Bill No. 199 of 2022

THE NURSING SERVICES (REGULARISATION OF SERVICE AND WELFARE) BILL, 2022

By

SHRI RITESH PANDEY, M.P.

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BILL

to provide for regularisation of the services of nursing and conferring the status of not less than those of Group 'C' employee of the Central Government on such nursing services.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Nursing Services (Regularisation of Service and Welfare) Act, 2022.

Short title, extent and commencement.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

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(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Office Gazette, appoint.

Definitions.

- 2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,
- (a) "National Health Mission" means National Rural Health Mission and National Urban Health Mission started by the Central Government to implement the health system at all levels;
- (b) "nursing services" means any person working as a nursing staff including Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery (ANM), General Nursing Midwifery (GNM) and others on regular or contract or daily wages basis under the National Health Mission; and
 - (c) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

Regularisation of services of Nursing Services.

- 3. (1) The Central Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, take all such steps as may be necessary to regularize the services of nursing and confer the status of not less than those of Group 'C' employees of the Central Government on all such nursing services.
- (2) The Central Government shall also provide such wages and welfare facilities as are available to, or not less than, Group 'C' employees of the Central Government.

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Savings.

4. The provision of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of the provisions of any other law for the time being in force.

Power to make rules.

- **5.** (1) The Central Government shall, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out all purposes of this Act ensuring the service status and welfare of the nursing services.
- (2) Every rule made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions aforesaid both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rules shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity or anything previously done under that rule.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

National Health Mission was started by the Central Government to implement the decentralized model of health system at all levels in the country. It includes ambitious projects to provide equitable, affordable and quality health care for rural areas under the 'National Rural Health Mission' and for urban areas under the 'National Urban Health Mission'. The contribution of nursing services are remarkable and has become an integral and essential part of life for better health ecosystem in rural and urban areas. The nursing services under national health mission are first promoters and on ground implement warriors of schemes of the Central and State Governments. The duties and service rendered by the nurses are very important for the protection of the health and welfare of women, children, poor, disabled, old age people and vulnerable sections. The nursing services do not have job security and the honorarium given to them are not sufficient to meet their immediate basic requirements. This may adversely affect the working and motto of the National Health Mission.

The nursing services such as ASHA, ANMs, GNMs and others are the main links between Government and general public. They are helping the Government for the effective implementation of health scheme and due to their dedicated services popularly known as 'Corona warriors' during the pandemic of COVID-19. Considering the importance of their duties and service it is highly necessary to protect their service and welfare.

Hence this Bill.

New Delhi; 06 *July*, 2022.

RITESH PANDEY

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for regularization of the services of nursing and confer the status not less than those of Group 'C' employees of the Central Government on all such nursing services. It also provides for such wages and welfare measures as are available to or not less than Group 'C' employees of the Central Government to nursing services. The Bill, therefore, if enacted would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. A recurring expenditure of about rupees three thousand crore is likely to be involved per annum from the Consolidated Fund of India.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees three thousand crore is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM OF DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 5 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purpose of the Bill. As the rules will relate to matters of detail only, the delegation of legislation powers is of a normal character.

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