

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1549
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2003
OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME IN RAJASTHAN
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 7 lakh people are eligible to get pension under National Old Age Pension Scheme in Rajasthan whereas the Government is giving pension to only 1.42 lakh people at present;
- (b) whether amount of only Rs.75 per month is being given as pension to each beneficiary which is a very meager amount when prices are very high;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to increase this amount;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Rajasthan Government has sent any proposal for the approval of his Ministry for increasing the number of pension beneficiaries; and
- (f) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be approved alongwith the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

(a) & (b)The Ministry of Rural Development had been administering the National Social Assistance Programme comprising the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) and National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) until these scheme were transferred to th State Plan along with the Annapurna Scheme form the financial year 2002-03. Under the NOAPS, Central assistance was being made available to the State/UTs for payment of a monthly pension of Rs. 75/- to the destitute aged 65 years and above, whose number was estimated on the basis of parameters like State population, poverty ration and proportion of 65+ age group in total population. The numerical ceilings fixed for Rajasthan based on these parameters was 1.41 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes, Sir. The Government of Rajasthan has sent the proposal to the Ministry of Rural Development.

(f) As per information given by the Ministry of Rural Development, State Governments/Union Territories are competent to take a decision on this matter.