GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 180 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2021

MINIMUM WAGE FOR TEA GARDEN WORKERS

180. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

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

- (a)the detailed reasons and criteria for considering geographical location for fixing of the floor wage under Code on Wages, 2019;
- (b)the State- wise details of reasons on the basis of which the floor wage shall be fixed and tentative duration within which the Government shall release the state- wise fixed floor wage; and
- (c)the method to determine minimum wage for tea garden workers in Assam as compared to other tea producing States?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV)

- (a) & (b): Section 9(1) of the Code on Wages, 2019, provides that the Central Government shall fix floor wage taking into account minimum living standards of a worker in such manner as may be prescribed; provided that different floor wage may be fixed for different geographical areas. It is stated that the provisions of the Code on Wages, 2019, have not come into force.
- (c): Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the fixation of minimum wages for the tea garden labourers, falls under the purview of State Government which is the appropriate Government to fix/revise the minimum wages. The tea plantation workers are paid wages as per the negotiated agreement reached through a process of collective bargaining between the Producer Associations and Workers Unions under the aegis of the respective State Governments.
