

F.No.1-9/2006-CD.I  
Government of India  
Ministry of Women & Child Development

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated: 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2006

To,

Secretaries In-charge of ICDS in all States/UTs

Sub: Reservation of 25% posts of Anganwadi Workers for Anganwadi Helpers.

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware the Anganwadi Worker and Anganwadi Helper are the most visible grass-roots functionaries at the village level under the ICDS Scheme. You are also aware that with a modest beginning of 33 Blocks in 1975-76, the Scheme has expanded gradually and presently it covers 6118 Blocks across the country.

Recent years have witnessed not only a considerable increase in the number of ICDS Project/Anganwadi centres but also significant efforts aimed at ensuring quality in the delivery of services and community participation. Needless to mention, the responsibilities of these grass-roots workers have also increased over the years.

While we have been concerned about providing some opportunities of further growth to Anganwadi Workers, it was never thought of the Anganwadi Helpers in the same vein. It has, therefore been felt that similar opportunities, as in the case of Anganwadi Workers, should also be provided to Anganwadi Helpers to motivate them to discharge their functions more efficiently. Accordingly, a decision has been taken to reserve 25% posts of Anganwadi Worker to be filled up from amongst the Anganwadi Helper who have put in minimum 10 years of satisfactory service and also possess the requisite qualifications, (age, education, etc.) as laid down by the concerned State Governments/UT Administration for selection of Anganwadi Workers. This will apply in respect of all existing vacancies of Anganwadi Workers and new vacancies arising out in future in the newly sanctioned Anganwadi Centres. The guidelines issued by the Ministry in the past that the AWWs/AWHs should be from the same village would, however, have to be adhered to while giving effect to this new policy initiative.

States/UTs are, therefore, requested to give suitable instruction to all the authorities concerned with the implementation of ICDS Scheme in their State/UT to strictly follow the above guidelines while selecting the Anganwadi Workers.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-  
(Chaman Kumar)

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India