

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4535

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013

WELFARE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai;Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

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

- (a) whether any welfare schemes have been formulated and implemented by the Government for unorganised workers including agricultural labourers in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of agricultural labourers who have been benefited by these schemes in the country particularly of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year and the details of amount incurred for the purpose during the said period;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government exclusively for the welfare of agricultural labourers in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): 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 unorganized sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 28 States/ Union Territories and more than 3.44 crore smart cards have been issued as on 31.03.2013.

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. 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.

The Government has been implementing Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), 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.

The State-wise, year-wise number of beneficiaries under the above three schemes, including that in the State of Uttar Pradesh, during the last three years is at Annexure.