

[AS PASSED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY]

A

BILL

further to amend the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance 1969 in its application to the Islamabad Capital Territory.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance, 1969 (W.P. Ordinance XX of 1969), for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement:- (1) This Act may be called the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers(Amendment) Act, 2015.

(2) It shall come into force at once and shall be deemed to have taken effect from the dates specified in the Schedule to the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance, 1969 (W.P. Ordinance XX 1969).

2. Amendment of Schedule to the Ordinance XX of 1969.- In the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance, 1969 (W.P. Ordinance XX of 1969), in the Schedule, for the entries in column (2), the following corresponding entries shall be substituted, namely:-

“8000 pm (w.e.f. 1st July, 2012 till 30th June, 2013)

10000 pm (w.e.f. 1st July, 2013 till 30th June, 2014)

12000 pm (w.e.f. 1st July, 2014 till 30th June, 2015)

13000 pm (w.e.f. 1st July, 2015)”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Provincial Governments in their budgets for the year 2013-14 have enhanced the rates of minimum wages for unskilled workers from Rs. 8,000/- per month to Rs. 10000/ per month from 1st July, 2013. The Provincial Governments have also issued notification to increase minimum wages from Rs. 8,000/- per month to Rs. 10,000/- per month under the minimum wages Ordinance 1969. The Finance Minister in his speech in the Senate Standing Committee for Finance in June, 2013 announced to enhance the minimum wages of unskilled workers from Rs. 8000/- to Rs. 10,000/- per month. The Finance Minister in this Budget speech 2014-15 has also announced that "the minimum wages would be increased from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 12,000/- per month for welfare of labour class (w.e.f. 1st July, 2014 till 30th June, 2015) and 13000 pm(w.e.f. 1st July, 2015). The minimum wage notified by the Provincial Governments under the Minimum Wages Ordinance, 1969 is applicable to a very small segment of the workers, working in industrial establishments given in the notification, while the minimum wages provided in the schedule of the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance, 1969 is applicable to all industrial establishments. Moreover, the employees' Old Age Benefits institution (EOBI) is facing difficulty to collect contribution according to minimum wages announced by the Federal Government. As the Employees' Old-Age Benefit Act, 1976 reckons rates of wages as declared under the Minimum wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance, 1969. Therefore, this bill to amend the schedule of the said Ordinance of 1969 is proposed.

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Member-in-charge