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
(SHRIP 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.

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