

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:351
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
COMMITTEE ON ANGANWADI WORKERS/SAHAYIKAAS
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have set up a National Committee in the Department of Women and Child Development to take stock of the service conditions and work of the Anganwadi workers and Sahayikaas and also to identify the Ministries/Departments/States who agreed to provide additional benefit to the Anganwadi workers and Sahayikaas under the Centrally sponsored ICDS scheme;

(b) if so, whether the said committee has submitted its report to the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the implementation of its recommendations by Government of Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA)

(a),(b)&(c): A National Committee was set up in 1998 to review benefits/facilities provided to Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi Helpers under the ICDS Scheme. The Committee submitted its Report in 2001. The recommendations made by the National Committee, inter-alia, included enhancement of honorarium of Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi Helpers; maternity leave benefits at par with women employees of organized sectors; scheme of Awards to dedicated Anganwadi workers and Helpers; community contribution for raising their remuneration; setting up of Anganwadi Workers' Welfare Fund and provision for contributory Group Insurance by the State Governments.

The Central Government has increased the honoraria of Anganwadi Workers by Rs.500/- p.m. and that of Anganwadi Helpers by Rs.240/-p.m. w.e.f. 1.4.2002; Anganwadi workers and Helpers have been allowed paid absence of 135 days on maternity; Scheme of Awards to dedicated Anganwadi workers has been introduced.

All the State Governments, including Bihar, have been requested to take action on other recommendations of the Committee. Some State Governments viz. Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Goa, Punjab, Tripura and Union Territory Administration of Chandigarh, Daman & Diu and A & N Island have intimated that they are providing additional honorarium to Anganwadi workers and Helpers from their own resources.