

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:156

ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010

INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGES

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) the number of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers/workers available at present in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the per day minimum wages fixed for said labourers/workers, State-wise;
- (c) whether certain problems being faced by such labourers/workers due to insufficient amount of minimum wages;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to raise/revise the minimum wages from the existing limit; and
- (e) if so, the details alongwith the time by which minimum wages are likely to be revised and implemented?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The data on number of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labourers/workers are not maintained. On the basis of the information available, the statement giving the minimum rates of wages fixed for different categories of workers engaged in different scheduled employments by the Central Government and State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations is Annexed.

The minimum rates of wages are fixed/revise by appropriate Governments by taking into account of the norms recommended by 15th Indian Labour Conference, 1957 and the Supreme Court directive in 1992 in the case of Reptakos & Co. Vs. its workers.

The appropriate Governments review the minimum rates of wages so fixed and revise the minimum rates for different scheduled employments, whenever necessary on a continuous basis as per provision contained in Section 3 (1) (b) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

Further, in order to protect the minimum wages against inflation, the Central Government and most of the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations have adopted the system of Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA), revised twice a year effective from 1st April and 1st October on the basis of increase in Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers.