

Minimum Wages *

Fixed by	Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix, review and revise the minimum wages of the workers employed in the scheduled employment consisting of agriculture and non-agricultural sector under their respective jurisdictions. Minimum Wages Act, 1948 was enacted to safeguard the interest of workers mostly in unorganized sector .
Half yearly revision	Minimum wages also include Variable Dearness Allowance which is linked to Consumer Price Index and revised half yearly in April and October

Prices of Petrol and Diesel *

Market based	The prices of Petrol and Diesel have been made market determined by the Government effective 26th June, 2010 and 19th October, 2014 respectively.
Who decides price	Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). RSP of petrol and diesel in the country are not linked to the international crude oil prices but are linked to the international prices of petrol and diesel.
Price of CNG/PNG	fixed by the concerned City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities as per market dynamics.

Daily revision of fuel pricing *

Daily revision allows any fall in international oil rates to be passed on to consumers immediately rather than having to wait for 15 days as in the old system,

Earlier, the state-run oil marketing companies used to review and revise retail fuel prices every fortnight on the basis of global crude oil prices.

Prices of petrol and diesel are now revised at 6 a.m. every day.

Dynamic fuel pricing is followed in many developed countries and India opted for it as a response to the recent volatility in global crude oil prices.

Plant load factor (PLF) in the Power Sector

About PLF	Suppose 250MW capacity thermal plant running at 200MW capacity then PLF is 80%.
Why in news	Most of the power plants in India are running at low PLF
Reason of low PLF	In India, there is demand of electricity but State Govts. do not have sufficient money to pay as most of the State owned power distribution companies (Discoms) are running at losses
Govt. Initiative	Govt Launched Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) in Nov 2015 for operational and financial turnaround of State owned Power Distribution Companies (DISCOMs).

Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD)*

Flue Gas Desulfurization is a process of removing Sulphur from flue gas of Thermal power plant before it is released into the atmosphere.

Indian coal is high in ash, but is low in sulphur. However, coal is also imported from Indonesia, Australia and South Africa for fuelling thermal power plants. This imported coal is high in sulphur content while being low in ash.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has made it compulsory to install Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) system in the existing and upcoming thermal power plants to curb SOx emissions.