

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2617  
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010  
NEW NATIONAL PENSION SCHEME  
Abdulrahman Shri

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the comparative magnitude of response received with under New National Pension Scheme during each of the last three years till date;
- (b) whether the publicity measures taken in this regard have yielded results;
- (c) if so, the details of such measures alongwith the details of increase in number of account holders under the scheme;
- (d) whether the Government has assured minimum return to safeguard the subscribers interest; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a): The Central Recordkeeping Agency (CRA) which is a record-keeper of the New Pension System (NPS), went live from 1st June, 2008 onwards and the NPS was extended to all citizens from 1st May, 2009. The comparative information in respect of the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 is given as under:

Number of Subscribers with CRA System  
Central Government State Government Unorganized Sector Total

As on 437489 344 0 437833  
31-03-2009

As on 595215 161737 3851 760803  
09-03-2010

(b) & (c): Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has been creating awareness by disseminating information about the New Pension System (NPS) through media advertisements, press statements, conferences, seminar, interviews etc. As of 09-03-2010 over 3851 persons have opened NPS accounts voluntarily which is in addition to over 7.56 lakh accounts of Central and State Government servants for whom NPS is mandatory with effect from the date notified by the respective governments.

(d) & (e): NPS is a defined contribution scheme, The returns on the investment under NPS are market related, Under the NPS, the investment pattern for the government servants is decided by the Government, while in case of others, the subscriber has the option to invest in any of the 3 asset classes managed by the Pension Fund Managers. These are equity, government securities and credit risk bearing fixed income securities, subject to the condition that the investment in equity shall not exceed 50 percent.