CHAPTER - II
LABOUR MOVEMENT IN MARATHWADA
AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE
CHAPTER-II

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF LABOUR MOVEMENT IN MARATHWADA

A region of seven districts including Aurangabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Beed, Osmanabad, Jalna and Latur of Maharashtra State is known as Marathwada. Previously there were only five districts viz. Aurangabad, Nanded, Parbhani, Osmanabad and Beed. The Osmanabad and Aurangabad districts were divided when Mr. A.R. Antulay was the Chief Minister of the Maharashtra and two new districts viz. Latur and Jalna came in to existence.

Five districts of Marathwada (today's seven districts) were under the region of Nizam. Marathwada was one of the parts of old Hyderabad State.

Among the hundred of princely states that dotted India's map before independence, Hyderabad had a unique place. Occupying an area of 82000 Sq. miles and with a population of 1.5 crores it was one of the largest kingdoms.\(^1\)

Noted journalist and freedom fighter Mr. Anant Bhalerao has mentioned in his Marathi book, "HYDERABADCHA SWANTRYA SANGRAM AANI MARATHWADA" on page No. 9 that the total area of Hyderabad State was 82,313 square miles and the population was 1,63,38,534 as per the 1941's census reports. It was mainly constituted of the telugu, Marathi and Kannada speaking people. The urdu speaking people

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1. Agrarian Revolution in India, Telangana. A case study by Dr. Karuna Chaudhary P.W.0.60.
were also there. The Telugu speaking people were 75,29,229; the population of Marathi speaking was 39,47,089. The number of the people speaking Kannada and Urdu was 17,24,180 and 21,87,005 respectively.

The large population of Hyderabad also displayed certain unique features, of the 16 districts in which the State was divided administratively, eight districts were telugu speaking and the area was known as Telangana. There were five Marathi speaking districts (Aurangabad, Beed, Osmanabad, Nanded and Parbhani) together known as Marathwada while the three districts of Raichur, Gulbarga and Bidar were mainly inhabited by Kannada speaking people. The Urdu speaking population was scattered all over the state.¹

The area and population of each region was as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total area</th>
<th>Total population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Telangana (8 districts)</td>
<td>41502 Sq.miles</td>
<td>86,35,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Marathwada (5 districts)</td>
<td>27591 sq.miles</td>
<td>52,19,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Karnataka (3 districts)</td>
<td>13605 Sq.miles</td>
<td>23,39,654</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Agrarian Revolution in India, Telangana. A Case study By Dr. Karuna Chaudhary

2. "Hyderabadacha Swanthrya Sangram, zani Marathwada" - A Marathi Book by Mr. Anant Bhalsroo P. 9
There were in all 22,360 villages and 138 towns in the old Hyderabad state. Though the population of Muslims was 11% only, they were the rulers. In terms of religion also the state was heterogeneous. There were areas in which the adivasis, mainly gondas and Banjaras were concentrated. There were in addition koyas, chenchus and Bhils. This multi-lingual, multi-religious, multi-racial composition of the State, created tensions as the rulers followed a patently discriminatory policy favouring at the cost of others. It was one of the most potent factors of popular discontent.

Another uniqueness of which Hyderabad could boast of was its special position in the British scheme of things. Nizam, who rendered crucial help to them during the revolt of 1857, was honoured with the title of the faithful ally. Nizam tried to live upto this title till the last, thereby inviting the wrath of the freedom living people. A mention must be made of the fact that the Nizam in his day was regarded as the richest man in the world. The treasures which filled his palaces were acquired by several generations of Nizam ruling the State from the days of Mughals by ruthless exploitation of the state people. This fortune-hunting of the ruler and of a whole host of feudal dignitaries, Jagirdars, landlords.
Deshmukhs through reckless exploitation and downright plunder of the people was the most potent driving force to ignite Telangana.

The Political Structure of Old Hyderabad State:

The political structure of Hyderabad state could be described as a feudal dictatorship. Nizam's autocracy continued till the moment of its overthrow by the combined might of a popular revolt backed by the armed forces of the Indian Union in September, 1948. Before the police action in 1948, all the five districts (now seven) of Marathwada were under the autocrat rule of the Nizam of Hyderabad, with the State reorganisation in 1956, this area was brought under the Bombay State.

The Britishers ruled the length and breadth of the country while certain parts were under the rule of some princely states, the Nizam is being the largest.¹

The dynastic rule of the Nizam covered a period of nearly four centuries. This long period saw major political developments on the Indian Sub-continent. Taking even the last one century, these developments covered the

¹ Political Dimensions of Trade Unions: A Sociological study Ph.D. Thesis of Prof. Prakash Bobade. P.68
revolt of 1857, the consolidation of British rule, the first world war which challenged the British Empire, the rise of national movement under the leadership of Gandhiji in the early twenties and subsequent development of consciousness of the Indian masses, their urge for freedom and democracy and the second world war and its aftermath. It was not to be imagined that a major state like Hyderabad would remain unaffected by the winds of change blowing all around and would not seek to manoeuvre in order to protect and stabilise its rule. The story of these manoeuvres is a story of the utter blindness of the feudal rulers who refused to make a single real concession to popular urges till nemesis overtook them.

Political practices followed in these regions differed to a great extent. One can identify a qualitative difference in the manner the British rulers ruled over their territories and the way of the princely rulers. The political system adopted by the British had a rich background of a developed and industrially advanced society of the west. (The Britishers had a deep faith in political democracy.) It has been well said and quite too often that in the least, the Britishers wanted to maintain their image as people wedded to democratic values. The
Nizam, like quite a few of the alien rulers of the time, on the other hand had nothing to do with democracy. Indeed, on the contrary, he was nothing short of an autocratic rule. Absolute powers were vested in his hands. Nizam was least bothered about what the world at large would portray him by the manner of his administration. 1

To maintain his political supremacy and dominance, the Nizam was keen on suppressing varied social and political movements organised in the region, since expectedly they would have posed threats and dangers to his political supremacy. Hence the socio-political backdrop in which the trade union movement thrived and prospered in other parts of India was radically different from the situation obtaining in the old Hyderabad State.

In pre-merger Hyderabad state, there was a political organisation of Telugu speaking people in the State, known as Andhra Parishad. The political leaders took inspiration from the Andhra Parishad and decided to form Maharashtra Parishad of Marathi speaking people in Marathwada. Shri Wamanrao Naik, K.S. Vaidya and A.K. Waghmare took inspiration and founded the Maharashtra Parishad in the year 1955. The very first conference of Maharashtra Parishad was organised at Partur in Parbhani district. Swami Ramanand Teerth, a veteran freedom fighter took the lead at this conference.

Although no resolution of a political nature was passed at this conference, it was considered to be the pious beginning of a freedom movement in this region.¹

On first June, 1938 the second conference of the Maharashtra Parishad was held at Latur. By this time the political climate in Hyderabad State had developed to a point that discontent about the political situation had really surfaced. Hindu-Muslim riots was an additional complication entering the situation. The Nizam Government imposed a number of restrictions on this parishad. Prior permission of the Collector was must for every resolution proposed to be tabled at the conference. The first resolution proposed to be put was about the civil liberties and second was one of condemning the communal riots in the state. Till 1945-46 the leaders of the Maharashtra Parishad were engaged in a struggle with the Nizam for civil liberties. It is worthy to note that up to 1946, the Royists, the liberals, the revolutionaries and the communists were working hard in hand as partners in Maharashtra Parishad.

Prof. Prakash Bobde has mentioned in his thesis, "Hindu-Muslim rivalry, Nizam's dictatorial administration, total lack of civil liberties and a sense of insecurity among the Hindu community may be mentioned as some of the salient features of the then social and political situation.

¹ Political Dimension of Trade Unions By Prakash Bobde P.71, 1984
The labour movement was coming to life in these circumstances. The Partur and Latur conventions of the Maharashtra Parishad had proposed resolutions regarding the labourers and the peasants. On the other side, in British India, special efforts were evident in organising the workers. This was visualised as an integral part of the freedom movement. But in old Hyderabad state, in Marathwada especially, the labourers' role was neglected because of a low pace of industrialisation and as a result, a very negligible number of industrial workers from Marathwada took any part in these movement.

Before giving a detail review of the labour movement in the region the researcher would like to introduce the districts of the region from the viewpoint of labour activities. Following is therefore a brief introduction of the districts of the Marathwada region.

**AURANGABAD**

India won its independence in 1947. The future of Hyderabad was now to be settled. Public opinion in Hyderabad was overwhelmingly in favour of joining the Indian Union. This was opposed by the leaders of Razakars who now controlled the government. All efforts of moderates like Sir Mirza Ismail and Sir Sultan Ahmad to establish the relation between the Indian Union and Hyderabad in consonance with the realities of the situation were opposed by the Razakars. The movement of the State Congress to force Hyderabad to join the Indian Union was strongly attacked by the communal elements. In the
latter struggle thousands went to join and suffered strongly at the hands of administration. Due to the activities of Razakars hundreds of thousands of Hindus had to flee the state and take shelter in numerous camps set up by the sympathetic Indian opinion across the borders. The district of Aurangabad too had its share of public workers who fought and suffered. At last the Government of the Union moved in to the Nizams state and after a brief but brilliant police action put an end to the intolerable conditions prevailing in the state. Soon after elections were held in the state and a representative government was set up. The state of Hyderabad acceded to the Indian Union.

In 1956, following the reorganisation of states the district of Aurangabad along with the other districts of Marathwada became a part of Maharashtra.

Since independence the district has made commendable progress in economic, social and educational fields. This has been mainly the result of a liberal policy of socio-economic reforms followed by the government which is dedicated to the programme aimed at the implementation of the socialist pattern of society. As in agriculture so in industry the efforts of the government have been directed towards bringing about a balanced growth of district economy by encouraging industrial development.
The increase in the number of persons employed in industry and allied occupations over a period of time is not the only indication of the industrial growth of the district, but the growing urbanization that has taken place during the last 25 years, the response that the government policy of encouraging industrial growth by inaugurating industrial estates has received in the district as also the change in nature and composition of industrial organisation in the district are also the definite indicators of same.

The general backwardness of this area hears its stamp on all economic activities in the district and the development of trade unionism is no exception to it. Industrial development in the district is of recent origin and so also the trade union movement.

It may be noted that one cotton textile mill at Aurangabad, one Sugar mill at Raghunathnagar constitute the only major perennial industries in pravade sector in the district, besides the divisional organisations of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation and the Maharashtra State Electricity Board in public sector. Other industries in district mainly comprise medium and small scale industries.

Naturally in the absence of organised industries, industrial labour is also not well organised. The trade union movement and collective bargaining are therefore in an infant stage in this district.
Until the year 1963, the work of registration of trade Unions from this division was done at Bombay. However, since 1963 the Assistant Commissioner of labour had been appointed as the Deputy Registrar of Trade Unions and facilities of registration of Unions are now available locally at Aurangabad. The Assistant Commissioner is appointed as Conciliation Officer under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for Aurangabad district.

There were 23 Unions in the district till 1963 but 73 new Unions were subsequently registered, thus bringing the total number of trade unions to 96 by 1967.

** Strikes and Lockouts :- **

During the period of ten years (i.e. during the period from 1957-1966) there were 36 strikes involving the loss of 1,66,734 working hours and one lockout involving the loss of 17,000 working hours. The industry wise classification of strikes and lockouts in the districts is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>No. of strikes</th>
<th>No. of working hours lost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bidi</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authorities</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Textile</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10,674</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>No. of strikes</th>
<th>No. of working hours lost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton ginning and pressing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>96,832</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil Mills</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Establishment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing presses</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1,66,734</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lockouts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>No. of lockouts</th>
<th>No. of working hour lost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bidi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Industrial disputes

During the period from 1959 to 1966, there were 88 disputes which were referred to industrial relations (conciliation) machinery. Demands for better payscales, dearness allowances, gratuity, house rent allowance etc. Constituted the main reasons for these disputes. A detailed statement showing the results, causewise is given below.
The labour welfare activities in Aurangabad district are conducted by the Maharashtra Labour Welfare Board, Bombay which is a statutory authority. This board implements various measures progressively to enhance the welfare of the working population.

Nanded:

Another important district of the region is Nanded. Nanded district is predominantly agricultural and produces rich cash crops like cotton and oilseeds. In 1960, 4.77 lakhs of acres or 27 percent of the total area under cultivation was under cotton. Nanded is one of the prominent cotton markets in Maharashtra. The cotton produced in the district is of good quality and of long staple. That explains the existence of a textile mill in the district even as early as the thirties of this century. A bulk of the employment in organised industries is accounted for by the cotton mill at Nanded which was established in 1923 with the initiative of the former Hyderabad Government.

The mill purchases raw cotton in the local market as well as in Parbhani and Aurangabad markets. Its principal products are sheetings and long cloth. During 1963 the textile mill had an authorised capital amounting to Rs. 1,25,00,000 out of which Rs. 95,00,000 represented issued capital.¹

¹ Gazetteer of India, Maharashtra State, Nanded District P- 261.
Labour Organisations.

For the steady growth of industries, a sound and healthy relationship between the labour and management has to be constantly preserved. The labour organisations flourishes with the allround development of the industries. The strength of the labour organisation depends mostly on its bargaining capacity. During the last decade many industries were started in Nanded district, offering considerable additional employment. This necessitated the emergence of an organised labour force in the district. The textile will in Nanded is the pioneer in this field. However, in an industrially backward district like Nanded the labour organisation is not very influential or effective.

In the district of Nanded these were only nine Trade Unions as on 31-3-1963 registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926. Most of the industrial disputes have their origin in the wage problem. Out of 12 disputes that arose between 1957 and 1959, five related to the wages one to bonus, one to personal and five to other matters.

With the passing of the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946, and the Industrial Disputes Act 1947, which were brought in to force by the then Bombay Government on 29th September 1947 and 1st April 1947, respectively, the relations between the industrial employees and employers have been precisely regulated. Both the laws provide for a machinery of settlement of industrial disputes either by
conciliation and by arbitration under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act or by conciliation and adjudication under the Industrial Disputes Act.

It has been mentioned in the district gazetteer that these were no industrial disputes between 1960-1963. Out of 13,766 workers involved in the disputes during 1957-59, 13,389 were the textile industry and the rest from other industries. Of the man days lost, more than 90% were lost in the textile industry. Out of 12 disputes only one was solved successfully, five were unsuccessful and in case of others no decision was reached.

Maharashtra Labour Welfare Board constituted under the Bombay Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1953, took over the management of the labour welfare centre at Nanded on 1st January 1962 along with other centres in Marathwada and Vidarbha which were till then under the control of Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Nagpur. The centre at Nanded is functioning under the supervision of the workers Welfare Officer, Nanded Circle, with headquarter at Aurangabad.

Parbhani:

The third district of the region is Parbhani. The extent of industrialisation in Parbhani is meagre. Parbhani is mainly an agricultural district. The agro-economic structure of the district has perforce reduced
the industrial man power. The absence of a regular labour force weighed heavily against the organisation of labour on a large scale in the district.

The manufacturing industries are not seen more in the district.

In August 1960, there were only four Unions in the district, registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act 1926. Of these, two were confined to workers under municipalities and one each to Engineering and Ginning industries.

No cases of any serious disputes are found in the district. There was no award fixing the wages and earnings for any industrial centre in Parbhani district. The Ex-Hyderabad Government had fixed minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act in some scheduled employments, such as rice, flour, dal mills, argiculture, oil mills, tanneries, stone breaking and crushing etc. In 1959 the then Government of Bombay revised the rates of wages in Bidi making. Wages for workers in public motor transport were also fixed in 1959.

Labour welfare activities are very important part of Social Welfare. Any programme of Welfare activities is undoubtedly a part of the wider programme of social well being and industrial progress.
The history of labour welfare activities in Parbhani dates back 1958-59 when a pursuance of the programme under the second five year plan, labour welfare centres were established at Sailu in 1958-59 and subsequently at Parbhani and Hingoli in 1959-60.

Osmanabad

Osmanabad has been industrially backward. The lack of industrial development did not encourage the organisation of the labour movement in the district. The trade unionism which generally follows development and localisation of industries could not germinate in the district. Moreover, the labour force is illiterate, unorganised and apathetic towards organised action. This has hampered the growth of trade unionism in the district. This is evident from the existence of small numbers of trade unions in the district registered under the Trade Union Act, 1926; was only four by 1964. There were three municipal Kamgar Union with 195 members of union of employees at land mortgage Co-operative Society with a membership of 28 only.

In a developing economy envisaging rapid industrialisation, cordial industrial relations between the employers and the employees are highly important. They represent a contented labour force and pave the way for rapid growth of industries. Labour unrest constantly hampers production which is undesirable.
However, in Osmanabad district, as pointed earlier the labour movement is yet to set its foot firmly. Consequently the number of strikes and occasions for labour unrest are few and far between. There were no major industrial disputes in the district during 1954-63, except in 1963 when industrial peace was broken. No disputes were recorded during the preceding period of 10 years in 1963 two disputes were recorded involving 124 workers when 724 man days were lost of these one was successful.

Beed:

The general backwardness of this area bears its stamp on all the economic activities in the district. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people. Industry occupies a subsidiary position and has been receiving attention only. Recently Industrial labour is thus not well organised in the district.

In March 1963 the three registered trade unions functioned Viz. (1) Municipal Kamgar Union, Parali Vaijinath (AITUC), (2) Gadiwan Kamgar Union, Parali Vaijinath and (3) Marathwada Rashtra Rashtra Municipal Kamgar Union.

The recognition of three other unions, Viz. Rashtriya Nagarpalika Mazdoor Sangh, Beed; Rashtriya Gumasta Sangh, Beed; and Rashtriya Municipal Kamgar Sangh, Ambajogai was withheld in 1963.
Some disputes took place in Bidi making establishment, municipal councils of Beed and Ambajogai, Georai. All these disputes were for increase in wages, payment of allowances etc. Some disputes were settled and benefits were granted to the workers.

It is mentioned in the district Gazeteer that the principal role of trade unions in the district is to advise the member workers regarding the benefits and protection. Under the various labour laws and to put before the conciliation officer and the labour Commissioner the grievances of members and ask for redress. In industrial disputes the Unions also represent their members during the proceedings and defend their cases and safeguard their interests before various tribunals. The trade unions also ensure that the employers do not coerce their member workers and do not put them to injustice.

Labour welfare activities sponsored by the Government are of recent origin. The Government today takes adequate steps to safeguard the welfare of working population. The Maharashtra labour welfare Board constituted under the Bombay labour welfare fund Act of 1953 took over the control of the Parali labour welfare centre in January 1962. This centre formerly controlled by the Deputy Commissioner of Labour, Nagpur. The welfare activities carried out by the centre can be grouped various heads such as entertainment,
sports and games, health, community and social education.

Apart from the above five districts of Marathwada (Old Hyderabad State) two new districts came into existence. The Aurangabad and Osmanabad districts were divided and Jalna and Latur districts came into existence. It was declared by the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra Mr. A. R. Antulay in 1980. The four districts viz. Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani and Nanded have been connected to a railway line i.e. Manmad-Sequenderabad.

As far as Jalna and Latur, the two new districts are concerned the industrial development is taking place. New industrial establishments have been started in Jalna. However, the industrial growth is not faster but some new industries are coming up and the trade unions have also been entered in these establishment. The Bidi industry of Jalna is very old. The market yard of Jalna is also very old.

The Labour Movement in Marathwada

A review of the labour movement in India has already been taken in the earlier chapter. Around 1918-20 with the end of the first world war, the labour movement in India took a definite momentum.

In 1926 the Trade Union Act was passed which gave an enormous impetus to the activities of Trade Unions. The Trade Union movement in British India was thus evolving as early as the beginnings of twentieth century.
In the old Hyderabad state, on the other hand, there was at this time no trace of the movement which attributed to the low rate of industrialisation, superssion of civil rights and dictatorial rule of Nizam. The factories Act was passed in 1881 in British India, while the Hyderabad state workers were benefitted by the said Act in 1927. The workmens Compensation Act, of 1923 was implemented after 17 years in Hyderabad State. The Maternity Benefit Act also came into force very late in the Hyderabad State i.e. in 1940.

In the light of the comparative picture of labour legislation in British India and in the old Hyderabad state, it may very well be said that all the important labour legislations came into existence in Hyderabad State after 1940.¹ Secondly the implementation machinery required for its execution was inadequate and underdeveloped. The right to organise was drastically curbed and therefore the Trade Union Act was not effective. Thirdly, the implementation of the labour legislation could not deliver purported good to the workers because of their ignorance and weak trade union organisation.

Industrialisation had a decisively high pace in British India as compared to the old Hyderabad state. The Britishers responding to the pressure of Indian Industrial workers as also the European industrialists, had accepted an

industrial policy. Indeed, the labour movement was taking a shape in British India since 1877. The first strike for wage rise and better working conditions was organised by the workers of Empress Mills, Nagpur. A review in this connection is also taken in the first Chapter only.

Late Com. V.D. Deshpande and his Communist friends took initiative in forming the labour unions in Marathwada region.

In a Marathi Sovenir published on the occasion of death anniversary of late late Com. V.D. Deshpande, Com. Iftequeer Ahmad from Jalna has mentioned that a period from 1930-35 is known as the period of political awareness and building of unity. Com. V.D. Deshpande along with R.D. Deshpande and Chandrakant Zikre organised the study classes for youth and students in old Hyderabad State. On other hand in British India a national movement was in speed but old Hyderabad state was not in touch of this national movement. Com. V.D. also took initiative in bowing the seeds of national movement.

The formation of labour unions started in 1936. Sayed Makhdoom and Shekh Umar did this work. They were the workers. The first labour conference was held in 1939 in Aurangabad city. Mr. Abdullah Barelvi, the Chief editor of Bombay Chronicle, and a Congress leader presided over the conference.1

1. Com. V.D. Deshpande Yaana, Shradhanjali Sovenir. A article by Com. Iftequar Ahmad, Jalna
Mr. Pathak, a victimised labour leader of north-south railway, Barister Naik, Com. Habibuddin, Com. Mohamad Omar and Sayyad Makhdum were the other leaders who contributed greatly to the success of the conference. In fact, Com. Sayyad Makhdum had already organised the workers of Aurangabad Textile Mills prior to the conference. This shows the rise of labour movement in Marathwada region. However, the activities of these labour leaders were limited to Aurangabad only. It was not their intention to propagate ideas in the remaining area of Marathwada.

The Trade Union movement in Nanded took rise after 1940 only. The workers of Osmanshahi Mills (today's Nanded Textile Mills, Nanded) had protested against low wages. Com. V. D. Deshpande also had chosen Nanded for his activities. He along with R. D. Deshpande gave a base to labour movement. The labour movement supported strongly to the national movement. This support and unity of workers was not tolerated by Nizam Government. The Nizam Government tried to break the movement by divide and rule tactics. A "Pila (Yellow) Bawata Union" was formed by Nizams. A colour of the Nizami flag was yellow. Muslim workers were in majority at Nanded and Aurangabad and they were appealed by the Nizam to leave "Lal (Red) Bawata Union" and to enter in to "Pila Bawata Union" for the sake of religion. However, the Muslim workers

1. Political Dimensions of Trade Unions
Prakash S. Bobde, p. 77, 1984
from both places did not give response and therefore the efforts made by Nizam to divide the working class on the basis of Nizam remained unsuccessful.

Com.V.D.Deshpande succeeded in organising the workers of the Osmanshahi Mills, Nanded with the Co-operation of R.D.Deshpande and Anant Kokil. Mr. Anant Kokil ran a night school for the mill workers where he could train the workers for trade union activities.

However, prior to the entry of these outsiders the workers of Osmanshahi Mills had protested independently without the co-operation of outside leaders.

The workers of Osmanshahi Mills had to work for 14-15 hours a day. Their wages were low. Due to low wages and long hours of work, the workers from Nanded were not interested to work in Mill. They preferred to work in Agriculture. Therefore the workers from Telangana, Gulbarga and Hyderabad were invited to work. Rs. 8.50 was the monthly income of workers till 1940 but they had not protested till 1940 against low wages and long working hours. A discontent took place among the workers. The strike of 1934 in by the workers in Bombay indirectly changed the situation in Marathwada also. The Bombay workers were getting Bonus whereas it was not given to the workers in Marathwada. As a
result of discontentment, a charter of demands including bonus, rise in dearness allowance, hospital for the workers, a school for their children, Maternity leave etc. was submitted by the Osmanshahi Mills workers to its manager. A notice of 20 days was given. During the period of notice the leaders of the workers met Tayab Ali, one of the Directors of Mill but Mr. Tayab Ali could not do anything as there was no legal provision for Bonus. All the five thousand workers of Osmanshahi Mills went on strike after completion of notice period of twenty days. The strike continued for forty days without the co-operation of any outsider leaders. The Management tried its level best to break the strike. Police arrested five leaders, therefore the workers and their family members gheraoed the police station. Workers were injured. The Government succeeded to break the strike on 40th day of strike. The workers were demoralised and had to join their duties without any gain.

The five arrested leaders were not allowed to enter Nanded district. They received some help from the railway employees union at Secunderabad. The Union of N.S. railway was established in 1930 at Secunderabad by Shri V.V. Giri. It indirectly helped the development of labour movement in Marathwada region.
It is clear that prior to the entry of outside leaders, the Osmanshahi Mill workers, protested unitedly continuously for forty days independently. Though it was the first agitation of the workers, it had a unique significance in the history of labour movement of Marathwada region.

A forty day strike had an adverse effect on workers, till 1945 the workers were not at all ready to enter in any trade union activities. Com. V.D. Deshpande, remained successful in organizing the Osmanshahi mill workers again. In 1945, the Trade Union act was passed in Hyderabad state. Taking the advantage of this act the communist leaders and the mill workers established a trade union viz. "Osmanshahi Mill workers Union", Nanded in 1946. It was the first Trade Union which was later affiliated to All Hyderabad Trade Union Congress. Today's All Indian Trade Union Congress (AITUC). Inspite of the formation of the union and a legal sanction too, the workers did not dare to involve openly in Union activities. The management was used to threaten to those who involved in it. The five leaders who agitated in 1940 (Fakirkhan, Turab Ali, Mohamad, Musa) were selected for the union work at Nanded. They created confidence among workers. They also protested against one paisa cut from salary and succeeded. A special room for discussion with the leaders and the workers was allotted.
It is mentioned in the Prakash Bobde’s thesis and also by the old communist leaders who were interviewed by the researcher that inspite of the provision made in 1945's Trade Union Act, one outsider, Mr. Anant Kokil, was detained in the room one day by management for his union activities in the mill premises. The workers again protested against the behaviour of management and then the leaders were permitted to perform their duties in the factory premises.

In 1946 there was a statewise strike in old Hyderabad state and the Hyderabad Liberation movement was also in progress. As a reaction to this movement, the muslim ruler of Hyderabad tried to split the labour movement on religious grounds. They tried to establish a union of muslim workers but workers did not give response and therefore the muslim workers were boycotted from muslim community. Even the leaders were not allowed to pray in the mosque. The muslim leaders and the workers preferred for boycott and they did not leave Osmanshahi mill workers union which is popularly known as Lal Bawata Union. After boycott they used to pray separately, they used to celebrate separate Moharam and Tabout. Even today, there is a separate Moharam and Tabout of the Lal Bawatas.

In 1946, a 55 days strike took place in Osmanshahi Mills, Nanded. As a result of that about 50 workers were
removed from services and eighteen workers were imprisoned for a period of nine months. There was a close association between the communists and Marathwada Parishad, and a labour movement in the Marathwada region was also initiated by communists only. In a book viz. "Glorious Telangana Armed Struggle" an article written by senior communist leader Mr. C.D. Choudhary of Marathwada has been appeared. In the same Com. C.D. Choudhary mentioned, Communists while working in the Parishad and occupying responsible positions as district organisers were building independent working class base at Aurangabad and Nanded.

The communists formed an union in Osmanshahi Mills and in Aurangabad Textile Mills. They also organised the bidi workers. At national levels the congress leaders parted their ways with AITUC and established INTUC. As a result, a branch of INTUC was also established in Nanded in 1952. The leaders of INTUC were Mr. Shankarrao Chavan and Gopalshastri Deo. There was a spilt in INTUC too. The Socialists formed their new trade union viz. 'Hind Mazdoor Sabha' (HMS). A branch of HMS was also established. It reflects an association of labour movement with the political parties in Marathwada region too. The trade union affiliated to the Republican Party of India was also
established in Nanded Textile Mills in the year 1965 which was initiated by some R.P.I. leaders, Mr. L.S. Gaikwad, the editor of daily "Panchanama" Nanded has mentioned in an article that the Nisams and the INTUC leaders too tried to break the very first union of Osmanshahi mill workers established by Com. V.D. Deshpande. He was also assulted by these Congress leaders in 1957 when a meeting of Osmanshahi mill workers was organised near Mill's gate by Lal Bawata Union 1.

Com. V.D. Deshpande, on one hand was the leader of national movement and also a leader of labour movement on other hand 2.

It is clear from all above that the rise of the labour movement in Marathwada region took place in the year 1930 when Mr. V.V. Giri took efforts to organise the N.S. railway employees at Secunderabad. However, the labour movement in the the region in true sense started after 1935 only when the workers working in Osmanshahi Textile Mills Nanded and Aurangabad Textile Mills, Aurangabad recorded protest against the bad working conditions, low wages and long and excessive hours of work, bonus etc. The were the first who organised the workers, who built the unions of workers. They were not only the leaders of labour movement but also the leaders of Maharahtra Parishad...

1. "Dalit Shramikawar Prem Karnare Com. V.D. Deshpande" an article by L.S. Gaikwad Published in Sovenir 1987. V.D. Deshpande Yaana Smarti Pushpanjali".

National movement and Hyderabad Liberation movement too. The labour movement lateron went on growing and developing step by step. It can not be said that the labour movement today has been grown or it has been developed, but it has been expanded. The trade unions have entered into the different spheres. The industrial workers other than cotton mills have been organising and also the trade union activities are seen in non-industrial sectors too.

The All Marathwada Kamgar Union affiliated to AITUC was established by Com. Iftequar Ahmad at Jalna in August 1966.

In last 15 years new industries like Engineering, Fertilizers, Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Cotton, Paper came into existence at Aurangabad and nearby Area. Due to the increased number of industries in Aurangabad and nearby areas the office of the All Marathwada Kamgar Union was shifted to Aurangabad from Jalna in August 1976. Before that, 28 days strike in Hotel Rama International took place which was led by AITUC leaders only.

The all Marathwada Kamgar Union had started its functioning at Aurangabad from 'CENTRON' factory where the razor blades are produced. There was also an agreement in 1977 in Centron, by which the wages of Centron workers raised from 210 to 450. The D.A. was made applicable to staff also. 85 labourers were also promoted.
After an agreement in Centron the work of AITU_C affiliated All Maharashtra Namgar Union was very faster. The AMKU entered in Aurangabad rolling Mill, National rolling mill, Rolay Metals, Candy Engineering, Ellora Steels, C.T.R., Mangal agencies, Steel India, C.K. Automotive, Anglo American Marine, Super Malables, Domine Electrical Prakalpa, Transdelta, etc. The AITU_C formed unions committees in all these establishments and due to the 100% unity of labourers the AITU_C could remain successful in getting minimum wages, dearness allowances and the facilities as laid down in labour legislations. The AITU_C had also its committees in Deogiri Textile Mills, Gajraj Textile Mills, Vinaya Cotton Pvt Ltd., Varlaxmi Surgical Cotton Pvt Ltd., Govind Silk Mill.

There was also a increase of about Rs.100 - 125 to the Deogiri Textile workers due to an agreement of the Union with management.

Apart from the above trades, the AMKU also entered in Aurangabad Hotel, Ashoka Hotel, Punjab Hotel, Darling Hotel, Kartiki Hotel, Hotel Rama International. The workers working in Cinema theaters were also organized by AITU_C (AMKU) and an agreement also took place. Beedi workers were also organized by AITU_C and the AITU_C remained successful in getting bonus and minimum wages to the Beedi workers.
Greaves Lombardini is one of the largest industrial establishment in Aurangabad. It produces more than 2,000 aluminium diesel engines per month. The AMKU (AITUC) also formed its branch in this establishment. Industries are growing in Paithan too where an 'Industrial Labour Union' has been formed by the AITUC leaders only. The AITUC has also established its committee in Ganesh Paper Mill of Vaijapur Taluka.

In the Souvenir of AITUC published on occasion of its 8th conference at Aurangabad from 26 to 28 September 1980, Com. V.D. Deshpande had mentioned that the AITUC tried to solve the workers problems of underdeveloped Marathwada area with negotiation but some industrialists particularly the industrialists from Bombay do not come on right path (track) unless the workers are unitedly resorted to strike. Therefore, the AITUC had to give a call for strike for many times. Ellora Steels (3 months), C.T.R. (two months), Candy Engineering (one month), Rama International (28 days) etc. The workers of Deogiri Textile, Greaves Lombardini, G.G.T. Kapyee Pvt. Ltd., were also on strike for a long period. The AITUC affiliated unions and workers in hotels, printing and other industries had also to resort the strike.

The AITUC also took lead in formation of joint action committee of workers.
With an intention to create an awareness about the labour problems of the AITUC has been organising the workers education classes under the Central workers education scheme.

The AITUC has also built up its office viz. 'Kamgar Bhavan' in CIDCO area where the workers education classes are run. A library and reading room has also been started by AITUC in Kamgar Bhavan.

The aim of the AITUC is to establish a socialist state in India for which the AITUC has been organising the working class.

Apart from the activities of AITUC some new trade unions have also started to work in industrial and non-industrial sectors, which are affiliated to different political parties. The unions like Marathwada Labour Union affiliated to HMS is working for the better working conditions of coolies of market yards while the union like Maharashtra S.T.Porter's Sabha is functioning for S.T.coolies. AITUC affiliated to C.P.I., C.I.T.U. affiliated to C.P.I.(M), INTUC affiliated to Congress(I) HMS affiliated to Janata Party, Sarva Shashaktik Sangh affiliated to the Lal Nishan Party, Association of Engineering workers affiliated to Dr. Datta Samant's Kamgar Aaghadi are some of the prominent unions in the region. Some Unions
affiliated to Peasants and workers Party (Shetkari Kamgar Paksha), Bhartiya Dalit Panther, Bhartiya Republican Party, Bhartiya Janata Party have also been in existence. The people of the region have experienced the prolonged disputes which took place recently. The API, Automobile Products of India was closed down for a longer period of about one year. It is one of the biggest automobile concern of the region. The union led by Dr. Datta Samant is in existence in A.P.I. The dispute was started on the bonus issue and it led to the management to use a tool of lockout. The API workers remained without wages for a long time. The same thing took place with the Bajaj Auto Limited Aurangabad. It is one of the biggest factory originated recently. The employees of Bajaj were not having union for first few days. But as a result of exploitation by Bajaj Management the workers formed an internal union. It is not yet affiliated to any state or national level federation. A dispute for economic gain took place in Bajaj too. A struggle of Bajaj workers' internal union against its management was also supported by the action committee of all other trade unions. The disputes have also been taken place in certain other industries like Lorcom, G.G.T., Jawahar Soot Girni of Latur, Eknath Sugar Factory of Paithan
Jain spinning Mills, Paithan; Trimurthy MalabalesCo.
Jalna, and such others. As some places, the unions
have succeeded to give benefits to the workers, while
other hand the disputes followed by militant
struggles at some places gave nothing to the workers.
The workers of A.P.I., Bajaj Auto have been demerulised
and at present they are not prepared to fight again
unitedly against the managements. Some trade union
leaders are not trained or properly oriented from
the point of view of their role towards the workers
welfare.

Political parties have taken keen interest in
the organisation, development and functioning of
trade unions in the region as in state and nation
at large. Communists entered the trade union movement
with a view to using it as an instrument of class
war and revolution for the establishment of a
socialist state in India. Like the communists,
Congressmen and others, too made efforts to organise
and promote trade unions. The workers education
scheme has also been introduced by the Government
in the region with a view to educate and train the
workers of the regions. In Aurangabad the scheme is
introduced in three industrial centres. Viz. Textile
Mills, Greaves Lambradini Ltd., and S.T. Central work-
shop. Certain workers have been trained to work as
a worker teacher. However, the fact remains that the industrial development in the region is of recent origin. Though different industries are coming up in Aurangabad city and Jalna city, there is a very slow rate of industrial development in the region as a whole and therefore a labour movement in the region is still in infant stage.
REVIEW OF AVAILABLE STUDIES AND PUBLISHED WORK.

There are various empirical studies and published work regarding the problems, working conditions, trade union leadership, wage and salary administration, personnel practices, grievance, settlement procedures, welfare facilities provided to the working class and on such other problems related to working class. These research studies differ in contents and objectives too. But the small scale researches undertaken by the post graduate students of professional courses especially those who are specialising in labour welfare and personnel management from different universities have very limited scope as the dissertations have been submitted to require the fulfillment of such courses. Their studies are empirical but the scope is quite limited. However, some research scholars, other than the students of professional courses have also undertaken the studies relating to the working class and their objectives are quite broader, scope is quite wider one. A brief review of such studies has been taken by the researcher. Mr. M.S. Makandar, a post graduate student of Master of Social work from Department of Social work, Walchand College, Solapur had undertaken a research project as a part and parcel of M.S.W. course in the year 1976. The title of his research project is, "A study of Social security Laws in an Automobile Engineering Concern". The said researcher has mentioned in his study that the scope of his study is limited only to automobile Engineering
Company viz. Bharat Forge Co., Ltd., Pune. The emphasis is given on some social security measures such as Provident Fund, Gratuity and Bonus. This clearly shows that the said study by Mr. M. S. Makankar is restricted to these three aspects of social security.

Another empirical study entitled as, "A study of industrial health in an Engineering Concern" was undertaken by Miss. M. K. Thorat which was also submitted to the Shivaji University Kolhapur for the degree of M.S.W. in 1979. The said study is limited to the Kirloskar Pneumatic and is restricted to specific aspects of health and only to permanent workers working in one shift only.

"A comparative study of service conditions, welfare facilities and Trade Union activities in divisional Central Railway, Solapur prior and after independence" was undertaken and submitted to the Shivaji University by Miss. S. G. Musale in 1979. Mr. Chougule S. B. had submitted a small scale research project entitled as "A study of attitudes and aspirations of Trade Union members towards their trade union organisation in Solapur city" in 1979 to the Shivaji University as a part and parcel of the M.S.W. Syllabus. These are some empirical studies undertaken by the post graduate students but there are various such type of studies undertaken every year by the post-graduate students especially specialising in labour welfare and personnel management. The students of M.S.W. of Marathwada, Poona,
Bombay, Nagpur Universities have also submitted their research projects. However all these were limited to part and parcel of the syllabus, restricted to particular industries and objectives too. The researcher has gone through various such reports. He came to know while taking the review of such research projects that a study on the same problem has been repeated many times, their objects are very limited, scope is very much restricted. The said studies are undertaken in industrial sectors only. The emphasis on non industrial workers has not been given by such students. Many hundreds of such small scale research projects have been submitted to different universities are overlapping in nature, scope, objectives and subject matter. Quite a few such research projects have not been overlapped/repeated which have their own identity. Some of them are study of the determinants and reflecters of industrial relations by Mr. L. D. Ranaad of Marathwada University, comparative study of trade unions in the state Transport Central workshop, Aurangabad by B. E. Gaikwad; case study of Absenteeism by K. S. Sokhiya, role of trade unions in industrial relations in Greaves Lombardini by D. D. Mishra; workers job satisfaction in relation to productivity by V. R. Rayamane, Employer employee relations in Texcom by R. K. Agrawal etc. These studies are carried out by M. S. W. students of Marathwada University.

Apart from these small scale research projects mentioned above, some very good researches related to the working
class have also been undertaken by the research scholars who are not the students of post graduate. I mean, they are not required to complete the research work as a part and parcel of the courses but they have voluntarily undertaken with a keen interest.

A case study entitled as, "A Trade Union leadership in India" by Santosh Sood has been submitted to the Punjab University. It is recently published by Deep and Deep Publications. This study was designed to ascertain, on a sample basis the prevailing social and political alignments of the Trade union leadership in Punjab, its perception of its own role and that of others, the nature and extent of its militancy, its point of view on problems relating to working class in general and the trade union movement in particular and its style of functioning. The said empirical study by Santosh Sood has been comprised of seven chapters. The scope of the study as mentioned by Mr. Sood is limited geographically to the present state boundaries of Punjab and the respondents of the study are the local and state level union leaders belonging to AITUC, INTUC, CITU, RMS, HMS. Mr. Santosh Sood after his research study has arrived to major findings and he has stated that there is a link between union and political parties. More than half of the leaders in Punjab freely admit their links with such parties, and quite a few have taken part in politically sponsored movements. All CPI trade unionists are in AITUC, all Jansangh trade unionists are in B.M.S. and almost all
Congress party trade unionists are in INTUC. The only exceptions are found in 'independent' unions which also have some political links.

Another empirical study is undertaken by Prof. Prakash S. Bobde. His research thesis has been entitled as 'Political Dimensions of Trade Unions: A Sociological Analysis' which is submitted to the Nagpur University. The study was undertaken in one of the seven districts of Marathwada i.e., Nanded and was restricted to the Nanded Textile Mills only. As stated by the researcher himself the universe of his study was the entire population of workers and leaders relation to various trade unions operating at plant level in the Nanded Textile Complex. This is a very good research activity carried out by Prof. P.S. Bobade with an intention to study how and how far do the constituents of the environments, such as political parties, management, rival trade unions, the government and the central trade union organisation influence and affect the overall functioning of the Social system, which in the instant case is the plant level trade union. More specifically, how and how far do the political affiliation and ideology affect the plant level trade union. The study was undertaken by these and such

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1. Trade Union Leadership in India by Santosh Sood, p. 230

other objectives by Mr. P.S. Bobade, which comprises of nine chapters. The major conclusions drawn by him are that the leaders of trade unions at Nanded are either members or sympathizers of political parties to which their union is affiliated. As active workers of the party they participate at the meetings, morchas and Bundhs organized by the parent political party. The common workers, however are largely immune from this political orientation. Very few among the common members have any formal membership of the political party. These and such other conclusions have been drawn by the researcher.

Another empirical study entitled as "Employer-Employee relations - a critical study of Government of India and its employees was undertaken by V. Bhaskara Rao and which is published by Concept Publishing Co., Delhi. The object of the study is to examine the growth of staff relations in the public service of Government of India.

A study entitled as, "Trade Union Leadership in India: a sociological perspective" was undertaken by Edwin J. Mashi. It is a study of formal leader both outsider and insiders of registered trade unions in the cotton textile industry of Ahmedabad. The major objectives of the study are to examine social background of the formal trade union leaders in the cotton textile industry of Ahmedabad.

An empirical study on organizational structure and job attitudes was conducted by D.M. Pestonjee and which has been published by the Minerva Associates, Calcutta which attempts
to highlight the gratification and deprivations present in the job situation and also seeks to determine the influence of organization structures on workers satisfaction and morale. It was submitted to the Aligraha University.

A survey entitled as, "Trade Union Leadership in India was also undertaken by S.D.Punekar and S.Madhuri has been published by Lalwani Publishing House, Bombay in 1967. The said study covers the leaders of registered trade unions in the regions of Maharashtra (excluding Bombay), Bombay, Gujrat, Kerala, Madras and West Bengal. As the study is confined to the first three regions, the latter three regions have been been grouped under 'Other Regions' for the purposes of interpretation and generalization'.

The objectives of the study as stated by the authors were to find out the types of trade union leadership, according to their Socio-economic and psychological characteristics, to find out the leaders attitudes and opinions on the various trade union problems and such others.

Above all is a brief review of the emperical studies and published work related to the working class in India. All these studies and work have their own significance. The review shows that some studies in Marathwada were also taken. However, these studies are not on regional level.