GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 735 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

FINAL REPORT ON FLOOR WAGES AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION

735. SHRI JAGGESH:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a committee led by Anoop Satpathy in 2019 suggested a floor wage of ₹375 per day and the proposal has been rejected by Government due to substantial financial implications for employers;
- (b) whether Government in consultations with stakeholders proposes to strike a balance between the existing minimum wage of ₹176 per day and the previous recommendation of ₹375 per day, taking into account inflation and household expenditure costs;
- (c) whether the committee, constituted for recommending floor wage, has submitted its final report to Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps for its implementation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) & (b): The Central Government, based on the recommendation of the National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) in 1991, introduced the concept of National Floor Level Minimum Wage (NFLMW) as a non-statutory measure so as to have a uniform wage structure and to reduce the disparity in minimum wages across the country. The National Floor Level Minimum Wage was last revised from Rs.160/- to Rs.176/- per day w.e.f. 01.06.2017.

Subsequently in 2019, the concept of National Floor Level Minimum Wages (NFLMW) has been subsumed in the Code on Wages, 2019, as a statutory provision. Section 9 of the Code on Wages, 2019 provides for fixing of floor wage by the Central Government. The Code stipulates that the minimum rates of wages fixed by the appropriate Governments shall not be less than the floor wage. The relevant provisions of the Code on Wages, 2019, have not come into force.

- (c): No.
- (d): Question does not arise in light of the reply to part (c) above.
