

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 587
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2019

HONORARIUM FOR ASHA AND ANGANWADI WORKERS

587. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently hiked the incentives/honorarium for ASHA and Anganwadi workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the hike would be made retrospective from the last one year and arrears paid accordingly to meet the demands of these workers;
- (d) whether any social security schemes like insurance cover is provided to them; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) to (c): The Government of India has recently enhanced the honorarium of Anganwadi Workers(AWWs) at main-Anganwadi Centres(AWCs) from ₹ 3,000/- to ₹ 4,500/- per month; AWWs at mini-AWCs from ₹ 2,250/- to ₹ 3,500/- per month; Anganwadi Helpers(AWHs) from ₹ 1,500/- to ₹ 2,250/- per month; and introduced performance linked incentive of ₹ 250/- per month to AWHS, effective from 1st October, 2018. With regard to Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs), under the National Health Mission (NHM), as approved by the Cabinet, ASHAs are envisaged as honorary volunteers and receive only task/performance based incentives. Currently ASHAs receive performance based incentives for over 30 specific that have been approved at the national level. Given their contribution and the valuable role they plays, the incentives finalized for ASHAs at the national level are regularly reviewed by the Government and new activities for which ASHAs would get incentives are expanded from time to time. The range of incentives earned by an ASHA varies from ASHA to ASHA based on their level of activity.

Under the NHM, States have been given the flexibility to design their own incentives for ASHAs. Some States have also introduced state specific incentives as per State specific requirement. Some States have also introduced fixed monthly honorarium for ASHAs out of their State budget. These include States like Sikkim (₹ 3,000/- p.m.), Kerala (₹ 1,500/- p.m.), Rajasthan (₹ 1,600/- p.m.), Haryana (₹ 500/- p.m.) and West Bengal (₹ 1,500/- p.m.). States of Karnataka, and Meghalaya, provide 100% while Chhattisgarh provides 50% and Tripura provides 33% of matching amount of the incentives earned by an ASHA as a top up.

- (d) & (e): The Government of India introduced 'Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana' (AKBY) to Anganwadi Workers/Anganwadi Helpers w.e.f. 01.04.2004 under Life Insurance Corporation's Social Security Scheme.

Pursuant to the decision of the Government to migrate the existing insurance schemes to the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), the AWWs in the age group of 18 to 50 years have been covered under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) for life cover of ₹ 2.00 Lakh; the AWWs in the age group of 18-59 years have been covered under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) for accidental cover of ₹ 2.00 Lakh / ₹ 1.00 Lakh and the AWWs/AWHs in the age group of 51 to 59 years have been covered under the Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana (AKBY) {modified} for life cover of ₹ 30,000/- as long as they are engaged. The migration to PMJJBY/PMSBY is effective from 01.06.2017. Female Critical Illness benefits of ₹ 20,000/- to AWWs/AWHs and scholarships @ ₹ 300/- per child per quarter to children (Standard 9 to 12 including ITI during Academic Year 2017-18) to children of AWWs/AWHs will continue. The entire premium is borne by the MWCD and LIC of India.