

Despite slowdown, Indo Rama gives staff wage hike

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Nagpur: Amidst news of job cuts and scaling down of perks, this is one bucks the trend. Polyester major Indo Rama Synthetics India Limited has agreed upon a wage hike deal with the workers' union. This would ensure a minimum hike of Rs 2,500 and a maximum of Rs 3,100 to 850 workers in its Butibori plant. The workers will reap the benefits over three years.

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Though the final wage pact is yet to be signed, both the parties have agreed to this new scheme of wage hike, said sources in the labour department.

The pact will ensure a hike of Rs 814 in the first year for the workers covered in the Rs 2500 bracket, while those getting in the Rs 3100 slab would get an immediate hike of around Rs 1034, said the source.

Wage pacts are drawn in

co-ordination with the labour department in the respective state in which the industrial unit is located.

"The company would like to give consistent wage hikes ensuring healthy industrial relations," said a senior official in the Indo Rama unit. "However, the finer modalities are yet to be decided."

The earlier wage agreement, which was valid for three years was due to end. Negotiations were underway on a fresh one, say sources. Normally in industrial units, wage agreements are for a period of three years after which the union and management hold fresh negotiations.

Both the labour union and management put up a charter of demands to each other. While the former asks better working conditions the later stresses for more productivity.

"This is a real surprise," said an independent observer. "The company was facing tough times due to high crude prices and it had to shut down a part of its unit for over a month too."