

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:100  
ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004  
MINIMUM WAGE FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS  
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to enact a formula of National Minimum Wage for Agricultural workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to step up the public investment and flow of rural credit for small and marginal farmers in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SISH RAM OLA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) does not arise.

(c) The Tenth Plan aims at increasing public investment to promote agricultural infrastructure. NABARD, Regional Rural Banks, District Cooperative Central Banks and Cooperative Credit Societies are playing an important role in dispensing rural credit. Besides, further initiatives have been taken for introduction of Kisan Credit Cards, liberalization of guidelines regarding security norms, margin money requirements, bringing farmers into commercial banks fold at rural and semi-rural branch level, lending more to small and marginal farmers by the public sector banks, providing credit to tenant farmers and oral lessees, debt restructuring etc.