

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1360
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2017

REGULARISATION OF SERVICES OF ANGANWADI WORKERS/HELPERS

1360. SHRI NIHAL CHAND

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government proposes to regularise the services of Anganwadi workers/helpers in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government regarding modernisation of Anganwadis in the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme [now renamed as Anganwadi Services under Umbrella ICDS Scheme] envisages the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) as “honorary workers” from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part time basis, in the area of child care and development.

AWWs and AWHs are honorary workers. Further, the Supreme Court of India in a ruling of 07.12.2006 in Civil Appeal No.4953-4957 of 1998 State of Karnataka & Ors. Vs. Ameerbi & Ors. The Hon’ble Supreme Court has also held that AWWs/AWHs do not hold any civil post.

- (b) With an aim to provide each Anganwadi Centre with its own building, joint guidelines have been issued by Ministries of Women & Child Development, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on 17.02.2016 for construction of 4 lakhs Anganwadi Centre buildings across the country by 2019 under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in convergence with Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. Under the convergence plan, expenditure up to Rs.5 lakh per AWC building for construction is allowed from MGNREGS. Expenditure beyond Rs.5 lakh per AWC including finishing, flooring, painting, plumbing, electrification, wood work, etc. is to be met from the ICDS funds, to the extent of Rs.2 lakh.

Drinking water and sanitation facilities in these AWC buildings are leveraged from the funds available with Panchayati Raj Institutions under 14th Finance Commission.
