

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 96  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026**

**STAGNATION IN RURAL WAGES**

**96. SHRI PRAKASH CHIK BARAIK:**

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

- (a) the real wages of agriculture labourers, non agriculture labourers and construction workers during the last five years, year-wise; and**  
**(b) whether it is a fact that there has not been any significant increase in real wage for agriculture labourers, non agriculture labourers and construction workers and have remained stagnant during those years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

**(a) & (b): Ministry of Labour & Employment does not maintain data on real wages, for rural India. However, Labour Bureau, an attached office of Ministry of Labour & Employment compiles and maintains average nominal daily wage rates for selected agricultural and non-agricultural occupations, based on information collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation from a fixed set of 600 sample villages across 20 States, up to June 2025. The all-India annual average daily wage rates for 12 agricultural and 13 non-agricultural occupations for the agricultural years 2020-21 to 2024-25 are given at Annexure.**

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**ANNEXURE**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) & (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 96 for 29/01/2026 regarding “Stagnation in rural wages” raised by Shri Prakash Chik Baraik.**

**Annexure I: Daily Average Nominal Wage rates in Rural India**

<b>Agricultural Occupations/AY</b>		<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
Ploughing	MEN	355	369.8	397.16	418.25	450.08
	WOMEN	256.7	274.04	290.33	302.32	316.09
Sowing	MEN	321.99	339.8	365.12	386.24	412.88
	WOMEN	265.21	277.69	301.04	321.97	342.90
Harvesting	MEN	316.9	331.49	357.9	381.20	410.72
	WOMEN	264.88	275.73	296.29	318.86	344.13
Picking	MEN	286.2	304.33	326.72	348.94	376.58
	WOMEN	252.56	266.97	288.07	313.70	331.56
Horticulture	MEN	312.65	334.55	360.32	382.08	413.03
	WOMEN	247.36	257.34	273.98	295.37	318.82
Fisherman Inland	MEN	373.15	390.96	410.56	429.09	462.93
	WOMEN	@	@	@	@	@
Fisherman Coastal	MEN	360.23	398	442	444.33	455.67
	WOMEN	@	@	@	@	@
Loggers	MEN	406.34	426.65	450.79	471.59	498.72
	WOMEN	193.38	227.58	252.49	285.04	310.93
Animal Husbandry Workers	MEN	263.98	275.4	290.04	309.14	329.28
	WOMEN	191.85	205.08	220.15	245.34	263.48
Packaging Labourers	MEN	294.59	311.47	338.74	358.92	377.44
	WOMEN	243.32	262.05	283.18	300.79	318.72
General Labourers	MEN	311.93	328.18	352.51	378.56	405.26
	WOMEN	243.81	257.42	278.27	301.28	321.75
Plant Protection Workers	MEN	368.67	387.04	404.29	423.96	450.74
	WOMEN	245.13	254.57	267.1	293.81	301.25

<b>Non-Agricultural occupations</b>		<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
Carpenter	MEN	471.01	490.37	518.76	547.79	576.48
	WOMEN	@	@	-	-	-
Blacksmith	MEN	382.22	399.48	422.95	450.39	475.39
	WOMEN	208	209.67	224.67	248.00	@
Mason	MEN	520.99	542.69	574.48	609.74	647.68
	WOMEN	360.55	369.96	380.25	399.38	443.14
Weavers	MEN	336.16	351.18	357.37	370.14	385.59
	WOMEN	247.82	269.81	269.54	269.65	273.21
Beedi Makers	MEN	223.6	224.9	237.67	247.34	262.67

	WOMEN	164.36	170.24	182.1	188.23	203.79
Bamboo Cane Basket	MEN	286.28	297.31	312.01	324.41	338.26
	WOMEN	230.38	248.86	256.79	269.68	275.78
Handicraft workers	MEN	385.79	386.2	397.93	423.73	437.66
	WOMEN	239.65	249.36	257.07	284.42	300.78
Plumbers	MEN	480.4	499.33	523.87	555.12	591.74
	WOMEN	-	-	-	-	-
Electrician	MEN	466.04	483	511.93	542.22	576.89
	WOMEN	@	@	-	-	-
Construction workers	MEN	363.47	377.74	399.19	423.05	447.05
	WOMEN	266.46	280.41	304.64	328.58	347.84
LMV & Tractor drivers	MEN	397.12	418.82	447.24	473.33	505.49
	WOMEN	@	@	-	-	-
Non-agricultural labourers	MEN	315.69	331.89	353.51	377.09	402.82
	WOMEN	231.72	241.09	255.91	278.23	301.98
Sweeping/cleaning workers	MEN	264.24	278.86	296.39	317.56	338.47
	WOMEN	244.83	256.12	274.89	296.82	315.42

@: Number of quotations received is less than 5

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