

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4948
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
IRREGULARITIES UNDER PENSION SCHEMES
Paswan Shri Chirag

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of irregularities have been reported in Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme in various States of the country including Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State /UT wise;
- (c) whether old - Age pension is being paid in the names of already died persons;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to investigate the alleged irregularities and fix responsibility in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b) No incidents of large number of irregularities have been reported under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) in any of the States including Bihar.

(c) & (d): Identification of beneficiaries, sanction and disbursement of pension under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Schemes (IGNOAPS) is done by the State/UT Governments. The States Governments have already been directed to complete the digitization of data of all the beneficiaries under National Social Assistance Programme including IGNOAPS.

(e) & (f): Since no large number of irregularities have been reported under Indira Gandhi National old Age Pension Scheme, there is no proposal to investigate the alleged irregularities. However, any grievances or complaints received in respect of implementation of schemes under NSAP are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for appropriate action. The Ministry of Rural Development has put in place a mechanism to monitor the schemes through appointment of National Level Monitors (NLMs), Area Officer's visits, holding of State and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee Meetings and periodical Performance Review Committee (PRC) meetings. Social Audit and Annual Verification has also been introduced under NSAP for improved monitoring, accountability and transparency.