

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1595
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009
REVISION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR NOAPS NFBS AND NMBS
Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revise the eligibility of National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount allocated and released to States during the year 2008-2009, Scheme-wise and State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a)&(b): The scope of National Old Age Pension Scheme(NOAPS) has been widened and the scheme has been renamed as Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) w.e.f. 19.11.2009 by revising the eligibility criteria from `a person of 65 years old and destitute` to `a person of 65 years old and belonging to a family living below poverty line according to the criteria prescribed by the Government of India`. There is no proposal to modify the eligibility criteria under National Family benefit Scheme (NFBS). National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) was transferred to Ministry of Health and Family Welfare w.e.f. 1.4.2001.

(c): IGNOAPS and NFBS, among others, are part of National Social Assistance Programme(NSAP) and have been transferred to State Plan since 2002-03 and funds are released as a combined allocation for all the schemes of NSAP together. State-wise allocation and releases during the year 2008-09 under NSAP is at Annexure.