

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1668

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2015

Old Age Pension

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the contribution of the Union Government for various schemes of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), particularly Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension for the last three years, State /UT-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/mechanism adopted by the Union Government to ensure justified utilisation of this contribution for target groups?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

a): Schemes under NSAP have been converted into a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) from the financial year 2014-15 and funds are now released Scheme- wise. However, prior to 2014-15 schemes under NSAP were under State Plan and funds for NSAP were allocated by Planning Commission and were released as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to the States by the Ministry of Finance and by the Ministry of Home Affairs to Union Territories in a combined allocation for all the schemes under NSAP. Details of funds released by the Central Government for various schemes of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) including Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme for the last three years , State /UT-wise are at Annexure-I.

b): In order to increase the transparency and accountability in the implementation of schemes under NSAP, a software namely NSAP-MIS had been developed which captures all the essential processes and includes modules on identification, disbursement of pension, release of funds, verification, sanction of pension, ground for refusal etc. States have also to give monthly physical and financial progress of the schemes of NSAP in the Monthly Progress Report(MPR). Utilization and monitoring of funds are reviewed in periodic meetings of the Performance Review Committee of the Ministry. Utilization Certificates are to be submitted by the State / UT Governments for the previous year for considering the release of funds of next financial year to ensure proper utilization, social audit is also conducted with the involvement of beneficiaries.
