

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:208
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2011
NATIONAL OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME
Mahato Shri Narahari;Natrajan Meenakshi

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme;
- (b) the number of beneficiaries under the scheme, State-wise;
- (c) whether the States have been able to achieve the targets set out under the scheme;
- (d) the mechanism in place to monitor the implementation of the scheme; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government to achieve the objectives of the schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 208 for reply on 10.03.2011

(a): Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) was launched on 19.11.2007 by modifying the eligibility criteria for old age pension from `a destitute person of 65 years and above` to `a person who is 65 years and above and belonging to a household below the poverty line` and by renaming the then existing National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) as Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS). The scheme is implemented in all the States and Union Territories. IGNOAPS is a component of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which was transferred to State Plan in the year 2002-03. Under IGNOAPS, central assistance of 200 per month per beneficiary is provided and State Governments have been urged to make an equal contribution. At present 19 States are contributing Rs. 200 and above, 11 States are contributing between Rs.50 and Rs.200 and 5 States are not making any contribution. Details of State contribution are given in Annexure.

(b) & (c): The number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme, State-wise as compared to the estimated number of beneficiaries to be covered is given in Annexure. During 2010-11, 169 lakh beneficiaries were provided central assistance as compared to the estimated number of 189 lakh beneficiaries.

(d): The Schemes under NSAP, including IGNOAPS, are implemented by the State Governments. Identification of beneficiaries and disbursement of assistance is the responsibility of the State Governments. Implementation of NSAP is monitored through Monthly Progress Reports, Nodal Officers Meetings and Performance Review Committee Meetings.

(e): States have been asked to identify all the eligible beneficiaries and adequate funds have been provided to meet the requirement of central assistance. The number of beneficiaries receiving central assistance have increased from 87 lakh under NOAPS during 2006-07 to 169 lakh under IGNOAPS during 2010-11.