

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6416
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013
WORKERS IN OIL RETAIL OUTLETS
Saha Shri Anup Kumar

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

- (a) the number of workers engaged in various petrol/diesel retail outlets in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has given no specific instruction to the dealers for regulation of the service conditions of the workers to be engaged in the outlet;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government to protect such workers from continuous exploitation and regulate their minimum wages through minimum wage notification?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) As per information provided by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the workers at the retail outlets of the Oil Marketing Companies(OMCs) namely, Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation are employed by the respective dealers. As per the provision in the dealership agreement, dealers are required to abide by all relevant Statutes enacted by the Central/State Governments including Minimum Wage Act, 1948, Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 etc. However, the OMCs do not maintain any data of workers employed by the dealers at retail outlets.

(d) Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix/review/revise the minimum wages of the workers employed in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions.

The appropriate Governments are responsible to revise the minimum wages under its jurisdiction at an interval not exceeding five years. They are also responsible for payment of Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) announced from time to time to neutralize the effect of price rise.

The implementation of the Act is carried out by the Centre as well as the States in respect of their respective jurisdiction. In case of non-compliance of the provisions of the Act, penal provisions against the defaulting employers are invoked. The data on enforcement of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for the year 2010-11, as available, is annexed (Annexure-I).