As introduced in Lok Sabha

Bill No. 260 of 2022

THE ANGANWADI WORKER'S WELFARE BILL, 2022

By

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN, M.P.

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BILL

to provide for welfare of Anganwadi workers employed across the country and to ensure that they are provided with all social security benefits.

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 Anganwadi Worker's Welfare Act, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, bynotification in the Official Gazette, specify.

2. In this Act, until unless the context otherwise requires:—

(*a*) "anganwadi worker" means any person employed to provide additional and supplementary healthcare and nutritional services to children and pregnant women under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS Scheme); and

Short title and commencement.

Definitions.

(b) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

 Welfare of ASHA worker.
 3. (1) The Central Government shall, for the purpose of welfare of ASHA workers,—

(a) ensure a minimum of honorarium of rupees twenty thousand per month which shall be reviewed every five years taking into account the prevailing inflation;

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(b) provide a personal accident insurance cover of rupees ten lakhs to each Anganwadi workers;

(c) provide a health insurance cover of rupees five lakh on floater basis which shall be reviewed every five years; and

(d) provide a life insurance cover of rupees twenty lakh to each Anganwadi worker.

(2) The premium in respect of the personal accident insurance, health insurance and life insurance cover to Anganwadi workers under sub-section (1) shall be borne by the Central Government.

Power to remove difficulty.

4. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as appear to it to be necessary or expedient, for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of a period of two years 20 from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be laid before each House of Parliament.

Power to make rules.

5. (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order published in the Official Gazette, make provisions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as appear to it to be necessary or expedient, for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall, as soon as may be after it is made, be 30 laid before each House of Parliament.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Anganwadi workers form the backbone of India's healthcare system. They are the grassroot workers who have significantly contributed for betterment of our country's progress. As a result of this, it's important that we acknowledge their contributions. The present remuneration paid for the service of these exemplary healthcare warriors is highly inadequate. Moreover, there is no proper social security for these workers. Considering the present circumstances, it's important that we provide them with adequate social security. This Bill incorporates the minimum amount of wages for Anganwadi worker's and also incorporates social security measures such as personal accident insurance, health and life insurance for these workers.

Hence this Bill.

New Delhi; November 21, 2022 M.K. RAGHAVAN

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for payment of Honorarium to the Anganwadi workers by the Central Government. It further provides for payment of insurance premium by the Central Government. It also provides for contribution to pension fund of Anganwadi workers by the Central Government. The Bill, therefore, if enacted would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. A recurring expenditure of about rupees twenty thousand crore is likely to be involved per annum from the Consolidated Fund of India.

A non-recurring expenditure of rupees hundred crores is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

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

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(Shri M.K. Raghavan, M.P.)