

Bill No. 70 of 2023

THE ANGANWADI WORKERS OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR
ISLANDS (REGULARIZATION OF SERVICE
AND WELFARE) BILL, 2023

By

SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA, M.P.

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BILL

to provide for regularization of the services of Anganwadi workers in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands by giving them status of permanent employee of the Government and for matters connected therewith.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called as the Anganwadi Workers of Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Regularization of Service and Welfare) Act, 2023.

Short title,
extent and
commencement.

5 (2) It extends to the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands only.

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

Definitions.	<p>2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—</p> <p>(a) “anganwadi” means an anganwadi centre set up by the Central Government or Union Territory Administration in the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to implement the Integrated Child Development Scheme;</p> <p>(b) “anganwadi worker” means any person working in an anganwadi on regular or contract or daily wages basis;</p> <p>(c) “helper” means a person who has been engaged to assist Anganwadi workers in discharge of their duties under Integrated Child Development Scheme; and</p> <p>(d) “prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Act.</p>	5
Regularization of services of Anganwadi workers.	<p>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 Anganwadi workers and helpers employed in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and confer the status of not less than those of Group ‘C’ employees of the Central Government on all such Anganwadi workers.</p> <p>(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.</p>	10 15
Accommodation to Anganwadi workers.	<p>4. The Central Government shall take steps to provide housing facilities to the Anganwadi workers and helpers within the vicinity of their workplace.</p>	15
Committee for welfare of Anganwadi Workers.	<p>5. (1) There shall be constituted a Committee for the socio-economic development of Anganwadi workers employed in Andaman and Nicobar Islands to be known as the Committee for Welfare of Anganwadi Workers.</p> <p>(2) Subject to the provisions of any law made in this behalf by Parliament, the Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and three other Members and the conditions of service and tenure of office of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other Members so appointed shall be such as Parliament may by law determine.</p> <p>(3) The Committee shall have the power to regulate its own procedure.</p> <p>(4) It shall be the duty of the Committee—</p> <p>(a) to investigate and monitor all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Anganwadi workers under any law in force at the time of the commencement of this Act, or under any other law for the time being in force or under any order of the Government and to evaluate the working of such safeguards;</p> <p>(b) to inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards of the Anganwadi workers;</p> <p>(c) to advise on the socio-economic development of the Anganwadi workers and to evaluate the progress of their development in the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;</p> <p>(d) to bring about synergy between technology and public policy and recommend measures for enhancing income and employment potential of the Anganwadi workers through training and reforms in the health sector; and</p> <p>(e) to discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the Anganwadi workers.</p>	20 25 30 35 40
Provisions of the Act to be in addition to other laws.	<p>6. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force.</p>	40

7. (1) The Central Government may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act. Power to make rules.

(2) Every rule made under this Act 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
5 may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive session aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule 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
10 shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Anganwadi Centres were started in this country by the Central Government and State Governments for implementation of the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme. It includes the comprehensive development of health awareness among women and child welfare. The contribution of Anganwadi Centres is remarkable and has become an integral and essential part of life in rural areas. The Anganwadi workers are good promoters of various schemes of the Central Government and State Government and ensuring the health and welfare of children and women. The duties and services rendered by the Anganwadi workers are very important for the protection of the health and welfare of women and children. The Anganwadi workers 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 of the Integrated Child Development Scheme.

The Anganwadi workers are one of the main links between the Government and the general public. They are helping the Government for the effective implementation of health programmes. Considering the importance of their duties and service, it is highly necessary to protect their service and welfare.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
February 28, 2023.

KULDEEP RAI SHARMA

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides for regularisation of the services of anganwadi workers and helpers and confers the status not less than those of Group 'C' employees of the Central Government on all such workers. 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 anganwadi workers. Clause 4 provides for accommodation to Anganwadi workers. Clause 5 provides for constitution of a Committee for Welfare of Anganwadi Workers. It also provides for appointment of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member to the Committee. The Bill, therefore, if enacted would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. A recurring expenditure of about rupees three hundred crore is likely to be involved per annum from the Consolidated Fund of India.

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

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 7 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 powers is of a normal character.

LOK SABHA

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