

**MANUBHAI KOTADIA:** (a) to (d). The project Report for construction of barrage across the Ganga near Kanpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 151 crores was received at the Centre for techno-economic appraisal. The State Government has been advised to modify the report on the basis of the model studies.

### **Revision of Wages of Anganwadi Workers**

2260. **DR. C. SILVERA:** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the wages of Anganwadi workers engaged in the child welfare activities in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government also propose to grant minimum wages to these workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor with relevant rules for such refusal?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA):** (a) and (b). The proposal for revision of honoraria of anganwadi workers engaged in the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in rural and tribal areas and urban slums is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d). No such proposal is under consideration. The anganwadi workers under the ICDS programme are part-time (4 1/2 hours daily) voluntary workers selected from the local community. Therefore, only honorarium is paid to them.

### **Orphanages and Employment opportunity for them**

2261. **SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:** Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) how many orphanages are in India;

(b) how many orphans are therein these orphanages;

(c) whether any educated unemployed orphans are there in these orphanages poor homes;

(d) whether Government propose to consider reservations in employment for them; and

(e) whether Government also propose to consider orphans at Par with SC/ST regarding age bar for employment opportunity?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):**

(a) and (b). The information on the total number of orphanages in the country is not available with us. Orphanages are established and run by Central and State Governments, voluntary organisations, private bodies and individual with or without government support. Ministry of Welfare, however, provides grants under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for welfare of children in need of care and protection since 1979-80 with the help of State Government to 914 Destitute Homes where approximately 46,000 children are provided care and protection.

(c) Under the scheme mentioned above children are kept in homes upto the age of 16 or 18 years. This period is extendable for providing further education and vocational training to children with a view to fully rehabilitate them wherever necessary.