

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1250
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES FOR POOR PEOPLE
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has discontinued some of the schemes meant for providing social security to the poor;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure social security of the poor in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (D. NAPOLEON)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government implements several schemes for the social, educational and economic empowerment of the most disadvantaged sections of society, namely Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, Persons with Disabilities, victims of Substance Abuse and Senior Citizens. Further, the Ministry of Rural Development administers the National Social Assistance Programmes (NSAP) which was launched from 1995-96 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Later on, NSAP was transferred to The State Plan w.e.f 2002 -03 and funds are provided as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the States. At present NSAP comprises of following schemes:

(i) Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) - Under this Scheme, pension is granted to persons aged 65 years or higher and belonging to a household below the poverty line according to criteria prescribed by the Government of India.

(ii) National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) - Under this scheme, Rs. 10,000 is granted to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) family in case of death of primary-breadwinner of the family in the age group of 18-64 years.

(iii) Annapurna Scheme-Under this scheme, 10 kg of food grain free of cost is provided to those who have not been covered under old age pension scheme.

(iv) Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)- Under this scheme, pension is granted to BPL widows in the age group of 40-64 years @Rs. 200 p.m. per beneficiary.

(v) Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS)- Under this scheme, pension is granted to BPL persons with severe or multiple disabilities between the age group of 18-64 years @ Rs. 200 p.m. per beneficiary