

Regarding problems of ASHA workers

SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY (TIRUPATI): Thank you, Madam.

I would like to draw the kind attention of the House to the dismal working conditions of Anganwadi Workers, ANM Workers, ASHA Workers, and Resource Persons working under SERP & MEPMA schemes. These workers, who play a crucial role in the welfare of our society, are currently being paid wages far below the minimum standard, leading to conditions akin to bonded labour. ? (*Interruptions*)

Despite their significant contributions, the minimum wages provided to them are insufficient to meet their basic needs. The compliance with the Minimum Wages Act in these sectors remain poor, with widespread reports of violations.

I urge the Government to take immediate steps to ensure that these workers are provided fair wages in accordance with the Minimum Wages Act. ? (*Interruptions*)

Furthermore, I request that comprehensive social security schemes be extended to cover them, including provident funds, health benefits, and to recognize their service and ensure their financial security. Fair compensation and social security are their rights, not a privilege, Madam.

Thank you, Madam.