

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2622
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2022

RECOMMENDATION OF MAHENDRA DEV COMMITTEE UNDER MGNREGS

2622. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the wages paid under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and the minimum wages paid to unskilled agriculture workers along with the percentage difference between wages paid and minimum wages, State-wise;
- (b) whether the indexing of MGNREGA wages has been changed from Consumer Price Index-Agricultural Labour to Consumer Price Index - Rural, as recommended by the Mahendra Dev Committee, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay in implementation;
- (c) the details of the increase in MGNREGS wages announced in 2021 along with the State wages and wage hikes; and
- (d) whether there has been zero increase in MGNREGS wages in Kerala despite wage hikes announced for all other States, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (c): As per Section 6 (1) of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA), 2005, the Central Government may by notification specify the wage rate for unskilled work for its beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Ministry of Rural Development notifies Mahatma Gandhi NREGA wage rate for every financial year for States/UTs. To compensate the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers against inflation, the Ministry of Rural Development revises the wage rate every financial year based on change in Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labour (CPI-AL). The index is different for different States/UTs as notified by Labour Bureau, Shimla. If the calculated wage rate of any State/UT is coming lower than the wage rate of previous financial year, it is being protected by maintaining the previous financial year wage rate. The wage rate is made applicable from 1st April of each financial year.

Centrally, this Ministry does not maintain data on minimum wage rates in respect of States/UTs, agricultural or otherwise. However each State/UT can provide wage over and above the wage rate notified by the Central Government.

State/UT-wise notified wage rates for unskilled worker under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, for the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 is given at **Annexure**.

(b): The Mahendra Dev Committee submitted its report to the Central Government on 25.01.2014. The report was examined in consultation with Ministry of Finance. It was decided not to accept its recommendation to change the base wage rate.

(d): In the previous financial year 2021-22, the notified wage rates was Rs. 291 for unskilled worker in the Kerala State under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, which is enhanced to Rs. 311 for current financial year 2022-23.

Annexure referred in reply to parts (a)&(c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2622 dated 02.08.2022

State/UT-wise notified wage rates for unskilled worker under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS for the financial years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23.				
S. No.	State/UT	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	237	245	257
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	205	212	216
3	ASSAM	213	224	229
4	BIHAR	194	198	210
5	CHHATTISGARH	190	193	204
6	GUJARAT	224	229	239
7	HARYANA	309	315	331
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH - NON SCHEDULED AREA	198	203	212
8a	HIMACHAL PRADESH - SCHEDULED AREA	248	254	266
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR	204	214	227
10	LADAKH	204	214	227
11	JHARKHAND	194	198	210
12	KARNATAKA	275	289	309
13	KERALA	291	291	311
14	MADHYA PRADESH	190	193	204
15	MAHARASHTRA	238	248	256
16	MANIPUR	238	251	251
17	MEGHALAYA	203	226	230
18	MIZORAM	225	233	233
19	NAGALAND	205	212	216
20	ODISHA	207	215	222
21	PUNJAB	263	269	282
22	RAJASTHAN	220	221	231
23	SIKKIM	205	212	222
23a	SIKKIM(3 Gram Panchayat namely Gnathang, Lachung, Lachen)	308	318	333
24	TAMIL NADU	256	273	281
25	TRIPURA	205	212	212
26	UTTAR PRADESH	201	204	213
27	UTTARAKHAND	201	204	213
28	WEST BENGAL	204	213	223
29	GOA	280	294	315
30	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR			
30a	ANDAMAN	267	279	292
30b	NICOBAR	282	294	308
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	258	269	278
32	LAKSHADWEEP	227	266	284
33	PUDUCHERRY	266	273	281
34	TELANGANA	256	245	257