

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR

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\* RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE \*  
\* ON \*  
\* LABOUR STATISTICS \*  
\*  
\* (Held in New Delhi - Simla from \*  
\* 28th to 31st August, 1968.) \*  
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SEPTEMBER  
1968.

Conference on Labour Statistics  
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## NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR

### Conference on Labour Statistics held in New Delhi-Simla from 28 to 31st August, 1968.

A Conference on Labour Statistics, convened by the National Commission on Labour, was held in New Delhi - Simla from 28th August to 31st August, 1968. The Conference was inaugurated in New Delhi on 28th August, 1968, by the Chairman of the National Commission on Labour, Dr. P.B. Gajendragadkar.

2. In his inaugural address, the Chairman stressed the need for development of labour statistics within the framework of the programme for development of statistics in general. He pointed out that labour statistics were needed for economic planning, manpower planning and social planning, and, therefore, their availability on a comprehensive, reliable and scientific basis and in time was an urgent necessity. If such labour statistics could be made available, it would stimulate interest in labour matters and encourage labour research among a wider section of population including the trade unions. The Chairman drew attention to the important role which the consumer price index numbers play in the wage adjustments of a large section of workers and the need for ensuring technical soundness of such index numbers. He pointed out that labour being a concurrent subject in the Constitution, both Central and State Governments were engaged in collecting labour statistics. In this connection, he wished the Conference to consider whether a common Labour Code for the country as a whole would help in bringing about uniformity in these statistics. The Chairman then introduced Dr. B. Ramamurti, M.A., D.Sc., a distinguished labour statistician of long standing in both national and international fields and hoped that under Dr. Ramamurti's able guidance, the Conference would produce fruitful results.

3. The Conference held its meetings in Simla on 30th and 31st August, 1968. After a plenary session, when the delegates expressed their views on the various issues brought before them, the Conference split itself up into two Working Groups - one on Labour Statistics and the other on Labour Research. The Working Groups held their meetings separately in the light of discussions at the plenary session and framed their recommendations. These were considered again in the plenary session on the concluding day and the recommendations of the Conference were finalised.

4. A list of delegates who attended the Conference is given at Appendix A. The Conference was attended by the Directors of State Statistical Bureaus and State Labour Commissioners or their representatives from 16 States and the Union Territory of Delhi. Besides, representatives of the Labour Bureau, Central Statistical Organisation and the Planning Commission and the Chief Labour Commissioner(Central) attended the Conference.



5. The Conference directed its attention mainly to the various Questions relating to Statistics and Research under the general heading "Labour Research and Information". These Questions (given at Appendix B) were raised by the National Commission on Labour in their Questionnaire circulated to various organisations, departments, individuals, etc. The replies of the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation, Government of India, to these questions were circulated by the Secretariat of the National Commission on Labour to the various Directors of Economics and Statistics in the States and their comments were obtained. The Secretariat placed two documents before the Conference for consideration. The first document for the Conference included the replies of the Labour Bureau to the Commission's Questionnaire and the comments received from the various States on the Labour Bureau's paper. It also included comments of the Central Statistical Organisation (Department of Statistics, Government of India), the Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance, Government of India) and the Xavier's Institute of Social Services, Ranchi. The second document placed before the Conference consisted of a note by Dr. B. Ramamurti, the Chairman of the Conference, summarising the important issues emerging from the first document, the additional comments received from some of the States, a report on the Labour Bureau prepared by Mr. Dudley E. Young, Bureau of Labour Statistics, USA (Mr. Young's services were lent to the Labour Bureau by the U.S. Agency for International Development for a period of four months in 1967) and also a detailed note on Labour Research submitted by Xavier's Institute of Social Services, Ranchi.

6. The basic questions posed by the National Commission on Labour related to the defects in the existing labour statistics collected under the various labour laws, the duplication involved in the collection of such statistics, adequacy of the All-India Working-Class Consumer Price Index Numbers, the need for having Regional Consumer Price Index Numbers for purposes of wage fixation, adequacy of the statistics of works stoppages resulting from industrial disputes collected at present to judge the situation of industrial unrest, place of statistics on social and sociological aspects of workers' life in better comprehension of labour problems, arrangements for collection of statistical data for rural labour for each State/Region, arrangements for research and studies in the field of labour, steps for improving the quality of labour research and arrangements for publicising labour research activities and educating the public on labour matters.

7. For convenience, some of these questions were grouped together and separate discussions were held on each group of questions. The topic discuss separately were:



- (A) Labour Statistics collected under Labour Laws and gaps in existing Labour Statistics,
- (B) All-India Working Class Consumer Price Index Number,
- (C) Statistics of Work-Stoppages resulting from industrial disputes or otherwise,
- (D) Statistics on social and sociological aspects of Workers' life,
- (E) Statistics for rural labour,
- (F) Labour Research, and
- (G) Publicity of labour news

8. On the last topic, viz., publicity of labour news, the delegates of the Conference had generally not much comment to make and the Conference noted that the National Commission on Labour has already received comments from other organisations and bodies which will enable them to make an assessment of the situation and to make recommendations in that regard. The other topics were discussed by the Conference in detail and its recommendations on current state and future programme are given below:

- (A) Statistics collected under the various Labour Laws and gaps in existing labour statistics. (Questions 212 & 213).

9. The Conference recognised that there are still differences in concepts and definitions as between different Labour Laws which introduced an element of non-comparability in the various statistics and these, therefore, continued to be collected through different forms prescribed under the Laws. The Conference was of the view that there should be uniformity in the definitions and scope to the extent possible among different Labour Laws and also among the different States. The Conference noted that the question of having a common Labour Code was under the active consideration of the National Commission on Labour. It was of the view that such a Code would go a long way in bringing about uniformity in the definitions and scope. When such a Code comes into being, it will be appropriate for a Working Group, to be convened by the Labour Bureau, to unify, simplify and rationalise the forms prescribed at present under various Labour Laws. In this matter, the Conference recommended that the suggestion for having a consolidated return in two parts - the first part dealing with general information and the second part dealing with specific information required by the Authorities implementing Labour Laws - should be kept in view.

10. In regard to the statistics presently collected under Labour



Laws, the Conference made the following recommendations:

- (a) The collection of the returns should be the responsibility of the implementing Authorities in Central and State spheres. They should give greater attention to scrutiny of returns and rectification of defects. The existing arrangements for furnishing consolidated returns to the Labour Bureau should continue and simultaneously a copy of such statements from the States should be sent to the State Statistical Bureau.
- (b) In pursuance of the recommendation of the Committee on Improvement of Labour Statistics, 1958, the Labour Bureau has already taken up a scheme for training of senior staff of Central and State Authorities connected with the collection and processing of the returns. The officers sponsored for such training and accepted by the Labour Bureau should be able to train the lower compiling staff in their Departments after completion of their training. This training should further percolate down to the level of reporting units. Action in this regard should be taken by these Authorities who should arrange systematically for the training of the staff in the primary reporting units. The Labour Bureau should systematically review the progress in this regard, from time to time, along with a review of its own training programme. The Authorities should ensure that their staff trained by the Labour Bureau, on their return, arrange for the training of compilation and scrutiny staff and are not switched on to some other work.
- (c) Training of staff engaged in statistical work and improvement of quality of statistics are overall responsibilities of the State Statistical Bureaus. It is necessary that the statistical staff engaged in the collection of statistics should have the necessary training. Such training is needed and should be arranged by the State Statistical Bureau. If the Labour Department needs, the State Statistical Bureau can provide a unit to be stationed under the administrative control of that Department.
- (d) All attempts should be made to reduce the time-lag in the availability of the statistics. It was felt that the main contributing factor for the time-lag was that most of the smaller establishments needed assistance in completing the returns. There should be arrangements for giving assistance to the smaller factories on a continuing basis by trained staff. <sup>to</sup> the offices of the implementing Authorities would help in reducing the time-lag.

/It was hoped that the provision of trained

staff 11. The Conference was of the view that it was not necessary to collect all labour statistics under the Collection of Statistics Act,



1953, but this Act should be used for collection generally of only those labour statistics which are, at present, not covered under the Labour Laws. The question, whether for collection of labour statistics under the Collection of Statistics Act, 1953, there should be separate State Authorities appointed by respective State Governments or a single Central Authority appointed by the Central Government, was discussed. The legal position seemed to be that if under the Act the Central Government decides to appoint a Statistics Authority for collection of a particular set of statistics, the State Governments cannot appoint State Authorities for the same purpose. The Conference noted that for the Annual Survey of Industries, the Director, National Sample Survey, Government of India, had been declared as the Statistics Authority by the Central Government and hence there were no State Statistics Authorities for collection of data for this survey. On the other hand, under the Rules framed for collection of statistics of work-stoppages resulting from industrial disputes under the same Act, it is contemplated to allow the State Governments to appoint State Statistics Authority for collection of the statistics. The Conference was unable to make any recommendation regarding the arrangement to be made for collection of other labour statistics under the Collection of Statistics Act in view of the fact that the issues involved were mainly administrative and legal.

12. The conference took note of the fact that there are still serious gaps in labour statistics. Apart from annual data at present collected, there is a pressing need for bringing out important economic indicators like the index numbers of employment, wage rates and earnings at quarterly intervals. This has also been stressed by the Department of Economic Affairs who are concerned with overall appraisal of the economic situation. The Conference, therefore, recommended that expeditious action should be taken to organise these series on a statutory basis. Obviously, the timely preparation of these series can be ensured by collecting data from a well-designed sample of establishments.

13. The Conference noted that in regard to employees in the un-organised sectors, such as in small shops and commercial establishments, in small-scale industries, etc. there are gaps in labour statistics. The question of filling up these gaps

is of high priority and the Conference recommended that the matter should be examined by the Central Government in consultation with State Governments.

14. The Conference was of the view that any programme for the development of labour statistics should be integrated with the over-all programme for statistics development in general.



The Conference, therefore, recommended that the Labour Bureau should be in close and continuous consultation with the Central Statistical Organisation.

15. After reviewing the position regarding labour statistics, the Conference felt that the problem of the quality of statistics had not been considered in all its aspects and progress made in regard to implementation of recommendations of earlier committees left much to be desired. The Conference hoped that the above set of recommendations, if effectively implemented, would result in an improvement in the quality and timeliness of these statistics.

(B) All-India Working-Class Consumer Price Index Number (Question 214).

16. The Conference recognised the need for the All-India Working Class Consumer Price Index Number as one of the important economic indicators and as a tool for wage adjustments at the national level. It noted that the new series with 1960 as base constitutes a distinct improvement over the existing interim series with 1949 as base. The new series is based on the Labour Bureau series of index numbers for 50 centres. They have a common base and the weights are derived from the Family Budget Enquiries conducted during 1958-59 on uniform lines and are compiled on uniform and scientific methods approved by the Technical Advisory Committee.

The Conference noted that the process of correcting the linking factors of the individual new series with the corresponding old series with the assistance of Committees has been completed. The Conference, therefore, recommended that the new index with 1960 as base should be issued expeditiously, simultaneously discontinuing the interim All-India Index.

17. It is well-known that index number series should be revised every 5 or 10 years in order to take into account the changing consumption pattern. Significant changes have taken place in this regard since the last Family Budget Enquiries during 1958-59. The Conference noted that the Labour Bureau has already proposals for the next round of Family Budget Enquiries around 1969-70 and arrangements for the necessary price collection so as to bring out an index on the basis of these data.

One of the problems encountered in recent years is the prevalence of two concurrent series with its attendant problems. The Conference, therefore, recommended that the series on the basis of the family budget enquiries proposed to be held around 1969-70 should be issued with the least possible time-lag, at the same time discontinuing the index on base 1960=100.

18. The Conference noted that the Labour Bureau has already consulted the State Authorities in regard to the centres proposed to be covered for fresh Family Living Surveys during 1969-70.



The list of centres will now be finalised by the Technical Advisory Committee. The decision of the Technical Advisory Committee will be intimated to all the States. In this connection it was the view of the Conference that in each State there should be at least two centres if that State so desires. If this involves an increase in the total number of centres, not very much beyond the resources of the Labour Bureau, they should also be taken for 1969-70. In the conduct of the fresh Family Living Surveys during 1969-70, the Labour Bureau should be in close consultation with the States at every stage. The Conference was in agreement with the general principles to be followed in the choice of centres and weightage according to consumption expenditure rather than employment.

19. The Conference recognised that in addition to the All-India Index, there is need for State indices. The centres proposed to be covered by the Labour Bureau for fresh Family Living Surveys during 1969-70 may not be adequate for construction of State indices. The Conference recommended that the respective State Governments should, therefore, choose additional centres within their States and conduct surveys and organise price collection for constructing a State Index.

Such surveys at additional centres conducted by the State Governments should be conducted simultaneously with the fresh Family Living Surveys of the Labour Bureau, using the same concepts and definitions, so that all the series - compiled by the Labour Bureau and the State Governments - may have a common base period and are compiled on the basis of uniform procedures. The Conference recommended that the necessary financial and technical assistance should be provided by the Centre to the extent feasible.

In view of the fact that the new proposal envisages simultaneous organisation of Centre and the State series, there is the further advantage of using them to their mutual advantages.

20. The Conference was of the view that it will be desirable to identify zones which a particular centre index will represent within a State. The Conference recommended that the attempt should be to represent the entire industrial area of a State by the available centre-indices of that State.

(C) Statistics of Work Stoppages resulting from Industrial disputes or otherwise. (Question 215+216)

21. The Conference noted that the statistics of work stoppages resulting from industrial disputes are at present collected voluntarily and these statistics suffer from certain deficiencies, particularly in regard to the figures of loss in production and loss in wages. The Conference was informed



that Model Draft Rules have been framed under the Collection of Statistics Act, 1953 for statutory collection of the necessary data and that one difficulty in the implementation of these Rules, viz., in regard to service of annual notices on all undertakings is being examined in the Ministry of Labour in consultation with the Central Statistical Organisation and the Ministry of Law. The Conference was of the view that the difficulty can be obviated if it is made obligatory on the part of the undertaking concerned to report about the work-stoppage as and when it occurs there. The Conference further recommended that the question of publication of details of individual disputes should also be examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

The Conference recommended that the Rules for the collection of statistics of work-stoppages resulting from industrial disputes should be implemented at an early date by all the States. These statistics are needed on a monthly basis. The cause-wise break-up of the statistics should be examined with a view to making possible improvements.

22. The Conference was of the view that it is necessary to compile on a regular basis statistics of industrial disputes which do not result in work-stoppages in order to gauge the total situation about industrial unrest in the country. The Conference recommended that arrangements for collection and processing of such statistics should be examined by the Labour Bureau in consultation with Authorities concerned.

23. The Conference recommended that statistics should also be collected for work-stoppages not resulting from industrial disputes, e.g. due to break-down of machinery, shortage of material, lack of demand for products, etc. It may be necessary to frame separate Rules under the Collection of Statistics Act for this purpose.

24. The Conference noted that there are difficulties in the collection of statistics about loss of production, etc., due to go-slow, work-to-rule, etc, and it recommended that these should be examined by the Labour Bureau in consultation with the Authorities concerned.

(D) Statistics on Social and Sociological Aspects of Workers' Life. (Question 217).

25. In the context of planning, the Conference recognised the importance as well as the need for collecting statistics on social and socio-logical aspects of workers' life. The Conference was of the view that it would be useful to collect information on aptitude to work and reaction to work situation and to study the problems of



displacement of workers, especially in tribal and backward areas, which may arise with the emergence of new industries and enterprises.

26. The Conference noted that at present statistics on some social aspects of labour in organised industries are collected in connection with Family living Surveys, Survey of Labour Conditions, etc. The Conference recommended that in the proposed Working Class Family Living Surveys to be conducted by the Labour Bureau in 1969-70, social data should also be collected to the extent possible.

27. The Conference recommended that the data on social aspects collected by the National Sample Survey should be tabulated as early as possible. The Conference was also of the view that it will be desirable if once in five years a Schedule is added in the round of the National Sample Survey exclusively for the study of social aspects on a comprehensive basis.

28. As regards sociological aspects, the Conference was of the view that these are better studied through case-studies of a diagnostic type. The Conference, therefore, recommended that provision should be made for the conduct of such studies on an intensive basis, both at national and State levels.

(E) Statistics for Rural Labour  
(Question 218)

29. The Conference was of the view that while the data collected by the National Sample Survey in regard to rural labour upto 18th round threw some light on the rural labour, the sample size in the subsequent rounds is too small to lead to valid conclusion at the State level. However, the National Sample Survey organisation should be able to design, if needed, an adequate survey to meet the requirements. The Conference noted that there are two major conceptual problems, viz., the definition of rural labour and the definitions of employment, unemployment and under-employment, which have still to be settled. It was reported to the Conference that the Planning Commission has set up a high level committee to go into the question of concepts of employment, unemployment and under-employment. The Conference also took note of the fact that the Labour Bureau, following the recommendations of the Agricultural Labour Seminar (1965), has launched a series of Intensive Type Studies in 21 regions aimed at providing desired data for devising an action programme for remedial measures. The Conference was of the view that the results of the Intensive Type Studies should also throw light on the definitional aspect of rural labour.



F - LABOUR RESEARCH (Questions 219 to 224)

30. The Conference discussed the subject of labour research, in some detail, in regard to scope and objectives, areas and topics for research, quality, appropriate agencies and arrangements for coordination. The observations and recommendations of the Conference on these issues were as follows:

31. Scope and Objectives of Labour Research: Labour research does not merely mean compilation or presentation of statistics, but involves analysis with specific objectives in view, such as, testing certain hypotheses on labour behaviour, assessing impact of measures (e.g. social security benefits, welfare amenities, etc.) on sociological and attitudinal aspects of workers' outlook, enabling the administrator to choose between feasible alternative solutions of problems posed; and so on. Labour research has to be purposeful and need and problem oriented. So far, the emphasis has been mostly on academic research. The emphasis should shift to applied research having a direct bearing on the problems faced in the labour field. This should not rule out methodological investigations bearing on labour problems which have their own role for future development.

32. Areas and Topics of Labour Research: The topics of labour research should be identified with a certain perspective (may be five years) and periodically reviewed. Organisations and authorities like Labour Commissioners, who are ultimately the users of labour research, should be fully involved in the choice of topics. They should be in a position to pose the problems on which research is to shed light.

Some of the priority topics suggested in the Conference were productivity and labour efficiency, recognition of unions, role of outsiders in trade unions, human approach to labour problems, etc. Labour research should also throw light on the dynamics of social adjustment, particularly in the areas where new industrial complexes are coming up.

33. Quality of Labour Research: Labour research conducted so far offers much scope for improvement in quality. It is necessary that persons selected for directing sponsored research projects should be competent, having an adequate background of the subject-matter as well as of research methodology. The research staff for the project should also be chosen after ascertaining their ability for the specific work and experience in research methodology. They should be trained adequately before they are put on the job.

The sponsoring agency should insist that the persons entrusted with the project work should submit beforehand a technical note on the design of the project. This should be a necessary condition and formal approval of the technical note should be given after proper scrutiny and examination by the sponsoring agency at the time of the sanction of the project grant.

To make the research meaningful and go in depth it is desirable that besides estimational surveys and interview

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methods, case studies should also be resorted to. The interview method should also be supplemented by observation and participation method.

34. Agency for Labour Research: Promotion of labour research to meet the felt needs of the State authorities is essential and for this purpose research sections at the State level manned by competent officers and research workers are necessary.

It is also desirable that the trade unions should be encouraged to undertake research studies which may throw light on their spheres of interest. This can be achieved, wherever necessary, by associating in the first instance interested trade union leaders and research workers sponsored by them in the operational programmes of studies to be conducted by specialised agencies. In this way the research workers and the trade unions would equip themselves better to undertake such research activities, themselves.

While the importance of Government research was realised and the interest of some of the trade unions to conduct research was recognised by the Conference, it felt that objective research in labour field could best be conducted through universities and research institutions. The universities and research institutions should, therefore, receive necessary grants for this purpose from the sponsoring agencies on a project basis. It was at the same time felt that the project directors from the universities/research institutions should be in close touch with the appropriate authorities in Government/trade unions, etc., in the conduct of research and the authorities should also, as far as possible, make available all necessary help and cooperation to the research personnel to make the research work realistic and purposeful.

The Conference was of the view that the personnel in Government and in employers' and workers' organisations should be encouraged and given opportunities for further training and participation in research projects of the universities/institutions. The universities/institutions should provide necessary facilities for such collaboration.

35. Coordination of Labour Research: The Labour Bureau has made a beginning in coordinating labour research activities by publishing a bibliography of all research work done in this field. This publication is proposed to be issued every five years and the preparation of the next issue containing information till the end of 1965 is in hand. The Conference was of the view that besides this quinquennial publication, it would be useful to publish an annual supplement.

Since it is envisaged that labour research will be undertaken by Governments, Universities and Research Institutions, trade unions and possibly by other organisations and individuals also, there should be effective arrangements for ensuring a broad-based coordination. Further, the whole programme of labour research should be fitted into the wider framework of social research. For this purpose, a Standing Committee on Labour Research representing the Planning Commission (RPC), the Central Statistical Organisation, the National Institute of Labour Research and user organisations (Labour Commissioners, etc) under the aegis of the Labour Bureau should be set up.

36. Need for interdisciplinary approach and Coordination with the proposed Council of Social Research: In the context of integrated planned development the Committee stressed the need



for an interdisciplinary approach in the development of labour research. In this connection the Conference noted that a Committee on Social Science Research, under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao had recommended the setting up an Indian Council of Social Science Research. As labour research is part of social science research, and as stated above an interdisciplinary approach is desirable, the Conference recommended that the above Coordinating Committee, should ensure wider coordination with the Council of Social Research as and when it is set up.

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APPENDIX:A

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR

CONFERENCE ON LABOUR STATISTICS

List of Delegates

Name	Designation
1. Dr. B. Ramamurti	Chairman
2. Shri D. Ranga Ramanujam	Director, Bureau of Economics Statistics Andhra Pradesh,
3. Shri K.S. Shafeeq	Assistant Labour Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh.
4. Shri D.C. Das	Officer on Special Duty, I/c of Directorate of Statistics, Assam.
5. Shri H.P. Duara	Labour Commissioner, Assam.
6. Shri R.B. Lal	Director of Statistics & Evalua- tion and Secy. to Government of Bihar.
7. Shri D.C. De	Statistics Authority, Bihar, Office of the Commissioner of Labour, Bihar Delhi.
8. Shri R.K. Ahuja	Labour Commissioner, Delhi.
9. Shri A.V. Was	Commissioner of Labour, Ahmedabad.
10. Shri P.B. Buch	Director, Bureau of Economists Statistics Ahmedabad.
11. Shri D.D. Sharma	Labour Commissioner, Haryana.
12. Shri K.C. Gupta	Economic & Statistical Adviser, Haryana.
13. Dr. C. Mishra	Director, Bureau of Statistics and Economics, Orissa.
14. Shri U.N. Sami	Labour Commissioner, Orissa.
15. Shri M.M.A. Khan	Deputy Labour Commissioner, Mysore.

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	Name	Designation
16.	Shri S.G. Deshpande	Assistant Labour Commissioner, Mysore.
17.	Shri S.M. Vidwans	Director, Bureau of Economics & Statistics Bombay.
18.	Shri P.J. Ovid	Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Maharashtra State, Bombay.
19.	Shri S.K. Mahajan	Deputy Labour Commissioner, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir.
20.	Shri J.P. Kesar	Director, Economics & Statistics - Jammu & Kashmir.
21.	Shri P.P. Philipose	Deputy Director, Bureau of Economics & Statistics, Kerala.
22.	Shri L.S. Pawar	Assistant Labour Commissioner, Madhya Pradesh.
23.	Shri K.B.L. Bhargava	Director of Economics & & Statistics, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
24.	Shri G.D. Nandgopal	Director, Department of Statistics, Madras.
25.	Dr. K.S. Singh	Director, National Commission on Labour.
26.	Shri A.C. Basu	Joint Director, National Commission on Labour.
27.	Shri O. Venkatachalam	Chief Labour Commissioner (Central)
28.	Dr. J.N. Tewari	Director, Socio-Economic Research, Planning Commission.
29.	Smt. Chameli Bose	Director, State Statistical Bureau, Government of West Bengal.
30.	Dr (Mrs) P. Chakraborti	Deputy Labour Commissioner, West Bengal.
31.	Shri R.K. Kacker	Deputy Director, Economics & Statistics, Uttar Pradesh.



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Name	Designation
32. Shri S.P. Singh	Deputy Labour Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh.
33. Shri L.K. Verma	Director of Economics & Statistics Rajasthan.
34. Shri N.K. Joshi	Labour Commissioner, Rajasthan.
35. Shri T.C. Jain	Joint Director Commissioner, Rajasthan.
36. Shri K.K. Bhatia	Director, Labour Bureau, Simla.
37. Dr. N.K. Chakravarty	Joint Director, Central statistical Organisation, New Delhi.
38. Shri Chaman Lal	Statistical Officer, Labour Commissioner's Office, Government of Punjab, Chandigarh.

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NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR

Section of Commission's Questionnaire relating  
to Labour Research and Information

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212. Most of labour statistics are a bye-product of labour legislation. They suffer, therefore, inter-alia from the limitations arising out of lack of uniformity in the concepts, coverage and frequency of collection. The time-lag in their publication, non-response from primary units, inaccuracy of returns, changes in industrial classification are further difficulties in making labour statistics more useful. What steps should be taken to remedy the situation? Is the implementation of the Collection of Statistics Act, 1953 the answer?

213. There is a feeling that the practice of entrusting the administration of labour laws to different officials, the statutory requirements of maintenance of different registers and sending of different filled-in returns under these Acts, result in a good deal of feeling has a basis, what steps should be taken to improve the situation?

/unproductive  
Work and  
unnecessary  
duplication.  
If this

214. Does the all-India Consumer Price Index Number currently compiled reflect adequately price changes affecting urban working class? Should consumer price index numbers be compiled for every region of the country for the purposes of wage fixation? What principles should be followed in compiling the 'all-India' and regional indices?

215. Data presently collected and compiled in respect of work-stoppages (strikes and lockouts) mostly consist of (a) number of work-stoppages, (b) number of workers involved, (c) number of work-days lost, (d) total wages lost in rupees, and (e) total production lost in rupees. Are they adequate for measuring industrial unrest in the country? If not, what other aspects of industrial unrest require quantification?

216. At present statistical data are collected only in respect of work-stoppages arising out of industrial disputes. Is it necessary to collect similar information on work-stoppages due to reasons other than industrial disputes?

217. The current emphasis in the collection of labour statistics is on data which will help in understanding the economic aspects of workers' life. Social and sociological aspects have been comparatively neglected. What are your suggestions for filling up the gap? For better comprehension of labour problems which particular aspect of these statistics would you emphasise?

218. Statistical data (employment, unemployment, consumption expenditure, etc.) are being collected in respect of rural population annually by the National Sample Survey. Would it be feasible to make these data available separately for rural labour for each State/region? What other statistics would be required for framing an operational programme?



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219. Are the present arrangements for research and studies in the field of labour adequate to meet the requirements of policy-making in labour and economic matters?
220. What are your suggestions for improving the quality of labour research?
221. What is the present state of labour research undertaken by employers'/workers' organisations?
222. How should the trade unions be encouraged to strengthen their research activities?
223. How should labour research be promoted in universities and research organisations?
224. Are the present arrangements for associating the research personnel outside Government for a deeper analysis of data available with Central and State Governments adequate? What steps should be taken to strengthen this association? Should co-ordination of research work done by different agencies be achieved?
225. What is the extent to which the existing information on labour matters is being put to use? Who are the main users? Give a critical assessment of the utility of the existing information?
226. Are the existing arrangements for publicising the research activities of the various agencies adequate? What has been the role of the press in such publicity? What improvements, if any, would you suggest?
227. How do trade unions/employers' organisations inform the public of their activities? To what extent do they succeed? (See also Q.31)
228. It is often said that while industrial conflict gets more than its due share of publicity; industrial harmony does not. Do you agree with this view? What are the reasons for this?
229. What role has the press played in educating the public on labour matters and with what results?
- Would you suggest any improvement? If so, how should this be brought about?
230. What role has the press played in shaping decisions on industrial disputes? Has it helped or hindered the promotion of just and good industrial relations?