GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:377 ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013 TENURE OF ANGANWADI WORKERS Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

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

- (a) whether the tenure of Anganwadi workers has been fixed by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether benefits like pension, gratuity and other allowances are given to the said workers on completion of their tenure;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the manner in which Government proposes to assist/protect the interests of such workers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) to (e): ICDS Scheme envisages the Aganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) as "honorary workers" from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part-time basis, in the areas of child care and development. Being honorary worker there are no fixed tenure in number of years. However, the age of their disengagement from honorary service has now been fixed at maximum 65 years. The States / UTs are free to fix lower age of disengagement.

AWWs/AWHs are paid fixed honorarium per month as decided by the Government from time to time. Since AWWs / AWHs are honorary workers, the benefits like pension, gratuity and other allowances are not applicable to them. However, the Central Government has been endeavoring its best to secure greater benefits to the AWWs/AWHs. The States / UTs also provide benefits to the AWWs / AWHs from their own resources.