

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:277

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2011

ASHAS

Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal; Rama Devi Smt.

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the works being carried out under the Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) initiative alongwith the duties assigned to ASHAs activists;
- (b) whether the Government has initiated any scheme/programme to train ASHAs for undertaking home based deliveries in the rural India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether ASHAs have demanded revision of their wages; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 277 FOR 19TH AUGUST, 2011

The ASHAs are expected to serve as a facilitator of services provider of community level care and as a social mobilizer. The ASHA is expected to conduct home visits, for preventive and promotive care, and provide community level curative care, prioritizing those households which have a newborn, a pregnant mother, a malnourished child or a child below two years. In addition, she is expected to attend the Village Health and Nutrition Day, accompany pregnant women to the facility, if required, hold village meetings, and maintain a planning register to make her work easier.

The ASHAs are not trained in conducting delivery.

ASHAs are not paid fixed wages. They are paid performance based monetary incentives for different activities like JSY, immunization, family planning (sterilisation), Village Health Nutrition Days (VHND) etc.

Demand for payment of fixed honorarium to ASHAs has been made, but as ASHAs are voluntary workers, this demand has not been agreed to. Ministry has taken steps to increase the incentives and activities where incentives are paid, to enhance monthly take home money of ASHAs.