

Wage Rates in Rural India

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Technical Working Group on rural retail prices set up by the NSSO in 1974, Labour Bureau has been compiling and maintaining average daily wage rate data in respect of eleven agricultural and seven non-agricultural occupations based on the data collected by the Field Operation Division of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) from a fixed set of 600 sample villages spread over 66 NSS region in 20 states. Though these wage rate data have been collected since 1986-87, their regular compilation and dissemination started w.e.f April, 1998.

The daily wage rate data received from the field are first normalized for eight working hours a day. The simple arithmetic average of these normalized daily wage rates is worked out for each of the 20 states. The average wage rates at all-India level are derived by dividing the sum total of wages of all the 20 states by the number of quotations. These averages are restricted only to those occupations where the numbers of quotations are five or more in order to avoid the apparent inconsistency in wages paid to different categories of workers on account of differences in number of quotations. The month-wise average daily wage rates are thus worked out at State level and also at all-India level are released regularly to the users through various sources.

In 2011, the PMO made certain observations with regard to the categorization of non agricultural occupations for collection of wage rate data and requested Ministry of Labour & Employment to revise the categorization of workers so as to capture the changes that have taken place in the occupational structure of rural labour since its categorization way back in 1974.

Labour Bureau took up the matter with Central Statistics Office (CSO) and requested them to constitute a Working Group for this purpose. Accordingly, the CSO, on advice of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), constituted a Working Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. T. S. Papola to deliberate on the issue of coverage of occupation category for collection of wage rate data in November 2012. The group deliberated upon the subject in three meetings and based on the inputs provided by members and different relevant organizations, has submitted the report which, inter alia, recommended 12 Agricultural Occupations and 13 Non-Agricultural Occupations (Annexure-I) as against the existing 11 Agricultural and 7 Non-agricultural Occupations (Annexure-II).

The report was accepted by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and accordingly Labour Bureau requested the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to collect the wage rate data as per the revised list. As NSSO has agreed to collect wage rate data as per revised list w.e.f November, 2013, Labour Bureau started the compilation, analysis and dissemination of wage rate data based on new categorization. State wise and all-India average daily wage rates by occupation and sex for the month of November are given in Annexure-III.

Revised List of Occupations

Sr. No.	Agricultural Occupations	Sr. No.	Non-agricultural Occupations
1	Ploughing/Tilling workers	1	Carpenter
2	Sowing (including Planting/ Transplanting/Weeding) workers	2	Blacksmith
3	Harvesting/Winning/Threshing workers	3	Mason
4	Picking workers (including Tea, Cotton, Tobacco and other commercial crops)	4	Weavers
5	Horticulture workers (including nursery growers)	5	Beedi makers
6	Fishermen-inland	6	Bamboo, cane basket weavers
7	Fishermen-coastal/deep-sea	7	Handicraft workers
8	Loggers and wood cutters	8	Plumbers
9	Animal husbandry workers (including poultry workers, dairy workers and herdsman)	9	Electrician
10	Packaging labourers, agriculture	10	Construction workers (for roads, dams, industrial & project construction work and Well diggers)
11	General agricultural labourers (including watering/irrigation workers, etc.)	11	LMV & Tractor drivers
12	Plant protection workers (applying pesticides, treating seeds, etc.)	12	Non-agricultural labourers (including porters, loaders)
		13	Sweeping/cleaning workers

Existing List of Occupations

Sr. No.	Agricultural Occupations	Sr. No.	Non-agricultural Occupations
1.	Ploughing	1.	Carpenter
2.	Sowing	2.	Blacksmith
3.	Weeding	3.	Cobbler
4.	Transplanting	4.	Mason
5.	Harvesting	5.	Tractor Driver
6.	Winnowing	6.	Sweeper
7.	Threshing	7.	Unskilled Labourers
8.	Picking		
9.	Herdsman		
10.	Well Digging		
11.	Cane Crushing		

1. WAGES AND EARNINGS

Table A.2.1 (a) - Average Daily Wage Rates for Agricultural Occupations in Rural India during

Sl. No	States	Ploughing/Tilling Workers			Sowing (including Planting/Transplanting/Weeding workers)		
		Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	278.82	@	-	227.66	158.17	-
2.	Assam	197.31	-	-	172.78	150.50	-
3.	Bihar	222.62	-	-	209.20	172.50	@
4.	Gujarat	157.92	@	-	133.33	133.18	-
5.	Haryana	340.00	-	-	305.56	297.14	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	391.56	-	-	317.86	@	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	@	-	-	@	-	-
8.	Karnataka	270.00	@	-	218.44	165.94	-
9.	Kerala	672.78	@	-	580.77	405.24	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	146.81	@	@	133.94	121.00	@
11.	Maharashtra	263.94	@	-	190.36	143.17	-
12.	Manipur	240.00	@	-	236.67	@	-
13.	Meghalaya	@	@	-	@	@	-
14.	Orissa	216.67	-	-	@	@	-
15.	Punjab	@	-	-	@	@	-
16.	Rajasthan	245.00	@	-	219.50	153.57	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	390.78	-	-	271.49	174.57	-
18.	Tripura	210.00	-	-	210.00	-	-
19.	Uttar Pradesh	187.00	@	-	188.70	145.67	@
20.	West Bengal	272.91	@	-	196.97	183.59	-
	All-India	263.98	182.81	@	218.45	175.45	126.11

November, 2013 (By States and Sex)

(in Rupees)

Harvesting/Winnowing/ Threshing workers			Picking Workers (including Tea, Cotton, Tobacco & other commercial crops)			Horticulture Workers (including Nursery growers)		
Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
214.36	147.17	-	206.06	157.06	-	206.11	143.33	-
180.71	158.33	-	197.33	161.00	-	@	-	-
184.38	167.45	@	@	@	@	186.11	132.86	-
133.33	131.25	-	128.89	128.89	-	@	@	-
339.00	337.78	-	326.25	308.57	-	@	-	-
302.43	@	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
@	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
217.00	162.71	-	216.00	135.63	@	225.56	161.67	-
501.14	424.81	-	-	-	-	@	@	-
140.16	126.34	@	@	@	@	@	@	-
207.55	153.81	@	181.67	175.93	@	204.17	132.50	-
250.00	216.00	-	-	-	-	@	@	-
@	@	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
176.13	145.21	-	-	-	-	@	@	-
@	@	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
280.91	258.18	-	286.67	233.57	-	-	-	-
327.83	211.38	-	@	129.00	-	360.90	154.38	-
210.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
200.00	165.95	@	-	-	-	@	-	-
203.16	185.87	@	@	@	-	238.06	212.00	-
212.11	178.11	153.69	208.19	174.52	145.83	227.94	155.96	-

Sl. No	States	Fishermen Inland			Fishermen Costal/Deep Sea			Loggers and Wood Cutters		
		Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
1	2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1.	Andhra Pradesh	186.90	@	-	-	-	-	239.55	@	-
2.	Assam	@	-	-	-	-	-	216.67	-	-
3.	Bihar	380.00	-	-	-	-	-	260.70	@	-
4.	Gujarat	@	-	-	-	-	-	166.67	-	-
5.	Haryana	@	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	492.50	-	-
8.	Karnataka	223.33	-	-	@	-	-	260.91	-	-
9.	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	-	966.12	-	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	134.13	121.67	@
11.	Maharashtra	@	-	-	@	-	-	246.67	@	-
12.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
13.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14.	Orissa	@	-	-	-	-	-	231.85	@	-
15.	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
16.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	210.00	-	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	@	-	-	-	-	-	376.81	@	-
18.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	308.89	-	-
19.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	@	@	-
20.	West Bengal	299.71	-	-	@	-	-	306.12	-	-
All-India		262.81	-	-	348.00	-	-	310.57	151.54	@

November, 2013 (By States and Sex)

Animal husbandry workers: including Poultry workers, dairy workers & Herdsman			Packaging Labourers			General Agricultural Labourers including Watering & Irrigation workers etc.			Plant protection workers (applying pesticides, treating seeds, etc.)		
Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
156.12	@	@	187.14	@	-	217.76	138.89	@	295.29	@	-
@	-	-	@	@	-	183.46	@	-	225.33	-	-
159.39	127.14	@	168.00	@	-	185.37	143.00	@	255.36	@	-
157.08	144.00	-	@	@	-	130.50	125.71	-	127.14	-	-
250.00	@	-	@	-	-	313.00	@	-	323.33	-	-
@	@	-	@	@	-	278.38	302.00	-	@	-	-
471.67	-	-	481.43	-	-	363.00	-	-	@	-	-
231.11	164.29	-	230.00	@	-	218.18	155.00	-	273.33	-	-
@	-	-	-	-	-	628.33	420.24	-	606.12	-	-
85.55	80.56	63.50	117.78	104.29	@	116.44	107.45	116.43	145.45	-	-
184.77	125.00	-	195.45	138.57	-	189.86	125.20	@	240.83	@	-
220.00	-	-	@	-	-	@	-	-	-	-	-
@	-	-	-	-	-	@	@	-	-	-	-
125.19	110.00	-	@	@	-	187.45	157.00	-	@	-	-
@	@	-	@	-	-	251.67	@	-	@	-	-
172.22	@	-	@	-	-	291.54	205.00	-	284.00	@	-
252.22	@	-	450.00	-	-	325.91	174.53	-	510.05	@	-
208.89	-	-	-	-	-	210.00	-	-	-	-	-
@	-	-	-	-	-	183.86	164.58	@	192.00	-	-
198.21	@	@	244.29	@	-	188.98	176.86	-	221.31	159.52	-
183.26	138.33	67.74	238.80	151.18	@	224.66	165.67	111.76	288.77	169.51	-

- = Indicates that the particular category of workers, i.e. men/ women /children were not engaged in that operation either because of their non-availability; or the activity connected with the occupation was not undertaken in the State; or the activity was out of season in the State, etc.

* =Picking includes picking of tea, cotton bolls, tobacco & other commercial crops

@ =Number of quotations are less than five.

A.2.1.(b) – Average Daily Wage Rates for Non-agricultural Occupations in Rural India during

Sl. No	States	Carpenter			Blacksmith			Mason		
		Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	270.23	-	-	195.41	-	-	311.67	@	-
2.	Assam	282.96	-	-	231.33	-	-	282.59	-	-
3.	Bihar	294.78	-	-	253.65	-	-	331.74	-	-
4.	Gujarat	275.45	-	-	191.00	-	-	291.82	-	-
5.	Haryana	413.33	-	-	318.33	-	-	444.17	-	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	443.78	-	-	387.71	-	-	443.78	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	422.73	-	-	496.67	-	-	410.00	-	-
8.	Karnataka	269.75	-	-	218.00	-	-	288.43	-	-
9.	Kerala	690.69	-	-	679.29	-	-	699.51	-	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	183.04	-	-	162.44	@	-	226.16	@	-
11.	Maharashtra	274.39	@	-	234.57	@	-	337.83	-	-
12.	Manipur	300.00	-	-	290.00	-	-	333.33	-	-
13.	Meghalaya	@	-	-	@	-	-	@	-	-
14.	Orissa	289.29	-	-	190.00	-	-	308.85	-	-
15.	Punjab	394.33	-	-	@	-	-	384.33	-	-
16.	Rajasthan	391.25	-	-	347.78	-	-	446.05	-	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	450.26	-	-	362.86	-	-	494.61	@	-
18.	Tripura	310.00	-	-	200.00	-	-	360.00	-	-
19.	Uttar Pradesh	311.61	-	@	238.57	-	@	355.54	-	-
20.	West Bengal	260.06	-	-	193.72	-	-	300.81	-	-
All-India		315.83	@	@	253.54	@	@	350.91	@	-

November, 2013 (By States and Sex)

(in Rupees)

Weavers			Beedi Makers			Bamboo, cane basket weavers			Handicraft Workers		
Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
160.00	@	-	@	111.57	-	179.29	130.18	-	@	-	-
@	-	-	@	-	-	220.00	-	-	@	-	-
245.83	@	-	152.00	@	-	145.83	@	-	@	@	-
@	-	-	@	@	-	@	-	-	@	@	-
@	-	-	@	-	-	@	@	-	@	-	-
@	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
@	-	-	@	@	-	268.33	@	-	@	@	-
-	@	-	@	@	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
@	@	@	104.00	92.00	@	108.00	88.00	-	@	@	-
@	@	-	@	@	-	215.63	160.00	-	@	-	-
@	208.33	-	-	-	-	@	@	-	@	@	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
@	-	-	@	@	-	@	@	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
299.67	@	-	@	@	-	@	-	-	@	-	-
300.00	-	-	200.00	-	-	300.00	-	-	300.00	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
@	@	-	134.83	@	@	110.95	97.78	@	@	@	-
236.20	186.45	@	164.20	116.41	72.00	208.31	142.67	@	271.56	133.30	-

Sl. No	States	Plumbers			Electrician			Construction Workers (for roads, dams, industrial & project construction work & well diggers)		
		Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
1.	Andhra Pradesh	315.04	-	-	312.86	-	-	233.14	170.44	-
2.	Assam	@	-	-	400.00	-	-	213.00	@	-
3.	Bihar	287.12	-	-	316.92	-	-	224.35	178.89	-
4.	Gujarat	303.33	-	-	199.17	-	-	172.00	162.00	-
5.	Haryana	450.00	-	-	440.00	-	-	333.00	@	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	423.43	-	-	447.43	-	-	330.29	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	607.14	-	-	580.00	-	-	415.71	-	-
8.	Karnataka	333.33	-	-	320.00	-	-	318.89	273.33	-
9.	Kerala	651.42	-	-	653.92	-	-	-	-	-
10.	Madhya Pradesh	270.00	-	-	193.18	-	-	151.38	135.22	150.00
11.	Maharashtra	293.75	-	-	322.73	-	-	281.67	189.74	-
12.	Manipur	@	-	-	@	-	-	300.00	-	-
13.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	@	-	-
14.	Orissa	@	-	-	242.36	-	-	202.93	138.33	-
15.	Punjab	@	-	-	@	-	-	@	@	-
16.	Rajasthan	388.57	-	-	371.11	-	-	278.75	244.44	-
17.	Tamil Nadu	472.96	-	-	457.00	-	-	364.10	244.10	-
18.	Tripura	300.00	-	-	300.00	-	-	200.00	-	-
19.	Uttar Pradesh	@	-	-	@	-	-	185.71	152.00	@
20.	West Bengal	344.64	-	-	325.79	-	-	198.07	163.73	-
All-India		397.69	-	-	365.34	-	-	247.41	182.76	146.67

November, 2013 (By States and Sex)

(in Rupees)

LMV & Tractors drivers			Non-agricultural labourers (Including porters, loaders)			Sweeping/ Cleaning Workers		
Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
250.04	-	-	225.45	174.06	@	135.98	112.58	-
@	-	-	200.78	183.33	@	178.75	@	-
229.77	-	-	212.88	183.54	-	228.75	@	-
192.65	-	-	174.38	@	-	@	@	-
379.09	-	-	318.18	-	-	246.00	256.22	-
282.81	-	-	250.40	@	-	@	@	-
@	-	-	364.29	-	-	-	-	-
265.21	-	-	189.23	154.44	@	173.06	141.07	-
666.82	-	-	617.32	@	-	-	492.90	-
192.07	-	-	124.52	90.83	69.44	126.44	127.22	@
267.44	-	-	195.97	101.11	@	169.81	135.45	@
357.14	-	-	@	-	-	@	@	-
-	-	-	@	@	-	-	-	-
221.96	-	-	182.31	151.25	-	@	@	-
316.00	-	-	@	-	-	@	@	-
332.00	-	-	243.75	226.43	-	@	@	-
441.03	-	-	352.43	237.56	-	112.27	170.97	-
300.00	-	-	200.00	-	-	210.00	-	-
213.80	-	-	189.81	174.37	@	163.70	144.76	@
420.08	-	-	195.79	@	-	@	@	-
291.47	-	-	237.98	173.80	86.76	182.82	188.87	@

-= Indicates that the particular category of workers, i.e. men/ women /children were not engaged in that operation either because of their non-availability; or the activity connected with the occupation was not undertaken in the State; or the activity was out of season in the State, etc.etc

@ =Number of quotations are less than five.

Note:- The average daily wage rates at all-India level are derived by dividing the sum total of wages by number of quotations of all the states taken together.