



**Report**  
of the  
**Textile Labour Inquiry Committee**  
**1937-38**

**Vol. I**

**Interim Report**

**BOMBAY**

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**1938**

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## APPENDIX A

## TEXTILE LABOUR INQUIRY COMMITTEE

## Questionnaire relating to Interim Recommendation

(1) What is the profit of your concern exclusive of depreciation for the first 6 months of the current year? Please also state, what commission has been calculated in arriving at this figure? Please bring up these figures, if possible, up to the end of September 1937.

(2) What would be the depreciation on the income-tax basis for the same period?

(3) Please supply annual statements of profits and depreciation and agents' commissions from 1933 to 1936.

(4) Please state the average daily number of persons employed, the total wages bills and the total production of cloth and yarn during six monthly periods from January 1933 to June 1937. If possible, please bring up the figures to end of September 1937.

(5) Has your financial position improved during this year? If so, what are the factors which have brought about the improvement?

(6) Do you think that the cotton textile industry has been benefited or is likely to benefit as a result of the present position of the cotton and cloth markets? If so, to what extent?

(7) Please state in detail what cuts in wage rates, bonuses, allowances, etc., were effected in your mill or in your centre since 1st January 1933 and the reasons therefor.

(8) In what direction and to what extent have the conditions which may be held to have justified these wage cuts changed today?

(9) Are you of the opinion that in view of the present condition of the industry an immediate increase can be given in any occupation, centre or unit of the industry? If so, what should be the extent of the increase? Please state the factors which you would take into consideration in calculating the increase.

## APPENDIX B

*Names of witnesses who appeared before the Textile Labour  
Inquiry Committee*

13th December 1937

**Millowners' Association, Bombay**

1. Mr. Dharamsey Mulraj Khatau (Chairman).
2. Sir Chunilal V. Mehta, K.C.S.I.
3. Sir Hormasji P. Mody, K.B.E., M.L.A. (Central).
4. Mr. F. Stones, O.B.E., M.L.C. (Bombay).
5. Mr. T. V. Baddeley.
6. Mr. T. Maloney (Secretary).

14th December 1937

**National Trades Union Federation and All-India Trade Union Congress  
(Provincial Committees)**

7. Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta, Bar-at-Law, M.L.A. (Bombay).
8. Mr. R. R. Bakhale.
9. Mr. Umar Rajab.
10. Mr. S. C. Joshi, M.L.C., Advocate.
11. Mr. S. V. Parulekar, M.L.A. (Bombay).
12. Mr. S. A. Dange.
13. Mr. R. S. Nimbkar.
14. Mr. S. P. Bhise.

15th December 1937

**The Girni Kamgar Union, Bombay**

15. Mr. A. A. Alwe.
16. Mr. G. L. Kandalkar.
17. Mr. G. R. Taldeokar.
18. Mr. Dhaku Janu Lad.
19. Mr. V. V. Paranjpe.

16th December 1937

**The Millowners' Association, Ahmedabad**

20. Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai.
21. Mr. Nanddas Haridas.

17th December 1937

**The Textile Labour Association, Ahmedabad**

22. Mr. S. G. Banker.
23. Shrimati Anasuya Sarabhai.
24. Mr. S. P. Dave.
25. Mr. A. S. Pandya.
26. Mr. N. H. Shaikh.

APPENDIX B—*contd.***The Mill Kamdar Union, Ahmedabad**

- 27. Mr. Maganlal Patel (Jt. Secretary).
- 28. Mr. J. Bukhari.  
(Mr. S. A. Dange acted as adviser).

20th December 1937

**The Millowners' Association, Bombay**

- \*Mr. Dharamsey Muiraj Khatau (Chairman).
- \*Sir Chunilal V. Mehta, K.C.S.L.
- \*Sir Hormasji P. Mody, K.B.E., M.L.A. (Central).
- \*Mr. F. Stones, O.B.E., M.L.C.
- 29. Mr. V. N. Chandavarkar, Bar-at-Law.  
\*Mr. T. Maloney (Secretary).

21st December 1937

**Representatives of Mills in Sholapur.**

- 30. Mr. W. T. Cullen } representing the Laxmi Cotton Mills and the
- 31. Mr. F. Light } Vishnu Cotton Mills, Sholapur.
- 32. Mr. Vallabhdas G. Mehta, representing the Jam Shri Ranjitsinghji Mills, Sholapur.
- 33. Mr. V. R. Bhatia, representing the Narsinggirji Manufacturing Co., Sholapur.
- 34. Mr. Hiralal Shah, representing the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Co., Sholapur.

22nd December 1937

- 35. Mr. J. F. Gennings, C.B.E., Bar-at-Law, Commissioner of Labour, Bombay.
- 36. Mr. N. A. Mehrban, Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Bombay.

23rd December 1937

- 37. Mr. A. W. Pryde, I.P., Labour Officer, Bombay.

24th December 1937

**The Bombay Millworkers' Union**

- 38. Mr. D. K. Jagtap, M.L.A. (Bombay).

**The Lal Bavta Girni Kamgar Union, Sholapur**

- 39. Mr. S. G. Sardesai.
- 40. Mr. G. D. Sane.  
(Mr. R. S. Nimbkar acted as adviser).

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\*Appeared before the Committee also on 13th December 1937.

APPENDIX C

No. 315

OFFICE OF THE TEXTILE LABOUR  
INQUIRY COMMITTEE, TOWN HALL,  
Bombay, 13th November 1937.

From

JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM, Esquire,  
Chairman, Textile Labour Inquiry Committee, Bombay;

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
Political and Reforms Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to invite attention to Government Resolution No. 1988/34 dated 13th October 1937 in which the personnel and the terms of reference of the Committee were announced. In the terms of reference it is stated that the Committee should make certain investigations and recommendations relating to the "textile" industry. The use of the word textile suggests that the Committee is charged with making investigations and recommendations not merely relating to cotton textiles but all textile fabrics, such as silk, wool, hosiery, etc. At the same time, opinion is almost unanimous among the members of my Committee that it could not have been Government's intention to ask the Committee to cover all textile industries but to confine its attention only to the cotton textile industry. I have, therefore, the honour to request Government to favour me with an early expression of their view on this matter.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAIRAMDAS DOULATRAM,  
Chairman,  
Textile Labour Inquiry Committee.

APPENDIX C—*contd.*

No. 1988/34-B.

POLITICAL AND REFORMS DEPARTMENT :

Bombay Castle, 20th November 1937.

From

SIR CHARLES TURNER, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.,  
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,  
Political and Reforms Department ;

To

THE CHAIRMAN,  
Textile Labour Inquiry Committee.

*Subject.*—Terms of reference of the Committee.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 315, dated the 13th November 1937, I am directed to state that the view of the members of the Committee that the words " textile industry " mentioned in Government Resolution No. 1988/34, dated the 13th October 1937, refer to " Cotton Textile Industry " alone is correct.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. W. A. TURNER,  
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,  
Political and Reforms Department.

APPENDIX D

No. 693/34-B.

POLITICAL AND REFORMS DEPARTMENT :

Bombay Castle, 30th December 1937.

From

H. F. KNIGHT, Esquire, C.I.E.,  
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,  
Political and Reforms Department ;

To

THE CHAIRMAN,  
Textile Labour Inquiry Committee.

*Subject.*—Legislation regarding sickness and old age benefits.

Sir,

I am directed to invite attention to paragraph 4 of the Press Communique No. P. 205, dated the 17th August 1937, regarding Government's Labour Policy and to the circular dated 19th October 1937, issued by the Commissioner of Labour on the subject (copies enclosed)\* and to state that Government have under contemplation the introduction of Legislation for certain sickness and old age benefits, which might, if accepted by the Legislature, entail an addition of three to four weeks' wages to the annual Wage Bill. I have to add that in the view of Government such legislation cannot in any case come into force before six or seven months. It may take a longer period. I am to request that these facts may be taken into consideration by the Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) H. F. KNIGHT,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,  
Political and Reforms Department.

\*Enclosures not printed.

## APPENDIX E

## SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES

*Schedule of Earnings for a Pay-period of 14 Working Days*

Category of earnings.	Rate of increase.	Remarks.
Below Rs. 7-4-4 ..	3 Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 8-5-6 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 7-4-4 and below Rs. 13-7-5.	2½ Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 15-1-3 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 13-7-5 and below Rs. 18-13-6.	2 Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 21-2-2 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 18-13-6 and below Rs. 21-8-7.	1½ Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 23-2-6 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 21-8-7 and below Rs. 40-6-2,	1 Anna in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive an increase in earnings of less than Rs. 1-9-10.
Rs. 40-6-2 and over ..	Nil.	

*Schedule of Earnings for a Pay-period of 16 Working Days*

Category of earnings.	Rate of increase.	Remarks.
Below Rs. 8-4-11 ..	3 Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 9-8-7 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 8-4-11 and below Rs. 15-6-2.	2½ Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 17-3-8 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 15-6-2 and below Rs. 21-8-7.	2 Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 24-2-6 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 21-8-7 and below Rs. 24-9-10.	1½ Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 26-7-5 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 24-9-10 and below Rs. 46-2-6.	1 Anna in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive an increase in earnings of less than Rs. 1-13-6.
Rs. 46-2-6 and over ..	Nil.	



APPENDIX E—*contd.**Schedule of Earnings for a Pay-period of 27 Working Days*

Category of earnings.	Rate of increase.	Remarks.
Below Rs. 14-0-4 ..	3 Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 16-1-6 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 14-0-4 and below Rs. 25-15-5.	2½ Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 29-1-3 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 25-15-5 and below Rs. 36-5-6.	2 Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 40-12-2 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 36-5-6 and below Rs. 41-8-7.	1½ Annas in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive more than Rs. 44-10-6 as a result of the increase.
Rs. 41-8-7 and below Rs. 77-14-2.	1 Anna in the Rupee.	Provided that no person falling in this category shall receive an increase in earnings of less than Rs. 3-1-10.
Rs. 77-14-2 and over ..	Nil.	