

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 815
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH DECEMBER, 2018**

WELFARE OF ASHA WORKERS

815. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the State/UT-wise details of number of ASHA workers enrolled and the monthly remuneration and other benefits given to ASHA workers;
- (b) whether the Government has taken note that the remuneration given to the ASHA workers is very low considering that the duties and service rendered by them; (c) if so, the details of the action taken by the Government for increasing the remuneration and other welfare measures of ASHA workers;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to regularize the service of ASHA workers considering the essential and permanent requirement of their service, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to give the ASHA workers salary and other benefits of Group D employees in the Central Government service; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of ASHA workers, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a): The State/ UT wise number of ASHAs is at Annexure. Under the National Health Mission, ASHAs are envisaged to be community health volunteers and are entitled only to task/activity based incentives. Apart from incentives approved for ASHAs at national level, States have the flexibility to design ASHA incentives. The quantum of incentives earned by the ASHAs depends on activities undertaken and the population covered by her.

(b) & (c): The incentives to ASHAs finalized at the national level are regularly reviewed by the Government and activities for which ASHAs would get incentives are expanded from time to time. In 2013 ASHA incentives were enhanced for many activities and new incentives for routine and recurring activities were introduced to ensure that ASHAs get at least Rs. 1000/- per month subject to her carrying out the activity. The Union Cabinet has recently approved increase in the amount of routine and recurring incentives under National Health Mission for ASHAs that will enable ASHAs to get at least Rs 2000/- per month subject to ASHAs carrying out the activities. The Union Cabinet has also approved inclusion of ASHAs and ASHA facilitators that meet the eligibility criteria to be enrolled in social security schemes implemented by Government of India namely, the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana. In addition, States also provide monetary and non-monetary incentives to ASHAs out of state budget

(d) & (e): There is no such proposal under consideration. As mentioned in reply to part (a), ASHAs are community health volunteers.

(f): As per guidelines, ASHAs are selected based on population norm of one ASHA per 1000 population. When the population exceeds one thousand, another ASHA can be engaged. However, however in tribal, hilly and desert areas the norms are relaxed to one ASHA per habitation irrespective of population size, depending on the workload, geographic dispersion, and difficult terrain. In urban areas the selection norm is one ASHA for every 1000-2500 population and when the population covered increases to more than 2500 another ASHA can be engaged.

Annexure

Status of ASHAs Selected/In-Position under NHM				
S.No.	States/UTs	ASHAs Selected (Rural)	ASHA-In Position (Urban)	Total ASHAs
1	Bihar	87611	409	88020
2	Chhattisgarh	66713	3295	70008
3	Himachal Pradesh*	32342	32	32374
4	Jammu & Kashmir	11853	63	11916
5	Jharkhand	40964	240	41204
6	Madhya Pradesh	70340	3749	74089
7	Odisha	46757	1449	48206
8	Rajasthan	58528	4098	62626
9	Uttar Pradesh	154776	5072	159848
10	Uttarakhand	11086	561	11647
11	Arunchal Pradesh	3837	42	3879
12	Assam	30619	1155	31774
13	Manipur	4009	81	4090
14	Meghalaya	6516	165	6681
15	Mizoram	1091	79	1170
16	Nagaland	1887	37	1924
17	Sikkim	641	25	666
18	Tripura	7590	356	7946
19	Andhra Pradesh	39009	2660	41669
20	Goa	0	0	0
21	Gujarat	39237	4052	43289
22	Haryana	17369	2484	19853
23	Karnataka	37001	2672	39673
24	Kerala	28115	1820	29935
25	Maharashtra	60670	8407	69077
26	Punjab	18904	2191	21095
27	Tamil Nadu	3905	0	3905
28	Talengna	29257	3142	32399
29	West Bengal	54628	5380	60008
30	A & N Islands	407	0	407
31	Chandigarh	14	16	30
32	D & N Haveli	456	59	515
33	Daman & Diu	88	9	97
34	Delhi	0	5749	5749
35	Lakshadweep	110	0	110
36	Puducherry	0	0	0
Total		966330	59549	1025879

Source: NHM-MIS report

Note * Including Link worker