

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:679

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012

DISPARITY OF WAGES FOR CONTRACT LABOURERS .

Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) the details of minimum wages paid by the various Government departments/private organisations to the contractors for engaging contract labourers/workers, category-wise;
- (b) whether the contract labourers/workers engaged in these departments/organisations are being paid different wages by the contractors for the same work;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether any survey/inquiry has been conducted by the Government to identify the contractors who are violating the labour laws during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (e) if so, the details and outcome thereof, department-wise; and
- (f) the legal action taken by the Government against the contractors found guilty during the said period, department-wise and year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) to (f): No Centralized data on minimum wages paid by various Government departments/private organisations to the contractors for engaging contract labour is maintained. However, the wages of Contract labourers/workers can not be less than the rates prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Rules, 1970, the contract worker who perform same or similar kind of work, as being performed by the workers directly appointed by the Principal Employer are to be paid same wages.

No Survey or Inquiry has been conducted. However, in central sphere, as and when such complaints are received, the office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) organization conducts inspection of the establishment and action is taken against the erring employer found violating the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 by filing prosecution in the Court. Claim case is also filed before the authority under the Act who decides the claim and directs for the payment of difference of wages along with compensation to the workers. The details prosecution launched and persons employer/persons convicted during last three years under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, Minimum Wages Act, 1948 are at Annexure-I.