

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:965  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012  
ENHANCEMENT OF RATES UNDER PENSION SCHEMES  
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to enhance the rates of various social security pension schemes like widow pension, old age pension etc. very soon from the existing ones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the various States have demanded such increase in pensions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

- (a)&(b): Government has increased central assistance under Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 300/- per month, w.e.f. 01.10.2012. Further, the upper age limit for both these pension schemes have been revised to 79 years from the existing 59 years.
- (c)to(e): West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have requested for increase in amount under various pension schemes. Government increased the amount of central assistance in 2011-12 under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 for beneficiaries who are 80 years and above.