GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 581 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.06.2019

WAGES UNDER MGNREGA

581. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the wages being paid under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act(MGNREGA) have fallen below the minimum wage in thirty four of the thirty five States and Union Territories;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the revised wage rates under MGNREGA in various States including Kerala;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that the wages under MGNREGA continue to remain below the minimum wages of corresponding States;
- (e) if so, the action taken to ensure parity between these;
- (f) the other action taken by the Government to increase minimum working days under the scheme; and
- (g) whether the Government has any proposal to redesign the scheme by covering more beneficiaries from the agriculture sector too and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) to (e): Wage rates for workers under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 are notified and revised annually by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(1) of the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA based on Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labourers (CPI-AL). State/UT-wise minimum wage rates are not maintained by the Ministry. State/UT-wise notified wage rates including for Kerala under MGNREGA for the financial year 2019-20 is given at **Annexure**.
- (f): As per Section 3(1) of MGNREGA, the State Governments shall provide to every household, work at least one hundred days in accordance with the Scheme to be made under the Act. An additional 50 days of wage employment are provided over and above 100 days in the notified drought affected areas or natural calamity areas in the country on recommendation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Moreover, Section 3 (4) has the enabling provision for creating wage employment beyond the stipulated period of 100 days of work per household in a financial year. Section 3 (4) reads, "The Central Government or the State Government may, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make provisions for securing work

to every adult member of a household under a Scheme for any period beyond the period guaranteed of 100 days of work as may be expedient".

(g): The Schedule-I of MGNREGA mandates to ensure that at least 60% of the works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost shall be for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities. Expenditure in agriculture and allied activities works during the last three year are given below:

Percentage of expenditure in agriculture and allied activities	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
works	66	66.07	63.43

Annexure referred in reply to parts (a)to(e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.581 dated 25.06.2019

Notified wage rates under MGNREGA

(In Rs)

1 ANDHRA PRADESH 211 2 ARUNACHAL PRADESH 192 3 ASSAM 193 4 BIHAR 171 5 CHHATTISGARH 176 6 GOA 254 7 GUJARAT 199 8 HARYANA 284 9 HIMACHAL PRADESH Non-scheduled Areas-185 Scheduled Areas-231 10 JAMMU AND KASHMIR 189 11 JHARKHAND 171 12 KARNATAKA 249 13 KERALA 271 14 MADHYA PRADESH 176 15 MAHARASHTRA 206 15 MAHARASHTRA 206 16 MANIPUR 219 17 MEGHALAYA 187 18 MIZORAM 211 19 NAGALAND 192 20 ODISHA 188 21 PUNJAB 241 22 RAJASTHAN 199 23 SIKKIM 192 24 TAMIL NADU 229 </th <th>Sl. No</th> <th>States</th> <th>2019-20</th>	Sl. No	States	2019-20
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