

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4391  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002  
MINIMUM WAGES TO AGRICULTURE WORKERS LABOURERS  
MADHUSUDAN DEVRAM MISTRY

**Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of daily minimum wages rate that has been fixed for agriculture workers;
- (b) the date on which it was last revised in different States;
- (c) the details of the machinery to enforce minimum wages for agriculture workers/labourers, State-wise;
- (d) whether any complaint has been received by the Labour Commissioner in this regard;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to solve the problem?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a): The Central Government fixed the minimum wages of agricultural workers on 11.11.1999 as per details given below:

(Rs. per day)

Category Area `A` Area `B` Area `C`

Unskilled 75/- 69/- 67/-  
Semi-skilled 83/- 77/- 70/-  
Skilled 91/- 83/- 76/-  
Highly Skilled 101/- 93/- 83/-  
Clerical 91/- 83/- 75/-

The minimum wages are revised every six month by adding Variable Dearness Allowance linked to the Consumer Price Index.

(b): A statement showing the dates of revision of minimum wages for agricultural workers in various States is at Annexure-I.

(c) to (f): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and the State Governments are the appropriate Government to fix, revise and enforce minimum wages in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions. Agriculture is an employment in both Central as well as State sphere. The enforcement of the provisions of the Act in Central Sphere is secured through the officers of Central Industrial Relations Machinery and in the State Sphere, through State enforcement machinery. The officers of these machineries are appointed as Inspectors under the Act. They conduct regular inspections of the establishments and in the event of detection of any case of non-payment or less payment of minimum wages, they advise the employers to pay the shortfall of wages with or without compensation. There are also the provisions of legal and penal actions against the defaulting employers.

State-wise details of the strength of Central Industrial Relations Machinery are given in Annexure-II.