

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2180  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2012  
EXPANSION OF PENSION SCHEMES  
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara; Tagore Shri Manicka

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any proposal to cover additional Below Poverty Line (BPL) people in various Pension Schemes of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the budget allocation of this proposal and the source of income to meet the expenditure;
- (d) whether pension amounts also proposed to be hiked; and
- (e) if so, the details including the financial implication thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA)

(a)&(b): A Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development, to make recommendations on the criteria for grant of benefits under various schemes of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). The Committee has suggested in its report for relaxation of certain eligibility criteria and increase in amount of pension to various categories of vulnerable sections under schemes of NSAP.

(c)to(e): Additional financial implication in case all the recommendations are accepted will amount to Rs.16943 crore. No decision has been taken on the recommendations of the Committee so far.