

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2119
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.01.2018**

WAGE BOARD FOR JOURNALISTS

2119. SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS:

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

- (a) whether the wage Board for journalists, non- journalists and other workers has submitted its report on wage structure;**
- (b) if so, the details along with the main recommendation made by the board;**
- (c) whether the Government has accepted these recommendations;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The Majithia Wage Board for journalists and non-journalists newspaper employees was set up by the Government in May 2007 under the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955, which submitted its report on 31.12.2010.

(b): The main recommendations of the Majithia Wage Board are as under:

- The revised pay comprises of variable pay at the rate of 35 percent for employees working in the first four classes of newspaper establishments (first two classes news agencies) and 20 percent for the bottom four classes of newspaper establishments (bottom two classes for news agencies).

Contd..2/-

- **The variable pay should be added in the revised basic pay for calculation of all allowances.**
- **The rate of neutralization of DA should be 100 percent of basic pay for calculation of all allowances.**
- **The annual rate of increment should be between 2% and 4 % of the revised basic pay.**
- **The House rent allowance should be at the rate of 30%, 20% and 10 % and accordingly areas/cities should be classified into three categories i.e. X, Y, and Z for this purpose.**
- **The transport allowance should be 20%, 10% and 5% in the respective areas defined as Area X,Y and Z.**
- **Night Shift allowance should range between Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 for different classes of establishments.**

(c) & (d): The Central Government notified the recommendations of the Majithia Wage Boards in the Official Gazette on 11.11.2011 under section 12 of the said Act, except those relating to enhancement of age of retirement, introduction of pension scheme, paternity leave, policy for promotion, etc., subject to the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 246 of 2011. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 7th February, 2014 have upheld the said notification. This was intimated to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on 14th March, 2014 as the implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Boards lies with them under Section 17 and 17B of the said Act. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide its Judgment dated 19.6.2017, in Contempt Petition (Civil) No. 411 of 2014 in W.P.(C) No.246 of 2011 has clarified the issues concerning applicability of the Wage Board recommendations. This has also been intimated to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on 20th July, 2017.

(e): As reported by various States/UTs, 341 newspaper establishments have implemented the said recommendations fully. Moreover, the Central Government is continuing to impress upon the States/ UTs to ensure implementation of the recommendations of the Wage Boards in all the remaining newspaper establishments.
