

Chapter 23

MONTHLY STATISTICS OF WAGES

- Object** **23.1.** Government of India feels that at present, statistics of wages of agricultural labour are not collected in a uniform method in all the States. Most of the States do not collect this information at all, while the information collected by one or two States cannot be tabulated for all India purposes. The information available for the country in this respect is that given in the "Quinquennial Wages Census Report". Even this census is not carried out simultaneously in all the States and so it has been difficult to form an idea of the comparative variations in the level of wages paid to the agricultural labour. Agricultural wages constitute a major item in the cost of the production of crops and it is essential to have an idea of the actual variations in this item, in order to assess the trends in agricultural costs. It is necessary, therefore, that statistics of wages of agricultural labour prevailing in the selected villages in each State should be regularly collected on a uniform basis.
- Standard Proforma** **23.2.** The form in which the information regarding the wages has to be collected is attached. The information should be collected in this form and after being consolidated, should be sent to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi through the Director of Land Records. The report should relate to the ordinary skilled labour and the unskilled casual labour employed on a daily wage rate and paid either in kind or in cash. The cash wages as well as the equivalents of wages paid in kind and their totals in cash equivalents should be given in this proforma. The wages of men, women and children in case of unskilled labour should be shown separately. Ordinarily, women and children do not occur in case of skilled labour and if there be any isolated case, that should be left out.
- Periodicity** **23.3.** The data as per proforma should be collected on monthly basis and the wages reported therein should be those most *commonly current* during the month. The data should relate to the calendar months. The primary reporting agency should generally send the data for the month on the 2nd of the next month to the District headquarters, where it should be scrutinized, and if necessary consolidated by the end of the first week of the month and sent immediately to the Director of Land Records. The Director of Land Records should be able to consolidate the data for the whole of the State by the middle of the 2nd week of the month and send copies to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture so that the same could be received there by the end of the 2nd week of the month. For example, the data for October, 1989 should be sent by the primary reporting agency to the district headquarters on the 2nd of November, by the district headquarters to the Director of Land Records by the 6th or 7th of November, by the Director of Land Records to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture by the 12th or 13th of November.
- Agency** **23.4.** This data will be collected through patwaris and field Kanungos and its consolidation at district headquarters will be done in the Sadar Kanungo's office. The Distt. Revenue Officer at the district headquarters should properly scrutinise the returns received from the primary reporting agencies and will be responsible for the accuracy and punctual submission of the same to the office of the Director of Land Records.
- Consolidation and Publication** **23.5.** The consolidated statements showing the statistics of wages of agricultural labour at the different centres will be published in the official Gazette. An advance copy of the same will be sent to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics as pointed out in Paragraph 23.2 above.

Selection of Centres

23.6. Such information on the prevailing wage rates should be collected from each district of the State. In each district one village may be selected so as to represent the wages and general agriculture conditions of the district. It shall be appreciated if more than one village in one district are selected, particularly, from non-homogeneous parts of the district.

Classification

23.7. Since the wages paid vary with the type of the work, it will be necessary to specify the nature of the work to which the wages relate. For this purpose the following classification is proposed:-

(i) Skilled labour.

(a) Carpenters;

(b) Black-smiths;

(c) Cobblers; (Mochies);

(ii) Field labour.

(iii) Other agricultural labour;

(iv) Herds-men.

The definitions and sub-classification are given in the proforma:-

District _____

STANDARD PROFORMA

CLASSIFICATION OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATION FOR REPORTING WAGES FOR THE

MONTH OF _____ 19

NAME OF TEHSIL _____ WORKING HOURS _____

Classification	Wages Rs.....
1. Skilled labour	
a) Carpenter:	
b) Blacksmith:	
c) Cobblers:	
2. Field Labour*	
A. Ploughmen	
B. Sowers and Transplanters	
i) Men:	
ii) Women:	
iii) Children:	
C. Weeders:	
i) Men:	
ii) Women:	
iii) Children	

Classification	Wages Rs.....
D. Reapers and Harvesters	
i) Men:	
ii) Women:	
iii) Children	
3. Other agricultural labour	
i) Men:	
ii) Women:	
iii) Children	
4. Herdsmen**	
i) Men:	
ii) Women:	
iii) Children:	

Signature

Counter Signature

*These include ploughmen, sowers, reapers, harvesters, weeders, transplanters, etc.

**These include coolies employed for watering the fields, load carriers, coolies, well-diggers, labourers cleaning silt from water-ways, embankments etc.