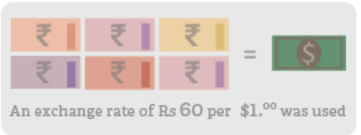
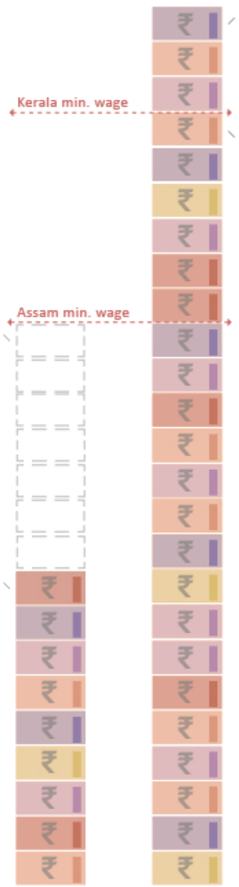
Tea Worker Wage Comparison

Daily wage for tea plantation workers in Assam, India



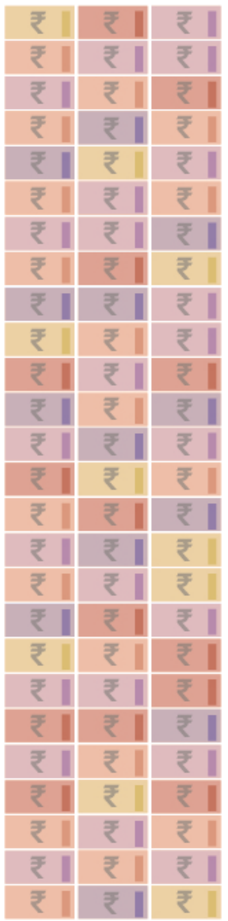


Rs 169 | $2.81
Minimum wage in the state of Assam is 169 rupees per day for an unskilled laborer

Rs 94 | $1.57
Tea plantation workers in Assam earn 94 rupees per day *before deductions* for housing, electricity, healthcare and others basic amenities

Rs 254 | $4.23
Workers on tea plantations in Kerala, India earn 254 rupees per day, nearly 3 times the wage in Assam

Rs 224 | $3.73
Unlike Assam, in Kerala tea garden workers earn 30 rupees *over* the minimum wage of 224 rupees per day



Rs 777 | $12.95
A 125 gram package of Twinings' "Assam" loose leaf tea costs 777 rupees, over 8 times the daily wage of the tea garden workers who pick it

Daily wage for worker in **Assam**

Daily wage for worker in **Kerala**

Cost for 125 grams of Twinings' **"Assam" Tea**

The Stark Reality

Despite producing almost 1/6th of the world's tea, plantation workers on tea gardens in Assam, India earn around $1.50 a day due to colonial-era wage policies.

Corporations owning the gardens are expecting a turnover of Rs 33,000 crore, over $5.4 billion USD, annually by 2015 while their workers live in abject poverty and social isolation.