

## Higher wages in plantations

Our Bureau

Thiruvananthapuram, November 16:

Plantation owners are reported to have agreed to provide raised wages to the labourers effective this month.

This transpired at the end of a meeting of the Plantation Labour Committee here late on Monday evening.

However, a decision on a higher bonus payout as well as giving retrospective effect to wages has been deferred, it is reliably learnt.

The raised minimum wages will now be paid as per the terms of the agreement reached between plantation owners, trade union representatives and the government during the meeting held here on October 14.

The raised minimum wages are a long way off the original demand for ₹500 per day against the existing rates which start at ₹232.

The new wages applicable for different type of plantations are: ₹301 for tea and coffee; ₹330 for cardamom; and ₹381 for rubber.

These rates comprise the basic pay and dearness allowance. On adding up the statutory benefits, the total emoluments work out respectively at ₹436, ₹478, and ₹552.

(This article was published on November 16, 2015)