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Title: Regarding revision of wages under NREGS.

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN : Sir, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is now in operation in almost all the districts in the country with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2007. In Kerala, the labourers engaged under the Scheme are now getting a wage rate of Rs. 125 per day. Considering the rise in the prices of essential commodities, now-a-days this wage rate is insufficient for a family. The local wage rate of agricultural labourers in Kerala comes to between Rs. 250 and Rs. 275. So, it is very essential to revise the existing wage rate.

As per Section 6 of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Central Government has the powers to fix the wage rate considering the specialties existing in different areas in the country.

So, I would urge upon the Union Government to take steps to revise the wage rate from Rs. 125 to Rs. 250 in Kerala at the earliest.