

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1075  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2018  
SOCIAL SECURITY OF LABOURERS IN THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY**

**1075. SHRI BINOY VISWAM:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the report by International Labour Organisation (ILO) that over half the garment sector in India pays less than legal minimum wage;**
- (b) whether there is any policy by Government to ensure that statutory minimum wages in the textile sector is reviewed regularly in line with the cost of living, provide adequate income for a decent living standard for workers without the need for excessive overtime hours, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) whether Government controls the attempt of manufacturers to devalue the female labour by paying them lesser wages in garment sector?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a): No, Sir.**

**(b): Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Textile sector establishments come under the purview of State Government. According to the provisions contained in the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the appropriate Government shall review/ revise at such intervals not exceeding five years for scheduled employments under its jurisdiction. In order to protect the minimum wages against inflation, the Central Government mooted the idea of Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) in terms of recommendation of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in 1988. So far, the Central Government and 27 State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have adopted VDA as a component of minimum wage and revise twice a year or annually taking in to account the rise in Consumer Price Indices.**

**(c): Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Textile sector establishment comes under the purview of State Government. The minimum wages fixed by the Appropriate Government are equally payable both to male and female workers and the Act does not discriminate on the basis of gender.**

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