

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3697  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012  
WELFARE SCHEMES FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS  
Mahato Shri Narahari; Tirkey Shri Manohar

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

- (a) whether any welfare schemes is being formulated and implemented by the Government specifically for agricultural labourers in different parts of the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which agricultural labourers have been benefited by these schemes;
- (c) the details of amount earmarked for the purpose during the said period;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for the welfare of agricultural labourers in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) to (e): With a view to providing social security to unorganized workers, including agricultural labourers, the Government enacted the "Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008". The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board at the central level to recommend social security schemes viz. life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganized workers. The Government has initiated steps in the context of all these social security benefits.

The Government launched the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide smart card based cashless health insurance, including maternity benefit, cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganised sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 26 States/ Union Territories and more than 3.30 crore smart cards have been issued as on 30.11.2012.

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. The scheme is being implemented through the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). Under the scheme, the head of the family or an earning member of the family is eligible to receive the benefits of Rs. 30000/- in case of natural death, Rs.75000/- accidental death, Rs. 75000/- for total permanent disability and Rs. 37500/- for partial permanent disability. More than 1.77 crore lives are covered under AABY as on 31.10.2012.

The Government has been implementing Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, which 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 2.27 crore persons have availed benefits under the scheme as on 31.10.2012. Central fund allocations under the schemes of RSBY, AABY and the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), of which IGNOAPS is a component, during last three years and current year is as under:

Rupees in Crore

2009-2010    2010-2011    2011-2012    2012-2013

RSBY (Allocation)    350.00    548.00    984.30    1568.56

AABY # A sum of Rs. 1000 crore was allocated under AABY Premium Fund during the financial year (fund 2007-2008 and placed with LIC. During 2008-09, an additional sum of Rs. 1000 crore was released allocated to augment ABY Fund to meet the target coverage under AABY Scheme. to LIC)#

NSAP (Total 5155.49 5162.00 6596.46 4218.28  
release)

Funds are released to States/UTs combined for NSAP and no separate allocation for IGNOAPS is made.

figures updated up to 31.10.2012.