

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4328

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2014

WAGES UNDER MGNREGS

Jayadevan Shri C. N.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether final decision on the recommendation of the Committee constituted to review the wages and other facilities to workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been taken by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which a decision on the said recommendations is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) to (c): An expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. S. Mahendra Dev was constituted by the Government to suggest the methodology for resetting the base rate and for suggesting a proper index for revising Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) wage rates yearly. The Committee has recommended to adopt - the existing MGNREGA wage rate as in 2014, or the Minimum Wage prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act whichever is higher - as the base wage rate for 2014. The Committee has also recommended adopting Consumer Price Index (Rural) for indexation of the wages instead of the Consumer Price Index (Agricultural Labour). The recommendations of the Committee are under examination at the Government level and an appropriate decision is reported to be taken during the current financial year.