

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) As per the available information, the minimum wages for unskilled agricultural labour fixed by various State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 are given in the Statement. [See Appendix 159, Annexure No. 56] The State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations as the appropriate governments fix/revise minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, taking into consideration the recommendations of the Advisory Boards and other relevant factors. Some State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have provided for variable dearness allowance while fixing minimum wages, to take care of the price rise.

#### Closure of WIMCO factory unit at Port Blair

\$\$ 1862-D. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to close down WIMCO Factory Unit at Port Blair;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that an Industrial Tribunal had given an award in favour of the workers of WIMCO, Port Blair Unit in respect of wage revision of worker;

(d) whether the said award has been implemented by the Management of WIMCO;

(e) if not, the reasons thereof;

(f) what action has been taken by Government to see that the said award is implemented;

\$\$Previously Unstarred Question No. 1537, Transferred from 1-8-91.

(g) the number of workers who would lose their jobs in the event of closure of WIMCO unit at Port Blair; and

(h) whether Government are considering refusal to permit closure of the unit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a), (b), (g) and (h) According to the information received from the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the management of the WIMCO Ltd. had applied for permission to close down its factory at Port Blair which employs 245 persons on the ground that it was incurring continuous loss caused *inter alia* by availability of splints at cheaper rates in the main land, increase in cost of diesel and transportation, increase in power tariff and lower productivity of labour. The Administration has rejected the application.

(c), (d), (e) and (f) The management of the WIMCO Ltd. has not implemented the award of the Industrial Tribunal in respect of revision of wages of its workers and has filed a writ petition against the award in the Calcutta High Court. The matter is sub judice.

सरकारी कय वेन्द्रों द्वारा गेहूँ को खरीद

\$\$\$1862. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा: क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की तैयारी करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 17 जुलाई, 1991 के "द टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया" में "पूर अर इन्स डिस्पष्ट रिकार्ड व्हीट क्रीप" शीर्षक के अधीन प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिया गया है;

\$\$\$पूर्व अंतरांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1682, दिनांक 1 अगस्त, 1991 से स्थानांतरित।