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 Statewise 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.

(c) Disparity in rates of minimum wages in various regions of the country is inevitable. This is due to wide differences in socio-economic and agro-climatic conditions, prices of essential commodities, paying capacity, productivity and local conditions influencing the wage rate. The regional disparity in minimum wages is also attributed to the fact that labour is in the concurrent list under the Constitution and both the Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments to fix, revise and enforce minimum wages in scheduled employments in their respective jurisdictions.

Statement

Range of minimum wages for unskilled workers in different States/Union Territories

Sl.No.	States/Union Territories	Range of Minimum Wage for Unskilled
		Workers (In Rs. Per day)
	Central Sphere*	162.00-270.00
	State Sphere	
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	69.00-231.71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	134.62-153.85
3.	Assam*	100.42
4.	Bihar*	138.00- 144.00
5.	Chhattisgarh*	104.60-151.04
6.	Goa	150.00-157.00
7.	Gujarat*	100.00-181.80
8.	Haryana*	186.42
9.	Himachal Pradesh	120.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	110.00
11.	Jharkhand*	127.00-145.54
12.	Karnataka*	130.08-220.73
13.	Kerala*	85.20-353.00

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

270.00

200.00

100.00-205.00

Puducherry

Lakshadweep\*

Delhi\*

33.

34.

35.

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Written Answers to

<sup>\* =</sup> The system of VDA is in vogue.

<sup>11</sup> States/UTs have no VDA.