

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1031
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010
EXPANSION OF OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME
Mahato Shri Narahari;Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to expand the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme by easing its eligibility norms;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has decided to reduce the age for Below Poverty Line (BPL) persons receiving pension from 65 years to 60 years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): No, Sir. At present there is no proposal to expand the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) by easing its eligibility norms by reducing the age for Below Poverty Line (BPL) persons receiving pension from 65 years to 60 years.
- (c): Do not arise.
- (d): Based on Census figures, the number of beneficiaries in the age group of 60-65 years would be 75.47 lakhs and additional funds to the extent of Rs.1811.17 crore would be required if the eligibility age is to be reduced from 65 years to 60 under IGNOAPS.