

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
INDIAN BRANCH
- - - -

Industrial and Labour Development in October, 1948.

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

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CHAPTER 1. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

11. Political Situation and Administrative Action.

Madras: Labour Advisory Board constituted by Government.

In pursuance of the decision arrived at the Industries Conference, held in New Delhi during December 1947 (vide pages 22-31 of the report of this Office for December 1947), the Government of Madras has appointed a Labour Advisory Board with the object of securing the fullest co-operation between labour and employers and thereby stepping up production in the Province.

The Board will consist of 19 members, of whom 11 will be representatives of labour and four of the employers. Government will be represented on the Board by the Minister for Industry and three other officials.

(The Times of India, 22-10-1948).

Chapter 2. International Organisations and National non-Professional Organisations.

22. Regional Institutions.

India - October 1948.

Meeting of Regional Committee of World Health Organisation for South-East Asia, New Delhi, 4 and 5 October 1948.

The first meeting of the Regional Committee of the World Health Organisation for South-East Asia (vide paragraph 22, page 4, of the report of this Office for September 1948) was held at New Delhi on 4 and 5 October, 1948. The meeting was inaugurated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India and was attended by delegates from Siam, Burma, Ceylon, Afghanistan and India and an observer from Nepal, besides the Secretary-General of the W.H.O. and other representatives of the United Nations. Mr. K.E. Matthew, Acting Director of the New Delhi Office represented the I.L.O.

Pandit Nehru's address.- Inaugurating the Conference Pandit Nehru stated that India attached the greatest importance to the work of the World Health Organisation, more especially from the point of view of South-East Asia which was very backward in health conditions. If the Organisation could achieve its objective of physical, mental and social well-being, most of the problems of the world would have been solved. So far as the Government of India was concerned it would do its utmost to help the Organisation and carry out its decisions.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur's speech.- Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, the Indian Representative, who is also the Vice-President of the W.H.O., welcoming Pandit Nehru stated that this was the first of the five regional committees which the World Health Organisation had decided to set up. Representatives from Siam, Burma, Nepal, Ceylon and Afghanistan were attending the conference, besides India. She hoped that other countries would also join either as members or as associate members very soon. In all the countries of South-East Asia, health conditions were admittedly very backward due not only to poverty of the masses but also to inadequate health services resulting from numerous factors such as inadequate finances, lack of suitably trained personnel and necessary equipment. It should be the main endeavour of the Regional Committee to try to assist in the strengthening of these national health services, in order that they might render to their peoples such relief in health conditions as was warranted by recent advances in scientific knowledge. Epidemic and endemic diseases like malaria, tuberculosis, smallpox, cholera, plague, etc., were scourges common to the whole region. Maternity and child health services as well as school medical services were sadly deficient in the entire region. Rural hygiene had been particularly neglected,

especially in respect of pure drinking water supplies and adequate drainage and sewerage. It was not possible or desirable for an international health agency to take the place of national health services, but the World Health Organisation could, by active and expert guidance, stimulate the regional Governments to strengthen their national health services within the limitations of their financial resources. The finances of these countries were limited, but it would be up to the Committee to ~~was~~ persuade the Governments of this region to give a higher priority to expenditure on health, even from these limited resources. The most important item before the Committee was the programme for 1949. It was necessary to give the Director-General a consolidated programme of the assistance required by the regional countries ~~from~~ from the World Health Organisation in respect of the technical activities which had been approved by the Health Assembly. The most important of these were the control of malaria, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, maternity and child welfare, environmental hygiene and nutrition.

Decisions.- The Committee approved of the programme for 1949 submitted by the member countries, and resolved to request the Director-General to arrange for the allocation of necessary funds. It also decided to recommend to the Executive Board of the main organisation that Delhi should be the seat of the Regional Office for South East Asia. The Regional Office, it was decided, should commence work as early as possible and in any case, not later than 1 January 1949.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Health Minister of India, was elected Chairman and Mr. Bandarnayake, Health Minister of Ceylon, was elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee. The Committee also unanimously nominated Lt.-Col. C. Mani as the Regional Director for South-East Asia.

(Proceedings of the first meeting of
the Regional Committee for South-East
Asia, World Health Organisation;
The Hindu, dated 5-10-1948).

CHAPTER 3. PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

31. Workers' Trade Union Movements.

India: Working of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, during 1946-1947.

The following information regarding the working during 1946-47 of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, is taken from a consolidated summary of provincial reports on the working of the Act as published in the August 1948 issue of the Indian Labour Gazette. The statistics relate to registered trade unions only; figures for the Province of East Punjab are not included.

Number of registered trade unions and membership.- The total number of registered trade unions, on 31 March 1947, was 1725 as against 983 for the same provinces on 31 March 1946. The number of unions thus showed a phenomenal increase of about 75.5 per cent during the year under review. The reports for some of the provinces attribute this growth in trade unionism to a growing desire on the part of workers to organise themselves in order to demand higher wages to compensate them for the rising cost of living. The enforcement of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, gave a further impetus to the registration of new unions. The following provinces recorded rises in the number of unions (number of new unions indicated in brackets): Ajmer-Merwara (4); Assam (15); Bihar (58); Bombay (64); C.P. and Berar (51); Delhi (5); Madras (156); Orissa (35); the United Provinces (129); and West Bengal (250). The number of central unions, i.e., unions whose objects were not confined to one province, increased from 31 in 1945-46 to 44 in 1946-47.

Of the 1,725 unions on the registers at the end of 1946-47, only 998 submitted annual returns showing details of membership, funds etc. The total membership shown by these registered unions was 1,531,962 at the end of 1946-47 as against 893,128 at the beginning of the year. Membership of the unions submitting returns thus increased by about 49 per cent during the year under review. However, the average membership per union recorded a fall from 1,480 in 1945-46 to 1,335 in 1946-47. This shows that the membership of the new unions was comparatively small in a majority of the cases.

Women membership.- Women formed 4.9 per cent of the total membership of the unions submitting returns in 1946-47 as against 4.5 per cent in 1945-46. The percentage was the highest in Madras being 12.9. In the Central Unions the proportion of women members was almost negligible. The bulk of the women members belonged to the provincial Unions in Bombay and Madras.

Size of unions.- A frequency distribution of the registered trade unions which submitted returns by membership shows that as in the previous year, the modal group was that of a membership 100 to 299 and accounted for 27.5 per cent of the unions and ~~5x~~ 4.0 per cent of the total membership. Unions having a membership of less than 100 formed ~~16.7~~ 16.7 per cent and accounted for only 0.7 per cent of the total membership. Only 1.4 per cent of the unions had a membership of 20,000 or over but accounted for 53.2 per cent of the total membership.

Income and expenditure.- The total income of registered trade unions, including unions whose objects are not confined to one province, was 4,250,351 rupees; balance in hand was 2,533,553 rupees; expenditure 3,075,062 rupees and the closing balance was 3,708,822 rupees. The average income and expenditure were the highest in Bombay being 4,562 rupees and 3,887 rupees respectively and were the ~~highest in Bombay~~ lowest in Orissa being 426 rupees and 262 rupees respectively.

Three unions in the United Provinces, 2 in Bombay and one each in West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa reported that they maintained political funds. The closing balance of these 8 unions on this account was 10,158 rupees.

Provincial figures.- The following table gives the comparative figures of registered trade unions and their ^{membership} number in different provinces:-

Province	Number of unions on registers.	Number of unions submitting returns.	Number of members of unions submitting returns	
			At the beginning of the year.	At the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5
Central Unions.	44	36	140,526	176,742
Provincial Unions:	8x	8	5,468	5,184
Ajmer-Merwara.	8	8	3,668	5,184
Assam.	36	25	3,887	13,518
West Bengal.	601	259	327,886	488,697
Bihar.	111	47	20,924	35,585
Bombay.	168	126	185,692	267,009
C.P.& Berar.	96	48	21,312	20,149
Delhi.	52	32	34,197	45,204
Madras.	368	273	118,757	182,189
Orissa.	42	31	2,792	8,766
United Provinces.	199	113	33,487	90,919
Total	1,725	998	893,128	1,331,962

Of the 36 central unions which submitted annual returns, 14 were in Bombay, 13 in Madras, 8 in United Provinces, and 1 in Central Provinces and Berar.

Classification according to industries.- The number and membership of registered trade unions from which returns were received are classified according to industries in the statement below:

Branches of Industry	1944-45		1946-47*	
	No.	Membership	No.	Member-ship.
1. Railways (including workshops) and other transport (excluding tramways).....	82	304,486	117	441,663
2. Tramways.....	4	10,590	4	14,574
3. Textiles.....	113	210,712	166	347,912
4. Printing Presses..	24	13,560	42	22,031
5. Municipal.....	25	11,928	45	35,659
6. Seamen.....	9	79,501	11	65,166
7. Docks and Port Trusts.	24	37,098	28	42,688
8. Engineering.....	53	55,515	101	56,216
9. Miscellaneous.....	241	186,200	484	503,255
Total.....	573	889,388	998	1,551,962

* Figures do not include East Punjab and Pakistan Provinces.

Federations.- At the close of the year under report, there were on the registers 7 federations registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act as against 4 at the end of the previous year. Three of these were in Central Provinces and Berar and one each in Madras, Bombay, West Bengal and the United Provinces. The number of unions affiliated to these federations stood at 448 at the end of the year. The federations had a total income of 93,943 rupees and incurred an expenditure of 87,934 rupees. The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad alone accounted for 72 per cent of the income and 78 per cent of the expenditure shown above. The Association also had a political fund with a closing balance of 1,220 rupees.

(The Working of the Indian Trade Unions Act 1926, during 1945-46 was reviewed at pages 62-64 of the report of this Office for May 1947).

(Indian Labour Gazette, August 1948).

Bombay: Increase in Number of Trade Unions
during and after World War II.

Number and strength of trade unions.- The number of registered trade unions in Bombay rose from 75 on 1 September 1939 to 250 on 1 December 1947. The membership of these unions for the same period rose from 138,162 to 370,499. The following table shows the number of registered unions and their membership during the period 1939-1947:-

Period	Number of Registered Unions	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—) over the previous year.	Number of members	Percentage increase (+) or decreased (—) over the previous year.
1 September 1939..	75	.....	138,162	...
1 December 1939..	76	+ 1.3	151,790	+ 9.86
1 December 1940..	71	- 6.6	162,375	+ 6.97
1 December 1941..	81	+14.1	168,259	+ 3.62
1 December 1942..	89	+ 9.9	155,782	- 7.42
1 December 1943..	90	+ 1.1	187,838	+20.58
1 December 1944..	97	+ 7.8	219,977	+17.11
1 December 1945..	114	+17.5	244,868	+11.32
1 December 1946..	159	+39.5	268,595	+ 9.60
1 December 1947..	250	+57.2	370,449	+58.02

Distribution of trade union membership.- The major portion of the membership of registered unions was concentrated in the large-size unions with a membership of 10,000 and above. There were 4 unions with a membership of over 10,000 on 1 September 1939 as against 6 on 1 December 1947. Percentages of membership of these unions to the total membership of all unions on each of these dates were 49.74 and 36.14 respectively.

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The majority of registered trade unions prior to, during and after the war was in the textile, engineering and transport industries. Commerce, finance and trade groups came into the list only during the post-war period. Textile, engineering and transport industries accounted for 46 of the 75 registered unions on 1 September 1939, 70 of the 114 on 1 December 1945 and 114 out of the 250 on 1 December 1947. Unions covering these three industries had a membership of 122,899 out of a total of 138,162 on 1 September 1939, 214,053 out of a total of 244,868 on 1 December 1945 and 289,644 out of a total of 370,449 on 1 December 1947.

Classification of unions according to their locations during the period 1939-47 indicated Bombay City as the foremost centre. On the eve of World War II the number of unions in the City was 47 out of 75, while at the end of the war, 73 unions out of 114 were in the City. On 1 December 1947, there were 158 registered unions in Bombay City as against 250 in the whole province. Ahmedabad was second to Bombay with 10, 12 and 16 unions on 1 September 1939, 1 December 1945 and 1 December 1947 respectively.

(Labour Gazette, Bombay, July 1948).

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CHAPTER 4. ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

41. Industrial and Mining Production.

India: The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 (Act No. LIII of 1948).

The Mines and Minerals (Regulations and Development) Bill, 1948 (vide paragraph 41 page 11 of the report of this Office for August 1948), as passed by the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative), received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 8 September 1948 and has been gazetted as the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948 (Act No. LIII of 1948).

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part IV, dated 8 September 1948, pages 222-225).

10

Development of India's Industries:
Special Committee's Recommendations.

Discussions on the difficulties and impediments in the way of ~~development~~ developing industry, both private and State-owned, according to all-India patterns prescribed for each industry, and methods of overcoming them in respect of a number of major groups of industries, were held at New Delhi during the latter half of October, 1948. Thirteen of the 24 Industrial Development Committee, which replaced former industrial panels (vide pages 64-65 of the report of this Office for March 1945), reviewed these ~~problems~~ problems and made their recommendations. In the committees were included technical and expert Government representatives and industrial and trade interests. Some of the more important of the recommendations are summarised below.

Machine Tool Industry.- During discussions of the Machine Tool Development Committee, Government representatives stated that the Government had enough machinery to set up two large-scale machine-tool factories in India, and it was examining a proposal to set up one State-owned machine-tool factory. On the question of granting a subsidy to the industry, it was emphasised that before the question of a subsidy could be taken up, it was essential that the industry should take up the question of rationalising the machine-tool industry to eliminate the possibility of over-production of certain types of machine-tools and lack of production of others; progressive improvement in the quality, types and design of indigenously built machine-tools and setting up an adequate sales organisation throughout India with an effective after-sales service.

The industry was ~~is~~ asked to forward its own proposals in regard to the method of subsidy within six weeks to the Government.

Automobile industry.- The Automobile and Tractors Committee decided that 10 and 22 horsepower units for passenger cars and 28 to 30 H.P. units for larger cars and trucks should be ~~used in India~~ the standard for manufacture and use in India. To encourage the manufacture of ancillary parts for automobiles, it was decided to recommend to the Government that the duty on imports of finished parts should be increased from 50 per cent to 100 per cent, the ~~industry~~ duty on components remaining at 50 per cent. It was decided to recommend to the Government that all cars imported into India in future must be in "C.K.D." condition ~~and~~ "chassis" should be completely knocked down and body should be in metal stampings from the press trimmed only, to be assembled

and painted in India". It was also decided to recommend to the Government that no more assembly ~~plant~~ should be allowed to be put up in India during the next three years, in view of the ample capacity already established in the country for assembly of cars and trucks.

Sites for new shipyards.- The Development Committee on Shipbuilding recommended that a group of two or three experts from abroad should be asked to examine the various suitable sites for establishing new shipyards and also to report on the suitability of expanding the Vizagapatam ship-building yards. This team, it was proposed, should include an expert on shipping machinery—boilers, propelling and other auxiliary equipment. It was also decided that the Government might invite a foreign firm of standing to establish a factory in India for the manufacture of propelling machinery in India with the proviso that the controlling interest should be Indian and that the concern could be taken over by the State at a later date. The technological institutions in Calcutta, Bombay and Vizagapatam, it was suggested, could take up teaching in marine engineering and naval architecture.

Development of rayon industry.- The Committee on the development of the rayon industry was informed that the construction of the major portion of the buildings of 'Travancore Rayons' would be completed in six months. Seventy per cent of the plant and machinery ordered had already arrived and their erection had been taken in hand. Owing to delays in the supply of an electric power plant for this factory, efforts were now being made to instal a Diesel generating set as an interim measure for beginning production, at least of transparent paper, by early next year. As regards the establishment of a rayon factory in Bombay, it was stated that the construction of buildings was being undertaken and the major portion of the productive machinery was expected to arrive in the near future.

Need for a Rubber Institute.- The need to establish a rubber technological institute was stressed. While it was felt that India was well placed in respect of rubber, being able to produce approximately 17,000 tons of rubber, the main factory in the way of development of manufacture of general goods was lack of adequate technical skill to manufacture 'quality' products. The quality manufactured in India might be quite suitable for internal demands, but since it was intended to export 25 per cent of her manufactures, it was felt that a high standard should be kept up to be in a position to meet "quality" competition in foreign markets. The factories in India were not in a position to standardise raw ~~materials~~ materials or manufactured articles owing to the absence of a control laboratory. The only healthy way, it was suggested, was to set up a rubber technological institute to give all technical advice to the Indian manufacturers on raw materials, methods of manufacture and also testing of samples.

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Chemical requirements.- As regards ~~India's~~ India's requirements of heavy chemicals, the Government representative informed the Committee that although licences for the import of caustic soda plants had been issued to 14 firms, only 4 had placed orders for such plants. The present production of caustic soda in India was only 5,000 tons as against a demand of 70,000 tons.

When the 4 new plants went into production they would produce 15,000 tons more of caustic soda, which would still leave some 50,000 tons to be imported. This deficit could be made good, only if all the 14 firms who had been given licences of import for plant availed of these licences and ~~were~~ set up factories. Against an annual requirement of 120,000 tons of soda ash, the actual production in India today was only 30,000 tons although the factories already functioning could produce another 25,000 tons annually. *4 firms of which only 1 had approached the Government for import of equipment.* The main difficulty in expanding production of soda ash was the difficulty of supplying cheap salt. The Government representative stated that there was a proposal to locate 1 soda ash unit at Sindri.

issue had been granted to There were 40 units producing sulphuric acid with a total capacity of 75,000 tons per annum. Import licences had been granted to a number of firms which would give an additional 50,000 tons a year.

Other recommendations.- Other recommendations were that the manufacture of aero-engines for small trainer aircraft should be encouraged, in the Hindustan Aircraft Factory at Bangalore, and that the concern should also be requested to look into the question of design and manufacture of jet propulsion aircraft.

The Committee on Plastic Industry urged that the objective should be to produce industrial articles and utility goods rather than luxury articles and novelty ware. Priority in production should be in the following order: electrical accessories, industrial objects, automobile and aeroplane parts, bottle caps, sanitary fittings, domestic utility articles.

(The Statesman, 21-10-1948).

Increasing India's Cement Production:
Five New Factories to be started.

Seven schemes for the expansion of cement industry in India have been sanctioned by the Government of India. These schemes, it is expected, will add more than ~~10,000~~ 10 million tons of cement to ~~be~~ the existing production.

Five new factories will be set up. Of these 4, with an annual capacity of 150,000 tons each, will be located in Bombay, Baroda, Jaipur and Rewa. The fifth one, with an annual output of 400,000 tons of cement, will be in the United Provinces. In addition sanction has been given for the expansion of the two cement factories in Bihar with a capacity of 150,000 tons each. Two further units each with a capacity of 150,000 tons have also been sanctioned.

The over-all production of these schemes will be in the ~~neighbourhood~~ neighbourhood of 55 million tons. Before partition the number of cement works in India was 24 with an over-all capacity of a little over 20 million of tons. Of these 19 fell to the Indian Union after partition.

(The Hindu, dated 14-10-1948).

43. Foreign Trade and Exchanges.

India - October 1948.

India: Import Advisory Council Constituted.

The Government of India, according to an official Press Note, has decided to constitute an Import Advisory Council to advise it on matters of general policy relating to import control. A resolution of the Department of Ministry of Commerce in the Government of India giving effect to the constitution of the Council was published in a Gazette of India, Extraordinary dated 27 October 1948.

The Minister for Commerce will be chairman of the Council. Non-official members will consist of 6 nominated by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, 2 by the Associated Chambers of Commerce, 1 by the All-India Manufacturers' Association, up to 4 nominated by the Government as representatives of interests not otherwise adequately represented, and 2 members of the Constituent Assembly nominated by the Government. The Council is expected to meet once in three months. When meetings are held at ~~seaports~~ seaports the council may co-opt additional members to represent consumers and trade interests.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary,
dated 27 September, 1948).

India's Balance of Trade: Improvement in
Position.

The Dominion of India had an adverse balance of 19.6 million rupees in its seaborne trade during the quarter ended June 1948, according to statistics published by the Office of the Economic Adviser to the Government of India. During the corresponding ~~year~~ period of the previous year undivided India had an adverse balance of 77.8 million rupees.

The improvement in India's balance of trade position ~~in exports~~ was due to a considerable increase in exports which amounted to 1050 million rupees against 970 million rupees for the corresponding quarter in 1947, combined with a comparatively smaller increase in imports amounting to 1090 million rupees compared with 1050 million rupees in the corresponding period last year. The increase in the re-export trade over the same period was of the order of 20 ~~mk~~ million rupees. The values of exports and imports were the highest recorded for the same period of the last four years.

;(The Hindu, dated 8-10-1948).

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44. Prices and Cost of Living.

India - October 1948.

India: Government's Measures to combat Inflation
Announced: Nonproductive Schemes to be delayed.

On 4 October 1948 the Government of India announced certain immediate steps which it will take to curb the all round increase in prices all over India. In this connection it may be recalled that the question of rising prices had been under the consideration of the Government for sometime now, and that during October 1948 the Government held ^a series of meetings with various economists, employers, labour leaders, etc., (vide paragraph 44, page 32 of the report of this Office for September 1948), with a view to evolving a uniform policy.

The first step proposed aims at reduction in Government expenditure and increase in Government income "by all available means". Here are some: Both the Centre and provinces are asked to produce balanced, if not surplus, budgets; a committee of the Central Cabinet will review all development plans in order to slow down those which are unproductive; provincial Governments are advised to levy an agricultural income-tax and the Centre is to expedite the Estate Duty Bill.

The prong against prices will achieve results by the reintroduction of control of foodgrains and textiles. The price of sugar is to be reduced by other means. A more equitable distribution of essential commodities, such as kerosene, iron, steel and cement, is being arranged.

The third main cause of inflation, surplus money chasing limited goods, is to be met by intensifying the small savings schemes. The upper limit of Postal Savings Banks and National Savings Certificates has been raised. Institutional

investors are also being ~~afforded~~ afforded new facilities. To increase production, the main concession given to industrialists is exemption from income-tax for new industries for a specified period. Relief of customs duty on industrial machinery has also been announced.

As recommended by industrialists themselves, one means of ~~curtailing~~ curtailing purchasing power is limitation of dividends to 6 per cent. This has been adopted as the fourth main anti-inflationary measure. Linked with it is postponement of repayment of the Excess Profits Tax deposits for a further period of three years.

The communiqué issued by the Ministry of Finance in this connection is summarised below.

Menace of rising prices.— The Government's policy in dealing with the problem of rising prices is ~~and~~ dictated by certain broad considerations. The first is to take all possible steps to keep the Government expenditure as low as possible consistent with efficiency, and to increase revenue by all available means. The second is to make a concerted effort immediately to ensure that there is no further rise in prices and the cost of living. The third is to so order future policy as to secure, in the shortest possible time, ~~an~~ progressive reduction in prices to reasonable ~~and~~ levels and the supply of an increasing volume of goods and services. Lastly, wherever possible, every endeavour should be made to curtail the purchasing power in the hands of the community and to prevent any addition ~~thereto~~ thereto.

In the field of Government expenditure, it has been decided that the budgetary gap between revenue and expenditure figures this year should be reduced as far as possible both by the provinces and the Centre and for the next year every effort should be made to provide surplus budgets. All avoidable expenditure will forthwith be postponed and all economies consistent with the maintenance of efficient administration, will be enforced. It is not the Government's intention to hold up development but in the present crisis it is absolutely vital to avoid all unproductive expenditure. A committee of the Cabinet has been set up to carry out an urgent review of all development plans, both Central and provincial, with a view to determine the relative priority of accepted schemes, so that expenditure on such of them as are not productive or could be postponed or slowed down, ~~or~~ without detriment to the national welfare, might be deferred or ~~curtailed~~ curtailed.

Provincial Governments advised to strengthen their finances.— Provincial Governments have been warned that in present circumstances they can expect no financial assistance from the Centre in the implementation of their plans for the abolition of zamindaris or for prohibition, and that in trying to finance the cost of these schemes they should see

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that the Centre's borrowing programme is not affected. Provincial Governments are also being advised to strengthen their finances by the levy of an agricultural income-tax where it is not now levied. The progress of the Bill for levying an estate duty, the entire proceeds of which will go to the provinces and which is now before the Central Legislature, will also be expedited.

Control of foodgrains and textiles.- As regards prices, the Government hopes to secure an equitable distribution of foodgrains and cloth at reasonable prices well below the existing levels when the revised policy of control comes into operation. The Government has also under consideration the question of securing a reduction in the price of sugar and a better distribution of other essential commodities like kerosene, iron, steel and cement and they hope to be in a position shortly to announce their policy.

Wider facilities for investment.- One of the main causes of the present crisis is the existence in the hands of large sections of the community of purchasing power far in excess of the available supply of goods resulting in a progressive increase in prices. In order to encourage the public to invest more in Government loans and in saving schemes, the Government proposes, in co-operation with provincial Governments and States, to intensify the campaign for small savings. It has also decided to afford wider facilities for investments by the small investor in post offices. The maximum permissible limit for investments in Postal Savings Banks will be raised from 5,000 rupees to 10,000 rupees and in National Savings Certificates from 15,000 rupees to 25,000 rupees. The Government has also decided to issue Treasury Deposit Receipts on favourable terms for 6, 9 and 12 months to cater for institutional investors, seeking short-term investments.

Industrial production.- In the field of industrial production the Government has come to the conclusion that in the present circumstances some special steps should be taken to stimulate production, and it has, therefore, decided to grant the following concessions. Firstly, the present rules regulating the allowance of depreciation on plant and machinery for income-tax purposes will be liberalised. Secondly, new industrial undertakings will be exempted from income-tax for a specified period. Thirdly, raw materials and plant and machinery imported into the country for industrial purposes will be granted relief in respect of customs duty, to the extent that this may be practicable without injury to Indian manufacturers of similar goods.

Restriction on dividends.- The Government attaches the utmost importance to increasing the financial resources available for industrial development and at the same time preventing any addition to the existing purchasing power, as an essential preliminary to further measures to check inflation. As a first step in this direction some form of limitation of dividends is necessary, and it has been decided that for public companies the amount distributed as dividends

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should not exceed the average of the two years ending with 31 March 1948 or 6 per cent on the paid-up capital, whichever is higher. It has also been decided to postpone the repayment of the ~~Excess~~ Excess Profits Tax deposits and of refundable E.P.T. for a further ~~and~~ period of three years. Refunds will, however, be allowed for financing purchases of capital equipment.

Industrial awards: Centre to ensure uniformity.— The Government is convinced of the imperative need for uniformity in legislation regarding industrial disputes and its application. Divergent policy and unco-ordinated action in this matter can result in embarrassing repercussions on the economy of the country at the present juncture. Alongside, therefore, of the Government's declared policy in this matter, it intends to take measures by legislation and otherwise to ensure that uniform ~~principles~~ principles will be adopted under the overall control of the Central Government in the reference of disputes to adjudication, and the provision for the review of awards by a statutory authority.

(The Statesman, dated 5-10-1948).

India: Reimposition of Food Control:
Government's policy announced.

The Government of India's decision to reimpose control over prices, procurement and distribution of food grains was announced at a Press conference at New Delhi on 24 September 1948 by Mr. Jairandas Daulatram, the Minister for Food. Announcing ~~this~~ this decision the Minister stated that "the policy of gradual decontrol of foodgrains will now give place to one of gradual control". It is proposed by October 1949, to take the country to the same position as regards monopoly procurement and rationing which existed in November 1947, when controls were lifted, (vide pages 67-70 of the report of this Office for December 1947). The Minister said that the new food policy was a measure to meet "the threat of inflation". It was the Government's second step, the first being the control of cotton and cloth. He added that a few more essential commodities would also be controlled in addition to "certain other steps" which were to follow.

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Broadly speaking, the plan of control envisages the following: (a) The surplus, deficit and self-sufficient areas will remain condoned off. No movement of foodgrains will be permitted from one province or State to another except on a Government-to-Government basis. The Government will also have full control over the movement of these grains within a province or State. (b) In the surplus areas, the surpluses will be procured from the cultivators through an agency appointed by the Government at prices approved by the Central Government. All this grain, with that imported by the Central Government, will be distributed by the latter in accordance with its basic plan of distribution to different deficit areas. (c) To secure information of wholesale stocks and their movement, all those engaged in the purchase, sale or storage of foodgrains will be required to obtain a licence and to submit periodical reports of their purchases, sales and stocks. (d) To minimize hoarding by consumers, to restore confidence among the people and ensure an equitable distribution, rationing will be enforced.

Procurement of internal production.- The Minister emphasised that the basic aim of controls was to prevent high prices and to utilize internal production to the maximum advantage. It has been decided, therefore, that there must be maximum procurement of internal production in each administrative area, province or State. The details of the method of procurement have, for the time being, been left to the provinces. But all Governments will declare a price at which they will have the power to requisition grain stocks or procure compulsorily. The prices which will be fixed will apply for the whole crop year. It was the policy of the Government of India to reduce the procurement prices gradually to a reasonable level which was fair to both the consumer and the producer.

To encourage producers to disgorge stocks provincial Governments would make arrangements to supply other commodities like cloth, kerosene, iron and steel and cement to them. Further, to facilitate procurement the ~~Government~~ Centre would give provinces and States a bonus of 8 annas a maund (1 maund = 82 lbs. approx.) The same amount will be offered for every maund exported from a province or State.

Measures to prevent hoarding.- To prevent the food plan being sabotaged by the anti-social activities of hoarders and speculators, the Government was considering adopting stricter measures against food offences. As had been done in the case of textiles, an amendment to the Essential Supplies Act would provide that a sentence of imprisonment should normally be obligatory in the case of offences against food laws.

Centre's food reserves.- In answer to a question, the Food Minister stated that the Centre's food reserves in hand amounted to 30,000 tons, but by December fresh imports of 900,000 tons were expected.

45. Economic Development and Control.

India- October 1948.

Nationalisation of Industries in Burma:
Economic Council to be set up.

On 14 October 1948, the Prime Minister of Burma stated in the Burmese Parliament that the Government of Burma has decided to set up an Economic Council to advise it on industries to be nationalised.

(The Statesman, 16-10-1948).

India: Enquiry into Foreign Assets:
Reserve Bank to collect Particulars.

By a Notification in the Gazette of India dated 2 October 1948, the Reserve Bank of India has directed certain persons to furnish returns of their "foreign" assets and liabilities on the appropriate schedule appended to the notification.

The categories of persons liable to file returns under the notification are the following:-

- (i) All individuals resident in India holding under their ~~control~~ control assets in respect of which persons outside India have any interest or who have assets outside India.
- (ii) All unregistered partnership or partnerships registered in India owing liabilities and owning assets abroad.
- (iii) All firms and companies, excluding banks and insurance companies, registered and incorporated outside India but operating in India.
- (iv) All Indian joint stock companies owing foreign liabilities and owning assets abroad.
- (v) All scheduled and non-scheduled banks, including the exchange banks and the Imperial Bank of India which owe foreign liabilities and own foreign assets.
- (vi) All Indian insurance companies incorporated in India and licensed under the Indian Insurance Act, owing foreign liabilities and owning assets abroad.
- ~~(vii)~~ (vii) All non-Indian insurance

companies operating in India. (viii) All ~~individuals~~ individuals resident in India who are citizens or nationals by birth or domicile of countries in the British Commonwealth other than India or other foreign countries.

(Notification No.DRS.3305/BPE-13/48;
The Gazette of India, dated 2-10-1948,
Part I, Section 1, pages 1209-1254).

Burma: The Union Bank of Burma (Amendment) Act,
1948 (Act No. XXXVII of 1948).

The Union Bank of Burma (Amendment) ~~Act~~ Bill, 1948 (vide paragraph 45 page 53 of the report of this Office for September 1948), was signed by the Provisional President of the Union of Burma on 9 October 1948 and has been gazetted as the Union Bank of Burma (Amendment) Act, 1948 (Act No. XXXVII of 1948).

(The Burma Gazette, Part I, dated
16 October 1948, page 971).

Burma: Land Nationalisation Bill passed by the
Burmese Parliament.

According to a Reuter message published in the 'Hindu' dated 13 October 1948, the Burma Legislature passed, on 12 October 1948, a Land Nationalisation Bill virtually empowering the Government to take over farm land from landlords for redistribution among farmers. (Reference was made to the proposed legislation at page 99 of the report of this Office for September 1948).

The question of compensation to Indians who own land in Burma, arising out of the passing of the Burmese Land Nationalisation Bill, is now being discussed between the Governments of India and Burma, and ^{it} is understood that the Indian Ambassador in Burma has been asked to take the matter up with the Burma Government.

(The copy of the Burma Gazette containing the text of this Bill has not yet been received in this Office).

(The Hindu, dated 13-10-1948;
The Statesman, dated 17-10-1948).

46. Wages.

India - October 1948.

Minimum Wages for Textile Workers in Saurashtra:
Labour Investigation Committee appointed.

The Government of the United States of Saurashtra has appointed a Textile Labour Investigation Committee under the chairmanship of Sir Harsidhbhai Divatia. The terms of reference of the Committee include fixation of minimum wages, dearness allowance, standardization of wages and determination of other conditions of work.

The Committee has been asked to submit its report within a period of 45 days.

(The Indian Textile Journal, September, 1948).

Central Provinces and Berar: Increased Dearness Allowance for Textile Workers: Industrial Tribunal's Award.

Mr. Justice K.T. Mangalmurti, Chairman of the Industrial Tribunal of Central Provinces and Berar, in an award in the dispute between textile mill-owners and employees in the province, has recommended a uniform scale of dearness allowances to 46,000 textile workers employed in the 11 textile mills of the province.

The Tribunal has recommended an increase in the existing scales of dearness allowances paid to textile workers, including the watch and ward employees and textile clerks, from one pie to 1.1 pie per worker for every one point rise in the cost-of-living index number. (The quantum of dearness allowances operative in Nagpur for textile workers is one pie per day per worker). In view of the fact that by the recent award the minimum wage of the workers had been fixed at 26 rupees, to afford them relief in a permanent form, the increase in dearness allowances by 0.1 pie would further help the workers in the province to maintain the standard of living. The rise proposed is slightly more than the scales of dearness allowances to textile workers in Bombay, and the minimum wage of 26 rupees together with the wages fixed recently by the standardisation scheme and this increased dearness allowance, would give greater relief to the textile workers in the province compared to any other textile centre in India.

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Releasing the award for publication the Provincial Government announced on 20 September 1948 that the award would be binding on both parties (textile mills and employees) for one year and would take retrospective effect from 1 January 1948.

(The Hindu, dated 25-9-1948).

Indore: Basic Wage of Workers in Various Industrial Concerns increased.

According to a notification issued by the Madhya Bharat Government, basic wages of workers of 9 industrial concerns in Indore, other than textile mills, have been increased by 20 per cent for those getting up to 50 rupees per month, 15 per cent for those earning from 51 rupees to 100 rupees per month and 10 per cent for those getting above 100 rupees per month. The Government has also fixed 26 rupees for unskilled workers, 33 rupees for semi-skilled workers, 55 rupees for skilled workers and 110 ~~for~~ rupees for highly skilled workers as monthly basic wages in the factories.

(The Times of India, dated 25-10-1948).

Mica Mines Dispute: Industrial Tribunal's Award.

In February 1948, the Government of India referred to Mr. F. Jeejeebhoy, Chairman of the Central Government's Industrial Tribunal at Dhanbad an industrial dispute between the workmen employed in the mica mines in Bihar and their employers for adjudication. The issues considered by the Tribunal included wages and bonus, dearness allowance, leave and holidays with pay, hours of work and overtime, compensation for forced idleness, permanency of service, standing orders regarding service conditions, medical facilities, rations, etc. The Tribunal gave its award on 6 July 1948 and the terms of the award have been enforced by the Central Government for one year from 1 July 1948.

The award.- The award fixed the basic wage for the different categories of workers and allows, on that basic wage, the same percentage of dearness allowance as has been given to colliery workers in Bihar by the Board of Conciliation (Colliery Dispute) (vide pages 21-24 of the report of this Office for May 1947). The scale is as follows:

Basic wage per month	Dearness allowance as percentage of basic wages.	Minimum.
Rs.		Rs.
1 to 50	150	-
51 to 50.....	100	45
51 to 100.....	66 ² / ₃	50
101 to 300.....	40	67

The basic wage rates fixed for different categories of workers are: Dhari (unskilled) 7 annas; Cooly (skilled) 8 annas; Sirdar 1 rupee; shot-firer 13 annas; Machine cooly driller 14 annas; Pump Khalasi 12 annas; Fireman 12 annas; Compressor Khalasi 12 annas; Fitter Mistry 14 annas; Carpenter 14 annas; Blacksmith 14 annas; Winch Khalasi (Haulage) 12 annas; Compressor driver 1 rupee; Surface cooly and water carrier (male) 6 annas 6 pies; Surface cooly and water carrier (female) 6 annas 6 ~~pies~~ pies.

The award also grants six chataks (1 chatak is about 2 oz.) of free rice a day or annas 3 in lieu thereof. In the case of Dharies and Coolies ~~of the mine~~ who constitute the bulk of the labour force, the total daily emoluments under the Award, including 3 annas for free rice, will amount to 1 rupee 4 annas 6 pies and 1 rupee 7 annas, respectively as against their present daily, average earnings of 15 annas and 1 rupee 4 annas and 9 pies. In addition, every worker residing near the mine will get 4 rupees a month as house rent allowance until he is provided with suitable housing accommodation.

Provision is also made for the payment of "attendance bonus" and "annual bonus". The attendance bonus will be one-fifth of the earnings (basic wage plus dearness allowance) for every calendar month during which the worker has put in at least 20 days' attendance. The annual bonus will amount to two months' basic wages, payable at the rate of half a month's basic wage every quarter, the qualifying attendance being 45 days and 57 days in a quarter for underground and surface workers respectively.

The Award further, recommends: (i) leave with pay on the same scale as that applicable to colliery workers in accordance with the report of the Board of Conciliation (Colliery Dispute); (ii) the framing of standing orders with regard to disciplinary action on the same lines as for collieries; and (iii) the supply of at least 4 gallons of drinking water a day to every worker in the mine.

(The Gazette of India dated 10-6-1948, Part I, Sec.1, pp.832-840; The Indian Information, dated 1-9-1948).

Kashmir: Bonus for Silk Factory
Workers sanctioned.

The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has sanctioned a bonus amounting to one-sixth of their yearly earnings to all operatives in Government silk factories of the State. The bonus has been given in spite of estimated loss of over 1,000,000 rupees suffered by two silk factories in 1947, and will entail an expenditure of over 100,000 rupees.

(National Herald, dated 9-10-1948).

48. Public Finance.
India - October 1948.

United Provinces: The United Provinces Agricultural
Income-Tax Bill, 1948.

The Government of the United Provinces published on 11 October 1948, the United Provinces Agricultural Income-tax Bill, 1948.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill points out that with the rise in prices of agricultural commodities, it is but fit and proper that those who directly derive an income from land and its produce should make their contribution to the public exchequer. The soaring prices also make it imperative that effective steps should be taken to check inflation. With these objects in view the Bill seeks to levy a tax on incomes from land exceeding 3000 rupees per annum. An agriculturist who does not cultivate more than 50 acres of land and has no other agricultural income will be exempt from taxation. Deductions from income will be allowed for rent or revenue paid by the tenant or the zamindar, as the case may be, for expenses incurred in maintaining productive or irrigational works, and for cost of collection. A super-tax will be levied on incomes exceeding 25,000 rupees a year. The Bill is so designed as not to affect the ordinary cultivator or the smaller zamindars.

The Schedule to the Bill provides for the levy of agricultural income-tax at the following rates:- on the first 1500 rupees of total agricultural income--no tax; on the next 3500 rupees one anna in the rupee; on the next 5000 rupees 2 annas in the rupee; on the next 500 rupees 3 1/2 annas in the rupee; and on the balance 5 annas in the rupee. There will be no agricultural super-tax on the first ~~25000~~ 25000 rupees of total income. The rate of super-tax on incomes exceeding 25000 rupees ranges from one anna in the rupee on the next 5000 rupees to 5 3/4 annas in the rupee on incomes exceeding 150,000 rupees.

(The United Provinces Gazette Extraordinary,
dated 11 October 1948, pages 1-21).

49. Rehabilitation.India - October 1948.India: Dispersal of Refugees: Quotas fixed.

The Government of India has fixed the quota of refugees which each province or State will take. In this connection it may be recalled that the proposal to settle refugees in various provinces was discussed at a meeting of Premiers of provinces and representatives of States held in July 1947 (vide paragraph 49, pages 41-43, of the report of this Office for July 1947).

It will be the responsibility of the administration of each area to adopt effective measures for the rehabilitation of refugees allocated to it. According to the Government of India's decision, which has already been communicated to the Governments concerned, the quotas will be as follows:-

East Punjab and East Punjab States 1,500,000 (urban only); Bombay 500,000; United Provinces 400,000; Central Provinces 300,000; Delhi 250,000; Madhyabharat Union 200,000; Matsya Union 100,000; Jaipur 100,000; Udaipur 100,000; Saurashtra 100,000; Ajmer 50,000; Bikaner 50,000; Jodhpur 50,000; Vindhya Pradesh 50,000.

The Government of India has also decided that as large a number as possible of urban and rural refugees should be settled in East Punjab and East Punjab States. With this end in view, the entire rural population of West Punjab and the rural population of Punjabi extraction from other parts of West Pakistan ~~should~~^{are to} be settled in these areas, and no more refugees, either urban or rural, ~~should~~^{are to} be sent out from East Punjab and East Punjab States.

(The Statesman, dated 10-10-1948).

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Co-Ordination of Rehabilitation Schemes:
Regional Directors to be appointed .

It is understood that the Government of India has decided to appoint five Regional Directors for the five zones of East Punjab and East Punjab States, Bombay Province and Central Provinces and their States, United Provinces and Bihar, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwar, Rajputana States and Matsya Union, and West Bengal, Assam and Orissa.

This measure is being adopted to secure effective co-ordination between the Centre and the provinces and States, and to expedite implementation of schemes of rehabilitation.

The Government of India has also asked Governments engaged in rehabilitation work to send to the Centre monthly progress reports on the refugee situation.

(The Hindustan Times, 12-10-1948).

Pakistan

Census to be taken of West Punjab Refugees:
Collection of Data for Rehabilitation.

The Government of India has ordered a census of refugees from West Pakistan to be taken almost immediately, and instructions have already been issued to various provincial and State authorities. The enumeration work is expected to be completed within four weeks.

Providing the Government for the first time with reliable data on which to base its rehabilitation schemes, the enumeration of refugees is to take place simultaneously in Bombay, the United Provinces, East Punjab, the Central Provinces and Berar, Saurashtra Union, Madhyabharat Union, Rajasthan Union, Vindhya Pradesh Union, East Punjab States Union, Patiala and the Centrally administered areas of Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Himachal Pradesh. Adequate safeguards are being taken to guard against duplication or omissions. The operation will affect every village, tehsil and district where refugees from West Pakistan have found their way.

(The Statesman, dated 25-10-1948).

Delhi: Progress in housing Refugees:
About 100,000 accommodated.

In reply to an interpellation in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative), on 12 August 1948, the Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation, stated that so far about 100,000 refugees had been accommodated in various vacant houses in Delhi. Provision was being made for providing accommodation for another 100,000 refugees by building new housing and by leasing out plots. The Minister added that in view of the shortage of available land and the large number of applicants it had been decided that at present plots would not be given to co-operative societies.

(Indian Information, 1-9-1948).

Rehabilitation of Women Refugees:
Units asked to open separate Womens'
Sections in their respective Departments.

To help in the speedy rehabilitation of refugee women from West Pakistan, the Government of India has requested all provincial and State Governments and Chief Commissioners of Centrally administered areas to take immediate steps to set up separate women's sections in their respective Refugee Rehabilitation Departments. The Government of India has offered provinces and States all the assistance that the Director of the Women's Section under the Central Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation can give.

(The Statesman, 11-10-1948).

CHAPTER 5. WORKING CONDITIONS.

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

51. Hours of Work.

Central Provinces: Working of Third Shift in
Textile Mills: Tripartite Inquiry Committee
constituted.

In accordance with the decision arrived at a Conference ~~held~~ attended by representatives of labour, textile mill owners and managers, and the provincial Government (vide paragraph 69 page 86 of the report of this Office for September 1948), the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar constituted on 13 September 1948, a tripartite Committee to investigate the difficulties of working an extra or third shift in the cotton textile mills of the province and to suggest means for introduction of the same. The Committee will consist of the Premier as its Chairman, and 3 representatives each of Government, textile employers and labour. The Labour Commissioner of the Province is to be the secretary of the Committee.

(The Central Provinces and Berar Gazette, Part I, dated 24 September 1948, page 580).

Central Provinces and Berar: Double Shift
in Textile Mills: Standing Committee's
Recommendations.

✓ At a meeting of the Standing Committee for the Textile Industry, set up by the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar (vide paragraph 69, page 86, of the report of this Office for September 1948), held at Nagpur on 30 September 1948 under the presidency of the Premier, it was decided to ask all textile mills in the province, which are at present working a single shift, to introduce double shifts with immediate effect.

It is understood that some mills have already introduced the double shift system.

(The Hindu, dated 2-10-1948).

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52. Welfare and Workers' Leisure.
India - October 1948.

Bombay Labour Welfare Centres:
Increased Attendance during
August 1948.

✓ During the month of August 1948 over 500,000 of workers and their families availed themselves of the recreational and entertainment facilities provided by the Directorate of Labour Welfare, Government of Bombay. This included over 140,000 workers who made use of the circulating library posts and reading rooms attached to the various welfare centres in the province. Individual figures for the main centres of welfare activity—Bombay City, Ahmedabad, Sholapur and Khandesh—indicate increased attendance over the previous month.

Facilities for women and children.— Over 113,400 women availed of amenities like literacy, nursery, sewing, charkha and crochet classes. Nearly 33,000 children made use of the playgrounds attached to the various welfare centres.

Adult education classes were attended by 8,588 workers.

(The Times of India, 14-10-1948).

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Madras: Occupiers of 166 Factories
directed to provide Canteens for
use of Workers.

In pursuance of rule 2 of the Madras Factories (Canteen) Rules, 1948 (vide paragraph 52, page 46, of the report of this Office for July 1948), the Government of Madras, by an order dated 14 September 1948, has directed the occupiers of each of 166 factories listed in a schedule to the order, wherein more than 250 workers are ordinarily employed, to provide for the use of their workers adequate and suitable canteens as laid down in the rules. The factories listed include painting works, motor workshops, match factories, cotton mills, jute mills, sugar mills, cement companies, railway workshops, tile works and coffee curing works.

(G.O.Ms.No.4670, Development, dated
14 September, 1948;
The Fort St. George Gazette, Part I,
dated 19 October, 1948).

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Chapter 6. General Rights of Workers.

65. Individual Labour Contracts.

India - October 1948.

Working of Industrial Employment (Standing Orders)
Act 1946 during period 23-4-1946 to 31-12-1947 in
the Central Sphere.

The following information regarding the working of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, in the Central sphere, for the period 23 April 1946 to 31 December 1947, is taken from the Report of the Chief Labour Commissioner as summarised in the August 1948 issue of the Indian Labour Gazette.

Industrial establishments under the Centre.- Industrial establishments in the Central sphere are those under the control of the Central Government, or a Federal Railway, or in a major port, mine or oil-field. The number of such establishments is given in the table below.

Industrial Establishments	Number	Remarks
1. Mines:-		
Coal	951	Excluding Railway Collieries.
Iron	2	
Mica	8	
Manganese	14	
Chromite.....	5	
Quarries.....	3	
2. Oilfields:-		
Oil-fields.....	1	
3. Others under different employing Ministries:-		
Defence.....	93	11 are Railway Collieries.
Industry and Supply.....	13	
Finance.....	44	
Works, Mines and Power.....	5	
Health.....	3	
Education.....	1	
Food.....	2	
Railways.....	Not known	
Transport.....	5	

Industrial Establishments	Number	Remarks
3. Others under different employing Ministries (Continued):-		
Agriculture.....	5	
Labour.....	11	
Communications.....	5	

Exemptions.- During the period under report, exemption from all the provisions of the Act was granted by the Government of India to Federal Railways, the Delhi Polytechnique, the Vizagapatam Port, certain training centres established in connection with resettlement-training schemes and all Government of India presses on the ground that the existing provisions relating to the conditions of employment of workers in these establishments were not less liberal than those laid down in the Model Standing Orders in schedule No.1 to the Central Rules, (vide page 5 of the report of this Office for October 1946). It was however brought to the notice of the Ministry of Labour during March, 1947, that conditions in certain class II and class III Railways, were far from satisfactory and the Government of India was accordingly requested to consider the advisability of reviewing and withholding the exemption granted in respect of such Railways. The question is still under consideration. Conditional exemption was recommended by the Chief Labour Commissioner in respect of the major ports under the Ministry of Transport.

Number of Standing Orders submitted.- The Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) was appointed as the appellate authority in the central sphere. For facilitating administration, the whole sphere was divided into three zones: southern, western and eastern; and in each zone the Regional Labour Commissioner and Assistant Labour Commissioners were appointed as certifying officers. In the southern zone, out of a total number of about 219 establishments only 19 or 8.7 per cent of the establishments submitted their draft standing orders. In the western zone, out of a total number of 61 establishments, prior to the partition of India, only 26 establishments submitted their draft standing orders. Of these, 15 standing orders were transferred to Pakistan, ~~1~~ 1 case came under exemption and the remaining 10 were examined. In the eastern zone, out of a total number of 86 establishments, only 10 of the establishments submitted their draft standing orders.

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During the period under review the standing orders for only one establishment were certified, as certifications were held up in most cases due to the following reasons: (1) absence of particulars regarding the trade unions of the workmen as required under the Act; (2) length of time taken in arranging for the election of workers' representatives; (3) ~~again~~ delay on the part of the trade unions in submitting their objections to the draft standing orders referred to them by the certifying officers inviting their (trade unions') objections; and (4) delay on the part of employing Departments in submitting fresh standing orders incorporating the suggestions, amendments and additions made to the original draft of the standing orders by the certifying officers.

General.- The Report adds that on the whole employers tried to fulfil the requirements of the Act. While some of the trade unions revealed keenness in getting standing orders certified as early as possible, others generally were almost indifferent.

(Indian Labour Gazette, August, 1948).

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Pakistan: Industrial Employment
(Standing Orders) Act, 1946:
Exemptions.

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 14 of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, the Government of Pakistan has exempted all the industrial undertakings of the Commissioners for the Port of Chittagong from the provisions of the Act.

(Notification No. LR 4(3)/48, dated 9 October, 1948;
The Gazette of Pakistan, Part I, Section II,
dated 15 October 1948, page 488).

Bombay: Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946:
Amendments to Industrial Matters under
the Act.

The Government of Bombay by a notification dated 17 September 1948, has approved the draft additions to and alterations in the list of 'Industrial matters' specified in schedules I and II of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, to which reference was made at page 64 of the report of this Office for September 1948, and has gazetted on 18 September 1948 the amendments to the schedules of the Act.

By an order dated 18 September 1948 and in exercise of the powers conferred by section 35(5) of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, the Government of Bombay has also notified model standing orders for operatives and clerks in the following industries in the province: cotton textile industry, silk textile industry, woollen textile industry and hosiery textile industry.

(Notification No. 22/48-I dated 17 September 1948;
Notification No. 22/48-II dated 18 September 1948;
The Bombay Government Gazette Extraordinary, dated
18 September, 1948, pages 4222-4229).

United Provinces: Vacuum Pan Sugar Factories exempted
from Provisions of Industrial Employment (Standing Orders)
Act, 1946.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, the Government of the United Provinces has exempted all vacuum pan-sugar factories in the province from the provisions of the said Act.

(Notification No. 6071(ST)/XVIII-100(ST)-48, dated
29 September 1948;
Government Gazette of the United Provinces Extraordinary
dated 29 September 1948, page 1).

64. Wages Protection.

India - October 1948.

West Bengal: Payment of Wages Act, extended
to Tramway and Motor Omnibus Services.

By a notification dated 18 September 1948, the Government of West Bengal has extended the provisions of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 to the payment of wages of all classes of persons employed in the tramway and motor omnibus services in the province. Reference was made to the proposal to extend the provisions of the Act to the above mentioned services in paragraph 64 page 70 of the report of this Office for April, 1948.

(Notification No. 3421 Lab., dated
18 September, 1948;
The Calcutta Gazette, Part I, dated
25 September, 1948, page 1296).

64. Wages Protection.
India - October 1948.

West Bengal: Payment of Wages Act, extended
to Tramway and Motor Omnibus Services.

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By a notification dated 18 September 1948, the Government of West Bengal has extended the provisions of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 to the payment of wages of all classes of persons employed in the tramway and motor omnibus services in the province. Reference was made to the proposal to extend the provisions of the Act to the above mentioned services in paragraph 64 page 70 of the report of this Office for April, 1948.

(Notification No. 3421 Lab., dated
18 September, 1948;
The Calcutta Gazette, Part I, dated
25 September, 1948, page 1296).

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Working of Payment of Wages Act in Madras
Province during 1947.

Extent and application.- According to the Report on the working of the Payment of Wages Act in the Province of Madras for 1947, during the year the application of the provisions of the Act was extended to the tramways, motor omnibus services and plantations in the Province. Annual return forms were sent to 5,737 factories, out of 3,460 factories which worked during the year, only 2,715 factories submitted the returns in time. The average total number of persons employed during the year in all industries from which returns were received was 265,856. The total amount of wages paid in those industries including deductions permitted by the Act was about 124.5 million rupees. In some cases the wages paid to workers included the money value of concessions given in kind and also benefits given in cash. Of the deductions, which amounted to about 34,772 rupees, breaches of contract accounted for 25,376 rupees, fines for 9,165 rupees and damages or losses 2,251 rupees.

Inspections, complaints and prosecutions.- Inspections were made along with the inspections under the Factories Act; special visits were also made by factory inspectors for purposes of enquiring into complaints of non-payment or delayed payment of wages or illegal deductions from the wages of workers. Provisions of section 5 of the Act (time of payment of wages) were generally complied with. In the cases of non-payment or delayed payment of wages, the paymasters were warned for strict compliance of section 5 of the Act and in a few cases the parties concerned were advised to apply to the authority for a direction under the provisions of the Act. One application for deduction from wages was filed before the authority and it was disposed of. In all 12 prosecutions were launched for failure to display notices, to maintain registers properly and for non-payment of wages.

Statistics of railways factories are not included in the report.

(Report on the working of Payment of Wages Act in the Province of Madras for the year 1947. Madras Government G.O.No.3080, dated 9-6-1948, received in this Office on 9-10-1948).

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Bihar: Bihar Workmen's Protection Act, 1948
(Bihar Act XXXIII of 1948).

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The Bihar Workmen's Protection Bill, 1948 (vide paragraph 59, page 65 of the report of this Office for May 1948), received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 1 September 1948 and has now been gazetted as the Bihar Workmen's Protection Act, 1948 (Bihar Act XXXIII of 1948).

The Act seeks to prevent the recovery of debts from certain classes of workmen by besetting the places where they work or receive their wages and to protect such workmen from molestation and intimidation by their creditors. The term 'workmen' is defined to mean any person employed by a local authority on a system of public conservancy or sanitation or employed in any industrial establishment to do any skilled, unskilled, ~~manual~~ manual or clerical labour for hire or reward.

Bihar
(The/Gazette of Part IV, dated
29 September 1948, pages 180-182).

66. Strike and Lockout Rights.

India - October 1948.

Madras: Electric Tramway Services, Motor Transport Services and Cotton Textile Industry declared Public Utility Services under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The Government of Madras by notification dated 24 September 1948, has declared the electric tramway services, the motor transport services and the cotton textiles industry in the province, public utility services for the purposes of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for a period of six months from the date of publication of the notification.

(G.O.Ms.No.4852, Development, dated 24 September, 1948;

The Fort St. George Gazette, Part I, dated 5 October 1948, page 955).

United Provinces: Cotton Textile Industry declared Public Utility Service under U.P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

By a notification dated 15 October 1948 the Government of the United Provinces has declared the cotton textile industry in the province and every undertaking connected with the manufacture or distribution of cotton textiles, a public utility service for the purposes of the United Provinces Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for a further period of 6 months with effect from 22 October, 1948.

(Notification No.2684(RD)/XVIII, dated 15 October 1948; Government Gazette of the United Provinces, Extraordinary dated 15 October, 1948).

Pakistan: Services in Karachi and Chittagong Ports declared Public Utility Services under Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The Government of Pakistan by a notification dated 21 September 1948, has declared that all services incidental to the maintenance and operation of the port at Karachi shall continue to constitute a public utility service for the purposes of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for a further period of 6 months from 6 October 1948.

By another notification dated 21 September 1948 the Government has declared that all services incidental to the maintenance and operation of the port at Chittagong shall constitute a public utility service for the purposes of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for a period of 6 months with effect from the date of the notification.

(Notifications Nos:L.R.-1(9)/48-1 and LR-1(9)/48-II, dated 21 September, 1948: The Gazette of Pakistan, Part I, Section I, dated 1 October 1948, page 456).

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West Bengal: The West Bengal Security (Amendment)
Act, 1948 (West Bengal Act XIX of 1948).

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The Government of West Bengal gazetted on ~~the~~ 4 October 1948 the West Bengal Security (Amendment) Act, 1948 (West Bengal Act XIX of 1948).

The West Bengal Security Act, 1948, which makes special provisions for the maintenance of public order and the ~~suppression~~ suppression of subversive movements endangering the safety or stability of the Province, defines 'subversive act' as including any act which is intended to restrict any work or any means of transport necessary for the supply or distribution of any essential commodity except in furtherance of an industrial dispute as defined in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The West Bengal ~~Security~~ Security (Amendment) Act, 1948 which makes certain amendments in the Act provides inter alia that strikes or lock-outs which are illegal and punishable under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, will not be treated as industrial disputes exercising the commission of offences punishable under the present Act.

(The Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary, Part III,
dated 4 October 1948, pages 1005-1008).

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67. Conciliation and Arbitration.

India - October 1948.

Bombay: Assembly passes Bombay Industrial Relations
(Second Amendment) Bill, 1948.

The Government of Bombay gazetted on 29 September, 1948, the Bombay Industrial Relations (Second Amendment) Bill, 1948.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill explains that the proposed Bill is intended to introduce certain improvements in the Act which have been found expedient and necessary. The main provisions covered by the amendments are as follows: (1) At present it is a condition for retention of registration of a union under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, that it shall not take part in illegal strikes etc. The same condition is now proposed to be attached to acquisition of registration under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act. (2) The period of twelve months for repeating the process of electing representatives of employees makes elections too frequent and burdens administration. The period is enlarged to two years. (3) When an employer or, as the case may be, employee gives a notice of change, provision is made for the notice to be adopted by other employers or, as the case may be, other employees in the same industry, so that disputes may be consolidated and decided together. (4) Where both parties consent, disputes are permitted to be split in parts for the purposes of conciliation, etc. (5) In order to relieve congestion in the Industrial Court, power is taken to transfer cases, on the recommendation of the Industrial Court, from the Industrial Court to such Wage Boards as have the necessary powers of disposal. (6) Where stoppages or closures of work are caused in relation to an industrial dispute but under the guise of a protest against a course of action taken or not taken by the Provincial Government or a public servant, such stoppages and closures are made illegal. Stoppages are also made illegal if agitated in sympathy with strikes which are themselves illegal. (7) Provision is made for the ~~modification of an award~~ modification of an award, provided the award has run a life of one year. This would enable parties to apply for modification of the whole or any part of an award instead of terminating it by a notice and thereby to secure the benefit of the current award till its modification.

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Assembly passes measure.- The amending Bill was discussed and passed by the Bombay Legislative Assembly on 15 October 1948.

The Labour Minister, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, in moving the amending Bill, said that no radical change in the existing structure of legislation was proposed. What was intended to be done was to remove certain ~~administration difficulties~~ difficulties experienced in the administration of the Act. Mr. B.C. Mehta (Bombay Millowners Association) objected to the provision which enabled notice of change given in regard to a particular section of an industry to be made into a general issue by the employees. This, he thought was more favourable to ~~the~~ spreading of strikes than ~~to the~~ preventing of them. The whole spirit and object of the Act was to avoid illegal strikes and stoppages of work. He suggested that the present percentage of 15 for a union in an industry to be recognised as a representative union, should be increased. He also pointed out the anomaly in the present legislation which compelled private employers to give immediate effect to the awards of industrial courts while Government was not bound to act immediately on them and could take time to consider them. He agreed that Government should have the right to think over the awards, and urged that employers should also enjoy similar facilities. He added that where an appeal regarding an award was made in the High Court, employers should not be compelled to give effect to it until the High Court decision was given.

The Labour Minister, in his reply, pointed out that the Government, being responsible to the legislature, could not immediately carry out the awards of industrial courts owing to the financial implications involved. He was prepared to make a similar provision as regards private employers if they were prepared to submit to the vote of the legislature. As regards the objection of the millowners' representative to the provision regarding the notice of change, the Labour Minister maintained that this modification was deliberate and was done in the interests of workers. As regards the suggestion that a higher percentage of for representative unions should be prescribed, Mr. Nanda pointed out that even with the present low limit there was no representative union existing in the textile industry in Bombay and any increase in the limit would only hamper the growth of trade unionism. The Bill amending the Industrial Relations Act was then passed.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part V, dated
29 September, 1948, pages 548-555).
The Times of India, 16 October 1948).

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India: Bombay Dock Workers' Dispute:
Conciliation Boards set up.

The Government of India by two Orders issued on 11 October 1948, has set up two Boards of Conciliation to settle disputes between the Bombay Dock Workers' Union on the one hand and the Bombay Port Trust and the Bombay Stevedores' Association on the other. Both the Conciliation Boards will be presided over by the Government of India's Chief Labour Commissioner, Mr. Jaleshwar Prasad.

The Board set up to settle the dispute between the Bombay Port Trust and its employees, will consist besides the Chairman, of 2 representatives each of the Bombay Port Trust and its employees. The terms of reference to the Board are: (1) Employment on monthly basis and on time-scales of pay of all shore workers on 'A' register. (2) Leave reserve to be kept in the 'B' register. (3) Payment of daily wages and attendance allowance to 'B' register workers. (4) Introduction of two shift system. (5) Work on food grain establishments and at preferential berths of Messrs ~~of~~ British India Steam Navigation Company Limited and Bombay Steam Navigation Company Limited to be done departmentally by the Bombay Port Trust. (6) Payment of one month's wages as bonus to all shore workers for their war-time work. (7) Revision of Bonus Scheme and the extension of the Scheme to all sections of the shore workers.

The second Conciliation Board constituted to settle the dispute between the Bombay Stevedores' Association and its workers, will consist, besides the Chairman, of 2 representatives each of the Association and its workers and the matters referred to this Board are: (1) Abolition of the existing system of employing workers through "Serangs" and employment of workers direct by the Stevedore Companies. (2) Payment of attendance allowance to workers when no work is offered to them by the Stevedore Companies. (3) Employment of workers on double shift of 8 hours' day and 6 hours' night. (4) Revision of wages and dearness allowance of the workers. (5) Overtime. (6) Grading of spare "Winchmen". (7) Data for stream work.

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated
11 October, 1948, pages 1637-1638).

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West Bengal: Dispute in Jute Mills industry:
Tribunal's Award.

The Government of West Bengal published in the last week of September the award of the Industrial Tribunal appointed in August 1947 to adjudicate in the industrial dispute between workers and employers in the jute industry in the province (vide page 12 of the report of this Office for August 1947). By an Government Order dated 20 September 1948, the award has been declared binding on both the parties to the dispute for a period of one year from 20 September 1948. The reference to the Tribunal covered the entire jute ~~mk~~ textile industry in West Bengal and the parties to the dispute are the employers of 89 jute mills on one side and the workmen of ~~these~~ these mills numbering 275,000 on the other. The more important points of the award are summarised below.

Basic wages and dearness allowance of manual workers and clerks.— The minimum emoluments of the lowest paid manual workers have been fixed with due regard to the capacity of the mills, viz., their financial limitation as well as the minimum requirements of the workers from the point of view of nutrition and health standards. The existing minimum monthly remuneration of a manual worker amounts to 46 rupees 2 annas 9 pies comprising of 18 rupees as minimum basic wages plus 19 rupees 8 annas as amenity allowance plus 8 rupees 10 annas 9 pies as ~~cash~~ value of food concession. The Tribunal has fixed the total emoluments at 58 rupees 8 annas per month comprising of 26 rupees as minimum basic wage plus 32 rupees 8 annas as dearness allowance. The dearness allowance has been fixed at a flat rate not only in respect of all categories of manual workmen but also for clerical staff and it includes the value of food concession, i.e., 23 rupees 15 annas 3 pies as dearness allowance proper and 8 rupees 15 annas 3 pies as being the ~~cash~~ value of the food concession. If, however, in any case, the existing benefits of dearness allowance exceed the amount directed in the award, i.e., 32 rupees 8 annas the existing scale will be maintained. No time scale of pay for manual workers has been fixed. The Tribunal has prepared a list showing standardisation of occupational nomenclature and also formulated a scheme of standardisation of basic wages for them.

Lower grade clerical staff has been classified into 2 grades, viz., grade I with a minimum rate of pay of 70 rupees per mensem and a maximum of 130 rupees with annual increments of 4 rupees, and grade II with a minimum of 55 rupees and a maximum of 85 rupees with ~~an~~ annual increments of 3 rupees, the former for graduate clerical workers including new entrants. The existing minimum basic wages for the clerical staff vary from 27 rupees to 40 rupees per month. The Tribunal has awarded 55 rupees ^{minimum basic wages} in addition to the

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dearness allowance of 32 rupees 8 annas for the clerical staff making a total minimum emolument of 87 rupees 8 annas per month.

Bonus.- No bonus has been awarded for past years. The issue of bonus has been kept open as the whole question is under investigation by a Committee of experts set up by the Government of India.

Payment of for period of involuntary unemployment.- At present, workmen are paid an allowance called "khoraki" at 4 rupees 4 annas per week per head for involuntary unemployment owing to shortage of coal. The scheme of payment for periods of involuntary unemployment prepared by the Tribunal provides that each worker should be given on the scale of 50 per cent of the basic wages and of the dearness allowance proper and each worker should continue to receive the weekly rations at the normal subsidised rates or the cash value of the food concession subject to certain conditions.

Provident Fund, Gratuity and pension.- The ~~the~~ scheme of pension at present obtaining in the Jute Mills has been directed to be discontinued forthwith with the proviso that this direction will not in any way affect those workers who have earned or may earn pensions under the existing system. All Jute Mills have been directed to introduce Contributory Provident Fund system within 4 months from the date of publication of this award. 6 1/4 per cent of the basic wages is the rate of contribution from both sides. A system of gratuity shall also come into operation in place of the existing pension system. Certain rules of Provident Fund and of gratuity system have also been formulated by the Tribunal. In all these cases, if existing benefits are more favourable, the award shall not ordinarily affect them.

^{Other} Points covered by the award relate to grant of leave and holidays, provisions of canteens, creches, medical facilities, etc.

(The Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary, 24
September 1948, pages 813-986;
Kam Amrita Bazar Patrika, 25-9-1948).

68. Labour Courts.
India - October 1948.

Industrial Tribunals' Powers to decide
Issues Involving Retrenchment: Calcutta
High Court's Ruling.

A bench of the Calcutta High Court has held that tribunals appointed under the Industrial Disputes Act had jurisdiction to decide questions affecting retrenchment, suspension, lock-outs and bonus and make awards. Their lordships the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Chakravarti, in giving their decision, also held that banks, clubs and hospitals were within the definition of "industry" and employees in them were within the definition of "workmen".

The question came up before the High Court in various cases in which employers had moved the Court for relief in respect of the award of an industrial tribunal in regard to reinstatement of workers. The application of one employer ~~contended that~~ contended that ~~he~~ he had absolute right to dismiss any of ~~his~~ his employees on giving them notice and that the tribunal had no right to adjudicate on any claim for reinstatement or compensation or interfere with any right of the employer to discharge the workmen, provided such discharge was in accordance with the law.

The Chief Justice held that it appeared to him that adjudication by an industrial tribunal was merely an alternative means of settling a dispute and settling a dispute involved, if done by agreement, the parties giving up certain of their rights, or if done compulsorily, interference with such rights. Hence the tribunal had the right to adjudicate on disputes and make awards interfering with the legal rights of parties before the tribunal.

Mr. Justice Chakravarti delivered a separate but concurrent judgment.

(The Statesman, dated 28-9-1948).

69. Workers' Participation in the Management
or Profits of Undertakings.

India - October 1948.

India: Central Advisory Council set up to advise
on Fair Wages, Profit-Sharing and Industrial
Relations.

In pursuance ^{of} the resolution on industrial truce adopted by the Industries Conference in December 1947 (vide pages 22-31 of the report of this Office for December 1947) and in the Government's resolution dated 6 April 1948 on Industrial Policy (vide pages 32-36 of the report of this Office for April 1948), the Government of India by a Resolution dated 29 September 1948, has constituted a tripartite Central Advisory Council to advise it ^{on} the determination of fair wages to labour, ^a fair return on capital employed, reasonable reserves, and labour's share of the surplus profits; on the methods by which labour could co-operate with the employers in securing an increase of production; and on the regulation of the relations between employers and labour.

The Council which will have for its chairman the Minister for Labour in the Government of India is made up of 3 representatives of the Central Government, 10 representatives of provincial Governments, 5 delegates and 5 observers representing States' Governments, 10 representatives of employers and 10 representatives of workers. Of the 10 employers' representatives 4 represent the All-India Organisation of Industrial Employers, 4 the Employers' Federation of India and 2 represent independent employers. ~~Similarly~~ Similarly of the 10 workers' representatives 4 represent the Indian National Trade Union Congress, 2 the Indian Federation of Labour, 2 the Hind Mazdoor Panchayat and 2 represent independent workers. The main functions of the Council will be to advise Government on the measures to be taken to achieve its objectives as set forth in the resolution on Industrial Policy (vide page 35 of the report of this Office for April 1948 under Profit-Sharing) and in particular, to evolve

schemes (1) for the determination of: (a) fair wages to labour, (b) for the purpose of a profit-sharing Scheme— (i) fair return on capital employed in ~~the~~ the industry, (ii) reasonable reserves for the maintenance and expansion of the undertaking, (iii) labour's share of the surplus profits, calculated on a sliding scale normally varying with production, after provision has been made for (i) and (ii) above, and (c) the method by which labour could co-operate with employers in securing increase of production, and (2) for the regulation of the relations between employers and labour. In regard to (1)(b) above, the Council will take, as a basis for discussion, the report of the Committee on Profit Sharing (vide pages 81-84 of the report of this Office for September 1948).

The Central Advisory Council is empowered to resolve itself into several Committees, one for each major industry, and these Committees may, in turn, be split up into sub-Committees dealing with specific questions relating to the industry, e.g., production, industrial relations, wage fixation and distribution of profits. For this purpose the Council may, when necessary, appoint officials and non-officials, other than its own members, to the various Committees and sub-Committees.

(The Gazette of India, Extraordinary,
dated 29 September, 1948, pages 1589-1592).

United Provinces: Constitution of Works Committees
in Factories: Government order amended.

An order dated 9 October 1948 issued by the Government of the United Provinces introduces a number of amendments to the order, issued earlier on 2 August 1948 by the provincial Government requiring the larger factories in the province employing more than 200 workers to set up Works Committees (vide paragraph 69 ~~pages~~ page 68 of the report of this Office for August 1948). The main changes introduced by the amending order are (i) the grant, to any five employees, of the right to lodge an objection, against the way in which the workers' representatives on the Works Committee were elected; if the objections are found valid the Regional Conciliation Officer may order a fresh election; and

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(ii) the insertion of a new clause making unanimous decisions of the Works Committee binding on the parties.

(No. 1759(LL)/XVIII-1008(LL)-48, dated 9 October 1948;
The Government Gazette of the United Provinces, Part IA, dated 9 October 1948, page 503).

West Bengal: Government Orders setting up
of Works Committees in a number of Industrial
Establishments. R

The Government of West Bengal, by an order dated 4 October 1948, has directed the employers of 65 industrial establishments listed in the Order to constitute Works Committees as prescribed in the Bengal Industrial Disputes Rules, 1947 (vide page 8 of the report of this Office for December 1947). Among the establishments listed are a number of cotton mills, jute mills, belting works and silk manufacturing companies.

(No. 3644 Lab-dated 4 October 1948;
The Calcutta Gazette, Part I, dated
14 October 1948, page 1385).

CHAPTER 7. EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

71. Organisation of the Labour Market.

India: Officer appointed to study prevalence of
Forced Labour.

(Legislative) / In answer to a question in the Constituent Assembly of India on 12 August 1948 it was stated that the Government of India had appointed an Officer on Special Duty to study existing legislation and literature on the subject of forced labour, to submit a report recommending such further legislative and administrative measures as may be required for eradicating the evil which, it was realised, was prevalent in various degrees in several parts of India. It was also stated that in a questionnaire proposed to be issued shortly in connection with an enquiry into agricultural labour conditions, questions have been included to secure information pertaining to forced labour prevalent in villages.

Further steps in the matter would be decided upon by the Government after receiving the report of the Officer on Special Duty. It was expected that this report would be available within about six months.

(Indian Labour Gazette, August 1948).

India: Employment Exchanges: Working during August, 1948.

Employment situation.- During August 1948 except for recruitment to the Army, Navy, provincial Militia and the Police Forces in various regions, there was little improvement in the employment situation in India. While Jamshepur, Bombay, Kohima and Shillong reported a slight improvement in employment opportunities, in most areas, private factories were reported to be finding it difficult to start operations for want of raw materials and adequate transport facilities. Heavy rains and floods were also reported to have had an adverse effect on the employment situation in the United Provinces and had affected to some extent the Shahadra area in Delhi also. Due to non-availability of raw materials, a slackness was reported in the Shellac industry in Mirzapur. Lack of electric power and raw materials delayed the development of some factories in Ghaziabad and Saharanpur, while it was reported from Anantapur that the progress of work on the Tungabhadra project had been slowed down temporarily.

Shortage of skilled personnel continued to exist in the engineering trades and certain other specialist occupations. Tractor drivers and tractor driver mechanics were reported by Asansol, Kanpur, Muzaffarpur and Raipur exchanges to be in short supply. Shortages of building overseers, draughtsmen and surveyors were reported from Cuttack, Dhanbad, Dharamsala, Muzaffarpur, Nagpur, Patna, Raipur and Vellore. Demands for nurses, health visitors, mid-wives and compounders could not be met by the exchanges in Ajmer, Jalgaon and Kanpur. Trained teachers were in short supply in Cuttack, Nagpur and Raipur. A number of exchanges reported shortages of stenographers and typists. On the other hand, there were surpluses of applicants in clerical and unskilled posts in almost all the exchanges.

Registrations and placings.- The total number of registrations for employment assistance effected at employment exchanges and district employment offices and placings during August 1948, are given below:-

	August 1948	July 1948	August 1947
Total number of registrations (including re-registrations) ..	81,995	87,610	33,257
Total number of persons placed in employment	27,069	27,200	10,050

Of those placed in employment 7,797 were ex-Service personnel. 17,578 applicants declined to take advantage of the opportunity of being considered for employment. 4,571 declined because the pay offered was felt to be inadequate, while 4,887 declined for various other reasons. The number who failed to report for interview with employers, without offering any satisfactory explanation, was 8,520. The number of ex-Service personnel who failed to take advantage of the opportunity of obtaining employment was 6,758 (38.3 per cent).

Placings by wage groups.- Figures relating to placings during August 1948 analysed according to wage groups were as follows:-

<u>Wage Groups: Basic monthly pay</u>	<u>Number of placings</u>
Above 101 rupees	512
61 to 100 rupees	1,903
36 to 60 rupees	12,805
21 to 35 rupees	9,610
20 rupees or less.....	2,539

As in the previous month, there was an increase in the number of placings in the higher wage groups.

Employment exchanges in Indian States.- Returns received from employment exchanges in Indian States show that up to 31 August, 1948, 79,432 applicants had been registered, of whom 15,873 had been found employment. This information does not, however, illustrate completely the work performed by all State Exchanges, as up-to-date information has not been received from some of them. These figures are in addition to the all-India figures quoted above.

Employment of displaced persons.- 20,878 displaced persons were registered during the month, as against 24,970 during July 1948. Of these, 7,784 were placed in employment. Lack of accommodation at the places of employment, however, adversely affected the resettlement of refugees. In Barcilly, 88 refugees were selected for settlement on land. The Board of Refugee Education of the Ministry of Education of the Government of India, decided that all ~~vacancies~~ vacancies for teachers should be filled through the employment exchanges. This is expected to help the resettlement of refugee teachers registered at the exchanges.

Technical and vocational training.- During August, 1948 there were 82 technical training centres and 112 vocational training centres functioning with 5134 and 2783 ex-Servicemen trainees respectively under training. In the former group, 295 trainees passed the trade tests, bringing the total of passed out trainees to 6590. In the latter group, 119 trainees passed out, bringing the total to 1125. 5185 male refugees were undergoing training at the training centres in Bombay, Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara, East Punjab, United Provinces and West Bengal. 263 refugee girls and women

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were undergoing training at the New Delhi centre run by the Ministry of Labour. Eight trainees passed the prescribed trade tests, bringing the total of passed out trainees to 10. By the end of August 1948, 707 ex-Servicemen and 1190 refugees were under training in 199 apprenticeship training centres. 53 more firms (15 in Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara, 10 in United Provinces and 8 in West Bengal) joined the apprenticeship training scheme while two firms in Bombay and one firm in East Punjab withdrew ~~from the~~ from the scheme.

The number of ex-Service personnel selected and posted for technical and vocational training during August 1948 and during the period from 15 August 1947 to the end of August 1948 is analysed below:-

Administra- tive Region.	Technical training.		Vocational training.		Training for the war-dis- abled.	
	during August 1948	Total from 15 August 1947	during August 1948	Total from 15 August 1947	during August 1948	Total from 15 August 1947
Assam.....	..	276	..	204	..	..
Bihar and Orissa...	60	3287	55	1101	..	..
Bombay....	124	3700	30	2198	..	..
C.P. and Berar...	24	1771	19	795	..	..
Delhi and Ajmer- Merwara...	8	1552	4	629	..	..
East Punjab.	23	266	9	94	..	..
Madras.....	1125	20287	487	3400	..	1371
United Provinces..	..	6629	130	8018	9	824
West Bengal.	4	2864	19	1062	..	..
Closed Centres. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1621
Total.....	1368	40612	755	17501	9	3816

(Review of the work done by the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment, during the month of August 1948, issued by the Government of India).

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OF
INDIA

Meeting of Central Employment Advisory
Committee, New Delhi, 24-9-1948:
Legislation for Permanent National
Employment Service Recommended.

The Central Employment Advisory Committee met in New Delhi on 24 September 1948, under the chairmanship of Dr. N. Das, Director-General of Resettlement and Employment, Government of India, and adopted, among others, a resolution recommending legislation with a view to place the National Employment Service on a permanent basis. (The previous meeting of the Committee held on 16 January 1948 was summarised at page 57 of the report of this Office for January 1948).

Resolutions.- The following are the resolutions passed by the Committee:-

(i) With a view to controlling and regulating the functions and working of the National Employment Service in India and placing it on a permanent footing, the Central Employment Advisory Committee strongly recommended that the Government of India should immediately undertake to introduce and place on the statute book an act to be known as the National Employment Service (Control and Regulation) Act.

(ii) The Committee, deplored the fact that, in spite of the recommendations of the Committee at its previous meeting in January, 1948, district employment offices had not been opened in most of the provinces. The Committee, therefore, urged upon the Government of India and the various provincial Governments to take immediate steps in that direction.

(iii) The Committee, in conformity with the policy of neutrality which the exchanges had been following in the case of a strike or a lock-out, suggested that the exchanges were not to submit applicants against vacancies available because of a labour dispute, unless an authorised officer of the Central or provincial Government declared such a strike or lock-out illegal. In the case of employment in respect of which wages or conditions of work fell below the standards defined by law or regulation, the exchanges were not to submit candidates. The Committee further added that in submitting applicants the best qualified persons, irrespective of community, caste and creed, were to be submitted, and as far as practicable, in the order of their registrations.

(The Statesman, dated 27-9-1948).

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Training of Disabled Ex-Servicemen:
34,000 rupees awarded during ~~summer~~
June-September 1948.

During the four months ending September 1948, awards to about 175 disabled ex-Service personnel, involving a sum of nearly 34,000 rupees, were sanctioned by the Government of India, according to a Press Note issued by the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment. This brings the total number of beneficiaries to 441 with the aggregate amount distributed among them to nearly 80,000 rupees. The awards ~~are~~ range from 100 rupees to 200 rupees according to the requirements of various trades taught at the training centres for disabled ex-Servicemen run by the Directorate. The awards are, mostly, in the form of tools and equipment.

In selecting the trainees for the awards, preference is given to a person whose disability renders ~~himself~~ it necessary for him to take employment under "sheltered" conditions.

(The Statesman, 10-10-1948).

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Burma: Proposal to establish a Central Register
of Technical and Scientific Personnel.

The Government of the Union of Burma, by a resolution dated 27 September 1948, has decided to set up an Expert Committee to advise it on a scheme to bring all technical and scientific personnel available in Burma and returned State scholars on to a common register, with a view to ensuring that the available talent and knowledge in the ~~xxx~~ country is put to the best use. The Committee will consist of 9 members besides the Director of Labour, Burma who will be the chairman of the Committee. The terms of reference of the Committee are (a) to recommend to Government the minimum qualifications in the various skilled professions and occupations which should be possessed by applicants for inclusion in a Central Register of Technical and Scientific personnel available in Burma and returned State Scholars; and (b) to advise Government generally on the establishment of such a Register.

(Supplement to the Burma Gazette, dated
9 October 1948, page 743).

Surplus Labour in Collieries: Government of India
sets up Inquiry Committee.

In pursuance of the decision arrived at the tripartite conference of representatives of Government, coal industry and labour held at Dhanbad on 13 and 14 September 1948 (vide paragraph 121, pages 121-122 of the report of this Office for September 1948), the Government of India has set up a committee to go into the question of surplus labour at collieries and examine the possibility of retrenchment of such surplus and, if possible, to offer alternative employment elsewhere.

(The Times of India, 13-10-1948).

72. Vocational Guidance and Training.

India - October 1948.

Technical Training in India: Diploma Courses
framed by All-India Boards of Technical Studies.

The All-India Boards of Technical Studies in (1) Architecture and town planning; (2) Commerce and Business Administration; (3) Engineering and Metallurgy; (4) Chemical Engineering and Chemical Technology; (5) Textile Technology; and (6) Applied Arts, which were set up under the auspices of the All-India Council for Technical Education (vide page 45 of the report of this Office for June 1947), met recently in New Delhi and have framed all-India diploma courses of an advanced standard equivalent to a University degree in their respective subjects, *viz.*, Architecture and Regional Planning; Commerce and Business Administration, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering; Metallurgy; Industrial Chemistry; Electro-Chemistry; Textile Chemistry; Fuel Technology and Textile Technology of cotton, silk, rayon, jute and wool; and Fine Arts, Commercial Arts and Industrial Design; Crafts, etc.

Facilities for practical training in industrial concerns: legislation suggested.- Practical training being an integral and important part of these courses and the facilities available in India for such training being extremely limited, the Boards have recommended that the Government should exercise suitable control with a view to utilising the available training facilities to the fullest extent. In view of the fact that industrial concerns are sometimes reluctant to accept trainees in their works in numbers larger than required for their own purpose, the Boards have recommended that the Government should, if necessary, consider introducing suitable legislative measures so that it becomes incumbent on every established industrial concern to provide facilities for technical training to qualified young men in all the grades, notwithstanding whether the personnel thus trained would be required by the concern or not.

(The Hindu, dated 11-10-1948).

Pakistan: Technical Education Committee's Recommendations.

It is understood that the Technical Education Committee, appointed by the Council of Technical Education, Pakistan, in June 1948 (vide page 63 of the report of this Office for June 1948) has submitted its recommendations. The important recommendations are:- (i) provision for technical training of men for the development of jute, cotton and leather industries in Pakistan; (ii) establishment of polytechnics; and (iii) introduction of post-graduate courses for specialising in branches of engineering such as aeronautical engineering and automobile engineering.

Other recommendations include:

(i) The establishment of monotronics for textiles, including jute and leather; which will impart education up to the diploma standard; (ii) starting of three types of schools, namely, artisan schools, trade schools and industrial schools, for training semi-skilled and skilled tradesmen. Artisan students, on completion of their training from these schools, will go for practical training in proposed model factories; (iii) opening of technical high schools in provinces and administered areas; and special courses to be introduced at the intermediate stage in the existing engineering colleges; and (iv) setting up of new departments of chemical, agriculture and textile engineering to impart education up to the degree standard. Post-Graduate courses for specialising in branches of engineering, such as aeronautical, automobile, textile, marine, architecture, refrigeration, radio, should also be started in keeping with the needs of the locality.

It is also suggested that a Department of Chemical Technology should be established in each of the three engineering colleges in Lahore, Dacca and Karachi, for training personnel in coal distillation, caustic soda manufacture, manufacture of sulphuric acid, ammonia, chemicals and ~~stronger~~ drugs.

(Civil and Military Gazette, 22-10-1948).

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75. Migration and Colonisation.
India - October 1948.

Ceylon: Immigrants and Emigrants Bill passed
by Upper House, 30 September 1948.

The Ceylon Immigrants and Emigrants Bill (vide paragraph 75, page 98 of the report of this Office for September 1948), was passed by the Ceylon Senate on 30 September 1948. The provisions of the Bill were summarised at paragraph 75, page 82 of the report of this Office for August 1948.

(The Hindu, dated 2-10-1948).

South Africa: Asiatic (Laws) Amendment Bill passed
by Union Assembly: Indian Representation in
Legislature abolished.

The South African ^{Legislature} Parliament on 30 September 1948 passed the third reading of the Asiatic Land Amendment Bill moved by Dr. Daniel Malan, the Prime Minister of South Africa.

The Bill repeals Chapter Two of the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Act, 1946, which made provision for the representation of Indians in the Assembly, Senate and the Natal Provincial Council.

It also contains a few amendments to Chapter One of the Act dealing with land tenure in Natal. (For provisions of the 1946 Act see pages 25-27 of the report of this Office for May 1946).

(The Hindu, 25-9-1948 and 1-10-1948).

CHAPTER 8. SOCIAL SECURITY.
INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

81. Social Insurance.

India: Employers State Insurance Corporation
inaugurated: Pilot scheme for Delhi and
Ajmer-Merwara to be introduced.

Reference was made at paragraph 81, page 101, of the report of this Office for September 1948 to the establishment of the Employees State Insurance Corporation by the Government of India. The Corporation was inaugurated by the Governor-General of India on 6 October 1948 and held its first meeting under the presidency of the Labour Minister, Government of India.

The Corporation elected a Standing Committee consisting of 13 members, including representatives of workers and employers. The Standing Committee will be the executive committee of the Corporation.

The Corporation also decided that a pilot scheme for Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara should be introduced as early as possible and that medical survey by the provincial Governments should be expedited so as to facilitate early introduction of the scheme in the provinces.

Officers appointed to conduct survey by Madras Government.- The Commissioner of Labour, Government of Madras, who attended the meeting of the Corporation, stated at a Press interview on 13 October 1948, that the Government of Madras has appointed two doctors to conduct a medical survey of workers in co-operation with social workers. He added that the aim of the survey was to find out the medical facilities in each area inhabited by workers so that the wants of particular areas could be satisfied. The survey is to be completed as quickly as possible.

(The Statesman, dated 7-10-1948;
The Hindu, dated 14-10-1948).

84. Family Allowances.
India - October 1948.

Scholarships for State Employees' Children:
Jammu and Kashmir Government's decisions .

According to an order passed by the Jammu and Kashmir Government, the children of every Government employee who has served the State for not less than five years and whose salary does not exceed 300 rupees per month, will be entitled to special scholarship in the event of his death during the period of employment.

(The Hindustan Times, 16-10-1948).

85. Benefits Organised or paid by Employers.
India - October 1948.

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India: The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948 (Act No. XLVI of 1948).

- The Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Bill, 1948 (vide paragraph 85 page 102 of the report of this Office for September 1948), as passed by the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative), received the assent of the Governor-General of India on 3 September 1948 and has now been gazetted as the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948 (Act No. XLVI of 1948).

(The Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part IV, dated 3 September 1948, pages 207-211).

Maternity Benefit Acts: Provincial Reports for the year 1946.

Reports on the working of Maternity Benefit Acts during 1946 were received from the provinces of Bombay, Bengal, Madras, United Provinces, Central Provinces and Berar, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Sind. No report was prepared for Assam and Bihar. The only other province which had a Maternity Benefit Act was Punjab, but the report for the province was not received.

In all the provinces, administration and enforcement of Maternity Benefit Legislation was the responsibility of the factory inspectorate. In accordance with the rules framed under the Acts the employers furnish returns showing the average daily number of women employed in the factory, number of claims made, number of claims accepted and paid during the year and the total amount paid as benefit. The following table gives details regarding these during the year 1946 in various provinces:-

Province	Average No. of women employed	No. of claims for maternity benefit received.	No. of claims paid	Total amount paid.
Ajmer-Merwara*	535	39	34	Rs 762
Bengal.....	59,718	3,637	3,588	176,273
Bombay.....	52,006	5,085	4,725	191,639
C.P. & Berar...	5,416	596	564	19,555
Delhi.....	325	16	14	530
Madras.....	50,059	2,888	2,452**	84,211
Sind.....	964	101	101	3,544
U.P.....	2,401	205	201***	9,072

* Relates to the year ending 30th June, 1946.

** Includes 11 cases of 1945 paid during 1946.

*** Including 39 cases in which bonus was paid under Sec. 5(3).

In Bengal although the number of claims in 1946 decreased by 316 as compared to 1945, the total amount of benefit paid showed an increase of 5,750 rupees. This increase was mainly due to the fact that during the previous year several mills failed to include dearness allowance in their calculations of benefits, a position which was remedied during the year 1946. In Madras, the number of claims paid and the amount of benefit paid showed an increase of 729 and 36,375 rupees respectively; ~~while~~ while in Bombay there was a decrease both in the number of claims paid and the total amount of benefit paid by 503 and 20,959 rupees respectively. Among the other provinces only Sind registered an increase in the number of claims and the amount of benefits paid during 1946 as compared to 1945.

Details regarding the number of claims paid per 100 women employed and the average amount of benefit paid per case are given below:-

Province.	No. of claims paid per 100 women employed.	Average amount of benefit paid per case. Rs.
Ajmer-Merwara.....	6.36	22
Bengal.....	6.01	49
Bombay.....	9.09	41
C.P. & Berar.....	10.41	35
Delhi.....	4.51	38
Madras.....	4.90	34
Sind.....	10.48	35
U.P.	8.37	45

(Indian Labour Gazette, August, 1948).

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Bombay: Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929:
Provisions extended to Ahmednagar Taluka.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(1) of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929, the Government of Bombay has extended the provisions of the Act to the taluka of Ahmednagar in Ahmednagar district with effect from 15 October 1948.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part IV-A, dated 14 October 1948, pages 405-406).

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87. Public Health.
India - October 1948.

Co-Operative Health Centres to be
opened in Delhi.

With a view to ~~rehabilitating~~ rehabilitating refugee medical practitioners and at the same time supplementing medical facilities now available in Delhi, the Government of India has decided that six Co-operative Health Centres should be started immediately in Delhi, ~~XXXXX~~ says ~~XXXXXX~~ a press note published on 25 October 1948.

It will be open to any member of the public to make use of the facilities offered at these Health Centres. Families wishing to do so may register themselves at any Centre by paying a registration fee at the rate of 1 rupee per family. The term "family" will include wife, children, parents, sisters and minor brothers if residing with and wholly dependent on the head of the family. Registered families will enjoy the following privileges: free medical advice at the Health Centre; services of the Doctor attached to the Health Centre at the patient's home on payment of a fee of 1 rupee per visit during day time and 2 rupees during ~~the~~ night; medicines, dressing, etc.; consultation at the Refugee Medical Practitioners' Poly-Clinic, being started by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, at rates 25 per cent less than the scheduled rates.

Each Centre will have two doctors with the necessary assistants. There are also to be two lady doctors for the six Centres who will frequently visit each Centre. The scheme will be operated by the Director of Health Services, Delhi, who will be assisted in the administration of the scheme by an advisory committee.

(The Statesman, 25-10-1948).

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Pakistan: Medical Council inaugurated,
19 October 1948.

Reference was made at page 67 of the report of this Office for November 1947 to the All-Pakistan Health Conference held in Lahore which recommended the formation of a Medical Council for Pakistan. The first meeting of the Pakistan Medical Council was held at Karachi on 18 October 1948. The meeting was inaugurated by the Minister for Food, Agriculture and Health, Government of Pakistan.

The Pakistan Medical Council in the first instance will have the functions defined in the Indian Medical Council Act 1953 but if, in the light of experience, it is found necessary or desirable to modify this Act and to entrust the Council with the maintenance of a Central register and to confer on it disciplinary powers over medical practitioners, the Government of Pakistan will, in consultation with provincial Governments, introduce the ~~appropriate~~ necessary legislation to enlarge the scope of the Act.

Inaugurating the meeting the Minister referred to the lack of adequate facilities for post-graduate training in Pakistan and asked the Council to examine the position and make recommendations to the Government with a view to making it possible for outstanding medical graduates to receive post-graduate training to fit them to hold teaching posts in medical ~~institutions~~ institutions. At present owing to facilities for higher training not being available in Pakistan students were sent abroad for advance training. These students, however, did not possess the required amount of research experience and professional background and consequently were unable to derive the full benefits from ~~the~~ their studies abroad.

In conclusion, the Minister said that Pakistan had become a member of the World Health Organisation and it would be the duty of the Council to devise ways and means to improve medical education in Pakistan so as to keep it abreast of the medical standard maintained in neighbouring countries and other States with whom Pakistan was closely associated.

(The Civil and Military Gazette, 20-10-1948).

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CHAPTER 9. LIVING STANDARDS.

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

91. Nutrition.

All-India Fisheries Conference, New Delhi,
27 to 30 September, 1948.

Better facilities for the marketing of fish, experiments in off-shore and deep sea fishing, steps to improve the social and economic status of fishermen, regular compilation of fisheries statistics and the establishment of an Indian Fisheries Research Committee, were among the important recommendations adopted by the All-India Fisheries Conference, held at New Delhi from 27 to 30 September 1948, under the chairmanship of Mr. K.L. Punjabi, Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

Fish as an item in the food programme: Food Minister's address.— Inaugurating the conference, Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Food and Agriculture emphasised that fish as an item in a food production programme ought to receive much more attention and secure much more aid in the shape of money and manpower than had been extended to it so far, as 50 per cent of India's population was fish-eating. In India so far only 5 to 6 per cent of the entire fishable marine area had been tapped. Referring to the social and economic condition of fishermen, the Minister said that India's fishing community was extremely backward. Owing to the lack of any training facilities the technical skill of the fishermen was confined to the restricted range of operations which they and their ancestors had been pursuing along traditional lines. Though some useful work for the uplift of the backward fishing community had been done in some parts of India, notably in Madras and Bombay, very much more remained to be done in this direction.

Resolutions.- The following are among the important resolutions adopted by the Conference:-

(a) Marketing of fish.- The Conference resolved that Central, provincial and State Governments should give high priority to schemes designed to provide and improve facilities for marketing of fish. In this connection the Conference suggested the encouragement of co-operative societies of fishermen and the establishment of up-to-date wholesale markets in large cities.

(b) Marine fisheries.- The Conference urged on the Central Government and Governments of maritime provinces and States the necessity of carrying out experiments in off-shore and deep-sea fishing, to test the suitability of ~~different~~ different kinds of craft and gear for Indian waters and determine fishing seasons, fishing intensities, and undertake extensive surveys for locating and charting fishing grounds. Central, provincial and State Governments, it was suggested, should take steps to improve harbour facilities at all important fishing centres.

(c) Fisheries research and statistics.- The Conference recommended the establishment of an Indian Fisheries Research Committee to formulate a comprehensive plan of research in Indian fisheries and to have effective co-ordination and integration of all research in this connection. It suggested that the Government of India should undertake the regular compilation of fisheries statistics.

(d) Aid to fishermen.- The Conference recommended that the necessary measures for the establishment of co-operatives should be undertaken for the advancement of fishing in off-shore waters, lagoons and other such areas, supply of yarn, timber, coaltar, sail cloth, hooks and other fishery requisites, collection and transport of fish to markets or curing-yards and marketing of their produce. Government should also give loans and subsidies to needy fishermen preferably through co-operative societies for the building of boats, ~~the~~ making and repairing of nets and for other fishery equipment.

The Conference further urged the starting of schools for fishermen's children and the establishment of higher training schools in navigation for literate fisherboys.

(The Hindustan Times, 28 and 29-9-1948, and 11-10-1948; The Statesman, dated 2-10-1948).

92. Housing.

India - October 1948.

India: Housing Plans for Refugees:
Centre's Directive to Provinces and
States to expedite work.

The Government of India has issued a general directive to all provinces, States and States Unions where refugees are to be rehabilitated, for expediting progress on housing schemes for refugees. Every province, State or States' Union, to which a substantial number of refugees has been allotted, has been requested to take steps to establish at least one township and where larger number justify, two townships.

A target of two years within which Governments are to complete their housing schemes has laid down and the Government of India has expressed the desire that every refugee family should be given either a plot or a house, the unit of a family being reckoned as six members.

The various Governments have been requested to formulate their township schemes in accordance with this policy and forward these to the Government of India by 31 October 1948, indicating the assistance required from the Centre for implementing the same.

For the allocation of plots in the township, the Government of India has suggested that first priority should be given to refugee families who are prepared to construct houses at their own cost. Governments would endeavour to procure building materials. Second priority should be given to families who require only partial financial assistance, and third priority should be given to families who are not in a position to construct houses for themselves. The actual work of construction of houses in the proposed townships, it has been pointed out, should be undertaken by the provincial and State Governments. They should only make available to refugees developed plots of land on long lease.

(The Hindustan Times, 19-10-1948)

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Construction of Cheap Houses in India:
Separate Housing Department constituted.

The Government of India has set up a separate Department of Housing under the Ministry of Health (vide paragraph 93, page 94 of the report of this Office for August 1948). Dr. Koenisburger, town-planning expert, is the Director of the Department.

The primary function of the Department is to carry out research in housing and lay down an all-India policy in regard to town-planning. The department is expected to carry on research in construction of cheap houses particularly by using pre-fabricated building material. It will also suggest the types of houses that will be suitable for construction in different parts of India.

(The Hindustan Times, 6-10-1948).

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Bombay: Bombay Housing Board Bill, 1948.

The Government of Bombay published on 8 October 1948 the Bombay Housing Bill, 1948. The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill points out that the Government in January 1947 set up a Provincial Housing Board charged with the duty of formulating a long-range housing policy and undertaking an immediate programme of direct construction and assisted construction (vide pages 45-46 of the report of this Office for April 1947). As the Housing Board has to carry out activities falling within the field of local authorities and as the present local authorities have been tardy in carrying out ~~down~~ town planning and housing activity themselves for reasons of finance, the Government now considers that departmental management must make way for a statutory Board possessing the necessary independence and flexibility but subject to Government control in matters of general policy.

The present Bill provides for the setting up of a Statutory Housing Board which would pursue vigorously all necessary measures, schemes and works in order to increase accommodation conforming to minimum approved standards for the needy sections of the population. The statutory Board will consist of a Chairman and four members nominated by the provincial Government and holding office for three years. The Board will take over the programme of housing from Government from the stage reached so far. The relevant assets will be given over to the Board and it may also receive subventions etc., from various sources. The Board's annual housing programme and budget as also any supplementary programme and budget and variations thereof will be subject to pre-publication, consideration of objections and suggestions and Government sanction. In order to co-ordinate the activities of the Board vis-a-vis other local authorities, provision is made to avoid overlapping of town planning or improvement schemes and the Board's schemes. Acquisition of land for the purpose of the Board's programme will be for a public purpose within the meaning of the Land Acquisition Act and the Board will be a local authority for that Act.

The Board will have power to promote land and building development and levy betterment charges. Special tribunals consisting of a Judge and two assessors are proposed to be set up at the cost of the Board for settling disputes in respect of betterment charges, constitution of plots, compensation etc. The Board may make schemes for accelerating production of ~~brick~~ building materials and cheapening construction and arranging necessary research. The statutory Board will be functioning in the province of Bombay for promoting the solution of the housing problem in conjunction with the Central Housing Board or similar agency of the Government of India for the purpose of carrying out the requirements on the subject of housing set forth in the industrial truce resolution passed by the Industries Conference at New Delhi in December 1947 (vide pages 22-31 of the report of this Office for December 1947).

The Labour Minister, Government of Bombay, in moving consideration of the Bill in the Bombay Legislative Assembly on 16 October 1948, stated that the ~~the~~ Government of India had sanctioned a loan of 20,000,000 rupees to the Bombay Government to assist it in its housing programme.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part V,
dated 8 October 1948, pages 568-592;
The Hindustan Times dated 17 October 1948).

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Mysore: Housing Scheme for Workers:
Government Bill passed by Legislature.

On 14 October 1948 the Mysore Representative Assembly passed the Mysore Government's Labour Housing Bill.

Moving the Bill, the Home Minister stated that employers could not be expected to discharge their duties to the satisfaction of all concerned ~~in any~~ if they were statutorily required to provide proper houses for their workers. The only possible course, therefore, was for Government to take over control and introduce a labour housing scheme in co-operation with employers and employees. The administration of the scheme, was proposed to be entrusted to a corporation ~~which~~ which would consist of representatives of Government, employers and employees and also include certain members of the Legislature.

(The Times of India, 16-10-1948).

93. Co-operation.
India - October 1948.

Co-Operative Societies in East Punjab:
Effects of Partition of India.

According to an address presented to the Premier of East Punjab during a meeting of the East Punjab Provincial Co-operative Conference held at Ambala on 27 and 28 September 1948, there were in undivided Punjab about 28,000 societies for consolidation of land holdings; stock-breeding; sale and supply; better living; better farming; anti-erosion; ~~and~~ medical aid; compulsory and adult education; bee-keeping; fruit growing; silk-worm rearing; poultry farming; development of small-scale industries; house building; motor transport, etc., with a membership of 1.5 million and a working capital of 150 million rupees. Owing to the partition of the province, the number of co-operatives functioning at present in East Punjab was 15,000. These had a membership of 800,000 and a working capital of 90 million rupees.

(The Statesman, dated 1-10-1948).

94. Education.

India - October 1948.

Pakistan: Stimulating Public interest in Education of Children: Villagers to be asked to construct own Schools.

A committee of Directors of Public Instruction met recently in Karachi to consider the educational problems of Pakistan and adopted recommendations relating to primary education, adult education, physical education and pay scales of educational services.

Primary education.- The Committee suggested to the provincial Governments a plan, on the lines of an experiment carried out with success in Turkey, of asking villagers to contribute to a campaign of primary education by building their own schools. As there is no shortage of building material in Pakistan, the Committee felt, this would be an excellent method of stimulating public interest in the education of children. The Committee recommended that elementary schools and maktabs should be converted into primary schools.

Adult education.- The Committee recommended that each province and education division should send one officer each abroad for the study of adult education movement in countries such as Mexico and Turkey.

Physical education.- As regards physical education the Committee suggested that 2 physical education colleges should be set up immediately, one in East Bengal and the other in Western Pakistan. It is learnt that the West Punjab Government has already taken steps to establish a physical education college at Murree.

Pay Scales of Educational Services.- The Committee felt that the existing disparity between the educational services and the civil services was unjustified. The academic qualifications required in the educational services were higher than those required in other services, while the nature of their responsibility was no less important. Taking these factors into consideration, the Committee thought that pay scale of educational services should be higher than that of other services. It formulated certain recommendations regarding the salary scales of the education services for the consideration of the Pay Commission and requested the Chairman of the Advisory Board of Education of Pakistan, who is also the ~~Minister~~ Minister of Education in the Central Government, to take early steps to bring them to the notice of the Pay Commission.

(The Statesman, dated 4-10-1948).

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94. Education.

India - October 1948.

Pakistan: Stimulating Public interest in
Education of Children: Villagers to be
asked to construct own Schools.

A committee of Directors of Public Instruction met recently in Karachi to consider the educational problems of Pakistan and adopted recommendations relating to primary education, adult education, physical education and pay scales of educational services.

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(The Statesman, dated 4-10-1948).

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

INDIA - OCTOBER 1948.

111. Agriculture.

United Provinces: Report of Zamindari Abolition
Committee: Emphasis on Management by Village
Community and Co-operation.

The United Provinces Zamindari Abolition Committee appointed in August 1946 under the chairmanship of Mr. Govind Ballabh Pant, Premier of United Provinces (vide page 46 of the report of this Office for October 1946), has submitted its report recently, recommending the abolition of all intermediary rights in land on the payment of about 1,570 million rupees as compensation and suggesting a new scheme of land tenure, designed to provide an incentive for efficient cultivation. Under the new system recommended by the Committee land administration and management and the collection of revenue will be in the hands of the village community and this the Committee hopes will lead to the rapid growth of cooperative activity in India.

The following are the main recommendations of the Committee:-

No intermediary rights.- All intermediary rights in respect of holdings of tenants and grove-holders should be abolished. Forests, waste land, abadi pathways, common wells, water channels and village markets will be owned and ~~village~~ managed by the village community. But, 'sir' and 'Khudkasht' lands at present in the personal cultivation of the landlord will be retained by him with the same rights as are proposed to be given to other cultivators.

Basis of compensation and method of payment.- Compensation will be paid at a graduated scale ranging from 25 to 8 times the net income in the case of zamindars paying land revenue not exceeding 10,000 rupees. In the case of zamindars paying land revenue over 10,000 rupees the compensation will be eight times the net income in respect of that proportion of their property for which they pay 10,000 rupees as land revenue and three times the net income in respect of the rest of the property. The total compensation to be paid thus is estimated at about 1,370 million rupees and the annual interest on bonds at two and a half per cent interest ~~amount~~ for 40 years will be about 55 million rupees. As, payment of compensation in cash, whether to all zamindars or to the small zamindars alone, would lead to inflation, compensation to zamindars paying upto 2,000 rupees land revenue should be given in the form of negotiable bonds. In the case of bonds given to zamindars paying land revenue exceeding 2,000 rupees half the amount should be negotiable provided that the negotiable amount is not less than the compensation corresponding to 2,000 rupees land revenue. The balance is to be held as a fixed deposit in a co-operative bank to protect the interest of the zamindars. The State should guarantee the capital as well as the minimum rate of interest, i.e., two and a half per cent. The zamindars would be entitled to withdraw their money from the bank with the permission of the Collector if they wish to invest it for a bona-fide productive purpose.

Compulsory adjudication of intermediaries' debts.- The Committee has provided for compulsory adjudication of intermediaries debts. Loans secured by a charge or mortgage of land will be scaled down in the proportion which compensation bears to the market value of land. ~~Government~~ Government dues or loans advanced by co-operative societies or registered banks of local bodies will, however, be recoverable upto the ~~the~~ extent of the compensation. Unsecured loans of agriculturists will be treated like loans on the security of land and scaled down.

Cultivators' right in land: Prohibition of sub-letting.- The cultivators must be given a permanent heritable and transferable right in land. The price of land has been fixed at twelve times the circle rates plus compensation for improvements. To prevent ownership of land being used as a means of exploiting the labour of others, sub-letting should be prohibited except where the owner is a minor or a widow or a person physically disabled or in jail or in the military service of the State. Sub-leases and transfers will not be made by private negotiation, but ~~through~~ through the agency of the village community which will give first preference in the settlement of vacant land to landless labourers and occupants of uneconomic holdings.

Maximum limit on purchases of land.- No one shall be permitted to acquire more than thirty acres of land by purchase.

Creation of consolidated holdings: Holdings below 10 acres to be made impartible.- Holdings below ten acres will be deemed to be impartible and all the co-heirs must cultivate them jointly. An organised drive must be made for consolidation of holdings.

Differences in the levels of rent to continue for the present.- The present differences in the level of rent may be allowed to continue only for a short period until settlement operations are undertaken from district to district. These differences should be progressively eliminated. Land revenue should in future be based upon estimates of average produce and costs of cultivation on different sizes of holdings. Land revenue should be graduated; the standard rate should be progressively reduced on holdings below ten acres and increased on holdings above this size. Collection of revenue should be made through gaon panchayats on a commission of five per cent.

Fifty-acre co-operative farms advocated: Verdict against State collective and largescale farming.- The Committee is opposed to the ~~introduction~~ introduction of state farming, collective farming or large-scale capitalist farming. It is of the opinion that the ultimate solution of United Province's agrarian problems lies in co-operative joint farming but recognises that in the existing conditions ~~present~~ peasant farming must continue. It has accordingly advocated a scheme of peasant farming which is free from the well-known defects of the ryotwari system and which will lead to the progressive evolution of cooperative farming and recommended the immediate establishment on voluntary basis of small co-operative fifty-acre farms composed of at least ten adult members. The state should provide technical and financial assistance to these farms.

Mechanisation of agriculture opposed.- The Committee opposes the mechanisation of agriculture because (1) judging from available data it does not lead to the maximum use of land. (2) It would displace a large proportion of the agriculturist class and intensify unemployment. (3) There is a lack of capital resources and fuel. Though the Committee does not advocate extensive mechanisation, it considers that some mechanised farms will be necessary for experimental purposes and for the reclamation of waste lands.

Effect on Government's revenues.- On the abolition of zamindari the net land revenue of the State would amount to 180.5 million rupees after deducting 10 per cent as cost of management and irrecoverables and the Sayar income which will belong to the village community. As the present land revenue and local rates amount to 77.7 million rupees the gross additional gain to the State would amount to 102.8 million rupees. However, there would be loss of revenue in respect of court fees, stamps and registration, estimated at 15 million rupees a year, while the State would have to pay)

annuities to Waqfs and charitable trusts to the extent of 5 million rupees a year. Deduction in the ~~rent~~ rent of uneconomic holdings ~~may~~ may cost the State another 15 million rupees a year. After allowing for these deductions, the net additional revenue of the State would amount to 67.8 million rupees a year. The Committee's view is that a major part of this net ~~additional~~ additional revenue should be paid as compensation to the intermediaries, reserving a small margin to cover unforeseen contingencies and schemes of agricultural development. Total compensation to be paid will amount to about 1,370 million rupees and the annual payments on bonds at 2½ per cent for 40 years would be 55 million rupees. This would leave an additional gain to the State of 13 million rupees a year.

(The National Herald, 8-10-1948).

Central and Provincial Marketing Officers'
Conference, New Delhi, 19 and 20 October,
1948.

A conference of Central and provincial Marketing officers was held in New Delhi on 19 and 20 October 1948, under the chairmanship of Mr. K.L. Panjabi, Secretary, Agriculture Ministry, Government of India. The conference discussed problems relating to the marketing of agricultural produce in India, such as grading and quality control, marketing surveys, the regulation of markets, and co-operative marketing and passed a number of resolutions on the subjects.

Importance of Co-operative marketing: Minister's address.- Addressing the conference on 20 October, 1948, Mr. Jairamdas Daulatram, Minister for Food and Agriculture said that as compared to other advanced countries, India was far behind in the organisation of marketing. Stressing the need for a changed outlook in dealing with marketing, the Food Minister said that the interests of producers must come first in a system of marketing. One method to bring about this was co-operative marketing.

Resolutions.- The following are among the more important resolutions adopted by the conference:-

(i) Regulation of quality of exports.- On this subject the conference recommended that steps should be taken by legislation to regulate the quality of exports. Pending the passing of such legislation, the present grading scheme of tobacco and sann hemp, should be extended to as many agricultural and animal husbandry products as possible, with first preference to oilseeds and vegetable oils.

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(ii) Regulation of markets.- To protect the interests of farmers in their markets, the Conference recommended that provincial and State Governments be moved to enact the necessary legislation; arrange for the regulation of all the important assembling markets as soon as possible; and entrust the administration of the Regulated Markets Act to the provincial and State marketing officers or to other officers with requisite marketing experience.

(iii) Standard weights and measures.- The Conference recommended that pending the general reorientation of the Government of India's policy on weights and measures, the provincial and State Governments should undertake legislation, where such legislation does not already exist, for enforcement of standard weights and measures and create the necessary enforcement machinery as early as possible within five years. The Governments ~~has~~ should permit the use of only the Indian system of weights, i.e., standard maund, seer, chhatak, etc., for trading in internal markets and to restrict the use of avoirdupois weights, for trading in port towns only in commodities entering the export trade.

The Government of India should expedite the work of the Indian Standards Institution concerned with the prescription of standards of weights and measures and to arrange for their effective adoption on an all-India basis.

(iv) Rail and road transport.- On the subject of rail and road transport, the Conference recommended that the provincial and State Governments should (i) give the highest possible priority for the construction of all weather feeder roads in agricultural areas for facilitating the movement of agricultural produce to assembling markets or despatching stations; and (ii) popularize and assist in the use of pneumatic tyres for bullock carts and to assist in the manufacture and utilization of country carts for transporting agricultural produce.

It also recommended that the rail transport and steamship authorities should (i) introduce a unified rates policy for different classes of goods for the whole country, and (ii) provide adequate number of ventilated and insulated wagons and refrigerated transport for perishable products.

(v) Encouragement of producers' co-operatives.- To secure a better return to the cultivator for his produce and save undue profits made by the middle men, the Conference stressed that provincial and State Governments should encourage organisation of producers' co-operative societies for the pooling, grading, processing, and marketing of their produce and the organisation of consumers' co-operative stores and to link them up with producers' marketing societies.

Madras: Collective Farming to be tried in Nilgiri Districts.

For the first time in the Madras Presidency an experiment in co-operative collective farming will shortly be started on the Nilgiri Districts.

The agriculturists of the place have formed a Collective Farming Co-operative Society and are taking on lease 500 acres of forest and land from the Government for a period of five years. The members will jointly cultivate 100 acres each year. In approving the scheme, the Government has ~~known~~ laid down that food crops only should be grown in the first five years. The lease is liable to be cancelled if the whole extent of the land is not cultivated within the specified period.

(The Hindustan Times, 23-10-1948).

Crop Insurance in India: Centre to Undertake Investigations.

In the light of the experience gained by other countries in crop insurance, the Government of India is considering undertaking experimental schemes under the aegis of the Central Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr. G.S. Priolkar has been appointed to study the problems involved, and prepare experimental schemes to operate in selected areas.

(The Hindu, dated 13-10-1948).

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112. Indigenous Workers.

India - October 1948.

Compulsory Education for Adiwasi Children:
Bombay Committee's Report.

A Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay in July 1947 to suggest a programme of educational expansion in the Adiwasi (an aboriginal tribe) areas, submitted its ^{report} recently recommending the immediate introduction of compulsory education among children, both boys and girls, between the ages 6 and 11 years in the five Adiwasi talukas of Thana District in Bombay Presidency.

Under the Committee's scheme, for every 10 village schools, there will be one central full grade school with an agricultural bias with a farm and a hostel attached. The Committee has also suggested that the Government should adopt the Wardha plan of education as an ultimate aim of education to be introduced among the Adiwasis, with agriculture as the basic craft.

The other recommendations of the Committee include a training college for teachers in Adiwasi areas with a special syllabus and an extensive adult education programme exclusively in the Adiwasi areas.

The Committee has further suggested to the Government that in order to effect all-round improvement among the Adiwasis, it should give priority to the Adiwasi areas in respect of water supply, village sanitation, communications, medical health and the establishment of co-operative organisations under its schemes of village improvement.

(People's Raj, dated 16-10-1948).

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117. Shopworkers.

India - October 1948.

Bombay: New Shops and Establishments Bill, to
replace earlier Legislation - Assembly passes
Measure.

The Government of Bombay published on 20 September 1948, the Bombay Shops and Establishments Bill, 1948. This Bill which when enacted will replace the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1939, seeks mainly to carry out the changes and improvements in the Act of 1939, suggested by a Committee, appointed earlier to enquire into the working of the Bombay Shops and Establishments Act, 1939 (vide paragraph 117 pages 91-96 of the report of this Office for March 1948).

The Bill is in the form of a repealing and re-enacting measure. The more important of the material and substantive changes introduced by the Bill are as follows: (1) The scope of the Act is extended by including in its operation the residential hotels and clubs and by widening the definition of "commercial establishment". (2) The Act is made compulsorily applicable to all local areas with a population of 25,000 and more. (3) The total exemptions from the provisions of the Act are severely curtailed and partial exemptions provided. (4) The opening and closing hours of establishments are fixed. (5) Weekly (in addition to the existing provision for daily) hours for shops, ^{and} daily and weekly (instead of the existing provision for monthly) hours for commercial establishments are fixed. (6) A substantial reduction in the normal working hours in all establishments except the commercial establishments is effected. (7) Normal spread-over periods are reduced with only a few exceptions which are limited to brief periods and very few occasions. (8) Compulsory weekly closure of shops and commercial establishments is provided. (9) Provision for identity cards for employees in residential hotels, restaurants and eating houses is made. (10) Women are prohibited from work before 6 a.m. and after 7 p.m. (11) 14 days' leave with pay with freedom to accumulate up to 28 days is provided. (12) Provisions relating to cleanliness, ventilation, lighting and precautions against fire are included. (13) Rate of pay for overtime is raised from 1/4 times to 1/2 the ordinary rate

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of wages in shops, commercial establishments, theatres or other places of public amusement or entertainment and to twice the ordinary rate in residential hotels, restaurants and eating houses. (14) Dismissal without notice, barring dismissal for bad conduct, is prohibited. (15) The Factories Act is amended so that the employees in clerical establishments of factories may be governed by it. (16) Submission of annual reports on the working of the Act is prescribed. (17) Power is taken to extend the Payment of Wages Act to establishments covered by the Shops Act in suitable localities when the machinery of the Shops Inspectorate is ripe enough to administer that Act.

The Bill was passed by the Bombay Legislative Assembly on 15 October 1948. During the course of the debate Mr. C. P. Bramble (Bombay Chamber of Commerce) pleaded for an exemption from the operation of the Act to shipping companies in view of the fact that Government had already granted such exemption to the offices of the Bombay Port Trust. The Labour Minister in ~~reply~~ reply said he could not agree to the suggestion but where a case was made out to justify such exemption Government would be prepared to consider the request.

(The Bombay Government Gazette, Part V,
dated 20 September 1948, pages 476-500);
The Times of India, dated 16 October 1948)

United Provinces: Assembly passes the United
Provinces Shops and Commercial Establishments
(Amendment) Bill, 1948.

The Government of the United Provinces gazetted on 4 October 1948 the United Provinces Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Bill, 1948.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill points out that under the United Provinces Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1947 employees in shops or commercial establishments are allowed as much as 114 days' holidays or leave in a year—52 days weekly holidays, ordinary leave for 15 days, sickness leave for 15 days and 32 days gazetted holidays for Government treasuries. The total number of holidays and leave under the Act has been enlarged mainly by the inclusion of Gazetted holidays for Government treasuries, and this provision has come in for strong criticism from ~~employers~~ employers. The experience

gained so far in the working of the Act also shows that there is considerable justification in these criticisms and the provincial Standing Committee on Labour which met on 25 August 1948, came to the conclusion that for the general good of the country it was necessary that the number of holidays under the Act should be reduced. The Committee recommended the withdrawal of the provisions regarding Gazetted holidays and suggested the granting instead of 10 days' casual leave and 5 days' holidays for Government treasuries in a year as prescribed by Government. The United Provinces Government are in agreement with these recommendations and the Bill is intended to carry out necessary amendments in the Act.

The Bill was passed by the United Provinces Legislative Assembly on 19 October 1948, though some members expressed themselves vehemently against the ~~proposed~~ proposal to reduce the number of holidays.

(Government Gazette of the United Provinces, Extraordinary, dated 4 October 1948, pages 1-2; The Hindustan Times, 20 October, 1948).

United Provinces: The United Provinces Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1947 Exemptions.

By a notification dated 22 September 1948, the Government of the United Provinces has exempted commercial establishments which are engaged in manufacturing processes, from the operation of section 6 of the United Provinces Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1947, for the purposes of manufacturing work only. (Section 6 of the Act specifies the opening and closing hours of shops or commercial establishments in summer and winter).

(Notification No. 1237(LL)/XVIII-818(L)-48, dated 22 September 1948; Government Gazette of the United Provinces, Part I, dated 2 October 1948, page 631).

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United Provinces: Right to Weekly Holidays
under Shops Act: Judicial Decision.

In a prosecution case under the United Provinces Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1947, in which ~~the employer~~ ^{an} challenged the right of his employees to weekly holidays on the ground that the Act applied only to those who worked for at least eight hours ~~at~~ a day, the City Magistrate of Aligarh, who tried the case, accepted the plea of the employer and held that the prosecution had failed to prove that his employees, whose hours of work normally did not exceed six hours a day, were entitled to weekly holidays. He was, therefore, acquitted.

(The Statesman, dated 22-10-1948).

LIST OF THE MORE IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS
RECEIVED IN THE NEW DELHI OFFICE DURING
OCTOBER, 1948.

Economic Questions

- 1) Report of the Committee on Profit Sharing - Government of India, Ministry of Industry and Supply. Manager, Government of India Press, New Delhi.
- 2) Interim Report by the Industrial Conditions Enquiry Committee on the Cotton Textile Industry in Bombay City and Bombay Suburban District, Bombay: Printed at the Central Press, 1948: Obtainable from the Superintendent, Government Printing and Stationery, Bombay: Price - As.7 or 9d.; pp.90.
- 3) Annual Report of the Industries Department, Orissa, for the Year 1943-44. Superintendent, Orissa Government Press, Cuttack, 1948. Price - Re.0-4-6 or 5d; pp. 25.
- 4) Area and Yield of Principal Crops in India - 1941-42, 1942-43 and 1943-44. Forty-Fourth Issue: Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India: Published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi, 1948. Price Rs.3 or 5s.; pp. 50.
- 5) Abstract for British India with Statistics, where available, relating to certain Indian States from 1936-37 to 1940-41. Nineteenth Issue: Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, India. Published by the Manager of Publications Delhi, 1948. Price Rs. 2-10-0 or 5s.9d.; pp. xi+545.
- 6) Annual Administration Report of the Department of Agriculture, United Provinces for the year 1946-47. Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, United Provinces, India, 1948. Price annas 10; pp.83.
- 7) Report on an Enquiry into Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Gauhati, by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme. Price Re.1-0-0 or 1s.6d.; Published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi, 1947; pp. vii+54.
- 8) Report on an Enquiry into Family Budgets of Industrial Workers in Howrah and Bally, by S.R. Deshpande, Director, Cost of Living Index Scheme. Published by the Manager of Publications, Delhi. Price Annas 14 or 1s.3d.; pp. vi+51.

Employment and Unemployment

Progress Report for the period 1st January to 31st December 1947. Government of India, Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour, New Delhi.

Living Standards

Report of the Madras Provincial Housing Committee. Superintendent; Government Press, Madras, 1948. Price Rs.2-6-0; pp. viii+134.

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