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Title: Need to revise the wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): The MGNREGA was conceptualized to help the lowest of the down trodden with a minimum livelihood. It is now seen that even the unskilled agricultural workers in most of the States are getting more wages even at minimum level. The wages for the people governed under MGNREGA should be increased. For this Consumer Price Index-Rural should be made the yardstick since this is a better indicator of wage increase in rural areas. The increase in expenditure should not be a deterrent for increasing the wages under MGNREGA. The disbursement of low wages and delayed payments are affecting the livelihood of this section. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to ensure a revised higher wages and timely payment for those covered under MGNREGA immediately.