

More than a lakh Asha workers and 1.3 million Anganwadi workers are serving in India of which 1.2 million are women.

They play a critical role in the development of our country. Therefore empowering them is necessary.

Fixed salary : Recognising them as workers and providing them a salary above minimum wages is necessary.

→ Providing them insurance and pension schemes and timely payment will encourage many to take up jobs.

Dedicated fund : Currently they are paid from NHRM fund, which causes delay. Therefore a separate fund can be created and necessary budgetary allocation can be done.

Skill upgradation : Training can be provided to them on specific subjects rather than providing as a whole. They can also be encouraged to take short term courses for nurses, midwives.

Technology : Low cost-based technology like mobile learning - platforms can be introduced.

Assistance : They must be enabled to take ~~an~~ the help of nurses and doctors and clarify their doubts.

These voluntary workers are vital for rural development. Therefore empowering them will not only provide employment to women but also fill the deficit in the health care workers.