

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2638

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004

MINIMUM WAGES

Barq Shri Shafiqur Rahman;Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that in the recent past the dearness has increased but the minimum wages of the labourers remains unchanged;

(a) if so, the reasons therefore;

(b) whether the Government has issued instruction to the States to conduct a survey in this regard and refix the minimum wages; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) & (b):In order to protect the minimum wages of the workers against inflation, the Government has introduced Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) in all the scheduled employments in the Central Sphere. As regards States, most of the States/Union Territories have adopted VDA as a component of Minimum Wages. The VDA in both the Spheres is revised on the basis of increase in consumer price index twice a year effective from April and October.

(c) & (d):As the Minimum Wages are being periodically revised as per provisions of the Minimum Wages act, 1948 and the inflation is neutralized by adding Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) to the wages of the workers, the need to conduct a survey in this regard is not felt necessary.