

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1503

ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012

WAGES UNDER MGNREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the rate of wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Delhi and the other States of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the percentage of workforce involving women of SC/ST communities employed under the Scheme in the country, States-wise/Union Territories-wise;
- (c) whether the wages in some States under the Scheme are lower than the wages prescribed under Minimum Wages Act;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the wages under the Scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a)&(c)to(e): The rates of wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) State/UTs-wise are given in Annexure-I. MGNREGA is not in operation in Delhi. Minimum wages for unskilled agricultural labourers under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 are fixed by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Based on the information available with this Ministry, a Statement showing the comparison of minimum wage rates for unskilled agricultural labourers under the minimum wages Act and MGNREGA wage rates is given in Annexure-I. In 15 States/Union Territories viz., Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Goa, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep, MGNREGA wage rate is lower than the minimum wage for unskilled agricultural labourers under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The Government has already indexed the MGNREGA wages with Consumer Price Index for Agricultural labourers (CPIAL) and has accordingly notified the revised wage rates under sub-section (1) of Section 6 of MGNREG Act.

(b): The details of total number of persondays generated under MGNREGA in 2011-12 (up to 16.2.2012) and percentage of participation of women, SC and ST categories therein as reported by States/UTs are given in Annexure-II. Separate data of participation of women of SC and ST communities in MGNREGA is not maintained.