

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3549
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012
PENSION FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE
Panda Shri Baijayant

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

- (a) the number of persons in the country who are above 60 years have to still work for a living;
- (b) the number of such persons getting old age pension; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to raise the old age pension being provided to them?

Answer

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

(a) There is no authentic data available in this regard.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development is administering the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), under which Central assistance is provided as pension @Rs.200 per month to persons of 60 years and above and @ Rs.500 per month to persons of 80 years and above belonging to a household living Below Poverty Line (BPL) as per criteria prescribed by the Government of India. States have been requested to contribute at least an equal amount from their own resources.

IGNOAPS is a component of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which is under State Plan. During 2011-12, States have reported coverage of 210 lakh beneficiaries under IGNOAPS.

(c) The amount of Central assistance under the Scheme is revised from time to time depending upon the availability of resources. For senior citizens of 80 years and above, the amount of Central assistance was raised from Rs.200/- per month per beneficiary to Rs.500/- per month per beneficiary w.e.f. 1.4.2011.