

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5761  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2000  
MINIMUM WAGES TO BEEDI WORKERS  
KAILASHO DEVI

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

- (a) the status of the study made by experts of the Labour Research Institutes regarding minimum wages to beedi workers;
- (b) whether the Government propose to amend Minimum Wages Act; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the legislaion is likely to be brought in Parliament?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a): Labour Bureau, an apex organisation, for providing data base and carrying out research studies and surveys on labour related matters has been conducting systematic evaluation studies of the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in various scheduled employments in different parts of the country. The studies in beedi industry have been conducted in Uttar Pradesh (1990), Maharashtra (1991), Andhra Pradesh (1995) and Karnataka (1997). Based on the findings of these studies the concerned State Governments have been taking appropriate steps to improve implementation of the Minimum Wages Act.

(b) & (c): The Government has been in the process of finalising certain amendment proposals to the Minimum Wages Act in consultation with Central Ministries/Departments and State/UT Governments. These were recently discussed at a State Labour Secretaries meeting held on 13.4.2000. However, given the procedure/steps involved, it may not be possible at present to indicate a precise time frame for introduction of the amendment bill in Parliament.