

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 934
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024**

MINIMUM WAGES FOR SANITATION WORKERS

934. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

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

- (a) whether it is true that there has been an increase in the total strikes partaken by sanitation workers in the year 2022-23;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to bring formal legislation to mandatorily set the minimum wage to be given to sanitation workers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether it is true that in some cases, total arrears of Rs.1,20,000 were not paid to sanitation workers, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether the Government has any plans on mitigating the issue of unpaid arrears and money owed to sanitation workers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) & (b): No such strike has been reported in respect of sanitation workers in the Central Sphere.

(c): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both the Central and the State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix, review and revise the minimum wages of the employees employed in the scheduled employments including "Employment of Sweeping and Cleaning" except activities prohibited under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 under their respective jurisdictions. A statement showing increase in the rates of wages on account of increasing Variable Dearness Allowance payable to the employees engaged in the Employment of Sweeping and Cleaning in the Central sphere is annexed.

Contd..2/-

(d): No such information has been reported in Central Sphere.

(e): Both the Central and the State Governments are appropriate Governments to enforce the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, including the provisions relating to non-payment of wages/minimum wages, in their respective jurisdictions. In the Central sphere the enforcement is done through the Inspecting Officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) and the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery. The designated inspecting officers conduct regular inspections and in the event of detection of any case of non-payment or underpayment of wages/minimum wages, they direct the employers to make payment of the shortfall of wages. In case of non-compliance, penal provisions prescribed under sections 17A and 20 of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and section 22 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, are taken recourse to.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) of Lok Sabha un-starred question no. 934 for 29.07.2024 regarding Minimum Wages for Sanitation Workers.

Area wise Rate of Minimum Wages for Employment of Sweeping and Cleaning in the Central Sphere
as on 01.04.2024

Scheduled Employment	Category of Workers	Rates of Wages including V.D.A per day (in Rs.)		
		Area A	Area B	Area C
Sweeping and Cleaning+	Unskilled	778	651	522

+ Employees engaged in the employment of Sweeping and Cleaning excluding Activities prohibited under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993.

(Contd/-)

Classification of Area

AREA – “A”					
Ahmedabad	(UA)	Hyderabad	(UA)	Faridabad complex	
Bangaluru	(UA)	Kanpur	(UA)	Ghaziabad	
Kolkata	(UA)	Lucknow	(UA)	Gurgaon	
Delhi	(UA)	Chennai	(UA)	Noida	
Greater Mumbai	(UA)	Nagpur	(UA)	Secunderabad	
Navi Mumbai		Pune	(UA)		
AREA – “B”					
Agra	(UA)	Gwalior	(UA)	Port Blair	(UA)
Ajmer	(UA)	Hubli-Dharwad	(M. Corpn)	Puducherry	(UA)
Aligarh	(UA)	Indore	(UA)	Raipur	(UA)
Allahabad	(UA)	Jabalpur	(UA)	Raurkela	(UA)
Amravati	(M.Corpn)	Jaipur	(M.Corpn)	Rajkot	(UA)
Amritsar	(UA)	Jalandhar	(UA)	Ranchi	(UA)
Asansol	(UA)	Jalandhar-Cantt.	(UA)	Saharanpur	(M.Corpn)
Aurangabad	(UA)	Jammu	(UA)	Salem	(UA)
Bareilly	(UA)	Jamnagar	(UA)	Sangli	(UA)
Belgaum	(UA)	Jamshedpur	(UA)	Shillong	
Bhavnagar	(UA)	Jhansi	(UA)	Siliguri	(UA)
Bhiwandi	(UA)	Jodhpur	(UA)	Solapur	(M.Corpn)
Bhopal	(UA)	Kannur	(UA)	Srinagar	(UA)
Bhubaneshwar	(UA)	Kochi	(UA)	Surat	(UA)
Bikaner	(M.Corpn)	Kolhapur	(UA)	Thiruvananthapuram	(UA)
Bokaro Steel City	(UA)	Kollam	(UA)	Thrissur	(UA)
Chandigarh	(UA)	Kota	(M.Corpn)	Tiruchirappalli	(UA)
Coimbatore	(UA)	Kozhikode	(UA)	Tiruppur	(UA)
Cuttack	(UA)	Ludhiana	(M.Corpn)	Ujjain	(M.Corpn)
Dehradun	(UA)	Madurai	(UA)	Vadodara	(UA)
Dhanbad	(UA)	Malappuram	(UA)	Varanasi	(UA)
Durgapur	(UA)	Malegaon	(UA)	Vasai- Virar City	(M.Corpn)
Durg-Bhilai Nagar	(UA)	Mangalore	(UA)	Vijayawada	(UA)
Erode	(UA)	Meerut	(UA)	Vishakhapatnam	(M.Corpn)
Firozabad		Moradabad	(M. Corpn)	Warangal	(UA)
Goa		Mysore	(UA)	Gorakhpur	(UA)
NandedWaghala	(M. Corpn)	GreaterVisakhapatnam	(M.Corpn)	Nasik	(UA)
Gulbarga	(UA)	Nellore	(UA)	Guntur	(UA)
Panchkula	(UA)	Guwahati	(UA)	Patna	(UA)
Area ‘C’ will comprise all areas not mentioned in this list.					
NB: U.A. stands for Urban Agglomeration.					
