

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2143

ANSWERED ON:20.07.2009

MINIMUM WAGES FOR DOMESTIC HELPS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao; Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to fix minimum wages for domestic helps;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which such wages are likely to be fixed;
- (c) whether the Union Government has issued any instructions/directions to States and Union Territories for the welfare of the domestic helps; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments to fix/revise minimum wages in the scheduled employments in Central and State sphere respectively. Since domestic helps/workers fall under the purview of State sphere, some of the State Governments, as appropriate Governments, have notified their minimum rates of wages. On the basis of information available, a statement giving minimum rates of wages fixed for 'domestic helps/workers' in the concerned States/Union Territories is Annexed.

(c) & (d): The Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 has been enacted to provide social security to the unorganized workers including domestic helps/workers. The Act provides for formulation of social security schemes viz. life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. Domestic helps/workers also derive benefits from applicability of various labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 etc.