

an>

Title: Need to address the problems of Anganwadi workers in the country-Laid.

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (CHALAKUDY): The Anganwadi workers and helpers are carrying out various works under the ICDS scheme of Central Government. The National Policy for Children, Government of India provided minimum health facilities for women and children through the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) which was launched in 1975. Under the scheme, supplementary nutrition is given to children below 6 years age, nursing of expectant mothers, nutrition and health education for women in the age group of 15-45. Immunization of all children less than 6 years and co-ordinating the policies of various departments to promote child development.

More than millions of Anganwadi workers and helpers working all over India under this scheme are getting only meager wages for their work. Some of them are more than 70 years old who joined at the time of introduction of this scheme and presently they are not capable to carry out the welfare work due to their old age.

I, therefore, request the Government to fix age of superannuation for Anganwadi workers and start a monthly pension scheme for them. Apart from that the present monthly salary is meagre one. Kindly enhance the amount and modify the ICDS manual scientifically since it was prepared 35 years ago.