

**12. AVERAGE DAILY WAGES PAID TO AGRICULTURAL AND SKILLED
LABOURERS 2001-02 TO 2009-10**

(In Rupees)

Type of Labour		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ploughmen	Men	149.55	169.67	170.13	173.35	201.77
	Women					
Sowers and Transplanters	Men	76.67	85.00	89.17	89.00	92.50
	Women	41.94	40.12	46.11	49.18	57.90
Weeders	Men	34.00	-	-	-	-
	Women	36.87	37.03	40.22	45.69	51.38
Reapers and Harvesters	Men	60.13	85.92	81.24	90.97	110.52
	Women	50.15	52.54	49.94	51.57	63.35
Other Agricultural Labourers	Men	81.30	84.43	91.93	98.49	105.15
	Women	35.00	35.00	38.17	41.46	48.85
Skilled Labourers	Carpenter	124.11	136.04	141.98	144.64	145.56
	Blacksmith	81.77	82.40	84.64	96.25	107.56

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

**12. AVERAGE DAILY WAGES PAID TO AGRICULTURAL AND SKILLED
LABOURERS - 2001-02 TO 2009-10 (contd)**

(In Rupees)

Type of Labour		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
(1)		(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Ploughmen	Men	217.50	261.83	300.67	370.00
	Women				
Sowers and Transplanters	Men	120.00	133.21	166.25	202.86
	Women	60.07	75.81	80.57	107.10
Weeders	Men	-	117.50	162.50	200.00
	Women	50.21	70.69	77.99	103.85
Reapers and Harvesters	Men	120.44	134.48	154.71	220.29
	Women	72.93	88.99	97.00	211.20
Other Agricultural Labourers	Men	108.19	130.54	162.88	185.77
	Women	48.54	75.83	91.04	100.00
Skilled Labourers	Carpenter	142.85	178.82	214.72	264.79
	Blacksmith	101.04	139.17	150.31	154.59

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Puducherry.

The average daily wages of women in Agricultural activities was Rs.130.54 as compared to Rs.202.23 for men during 2009-10. The difference prevalent in the average daily wages of women and men is also an evidence for gender discrimination.

Women's contribution to agriculture whether it be subsistence farming or commercial agriculture when measured in terms of the number of tasks performed and time spent, is greater than men. Most of the work the women do like collecting fuel, fodder and water or growing vegetables, or keeping poultry for domestic consumption goes unrecorded in the Census counts.

Women generally earn lower wage than men doing the same work. It has been estimated that women's wage rate are, on the average only 75% of men's wage rates and constitute only one fourth of the family income. In no state do men and women earn equal wages in agriculture. Also women work in the informal sector where wages are lower and they are not covered by labour laws. Within organizations, women generally hold lower-paid jobs. Women workers are also engaged in piecework and subcontracting at exploitative rates.

Women's work is undervalued and unrecognized. Women work longer hours than men and carry the major share of the household and community work that is unpaid and invisible. There are far fewer women in the paid workforce than there are men. There are more unemployed women than unemployed men.

Women usually spend a higher proportion of their income they earn, on food and basic needs i.e. for purchase of goods and services that promote nutrition, health and general well-being of their families. Hence, increasing women's income can have a greater positive impact on these outcomes. The effect of women's income also has a benefit on women's own dietary intake. Hence there is a need to enhance the knowledge and income of women.