

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5526

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013

SOCIAL SECURITY TO AGED DISABLED AND HOMELESS

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps to bring suitable legislation for providing social security to the aged, disabled and homeless citizens of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated any scheme for providing financial assistance and welfare measures including payment of pension, housing and health care of the said people; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) and (b): The Government has enacted the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (MWPSA) Act, 2007 in December 2007 which, inter-alia, makes maintenance of parents and senior citizens by children and relatives obligatory and justiciable through Tribunals; provides for revocation of transfer of property by senior citizens in case of negligence by children/relatives; establishment of old age homes for indigent senior citizens; penal provisions for abandonment of senior citizens; medical facilities for senior citizens; and protection of life and property of senior citizens. The Central Government has also enacted the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. It provides for education, rehabilitation, employment, non-discrimination and social security for persons with disabilities.

(c) and (d): The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) with an objective to improve the quality of life of senior citizens by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and recreation opportunities etc. The Ministry of Rural Development implements the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) under which pension / financial assistance is provided to persons belonging to household living below poverty line (BPL) and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) under which Central assistance is provided for BPL persons with severe or multiple disabilities in the age group of 18-79 years. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is implementing the National Programme for Health Care for Elderly (NPHCE) since 2010-11. The basic aim of the NPHCE programme is to provide separate and specialized comprehensive health care to the senior citizens at various levels of State health care delivery system including outreach services. The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is supporting the construction of housing for poor sections of the society in urban areas under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). The Ministry is also implementing the Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) and the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for undertaking slum survey, GIS mapping of slums, developing slum information system, GIS-MIS integration and preparation of Slum-free City/ State Slum-free Plans etc. The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana Scheme (IAYS) under which financial assistance is provided to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, freed bonded labourers and other below the poverty line non-SC/ST rural households for construction of dwelling units in all the States/ UTs (except Delhi & Chandigarh).