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Title: Need to recognise Anganwadi workers and helpers as Government employees. – Laid.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): I stand here to draw the attention of the Minister of Human Resource Development to the letter nom. 25.02.95 CD-II dt. 07.08.1996 of Department of Women and Child Welfare, wherein it was clarified that the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers are "Social Workers" and have not been recognised as Government Employees. As such they cannot be required to retire. But in recent past several States, Panchayats, Mothers' Committees are terminating hundreds of Anganwadi workers and helpers on attaining the age of 58 and most dangerously, without any terminal benefit.

It is also reported that States like Assam, Tamilnadu etc. are still not paying the enhanced honorarium to the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, which is effective from 01.04.2002.

One cannot find any justifications to terminate the jobs of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers without any terminal benefit.

I call upon the Government to recognise Anganwadi workers and Helpers as Government Employees and allow them to have all benefits like the Government Employees. Till a final decision is not arrived, there must not be any termination.