

Need to address the grievances of ASHA workers of Kerala-Laid

SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): I wish to bring the attention of the Government towards the ongoing agitation of ASHA workers in Kerala, which has now crossed three weeks. These frontline health workers, the backbone of our primary healthcare system, are fighting for their basic rights like increase in honorarium, withdrawal of arbitrary dismissal at the age of 62 without retirement benefits and for a special retirement package. These workers have served the nation tirelessly, especially during the pandemic, risking their lives for public health. Their dedication deserves recognition, not neglect. Union ministry should intervene to ensure their grievances are heard and resolved. I urge the Union Health Ministry to intervene in this matter for a dignified resolution to this issue. The welfare of ASHA workers is not just a state matter but a national responsibility. Also, if any contributions from Union government for the ASHA workers of Kerala are pending, they should be released at the earliest.