

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3647
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010
BENEFICIARIES UNDER IGNOAPS
Sachan Shri Rakesh;Singh Shri Uday Pratap

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimates of eligible beneficiaries for availing pension under the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) and the number of people currently receiving benefits under the scheme, State-wise;
- (b) the criteria for identifying eligible beneficiaries under the scheme and whether this includes the list of BPL households as maintained by the States with members greater than 65 years of age;
- (c) the criteria for allocation of central funds to the States for financing the scheme;
- (d) the criteria for setting quotas for Central fund allocation to the States for financing the scheme;
- (e) the allocation of Central funds for the scheme during the last three years and current year, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (f) the steps being taken to extend coverage to all eligible beneficiaries?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

- (a) The estimated number of beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) and the number of people currently receiving benefits under the scheme state-wise are given at Annexure-I.
- (b) As per the criteria under IGNOAPS, persons who are 65 years or higher and belonging to a household below poverty line according to the criteria prescribed by the Government of India are eligible to receive old age pension.
- (c)& (d) IGNOAPS is a component of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) and funds are released as a combined allocation for the programme. Central assistance to states under NSAP is allocated in proportion to the number of beneficiaries covered by them.
- (e) The allocation of Central funds for the scheme during the last three years and current year, year-wise and State-wise is given at Annexure-II.
- (f) Universals coverage of all eligible beneficiaries is envisaged under IGNOAPS. States have been asked to identify all the eligible beneficiaries in rural areas from BPL List and from corresponding lists in urban areas. As a result, the coverage under IGNOAPS has increased from 87 lakh during 2007-08 to 163 lakh during 2009-10.