# THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT, 1947

# ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

# CHAPTER I

#### PRELIMINARY

## SECTIONS

- 1. Short title, extent and commencement.
- 2. Definitions.

2A. Dismissal, etc., of an individual workman to be deemed to be an industrial dispute.

# CHAPTER II

## AUTHORITIES UNDER THIS ACT

- 3. Works Committee.
- 4. Conciliation officers.
- 5. Board of Conciliation.
- 6. Courts of Inquiry.
- 7. Labour Courts.
- 7A. Tribunals.
- 7B. National Tribunals.
- 7C. Disqualifications for the presiding officers of Labour Courts, Tribunals and National Tribunals.
- 7D. Qualifications, terms and conditions of service of Presiding Officer.
- 8. Filling of vacancies.
- 9. Finality of orders constituting Boards, etc.

## CHAPTER IIA

# NOTICE OF CHANGE

9A. Notice of change.

9B. Power of Government to exempt.

## CHAPTER IIB

REFERENCE OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUAL DISPUTES TO GRIEVANCE SETTLEMENT AUTHORITIES

9C. Setting up of Grievance Settlement Authorities and reference of certain individual disputes to such authorities.

# CHAPTER III

## REFERENCE OF DISPUTES TO BOARDS, COURTS OR TRIBUNALS

- 10. Reference of disputes to Boards, Courts or Tribunals.
- 10A. Voluntary reference of disputes to arbitration.

## CHAPTER IV

## PROCEDURE, POWERS AND DUTIES OF AUTHORITIES

#### SECTIONS

- 11. Procedure and powers of conciliation officers, Boards, Courts and Tribunals.
- 11A. Powers of Labour Courts, Tribunals and National Tribunals to give appropriate relief in case of discharge or dismissal of workmen.
- 12. Duties of conciliation officers.
- 13. Duties of Board.
- 14. Duties of Courts.
- 15. Duties of Labour Courts, Tribunals and National Tribunals.
- 16. Form of report or award.
- 17. Publication of reports and awards.
- 17A. Commencement of the award.
- 17B. Payment of full wages to workman pending proceedings in higher courts.
- 18. Persons on whom settlements and awards are binding.
- 19. Period of operation of settlements and awards.
- 20. Commencement and conclusion of proceedings.
- 21. Certain matters to be kept confidential.

# CHAPTER V

#### STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS

- 22. Prohibition of strikes and lock-outs.
- 23. General prohibition of strikes and lock-outs.
- 24. Illegal strikes and lock-outs.
- 25. Prohibition of financial aid to illegal strikes and lock-outs.

## CHAPTER VA

#### LAY-OFF AND RETRENCHMENT

25A. Application of sections 25C to 25E.

- 25B. Definition of continuous service.
- 25C. Right of workmen laid-off for compensation.
- 25D. Duty of an employer to maintain muster rolls of workmen.
- 25E. Workmen not entitled to compensation in certain cases.
- 25F. Conditions precedent to retrenchment of workmen.
- 25FF. Compensation to workmen in case of transfer of undertakings.

25FFA. Sixty days' notice to be given of intention to close down any undertaking.

25FFF. Compensation to workmen in case of closing down of undertakings.

25G. Procedure for retrenchment.

25H. Re-employment of retrenched workmen.

25-I. [Repealed.]

25J. Effect of laws inconsistent with this Chapter.

#### CHAPTER VB

# SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LAY-OFF, RETRENCHMENT AND CLOSURE IN CERTAIN ESTABLISHMENTS

## SECTIONS

- 25K. Application of Chapter VB.
- 25L. Definitions.
- 25M. Prohibition of lay-off.
- 25N. Conditions precedent to retrenchment of workmen.
- 25-O. Procedure for closing down an undertaking.
- 25P. Special provision as to restarting of undertakings closed down before commencement of the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1976.
- 25Q. Penalty for lay-off and retrenchment without previous permission.
- 25R. Penalty for closure.
- 25S. Certain provisions of Chapter VA to apply to an industrial establishment to which this Chapter applies.

## CHAPTER VC

#### UNFAIR LABOUR PRACTICES

25T. Prohibition of unfair labour practice.

25U. Penalty for committing unfair labour practices.

## CHAPTER VI

# PENALTIES

- 26. Penalty for illegal strikes and lock-outs.
- 27. Penalty for instigation, etc.
- 28. Penalty for giving financial aid to illegal strikes and lock-outs.
- 29. Penalty for breach of settlement or award.
- 30. Penalty for disclosing confidential information.
- 30A. Penalty for closure without notice.
- 31. Penalty for other offences.

# CHAPTER VII

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- 32. Offence by companies, etc.
- 33. Conditions of service, etc., to remain unchanged under certain circumstances during pendency of proceedings.
- 33A. Special provision for adjudication as to whether conditions of service, etc., changed during pendency of proceedings.
- 33B. Power to transfer certain proceedings.
- 33C. Recovery of money due from an employer.
- 34. Cognizance of offences.
- 35. Protection of persons.
- 36. Representation of parties.
- 36A. Power to remove difficulties.
- 36B. Power to exempt.
- 37. Protection of action taken under the Act.
- 38. Power to make rules.

SECTIONS

- 39. Delegation of powers.
- 40. Power to amend Schedules.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.—INDUSTRIES WHICH MAY BE DECLARED TO BE PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES UNDER SUB-CLAUSE (*vi*) OF CLAUSE (*n*) OF SECTION 2.

THE SECOND SCHEDULE.—MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF LABOUR COURTS.

THE THIRD SCHEDULE.—MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNALS.

THE FOURTH SCHEDULE.—CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR CHANGE OF WHICH NOTICE IS TO BE GIVEN.

THE FIFTH SCHEDULE.—UNFAIR LABOUR PRACTICES.

## THE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT, 1947

# ACT NO. 14 OF 1947<sup>1</sup>

[11th March, 1947.]

\*]

An Act to make provision for the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes, and for certain other purposes.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for the investigation and settlement of industrial disputes, and for certain other purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:----

#### CHAPTER I

#### PRELIMINARY

**1. Short title, extent and commencement**.—(1) This Act may be called the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

\*

 ${}^{2}[(2)$  It extends to the whole of India:

\*

3\*

(3) It shall come into force on the first day of April, 1947.

2. Definitions.—In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

\*

(a) "appropriate Government" means—

(*i*) in relation to any industrial dispute concerning <sup>4</sup>\*\*\* any industry carried on by or under the authority of the Central Government, <sup>5</sup>\*\*\* or by a railway company <sup>6</sup>[or concerning any such controlled industry as may be specified in this behalf by the Central Government] <sup>7</sup>\*\*\* or in relation to an industrial dispute concerning <sup>8</sup>[<sup>9</sup>[<sup>10</sup>[<sup>11</sup>[a Dock Labour Board established under section 5A of the Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Act, 1948 (9 of 1948), or <sup>12</sup>[the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Limited formed and registered under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956)], or the Employees' State Insurance Corporation established under section 3 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 (34 of 1948), or the Board of Trustees constituted under section 3A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 (46 of 1948), or the Central Board of Trustees and the State Boards of Trustees constituted under section 5A and section 5B, respectively, of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 (19 of 1952), <sup>13</sup>\*\*\*, or the Life Insurance Corporation of India established under section 3 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 (31 of 1956), or <sup>14</sup>[the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited registered under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956)], or the

<sup>1.</sup> This Act has been extended to Goa, Daman and Diu by Reg. 12 of 1962, s. 3 and the schedule (w.e.f. 19-12-1962); to Pondicherry by Reg. 7 of 1963 (w.e.f. 1-10-1963); and Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands by Reg. 8 of 1965, s. 3 and the Schedule.

<sup>2.</sup> Subs. by Act 36 of 1956, s. 2, for the sub-section (2) (w.e.f. 29-8-1956).

<sup>3.</sup> Omitted by Act 51 of 1970, s. 2 and the Schedule (w.e.f. 1-9-1971).

<sup>4.</sup> Certain words omitted by Act 36 of 1964, s. 2 (w.e.f. 19-12-1964).

<sup>5.</sup> The words "by the Federal Railway Authority" omitted by the A.O. 1948.

<sup>6.</sup> Ins. by Act 65 of 1951, s. 32.

<sup>7.</sup> The words "operating a Federal Railway" omitted by the A.O. 1950.

<sup>8.</sup> Ins. by Act 47 of 1961, s. 51 and the Second Schedule, Part III (w.e.f. 1-1-1962).

<sup>9.</sup> Subs. by Act 36 of 1964, s. 2, for "the Deposit Insurance Corporation established" (w.e.f. 19-12-1964).

<sup>10.</sup> Subs. by Act 45 of 1971, s. 2 (w.e.f. 15-12-1971).

<sup>11.</sup> Subs. by Act 46 of 1982, s. 2 (w.e.f. 21-8-1984).

<sup>12.</sup> Subs. by Act 24 of 1996, s. 2, for "the Industrial Finance Corporation of India established under section 3 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948 (15 of 1948)" (w.e.f. 11-10-1995).

<sup>13.</sup> The words and figures "or the "Indian Airlines" and "Air India" Corporations established under section 3 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953 (27 of 1953)" by s. 2, *ibid*. (w.e.f. 11-10-1995).

<sup>14.</sup> Subs. by Act 24 of 1996, s. 2, for "the Oil and Natural Gas Commission established under section 3 of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Act, 1959 (43 of 1959)" (w.e.f. 11-10-1995).