

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5157

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2010

PENSION SCHEME FOR THE POOR

Patel Shri Devji;Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce any new pension scheme for providing economic security to very poor people;
- (b) if so, the scope of the said scheme; and
- (c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be introduced?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Namo Narain Meena)

(a) to (c): To encourage people from the unorganised sector to voluntarily save for their retirement and to lower the cost of operations of the New Pension System (NPS) for such subscribers, Government has approved a 'Swavalamban' scheme in the Budget 2010-11, whereby, the Government will contribute a sum of Rs. 1,000 per year to each NPS account opened in the year 2010-11. This scheme 'Swavalamban' will be available for persons who join NPS with a minimum contribution of Rs. 1,000 and a maximum contribution of Rs. 12,000 per annum during the financial year 2010-11 and are not members of any statutory Provident Fund. This scheme will be available for another three years and is targeted to benefit about 10 lakh NPS subscribers of the unorganised sector during the year 2010-11.