugar factory workmen in the State. The contravention of the order will be punished under the said Act, with imprisonment which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

(Government Gazette of the Uttar Pradesh,
Extraordinary, 10 January 1953, pp 1-2;
The Hindustan Times, 14-1-1953.)

French Establishments in India: New Labour
Code brought into force.

The labour code passed recently by the French National Assembly and Republican Council of France, and signed by the President of the French Republic on 15 December 1952, was brought into force on 13 January 1953 in French India by the Commissioner for French Settlements in India by an order issued by him and published in the Journal Officiel of the Settlements.

The 22,000-worded code with 241 clauses in ten chapters comprises various aspects of the relation between employers and employees and substitutes the French labour law withdrawn on 13 April 1949. It is applicable throughout the territories under the jurisdiction of the French Overseas Minister.

The law embraces co-operative business concerns, trade unions, labour contracts, provision for maternity benefits, prohibition of forced labour, guaranteeing of equal wage for equal labour, stipulated mode of payment of wages, hours of work, weekly rest and medical provisions.

Persons of the same or similar professions are enabled to form professional syndicates of labour and executive members of labour syndicates should be French Union citizens enjoying full civil liberties.

Fortyeight-Hour Week:- A maximum of 48 hours' work per week is fixed for labour, while in agriculture it is 2,406 hours per annum.

The law stipulates that extra hours of labour should be specifically paid for as may be determined by territorial chiefs subject to the approval by the

Overseas Minister.

A superior labour council to study problems relating to labour is to be constituted under this law, with the Overseas Minister as president. In overseas territories, labour consultative committees are to be formed under the presidency of labour inspectors with equal number of employers nominated by the head of the territory.

The law imposes various conditions on employers and employees and provides for imposition of fines of 10,000 to 20,000 francs with imprisonment from 15 days to three months for repeated offences. The upper limit of the fine is increased from 20,000 to 40,000 francs and imprisonment from one to six months.

(The Hindustan Times, 16-1-1953).

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52. Workers' Welfare and Recreation.

India - January 1953.

Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund: Corrections to the Statement of Accounts.

The Ministry of Labour has issued corrigenda to the statement of accounts relating to the activities of the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund during the years 1946-50.

Corrigendum.- In the Ministry of Labour Notification No.LW.3(1)48, dated the 8th October 1949, published in the Gazette of India, Part I - Section 1, dated the 15th October 1949 on page 1443 to 1444, for the 'Statements of Accounts 1946-47 and 1947-48', read the following, namely:

Statement of Account 1946-47

Receipts		Expenditure	
Rsx	Rs.		Rs.
Opening balance.	5,473,474	Expenditure during the year	5,715,531
Receipt during the year	4,342,500	Closing balance	4,100,443
Total	<u>9,815,974</u>		<u>9,815,974</u>

Statement of Accounts 1947-48

Receipts		Expenditure	
	Rs.		Rs.
Opening balance	4,100,443	Expenditure during the year.	2,293,034
Receipt during the year	5,070,964	Closing balance	6,878,373
Total	<u>9,171,407</u>		<u>9,171,407</u>

(Please see pages 49-51 of the report of this office for November 1949).

Corrigendum II.- In the Ministry of Labour Notification No.LW.3(17)1949, dated the 17th May, 1950, published in the Gazette of India, Part I - Section 1, dated the 27th May 1950, on pages 165 to 169, for the 'Statement of Accounts 1948-49' read the following, namely:

Statement of Accounts 1948-49

Receipts		Expenditure	
	Rs.		Rs.
Opening balance	6,878,373	Expenditure during the year	4,107,528
Receipts during the year	6,305,351	Closing balance	9,076,196
Total	<u>13,183,724</u>		<u>13,183,724</u>

(Please see pages 42-45 of the report of this office for June 1950).

Corrigendum III.- In the Ministry of Labour Notification No.M-15(6)51 (S.R.O.889), dated the 31st May 1951, published in the Gazette of India, Part II - Section 3, dated the 9th June 1951, on pages 922-932, for the 'Statement of Accounts 1949-50', read the following namely:-

Statement of Accounts 1949-50

Receipts	Rs.	Expenditure	Rs.
Opening balance	9,076,196	Expenditure during the year	5,522,048
Receipts during the year	4,711,298	Closing balance	8,265,446
Total	13,787,494		13,787,494

(Please see pp.60-64 of the report of this Office for March 1951).

(Ministry of Labour Notification No.SRO 140 dated 7 January 1953, the Gazette of India; Part II, Section 3, 17 January 1953, pp.84-85).

Uttar Pradesh: Report on the Activities of the U.P. Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare and Development Fund for the Period from October 1951 to June 1952.

The Uttar Pradesh Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare and Development Fund Act, 1950, adopted in May 1951, provides for the constitution of a U.P. Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare and Development Fund, to be utilised for the purpose of financing measures for promoting the welfare of labour employed in the sugar and power alcohol industries, including housing and the provision of dispensary services. Contributions to the welfare fund is to be realised by means of a levy on molasses sold by the industry.

By a voluntary agreement the sugar factorires accepted the principle of paying a fixed levy on the molasses sold by them to the public. This money was credited with the Government and has now been transferred to the U.P.Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare ~~and~~ Development Fund created under Section 3(1) of the U.P. Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour ~~and~~ Welfare and Development Fund Act, 1951. A sum of 4,146,300 rupees was credited to the Fund during the period under review. According to rule 21 of the rules made under the Act, 98 per cent of the Fund were to go to the housing account, 1 per cent to the general welfare account and 1 per cent to the development account. Accordingly three different funds were constituted with 4,063,374 rupees, 41,463 rupees and 41,463 rupees respectively in their accounts.

Housing activities.— It was realized that the most important work to be carried out through this fund was the construction of workers' quarters in sugar factories of the State. A circular was accordingly issued to all the sugar factories enquiring from them the number of quarters they proposed to construct and also whether land and other building materials were available with them. Most of the factories readily supplied this information and it was ultimately decided to construct 1500 quarters under this Scheme. The Housing Board set up under the Act approved of the plans and estimates for single roomed and two roomed quarters which were prepared by the Town and Village Planner to Government who is also a member of the Housing Board. The cost of these quarters has been worked out at 175 per cent over the P.W.D. schedule of rates which is the generally accepted rate for Government buildings at the present time; According to these estimates the cost of a single-roomed quarter comes to 2,040 rupees and that of a double roomed quarter to 3,745 rupees.

An Advisory Committee was also constituted under the Act on 1 October 1951, to advise on matters on which the State Government or the Housing Board are required by the Act to consult the Committee and on any other matter arising out of the administration of the Act which the State Government may refer to it for advice. The Minister for Labour is the Chairman of the Advisory Committee which consists of six representatives each of Government, employers and workers.

The Housing Board held five meetings till the end of June 1952. In these meetings lay out plans for different sugar factories as prepared by the Town and Village Planner to Government were considered and approved by the Board. Rules relating to the construction of these quarters as well as their repairs, maintenance and letting out to the workers were also approved by the Board in one of its meetings. The Board also considered different points raised by the sugar factories from time to time and gave their decisions on them. The Advisory Committee held three meetings during this period which were utilised for passing of the budget for the remaining part of the year 1951-52 and also for the year 1952-53. The representatives of the workers showed greater interest in the meetings of the Advisory Committee than those of the employers.

Out of the Housing account a sum of 3,907,468 rupees has been distributed among various sugar factories for the construction of the workers quarters. This money is being paid to the sugar factories in five instalments as approved by the Housing Board. According to the decision of the Housing Board all factories whose allotment was about 70,000 rupees or more were required to construct quarters in the shape of a colony and

not as stray houses. They were also required to furnish a plan of the land available with them to the Town and Village Planner to Government for preparing a lay out plan for the colony. The Town and Village Planner has so far prepared lay out plans in respect of 35 sugar factories. The factories have been asked to submit a fortnightly report regarding progress in the construction of their quarters. The engineer of the Housing Board visits the factories as often as required to see that the work was being carried on according to the plans and estimates approved by the Board. In the year 1951 only two factories, viz., the Diamond Sugar Factory, Popraich and the Burhwal Sugar Mills, Burhwal, started the construction work.

So far 21 sugar factories have started construction of 332 quarters, of which 175 have been completed upto plinth level, 49 upto roofs level but roofs not laid, 63 upto roofs level and all roofs laid, 4 upto plastering and cement and the rest 41 below plinth level. Payments amounting to 4,3877 rupees have been made to nine sugar factories towards the part payment for the cost of construction already done by them. The Labour Welfare Commissioner and the Town and Village Planner to Government have been visiting different factories from time to time in order to expedite construction of these quarters. Efforts are being made to build as many quarters as possible before the next crushing season starts.

(Labour Bulletin, Vol. XII, No. 8,
August 1952, pp. 19-24).

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57. Family Budgets Including Nutrition.

India - January 1953.

Food Production and Consumption: Report of
National Sample Survey.

The report of the National Sample Survey published on 14 January 1953 discloses that official figures relating to production and consumption of food grains are "underestimates by something of the order of one-fifth or one-fourth of the true value".

The Survey was undertaken by the Indian Statistical Institute. Reports of three more rounds of the Survey are expected to be published shortly. The object of the National Sample Survey is to collect, through a series of inquiries on a random sample basis, dependable facts regarding production, consumption and other aspects of economic life and thus to make good the lacunae in available statistical information relating to the various types of economic activity in India. The Survey is the biggest and the most comprehensive inquiry undertaken in any country.

A scheme to organise a national sample survey designed to obtain a cross-section of the nature of economic activities and consumption habits of the population of the whole country was approved by the Government of India early in 1950. The work of planning the survey, of preparation of the necessary schedules and of recruiting and training the field staff was taken in hand immediately thereafter, and the actual investigational work began in October 1950.

In the first round of statistical inquiries undertaken during the period October 1950 to March 1951 a sample of 1,833 villages was selected. These villages were divided into two groups, the first group of 1,189 villages being covered by the Indian Statistical Institute and the second of 644 villages by the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics.

The present report relates to the former group. It was prepared by the Indian Statistical Institute and has been published in the form in which it was submitted to the Government. The views contained in it are not necessarily those of the Government of India.

The Survey indicates that on an average each household in the rural areas comprises 5.21 people, living in the household for a month or more, of whom a little over one-fourth are earners, about one-sixth are earning dependants and more than half are non-earning dependants. The consumer expenditure

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in rural areas for 1949-50 works out at 220 rupees per person per year. This estimate is broadly consistent with the National Income Committee estimate of a per capita income of about 265 rupees for the country as a whole (including both rural and urban areas) in 1948-49 at 1949-50 prices. The level of average consumer expenditure per person varies considerably as between regions, the highest being 314 rupees in North-West India (Rajasthan, PEPSU, Ajmer, Delhi, Punjab, Bilaspur and Himachal Pradesh), and the lowest being 198 rupees in Central India (Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat, Hyderabad, Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh). West India, which covers Bombay, Saurashtra and Cutch, had a per capita consumer expenditure of 253 rupees.

The low average level of expenditure is reflected in the fact that as much as two-thirds of the household expenditure has gone to food, roughly one-tenth ~~of~~ to clothing and the remaining one-fourth has accounted for all other items of expenditure. The expenditure on education and newspapers and books is appreciably less than 1 per cent of the total. Fuel and light absorb over 3 per cent and ceremonials a little more than 7 per cent of the total.

The report presents data showing the variations in the expenditure on various items as between different parts of the country. They account for 71 per cent of total consumer expenditure in East India (Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobar Islands), 70 per cent in North India (U.P.), 68 per cent in North-East India (Rajasthan, PEPSU, Ajmer, Delhi, Punjab, Bilaspur and Himachal Pradesh), 67 per cent in South India (Madras, Mysore, Travancore-Cochin and Coorg). For Central India (Hyderabad, Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh) the proportion works out at 63 per cent and for West India (Bombay, Saurashtra and Cutch) at 54 per cent.

There are large variations in regard to the various items in the food ~~group~~ group. To give only one instance, the expenditure on milk and milk products per person per year was nearly 60 rupees in North-West India, while it was as low as 9 rupees in South India and 7 rupees in East India. The consumption of milk per person in the country as a whole amounted to less than 2 seers per month. It was highest, about 66 seers per person per year, in North-West India, the lowest being about 13 or 12 seers in South India and East India.

The consumption of tobacco, on the other hand, showed comparatively small variations. The expenditure on tobacco was 2.3 per cent in South India, 2.1 per cent in West India, 1.8 per cent in North India, 1.7 per cent in Central India, 1.5 per cent in East India and 1.4 per cent in North-East India.

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The average expenditure on clothing was about 21 rupees for the country as a whole, the highest being about 31 rupees in West India and the lowest being 15.5 rupees in East India. Data have been given in the report regarding the distribution of the expenditure on millmade, handloom, khaddar, woollen and other types of cloth.

According to the report, the most important and challenging result thrown up by the survey is that the average rate of consumption of food grains in rural areas works out at about 18.3 oz. per person per day. In its opinion, production estimates obtained are "serious under-estimates", while consumption estimates are dependable. Its conclusion is that the domestic production of food grains in 1949-50 was about 60 million tons - 20 to 25 per cent more than the official estimates.

The report also gives estimates of food grains consumption in the different regions of the country. These show considerable variations. Consumption per capita was highest, about 282 seers (580 lbs.) per year in North-West India, 205 seers (420 lbs.) per year in East India, 185 seers (376 lbs.) per year in Central India and in South India, and only 161 seers (331 lbs.) per year in West India.

The report, however, points out that the estimates relating to different zones have not the same order of validity as the estimates for the country as a whole as the survey was designed primarily to produce a picture of conditions in the country as a whole rather than in particular parts.

In the words of the report, "the validity of the results of the survey will have to be assessed by piecing together of a large mass of evidence based partly on internal consistency, partly on external checks and ultimately on the accuracy and social usefulness of the estimates and forecasts".

The results of the three further rounds of investigations which have been completed since March 1951 are expected to be similarly stimulating. The fifth round of investigations which has now been taken in hand is to cover, on a sample basis again, all household and non-household enterprises in both rural and urban areas. Special surveys relating to particular subjects like education, transport and health will also be undertaken from time to time.

(The Hindustan Times, 15-1-1953;
The Statesman, 15-1-1953).

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58. Social Conditions.

India - January 1953.

National Committee on Early Childhood
Education set up.

With the view to giving greater importance to early childhood education in the country, the Government of India has by a resolution dated 27 December 1952 set up an Indian National Committee on Early Childhood Education which will be affiliated on the World Council ~~and~~ for Early Childhood Education.

The Committee consists of seven members. Representation on the Committee has been given to some of the important non-official organisations in India with a view to provide stimulus to voluntary bodies in the field to tackle the problems connected with early childhood education and to focus the attention of the Government and the public on important issues and problems pertaining to early childhood education in India. The Committee will function as a sub-Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education.

(The Gazette of India, Part I, Section 1,
3 January 1953, page 4)

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66. Strike and Lockout Rights.

India - January 1953.

Coal Industry declared a Public Utility Service.

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and by a notification dated 10 January 1953, the Central Government has declared the coal industry so far as it is concerned with the production and supply of coal and coke to be public utility service for the purposes of the said Act for a period of six months from 14 January 1953.

(Notification No. SRO 110 dated 10 January 1953; the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, 10 January 1953, p. 55).

Assam: Inland Steamer Services, Rice and Oil Mills and Motor Transport declared Public Utility Services.

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and by a notification dated 2 January 1953 the Government of Assam has declared the following industries to be public utility services for the purposes of the said Act for the periods mentioned against them.

- (i) All inland steamer services in Assam - for 6 months from 16-11-1952.
- (ii) Rice and oil mills in Assam)
- (iii) All motor transport services)
in Assam undertaken by public carriers and stage carriage) for 6 months
operators as defined in the) from
Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.) 14-12-1952.

(Notification No. GLR 86/50/36 and No. GLR 80/50/37 dated 2 January 1953; the Assam Gazette, Part IIA, 7 January 1953, p. 13).

Madras: Transport by Boats in Minor Ports declared a Public Utility Service.

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and by a notification dated 5 January 1953 the Government of Madras has declared the industry of transport by boats in minor ports in the State to be a public utility service for a period of six months from 11 January 1953.

(GOMS No. 44 Development dated 5 January 1953; the Fort St. George Gazette, Part I, 7 January 1953, p. 4).

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CHAPTER 7. PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO CERTAIN
CATEGORIES OF WORKERS.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

71. Employees and Salaried Intellectual Workers.

Government Employees' Unions to form Federation.

A meeting of representatives of various Central Government employees' associations held in Delhi on 17 January 1953, decided to form a Federation of Central Government employees' unions and associations.

A committee was appointed to frame a constitution for the Federation. Representatives of the Union of Post and Telegraph Workers, the Civil Aviation Department Employees' Union, the Military Finance Employees' Union and the Central Government Third Division Clerks' Union and Class IV Employees' Association were among those who attended Saturday's meeting.

(The Hindustan Times, 20 January 1953).

Press Commission issues Questionnaire.

The Press Commission which was appointed in September 1952 (vide pages 58-59 of the report of this Office for September 1952) to inquire into the state of the Press and its present and future lines of development, has issued on 13 January 1953 a general questionnaire and a pro forma, replies to which are to be submitted by the end of February 1953.

The pro forma, which is being sent to proprietors of all newspapers, news agencies and periodicals, seeks factual information about the financial structure of the undertakings and the conditions of the industry.

The general questionnaire is being addressed to all newspapers and periodicals, numbering over 6,000, Members of Parliament, Vice-Chancellors of Universities, Chambers of Commerce, political parties and associations of newspaper proprietors, editors and working journalists. It covers all aspects of journalism in India and deals with various problems before the newspaper profession and the industry.

The pro forma to which the proprietors of all newspapers, news agencies and periodicals are expected to reply is divided into ten sections.

Information has been asked about the language in which each publication is printed, the general nature of ~~the~~ its contents, its total daily circulation and its size. A series of questions is asked about the contents of newspapers and periodicals and an analysis of what they published on selected dates, or in selected issues. A detailed inquiry is made in regard to the space for publication of news and for the publication of advertisements and in regard to news, as to how much space is given for foreign news, national news, local news and for comments. Information is sought on the space devoted to speeches and statements of Government spokesmen, opposition spokesmen and other political leaders.

The financial structure of each publication, including details of ownership and management, is also being sought. A large proportion of the questions in the pro forma seek information about the pay, allowances and conditions of service of newspaper employees, and employees of news agencies, including managing editors, sub-editors, full-time and mofussil correspondents and administrative staff.

The general questionnaire, which contains 375 questions, is divided into 18 sections. By far the largest number of questions, about 85, relate to pay and other allowances, retirement benefits, grounds on which services can be terminated and other conditions of service of newspaper and news agency employees.

Other questions relate to liaison between the Government and the Press, methods of promoting healthy journalism, code of ethics for journalists, existing Press laws and the freedom of the Press, etc.

The Commission, it is learnt, will hold a series of meetings after replies to the questionnaires have been received to discuss them, and then proceed on a tour of the principal centres of newspaper production in the country in April or the beginning of May. The tour is expected to last three months.

The report is expected to be completed by the end of October.

(The Statesman, 15-1-1953)

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74. Indigenous Labour.

India - January 1953.

Backward Classes Commission appointed.

The President has appointed a Backward Classes Commission, with Mr. Kakasaheb Kalekar, Member of Parliament, as chairman, to investigate into the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes and the difficulties under which they labour and to make recommendations as to the steps that should be taken by the Centre and the States to remove such difficulties and to improve their condition.

Since the Constitution provides for certain safeguards to the scheduled castes and tribes and the President may, at any time, and must, within 10 years of the commencement of the Constitution appoint another commission to report on the administration of the scheduled areas and the welfare of the scheduled tribes, the present commission will not inquire so much into their conditions. In a general way, however, the affairs of the scheduled tribes will also be covered by the commission.

The functions of the Commission will be (1) to ~~mark~~ determine the criteria on the basis of which any particular class or section of people can be described as "socially or educationally backward"; (2) to prepare a list of such backward classes for the whole of India; and (3) to examine the conditions and difficulties of such classes and make specific recommendations as to the steps which the Central Government or State Governments should take to remove those difficulties, and to improve the condition of the backward classes. (Its recommendations may, among other things, include some indication of the financial assistance in the form of grants to be given by the Centre and the States).

The Commission is expected to report by 31 January 1954. In order to ensure that the special difficulties and conditions of particular areas will be fully represented and considered, it has also been provided that whenever the Commission or any of its Sub-Committees visit or work in a particular State it will co-opt as additional members two persons who belong to the backward classes in that State; one of these shall always be a woman.

(The Statesman, 30-1-1953;
The Hindustan Times, 30-1-1953).

CHAPTER 8. MANPOWER PROBLEMS.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

81. Employment Situation.

Employment Exchanges: Working during
October 1952.

According to the report of the Directorate of Employment Exchanges for October 1952, for the first time since June, the decline in placings at employment exchanges was arrested during October. The number of vacancies notified during the month, after a slight improvement in September, however, again declined, more particularly in the private sector. The number of vacancies filled in private establishments during the month under report was the lowest since April 1950, and it would appear that very few new employment opportunities were being created as a result of private enterprise. The total number of registered unemployed after declining for two months, again increased during October. This was primarily due to an increase of nearly 15,000 registrations over the previous month's figure. The employment situation was not considered encouraging.

Shortage of compounders, electricians, turners, doctors, welders, armature winders and wireless mechanics was reported by many exchanges. A large number of exchanges reported a surplus of fitters, motor drivers, motor mechanics, textile workers, wiremen and compounders.

Registrations and placings. The following table shows registrations for employment and placings during September and October 1952.

	October 1952	September 1952
Registrations-----	130,459	115,671
Placings -----	29,159	26,949

Of those registered 8,303 were displaced persons, 7,183 were ex-service personnel and 2,629 discharged Government employees. Registrations during the month showed an increase of 14,788 as compared to preceding month. The increase was comparatively large in Hyderabad (5,203), West Bengal (4,067), Madras (2,687), Punjab (1,922) and Orissa (1,728) regions. Assam and Bihar regions showed an increase of 981 and 861 respectively. The exchanges in Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh regions on the other hand, showed

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a decline of 1,502, 417, 396 and 346 respectively in registrations.

Of those placed 1,070 were displaced persons, 1,279 were ex-service personnel and 711 were discharged Government employees. A total of 14,653 was placed with private employers and 14,506 in Central and State Government establishments. There has been an overall increase of 2,210 in placements as compared to the previous month. All the regions except Bombay and Delhi showed an increase in placings. A comparatively large increase was, however, recorded by the exchanges in Uttar Pradesh (812), Punjab (722), Orissa (584) and Bihar (147).

Placings by wage groups.- The following table shows the placings classified by wage groups.

<u>Wage groups</u>	<u>Number placed</u>
101 rupees and above	1,753
61 rupees to 100 rupees.....	9,171
30 rupees to 60 rupees.....	17,356
Below 30 rupees	879

Vacancies notified and submissions.- The number of vacancies notified by employers during October 1952 was 35,825 as compared to 37,499 during September 1952, that is a fall of 1,674. Of the vacancies notified 18,710 were by Central and State Government establishments and 17,115 by private employers. There was an increase of 1,469 in the Government sector and a fall of 3,143 in the private sector as compared to the previous month. There was considerable increase in vacancies notified in the regions of Punjab (1,271) and Orissa (785). On the other hand, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Ajmer and Rajasthan and Assam regions showed a marked fall of 2,164, 535 and 515 respectively.

The number of persons submitted to employers during October 1952 was 83,788 as against 85,361 during the preceding month.

Employers using exchanges.- The number of employers who used the exchanges during October was 6,183 as compared to 5,703 during the preceding month.

Employment of highly qualified applicants.- In the appointments branch, which deals with candidates possessing high technical, scientific or professional qualifications and experience of supervisory or administrative work, the number of placings during the month was 86 as against 95 during the previous month. The number of registrations was 654, representing a decline of 119 from the figure for the previous month. The number of persons in this

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category requiring employment assistance as at the end of the month under review was 4,617 as against 5,244 at the end of the previous month. Persons with adequate professional or technical equipment and experience were reported to be in short supply in various parts of the country.

Placement of scheduled caste or tribal applicants.- The number of scheduled caste applicants registered by the employment exchanges during October, was 14,125 as against 12,403 in September 1952. A total of 4,728 such applicants was placed in employment during the month under report. Among those placed 961 were in Central Government vacancies, 829 in State Government vacancies and 2,938 in other vacancies. The number of scheduled caste applicants submitted to employers during the month was 6,664. A total of 693 vacancies reserved specifically for such applicants was notified to employment exchanges during October 1952, as against 300 in September 1952. A total of 36,315 applicants of this category remained on the live registers of exchanges at the end of the month, of whom 2,451 were women.

The number of applicants belonging to scheduled tribes registered by the employment exchanges during October 1952 was 1,152 as against 1,251 in September 1952. A total of 443 such applicants was placed in employment during the month. The employment exchanges in Bihar region registered 807 and placed 402 applicants in employment during the month under report. Twenty-six vacancies reserved specifically for this category of applicants were notified during the month. A total of 2,777 such applicants was on the live register of exchanges at the end of October 1952.

Re-employment of surplus or retrenched Government employees.- During the month, 17 fresh secondary employment index cards in respect of surplus/retrenched Central Government gazetted and commissioned officers were included in the all-India special register set up for them. The total number of applicants on the special register on the last day of October 1952 was 349 including 195 ex-commissioned officers of the defence services. Of the total, 227 were ex-Class I officers and the remaining 122 ex-Class II officers.

Fiftyfour vacancies recruitment to which is normally required to be made through or in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission were notified by the various Ministries during the month. Most of these related to engineers, doctors, botanists, journalists and other technical and scientific officers who are in short supply. Seventythree submissions were made against the notified vacancies and non-availability certificates were issued in respect of 18 vacancies. Besides 3

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submissions were made against vacancies advertised by the Union Public Service Commission.

Five applicants from the special register were placed, 4 as assistant security officers in the Ministry of Defence in the scale of 250-15-450 rupees and one as assistant port health officer, Seamen's Clinic under the Directorate General of Health Services in the scale of 275-25-500 rupees.

The number of discharged Government employees placed in employment during the month was 711, representing an increase of 143 over the figure for the previous month. The number of registrations was 2,629 as against 2,171 during the previous month. Of the registrants placed in employment, 488 were discharged Central Government employees, as against 382 during the previous month, and 223 discharged State Government employees as compared to 186 during the previous month. The number of discharged Government employees still requiring assistance at the end of the month was 8,763.

Employment assistance to Anglo-Indians.- During the quarter July-September 1952, 503 Anglo-Indian applicants were registered at the employment exchanges and 71 were placed in employment as against 586 registered and 108 placed during the previous quarter. Fortysix such applicants were placed against vacancies in Central and State Government Departments and 25 in private establishments. Of those placed in employment 37 were women. Placements of Anglo-Indian applicants were comparatively large in Madras (33) and West Bengal (13). At the end of September 1952, 824 such applicants remained on the live registers of exchanges, of whom 300 were women. No vacancy specifically reserved for Anglo-Indian applicants was notified by Central Government establishments during the quarter.

Employment assistance to women.- There was an increase in the number of women seeking employment assistance and a decrease in the number found employment. The number placed was 1,702 as against 2,227 during the previous month, and the number registered 6,633 as against 4,704 during the previous month. The number of women requiring employment assistance at the end of October 1952 was 14,096 as against 13,039 at the end of September 1952.

Vacancy and labour clearing.- During the month under report the vacancy clearing machinery was utilised to fill 368 vacancies by obtaining applicants from other exchange areas. Poona, Motihari, Barrackpore, Jamshedpur, Visakhapatnam and Ferozepore filled 46, 35, 28, 26, 24 and 18 such vacancies respectively while Lansdowne, Muzaffarpur, Howrah, Kanpur, Asansol, Madurai, Patna, Coimbatore and Chapra supplied 226, 40, 39, 37, 29, 21, 21 and 19 applicants respectively against vacancies in other areas.

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A total of 496 fresh vacancies (as compared to 343 in the last month) was received by the central employment co-ordination office from the regional employment co-ordination offices and employment exchanges and were given all-India circulation. In addition 150 vacancies of lower division clerks and 44 vacancies of key punch operators under the controller general of defence accounts and 30 miscellaneous vacancies requiring all-India or limited circulation were dealt with at the central employment co-ordination office. The total number of vacancies under circulation on 31 October 1952 was 2,217.

Mobile exchange work.- The mobile section of employment exchanges reported an increase in both registrations and placings during the month. The number of registrants placed in employment was 6,699 as compared to 6,226 during the previous month, while the number of employment-seekers registered for assistance was 14,448 as against 11,447 during the previous month. Bombay reported 1,680 placings by the mobile sections of Exchanges, Bihar coming next with 1,458 placings. Uttar Pradesh came third with 1,306 placings.

Live register.- The number of persons seeking employment assistance through the exchanges on the last day of October 1952, was 413,498 which was 5,626 more than the figure for September. Of those on the live register 1,453 were known to be employed but desired further employment assistance. Out of the total number on the live register 38,211 were displaced persons, 25,541 were ex-service personnel and 8,763 discharged Government employees. Among discharged Government employees 5,500 were Central Government and 3,263 State Government employees.

(Report of the work done by the Directorate of Employment Exchanges during the month of October 1952, issued by the Directorate of General of Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour, Government of India)

Employment Exchanges: Working during November 1952.

According to the report of the Directorate of Employment Exchanges for November 1952, for the second month in succession a steep rise in employment opportunities arising in the Government sector compensated for an equally large falling off of employment opportunities in the private sector. During November the number of vacancies filled by private employers was about 11,000. During January 1952, it was 22,000. The decline during the year was steep and steady.

The total number of unemployed on the registers of employment exchanges on the last day of November

represented a new high record although the actual number of new registrants who sought the assistance of the Employment Service during November was a little less than the number in October. Only the provision of employment by Government alleviated the employment situation in general.

A shortage of engineers, overseers, nurses, comptometer operators, veterinary surgeons, dairy supervisors and sericulture inspectors was reported by a number of exchanges. Many exchanges reported a surplus of untrained teachers, carpenters, midwives, tailors and welders.

Registrations and placings.- The following table shows registrations for employment and placings during October and November 1952.

	November 1952	October 1952
Registrations -----	127,996	130,459
Placings -----	27,101	29,159

2497 discharged government employees. Of those registered 8206 were displaced persons, 7440 were ex-service personnel and employees. Registrations during the month showed an overall decline of 2,463 as compared to the previous month. The fall in registrations was comparatively large in Punjab (1,348), Orissa (1,169), Hyderabad (1,132), Delhi (956) and Bombay (725). The Employment Exchanges in West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Assam regions, on the other hand showed an increase of 1,439, 933 and 526 respectively during the month under report.

Of those placed 1,522 were displaced Government employees. A total of 11,041 persons were placed with private employers and 16,060 in Central and State Government establishments. There was a fall of 2,058 in placings as compared to the previous month. The fall was comparatively large in Bombay (1,242), Bihar (1,092), Punjab (390) and West Bengal (387). Employment exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, Assam and Delhi regions on the other hand, showed an increase of 664, 524 and 228 respectively in placings.

Placings by wage groups.- The following table shows the placings classified by wage groups.

<u>Wage Groups</u>	<u>Number placed</u>
101 rupees and above -----	1,784
61 rupees to 100 rupees -----	9,552
30 rupees to 60 rupees -----	14,881
Below 30 rupees -----	884

Vacancies notified and submissions.- The number of vacancies notified by employers during November 1952

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was 33,482 as compared to 35,825 during October 1952, that is, a fall of 2,343. Of the vacancies notified 19,991 were by Central and State Government establishments and 13,491 by private employers. There was an increase of 1,281 in Government sector and a serious fall of 3,624 in the private sector as compared to the previous month. There was an increase in vacancies notified in the regions of Uttar Pradesh (1,342), Delhi, Ajmer and Rajasthan (433) and Assam (304). On the other hand, Bihar, Bombay, Punjab and West Bengal regions shows a marked fall of 1,656, 1,561, 736 and 473 respectively.

The number of persons submitted to employers during November 1952 was 83,639 as against 83,788 during the preceding month.

Employment Exchanges using exchanges.- The number of employers who used the exchanges during November 1952 was 5,711 as compared to 6,183 during October 1952.

Employment of highly qualified applicants.- In the appointments branch (which deals with applicants possessing high technical, scientific or professional qualifications and experience of supervisory or administrative work), placings reported by the employment exchanges during the month was the highest for the last six months. The number of applicants of this category placed in employment was 126, as compared with 117 during July, 95 during September and 86 in October. The number of registrations was 724 during November 1952, as against 654 during the previous month. The number of persons of this category still requiring assistance as at the end of November was 4,476, as against 4,619 at the end of the previous month.

Placement of scheduled caste and or tribal applicants.- The number of scheduled caste applicants registered by the employment exchanges during November 1952 was 13,629 as against 14,125 in October 1952. A total of 3,812 such applicants were placed in employment during the month under report. Among those placed 1,324 were in Central Government vacancies, 675 in State Government vacancies and 1,813 in other vacancies. The number of scheduled caste applicants submitted to employers during the month was 8,341. Two hundred eighty five vacancies reserved specifically for such applicants were notified to employment exchanges during November 1952 as against 693 in October 1952. A total of 38,869 applicants of this category remained on the live registers of exchanges at the end of the month, of whom 2,998 were women.

The number of applicants belonging to scheduled tribes registered by the employment exchanges during November 1952 was 1,192 as against 1,152 in October 1952. Four hundred and forty two such applicants

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were placed in employment during the month. The employment exchanges in Bihar region registered 711 and placed 344 applicants in employment during the month under report. Sixteen vacancies reserved specifically for this category of applicants were notified during the month. A total of 2,357 such applicants were on the live registers of exchanges at the end of November 1952.

Re-employment of surplus or retrenched Government employees.— During the month 12 fresh secondary employment index cards in respect of surplus/retrenched Central Government gazetted and commissioned officers were included in the all-India special register set up for them. The total number of applicants on the special register on the last day of November was 350, including 198 ex-commissioned officers of the defence services. Of the total, 229 were ex-Class I officers and the remaining 121 ex-Class ~~III~~ II officers.

Sixtysix vacancies recruitment to which is normally required to be made through or in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission were notified by the various Ministries during the month. Most of these related to engineers, doctors, botanists, journalists, research officers and other technical and scientific officers who are in short supply. Nineteen submissions were made against the notified vacancies and non-availability certificates were issued in respect of 68 vacancies. Of the total of 68 non-availability certificates issued, 13 related to vacancies notified during the latter end of last month. Six submissions were made against vacancies advertised by the Union Public Service Commission.

Two applicants from the special register were placed; one as Deputy Registrar, Labour Appellate Tribunal in the scale of 530-30-710 rupees and another as Assistant Airport Health Officer under the Directorate General of Health Services in the scale of 275-25-500 rupees.

Employment assistance to women.— There was a fall in both placings and registrations of women. From 1,702 in October the number of women placed in employment fell to 1,584 during November 1952. The number of registrations was 5,399 as against 6,635 during October. The number of women still requiring employment assistance at the end of November was 16,348 as against 14,996 at the end of the previous month.

Vacancy and labour clearing.— During the month under report the vacancy clearing machinery was utilised to fill 584 vacancies by obtaining applicants from other exchange areas. Shillong, Chapra, Patiala, Jamshedpur, Muzaffarpur and Nainital filled 227, 79, 47, 44, 40 and 17 such vacancies respectively while Karnal, Indore, Cuttack, Barrackpore and

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Monghyr supplied 46, 24, 20, 20 and 16 applicants respectively against vacancies in other areas. A total of 223 fresh vacancies (as compared to 496 in the last month) were received by the central employment co-ordination office, from the regional employment co-ordination offices and employment exchanges which were given all-India circulation. In addition 23 miscellaneous vacancies of various categories requiring all-India or limited circulation were dealt with at the central employment co-ordination office. The total number of vacancies under circulation on 30 November 1952 was 2,312.

Mobile exchange work.- There was a marked fall in both placings and registrations effected by the mobile sections of employment exchanges. The number of placings was 5,432, as compared with 6,699 during the previous month, and the number of registrations 9,449 as against 14,448 during the previous month. Bihar led other regions in mobile section work by obtaining 1,096 placings, while Uttar Pradesh reported 3,387 registrations, the largest number of registrations in any region during the month.

Live register.- The number of persons seeking employment assistance through the exchanges on the last day of November 1952 was 420,722. This was 7,224 more than the figure for October. Of those on ~~the~~ the live register 1,571 were known to be employed but desired further employment assistance. Out of the total number on the live register 35,853 were displaced persons, 26,218 were ex-service personnel and 8,598 discharged Government employees. Among discharged Government employees 5,340 were Central Government and 3,258 State Government employees.

Special investigation: Number of Matriculates and Graduates seeking employment assistance.- An enquiry was conducted in October 1952, to ascertain the number of matriculates and graduates who were registered with the employment exchanges for employment assistance. The statement below gives the number of such applicants on the live registers of employment exchanges at the end of October 1952.

<u>Educational qualifications</u>	<u>No. on Live Registers</u>
Matriculates -----	96,358
Intermediates passed-----	14,085
Graduates (a) Engineering-----	644
(b) Medical-----	105
(c) Others-----	15,306
Total	<u>126,498</u>

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The investigation has revealed that there has been an overall increase of 10,632 in the number of educated unemployed persons as compared with May 1952. The increase was notable in Uttar Pradesh (5,271); Madras (5,205) and West Bengal (1,514). Delhi Region, on the other hand, showed a decline of 1,724 as compared with the figure at the end of May 1952. The number of educated persons registered as unemployed was comparatively large in Madras, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bombay. Uttar Pradesh had the largest number of graduates, while exchanges in Madras region had the largest number of matriculates on their live registers. Employment exchanges which had a comparatively large number of educated persons seeking jobs were Calcutta (11,729 matriculates and 2,402 graduates), Bombay (6,646 matriculates and 1,177 graduates), Delhi (5,530 matriculates and 1,680 graduates), and Madras (3,286 matriculates and 636 graduates). It will be seen that these 4 exchanges alone account for about 25 per cent of the total number of educated persons on the live registers. The number of graduates on the live registers of these four exchanges constituted 37 per cent of the total number of unemployed graduates seeking employment assistance through the exchanges.

The percentage of educated persons to the total number on the live register at the end of October 1952 was 31 per cent as against 32 per cent at the end of May 1952. There has been a steady increase in the number of registered unemployed both in educated and other categories since May 1952, but the position regarding matriculates is particularly significant having recorded an increase of 9,405 over the figure as at end of May 1952. Of the total number of matriculates on live register, 4,878 were women.

The statement below shows the total number of educated women applicants who remained on the live registers of employment exchanges as on 31 October 1952:-

<u>Educational Qualifications</u>	<u>No. on Live Register</u>
Matriculates -----	4,433
Intermediate passed -----	445
Graduates: (a) Medical -----	7
(b) Others -----	723
Total	<u>5,608</u>

(Report of the work done by the Directorate of Employment Exchanges during the month of November 1952, issued by the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour, Government of India).

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Mobilization of Manpower in Uttar Pradesh:
New Scheme to be launched.

Details of the Uttar Pradesh Government's man-power mobilization scheme to be launched on 26 January 1953 were released on 5 January 1953 in a Blue Book entitled "Man-Power Mobilizing - Our Biggest Resource".

Explaining the need for the scheme, to be launched on Republic Day this year, Mr. Phool Singh, Deputy Minister for Planning, said: "It is not possible to copy the pattern of community projects all over the State for two reasons. First, each project costs 6.5 million rupees, and, secondly, each project will take three years to complete so that even if we can provide the huge amount needed for copying these projects, the time taken will be unduly long. The man-power mobilization plan is calculated to meet all these points".

The Scheme.- According to the scheme, besides 515,705 rakshaks (protectors), the land army would consist of 800 zone workers, 7,981 halqa sardars (area leaders), 30,248 group leaders and 81,203 section leaders, who had been imparted theoretical and practical training in military science, agriculture, health and sanitation, animal husbandry, co-operative and panchayat raj.

The scheme envisaged 419 panchayat inspectors, while sanctioned strength of zone workers was 870, so that two zone workers were available in each panchayat inspector's circle. A team of two zone workers, one panchayat secretary and field workers of the area would concentrate in adalati (court) circle for a period of two months. Development camps consisting of paid workers of various development departments, local workers and other public-spirited workers would be organised in the selected adalati circle to supervise the work already done. Thus about 10,000 villages would be covered within a period of four months. After the team had moved to another circle of operation, the field staff, permanently attached to the circle, would look after the work done.

Among the development camps organized in the district, each camp would be used by rotation in the district for training field workers and others for training in various field activities. Trainees would be split in ~~various~~ groups and given specific duties in seasonal field operations. The period of training would be one month and the number of trainees in training camps would not exceed 25.

Before leaving the training camp and development camp, trainees would be given targets of their

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work for their respective circles, which they would complete within the specified periods.

Zone workers.- One of the two zone workers would be in charge of a development camp in the adalati camp in the adalati circle and would work under the supervision of a panchayat inspector. One of the district development officers might be attached to each camp for guidance and general supervision. In addition to the supervision of the activities in the area allotted to them, they would also be responsible for guiding the activities of their particular department in the selected areas.

The training and development camps would be in charge of one of the departmental officers, assisted by zone workers.

The camp commandant would chalk out the daily programme himself. The pro forma for maintaining records of work would be supplied in due course. The panchayat secretary of the circle would maintain records of work done by every man each day. All field workers, including officers of the camp, would do practical work and records of the same would be maintained.

Accommodation would be arranged locally in a village. One mess would suffice for 25 trainees and would be run by them on their own expense. Each trainee would bring his own ration for the period of training.

Camp sites.- Selection of camp sites and area would be made by the district authorities.

The panchayat inspectorate and some workers will make a thorough survey of specified villages so that the results of field workers' efforts could be correctly assessed. A broad outline of the work ~~to~~ to be taken up in each village would be drawn up in consultation with the villagers with due regard to their local needs and resources. The resources of the district planning committee, district boards, gaon sabhas and other institutions would be utilized.

The schemes would be completely financed at district level and action for utilization of funds and arranging supplies would be taken well in time.

(The Hindustan Times, 6-1-1953).

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CHAPTER 9. INCOME SECURITY.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

92. Legislation.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952,
amended.

The Government of India has, by a notification dated 26 November 1952, amended the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme (vide pages 66-67 of the report of this Office for October 1952), whereby the class of employees required to join the Fund has been defined and the Regional Commissioner has been vested with final powers in deciding disputed questions regarding membership.

Under paragraph 26 of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, every employee is required to become a member of the Fund from the date on which the scheme comes into force, if he has on that date completed one year's continuous service. Every employee who completes one year's continuous service in the factory at any time thereafter shall also be entitled to join the Fund from the beginning of the month following that in which he completes one year's continuous service.

The Government has now amended paragraph 26 of the scheme to provide that a worker who has put in 240 days during the preceding one year should qualify for membership of the Fund. Agreed lay-off, that is to say, involuntary unemployment caused by stoppage of work due to shortage of raw materials, fuel, changes in the lines of production, breakdown of machinery, and any other similar cause and in case of female employees, maternity leave for any number of days not exceeding 12 weeks, should count as days of attendance.

A new sub-paragraph has been added to paragraph 26 of the Scheme vesting the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner with final powers for deciding disputed questions regarding membership.

(Notification No. SRO 2008 dated
26 November 1952; the Gazette of
India, Part II, Section 3; dated
6 December 1952, pp. 1773-1774)

Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948:
Exemption granted for certain Government
Establishments.

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, and by a notification dated 31 December 1948, the Central Government has exempted from the operation of the provisions of the Employees' State Insurance Act certain Government establishments specified in a schedule to the notification, as the Government is satisfied that the employees in the specified establishments are in receipt of benefits substantially similar or superior to the benefits provided under the Act. The establishments exempted include naval store depots, ordnance factories, clothing factories and ammunition factories.

(Notification No.SRO 104 dated 31 December 1952; the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, 10 January 1953, pp. 47-48).

Draft Travancore-Cochin Maternity Benefit
Rules, 1952.

The Government of Travancore-Cochin published on 20 January 1953 the draft Travancore-Cochin Maternity Benefit Rules, 1952, proposed to be made in exercise of the powers conferred under the Travancore-Cochin Maternity Benefit Act, 1952 (vide pages 68-69 of the report of this Office for November 1952). The draft rules provide inter alia, for the preparation and maintenance of a muster roll and prescribe the particulars to be entered in such muster roll, provides for the inspection of factories or plantations, and prescribes the methods of payment of maternity benefit and the forms of returns and notices.

(Travancore-Cochin Gazette, No.3, dated 20 January 1953, Part I, Section IV, pp.1-6).

94: Application

India - January 1953

Madhya Pradesh: Working of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, for the year 1951*

Working during 1951[†]: Number of accidents compensation paid.- During the year under report 1,776 accidents were reported to the State Government under the Indian Mines Act of 1923, of which 48 were fatal and the rest were either serious or minor. In the factories coming under the purview of the Factories Act, 1934, 13 fatal, 49 serious and 1,756 minor accidents occurred. During the year under review compensation was awarded in 224 (195[†]) cases, of which 108 - 102 men and 6 women - related to fatal accidents, 109 - 102 men and 7 women - to permanent disablement, and 7 - 6 men and 1 woman - to temporary disablement. A sum of 167,571 rupees (120,065 rupees) was awarded to dependants, 52,792 rupees (60,975 rupees) was paid to workmen, 6,538 rupees (1,800 rupees) was remitted to other Commissioners and 4,726 rupees (8,316 rupees) was refunded to depositors, leaving a balance of 89,716 rupees (73,750 rupees) at the end of the year.

The following table gives a summary of the annual returns ~~published~~ by the employers.

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(See table on next page)

* Government of Madhya Pradesh: Report on the Administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 (VIII of 1923) in Madhya Pradesh during the Calendar Year 1951, Nagpur. Government Printing, Madhya Pradesh, 1952. pp. 9 price annas six.

+ (The figures in brackets denote corresponding figures of 1950.)

and two to temporary disablement. One hundred and twenty-two applications were disposed off during the year, two were transferred to other Commissioners for disposal, one was withdrawn, four were dismissed for non-appearance, two were summarily dismissed under rule 21, one was dismissed under rule 22, 57 were admitted by the opposite party, two were allowed ex-parte, 21 were allowed in full, 16 were allowed in part, and 16 were dismissed after contest. Forty-three applications were pending at the close of the year.

Four applications relating to recovery of compensation (under section 31) were filed during the year and all were pending at the close of the year.

At the commencement of the year under report 24 cases of deposit under section 8 were pending. One hundred and twenty-six proceedings were filed during the year and three were received from other Commissioners. Of these 153 proceedings, four were transferred to other Commissioners for disposal and 116 were disposed off, leaving 33 pending at the close of the year.

Registration of Agreements.- Twenty-six memoranda of agreements were pending from the previous year, 17 for the payment of compensation for permanent and nine for temporary disablement. Two hundred and seventeen memoranda were received during the year making a total of 243 memoranda for disposal. Of these 243 memoranda, 208 were registered without modification and one after modification. Registration was refused in two cases for reasons other than inadequacy. At the close of the year 32 memoranda were pending. The amount of compensation involved in 209 (160) agreements registered was about 70,268 rupees (77,359 rupees).

Eleven appeals under section 30 were pending at the beginning of the year and four were filed during the year. Of these seven were disposed off, leaving eight pending at the close of the year. No reference under section 27 of the Act was pending from last year and no new reference was made during the year.

CHAPTER 10. SOCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

105. Industrial Medicine.

Sickness among Industrial Workers in Kanpur:
Results of Survey.

With a view to getting some idea regarding the extent of sickness among industrial workers in Kanpur, a survey was recently conducted by the Kanpur Regional Office of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. In the course of the survey information was collected regarding the incidence and frequency of sickness among workers during a period of 12 months, medical treatment usually availed of by them, treatment preferred by them and also how they managed to meet their normal expenses during the period of sickness.

The survey was confined to persons employed in factories using power and employing 20 or more workers and was conducted on a random sample basis. An attempt was made to select persons for enquiry from various ahatas (labour residential areas) in each locality. The total number of persons contacted during the survey was 2400 i.e., 2.6 per cent of the total number of workers in Kanpur. In view of the negligible proportion of women in Kanpur and in view of their shyness none of them could be contacted.

Duration of illness.- The following tabular statement shows the frequency distribution of duration of spells of sickness of workers:-

Duration of Spells	% to the total	Cumulative percentage
2 Days' sickness.....	8.7	8.7
3-7 days' sickness.....	37.1	45.8
8-14 days' sickness.....	18.5	64.3
15-21 days' sickness.....	16.3	80.6
22-28 days' sickness.....	1.5	82.1
Over 28 days' sickness.....	17.9	100.0

During the last 12 months 59 per cent of the ~~XXXXXX~~ insured labour population fell ill and the average number of days of sickness came to 13.8 per person contacted and 23.4 days per person actually falling ill.

The frequency rate of spells of sickness in different industries was as follows:-

Industry	Spell of sickness per person
Transport -----	1.33
Leather and Rubber-----	1.17
Food, Beverage and Tobacco-----	1.00
Chemical and Chemical Products-----	1.00
Engineering-----	1.00
Textile-----	0.94
Metallic Minerals-----	0.59
Miscellaneous-----	0.78

Form of treatment.— The enquiry reveals that the workers utilise mill dispensaries as also public hospitals and dispensaries and the services of private practitioners for their treatment. They seem to utilise the services of private practitioners very frequently. Public hospitals and dispensaries and mills dispensaries do not appear to be quite popular. Statistics show that 65.4 per cent of workers receive treatment from private practitioners, 26.4 per cent from mill dispensaries and 8.2 per cent from public hospitals and dispensaries. Replies to the questions on this point may suffer from the bias factor to some extent, but the general belief of the workers seems to be that no body cares for them in public hospitals and that in mills dispensaries they do not get the right type of medicines. A large number of workers, i.e., 76.9 per cent prefer allopathic treatment while 12.1 per cent prefer ayurvedic, 5.9 per cent unani and 2.4 per cent prefer homeopathic treatment.

Expenses on sickness.— The average expenditure of a sick person on himself came to about 44 rupees and the average expenditure of an industrial worker on account of sickness of himself and family were about 26 rupees and 47 rupees respectively. Thus the average expenditure on account of sickness of family is about double the expenditure on the sickness of the industrial concerns. Another important fact borne out by the enquiry is that the worker's savings carry him only about half way.

For more than 50 per cent of the expenditure a worker has to borrow. Information shows that 36.3 per cent of the workers borrowed on generally very exorbitant rates of interest varying from 6 per cent to 300 per cent per annum, the former being only an exception.

Absenteeism due to illness.— The average number of days lost per person contacted on account of sickness of family members was 1.7 and on account of sickness of himself was 13.8. Among the workers whose family members fell sick the average number of days lost per person was 18.6 on account of sickness of family members. The average number of days lost on account of sickness of himself per person falling ill was, however, 23.4. (Labour Bulletin, April 1952, pp.38-39).

CHAPTER 11. INDUSTRIAL SAFETY.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

111. Prevention of Accidents.

Draft Economiser Inspection Administrative Rules, 1953, published by Governments of Ajmer and Punjab.

The Chief Commissioner of the State of Ajmer has published on 24 January 1953 the draft of the Ajmer State Economiser Inspection Administrative Rules, 1953, proposed to be made in exercise of the powers conferred under the Indian Boilers Act, 1923. The draft rules deal inter alia, with procedure for registration of economiser units, procedure for inspection of economisers, investigation of accidents to economisers, and the procedure for hearing appeals, under the rules.

The Government of Punjab, ^{has} published on 2 January 1953, similar Rules, the Punjab Economiser Inspection Administrative Rules, 1953.

(The Gazette of India, Part III, Section 3, 24 January 1953, pp. 29-33 ;
The Punjab Government Gazette, Part I, 2 January 1953, pp. 5-11)

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL LAWS PROMULGATED DURING
THE PERIOD COVERED BY THE REPORT FOR JANUARY 1953.

INDIA - JANUARY 1953.

Chapter 3. Economic Questions

- (a) The Iron and Steel Companies Amalgamation Act, 1952 (LXXIX of 1952) (the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1, 31 December 1952, pp. 355-360).
- (b) The Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 (LXXIV of 1952) (the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1, 29 December 1952, pp. 326-359).

Chapter 4. Problems Peculiar to Certain Branches
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