



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

REPORT
ON
THE WAGE STRUCTURE SURVEY
IN
KERALA
(1974-75 to 1977-78)

Issued by
BUREAU OF ECONOMICS & STATISTICS
TRIVANDRUM
OCTOBER 1979

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PREFACE

In the Planned era of Economic Development, Wages play an important role. The variation in the wage rates in different sectors of the economy is mainly due to the difference in the nature of the activity undertaken, the type of skill required etc. For policy formulation, a study of the trend in wage rates over a period of time as well as between different sectors and occupations is highly useful.

This report contains an analysis of the trend in wage rates for different types of labour in the Construction and Trade and Commerce Sectors in Kerala during the period 1974-75 to 1977-78. The data presented in this report are derived from a sample survey on Wage structure in the Construction and Trade and Commerce Sectors conducted by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics on a continuing basis.

This report is prepared in the Labour and Housing Statistics Unit of the Bureau.

Trivandrum,
16-10-1979.

DR. P. A. NAIR,
Director.

73/4079/MC.

REPORT ON THE WAGE STRUCTURE SURVEY IN KERALA FOR THE PERIOD 1974-75 to 1977-78

Introduction

Wages play a significant role in an era of planned development. The main object of all economic activities is the satisfaction of human wants and this could be achieved only by assuring a reasonable level of real earnings to the Working class. The Fair Wages Committee set up by the Government of India defined three broad concepts viz., 'The Minimum Wage', 'The Living Wage' and 'The Fair Wage'. The Minimum Wages Act of 1948 was intended to provide the workers with minimum rates of wages. The wage rates in the various sectors of the economy will vary according to the nature of the activity undertaken in each sector, productivity, type of skill etc.

The Wage Structure Survey was started in 1963-64 by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics. The main object of the survey is to study the trend in wage rates for different kinds of skilled and unskilled persons in the 'Construction' and 'Trade and Commerce' Sectors in Kerala over a period of years. This report deals with the wage rates in the 'Construction and Trade and Commerce Sectors' during the years from 1974-75 to 1977-78.

Sample Design

The survey is being conducted every year in four quarterly rounds on a sample basis. Rural-Urban comparison of wages for different kinds of skilled and unskilled labourers is also made. The survey covers the entire State and a stratified multi-stage random sampling method is adopted for the survey. In the urban sector all the District headquarters are selected. Besides, one more Municipality is selected at random from each District.

From the rural sector three Panchayats are selected randomly from each District. Fresh samples were selected every year from 1963-64 to 1971-72. But later it was decided to retain the same sample list for a period of five years. Hence from 1972-73 to 1976-77 a fresh sample list was prepared. This fixed sample will enable a better comparison of data over a period of years. A fresh list of units was again prepared for the period from 1977-78 to 1981-82. The number of units selected was the same as in the previous years. But in most cases this is not possible in the construction sector. The selection of Municipalities and Panchayats is being done in the Housing Cell in the head office and the lists are sent to the District Statistical Officers. The selection of wards and units are made by the District Statistical Officers. If any selected unit stops functioning it will be substituted by another nearby unit.

(1) **Construction sector:**

In the construction sector all the District headquarters have been selected. Apart from this, one more Municipality is selected by simple random sampling from each District. Five construction units each are selected at random from the district headquarters and Municipalities. In the rural sector three Panchayats had been selected from each district and three units were selected from each Panchayat. Altogether from each district ten units were selected in the urban sector and nine units in the rural sector. The daily wage rates of skilled and unskilled labourers have been collected for each quarter by contacting the contractors, or those who are responsible for the payment of wages. Over-time allowances, if any, are not included in wages.

Skilled labour comprises of Carpenter, Mason, Painter, Sawyer, Plumber, Electrical Wireman etc. Unskilled labour includes male, female and child labour.

The average daily wages (urban) in the construction sector during the decade 1967-68 to 1977-78 (vide Tables Ia and Ib) are furnished in the following tables.

TABLE 1 (a)

Average Daily Wage Rates in the construction Sector (Urban)

Year	Skilled			
	Carpenter		Mason	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1967-68	6.58	100.00	6.59	100.00
1968-69	8.02	121.88	8.10	122.91
1969-70	8.37	127.20	8.71	132.17
1970-71	8.63	131.16	8.71	132.17
1971-72	8.90	135.26	8.86	134.45
1972-73	9.55	145.14	9.59	145.52
1973-74	10.64	161.70	10.70	162.37
1974-75	11.96	181.76	12.08	183.31
1975-76	13.78	209.42	13.80	209.41
1976-77	14.50	220.36	14.50	220.03
1977-78	15.19	230.85	15.15	229.89
Annual increase (Average)	..	13.09	..	12.99

TABLE I (Contd.)

Year	Painter (1st class)		Sawyer	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1970-71	7.84	100.00	7.62	100.00
1971-72	8.36	106.63	7.74	101.57
1972-73	8.64	110.20	8.00	104.99
1973-74	9.21	117.47	9.21	120.87
1974-75	11.35	144.77	11.22	147.24
1975-76	12.79	163.14	13.23	173.62
1976-77	13.61	173.60	13.91	182.55
1977-78	14.26	181.89	14.90	195.54
Average annual increase ..		11.70	..	13.65

Year	Plumber		Electrical Wireman	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1970-71	9.16	100.00	9.28	100.00
1971-72	9.91	108.19	9.45	101.83
1972-73	10.90	119.00	9.93	107.00
1973-74	11.26	122.93	10.38	111.85
1974-75	12.77	139.41	13.15	141.70
1975-76	13.23	144.43	14.73	158.73
1976-77	14.02	153.06	15.05	162.18
1977-78	15.12	165.07	15.96	171.98
Average annual increase ..		9.29	..	10.28

TABLE 1(b)

Average Daily Wage Rates of Unskilled Labour in the Construction Sector (Urban)

Year	Unskilled					
	Men		Women		Children	
	Wage Rs.	Index	Wage Rs.	Index	Wage Rs.	Index
1967-68	3.95	100.00	3.02	100.00	3.06	100.00
1968-69	5.10	139.11	3.59	118.87	3.24	105.88
1969-70	5.52	139.75	3.92	129.80	3.57	116.67
1970-71	5.71	144.56	3.93	130.13	3.30	107.84
1971-72	5.96	150.89	4.08	135.10	3.36	109.80
1972-73	6.32	160.00	4.41	146.03	3.95	129.08
1973-74	6.93	175.44	4.81	159.27	4.20	137.26
1974-75	7.92	200.51	5.59	185.10	5.00	163.40
1975-76	9.31	235.69	6.54	216.55	5.41	176.80
1976-77	9.65	244.30	7.15	236.75	6.23	203.59
1977-78	10.10	255.70	7.61	251.99	6.57	214.71
Average annual increase	..	15.57	..	15.20	..	11.47

The above data reveal that in the Urban Sector, wages of Unskilled workers increased more rapidly than skilled workers during the decade 1967-68 to 1977-78. During the decade under reference, the wage rate of Carpenter and Mason had gone up by 130% while the increase registered in the case of unskilled labour (both male and female) was more than 150%.

In the urban sector among skilled workers the average annual increase in the wage rates of carpenter during the decade 1967-68 to 1977-78 was 13.1% as against the annual average rate of 12% during the previous decade. Similarly the average annual increase in the wage rates of masons was 13% during the period under report [vide Table 1(a).]

The wage rates of unskilled workers—male, female and children exhibited an annual increase of 15.57%, 15.20% and 11.47%, respectively during the same period [vide Table 1(b)].

During the period from 1970-71 to 1977-78 the average annual increase in the wage rates of painter recorded 11.7% while that of sawyer was 13.6%. Similarly the average annual increase in the wage rates of plumber and electrical wireman were 9.3% and 10.2%, respectively. [vide Table 1(a)].

As in the previous years the wages of both skilled and unskilled workers increased more steeply in the rural sector compared to the urban areas. The increase in wages during the decade was of the order of 144% in the case of carpenter and 137% in the case of mason. The wages of unskilled male and female labourers have also gone up by more than 160%. The average annual increase in the wage rates of skilled labour such as carpenters and masons are worked out as 14.44% and 13.73%, respectively. In this sector during the period from 1970-71 to 1977-78 the average annual increase in the wage rates of painter (I class), sawyer, plumber and electrical wireman were 18.3%, 14.0%, 11.3% and 11.8%, respectively [vide Table (IIa)].

TABLE II (a)

Average Daily Wage Rates in the construction Sector (Rural)

Skilled Labour

Year	Carpenter		Mason	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wage Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1967-68	6.06	100.00	6.27	100.00
1968-69	7.58	125.00	7.63	121.69
1969-70	8.12	133.99	8.27	131.90
1970-71	8.19	135.15	8.20	130.78
1971-72	8.37	138.12	8.47	135.09
1972-73	9.10	150.16	9.32	148.64
1973-74	9.87	162.87	9.98	159.17
1974-75	11.60	191.42	11.59	184.85
1975-76	13.30	219.47	13.25	211.32
1976-77	13.93	229.87	13.94	222.33
1977-78	14.81	244.39	14.88	237.32
Average annual increase	..	14.44	..	13.73

TABLE II(a)—Contd.

Year	Painter (1st class)		Sawyer	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1970-71	6.22	100.00	7.19	100.00
1971-72	7.72	124.12	7.17	99.72
1972-73	8.36	134.41	7.98	110.99
1973-74	8.77	141.00	8.26	114.88
1974-75	10.84	174.28	10.08	140.19
1975-76	12.46	200.32	12.94	179.97
1976-77	13.26	213.18	13.59	189.01
1977-78	14.20	228.30	14.23	197.91
Average annual increase	..	18.33	..	13.99

Year	Plumber		Electrical Wireman	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1970-71*	8.29	100.00	8.31	100.00
1971-72	8.17	98.55	8.67	104.33
1972-73	8.92	107.60	9.77	117.57
1973-74	10.63	128.23	9.88	118.89
1974-75	11.31	136.43	12.40	149.22
1975-76	12.90	155.61	14.04	168.95
1976-77	13.27	160.07	14.18	170.64
1977-78	14.83	178.89	15.20	182.91
Average annual increase	..	11.27	..	11.85

TABLE II(b).

Average Daily Wage Rates in the Construction sector (Rural)

Year	Unskilled Labour					
	Men		Women		Children	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1967-68	3.55	100.00	2.67	100.00	2.51	100.00
1968-69	4.95	139.44	3.22	120.60	2.57	102.39
1969-70	5.49	154.65	3.59	134.46	3.15	125.50
1970-71	5.40	152.11	3.68	137.83	3.21	127.89
1971-72	5.39	151.83	3.83	143.45	3.54	141.04
1972-73	5.78	162.80	3.90	146.07	3.57	142.23
1973-74	6.26	176.34	4.31	161.42	3.87	154.18
1974-75	7.31	205.92	5.07	189.89	4.51	179.68
1975-76	8.48	238.87	5.93	222.10	5.23	208.37
1976-77	8.74	246.20	6.48	242.70	5.96	237.45
1977-78	9.38	264.23	7.00	262.17	6.59	262.55
Average annual increase	..	16.42	..	16.22	..	16.25

A district-wise analysis reveals that during the decade 1967-68 to 1977-78, the annual average increase in the wage rates of carpenter (I class) has ranged from 12.25% to 16.59% in rural areas as against 9.0% to 15.77% in urban areas. It is evident from Table III (a) that in the Rural Sector, Quilon District recorded the maximum rate of annual average increase in wages. In urban sector, Kozhikode District displayed the same trend. For both Urban and Rural sectors, the average annual increase was minimum in the case of Palghat District [vide Table III(a)].

In the case of Mason I Class, the average annual increase in the wage rates has ranged from 9.87% to 18.99% in rural areas as against 10.24% to 15.59% in urban areas. Table III (b) reveals that Trichur and Cannanore Districts recorded the maximum rate of annual average increase in rural and urban areas respectively. As regards masonry labour, Palghat District exhibited the minimum rate of annual average increase in wages both for rural and urban sectors [vide Table III (b)].

The wage rate of unskilled labour increased at a faster rate than that of skilled labour both in the rural and in urban sectors [vide Table IV (a) and IV(b)]. The annual percentage increase in the wage rates of men is the highest in Quilon for both rural and urban areas. Similarly the wage rates of women (both rural and urban) exhibited the maximum increase in Trivandrum district. The lowest percentage increase in the case of unskilled labour (Men) for rural sector was noticed in Kottayam district, while for urban

areas a similar trend was seen in Trivandrum district. The wage rates for women exhibited the lowest increase in Alleppey district in the case of rural sector while for urban areas the same trend was seen in Kottayam district.

TABLE III (a)

Percentage increase in the Wage Rates of Skilled Labour

District	Percentage increase from 1967-68 to 1977-78			
	Carpenters Ist class			
	Rural	Percentage of annual average increase	Urban	Percentage of annual average increase
Trivandrum	148.28	14.83	119.18	11.92
Quilon	165.86	16.59	144.46	14.45
Alleppey	142.23	14.22	129.47	12.95
Kottayam	143.79	14.38	137.26	13.73
Ernakulam	132.56	13.26	125.90	12.59
Trichur	140.25	14.02	127.11	12.71
Palghat	122.51	12.25	90.00	9.00
Kozhikode	157.80	15.78	157.72	15.77
Cannanore	141.94	14.19	144.60	14.46
Kerala	144.39	14.44	130.85	13.08

TABLE III (b)

Percentage increase in the Wage Rates of Skilled Labour

District	Percentage increase from 1967-68 to 1977-78			
	Mason Ist class			
	Rural	Percentage average annual increase	Urban	Percentage average annual increase
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Trivandrum	145.30	14.53	117.72	11.77
Quilon	117.49	11.75	139.16	13.92
Alleppey	107.64	10.76	116.57	11.66
Kottayam	157.54	15.75	120.27	12.03
Ernakulam	126.24	12.62	119.30	11.93
Trichur	189.92	18.99	141.42	14.14
Palghat	98.71	9.87	102.38	10.24
Kozhikode	152.96	15.30	152.42	15.24
Cannanore	157.65	15.76	155.94	15.59
Kerala	137.32	13.73	129.89	12.99

TABLE IV (a)
Percentage Annual Increase in the Wage Rates of Unskilled Labour

Rural

Districts	Percentage increase from 1967-68 to 1977-78					
	Men		Women		Children	
	Index	% annual increase	Index	% annual increase	Index	% annual increase
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Trivandrum	201.32	20.13	263.59	26.36	256.76	25.67
Quilon	217.69	21.77	219.17	21.92	..	..
Alleppey	161.14	16.11	109.28	10.93	65.51	6.55
Kottayam	133.42	13.34	121.14	12.11	133.87	13.38
Ernakulam	182.03	18.20	146.29	14.63	..	..
Trichur	161.32	16.13	111.26	11.13	..	..
Palghat	166.67	16.67	158.50	15.85	124.24	12.42
Kozhikode	154.85	15.48	223.28	22.33	213.91	21.39
Cannanore	156.46	15.64	189.30	18.93	..	..
KERALA	164.23	16.42	162.17	16.22	162.55	16.25

TABLE IV (b)

Percentage Annual Increase in the Wage Rates of Unskilled Labour

Urban

Districts	Percentage Increase from 1967-68 to 1977-78					
	Men		Women		Children	
	Index	% annual increase	Index	% Annual increase	Index	% Annual increase
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Trivandrum	123.29	12.33	214.17	21.42	155.74	15.57
Quilon	211.41	21.14	192.59	19.26	118.27	11.83
Alleppey	158.67	15.87	128.82	12.88	75.43	7.54
Kottayam	161.32	16.13	119.44	11.94	180.56	18.05
Ernakulam	211.02	21.10	163.87	16.39	..	..
Trichur	149.27	14.93	137.74	13.77	..	..
Palghat	148.57	14.86	166.67	16.67	55.59	5.56
Kozhikode	144.75	14.47	148.44	14.84	116.27	11.63
Cannanore	129.70	12.97	121.47	12.15	92.45	9.25
KERALA	155.70	15.57	151.99	15.22	114.71	11.47

The District-wise average daily wage rates of skilled and unskilled labour during the years 1967-68, 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 are furnished in Appendix Tables 1.1 to 1.10.

II. Trade and Commerce Sector

As in the construction sector, all the district headquarters and one more Municipality from each district were selected for the survey. From each Municipality/Corporation two wards were selected and from each ward three shops of the categories appended below had been selected for the trade and commerce sector.

1. Foodgrains and provisions	(Wholesale)
2. Textiles	do.
3. Metal and Metal Products	do.
4. Foodgrains and provisions	(Retail)
5. Textile shops	do.
6. Shops dealing with stationery and toilets	do.

The Investigators visit the selected shops every quarter and collect the monthly wages relating to shop assistants and shop attenders from the pay rolls kept by the owners of shops and by oral enquiries. Overtime allowances, if any, were not included in wages.

(a) *Wholesale Trade.*—It is evident from the tables V(a) and V(b) that the average monthly wage rates in the trade and commerce sector have more than doubled during the period under review. In the wholesale trade the maximum increase in the wage rates of both the shop assistants and shop attenders were recorded in Textile shops. It is evident from table V(a) that during the decade from 1967-68 to 1977-78 the wage rates of shop assistants in foodgrains and provisions, cloth, metal and metal products rose by 191%, 197% and 145%, respectively. Similarly, wage rates of shop attenders in foodgrains and provisions, cloth, metal and metal products have gone up by 149%, 167% and 149%, respectively. This can be gauged from Table V(b).

The district-wise analysis of the wage rates in wholesale shops in Urban areas reveals that the maximum percentage increase in wages for shop assistants was recorded at Trichur for foodgrains and provisions.

TABLE V(a)

Average monthly wage rates of shop assistant in wholesale shops

Urban

Year	Foodgrains		Cloth		Metal and metal products	
	Wage Rs.	Index	Wage Rs.	Index	Wage Rs.	Index
1967-68	100.00	100.00	123.00	100.00	118.00	100.00
1968-69	111.00	111.00	138.00	112.20	138.00	116.95
1969-70	126.00	126.00	160.00	130.08	148.00	125.42
1970-71	136.00	136.00	162.00	131.71	143.00	121.19
1971-72	149.00	149.00	194.00	157.72	146.00	123.72
1972-73	166.00	166.00	231.00	187.80	172.00	145.76
1973-74	203.00	203.00	239.00	194.31	189.00	160.17
1974-75	248.00	248.00	281.00	228.45	231.00	195.76
1975-76	274.00	274.00	310.00	252.03	255.00	216.10
1976-77	280.00	280.00	332.00	269.92	283.00	239.83
1977-78	291.00	291.00	365.00	296.75	289.00	244.92
Average annual increase		19.10		19.67		14.49

TABLE V (b)

Average monthly wage rates of shop attenders in whole sale shop

Urban

Year	Foodgrains		Cloth		Metal and metal products	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1967-68	85	100.00	98	100.00	85	100.00
1968-69	96	112.94	118	120.41	100	117.65
1969-70	107	125.88	131	133.67	105	123.53
1970-71	107	125.88	123	125.51	113	132.94
1971-72	115	135.29	136	138.78	127	149.41
1972-73	127	149.41	161	164.28	128	150.59
1973-74	147	172.94	177	180.61	144	169.41
1974-75	178	209.41	210	214.28	164	192.94
1975-76	201	236.47	241	245.92	189	222.35
1976-77	203	238.82	235	239.80	200	235.29
1977-78	212	249.41	262	267.35	212	249.41
Average annual increase		14.94		16.73		14.94

TABLE VI(a)

**Percentage increase in wage rates in wholesale shops (Urban)
1967-68 to 1977-78**

<i>District</i>	<i>Shop Assistants</i>		
	<i>Food grains and provisions</i>	<i>Textiles</i>	<i>Metal and metal products</i>
Trivandrum	204.22	234.99	206.56
Quilon	146.97	201.01	156.16
Alleppey	148.14	238.41	133.73
Kottayam	257.17	265.59	95.55
Ernakulam	202.11	290.00	100.69
Trichur	293.59	170.65	97.67
Palghat	154.84	106.50	96.11
Kozhikode	131.90	214.66	Nil
Cannanore	154.63	207.74	222.99
KERALA	189.67	196.07	145.81

TABLE VI(b)

**Percentage increase in wage rates in wholesale shop (urban)
1967-68 to 1977-78**

<i>District</i>	<i>Shop Attenders</i>		
	<i>Foodgrains and provisions</i>	<i>Textiles</i>	<i>Metal and metal products</i>
Trivandrum	198.93	153.40	174.76
Quilon	84.24	191.55	169.63
Alleppey	192.35	153.16	179.85
Kottayam	143.28	154.19	139.79
Ernakulam	160.92	216.42	121.54
Trichur	199.79	154.07	144.84
Palghat	114.51	134.60	134.03
Kozhikode	130.64	215.63	103.86
Cannanore	154.65	152.22	208.09
KERALA	148.56	166.07	148.68

The wage rates in textiles and metal and metal products exhibited maximum increase in Ernakulam and Cannanore Districts respectively. [vide Table VI (a)]

As regards shop attenders (Wholesale Trade—Urban) the percentage increase in the wage rates was the highest in Trichur for foodgrains and provisions. Ernakulam and Cannanore displayed the same trend for textiles and metal and metal products respectively. Quilon district recorded the lowest annual average increase in foodgrains and provisions, Palghat district in textiles and Kozhikode district in metal and metal products. [Vide Table VI (b)].

(b) *Retail Trade*: In Retail trade, three types of shops viz., foodgrains^s and provisions, cloth and stationery have been included. Wage rates in retail shops were found to be lower than those of the wholesale shops.

The average monthly wage rates of shop assistants and shop attenders in retail trade during the decade 1967-68 to 1977-78 are furnished in Tables VII (a) and VII (b).

It is evident from the above tables that the maximum rate of increase in wages of shop assistants was seen in textiles. The same trend for shop attenders was observed in stationery shops.

The percentage average annual increase in wage rates of shop assistants was 19.55 in foodgrains, 22.78 in textiles and 20.21 in stationery. Among shop attenders, the average annual increase was of the order of 18.84 % in foodgrains, 17.65% in textiles and 19.05% in stationery [vide Tables VII (a) and VII (b)].

TABLE VII (a)

Average monthly wage rates of shop assistant in retail shops

Year	Foodgrains		Textiles		Stationery	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1967-68	89	100.00	108	100.00	96	100.00
1968-69	97	108.99	118	109.26	112	116.67
1969-70	115	129.21	134	124.07	112	116.67
1970-71	123	138.20	146	135.18	138	143.75
1971-72	120	134.83	159	147.22	145	151.04
1972-73	136	152.81	176	162.96	182	189.58
1973-74	165	185.39	214	198.15	199	207.29
1974-75	200	224.72	248	229.63	228	237.50
1975-76	222	249.44	260	240.74	270	281.25
1976-77	240	269.66	317	293.52	275	286.46
1977-78	263	295.51	354	327.78	290	302.08
Average annual increase		19.55		22.78		20.21

TABLE VII (b)

Average monthly wage rates of Shop Attenders in Retail Shops (urban)

Year	Foodgrains		Textiles		Stationery	
	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index	Wages Rs.	Index
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1967-68	69	100.00	85	100.00	74	100.00
1968-69	81	117.39	96	112.94	90	121.62
1969-70	90	130.43	102	120.00	101	136.49
1970-71	93	134.78	113	132.94	103	139.19
1971-72	94	136.23	114	134.12	108	145.95
1972-73	115	166.67	133	156.47	125	168.92
1973-74	126	182.61	153	180.00	136	183.78
1974-75	152	220.29	179	210.59	163	220.27
1975-76	176	255.07	203	228.82	192	259.46
1976-77	185	268.12	218	256.47	208	281.08
1977-78	199	288.41	235	276.47	215	290.54
Average Annual increase		18.84		17.65		19.05

TABLE VIII (a)

Percentage increase in wage rates in Retail Shops
1967-68 to 1977-78 (Urban)

District	Shop Assistants		
	Foodgrains and provisions	Textiles	Stationery
Trivandrum	235.29	258.79	556.84
Quilon	222.58	209.38	139.41
Alleppey	180.07	218.93	175.12
Kottayam	270.59	284.15	237.91
Ernakulam	137.03	289.87	251.19
Trichur	187.71	313.78	185.28
Palghat	222.05	250.46	172.96
Kozhikode	188.04	583.74	172.64
Cannanore	236.98	239.37	193.66
KEKALA	196.44	226.69	200.74

TABLE VIII (b)
Percentage increase in wage rates in Retail Shops
1967-68 to 1977-78 (Urban)

District	Shop Attenders		
	Food grains and provisions	Textiles	Stationery
Trivandrum	316.33	218.52	296.21
Quilon	230.56	239.59	208.94
Alleppey	214.64	166.67	210.69
Kottayam	203.16	145.13	201.58
Ernakulam	152.15	198.72	116.10
Trichur	114.25	211.39	207.90
Palghat	154.85	103.02	195.59
Kozhikode	183.80	158.88	173.75
Cananore	183.39	172.00	178.55
KERALA	188.03	176.73	190.23

The district-wise analysis reveals that during the decade 1967-68 to 1977-78, Kottayam district recorded the maximum % increase in wage rates of Shop Assistants in foodgrains and provisions trade. In textiles highest increase was seen in Kozhikode district and in stationery a similar trend was displayed by Trivandrum district [vide Table VIII (a)]. In the case of shop attenders, the highest % increase in wages in foodgrains trade was seen in Trivandrum district. In the case of textiles and stationery, the % increase in wages was the highest in Quilon and Trivandrum respectively. For Shop Assistants the % increase in wages was the lowest in foodgrains trade in Ernakulam district. Similar lowest trends were observed in the case of Textiles and Stationery trade in Quilon district [vide tables VIII (a) & b)].

The average monthly wage rates of Shop Assistants and Shop Attenders in the various districts of the State during the period 1967-68 to 1977-78 are furnished in appendix 2.1 to 2.10.

III. Wages and cost of living indices

As we are aware the trend of prices and cost of living have always a notable impact on wages and vice versa. The rise in price of the consumer articles will urge the labourers to demand an increase in the wage rates to adjust themselves to the increase in the cost of living. The consequent rise in wage will cause an inflation again.

On close analysis of all the statements included in this report we can understand that the wage rates have shown a steady increase in all sectors of the economy. Money wages represent the amount of money received by the worker for the work done for a particular period while the real wages refer to the total quantity of goods and services that can be purchased with the money wages. In other words, real wages involve a relationship between money wages and the retail price level or the cost of living.

The trend in wage indices in the Construction and the Trade and Commerce Sectors and the Consumer Price Indices in the 3 important centres of Kerala for the decade 1968-69 to 1977-78 are presented in tables 9, 10 and 11.

It can be seen that the increase in the General Index during the period 1968-69 to 1974-75 was much faster than the increase exhibited by the wage indices in the Construction Sector. This obviously indicates that wage rates of Carpenter, Mason and Unskilled labour did not move as fast as the increase in the cost of living, during these 10 year period. But from 1974-75 onwards the cost of living index showed a downward movement, but the wage indices for all the categories, not only did not fall, but exhibited an upward move. Hence when the position for the decade (1968-69 to 1977-78) as a whole is taken, wages in the Construction Sector (for all categories both rural and urban) increased much faster than the increase in the General Index.

But in the Trade and Commerce Sector, both in the wholesale trade and in the retail trade, increase exhibited by the wage indices up to the period 1974-75 was much faster than the increase seen in the General Index. But the wage indices in the metal and metal products group (Wholesale) was an exception; the increase registered during the period 1968-69 to 1974-75 was far below the increase in the general index. Hence the employees in this trade were affected adversely owing to the increase in the cost of living. The picture is slightly different when the entire period from 1968-69 to 1977-78 is taken. The wage indices of all the categories coming under Trade and Commerce Sector increased more rapidly than the increase in the General Index. It can be concluded that the movement of wage index was not unfavourable to the employees in the Construction and Trade and Commerce Sectors in Kerala.

TABLE 9
Wage indices in the construction sector
(Base 1967-68=100)

Year	Skilled labour				Unskilled labour	
	Carpenter (1st Class)		Mason (1st Class)		(Men)	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
1968-69	125	122	122	123	139	129
1969-70	134	127	132	132	155	140
1970-71	135	131	131	132	152	145
1971-72	138	135	135	134	152	151
1972-73	150	145	149	146	157	160
1973-74	163	162	159	162	176	175
1974-75	191	182	185	183	206	201
1975-76	219	209	211	209	239	236
1976-77	230	220	222	220	246	244
1977-78	244	231	237	230	264	256

TABLE 10

Wage indices of shop assistants in the Trade and Commerce sector

(Base 1967-68=100)

Year	Wholesale shops in			Retail shops in		
	Foodgrains and provisions	Clothing	Metal and metal products	Foodgrains and provisions	Clothing	Stationery
1968-69	111	112	118	109	109	116
1969-70	125	130	126	146	124	116
1970-71	135	131	122	139	135	143
1971-72	148	157	124	135	147	150
1972-73	165	187	146	153	162	189
1973-74	202	194	161	186	197	206
1974-75	247	228	196	225	229	236
1975-76	273	251	217	250	240	280
1976-77	280	270	240	270	294	286
1977-78	291	297	245	296	328	302

TABLE 11

General Index on Prices

(Base 1939 August=100)

Year	Centre		
	Trivandrum	Ernakulam	Kozhikode
1968-69	811.08	818.75	877.67
1969-70	850.33	862.50	930.17
1970-71	861.50	874.75	944.83
1971-72	890.92	899.67	980.58
1972-73	985.83	996.66	1087.67
1973-74	1270.83	1290.83	1419.67
1974-75	1580.33	1584.41	1767.42
1975-76	1489.42	1486.50	1642.92
1976-77	1385.50	1391.83	1546.58
1977-78	1385.58	1391.42	1561.58

APPENDIX

TABLE 1.1

Average urban wage rates in the construction sector, 1968-69

District	(Rs. per day)							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
		Carpenter I Class	Carpenter II Class	Mason I Class	Mason II Class	Unskilled Men	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	..
Alleppey	..	8.72	6.93	8.87	7.94	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	3.59	3.24

TABLE 1.2

Average rural wage rates in the construction sector, 1968-69

(Rs. per day)

District	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	Carpenter I class	Carpenter II class	Mason I class	Mason II class	Unskilled men	Unskilled women	Unskilled children
Trivandrum	7.50	6.13	7.45	6.06	4.23	2.94	2.50
Quilon	8.30	..	8.30	7.00	4.77	..	..
Alleppey	8.78	6.91	8.80	7.19	5.68	4.02	..
Kottayam	8.39	..	8.32	7.00	5.01	3.51	..
Ernakulam	7.94	6.25	8.25	7.06	5.46	4.00	2.68
Trichur	6.95	..	6.84	..	4.68	2.93	..
Palghat	5.58	..	5.95	..	3.54	2.13	..
Kozhikode	7.00	6.54	7.10	5.49	5.10	3.20	2.57
Cannanore	7.95	6.25	8.15	6.84	6.08	3.02	2.56
Average	7.58	6.22	7.68	6.66	4.95	3.22	2.57

TABLE 1.3

Average daily wage rates in the construction sector 1974-75 (Urban)

District	Skilled labourers							Unskilled labourers					
	Carpenter		Mason		Painter		Sawyer	Plumber	Electrical wireman	Male	Female	Children	
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class							
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	
Trivandrum	11.75	9.75	11.66	9.75	10.20	9.11	10.16	10.50	11.75	6.83	5.52	4.29	
Quilon	12.60	10.42	12.60	10.42	12.33	10.54	10.10	12.38	11.85	7.14	5.53	4.48	
Alleppey	11.72	10.00	11.70	9.88	11.26	9.48	10.36	12.63	13.40	7.79	6.39	5.07	
Kottayam	11.65	10.00	11.88	9.84	11.57	10.69	..	13.22	13.81	7.99	5.58	4.97	
Ernakulam	11.93	10.87	11.96	10.11	10.00	9.00	..	..	13.00	7.56	4.69	..
Trichur	12.04	10.85	12.17	10.93	9.63	9.20	13.00	12.00	14.00	8.78	4.65	..	
Palghat	10.40	9.00	10.42	9.05	10.00	9.67	..	..	..	6.58	4.55	4.29
Malappuram	10.02	8.57	10.98	9.35	11.25	..	..	..	12.00	7.26	5.14	4.67
Kozhikode	13.68	12.43	13.68	12.43	13.50	12.22	12.50	14.33	13.75	9.35	6.83	6.00	
Cananore	13.78	12.09	13.78	12.08	13.76	12.19	..	14.33	14.67	9.93	7.00	6.20	
KERALA	11.96	10.40	12.08	10.38	11.35	9.21	11.22	12.77	13.75	7.92	5.59	5.00	

TABLE 1.4

Average daily wage rates in the construction sector 1974-75 (Rural)

District	Skilled labourers										Unskilled labourers			
	Carpenter		Mason		Painter		Sawyer		Plumber	Electrical wireman	Male	Female	Children	
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
Trivandrum	10.89	9.22	10.89	9.22	10.55	9.33	9.67	10.00	10.89	6.45	5.33	4.00		
Quilon	12.00	10.00	12.00	10.00	9.00	..	9.50	..	11.00	6.50	4.50	4.00		
Alleppey	11.34	9.50	11.25	9.31	10.25	8.04	9.00	..	12.34	7.39	5.10	4.61		
Kottayam	11.29	8.95	11.29	8.95	11.07	10.17	9.71	10.00	12.66	7.75	5.35	4.96		
Idukki	12.54	9.92	12.73	9.92	11.13	9.56	10.84	12.25	12.21	6.53	5.00	4.75		
Ernakulam	10.80	10.25	10.96	10.06	10.00	..	..	..	..	7.15	4.25	..		
Trichur	11.57	10.36	11.61	9.98	9.25	8.00	..	..	..	7.16	4.00	..		
Palghat	9.88	9.25	9.24	8.30	..	..	..	..	..	5.52	3.83	3.25		
Malappuram	9.93	..	10.18	9.31	..	..	..	..	..	7.08	5.22	4.54		
Kozhikode	13.63	11.93	13.63	12.20	13.14	12.15	11.80	13.00	13.67	9.13	6.42	5.95		
Cannanore	13.70	11.90	13.70	11.90	13.18	12.50	..	..	14.00	9.78	6.78	..		
KERALA	11.60	10.13	11.59	9.92	10.84	9.96	10.08	11.31	12.40	7.31	5.07	4.51		

TABLE 1.5

Average daily wage rates in the construction sector 1975-76 (Urban)

District	Skilled labourers							Unskilled labourers					
	Carpenter		Painter		Mason			Sawyer	Plumber	Electrical wireman	Male	Female	Children
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class	II class						
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	
Trivandrum	14.07	11.50	14.07	11.50	12.48	10.63	11.50	12.24	13.80	7.68	5.89	4.85	
Quilon	14.46	12.22	14.35	12.16	14.15	11.77	12.54	13.97	14.11	7.98	6.20	5.21	
Alleppey	14.48	11.98	14.49	11.99	13.61	11.43	12.66	13.84	14.63	9.76	7.48	6.13	
Kottayam	14.48	12.20	14.52	12.23	13.79	11.72	14.33	14.68	14.60	9.80	7.16	6.06	
Ernakulam	13.27	12.31	13.28	12.18	10.67	9.70	14.50	13.50	14.83	9.41	6.08	..	
Trichur	12.58	11.68	12.52	11.75	10.91	9.63	13.00	12.25	14.71	8.71	5.94	..	
Palghat	11.55	10.60	11.54	10.67	10.00	9.00	..	10.10	..	7.27	5.17	4.25	
Malappuram	12.93	11.02	13.40	11.80	..	..	..	11.75	15.00	8.83	6.53	6.00
Kozhikode	14.98	13.58	14.98	13.40	14.50	12.65	15.00	15.00	15.00	10.58	7.81	..	
Cannanore	15.00	12.96	15.13	12.99	15.00	12.96	12.33	15.00	15.87	12.05	7.11	..	
KERALA	13.78	12.01	13.80	12.06	12.79	11.09	13.23	13.23	14.73	9.31	6.54	5.41	

TABLE 1.6

Average daily wage rates in the construction sector 1975-76 (Rural)

Districts	Skilled labourers										Unskilled labourers		
	Carpenter		Mason		Painter		Sawyer	Plumber	Electrical wireman	Male	Female	Children	
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	
Trivandrum	13.19	10.92	13.06	11.00	12.50	10.75	11.33	12.44	13.08	7.44	5.54	4.44	
Quilon	13.89	11.65	13.89	11.65	12.33	..	11.00	..	12.08	7.86	5.88	4.50	
Alleppey	13.78	11.49	13.61	11.42	12.93	10.90	11.57	14.94	14.07	8.86	5.64	5.47	
Kottayam	13.65	11.14	13.63	10.94	13.34	11.10	13.57	15.00	13.68	9.54	6.62	..	
Idukki	14.88	11.95	14.38	11.95	14.78	11.00	14.11	..	14.89	8.29	5.90	5.92	
Ernakulam	12.72	11.63	12.49	11.68	10.83	9.44	..	12.00	15.00	8.40	5.15	..	
Trichur	12.20	11.39	12.03	11.00	10.29	9.55	12.25	13.00	13.25	7.93	5.05	..	
Palghat	11.06	9.55	11.15	9.29	10.00	..	..	10.00	..	6.67	4.77	..	
Malappuram	12.21	11.01	12.75	11.27	12.00	..	..	..	..	8.31	6.11	5.83	
Kozhikode	14.02	12.66	13.98	12.26	13.47	12.31	14.53	..	15.00	9.86	7.25	..	
Cannanore	14.72	12.56	14.74	12.55	14.60	13.00	15.17	..	15.33	10.12	6.41	..	
KERALA	13.30	11.45	13.25	11.36	12.46	11.01	12.94	12.90	14.04	8.48	5.93	5.23	

TABLE 1.7

Average daily wage rates in the construction sector 1976-77 (Urban)

District	Skilled Labourers													Unskilled	
	Carpenter		Mason		Painter		Sawyer	Plumber	Electrical workman	Male		Female		Children	
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)			
Trivandrum	14.29	12.20	14.18	12.03	13.53	11.55	12.00	14.28	14.87	8.79	7.27	6.67			
Quilon	14.98	13.84	14.92	13.58	15.00	13.71	13.91	14.97	14.97	8.86	7.18	5.68			
Alleppey	14.93	12.38	14.93	12.38	14.18	11.83	14.39	14.97	15.05	9.96	7.75	6.12			
Kottayam	14.64	13.35	14.75	13.09	13.93	11.90	..	15.00	15.00	9.90	7.85	6.79			
Idukki	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ernakulam	14.47	13.00	14.49	13.00	11.93	10.70	..	13.75	15.00	10.00	7.50	..	..
Trichur	13.85	12.60	13.80	12.81	12.63	11.33	13.00	12.48	15.00	9.07	7.32	..	..
Palghat	12.79	11.68	12.73	11.85	10.75	10.00	..	12.07	14.63	7.56	5.37	4.53	..		
Malappuram	14.80	12.70	14.90	12.72	14.50	..	..	13.63	15.00	9.55	7.06	7.00	..
Kozhikode	15.00	13.35	15.00	13.00	14.62	12.54	..	15.00	15.00	11.28	7.93	7.00	..		
Cannanore	15.25	12.90	15.25	12.98	15.02	12.77	16.26	..	16.00	11.56	6.25	6.06	..		
KERALA	14.50	12.80	14.50	12.74	13.61	11.81	13.91	14.02	15.05	9.65	7.15	6.23	..		

TABLE 1.8

Average daily wage rates in the Construction Sector 1976-77—(Rural)

District	Skilled							Unskilled				
	Carpenter		Mason	Painter	Sawyer	Plumber	Electric wireman	Male	Female	Children		
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)		
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Trivandrum	14.06	11.97	14.10	11.75	13.12	11.50	11.11	12.67	13.21	8.28	6.70	6.21
Quilon	14.89	13.13	14.91	13.00	15.00	12.00	13.48	..	15.00	9.18	6.50	5.50
Alleppey	13.59	11.44	13.50	11.44	12.89	11.15	12.32	14.00	14.32	8.50	6.44	5.19
Kottayam	14.45	12.52	14.52	12.27	14.96	12.58	..	15.00	15.00	9.23	7.55	7.06
Idukki	15.00	13.00	15.00	13.00	..	..	15.00	..	..	8.50	7.00	..
Ernakulam	13.50	12.33	13.50	12.38	11.00	9.16	..	12.00	15.00	8.78	5.86	..
Trichur	13.20	11.70	13.22	11.73	12.36	10.72	12.25	12.25	12.50	8.58	6.08	..
Palghat	11.93	11.75	11.80	11.25	..	..	..	12.00	..	7.11	4.94	4.00
Malappuram	14.00	12.12	13.96	12.44	12.00	..	..	15.00	14.25	8.39	6.18	5.75
Kozhikode	14.25	12.43	14.13	12.50	13.48	12.46	14.00	..	..	9.33	7.10	7.13
Cananore	14.75	12.51	14.75	12.60	14.53	12.85	17.00	..	..	10.25	6.89	5.79
KERALA	13.93	12.27	13.94	12.21	13.26	11.55	13.59	13.27	14.18	8.74	6.48	5.96

TABLE 1.9

WAGE STRUCTURE SURVEY
Average Daily Wage Rates of Workers in the Construction Sector (Urban)—1977-78

Districts	Type of Workers												
	Skilled Workers						Unskilled workers						
	Carpenter		Mason		Painter		Sawyer	Plumber	Electrical Wireman	Men	Women	Children	
	I class	II class	I class	II class	I class	II class							
(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)		
Trivandrum	14.40	12.30	14.50	12.15	13.55	11.60	12.98	14.58	14.90	8.82	7.76	7.57	
Quilon	15.45	13.93	15.45	13.93	15.37	14.00	14.45	14.97	15.00	9.28	7.90	6.57	
Alleppey	15.03	13.03	15.16	12.93	14.53	12.71	14.46	15.00	16.38	10.14	7.94	6.14	
Kottayam	14.71	13.46	14.78	13.37	14.08	12.17	15.00	15.00	15.00	9.93	7.90	7.07	
Idukki	15.11	14.00	15.11	14.33	..	..	..	..	..	10.00	8.00	..
Ernakulam	15.00	13.34	15.00	13.33	12.75	12.00	..	..	..	11.85	8.18	..
Trichur	15.33	14.28	15.33	14.28	14.54	12.64	15.00	13.50	15.96	10.22	7.37	..	
Palghat	12.92	11.75	12.75	11.93	11.10	10.00	..	..	..	7.83	5.60	4.59
Malappuram	15.39	12.81	15.52	12.80	14.66	..	..	15.78	18.50	9.75	7.56	7.31
Kozhikode	16.70	14.28	16.66	14.28	15.76	13.63	17.50	17.00	..	11.65	7.95	7.18	
Cannanore	17.00	13.80	16.38	14.73	16.21	..	..	..	..	11.60	7.53	6.12
KERALA STATE	15.19	13.36	15.15	13.46	14.26	12.34	14.90	15.12	15.96	10.10	7.61	6.57	

TABLE 1.10
WAGE STRUCTURE SURVEY
Average Daily Wage Rates of Workers in the Construction Sector (Rural)—1977-78

Districts	Type of workers											
	Skilled workers					Unskilled workers						
	Carpenter		Mason		Painter	Sawyer		Plumber	Electrical Witrenan	Men	Women	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Trivandrum	14.45	12.58	14.89	12.78	14.33	12.11	12.71	14.02	14.83	9.19	7.89	7.92
Quilon	15.42	13.75	15.42	13.75	15.45	13.87	14.00	15.00	15.00	9.34	7.66	..
Alleppey	14.97	12.53	14.95	12.28	14.06	12.03	14.00	14.85	14.97	9.14	7.22	5.71
Kottayam	14.92	13.00	14.86	12.50	15.00	13.00	14.69	15.00	15.00	9.29	7.74	7.25
Idukki	15.00	13.63	15.00	13.63	..	..	15.00	..	..	8.63	7.06	..
Ernakulam	15.00	14.00	15.00	14.31	13.00	..	..	..	..	9.73	6.97	..
Trichur	15.16	13.45	15.25	13.83	13.87	12.80	15.00	..	15.50	9.93	6.19	..
Palghat	12.06	11.81	12.36	11.28	11.00	..	..	..	..	7.76	5.17	4.44
Malappuram	14.73	12.17	14.80	12.51	14.00	10.00	..	15.11	15.89	8.92	6.55	7.00
Kozhikode	16.19	14.40	15.81	14.14	15.07	13.58	..	..	..	10.50	7.50	7.22
Gannanore	15.00	12.65	15.33	12.65	16.25	14.00	..	15.00	..	10.72	7.03	..
KERALA STATE	14.81	13.09	14.88	13.06	14.20	12.67	14.23	14.83	15.20	9.38	7.00	6.59

TABLE 2.1

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

(Rs. per month)

Districts	Wholesale trade				Retail Trade		
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal and Metal products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
Trivandrum	89.41	106.87	107.32	68.00	82.50	47.50	
Quilon	103.25	99.00	101.50	69.75	99.23	101.50	
Alleppey	100.75	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	89.98	
Trichur	78.00	135.60	153.79	101.49	99.57	112.52	
Palghat	91.43	117.19	110.14	78.56	109.00	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	88.72	108.36	96.43	

TABLE 2.2

Average Urban Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector, Shop Assistants (1968-69)
(Rs. per month)

Districts	Wholesale Trade			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	86.22
Quilon	119.84	107.52	110.50	71.64	100.00	100.57
Alleppey	121.08	162.62	128.96	107.65	138.85	109.42
Kottayam	116.24	175.28	167.41	109.24	122.04	117.64
Ernakulam	104.39	132.18	163.51	122.50	109.61	129.33
Trichur	..	..	160.51	..	120.00	..
Palghat	95.00	134.33	131.25	77.67	123.50	..
Kozhikode	124.64	..	..	108.89	157.76	126.84
Canmanore	118.33	119.00	..	94.51	100.67	111.67
Average	111.06	138.29	138.68	96.62	118.27	111.66

TABLE 2.3

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

(Rs. per month)

District	Wholesale Trade			Retail Trade		
	Foodgrains	Cloth	Metal and Metal products	Foodgrains	Cloth	Stationery
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Trivandrum	67.55	98.53	86.20	73.22	79.20	67.03
Quilon	106.23	125.31	75.25	58.27	76.23	68.46
Alleppey	..	134.47	97.36	85.91	120.26	109.28
Kottayam	113.70	132.23	132.98	89.15	92.35	107.07
Ernakulam	109.30	112.15	123.11	104.79	124.94	85.16
Trichur	91.82	123.47	100.95	103.11	81.40	101.02
Palghat	84.38	102.89	84.19	63.04	89.17	67.66
Kozhikode	100.00	..	..	75.17	102.00	128.00
Cannanore	101.11	..	..	75.53	..	76.00
Average	95.63	118.43	99.72	80.96	95.69	89.96

TABLE 2.4

Average monthly Wage Rates of Shop Assistants in the Trade and Commerce Sector—1974-75 (Urban)

Districts	Wholesale shops			Retail shops		
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Trivandrum	241	248	227	161	225	240
Quilon	214	219	..	170	215	187
Alleppey	214	420	149	254	306	208
Kottayam	317	298	265	317	326	271
Ernakulam	252	316	270	137	292	279
Trichur	200	292	219	192	237	164
Palghat	157	202	192	183	191	192
Malappuram	340	244	..	188	227	290
Kozhikode	264	308	256	180	256	239
Cannanore	281	260	273	217	206	212
STATE	248	281	231	200	248	228

I Wholesale trade in Foodgrains & Provisions
 II Wholesale trade in Textiles
 III Wholesale trade in Metal and metal products

IV Retail trade in foodgrains and provisions
 V Retail trade in textiles
 VI Retail trade in stationery.

TABLE 2.5

Average monthly Wage Rates for shop Attenders in the Trade and Commerce Sector 1974-75 (Urban)

District	Wholesale						Retail						
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
Trivandrum	..	160	182	150	120	193	162	172	163	159	132	166	150
Quilon	..	172	239	126	188	201	172	222	258	195	231	219	209
Alleppey	..	172	246	174	143	195	156	137	162	147	169	137	133
Kottayam	..	222	165	156	137	106	135	162	188	130	134	206	168
Ernakulam	..	137	143	174	143	195	156	162	188	130	134	197	184
Trichur	..	165	162	156	147	169	137	162	188	130	134	197	184
Palghat	..	143	188	137	130	106	135	205	200	134	135	162	162
Malappuram	..	205	200	..	..	135	162	192	244	124	206	168	168
Kozhikode	..	192	244	180	124	206	168	192	222	172	197	184	184
Gannanore	..	192	222	202	172	197	184	178	210	152	179	163	163
STATE	..	178	210	164	152	179	163						

TABLE 2.6

Average monthly Wage Rates of Shop Assistants in the Trade and Commerce Sector 1975-76 (Urban)

District	Wholesale						Retail			
	I (2)	II (3)	III (4)	IV (5)	V (6)	VI (7)				
(1)										
Trivandrum	271	271	267	186	267	267	267	267	267	267
Quilon	248	248	224	170	224	224	247	247	247	221
Alleppey	260	422	186	261	186	186	313	313	313	260
Kottayam	343	321	317	360	317	360	341	341	341	311
Idukki	..	300	203	..	203	..	300	300	300	..
Ernakulam	263	372	285	177	285	177	302	302	302	298
Trichur	269	366	275	217	275	217	290	290	290	279
Palghat	185	220	200	224	200	224	..	..	..	214
Malappuram	345	271	..	183	..	183	314	314	314	339
Kozhikode	257	327	276	193	276	193	305	305	305	277
Canaraore	296	287	315	245	315	245	269	269	269	247
Kerala	274	310	255	222	255	222	260	260	260	270

TABLE 2.7
Average monthly Wage Rates of Shop Attenders in the Trade and Commerce Sector 1975-76 (Urban)

District	Wholesale						Retail							
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	I	II	III	IV	V	VI		
Trivandrum	..	181	204	185	148	193	169	..	181	204	185	148	193	169
Quilon	..	191	171	161	153	185	159	..	191	171	161	153	185	159
Alleppey	..	179	267	184	209	234	227	..	179	267	184	209	234	227
Kottayam	..	269	277	211	232	218	256	..	269	277	211	232	218	256
Idukki	..	163	288	145	150	251	160	..	163	288	145	150	251	160
Ernakulam	..	207	250	189	193	217	197	..	207	250	189	193	217	197
Trichur	..	232	226	241	196	222	202	..	232	226	241	196	222	202
Palghat	..	153	200	154	134	103	173	..	153	200	154	134	103	173
Malappuram	..	226	233	..	166	189	223	..	226	233	..	166	189	223
Kozhikode	..	199	258	196	158	232	167	..	199	258	196	158	232	167
Cannanore	..	206	277	224	199	194	184	..	206	277	224	199	194	184
Kerala	..	201	241	189	176	203	192	..	201	241	189	176	203	192

TABLE 2.8

Average Monthly Wage Rates of Shop Assistants in the Trade and Commerce Sector 1976-77 (Urban)

Districts	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Trivandrum	270	278	319	222	270	311
Quilon	243	251	245	175	256	239
Alleppey	231	472	219	249	300	260
Kottayam	409	408	317	374	411	320
Idukki	296	300	296	216	282	196
Ernakulam	251	391	284	248	310	284
Trichur	278	364	286	255	333	275
Palghat	190	238	213	250	375	225
Malappuram	363	279	..	218	315	375
Kozhikode	263	360	319	196	346	295
Cannanore	288	306	328	242	294	249
Kerala	280	332	283	240	317	275

I. Wholesale Trade in Foodgrains and provisions

II. Wholesale Trade in Textiles

III. Wholesale Trade in Metal and Metal products

IV. Retail Trade in Foodgrains and Provisions.

V. Retail Trade in Textiles

VI. Retail Trade in Stationery.

TABLE 2.9

Average Monthly Wage Rates of Shop Attenders in Trade and Commerce Sector 1976-77 (Urban)

Districts	I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Trivandrum	198	221	199	174	189	191
Quilon	185	179	166	157	208	157
Alleppey	167	248	186	187	228	245
Kottayam	261	234	217	214	235	231
Idukki	179	237	201	190	242	172
Ernakulam	213	263	188	181	224	208
Trichur	232	234	239	202	240	220
Palghat	163	200	173	134	117	189
Malappuram	232	221	..	207	235	282
Kozhikode	199	272	208	183	255	187
Cannanore	206	255	223	208	225	206
Kerala	203	235	200	185	218	208

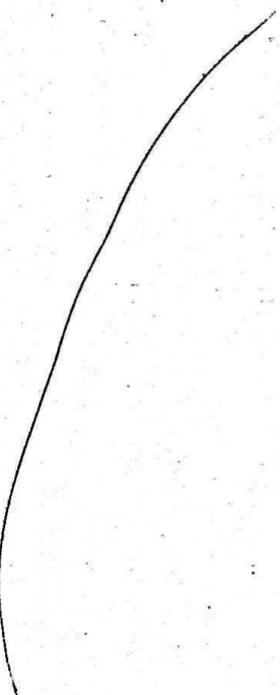
I. Wholesale Trade in Foodgrains and Provisions.
 II. Wholesale Trade in Textiles
 III. Wholesale Trade in Metal & Metal products

IV. Retail Trade in Foodgrains & Provisions.
 V. Retail Trade in Textiles
 VI. Retail Trade and Stationery.

TABLE 2.10

Average Monthly Wage Rates in the Trade and Commerce Sector—Urban (1977-78)

Districts	Shop Assistants						Shop Attenders					
	Wholesale trade in			Retail Trade in			Wholesale Trade in			Retail Trade in		
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Trivandrum	272	358	329	228	296	312	199	242	202	204	215	209
Quilon	255	298	260	225	307	243	137	250	182	187	208	190
Alleppey	250	522	246	258	417	265	180	300	191	188	230	247
Kottayam	417	413	319	378	412	389	267	258	232	216	239	239
Idukki	329	310	309	222	234	200	206	240	204	207	244	194
Ernakulam	287	404	292	249	388	316	242	265	216	191	292	208
Trichur	307	367	304	292	412	321	233	289	243	218	246	224
Palghat	233	242	21	253	382	230	170	200	196	151	168	218
Malappuram	..	..	..	221	317	..	..	..	..	211	236	..
Kozhikode	269	377	..	262	347	323	207	318	211	212	255	206
Cananore	289	362	328	305	328	300	226	256	238	209	255	211
Kerala State	291	365	289	263	354	290	212	262	212	199	235	215



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