

P r e f a c e

Wage statistics occupy an important place in an era of planned development. The wage rates in the different sectors of the economy will vary according to the nature of the activity undertaken, the type of skill required etc. Trends in wage rates have to be studied overtime as well as between different sectors and occupations.

The present report attempts to analyse the trend of wage rates for different types of labour in the Construction and Trade and Commerce sectors in Kerala over a period of seven years (1963-64 to 1969-70). This is the first attempt at analysing the wage rates in the above two sectors in the state. The report is based on a sample Survey on Wage Structure in the Construction and Trade and Commerce Sectors conducted by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics. This report was prepared by the Housing and Labour Statistics Unit of the Bureau.

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D I R E C T O R

workers in these two sectors was comparatively higher in the urban areas.

The main object of all economic activity is the satisfaction of human wants and this could be achieved only by assuring a reasonable level of real earnings to the labour class. The Fair Wages Committee set up by the Government of India defined three broad wage concepts - the minimum wage, the living wage and the fair wage. The minimum wage was expected to provide "not merely for the sustenance of life, but for the preservation of the worker". For this purpose the minimum wage must also provide for some measure of education, medical requirements and amenities. The living wage was defined as an ideal level of wages which would enable the worker to provide "not only for a bare physical subsistence, but also for the maintenance of health and decency, a measure of frugal comfort and some insurance against misfortunes". The fair wage lies between these two extremes, the lower limit set by the minimum wage and the upper limit set by the industry's capacity to pay. The committee recommended the fair wage as the actual wage to be paid to the workers. It stated: "that the state of national income is highly relevant to the problem of wages because no wage policy can be regarded just or even economically sound unless it encourages increase of the national income and secure to the wage earner a legitimate share of the increase".

Wages constitute an important element in all types of services. The wage rates of workers in the various sectors of the economy will vary according to the nature of activity undertaken in each sector. Wages will also depend upon many other factors like productivity, nature of work etc. Very often conflicts and disputes arise on the labour front on the question of wages. The question of wages assumes growing significance in an economy where labour plays a very important role. The Minimum Wages Act of 1948 was intended to provide the workers with minimum rates of wages. The generally rising trend in prices led to a consequent increase in the cost of living indices. An increasing trend was discernible in the national income also. The wages of employees in various spheres of activity also increased, though at different rates in different sectors.

A survey on Wage, Structure in the 'Construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' Sectors of the Kerala economy was initiated by the State Bureau of Economics and Statistics in 1963-64. The object of the survey was to study the trend of wages in these two sectors from year to year in the various districts of the State.

Coverage and Design of the Survey:

The survey is being conducted on a random sample basis covering the entire State. It covers the rural as well as urban areas Stratified multi-stage random sampling method is being adopted for the survey. The revenue district form the strata. Separate samples are being selected for the urban and rural areas in each of the districts. In the urban sector all the district headquarters which are invariably Corporations/Municipalities are selected. In addition to this one more municipality (if any) is also selected at random from each district. For the rural sector three Panchayats are selected by the simple random sampling method from each district.

REPORT ON THE WAGE STRUCTURE SURVEY IN KERALA

The working force constitutes the most vital component of a country's population. The 1971 census places the total number of workers in Kerala at 62.16 lakhs or 29.12% of the total population. Of these 47.64 lakhs are males and 14.52 lakhs are females. The percentage of total workers to total population in the State was 33.31% in 1961 as against 32.18% in 1951. As per the census classification the total working force is divided into nine categories. The percentage distribution of work force in the census years of 1951, 1961 and 1971 is indicated in Table-1.

TABLE-1

Percentage distribution of workers

Category of workers	1951	1961	1971
1. Cultivators	23.22	20.92	17.80
2. Agricultural labourers	25.57	17.38*	30.69
3. Mining, Quarrying, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations.	6.06	8.66	7.48
4. Household Industry	10.80	8.68	4.28
5. Manufacturing other than household industry	9.40	9.40	11.45
6. Construction	1.33	1.26	1.73
7. Trade and Commerce	6.63	5.72	9.10
8. Transport, storage and communications.	3.19	2.71	3.89
9. Other Services	13.80	25.27	13.58
TOTAL WORKERS	100.00	100.00	100.00

(NOTE: * - The decline in the number of agricultural labourers during 1961 is mainly attributed to the misclassification of 'agricultural labourers' as 'general labourers'. With a view to arrive at comparable figures of working force for 1951 and 1961 a few adjustments have been effected in the distribution of working force during 1961 on the basis of the available data. As per the adjusted figures the proportion of agricultural labourers to total workers during 1961 is 23.89%.

The present report is concerned with the wage rates in the 'construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' sectors in Kerala. 'Construction' is categorised under the Secondary Sector and 'Trade and Commerce' under the Tertiary Sector. In 1971 the proportion of workers engaged in the construction and Trade and Commerce Sectors was 1.73% and 9.10% respectively as against 1.26% and 5.72% in 1961. The proportion of

For the purpose of the survey in the 'Construction' sector five units are selected from each municipality and three units from each Panchayat. From each unit the average daily wage rates of the following types of workers have been collected and analysed in this report:-

A. Skilled Labour:

1. Mason I Class
Mason II Class
2. Carpenter I Class
Carpenter II Class

B. Unskilled Labour:

1. Men
2. Women
3. Children

Skilled workers have been classified into I Class and II Class on the basis of their skill. Workers engaged in building construction activities and at the same time do not require any skill of a special nature alone are included under 'unskilled labour'.

For the 'Trade and Commerce' sector two wards are selected from each municipality and from each ward three shops from each of the following six categories of trades are investigated:-

1. Wholesale trade in foodgrains and provisions.
2. Wholesale trade in clothing.
3. Wholesale trade in metal and metal products.
4. Retail trade in foodgrains.
5. Retail trade in clothing and
6. Retail trade in stationery and toilets.

The frame for the selection of the units in the 'Trade and Commerce' sector is taken from the Municipalities supplemented by the records of the Sales Tax Officers. Wage rates of shop assistants and shop attenders are gathered through the survey.

Selection of Samples and Field Work:

The selection of the municipalities and Panchayats is being done in the Head Office on a random sampling basis at the beginning of every financial year and the lists are furnished to all the District Statistical Officers. The selection of the wards and the ultimate sampling units is being done by the Statistical Inspectors. The Investigators then identify the shops and construction units in the selected municipalities and Panchayats and collect data on wages (daily or monthly as the case may be) once in three months. There are five Investigators (one U.D. and four L.Ds) entrusted with the collection of wage statistics, one each for two districts. Each year there are four quarterly visits to the sample units for collection of the data. The work of the Investigator is being supervised by the Statistical Inspectors, Additional District Statistical Officers and District Statistical Officers. Periodical supervision is being done from the Head Office also.

Method of collection:

After the random selection of the ultimate units daily wage rates of skilled and unskilled labour in the construction sector are collected by contacting the contractors, if any, or those who are responsible for the payment of wages. Wage rates are collected for the day or month as the case may be, preceding the date or month of visit to the particular sampling unit. In the case of the trade and commerce sector monthly wage rates are collected by contacting the owners of the shops. If no paid employee is engaged in a shop and the owner himself is transacting the business, that unit is left out of enumeration. If any of the samples selected for the first quarter is not available during any of the subsequent quarters, that will be substituted by another sample. The monthly wages paid to the employees are taken from the pay bills kept by the owners of the shops, supplemented by oral enquiries. In both the sectors overtime allowance, if any, paid to workers are not included in the wage data collected. The wage rates refer to a standardised normal working of eight hours per day in the case of daily wages and that for a month in the case of monthly wages.

Results of the Survey:

The wage structure survey was intended to throw light on the wage pattern of different types of labour in the unorganised sectors of 'Construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' in Kerala. The present report analyses the trend of wages in these two sectors in the various districts of the State during the period 1963-64 to 1969-70. Attempt has been made to analyse the rural and urban wage rates separately, though comprehensive data on rural wages in the 'Trade and Commerce' sector could not be collected uniformly from all the districts, as shops, especially wholesale shops, are very rare in the Panchayat areas. The trend of wage rates in the two sectors as revealed by the survey figures are discussed in the following pages. In the construction sector the rate of increase in wages was higher in the urban areas than in the rural areas, the difference being more wide in the case of unskilled labour. The percentage increase in wages in the 'Construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' sectors over the period 1963-64 to 1969-70 is shown in Tables 1 and 2.

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Table--1

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN WAGES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Type of labour	Rural	Urban
	Percentage increase from 1963-64 to 1969-70.	Percentage increase from 1963-64 to 1969-70
<u>SKILLED LABOUR:</u>		
a) Carpenter:		
I Class	76.91	68.07
II Class	79.12	72.65
b) Mason:		
I Class	83.37	82.22
II Class	89.84	86.67
<u>B. UNSKILLED LABOUR:</u>		
a) Men	117.00	88.40
b) Women	107.51	87.56
c) Children	87.50	60.09

Table 2

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN WAGE RATES IN THE 'TRADE AND COMMERCE' SECTOR FROM 1963-64 TO 1969-70 (URBAN ONLY)

Type of labour and shop	Percentage increase in Wage rates	
	Wholesale	Retail
	Percentage increase over the period.	Percentage increase over the period.
	1963-64 to 1969-70	1963-64 to 1969-70
<u>A. Shop Assistants:</u>		
i) Foodgrains and provision shops	75.00	71.64
ii) Textile shops	70.21	55.81
iii) Shops trading in Metal and Metal products	70.11	55.56
<u>B. Shop Attenders:</u>		
i) Foodgrains and provision shops	69.84	83.67
ii) Textile shops	87.14	67.21
iii) Shops dealing with stationery toilet etc.	69.35	94.23

It is noted that the rate of increase in wages was faster in the construction sector than that in the trade and commerce sector. While the annual average increase in wages ranged between ten to twenty per cent for the different types of labour in the construction sector, that in the Trade and Commerce sector ranged only between nine to fifteen per cent.

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

In the construction sector wage rates of skilled and unskilled labour in the Municipal and Panchayat areas separately are collected on a district-wise basis. Carpentry and Masonry come under skilled labour and such workers are divided into two categories - I Class and II Class - on the basis of their skill. Unskilled labour relates to men, women and children. Wage rates for both the types of labour recorded a steady increase during the period under review.

As regards skilled labour in the construction sector wage rates of carpenters and masons are considered for our present purpose. Results of the survey indicate slight differences in the wage rates of carpenters and masons. However, wage rates are generally higher for carpentry labour. The average daily wage rate of 1st class carpenters in the rural areas increased from Rs.4.59 in 1963-64 to Rs.8.12 in 1969-70 recording an increase of 76.91% over the six year period, the average annual increase being 12.82%. For masonry labour the rate of increase in wages during the same period was 83.37% or 13.90% annually. In most cases wage rates are generally higher in the urban areas when compared to the rural areas. The average daily wage rates of skilled labour in the rural and urban areas separately are furnished in Table : 3.

TABLE : 3 ✓

AVERAGE DAILY WAGE RATES OF SKILLED LABOUR IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR (IN Rs.)

YEAR	Carpenter				Mason			
	Rural		Urban		Rural		Urban	
	1st class	IIInd class	1st class	IIInd class	1st class	IIInd class	1st class	IIInd class
1963-64	4.59	3.64	4.98	3.73	4.51	3.64	4.78	3.75
1964-65	4.70	3.71	5.12	3.81	4.60	3.71	4.88	3.82
1965-66	5.03	4.04	5.54	4.14	5.01	4.20	5.41	4.23
1966-67	5.65	4.47	5.83	4.59	5.56	4.53	5.68	4.63
1967-68	6.06	4.84	6.58	5.09	6.27	5.16	6.59	5.18
1968-69	7.58	5.22	8.02	6.39	7.68	6.66	8.10	6.84
1969-70	8.12	6.52	8.37	6.44	8.27	6.91	8.71	7.00

A district-wise analysis of wage rates of skilled labour reveals that as regards carpentry labour, in the earlier years of wage rates were comparatively higher in (the period under review) the northern districts of the State. But from 1966-67 onwards higher wage rates were prevalent in Alleppey, Kottayam and Ernakulam districts. More or less the same feature is observed in the case of masonry labour as well. The wage rates of skilled labour in the construction sector in the various districts of the State for the seven years from 1963-64 to 1969-70 are provided in appendices 1 : 1 to 1 : 14.

An inter-district comparison of the variations in the wage rates of skilled labour during the period under review reveals that as regards carpentry labour, Alleppey and Kottayam recorded the highest increase in the rural and urban areas respectively. But in the case of masons Quilon district recorded the highest increase in the rural and urban sectors. In both the cases the rate of increase was the minimum in Palghat district (vide Table 4)

TABLE - 4

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE WAGE RATES OF SKILLED LABOUR

District	Percentage increase from 1963-64 to 1969-70			
	Carpenter (I class)		Mason (I class)	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Trivandrum	97.50	83.41	81.78	74.46
Quilon	102.35	95.57	107.50	133.91
Alleppey	108.19	97.14	100.68	96.58
Kottayam	103.20	106.15	101.59	100.00
Ernakulam	69.34	54.77	74.34	79.53
Trichur	56.32	44.43	99.28	64.23
Palghat	32.24	18.04	33.99	45.23
Kozhikode	73.50	81.91	82.32	66.47
Cannanore	62.93	54.33	76.23	82.22
KERALA	76.91	68.07	83.37	82.22

As regards unskilled labour in the construction sector wage rates of male, female and child labour in the rural and urban areas are collected separately. Even though wage rates are generally lower for unskilled labour, the rate of increase over the years was higher than that of skilled labour. Throughout the period under review wage rates remained higher in the urban areas when compared to the rural areas. (vide Table : 5)

TABLE - 5

AVERAGE DAILY WAGE RATES OF UNSKILLED LABOUR IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Years	(Rs)					
	Rural			Urban		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
1963-64	2.53	1.73	1.68	2.93	2.09	2.23
1964-65	2.56	1.75	1.69	2.97	2.11	2.24
1965-66	3.00	2.03	1.90	3.31	2.41	2.51
1966-67	3.18	2.32	2.16	3.62	2.69	2.77
1967-68	3.55	2.37	2.51	3.95	3.02	3.06
1968-69	4.95	3.22	2.57	5.10	3.59	3.24
1969-70	5.49	3.59	3.15	5.52	3.92	3.57

A district-wise analysis of rural and urban wage rates of unskilled labour showed that in most of the years under review, Cannanore recorded highest wage rate and Palghat and Quilon the lowest wage rate. (vide appendices 1 : 1 to 1 : 14). The percentage increase in the wage rates of unskilled labour in the various districts of the State during the period 1963-64 to 1969-70 is shown in Table - 6.

TABLE - 6

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE WAGE RATES OF UNSKILLED LABOUR IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR - 1963-64 to 1969-70

District	Rural	Urban
Trivandrum	123.90	85.97
Quilon	153.13	190.15
Alleppey	131.80	118.68
Kottayam	123.07	109.93
Ernakulam	130.12	110.70
Trichur	95.17	75.00
Palghat	138.46	68.99
Kozhikode	93.38	56.51
Cannanore	85.84	42.52
KERALA	116.99	88.39

For the rural as well as urban sectors the highest percentage increase in wages was recorded in Quilon district while the rate of increase was the minimum in Cannanore District.

TRADE AND COMMERCE SECTOR

In the 'Trade and Commerce' Sector monthly wage rates relating to shop assistants and shop attenders employed in wholesale and retail shops are collected through the survey. It is seen that the activities in this sector are limited in the rural areas. Hence district-wise data could not be collected continuously for all the years under review.

(a) Wholesale Trade:

In the wholesale trade sector wage data relating to paid employees in shops dealing with (i) foodgrains and provisions, (ii) clothing and (iii) metal and metal products were collected and analysed. On an average the monthly wage rates of shop assistants (urban) employed in foodgrains and provisions stores went up from Rs.72/- in 1963-64 to Rs.126/- in 1969-70 registering an increase of 75.00% during this period. During the same period the wage rates in textile shops increased by 70.21% while in shops dealing with the sale of metal and metal products the rate of increase was only 70.11%. In the case of wholesale shops trading in foodgrains and provisions the wage rates of shop attenders increased by 69.84% during the period 1963-64 to 1969-70 as against 87.14% in textile shops and 69.35% in shops dealing with metal and metal products trade. The wage rates of shops assistants and shop attenders employed in the three types of wholesale shops are provided in Table - 7.

TABLE - 7

AVERAGE MONTHLY WAGE RATES IN WHOLESALE SHOPS - URBAN ONLY

(Rs)

Year	Shop assistants			Shop attenders		
	I	II	III	I	II	III
1963-64	72	94	87	63	70	62
1964-65	79	103	94	69	79	69
1965-66	85	110	101	75	87	74
1966-67	94	122	115	80	97	81
1967-68	100	123	118	85	98	85
1968-69	111	138	138	96	118	100
1969-70	126	160	148	107	131	105

I : Foodgrains and provisions II : Clothing
 III : Metal and Metal products.

A district-wise analysis of the wage rates of shop assistants and shop attenders employed in wholesale shops indicates that as regards foodgrains and provisions shops, Quilon and Kottayam recorded the highest wage rates in most of the years under review. Shop assistants received the lowest wage rates

Palghat district and shop attenders in Trivandrum district. As regards textile shops Kottayam and Alleppey districts recorded the highest wage rates and Quilon the lowest. With regard to shops engaged in metal and metal products trade wage rates were the maximum in the districts of Ernakulam and Kottayam and the minimum in Kozhikode. Wage rates of shop and shop assistants and shop attenders employed in wholesale shops in the various districts of the State are given in appendices 2.1 to 2.14.

The percentage increase in the wage rates of shop assistants and shop attenders employed in wholesale shops in the various districts of the State during the period 1963-64 to 1969-70 is shown in Table - 8. Among the various districts of the State wage rates of shop assistants recorded the highest percentage increase in Alleppey, Trichur and Quilon respectively in the three types of shops analysed.

TABLE - 8

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN WAGE RATES IN WHOLESALE SHOPS FROM
1963-64 TO 1969-70 (URBAN ONLY)

District	Shop Assistants			Shop Attenders		
	I	II	III	I	II	III
Trivandrum	34.72	76.25	27.59	46.81	77.59	84.00
Quilon	37.36	44.00	78.79	46.67	174.00	61.22
Alleppey	118.06	72.12	54.95	78.94	61.80	58.06
Kottayam	58.75	53.54	65.76	143.86	108.97	143.64
Ernakulam	100.00	49.47	33.85	29.54	84.62	87.50
Trichur	96.88	127.91	59.05	90.00	58.02	19.77
Palghat	106.52	--	--	85.71	74.63	37.33
Kozhikode	96.05	101.01	--	68.18	175.00	--
Cannanore	52.38	32.61	--	68.18	27.16	--
KERALA	75.00	70.21	70.11	69.84	87.14	69.35

(b) Retail Trade:

In retail trade, shops dealing in the trade of food-grains and provisions, cloth and stationery were selected for the survey. Wage rates are comparatively lower for shop attenders in retail trade also. The wage rates of shop assistants and shop attenders employed in retail shops in the urban areas are furnished in Table - 9.

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TABLE - 9

AVERAGE MONTHLY WAGE RATES IN RETAIL SHOPS (URBAN ONLY)

Rs.

Year	Shop Assistants			Shop Attenders		
	I	II	III	I	II	III
1963-64	67	86	72	49	61	52
1964-65	72	90	75	58	68	57
1965-66	78	96	84	64	75	65
1966-67	87	107	95	68	82	72
1967-68	89	108	96	69	85	74
1968-69	97	118	112	81	96	81
1969-70	115	134	112	90	102	101

I Shops dealing with foodgrains and provisions.
 II " " " cloth.
 III " " " stationery.

For shop assistants employed in the three categories of retail shops studied the rate of increase in wages was higher at 71.64% in shops dealing with foodgrains and provisions as against 55.81% in textile shops and 55.56% in metal and metal products shops.

The increase in wages in terms of percentages in the various districts during the period under review is given in Table 10 (for district-wise wage rates see appendices 2.1 to 2.14)

TABLE - 10

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN WAGE RATES FROM 1963-64 to 1969-70
(URBAN)

District	Shop Assistants			Shop Attenders		
	I	II	III	I	II	III
Trivandrum	62.07	92.00	125.64	148.65	78.72	140.00
Thiruvananthapuram	108.93	17.05	51.95	78.79	71.74	75.47
Alleppey	65.22	93.02	79.41	78.43	92.31	111.11
Kottayam	69.86	33.33	55.70	90.90	60.00	123.03
Kannur	36.26	74.16	78.21	124.00	92.31	76.47
Malappuram	122.64	72.22	--	76.27	86.21	148.00
Idukki	--	--	--	79.55	34.33	50.00
Kozhikode	55.10	47.22	60.76	39.39	52.94	--
Cannanore	36.36	57.50	--	65.96	--	--
KERALA	71.64	55.81	55.56	83.67	67.21	94.23

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Wage Indices:

Simple wage indices for the various types of labour study have been worked out by taking 1963-64 as the base year. The indices of wage rates in both the sectors shot up during 1968-69, the rise being sharper in the construction sector. Within the construction sector wage rates of unskilled labour increased at a faster rate than that of skilled labour from 1968-69 onwards, between carpenters and masons the rate of increase was higher among the latter. A comparison of the wage rates in the rural and urban areas shows that though the wage rates are generally higher in the urban areas the percentage increase in wages during the period 1963-64 to 1969-70 was comparatively higher in the rural areas. The indices of wage rates in the construction sector during the period under review is given in Table - 11.

TABLE - 11

WAGE INDICES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

(Base: 1963-64=100)

Year	Skilled labour				Unskilled labour	
	Carpenter (I class)		Mason (I class)		(Men)	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1964-65	102	103	102	102	101	101
1965-66	103	104	103	103	102	103
1966-67	105	106	104	105	104	105
1967-68	115	115	109	110	108	111
1968-69	165	161	170	169	196	174
1969-70	176	168	183	182	217	188

Among the three categories of shops analysed in the 'Trade and Commerce' sector the rate of increase in wages was comparatively higher in shops trading in foodgrains and provisions (vide Table - 12).

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TABLE - 12

WAGE INDICES OF SHOP ASSISTANTS IN THE 'TRADE & COMMERCE' SECTOR

(Base: 1963-64=100)

Year	Wholesale shops			Retail shops		
	Foodgrains and provisions.	Cloth- ing	Metal & metal products	Foodgrains and provisions	Cloth- ing	Station- ery
1964-65	111	110	109	108	105	104
1965-66	111	117	116	117	112	117
1966-67	131	129	134	120	124	131
1967-68	139	131	139	133	126	134
1968-69	154	146	160	145	137	155
1969-70	175	169	171	172	156	155

An Inter-sectoral Comparison of Wages:

The preceding paragraphs explain the trend of wage rates in the 'construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' sectors of the Kerala economy. In this connection it would be useful to make an intersectoral comparison of wages in the State. Legislations have been enacted to secure minimum and fair wages to the labourers in the organised sectors of industry and agriculture. The Payment of Wages Act, 1936 was intended to ensure regular and prompt payment of wages and to prevent the exploitation of wage earners by prohibiting arbitrary fines and deductions from wages. The Minimum Wages Act was passed in 1948 under which minimum wage rates were fixed in agriculture and in some industries. During the same year Fair Wages Committee was set up by the Government of India 'to determine the principle on which fair wages should be based and to suggest the lines on which those principles should be applied'. This Committee recommended that the actual wage should be between the lower limit of the minimum wage and the upper limit of the industry's capacity to pay, depending on the productivity of labour, the prevailing rates of wages, the level of national income and its distribution, the place of the industry in the economy etc. The payment of Bonus Act was passed in 1965, which enables the workers to share the prosperity of industry. As a result of legislations and on account of measures taken by industry, wages in the manufacturing industries sector remains comparatively higher. Other factors like productivity, nature of the industry, type of work etc., also exert a great influence on wage level. However, industrial labour in the organised sector is a privileged class compared to other sectors of the community.

In the un-organised sectors of 'Construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' there is no such legislation for fixing wage rates and wages depend mainly on factors like type of employment, nature of skill required, demand for labour etc. However, wage rates are perhaps the highest in the construction sector.

The wage rates are the highest for skilled workers in the construction sector followed by manufacturing industries. The wage rates in different sectors are furnished in Table - 13.

TABLE - 13

DAILY WAGE RATES IN DIFFERENT SECTORS -- KERALA

Year	Agricul- ture*	Manu- fact- uring indus- tries	Construction (Urban)			Trade and Commerce Shop Assis- tants.
	Field Labour (Men)		Car- pen- ter.	Mason	Field Unskilled Labour (Men)	
1963-64	2.51	3.03	4.98	4.78	2.93	72
1964-65	2.84	3.09	5.12	4.88	2.97	79
1965-66	3.20	3.48	5.54	5.41	3.31	85
1966-67	3.71	4.76	5.83	5.68	3.62	94
1967-68	4.46	5.11	6.58	6.59	3.95	100
1968-69	4.73	5.21	8.02	8.10	5.10	111
1969-70	4.90	6.18	8.37	8.71	5.52	126

* - Relates to agricultural year

@ - Relates to calendar year

£ - Wholesale trade in foodgrains - Monthly wage rate is given.

Wage rates in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors increased at a faster rate than in other sectors. Between 1963-64 and 1969-70 the rate of increase in wages in these two sectors was 93.99% and 15.22% respectively. In the construction sector wage rates increased by 68.07%, 32.22% and 38.40% respectively for carpenters, masons and unskilled labour (Men). Wage rates for shop assistants in the trade and commerce sector (foodgrains wholesale shops) recorded an increase of 75.00% during the period under review. However, wages are comparatively low in the agriculture and trade and commerce sectors.

Comparison of Wage Rates in the Southern States:

A comparison of wage rates in Kerala with those in other southern states in India reveals that agricultural wages are higher in Kerala while industrial wages are relatively low (vide Tables 14 and 15).

TABLE - 14

PERCAPITA DAILY EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR (Rs.)

State	1961	1966	1968
Andhra	4.18	4.22	5.58
Madhya	4.19	6.09	7.30
Kerala	2.89	4.83	5.29
India	4.79	6.70	7.65

Contd..15/-

TABLE - 15

WAGE RATES IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR (1969)

State	Skilled labour	Unskilled labour			
	(Carpenter)	Field labour		Other agri-cultural labour	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
Andhra (January)	4.17	2.75	1.92	2.58	2.17
Mysore (January)	3.58	2.90	1.88	1.75	0.75
Kerala (January)	6.25	3.75	2.50	4.00	2.25

When compared to the all India level industrial wages are poor in the Southern States, especially in Kerala. But as far as agricultural wages are concerned Kerala leads the other Southern States and also the all India level. For skilled as well as unskilled labour wages are much higher in Kerala than in Andhra or Mysore.

Wages and Cost of Living:

The trend of prices and cost of living has always a notable impact on wages and vice-versa. A rise in prices, especially of essential commodities, will urge the labourers to demand an increase in wages in order to enable them adjust themselves to the increase in cost of living. The consequent rise in wages has a tendency to push up the price level further. Higher money wages exert high pressure on the prices of consumer goods, especially in the urban sector.

The present study reveals that wage rates have shown a steady increase in all sectors of the economy. Money wages refer to the amount of money the worker receives for the work done during a particular period. Real wages represent the total quantity of goods and services that can be purchased with the money wages workers receive. Real wages thus involves a relationship between money wages and the retail price level or the cost of living. Figures indicate that during the period under review wage rates increased at a faster rate than cost of living indices in all sectors, the rise being more significant in the agricultural and manufacturing sectors compared to the construction and trade and commerce sectors (Vide Table - 17). Here it may be noted that the analysis of wage rates is confined to labourers only and not the white collar type of workers.

Contd....16/-

TABLE - 16

INCREASE IN WAGES AND COST OF LIVING INDICES IN KERALA

1963-64 TO 1969-70

	Index of wage rates and cost of living in- dices in 1969-70 with 1963-64 as the base year.	Parity index
<u>A. Wages:</u>		
1. Agricultural Sector (Field labour - Men)	195.22	119.72
2. Manufacturing Industries sector (1963 to 1969)	203.96	125.08
3. Construction Sector (Urban)		
a) Skilled labour		
i) Carpenter	168.07	103.07
ii) Mason	182.22	111.74
b) Un-skilled labour (Men)	188.40	115.53
4. Trade and Commerce Sector (Wholesale - Urban)		
a) Foodgrains and provisions stores	175.00	107.22
b) Textile shops	170.21	104.39
c) Metal and Metal products shops	170.11	104.30
<u>B. Cost of Living Index (1963 to 69)</u>	163.07	100.00
(Consumer price index for working class Households)		

Conclusion:

The present report attempts to analyse the trend of wage rates in the 'Construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' sectors in Kerala during the period 1963-64 to 1969-70. Being the first report the report may have some short comings. However, it is hoped that this would serve as a basis for the preparation of future reports on the behaviour of wages in the different sectors in Kerala.

APPENDIX - 1.1 -
AVERAGE DAILY WAGE RATES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR 1963-64

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Unskilled Men	Unskilled Women	Unskilled Children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	4.00	3.70	4.50	3.48	2.05	1.06	1.30
Quilon	4.25	3.57	4.00	3.78	1.92	1.74	1.60
Alleppey	4.27	3.55	4.40	3.69	2.61	2.43	2.43
Kottayam	4.37	3.55	4.39	3.62	2.51	2.55	2.00
Thiruvananthapuram	4.86	3.75	4.73	3.72	2.49	1.95	1.50
Trichur	5.22	3.43	4.19	3.47	2.69	1.80	1.60
Palghat	4.59	3.45	4.59	3.58	1.95	1.14	1.43
Kozhikode	4.83	3.98	4.89	3.65	3.17	1.37	1.29
Cannanore	4.91	3.50	4.88	3.73	3.39	1.57	2.00
Average	4.59	3.64	4.51	3.64	2.53	1.73	1.68

Appendix 1.2.
Average Rural Wage rates in the Construction Sector 1964-65

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter		Mason		Men	Women	Children
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	4.08	3.77	4.59	3.55	2.08	1.07	1.30
Quilon	4.36	3.60	4.13	3.89	1.96	1.77	1.61
Alleppey	4.37	3.72	4.49	3.75	2.64	2.45	2.43
Kottayam	4.51	3.61	4.53	3.72	2.54	2.57	2.02
Thrissur	5.05	3.86	4.91	3.85	2.53	1.97	1.51
Palghat	5.35	3.71	4.27	3.54	2.72	1.82	1.61
Kozhikode	4.65	3.48	4.65	3.64	1.97	1.14	1.43
Cannara	4.98	4.02	4.94	3.68	3.20	1.37	1.29
Average	4.98	3.64	4.90	3.74	3.39	1.57	2.00
	4.70	3.71	4.60	3.71	2.56	1.75	1.60

Appendix 1.3.

Average Daily Wage Rates in the construction sector, 1965-66

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Men	Women	Children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	4.25	3.86	5.10	4.52	2.34	1.27	1.26
Quilon	4.45	3.87	4.96	4.20	2.27	2.02	1.81
Alleppey	4.78	4.10	5.20	4.12	3.00	2.77	2.70
Kottayam	5.00	4.15	5.24	4.35	2.95	2.98	2.44
Ernakulam	5.45	4.40	5.33	4.40	3.98	2.23	1.73
Trichur	5.62	4.10	4.56	3.81	3.22	1.98	1.75
Palghat	4.90	3.71	4.72	3.65	2.15	1.40	1.60
Kozhikode	5.24	4.30	4.98	3.70	3.32	1.65	1.60
Cannanore	5.40	3.86	5.00	3.86	3.97	1.94	2.20
Average	5.07	4.04	5.01	4.20	3.00	2.03	1.90

Appendix 1.4.

Average Rural wage rates in the construction sector 1966-67

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Men	Women	Children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	5.55	4.41	5.72	5.00	2.84	1.81	2.03
Quilon	5.25	4.22	5.90	4.53	2.40	2.20	2.04
Alleppey	6.00	4.80	6.15	4.52	3.50	3.24	3.20
Kottayam	5.70	4.52	4.93	4.60	3.00	2.92	2.36
Ernakulam	5.82	4.45	5.95	4.96	2.85	2.30	2.23
Trichur	6.00	4.80	4.25	4.25	3.40	2.45	1.23
Palghat	5.15	4.00	5.80	4.50	2.67	1.82	2.20
Kozhikode	5.56	4.64	5.54	4.06	3.90	1.80	1.78
Canjannore	5.85	3.99	5.45	4.34	4.02	1.80	1.72
Warrangal	5.65	4.4	5.58	4.53	3.18	2.35	2.24

Appendix 1.5.

Average Annual Wage rates in the construction sector, 1967-68.

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(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Unskilled Men	Women	Children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	5.82	5.42	6.07	4.85	3.05	2.17	2.22
Quilon	5.80	4.79	7.09	5.92	2.94	2.40	2.45
Alleppey	6.18	5.35	7.20	6.30	3.50	3.45	3.45
Kottayam	6.12	4.85	5.77	4.92	3.98	3.50	3.10
Prnakulam	6.45	5.06	6.63	5.23	3.45	2.83	2.30
Trichur	6.31	4.48	5.26	4.10	3.80	2.93	2.42
Palghat	5.42	4.09	6.22	5.46	2.91	2.00	1.98
Kozhikode	6.28	5.50	6.22	4.94	4.12	2.32	2.30
Cannanore	6.20	4.23	5.95	4.69	4.18	2.43	2.35
AVFR ACT	6.06	1.84	6.27	5.16	3.55	2.67	2.51

Appendix 1.6.

Average Rural Wage rates in the construction sector, 1968-69.

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter		Mason		Unskilled		
	1st class	2nd class	1st class	2nd class	men	women	children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	7.50	6.15	7.45	6.06	4.23	2.94	2.50
Quilon	8.30	..	8.30	7.00	4.77	..	..
Alleppey	8.78	6.01	8.80	7.19	5.68	4.02	..
Kottayam	8.39	..	8.32	7.00	5.01	3.51	..
Tranokulam	7.94	6.25	8.25	7.06	5.46	4.00	2.68
Erichur	6.95	..	6.84	..	4.68	2.93	..
Palghat	5.58	..	5.95	..	3.54	2.13	..
Kozhikode	7.00	3.54	7.10	5.49	5.10	3.20	2.57
Changanore	7.95	3.25	6.15	6.84	6.06	3.02	2.56
Average	7.58	6.22	7.68	6.66	4.95	3.23	2.57

APPENDIX
Average Rural Wage rates in the construction sector 1969-70

(Rs. per day)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	6.70	7.11	8.18	6.58	4.59	3.18	..	..
Quilon	6.30	..	8.30	7.11	4.36	4.00	..	..
Alleppey	6.39	..	8.83	7.46	4.05	4.25	..	..
Kottayam	6.38	..	8.85	7.50	4.85	3.71	..	..
Tranankulam	6.23	6.50	8.27	7.27	4.73	4.15	..	..
Trichur	6.15	6.50	8.35	..	4.25	3.14	..	..
Palghat	6.07	6.25	6.15	5.29	4.05	2.45	..	..
Kozhikode	6.38	7.00	8.94	7.11	4.13	3.87	3.15	..
Cannanore	8.00	6.75	8.60	7.00	4.30	3.70	..	..
Average	6.12	6.52	8.27	6.91	4.49	3.59	3.15	..

Annex 1.B.
Average Urban Wage Rates in the Construction Sector, 1963-64.

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter		Mason		Unskilled Men		Unskilled Women		Unskilled Children
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
Trivandrum	4.58	3.77	4.66	3.98	2.78	1.51	2.00		
Quilon	4.52	3.75	4.04	3.78	2.05	1.79	2.12		
Alleppey	4.54	3.80	4.68	3.79	2.73	2.27	2.44		
Kottayam	4.39	3.63	4.75	3.68	2.72	2.61	2.31		
Ernakulam	4.93	3.86	4.74	3.75	2.71	2.21	1.68		
Trichur	5.62	3.63	5.32	3.48	3.24	2.23	2.77		
Palghat	5.82	3.50	4.66	3.68	2.29	1.25	2.08		
Kozhikode	4.92	3.98	5.19	3.77	3.61	2.38	2.39		
Cannanore	5.54	3.68	4.95	3.82	4.28	2.55	2.28		
Average	4.90	3.75	4.78	3.75	2.93	2.00	2.23		

Appendix .1..9.

Wages Urban Wage rates in the construction sector, 1964-65

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter		Mason		Unskilled Men	Women	Children
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd			
Pravara	4.70	3.86	4.79	4.07	2.82	1.53	2.01
Amnol	4.69	3.85	4.19	3.90	2.08	1.82	2.14
Leppeg	4.65	3.88	4.80	3.83	2.77	2.49	2.45
Botayam	4.55	3.75	4.91	3.78	2.77	2.64	2.34
Anakulan	5.14	4.00	4.93	3.90	2.76	2.25	1.70
Richur	5.77	3.74	5.44	3.55	3.28	2.25	2.79
Alghat	5.92	3.55	4.73	3.72	2.31	1.26	2.09
Chikode	5.00	4.03	5.15	3.60	3.64	2.39	2.40
Cannanore	5.63	3.60	4.99	3.84	4.30	2.37	2.28
Verge	5.12	3.81	4.68	3.62	2.97	2.11	2.24

Appendix 1.10.
Average Urban Wage Rates in the construction sector, 1965-66.
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District	Carpenter		Mason		Men	Women	Children
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Trivandrum	4.90	4.01	5.30	4.50	3.10	1.75	2.23
Quilon	4.84	4.00	5.00	4.40	2.43	2.00	2.30
Alleppey	5.25	4.10	5.60	4.30	3.15	2.85	2.78
Kottayam	5.15	4.15	5.65	4.50	3.30	3.10	2.86
Thrissur	5.64	4.35	5.85	4.80	3.05	2.52	1.92
Trichur	6.30	4.20	5.75	4.05	3.50	2.48	3.00
Palghat	6.20	3.97	4.79	3.75	2.51	1.45	2.25
Kozhikode	5.44	4.40	5.34	4.05	3.97	2.70	2.63
Cannanore	6.15	4.05	5.40	4.15	4.80	2.82	2.65
Average	5.61	4.14	5.41	4.27	3.31	2.41	2.51

Appendix 1.11.
Average Urban wage rates in the construction sector
during 1966-1967.

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Men	Women	Children
Trivandrum	5.60	4.62	5.60	4.78	3.63	2.16	2.60
Quilon	5.70	4.75	5.35	4.97	2.57	2.20	2.65
Alleppey	5.54	4.78	5.73	4.75	3.67	3.21	3.18
Kottayam	5.22	4.36	5.74	4.75	3.40	3.30	2.90
Thnadakulam	6.00	4.83	5.96	4.88	3.12	2.62	1.98
Trichur	6.48	4.39	5.85	4.10	4.04	2.95	3.40
Palghat	6.14	4.72	5.73	4.78	3.03	1.94	2.49
Kozhikode	5.55	4.60	5.55	4.22	4.14	2.84	2.80
Canara	6.27	4.27	5.58	4.43	4.94	2.96	2.96
Average	5.33	4.59	5.68	4.63	3.62	2.69	2.77

Appendix 1.12

Average Urban Wage rates in the construction sector, 1967-68

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Unskilled men	Women	Children
Trivandrum	6.57	5.53	6.66	5.08	3.95	2.47	2.96
Quilon	6.32	5.25	6.46	5.25	2.98	2.70	3.01
Alleppey	6.55	4.97	7.00	5.95	3.92	3.47	3.50
Kottayam	6.20	5.05	6.71	5.50	3.80	3.60	2.52
Ernakulam	6.64	5.29	6.84	5.18	3.81	3.10	2.55
Trichur	6.75	4.76	6.35	4.60	4.10	3.10	3.55
Palghat	6.80	4.83	6.30	5.10	3.15	2.10	2.95
Kozhikode	6.48	5.43	6.60	5.00	4.76	3.20	3.32
Cannanore	6.95	4.76	6.40	4.34	5.05	3.40	3.18
Average	6.68	5.09	6.59	5.12	3.95	3.02	3.05

Average Urban Wage rates in the construction sector, 1968-69

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Unskilled man	Unskilled Women	Unskilled children
Trivandrum	7.78	6.25	7.66	6.54	4.26	3.25	3.10
Quilon	8.54	7.00	8.75	7.88	5.30	4.00	..
Allappay	8.72	6.95	8.87	7.34	5.46	4.08	..
Kottayam	8.75	7.17	8.85	7.05	5.20	3.73	..
Ernakulam	7.28	5.65	7.69	6.16	5.28	4.04	3.00
Trichur	7.54	5.50	7.62	5.58	5.31	3.27	3.30
Palghat	6.76	..	6.25	..	3.54	2.34	..
Kozhikode	8.72	7.24	8.55	6.59	5.61	4.07	3.19
Cannanore	8.15	5.40	8.68	6.82	5.98	3.57	3.59
Average	8.02	6.39	8.10	6.84	5.10	3.50	3.24

Appendix 1.14.
Average Urban Wage rates in the construction sector, 1969-70

(Rs. per day)

District	Carpenter 1st	Carpenter 2nd	Mason 1st	Mason 2nd	Unskilled men	Women	Children
Trivandrum	8.40	6.90	8.13	7.19	5.17	4.00	3.75
Quilon	8.84	7.24	9.45	8.34	5.89	4.00	3.50
Alleppey	8.95	7.19	9.20	7.50	5.97	4.25	..
Kottayam	9.05	7.00	9.50	7.55	5.71	4.14	..
Trinkulam	7.63	6.00	6.51	6.89	5.71	4.28	3.50
Trichur	8.12	5.75	8.74	5.88	5.67	3.72	..
Palghat	6.87	4.30	6.77	5.52	3.87	2.66	..
Kozhikode	6.95	7.50	8.64	6.84	5.65	4.25	3.44
Cannanore	8.55	6.75	9.02	7.30	6.10	4.03	3.65
Average	8.37	6.65	8.71	7.00	5.52	3.92	3.57

APPENDIX. 2.1

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector - Shop Assistants (1963 - 64).

(% per month)

CITY	WHOLESALE TRADE			RETAIL TRADE			
	Foodgrains and provisions.	Cloth	Metal & Metal products.	Foodgrains and provisions.	Cloth	Stationery.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Tiruvannam	71.49	79.65	86.75	57.67	49.52	33.66	
Quilon	90.83	74.51	65.85	55.88	88.18	76.51	
Alleppey	71.94	104.30	90.72	63.75	86.00	67.86	
Kottayam	80.43	126.57	110.76	73.63	93.45	79.02	
Ernakulam	64.52	94.76	127.27	91.21	89.15	78.06	
Trichur	63.71	86.07	104.81	53.00	83.33	68.34	
Palghat	46.25	92.36	86.89	61.72	96.44	74.50	
Kozhikode	75.72	99.32	45.83	62.25	07.70	79.37	
Gannanore	83.77	91.54	62.23	76.95	80.49	85.87	
Average	73.07	94.33	86.73	66.67	86.03	72.11	

APPENDIX 2.2

Average Urban Wage rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attenders (1963 64)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE				RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains & provisions	Cloth	Metal & Metal products	Foodgrains & Provisions	Cloth	Stationery.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Trivandrum	46.95	58.01	49.67	36.73	46.38	35.05	
Quilon	75.16	50.34	49.09	33.22	45.61	52.66	
Alleppey	56.62	89.15	62.17	51.23	64.48	52.85	
Kottayam	56.96	78.27	54.59	54.60	64.77	52.39	
Ernakulam	87.59	64.61	71.85	49.51	64.71	50.60	
Trichur	59.48	81.42	85.77	59.25	58.13	50.31	
Palghat	48.86	66.55	36.22	43.79	67.14	47.47	
Kozhikode	66.36	60.08	59.61	66.33	67.87	63.02	
Cannanore	65.74	81.17	55.07	46.49	73.50	56.63	
Average	62.64	69.96	61.56	49.02	61.45	51.78	

APPENDIX 2.3

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Assistants (1964-65).

(% per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE				RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains & provisions.	Cloth	Metal & metal products	Foodgrains & provisions	Cloth	Stationery.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Trivandrum	79.91	88.56	93.16	59.18	54.69	38.92	
Quilon	99.24	78.82	68.13	59.57	90.59	80.41	
Alleppey	78.90	137.50	92.00	69.00	92.75	73.98	
Kottayam	82.51	138.38	121.88	73.50	94.13	83.31	
Ernakulam	66.76	97.84	139.64	103.33	93.39	79.21	
Trichur	68.35	90.36	118.14	56.50	86.56	75.15	
Plashat	48.22	99.22	88.10	65.83	93.72	76.00	
Kochikode	95.17	101.63	54.00	81.82	112.85	83.63	
Cannanore	95.59	97.99	75.36	86.93	39.19	87.47	
Average	79.07	103.42	94.27	72.31	90.00	74.84	

APPENDIX 2.4

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attenders (1964-65)

(% per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE			RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains & provisions	Cloth	Metal & Metal products	Foodgrains & provisions	Cloth	Stationery
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Trivandrum	50.12	68.56	56.05	39.05	54.32	38.99
Quilon	83.66	65.37	57.13	33.95	52.25	56.34
Alleppey	53.06	93.05	64.25	55.62	60.66	53.76
Kottayam	62.52	83.36	72.32	57.76	74.59	62.42
Ernakulam	89.75	69.11	75.06	66.21	69.65	57.82
Trichur	69.20	83.93	88.58	83.86	63.69	60.12
Palghat	50.54	69.59	71.27	54.92	71.32	53.49
Kozhikode	75.51	74.97	75.07	69.42	78.50	69.97
Cannanore	79.10	85.03	62.09	59.63	75.23	63.59
Average	63.33	79.52	69.09	57.32	67.30	57.39

APPENDIX 2.5

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Assistants (1965 - 66)

(% per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE			RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains & provisions	Cloth	Metal & Metal products	Food-grains & provi	Cloth	Stationery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Trivandrum	83.50	97.50	98.75	64.50	60.50	46.00
Quilon	101.00	84.25	73.00	62.00	50.00	80.00
Alleppey	85.00	149.25	93.25	72.50	59.00	87.00
Kottayam	86.00	143.00	134.25	86.00	99.75	99.25
Thiruvananthapuram	73.50	90.00	144.50	93.75	97.75	85.25
Thiruvananthapuram	70.75	90.00	133.00	66.75	96.00	91.00
Thiruvananthapuram	56.75	104.00	92.00	73.00	60.00	70.81
Kozhikode	90.75	112.25	64.50	87.00	135.00	93.00
Chennai	104.25	105.50	83.25	50.00	95.25	39.00
Average	85.28	110.81	100.72	77.33	96.23	84.26

APPENDIX 2.6

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attenders (1965-66)

(% . per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE				RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal & Metal Products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Trivandrum	57.00	71.00	63.75	45.50	58.25	51.25	
Quilon	97.50	77.50	60.00	43.75	59.25	53.75	
Alleppey	59.00	107.00	66.50	55.75	77.00	57.50	
Kottayam	63.75	93.00	79.50	51.50	61.50	75.25	
Ernakulam	91.25	75.50	80.00	70.50	74.50	70.50	
Trichur	72.50	102.00	39.25	95.75	73.00	63.75	
Palghat	67.50	71.75	77.00	58.00	77.00	60.00	
Kozhikode	35.50	83.25	33.00	74.50	36.75	72.00	
Coimbatore	81.25	99.00	66.00	67.50	30.75	69.00	
Kannur	75.25	86.67	73.89	63.75	74.55	64.73	

APPENDIX 2.7

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
(Shop Assistants (1956-67))

District	Wholesale Trade				Retail Trade		
	Foodgrains & Provisions.	Cloth	Metal & Retail Products	Foodgrains and provisions.	Cloth	Stationery.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Tiruvandrum	86.55	111.25	104.25	64.50	80.50	46.50	
Quilon	100.50	99.00	98.50	65.75	96.50	90.25	
Alepphey	96.50	152.25	102.25	89.00	128.75	93.25	
Kottayam	113.75	152.50	160.00	100.00	105.75	113.00	
Ernakulam	89.00	101.00	144.50	103.50	93.25	89.75	
Trichur	83.25	129.50	151.75	97.25	93.75	110.50	
Palghat	50.75	115.50	107.00	75.50	107.00	83.62	
Kozhikode	112.00	111.00	67.25	87.75	150.50	116.25	
Cannanore	109.25	115.00	99.75	90.50	95.50	90.75	
Average	94.03	121.67	115.38	86.53	106.83	94.54	

APPENDIX 2.8

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attendants (1966 - 67)

(% per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE			RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains & provisions	Cloth	Metal & Metal products	Foodgrains and Provisions	Cloth	Stationery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Trivandrum	64.75	93.25	73.25	47.00	65.25	52.50
Quilon	100.50	84.50	66.50	56.00	59.50	59.50
Alleppey	59.75	117.50	68.00	59.75	84.25	78.25
Kottayam	67.75	99.25	96.50	70.50	86.25	73.75
Ernakulam	92.50	83.25	97.00	75.25	97.50	84.50
Trichur	76.50	113.50	97.25	100.75	79.00	72.75
Palghat	79.00	84.25	81.75	58.50	82.75	72.75
Kozhikode	99.25	100.00	106.25	76.25	93.50	74.75
Canara	83.25	99.50	76.25	71.75	93.25	74.75
Average	79.81	97.25	84.42	68.42	81.81	72.17

APPENDIX 2.3

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Assistants (1987 - 88)

(Rs. per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE			RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal & metal products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Trivandrum	99.41	106.87	107.32	63.00	82.50	47.50
Quilon	103.25	99.00	101.50	69.75	99.23	101.50
Alleppey	109.75	154.25	105.25	92.12	130.75	96.32
Kottayam	116.75	155.50	163.13	102.00	107.25	115.12
Ernakulam	95.00	103.59	145.50	105.05	99.52	89.93
Trichur	73.00	135.60	153.79	101.49	93.57	112.52
Palghat	91.43	117.19	110.14	73.56	102.00	84.26
Kozhikode	116.00	119.81	69.64	90.96	50.75	118.47
Cannanore	113.50	117.63	101.55	90.51	96.65	102.16
Average	100.46	123.28	117.57	38.72	108.36	96.43

APPENDIX 2.10

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attenders (1967-68)

(% per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE			RETAIL TRADE		
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal & metal products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Trivandrum	66.57	95.50	73.52	49.00	67.50	52.75
Quilon	101.50	85.75	67.50	56.57	61.25	61.50
Alleppey	61.57	118.50	68.25	59.75	86.25	70.50
Kottayam	109.75	101.50	96.75	71.25	97.50	70.25
Ernakulam	92.75	83.75	97.50	75.75	97.75	96.25
Trichur	77.72	113.75	90.25	101.75	79.00	73.75
Palghat	79.25	85.25	83.75	59.25	82.75	73.75
Kozhikode	89.75	100.75	108.50	74.70	98.50	76.25
Cannanore	88.75	101.50	77.25	73.75	93.75	76.75
Average	85.29	93.47	85.20	69.09	84.92	74.02

APPENDIX 2.14

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attenders (1969 - 70)

(Rs. per month)

DISTRICT	RETAIL TRADE						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal & Metal products.	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery.	
Trivandrum	63.54	102.62	91.57	92.02	84.05	83.85	
Coimbatore	100.85	136.83	78.58	53.66	79.16	92.92	
Malappuram	101.84	143.96	93.44	90.53	124.61	127.69	41
Kottayam	138.53	162.98	133.63	104.93	103.77	115.55	
Ernakulam	113.73	119.57	135.25	112.38	125.12	90.11	
Trichur	114.45	127.93	103.31	103.71	108.17	123.75	
Palghat	91.42	117.12	91.13	7.37	25.52	71.93	
Kozhikode	111.26	165.23	..	91.83	103.52	..	
Calicut	114.38	103.35	..	77.62	..	..
Average	106.89	131.03	104.63	90.10	102.24	100.31	

APPENDIX 2.12

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Attenders (1958 - 69)

(Rs. per month)

DISTRICT	WHOLESALE TRADE				RETAIL TRADE		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal and Metal Products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery	
Trivandrum	67.55	93.53	96.20	73.22	73.22	67.03	
Quilon	106.23	125.31	75.25	58.27	73.23	83.16	
Alleppey	..	124.47	97.36	85.91	120.26	100.23	
Kottayam	113.70	132.23	134.03	89.15	84.35	107.07	
Ernakulam	109.30	112.15	123.11	104.79	124.94	85.13	
Trichur	91.82	123.47	100.95	103.11	81.40	101.02	
Palakkad	84.38	104.59	84.19	63.04	80.17	87.63	
Kozhikode	100.00	..	..	75.17	102.00	113.00	
Cannanore	101.11	..	..	75.53	..	113.00	
Average	95.63	113.43	90.72	80.06	95.60	99.00	

APPENDIX 2.11

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector
Shop Assistants (1968 - 69)

DISTRICT	RETAIL TRADE						
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal and Metal Products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Trivandrum	89.03	137.15	108.66	86.90	92.00	86.42	
Coimbatore	119.84	107.52	110.50	71.64	100.00	100.57	
Alleppey	111.08	162.62	128.96	107.65	138.85	109.44	
Kottayam	116.24	175.23	167.41	109.24	122.04	117.64	
Ernakulam	104.39	132.18	163.51	122.50	109.61	129.33	
Cherichuru	..	..	130.51	..	120.00	..	
Falshet	95.00	134.33	131.25	77.67	123.50	..	
Kozhikode	122.64	..	..	102.89	157.76	133.34	
Cannanore	113.33	119.00	..	94.51	100.67	111.67	
Average	111.06	138.29	138.68	96.62	118.27	111.66	

(% per month)

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