

State	Occupations	Range of minimum wages per day	
		Men	Women
6. Tamil Nadu	Field workers	3.51 to 3.65	2.95 to 3.10
	Factory workers	3.76 to 3.90	3.15 to 3.30
7. Kerala	Field workers	3.69*	3.20*
	(B) <i>Coffee</i>		
1. Karnataka	Field workers	3.50	2.95
2. Tamil Nadu	Do	3.52 to 3.60	2.95 to 3.01
	(C) <i>Rubber</i>		
1. Karnataka	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?

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

(b) The State Governments have been urged to carry out revisions in minimum wages, wherever due, keeping in view the requirements of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(c) Government do not have any such proposal for fixing a national minimum wage. Uniformity in minimum wages for all unskilled workers throughout the country may not be feasible for the reasons that the bulk of scheduled employments under the Minimum Wages Act falls in the State sphere and each State Government fixes or revises the minimum rates of wages keeping in view the circumstances obtaining in the State. The fact that scheduled employments are not the same in all the States and that fixation and revision take place at different points of time even within a State for different employments, also militate against uniformity.

#### **Recommendations of the Patiala Committee on Territorial Army**

1428. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the recommendations of the Patiala Committee Report on the reorganisation of the Territorial Army;

(b) if so, what were the main recommendations of the Patiala Committee and what are the recommendations which have been implemented and the reasons for not implementing the other recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the action taken on the main recommendations is attached. [See Appendix XCI, An-nexure No. 64].

#### **Construction of Paradip Port**

1429. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the date of commencement of the construction of the Paradip Port;

(b) the total outlay and the type of port, major or medium, which was envisaged and cleared by the National Development Council; when work commenced and whether the amount sanctioned by the Central Government was a loan or grant;

(c) the amount so far reimbursed to the State Govt., as a result of the take-over of the Paradip Port by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) 1st August, 1962.

(b) and (c) The State Government originally envisaged an estimate of about Rs. 12 crores for the development of Paradip as an intermediate port. The Port was taken over by Central Govt., with effect from 1st June, 1965 for development as a major port.

Central Government have made available to the State Government as loan an amount of Rs. 15.69 crores towards the State's investment in Paradip Port which they have been repaying to the Centre. A sum of Rs. 4.14 crores which was outstanding to be repaid by the State Government as on 31-3-1974 has been waived by the Centre in pursuance of the recommendations of the Six Finance Commission.

According to the financial arrangement worked out at the time of the take over of the Port, the capital investment of the State Government in the Port has been treated as a loan to the Port to be repaid by them to the State Government when the port is financially in a position to do so. Hence the question of reimbursement