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Title: Regarding accepting to the demands of ASHA workers and consider their regularization as government employees and fixation of minimum wages.

SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL: At present, ASHA workers are being paid incentive for their performance at the rate of Rs. 300 per delivery, Rs. 150 per FP case and Rs. 150 for follow up of immunization after delivery. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I have told that the privilege notice is with me. आप बैठिए, आप हरेक की वकालत मत कीजिए, बैठ जाइए।

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Only Shri B.B. Patil's statement will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL: On an average, ASHA workers are getting only Rs. 1,500 per month. This amount is shared by both the Central Government and the State Government and paid through DMHO. ...(*Interruptions*) The demands of the striking employees include according recognition to ASHA workers as second Auxiliary Nurse Midwives and issuance of health cards and insurance; Rs. 15,000 per month salary against incentives; pending salary amount of 39 months of community health workers; pension, gratuity and maternity leaves; demand of pending bills, uniforms and other due payments; increase of *Prasuti Seva* incentive; and TA / DA allowances as they also have to visit habitations and keep officials informed about the outbreak of any seasonal diseases. ...(*Interruptions*)

It is not out of place to mention here that ASHA workers belonging to the Health Department have to discharge duties such as attending to women during labour pain; educate rural women on good health practices; and take care of new-born babies among many others, which are practically very difficult. ...(*Interruptions*) They are also responsible for the implementation of health schemes launched by the State and Central Governments, and they play a key role in the society. ...(*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: अब अपनी बात समाप्त कीजिए, शून्य काल में इतना नहीं बोलते और पूरा पढ़ते भी नहीं हैं, सिर्फ संक्षेप में अपनी बात कहते हैं।

SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL : But, unfortunately, they are not considered as health workers by the Government and are paid very less amount of money as incentives. ...(*Interruptions*) Be it mid-day meal, Anganwadi or ASHA workers, several Governments changed, but their intentions and policies remained the same. ...(*Interruptions*)

Hence, I would request the Government to be sensitive to the demands of ASHA workers and consider their regularization as Government employees and fixation of minimum wages, which are genuine. ...(*Interruptions*) Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER : Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Shri Shivkumar Udasi are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bhemrao B. Patil.

...(*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष: मैंने पहले ही कह दिया है कि it is under my consideration.