

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3927

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009

INCREASE IN WAGES UNDER NREGS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to increase the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) wage to Rs. 100, linking it to the price index in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide minimum wages to workers under NREGS?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Hon`ble Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 2009-10 had announced to pay a real wage of Rs.100 per day under NREGS.The policy decided in this regard is as follows:

- (i) Wage rate would be revised under Section 6(1) of NREG Act subject to a ceiling of Rs. 100.In respect of States with higher wages, amount exceeding Rs.100 would be paid by the State Governments from their own resources.
- (ii) For all other States wages notified on 1.1.2009 will be the same.
- (iii) The new wage rates will be effective from 1.4.2009 or from the date of actual disbursement which ever is later.
- (iv) A separate index for NREGA wages would be created.