

Amar Patnaik (Odisha), Dr. Sikander Kumar (Himachal Pradesh), Shri Naresh Bansal (Uttarakhand), Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara (Gujarat), Shri Rambhai Harjibhai Mokariya (Gujarat), Shri Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba (Manipur), Shrimati S. Phangnon Konyak (Nagaland), Shri Pabitra Margherita (Assam), Shri Sujeet Kumar (Odisha), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar (Andhra Pradesh), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Sanjeev Arora (Punjab) and Shrimati Vandana Chavan (Maharashtra).

Demand to increase in MNREGA wage rate for the State of Punjab

SHRI SANJEEV ARORA (Punjab): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to take up this important issue. This is mainly regarding the State of Punjab. I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to a significant issue concerning the wage rate notified under MNREGA for the State of Punjab. The rate finalised for the State of Punjab is Rs.303 per day compared to higher rates in the neighbouring States, especially Haryana where it is Rs.357 per day. The minimum wage which the Government of Punjab has set is Rs.413 per day. My request is that not only in Punjab but also in the whole nation, MNREGA wages should match the minimum wages finalised by the State if it is higher. Otherwise, people would not like to work under MNREGA schemes. Two things have happened, that is, unemployment is there and the schemes are not be implemented. Even the total fund allocation on this account to the State of Punjab is going down as per official data from the previous years. In the light of these disparities, I humbly request the Government, through you, to intervene to re-evaluate the current wage rate under MNREGA for Punjab. It is imperative that the wage rate is increased to bring it at par with either the neighbouring States or the minimum wage, as set by the Government of Punjab. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR): The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Dr.Sanjeev Arora: Shri Santanu Sen (West Bengal), Dr. Amar Patnaik (Odisha), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala) and Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala).