

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2234

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2013

INDIRA GANDHI OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME

Dutt Smt. Priya Sunil;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni;Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to increase the admissible amount for old age pension;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government is maintaining a data of number of beneficiaries of the old age pension;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the number of requests pending for the last three years and the current year, State-wise, particularly in Maharashtra; and
- (e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government on the pending requests for old age pension?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA)

(a)&(b) On the direction of the Union Cabinet, a Task Force has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Mihir Shah, Member, Planning Commission to prepare a proposal for a Comprehensive National Social Assistance Programme . The Task Force has considered various issues, demands and suggestions relating to pension schemes under NSAP, received from various quarters which also includes increase in admissible amount under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS). The Task Force has submitted its report to this Ministry.

(c) to (e) NSAP was transferred to State Plan in the year 2002-03 and States/ Union Territories have been given requisite flexibility in implementation of schemes. Hence the identification of beneficiaries as well as sanctioning and disbursement of assistance under the schemes of NSAP is the responsibility of the State Government/UT Administration concerned. Therefore, neither the details of beneficiaries nor the data regarding request pending with the State Government is maintained at the central level. Moreover, universal coverage of all persons satisfying the prescribed eligibility criteria is envisaged under the Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS).