

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:209  
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010  
WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS  
Reddy Shri Komatireddy Raj Gopal

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

- (a) the details of the schemes operated by the Ministry for Welfare of the senior citizens;
- (b) the funds earmarked and utilized for these citizens during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (c) the road map prepared for the remaining period for the purpose during the current Five Year Plan?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(SHRI MUKUL WASNIK)

(a)to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (c) in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.209 for answer on 09.08.2010 regarding 'Welfare of Senior Citizens' by Shri K.R.G. Reddy

(a) & (b): Presently, the Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP). The Scheme aims at improving the quality of life of senior citizens by catering to their basic needs, particularly shelter, food and health care to the destitute elderly. Under the Scheme, financial assistance up to 90% of the project cost is provided to non-governmental organizations for running and maintenance of old age homes, day care centres and mobile medicare units.

A budget allocation of Rs. 145 crore has been provided for the Scheme in the XI Plan. A Statement indicating the budget allocation and the funds released in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 (as on 5.8.2010) is at Annexure. The budget allocation for the Scheme has been enhanced from Rs. 22 crore in 2009-10 to Rs. 40 crore in 2010-11.

(c): In order to address the diverse needs of the senior citizens in a comprehensive manner, the Scheme of IPOP has been revised with effect from 1.4.2008. Besides an increase in the financial components of the existing projects, several innovative projects such as day care centres for alzheimer's disease/ dementia patients, physiotherapy clinics for older persons, help-lines and counselling centres for older persons, sensitisation programmes for children, particularly in schools and colleges, regional resource and training centres, training of caregivers to the older persons etc. have been included for financial assistance under the Scheme.

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 was enacted in December 2007 which provides for maintenance of parents/ senior citizens by children/ relatives, establishment of old age homes for indigent senior citizens, adequate medical facilities and protection of life and property of senior citizens. The Act has to be brought into force by individual State Governments. As on date, 22 States and all Union Territories have brought the Act into force.

Presently, a Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Assistance for Establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens is under formulation so as to assist States in discharging their responsibility under the said Act of providing one such home in every district. A budget allocation of Rs. 100 crore has been provided for the Scheme in the current financial year 2010-11.

A National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP) was announced in 1999 which envisages State support to ensure financial and food security, health care, shelter and protection of life and property of senior citizens. As ten years have passed since the announcement of the policy and keeping in view the changing demographic pattern in the country, a Committee has been constituted to, inter-alia, draft a new National Policy on Older Persons.

Annexure

Budget Allocation and amount released under the Scheme of IPOP from 2007-08 to 2010-11

Year BE	Amount Released
(Rs. in crore)	(Rs. in crore)

2007-08	22.00	16.12
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2008-09	22.00	17.72
2009-10	22.00	19.72
2010-11	40.00	1.06#

# as on 5.8.2010