

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1695
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006
RETIREMENT AGE OF ANGANWDI WORKERS
Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the retirement age fixed for government employees is also applicable to the Anganwadi Workers and helpers;
- (b) if not, the age limit upto which AWWs/AWHs continue to work, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government propose to make any uniform service rules for them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of benefits extended by Union Government/State Government separately?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): The matter regarding age limit upto which services of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers could continue, has been left to the State Governments for taking an appropriate view in the matter. Some States have fixed the age limit of 58/60 years.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): in recognition of the services being discharged by them, the government has extended the following benefits:-

Ã~ Honorarium doubled in the year 2002, to Rs. 100/- per months for AWWs & Rs. 500/- for AWHs.

Ã~ Allowed paid absence on maternity at par with women employees of organized sector.

Ã~ The GOI has introduced Anganwadi Bima Yojana w.e.f.

1.4.2004 under Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Scheme.

Ã~ In order to motivate AWWs and give recognition to good voluntary work, a scheme to awards for AWWs has been introduced both at the national and state level. The award comprises Rs. 25,000/- cash and citation at centre level and Rs. 5,000/- cash and citation at State level.

Apart from the above, many State Governments are giving monetary benefits to AWWs/AWHs out of their own resources for extra work being done by them under other than ICDS Scheme.

State Government have also been requested to:-

~ Consider services rendered by AWWs as additions qualifications for recruitment as Primary School Teachers, ANMs & other such village based posts.

~ Recruit at least 25% of supervisors under ICDS Scheme from matriculate AWWs with 10 years' experience.

~ Set up AWWs & Helpers Welfare Fund at the State/UT level out of the contributions from AWWs/AWHs and State/UT Governments.

~ Set up Grievance Redressal Machinery at the State/UT level & Distt. Level for prompt redressal of grievances.