

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1702
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO WIDOWS
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide the financial assistance and rehabilitation to the widows;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of existing programmes in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(D. NAPOLEON)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Rural Development has introduced Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) in February 2009. Under IGNWPS pension to BPL widows in the age group of 40-64 years is provided @ Rs 200/- per month per beneficiary. No rehabilitation scheme for widows is being undertaken under NSAP.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing two schemes i.e. Swadhar and Short Stay Home. Under these schemes shelter, food, clothing and medical care etc are being provided to destitute women and girls including widows.