

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:288  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2015  
Salaries and Perks of Journalists  
Goud Dr. Boora Narsaiah

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

- (a) the details of statutes governing the working conditions including salary, perks etc. of the journalists;
- (b) the mechanism put in place in the Ministry to ensure its strict compliance across the country; and
- (c) whether the print and electronic media persons and journalists are covered under the Minimum Wages Act, Provident Fund, ESI pension scheme(s) and Social Security Schemes, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 288 FOR 10.08.2015 BY DR. BOORA NARSAIAH GOUD REGARDING "SALARIES AND PERKS OF JOURNALISTS".

(a) to (c): The Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 is designed for regulating the service conditions of Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees of the print media only. Section 9 and 13C of the said Act provides for constituting the Wage Boards from time to time to fix and revise the rates of wages for Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspaper Employees respectively. The Ministry has constituted a Central Level Monitoring Committee (CLMC) to monitor the progress of implementation of the recommendations of Wage Boards by the respective States/UTs. All the Chief Ministers of State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have also been requested to ensure implementation of recommendations of the Wage Boards by sensitizing the Government machinery since the primary responsibility for implementing the recommendations of the Wage Boards lies with the State Governments/UTs.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is applicable to a scheduled employment in which there are, in the whole State, one thousand or more employees engaged, in such employment. Moreover, under this Act both the Central and the State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix and revise the wages for scheduled employment under their respective jurisdiction. As far as media sector (print or electronic) is concerned, no wage is fixed by the Central Government for this sector under the Minimum Wages Act.

Newspaper industry, newspaper establishment and electronic media companies where employees strength is twenty or more are covered in private sector under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Media persons working in these establishments are entitled to benefits of Provident Fund, Pension and Insurance as delineated under the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 and the Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976.

The media persons are covered under the ESI Act, 1948 provided their media unit is registered under the ESI Act and they are drawing salary upto Rs.15,000/- (Rs.25,000/- for disabled persons) which is the maximum coverage limit under the Act.

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