

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपको क्या पता है, मैं क्या खबराना चाहता हूँ।

This has no relevance to the main question.

SHRI R. N. RAKESH: It is very relevant.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

### केंचीहर मजदूरों की मजदूरी

\* 149. श्री नरसिंह मकवाना :

श्री माधव राव तिरुधिया :

क्या धन मंत्री निर्म्मालिखित जानकारी दधानं वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की क्या करणें कि :

(क) राज्यों में केंचीहर मजदूरों की दैनिक मजदूरी की दर क्या तय की गयी है और क्या मजदूरों का इस प्रकार तय की गयी मजदूरी दो जाली है और उनका नियमित रूप में मजदूरी मिलना गनिशित करने के लिए क्या प्रबन्ध किए गए हैं;

(ख) मारु क्षेत्र में उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक के अनुसार ममान मजदूरी तय करने में क्या कठिनाई है; और

(ग) क्या केंद्र सरकार ने न्यूनतम मजदूरी दानं राज्यों का इस बारे में कोई आदेश जारी किया है और यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी व्यापक क्या है ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) On the basis of the information supplied by State Governments and Administrations, a statement indicating the minimum rates of wages fixed by them for employment in agriculture is laid on the Table of the Sabha. Every effort is being made to ensure that the minimum wages fixed are actually paid to workers through various measures like tripartite committees at local levels and strengthening of enforcement machinery comprising inspectors appointed by the State Governments and officials of other departments.

(b) In view of the different stages of development in the various States and also in the region within the same State, varying pattern of consumption and cost of living, a uniform minimum wage is not considered feasible. The Conference of Labour Ministers in July, 1980 agreed that while absolute uniformity was not possible, there should not be too wide a disparity.

(c) The State Governments/Administrations have been requested to implement the recommendations of the 31st Conference of Labour Ministers in July 1980 that minimum wages should be reviewed and revised, if necessary, once at least in 2 years or on a rise of 50 points in consumer price index numbers, whichever is earlier. The Ministry of Labour monitors the progress of action in this regard.

#### Statement

Statement showing State-wise minimum wages in Agriculture (for unskilled workers) as on 1-2-1982 as reported by State Governments/Administrations

Name of the State	Date from which effective	Rates of Wages	Remarks
1	2	3	4
Central Government	15-9-1980	Rs. 5.10 to 7.50 according to area	Draft proposals for further revision were notified on 19-11-81.

	1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	.	7-2-1981	Rs. 4.25 to 10.00 per day according to areas.	
Assam	.	28-12-1981	Rs. 8.00 to 9.00 per day without meals or Rs. 7.00 per day with one meal according to occupation.	
Bihar	.	July, 1975	*Rs. 4.50 with one meal/nasta in unirrigated areas and Rs. 5.00 without meal/nasta in irrigation areas.	Draft proposals for further revision issued on 24-10-1981.
Gujarat	.	5-1-1976	Rs. 5.50 per day.	Advisory Committee has been appointed on 5-5-1980 to advise further revision of minimum wages.
Haryana	.	2-1-1980	Rs. 7.50 to Rs. 10.00 per day with meals or Rs. 9.00 to Rs. 12.00 per day according to type of work.	Proposals for fresh revision are under consideration.
Himachal Pradesh	.	1-1-1981	Rs. 7.25 per day.	
Jammu & Kashmir	.		Minimum Wages have not been fixed so far.	
Karnataka	.	2-10-1976	Rs. 3.25 to Rs. 5.60 per day according to class of operation and type of land	Draft proposals for further revision of minimum wages notified on 21-7-1981.
Kerala	.	1-8-1980	Rs. 7.45 per day for light work and Rs. 9.80 per day for hard work.	
Madhya Pradesh	.	1-1-1985	Rs. 7.00 plus special allowance per day linked to CPI compiled half-yearly.	
Maharashtra	.	1-11-1978	Rs. 4.00 to Rs. 5.50 per day according to areas.	Advisory Committee has been constituted on 11-3-81 to advise further revision.
Manipur	.	1-11-1980	Rs. 8.00 per day	
Meghalaya	.	1-3-1980	Rs. 7.50 with mid-day meal per day	
Nagaland	.	11-2-1981	Rs. 7.00 per day	State Govt. is considering revision of minimum wages.
Orissa	.	Dec., 1980	Rs. 5.00 per day.	
Punjab	.	31-1-1982	Rs. 11.00 per day with meals or Rs. 14.00 per day without meals.	

\*Minimum wages in Bihar are fixed in kind according to areas and types of land but where wage are paid in cash these should not be less than those stated above.

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan	1-1-1980	Rs. 6.25 to Rs. 8.00 according to areas.	
Sikkim		Minimum wages Act, 1948 not been extended.	
Tamil Nadu	15-9-1979	Rs. 5.00 to Rs. 7.00 per day according to type of operations except in East Thanjavur where wages rates have been fixed under the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labour Fair Wages Act, 1969.	Committee is being constituted for further revision of minimum wages.
Tripura	1-12-1979	Rs. 7.00 per day	
Uttar Pradesh	9-1-1981	Rs. 6.50 to Rs. 8.50 per day according to Zone.	
West Bengal	For Oct. 1981 to Sept. 1982	Adults—Rs. 9.58 per day Child—Rs. 6.89 per day	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1-10-1980	Rs. 6.50 per day	
Arunachal Pradesh		Minimum wages have not been fixed so far.	
Chandi Administration	28-4-1979	Rs. 7.70 to Rs. 9.00 per day with meal or Rs. 9.70 to Rs. 11.00 per day according to nature of work.	Draft proposals to revise minimum wages have been notified on 14-9-1981.
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15-4-1976	Rs. 5.50 per day	Advisory Committee to suggest further revision of minimum wages has been constituted.
Delhi Administration	1-1-1980	Rs. 9.25 per day	Delhi Administration have since revised Minimum Wages at Rs. 11.60 per day.
Goa, Daman & Diu	25-2-1976	Rs. 4.00 to Rs. 5.00 per day according to class of work.	Draft proposal to revise minimum wages have been notified on 6-2-81.
Mizoram		Fixation of minimum wages in agriculture is under consideration.	
Pondicherry			
(i) Mahe & Yanam region	1-5-1976	Rs. 4.75 to Rs. 9.00 per day according to areas and nature of work.	
(ii) Pondicherry & Karaikal region.	24-1-1981	Rs. 5.00 to Rs. 7.80 per day according to areas and nature of work.	Further proposals notified for revision in Karaikal region on 12-1-1982.
Lakshadweep		There is no agricultural worker in the Union Territory.	

श्री नरसिंह मकवाना : मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जुलाई, 1980 में श्रम मंत्रियों का जो सम्मेलन हुआ था और उस में जो निर्णय किये गये उस पर कई राज्य सरकारों ने अमल नहीं किया। 6 राज्यों में इस पर अमल किया गया, संशोधन किया, चार राज्यों ने सलाहकार समितियाँ बनाई हैं, वे कब अपना फसला देगी और कब वहाँ मजदूरी में संशोधन होगा, यह पता नहीं है। इस लिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ—31वें श्रम मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में जो फैसले हुए उन पर अमल कराने के लिए केंद्रीय सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

श्रम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भागवत भ्वा आजाद) : इस सम्मेलन में यह निर्णय किया गया था कि विभिन्न राज्यों में जो कार्यान्वय की मशीनरी है उसको मजबूत किया जाय। हम ने न केवल 31 वाँ, बल्कि 32 वाँ सम्मेलन भी बुलवाया था और इस बात पर जोर दिया था। प्रायः अधिकांश राज्यों ने अपने यहाँ मिनिमम-वेज में परिवर्तन कर लिया है। जहाँ पहले के एक्ट के अनुसार 5 वर्षों में संशोधन करने की बात थी, 31वें सम्मेलन में यह निर्णय किया गया कि दो वर्षों में कम से कम एक बार या कन्ज्यूमर प्राइस इन्डेक्स 50 प्वाइन्ट्स बढ़ जाय तो इस पर विचार किया जाय—इस पर सभी राज्यों का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है, समय समय पर उन से बात की है, उनको पत्र भी लिखा है तथा उनको मशीनरी को मजबूत कर के इसको कार्यान्वित करने की कोशिश की जा रही है।

श्री नरसिंह मकवाना : हाल में जो मजदूरी तय की गई है वह भी उनको नहीं मिलती है। मिसाल के तौर पर गुजरात में "साढ़े पांच रुपये" तय किये गये हैं लेकिन उनको नहीं मिलते हैं। ऐसी ही हालत दूसरे राज्यों में भी है। इस लिए जो मजदूरी तय की गई है वह उनको मिले, क्या इसके लिये सरकार कोई तन्त्र बनाया चाहती है या क्या करना चाहती है ?

श्री भागवत भ्वा आजाद : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सम्भव है कि देश के विभिन्न भागों में जो न्यूनतम मजदूरी राज्य सरकारों ने तय की है, कहीं-कहीं ऐसे पाकेट्स हों

जहाँ यह नहीं मिलती हो। इस बात को तरफ हम ने राज्य सरकारों का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया है कि ऐसे कई पाकेट्स हो सकते हैं जहाँ बढ़ी हुई मजदूरी न मिलने की सम्भावना हो, इस लिये उस तरफ विशेष ध्यान दिया जाये। राज्यों की जो मशीनरी है, उनके इन्स्पेक्टरों के कार्यान्वयन के लिये जाते हैं और अगर कहीं वायलेशन देखते हैं तो उसका सुधार करते हैं।

जहाँ तक गुजरात का उल्लेख माननीय सदस्य ने किया है, उसको देखने के लिये हम राज्य सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करेंगे।

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:**  
Sir, the effective implementation of minimum wages paid to agricultural workers affects the most needy sections of our country's population, namely, the rural proleteriat sometimes called 'Sarvahara varg'.

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** You call them as 'proleteriat'?

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:**  
You do not have a monopoly of such terms, Dr. Swamy.

**DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY:** I never used that term.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:**  
This is a section which is being given priority by the Government and must continue to receive principal priority if our country is to move forward in any meaningful manner. Sir, the working group of State Labour Ministers just a few months ago had recommended that the criterion for fixing minimum wages should be related to the basic needs of workers at the level of poverty line as defined by the Planning Commission. This recommendation as accepted by the Government will change the basis for minimum wages introducing for the first time a general minimum wage formula applicable as a general slide rule formula to all sectors of employment. According to the Planning Commission, the criteria of.....

**MR. SPEAKER** Please put the question.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** I am coming to that. Sir, this is a very important question, they are the most exploited sections of our country's population.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Put it in a question.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** You are interested in the agricultural labour.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am interested, but I am also interested in very pertinent questions.

**SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Yesterday you gave 25 minutes for each question.

According to the Planning Commission' criteria based on subsistence need, the minimum wage works out to Rs. 240- a month whereas most States are giving minimum wage at a rate varying from Rs. 4.50 to Rs. 6.50 per day which is far below this level. I would like to know whether the recommendations about this formula linking minimum wages to the basic needs are being considered by the Government and if so, when the Government is going to come to the decision on this.

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD:** Sir, we fully agree that the minimum wage should relate to the needy section of the society and we should continue to lay more and more stress on this. That is why, in the first 20-point programme as also in the second declared by the Prime Minister, this has been given a high priority and a place of importance.

The only misunderstanding of the hon. Member about the recommendations of the Ministers' Conference is this. There are two classes. One is the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 under which there is a schedule of employments for which the appropriate Government either the Centre or the State is empowered to announce the minimum wage. About this general wage that you are mentioning and linking of the wage with the price, the Labour

Ministers thought that there were large number of employments which were not under that schedule. Those are not under the 217 in the State or the Central list. But there are actually a large number of employments not covered by the schedule. They have said that for those who are below the poverty line, their wages and earnings generally should be uniform in the country. At least, it should be one and should not be below that. That is one important thing to which we agree and that is why, we propose that apart from the different States having the authority to announce a minimum wage or revise it after two years or after rise of every 50-points of consumer price index, there should be a concept of general minimum wage for employments not in the schedule which should not be below what the Planning Commission has fixed. That is the recommendation and for that, we are bringing forward a Bill to amend the Minimum Wages Act where we can provide this. This is an important recommendation and I attach importance to this.

**SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL:** You are aware that the agricultural workers are unemployed for more than nine months in a year. And because of their 9 months' unemployment in a year, they fall into the trap of the land owners in the villages. The land owners used to pay less wages to the agricultural workers. In view of this, I want to know from the hon. Minister if the Government will provide unemployment relief to the agricultural workers and create a welfare fund from which they will be given medical relief, housing facilities, pension facilities etc.? This welfare fund would benefit them. Is the Government interested in creating such a fund and at the same time, is it interested to give unemployment relief to the agricultural workers?

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD:** It is true that in a year, after the harvesting or the cultivation season is over, the agricultural labours in the villages of India are partly unemployed. This

is true and we all know that. That is why, we propose that whatever maximum we can do from our side should be done.

About unemployment relief etc., though we wish to do it, at present, Sir, it is very difficult to think in these terms due to the magnitude of the problem.

श्री शिव कुमार सिंह ठाकुर : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो स्टेटमेंट माननीय मंत्री जी द्वारा दिया गया है, जिसमें उन प्रदेशों के नाम बताये गये हैं जहाँ पर कि एग्रीकल्चरल लेबर के लिए यह कानून लागू किये गये हैं, मुझे आश्चर्य है कि इसमें वेस्ट बंगाल का नाम नहीं है।

(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने देखा है इसमें इफीक्टिव डेट्स भिन्न-भिन्न हैं। मध्यप्रदेश में यह 1-1-82 से लागू किया गया है, परन्तु वहाँ पर दूसरे रजिस्टर रखे जाते हैं, एक्ट के अनुसार रजिस्टर रखे जाते हैं। मजदूरों को बढ़ी हुई तन्स्वाह नहीं मिलती है। तो जिन राज्यों में मजदूरों की बढ़ी हुई तन्स्वाह नहीं मिलती है, उन्हें पिछले समय से बढ़ी हुई तन्स्वाह मिलेगी या नहीं मिलेगी ?

श्री भागवत भा आजाद : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने कहा है और मैंने स्वीकार किया है कि अधिकांश में बर्सा देश के ऐसे भागों से जाते हैं जहाँ से वे जानते हैं कि ग्रामीण मजदूरों की क्या स्थिति है। मैंने इस समस्या की विशालता और बहुलता को स्वीकार किया है। सभी जगहों पर देखा जा रहा है। जहाँ से शिकायत प्राप्त होती है वहाँ पर हम लिखते हैं, जांच भी करवाते हैं और कार्यवाही भी की जाती है। इसमें अधिक क्या किया जाना संभव हो सकता है ?

SHRI K. A. RAJAN: I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a fact that certain industries of an unorganised nature migrate from one State to another, like, handloom; bidi; cashew and so on. In his reply he has stated that they have issued instructions to see, as far as possible, that the

gap is filled up. But, unfortunately, the gap still exists to the disadvantage of certain States where those industries migrate. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will take stringent measures to see that it is made uniform.

MR. SPEAKER: That is relating to industries.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

MR. SPEAKER: It is impossible to accommodate everybody. I am calling one from this side and one from that side. If necessary, I can allow a discussion. It is my discretion. I am going to use it.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I hope you will share my views that there is a discrimination between the rural agricultural labour and the urban labour. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is proposing to have a price index formula as in the case of organised labour for the poor rural agricultural labour also and, if so, when?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: It is a fact and a very evident fact that there is a difference between the unorganised labour and the organised labour in regard to the formula. The formula for the organised labour is the basic wage along with the dearness allowance which is linked with the consumer price index. This is at present not so in the case of agricultural labour. That is true. We think that the formula of revision every two-years or on rise of index by 50 points to which Mr. Narsinh Makwana referred to is not satisfactory. This is an important suggestion. Can we think in terms of also linking it up according to the consumer price index? This has been the recommendation of the State Labour Ministers' Conference. We are considering it.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Unless you have voluntary organisations in the rural areas, it is impossible to implement the minimum wage among the

agricultural workers. Apart from the minimum wage and its implementation, I would like to ask a question. It is a long-pending issue of the Central Act for the agricultural workers. So many committees were formed. They have also given their suggestions and drafts. May I know whether the Minister will bring forward the Bill in the present session or at least in the coming session of Parliament?

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD:** The first part of the question is a moot one. The Hon. Member has very rightly said that for the implementation of the minimum wages in the rural areas, it is very important that we must have strong voluntary organisation and it is in this context that I appreciated the efforts of INTUC when they have organised a Conference.

(Interruptions)

Yesterday I went to them and, therefore, I appreciate.

(Interruptions)

You talk. They do. That is the difference. And, therefore, I appreciate their efforts to organise a Camp of Rural Organisers for the Grameen workers.

As regards the second part of the question about the Bill, you have rightly said that it has become old and, therefore, we propose to bring it before the House to amend it.

**श्री होरालाल आर. परमार :** मैं एक महत्व का सवाल पूछ रहा हूँ। गुजरात के अहमदाबाद डिस्ट्रिक्ट की सानन्द तहसील में 55 गांव हैं जिनमें दो रूपया पर डे मजदूरी नांगों का मिलती है। मैंने यह बात लिख कर भी मंत्री जी को दी है लेकिन आज तक उसका कोई जवाब नहीं मिला है। वहाँ दो रूपया रोज लेबरर्स का मिलता है। क्या उन पर आपका ला लागू नहीं होता है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनका क्षोषण से बचाने के लिए और रोजी रोटी देने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

**श्री भार्गवत झा अजाद :** यह बात स्पष्ट है कि गुजरात में भी न्यूनतम मजदूरी लागू है। अगर माननीय सदस्य इसको जानते हैं कि वहाँ दो रूपये मजदूरी मिलती है और वह कहते हैं कि उन्होंने लिख कर दिया है तो इस चीज को वह वहाँ की राज्य सरकार को भी कह सकते हैं, उन को प्रिन कर भी उनको कह सकते हैं और जहाँ तक हमारा सम्बन्ध है और यह सब है तो स्थिति को सुधारने का प्रयास हम करेंगे और किया जा रहा है।

#### Cheating of Indians from Lebanon by Job Agency

\*152. **SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY:**

**SHRI D. P. YADAV:**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news published in the 'Times of India' dated 3 February, 1982 to the effect that 31 Indians who came from Lebanon have been duped by a job agency in India;

(b) what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action has been taken against the firm?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI DHARMAVIR):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A group of 31 Indian nationals was recruited by some unscrupulous agents and promised job in a factory on monthly salaries ranging from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000, in Beirut. The agents allegedly charged each recruit Rs. 14000. Accompanied by the agents, they were flown to Dacca from Calcutta on December 27-28, 1981 in two batches on tourist Visas, from where they were taken to Damascus via Moscow, Sofia and Istanbul. From Damascus they were sent on their own to Beirut by bus, without possessing visas for Lebanon, with the assurance that they would be met by the agents in Beirut. On arrival in Beirut