

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:197

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012

WAGES UNDER MGNREGS

Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the time period fixed for revision of wages paid to the workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the wages in view of the steep price rise in the recent past;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the next revision of wages under the Scheme is likely to be made?

Answer

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

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement as referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 197 for answer on 06.12.2012.

(a)to(d): Section 6 (1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) empowers the Central Government to notify wage rates under the scheme. The minimum wage fixed by the State Governments as on 01.12.2008 for unskilled agriculture labourers was adopted and notified as the wage rate under Section 6(1) of MGNREGA in January 2009. To protect the wages of workers against inflation, the Central Government decided to index the MGNREGA wage rate with the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL) and on January 14, 2011, the Ministry of Rural Development issued a notification revising MGNREGA wage rates by linking it to the CPI-AL. The MGNREGA wages were last revised with effect from 1.4.2012 as indicated in the Annexure. As per the extant policy in this regard, the MGNREGA wages are to be revised each financial year, based on indexation with the Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL).