

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6079
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
PENSION UNDER NSAP
Tarai Smt. Rita

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is considering to allow the State Government of Odisha to continue with the existing arrangement of disbursement of pension in cash on a fixed day instead of going for account transfer under Direct Benefit Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the further response of the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) &(b): For disbursement of pension under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the choice and convenience of the beneficiary is the guiding principle. The possible mode of payment of pension are Banks, Post Office Accounts, Money Order and Cash disbursement. However, preferred mode of payment is Bank Account or Post Office Saving Account. At the same time in some areas crediting the pension amount into the bank /post office do not entirely serve the purpose as the beneficiaries find it difficult to travel to the nearest bank / post office branch. Hence, keeping in view the overall interest of the beneficiary with a long term perspective, the State Government has been requested to encourage for a gradual but sure switchover to the post office or bank account mode of payment. In the case of the disabled as well as weak pensioners, door-step delivery needs to be ensured through Micro-ATM based BC model.