

**Cases on Labour Law : Minimum Conditions of Employment**, Debi S. Saini (ed) Oxford IBH, New Delhi, 1995, Rs. 495/-.

This volume, the outcome of a compilation project at the Gandhi Labour Institute Ahmedabad, is a welcome addition to the growing reference materials on labour law in India. The text consists of abridged versions of important judgements – mainly of the Supreme Court – on minimum conditions of employment.

However, the Foreword by Director General Cowlagi promises more than is actually offered. The text covers only ten of twenty-four Acts. Inexplicably, it excludes the Industrial Disputes Act which sets the basic framework for labour laws in India. The introduction places the Acts covered within the perspective of the Constitution but fails to take notice of important Constitutional Amendments that have restricted the scope of legislation on minimum conditions of employment.

The cases are listed one after the other without any linkage commentary which could have elucidated the development of the law. The convenience of reference is therefore lost to first time readers and students of labour law. The book will be useful for welfare officers, small businesses and social activists but it will be of limited use to serious students of labour law for whom commentaries such as Malik's are more comprehensive and analytical.

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