

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:402
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013
WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Singh Shri Jagada Nand

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the implementation of the schemes for the welfare of senior citizens;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to remove the deficiencies, if any, noticed therein;
- (d) whether the Government has also proposed to reduce the age limit of senior citizens for availing the benefits of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (e) in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.402 for answer on 23.04.2013 regarding "Welfare of Senior Citizens" by Shri Nishikant Dubey and Shri Jagadanand Singh.

(a) to (e): Some of the important Schemes being implemented for the welfare of senior citizens are as follows:

1. Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP)
2. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)
3. National Programme for the Health Care for the Elderly (NPHCE)

Brief details of the above schemes are given in the Annexure.

During the XIth five year plan period, evaluation studies were got conducted to assess the impact of the IPOP. Some of the major recommendations of these studies were for enhancement in financial norms, increase in the types of projects supported, need for engagement of specialized doctors in the centres, etc.

In view of the above recommendations, IPOP was revised w.e.f 1.4.2008. Besides revision of the financial norms, several innovative projects e.g. Day Care Centre for Alzheimer's Disease/ Dementia Patients; Physiotherapy Clinics for Older Persons; Help-lines and Counseling Centres for Older Persons; Regional Resource and Training Centres; etc. were added as being eligible for financial assistance under the Scheme.

Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme has been revised w.e.f 1.4.2011, bringing down the minimum age of eligibility under it from 65 years to 60 years, and increasing the Central contribution towards pension amount, for those who are 80 years and above, from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 500/- per month.