File No. 6/1/2026-VDA
Government of India
Ministry of Labour & Employment
Labour Bureau
Chandigarh

Dated: 30 September,2026

ORDER

In exercise of the powers conferred by Central Government vide Notification No. S.O. 2451(E) dated 12th May, 2026 of the Ministry of Labour and Employment the undersigned hereby revises the rates of Variable Dearness Allowance w.e.f. 01.10.2026 on the basis of the average Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers reaching 431.42 from 424.80 as on 30.06.2026 (linked to Base 2016=100) and thereby resulting in an increase of 6.62 points. The revised Variable Dearness Allowance as under shall be payable from 01.10.2026

I. The rates of Variable Dearness Allowance for employees employed in **WATCH & WARD (without arms)** shall be as under:-

AREA	RATES OF V.D.A. PER DAY (in Rs.)
A	387
B	354
C	300

Therefore, the minimum rates of wages showing the basic rates and Variable Dearness Allowance payable w.e.f 01.10.2026to employees employed in WATCH AND WARD (without arms) shall be as under:-

AREA	RATES OF WAGES PLUS V.D.A PER DAY				
	Basic Wages (Rs.)		V.D.A. (Rs.)		Total (Rs.)
A	637	+	387	=	1024
B	579	+	354	=	933
C	494	+	300	=	794

II. The rates of Variable Dearness Allowance for employees employed in **WATCH AND WARD (with arms)** shall be as under:-

AREA	RATES OF VDA PER DAY (in Rs.)
A	418
B	387
C	354

Therefore, the minimum rates of wages showing the basic rates and Variable Dearness Allowance payable w.e.f 01.10.2026 to employees employed in WATCH AND WARD (with arms) shall be as under:-

AREA	RATES OF WAGES PLUS VDA PER DAY				
	Basic Wages (Rs.)		VDA. (Rs.)		Total (Rs.)
A	693	+	418	=	1111
B	637	+	387	=	1024
C	579	+	354	=	933

The VDA has been rounded off to the next higher rupee as per the decision of the Minimum Wages Advisory Board.

The classification of workers under different categories will be same as in Part-I of the Notification No. S.O. 191(E) dated 19th January, 2017 of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, whereas classification of cities will be same as in the Part-II of the notification dated 19th January, 2017. The present classification of cities into areas A, B & C is enclosed at Annexure I for ready reference.

The instant notification is being issued in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 69 of the Code on Wages, 2019 (29 of 2019).

(Shyam Singh Negi)
Director General
Labour Bureau