tate			Ogoverations.			Range of minimum wages per day	
		Occupations				Men	Women
6. Tamil Nadu 7. Kerala			•		Field workers	3.51 to	2·95 to
					Factory workers	3·65 3·76 to	3. 12 to
					Field workers	3·69*	3· 20*
					(B) Coffee		
1. Karnataka		•			Field workers	3. 20	2.95-
2. Tamil Nadu	•	•			Do .	3. 52 to	2.95 to-
					(C) Rubber	3.60	
1. Karnataka		٠.			Field workers	4.00	3.30
2. Kerala .	•				Field workers	4.81*	4.33*

^{*}Basic+D.A.

Manganese ore of India

1426. SHRI S. W. DHABE; Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Contract system is still functioning in the Manganese Industry specially Manganese Ore of India:
- (b) if so, what are the wages paid by contractors to their employees; and
- (c) what is the nature of work assigned to contractors and at what rates?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Information about contract system in manganese industry as a whole is not available. Contract system is however, functioning in six out of eight mines of the Manganese Ore (India) Ltd.

(b) In Manganese Ore (India) Ltd., the contractors pay wages to the workers as per itemwise rates fixed by the Company for different operations and different categories of workers. The rates fixed are such as to ensure that the earning of no

worker is less than the wages notified under the Minimum Wages Act.

- (c) The items of work normally assigned to contractors in Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. are:
- (i) Manual operations for development, mining, sorting dressing and cleaning of ore, (ii) transportation of ore from mines to siding, and (iii) loading of ore into wagons.

Information regarding rates payable to contractors is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revision of Minimum Wages

1427. SHRI S. W. DHABE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 242 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th February, 1975 and state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in some cases minimum wages have not been revised for the last ten years;
- (b) what steps 'Government are taking to ensure that every five years the wages are revised; and
- (c) what steps Government are taking for uniformity in minimum wages for all unskilled workers: throughout the country?