

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1024
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011
ASSISTANCE TO OLD AGE SCS
Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether old aged persons among the population of Scheduled Castes (SCs) are not having any source of livelihood;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any programme is being implemented by the Government to provide assistance to such people;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRID. NAPOLEON)

(a) to (b): No authentic data is available in this regard.

(c) to (e): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) with the objective of improving the quality of life of destitute senior citizens by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and recreation opportunities, etc. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to Government/ Non-Governmental Organizations/ Panchayati Raj Institutions/ local bodies, etc. for running and maintenance of age homes, day care centres and mobile medicare units, etc.

The Ministry of Rural Development has implemented Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) under which Central assistance @ Rs. 200 per month is provided as pension to BPL senior citizens of 60 years and above and @ Rs. 500/- per month for BPL senior citizens of 80 years and above.

Various poverty alleviation programmes such as the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), etc. are also implemented by the Government.

Besides, the Government has also enacted the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 to ensure need based maintenance for parents and senior citizens and their welfare. The Act has to be brought into force by the individual State Governments. At present, 23 States and all Union Territories have brought the Act in to force.