

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1552
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012
INCREASING MINIMUM WAGES
Choudhry Smt. Shruti;Singh Shri Uma Shanaker

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

- (a) whether the Government has hiked or has any proposal to increase the minimum wages for labourers in the unorganised sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) & (b): The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 was enacted to protect the interest of workers mainly from unorganized sector. Under the Act, basic Minimum rates of wages for different scheduled employments are revised from time to time. Besides this, in order to protect the minimum wages against inflation in the intervening period, the Central Government and most of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have adopted the system of Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) by which the Minimum Wage is revised/ hiked based on increase in the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers. VDA is generally revised twice a year.

(c): The question does not arise.