

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2561
ANSWERED ON 14/12/2021

GROWTH RATE OF RURAL WAGES

2561. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the growth rate of rural wages in the country since 2020, year-wise;
- (b) whether the growth rate of rural wages has declined since 2020;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has investigated the reasons for the decline; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) to (d): As per information shared by Ministry of Labour and Employment, Labour Bureau has been compiling and maintaining average daily wage rate data in respect of selected agricultural and non-agricultural occupations on the basis of the data collected by the Field Operation Division (FOD) of National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation from a fixed set of 600 sample villages spread over 20 States.

All India annual average daily wage rates in rural area for the period 2020 to 2021 along with their growth rates are given below. **The annual growth rate calculated for the period 2020 to 2021 indicates a positive growth.**

Annual average daily wage rates in respect of non-agricultural labourers in rural area and their growth rates		
Year	Wage Rate	Growth Rate
2019	291.87	-
2020	310.19	6.28
2021*	320.48	3.32

*Annual average is calculated for ten months only (Jan to October, 2021).

As per Section 6(1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), the Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies wage rate under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA every financial year for unskilled workers. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rates every financial year based on Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourer (CPI-AL). The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year.

State/UT-wise notified wage rates for unskilled worker under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA for the financial years from 2020-21 and 2021-22 is given at **Annexure**.
