

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) In central sphere no such trend has been observed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There are different categories of workers *i.e.* casual, contract, regular, temporary, badly workers who are engaged by the employer as per the requirement of the establishment and paid as per their entitlement.

(d) It is permissible for the employers to engage different categories of workers as per the requirements. However, the contract workers may not be employed on jobs/works which are prohibited under Section 10(1) of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970. The wages to the contract workers are paid as per the terms of the contract. Normally the wage rates paid to the contract workers are lesser than wage rates paid to the regular workers. Wherever, the contract worker perform the same and similar kind of job/work as that of the workman directly employed by the principal employer, the contractor shall be required to pay same wages and other conditions of services as is applicable to the regular workers in terms of rules 25(2)(V)(a) of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Rule, 1971. In case of disagreement with regard to type of work the same shall be decided by the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

#### **Social security scheme for Anganwadi and other workers**

1202. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Anganwadi Workers, Asha, Mid-Day Meal work, adult education teacher, informal school teachers and similar type of workers including domestic workers are also being covered by any social security scheme; and

(b) if no, what is the proposal of Government to include them in any social security scheme in a specific time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana The (RSBY) on 1st October, 2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000/- per annum on a family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008.

The scheme has been extended to some other categories of unorganised workers, including domestic workers. Though the endeavour of the Government is to extend the scheme to other segments in a phased manner, it has so far not been extended to Anganwadi Workers, Asha workers, Mid-Day Meal workers, adult education teachers, informal school teachers and similar type of workers.

**National minimum wages**

1203. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the minimum wages in different States of the country and the Central Government;
- (b) whether Government is working to implement a national minimum wages in the country within a stipulated time; and
- (c) in the era of globalization when everything is global, what are the reasons for the minimum wages, region-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) The range of minimum rates of wages for unskilled workers State-wise given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) Since the local conditions vary widely across the States, it is not feasible to have a uniform minimum wage for the whole country. The concept of National Floor Level Minimum Wage (NFLMW) was mooted on the basis of the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour (NCRL) in 1991 with a view to have a uniform wage structure and to reduce the disparity in minimum wages across the country. Keeping in view the recommendation of NCRL and taking into account the rise in price indices, the NFLMW was initially fixed at Rs. 35/- per day in 1996. The same has been revised from time to time and presently it is Rs. 115/- w.e.f. 1.4.2011.

Since NFLMW is a non-statutory measure, all the States/UT Governments have been requested that in none of the scheduled employments, the minimum wages should be less than the NFLMW. At present, there is a proposal to amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to make the NFLMW statutory.