

1. Particulars of Organisation:

Background

Labour Statistics in India may be said to have originated when the first national population census was conducted in 1872. This census gave not only the count of number of persons, but also the number of gainfully employed. Since then every census has thrown useful data on workers in different industries and occupations every 10 years. Besides the statistics on employment thrown by the census, other data on labour statistics until the Second World War were collected on ad-hoc basis, mostly as a byproduct of administration of labour laws and not as a basis for formulation of labour policies. The Royal Commission on Labour in 1931 pointed out the need for systematic collection of labour statistics. It observed that the policy must be built on facts as the uncertainty of facts would lead to confusion and conflict regarding its aim. The Commission recommended the adoption of suitable legislation enabling the Competent Authority to collect and collate information regarding the living, working and socio-economic conditions of industrial labour. Further, the inflationary pressure during the early period of the Second World War gave rise to demands of workers for compensation in their wages necessitating setting up of machinery for measuring changes in prices. Accordingly, Government of India constituted & set up the Rau Court of Enquiry in 1940 under the Trade Disputes Act (1929) to recommend statistical machinery for measuring movement in prices. The Rau Court of Enquiry recommended compilation and maintenance of Cost of Living Index Numbers for measuring the rate of compensation to be paid to the workers for the rise in cost of living. This recommendation of the Rau Court of Enquiry (1940) led to setting up of the Directorate of Cost of Living at Shimla in 1941 with the objective of conducting Family Budget Enquiries and compiling Cost of Living Index Numbers for important centres in the country on a uniform basis. The Directorate conducted enquiries during the period 1943-45. However, with the increased Government intervention in the field of industrial relations during the Second World War, the need for more systematic collection and processing of labour statistics acquired significance. The result was the enactment of Industrial Statistics Act in 1942 to facilitate collection of statistics on (a) matters relating to factories and (b) certain specified areas of welfare and conditions of labour. Further, arrangements were made for the collection and processing of the data flowing from the administration of important labour Acts, such as the Trade Unions Act, 1926 and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, etc. The need for more comprehensive labour statistics in the context of formulation of labour policy led to the setting up of the Labour Bureau on October 1, 1946 by rechristening the Directorate of Cost of Living with added functions. Since then Labour Bureau is engaged in collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of statistics on different facets of labour at All India level.

Organisational Structure of Labour Bureau:-

The headquarters of Labour Bureau are located at Chandigarh with 9 Regional/Sub-Regional Offices at Ahmedabad, Kanpur, Kolkata, Guwahati, Jaipur, Mumbai, Indore, Hyderabad and Chennai. The organisation is headed by Director General, a Senior Administrative Grade Officer from the Indian Economic Service (IES). He is assisted by a team of dedicated professionals from the Indian Economic Service and the Indian Statistical Service. The Regional Offices mainly attend to the audit of prices used for constructing the Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers so as to ensure the flow of a reliable price data. Kanpur Regional office has also been entrusted with the work of organising training programmes aimed at improving the quality of data sent by State Govt. agencies as a by-product of administration of various labour laws.

Headquarters :

1. Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India, Shram Bureau Bhawan, Institutional Area, Block-II, Sector 38 –West, CHANDIGARH-160036.

For contact details please visit the link below :-

<https://labourbureau.gov.in/who-is-who>

Main Functions of the Bureau:-

Labour Bureau is an apex organization responsible for the collation, compilation and publication vital price and labour statistics alongwith related information on wages, earnings, productivity, absenteeism, labour turn-over, industrial relations, evaluation of various labour enactments etc. It is a storehouse of important economic indicators like Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial, Agricultural and Rural Labourers; wage rate indices and data on industrial relations, socio-economic conditions in the organised and unorganised sector of industry etc. The functions/activities of Labour Bureau can be classified under five major heads:

1. Labour Intelligence
2. Labour Research
3. Monitoring and evaluation.
4. Regular Publications
5. Training

1. Labour Intelligence:

(1) Construction and maintenance of various series of index numbers:

(a) Consumer Price Index Numbers (CPI) for (i) Industrial Workers (ii) Rural Labourers and (iii) Agricultural Labourers.

(b) Wage Rate Indices in respect of industries covered under the Occupational Wage Surveys.

(c) Retail Price Indices for 31 Essential Commodities in Urban Areas.

(2) Providing serial statistics on Absenteeism, Labour Turnover, Labour Cost, Employment and industrial disputes, etc.

2. Labour Research: Conducting research studies/ surveys and bringing out publications on labour related matters in organized and unorganized sector. These include:

- (1) Quarterly employment surveys.
- (2) Unorganised sector, SC/ST Labour both in Urban and Rural Areas, Women Workers surveys.
- (3) Evaluation Studies on Implementation of Minimum Wages Act.
- (4) Occupational Wage Survey
- (5) Family Budget Enquiries.
- (6) Rural Labour Enquiry.
- (7) Contract Labour Surveys
- (8) Annual Survey of Industries.
- (9) Digest of Indian Labour Research.
- (10) Statistical Profile on women Labour
- (11) Employment and Unemployment Surveys

3. Monitoring and Evaluation: Collection, Compilation and dissemination of statistical information on various aspects of labour based on statutory and voluntary returns under different Labour Acts and surveys conducted. Details of information collected under the Acts are given on Labour Bureau's website.

4. Regular Publications:- Indian Labour Journal (Monthly), Indian Labour Statistics (Annual), Pocket Book of Labour Statistics (Annual) and Indian Labour Year Book (Annual) giving authoritative and up-to-date statistics on various facets of Labour and on current Labour scene in the country.

MAJOR SCHEMES OF THE BUREAU

The Components of the scheme are:-

: “Labour & Employment Statistical Systems”:-

1. Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers
2. Rural Labour Enquiry
3. Socio Economic Survey of Different Segments of Labour
4. Occupational Wage Survey
5. Modernizations of Machine Tabulation Unit
6. Collection of Labour Statistics under the Annual Survey of Industries
7. Improvement of Labour & Employment Statistical system

Other:-

1. Collection of Labour Statistics Under the Annual Survey of Industries (Census Sector)
2. Wage Rate Indices
3. Improvement of Labour Statistics
4. Labour Statistics
5. Contract Labour Survey
6. Research
7. Wages
8. Indian Labour Journal
9. Retail Price Indices