

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:260

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

HONORARIUM TO ANGANWADI WORKERS

Raj Dr. Udit;Teacher Smt. P.K.Sreemathi

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

- (a) the number of Anganwadi workers/helpers in the country along with the vacant posts of Anganwadi workers/helpers across the country, as on date, State/UTs-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to regularise the services of Anganwadi workers/ helpers and bring them at par with the Government employees in terms of salary, allowances, promotion, accommodation and other facilities, if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the rate of honorarium presently being paid to the Anganwadi workers/helpers and the date/year when the said honorarium was last revised in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to enhance the honorarium of Anganwadi workers/ helpers, if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the honorarium is likely to be enhanced and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has received any proposal from States/UTs seeking financial assistance for making payment of honorarium to Anganwadi workers and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the action taken /being taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the table of the house.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 260 FOR 13.03.2015 REGARDING HONORARIUM TO ANGANWADI WORKERS

(a): There are 12.93 lakh honorary Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) out of 14 lakh AWWs sanctioned in the country leaving 1.07 lakh vacant honorary posts of AWWs across the country as on 31.12.2014. In addition, there are 11.65 lakh honorary Anganwadi Helpers out of 12.83 lakh Anganwadi Helpers sanctioned in the country leaving 1.18 lakh vacant honorary posts across the country as on 31.12.2014. State-wise details are given at Annex-I.

(b): The Government does not have any proposal to regularize services of Anganwadi Workers/ Helpers and to bring them at par with the Government employee. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme envisages the Anganwadi 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 area of child care and development. Being honorary workers, they are paid monthly honoraria as decided by the Government from time to time. In a ruling of 7.12.2006 in Civil Appeal No.4953-4957 of 1988 – State of Karnataka & Ors. Vs. Ameerbi & Ors, the Hon'ble Supreme court has held that AWWs and AWHs do not hold any civil post and Minimum Wages Act is not applicable to them.

(c) & (d): Anganwadi Workers(AWWs), being honorary workers, are paid monthly honoraria as decided by the government from time to time. The honorarium to AWWs is revised from Rs.1500/- per month to Rs.3000/- per month and AWWs of Mini-AWCs & AWHs from Rs.750/- to Rs.1500/- w.e.f. 1.4.2011. The honorarium to AWWs of Mini-AWCs has been further revised from Rs.1500/- to Rs.2250/- w.e.f. 4.7.2013. Apart from these, additional amount of honoraria are also being paid by most of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations from their own resources as per details given at Annex-II. The Government has been revising the rate of honoraria to these frontline honorary workers from time to time.

(e) Payment of honoraria to the AWWs/ AWHs forms part of the ICDS (General) funds which are released to the States/ UTs periodically on the basis of Annual Programme Implementation Plans submitted by them and approved by the Government of India. Details of funds released to States / UTs under ICDS (General) for the year 2014-15 (as on 28.2.2015) are given at Annex-III.