

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2358
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
LANDLESS AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
Patle Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of landless agricultural labourers/workers in the country including Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the details of schemes being implemented for welfare, upliftment and help of workers/labourers;
- (c) the State-wise details of funds sanctioned, released and spent under these schemes during last three years and current year;
- (d) the State-wise details of workers/labourers benefited during this period; and
- (e) the efforts made/being made by the Government to improve the condition and livelihood of labourers/workers?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a): As per Census, 2001, there were more than 10.67 crore landless agricultural workers. State-wise number of landless agricultural workers is at Annexure-I.

(b) to (e): With a view to providing social security cover to workers in the unorganised sector, including landless agricultural workers, the Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. The Government has already initiated steps to provide social security to these workers in a phased manner as follows :

(i) Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) was launched on 01.01.2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganised sector, including landless agricultural workers. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 26 States/ Union Territories and more than 3.22 crore smart cards have been issued as on 15.08.2012.

(ii) The Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) was launched on 02.10.2007 with a view to providing insurance cover to the head of family or one earning member of rural landless households between the age of 18 years and 59 years. Under the scheme, the head of the family or an earning member of the family is eligible to receive the benefits of Rs. 30,000/- in case of natural death, Rs.75,000/- accidental death, Rs. 75000/- for total permanent disability (loss of two eyes or two limbs or loss of one eye and one limb in accident) and Rs. 37,500/- for partial permanent disability (loss of one eye or one limb in accident). More than 1.98 crore lives have been covered as on 29.02.2012 under AABY.

(iii) The Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme has been expanded by revising the criteria of eligibility. All citizens above the age of 60 years and living below poverty line are eligible for benefits under the scheme. For persons above the age of 80 years, the amount of pension has been raised from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per month. More than 1.90 crore persons have availed benefits under the scheme as on 29.02.2012.

The States are provided part premium funding by the Central Government on the basis of number of smart cards issued. Hence, there is no State-wise allocation under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY). Under Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY), there is a corpus fund. For National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), of which IGNOAPS is a component, there is combined allocation. A Statement showing allocation/expenditure under RSBY and IGNOAPS is at annexure-II. State-wise number of beneficiaries covered under RSBY, AABY and IGNOAPS is at annexure-III.