

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:650

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009

FEATURES OF NPOPs

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

- (a) the salient features of National Policy for Old Age Persons (NPOPs);
- (b) the special schemes formulated for providing financial security to the said persons under the scheme;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for implementing the said policy;
- (d) whether there is a proposal to increase the allocation for programme meant for the old age persons;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

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

- (a) The salient features of National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP) are to provide financial security, shelter, health care and nutrition and Protection of life and property of the older persons.
- (b) Some of the schemes formulated for providing financial security to the old aged persons are as given below:
 - (i) Old Age Pension to persons above 65 years and whose family falls under BPL category;
 - (ii) Reverse Mortgage facility
 - (iii) Saving Schemes with higher rate of interest on savings by senior citizens,
 - (iv) Higher Income Tax exemption for older persons above 65 years;
 - (v) Medical insurance schemes for older persons.
- (c) National Council for Older Persons (NCOP) has been constituted as the implementation mechanism and to monitor the progress in achieving the objectives of the policy. The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 enacted by the Government also provides for maintenance, health care, shelter and protection of life and property of senior citizens. The Government is also implementing the Integrated Programme for Older Persons, whereby assistance is provided to NGOs for providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and recreation opportunities to older persons.
- (d), (e) & (f): Increase in allocation depends upon overall availability of budgetary resources and the demand received from time to time.