

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4219

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2014

PENSION SCHEMES

Nimmala Shri Kristappa

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of beneficiaries under the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) and the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and state /UT-wise
- (b) the amount of assistance provided to a beneficiary under each of these schemes and the total cost incurred thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State /UT-wise;
- (c) whether the quantum to assistance provided under each of these schemes is being regularly reviewed /scrutinized;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the results of the last such review;
- (e) whether the Government has considered the option of linking the assistance under these schemes to price index or any other suitable index;and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) The number of beneficiaries reported to be covered by the State / UT Governments under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) and the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) during last three years, scheme-wise and State / UT-wise is at Annexure – I. The States / UTs are yet to report the number of beneficiaries covered under IGNDPS and NFBS during the current financial year 2014-15.

(b) Central assistance of Rs.300/- per month is provided to the beneficiary under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS). Central assistance of Rs.20,000/- is provided as lump sum amount to the bereaved family on the death of primary breadwinner aged between 18 and 59 years under National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS).

Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) and National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) are part of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) implemented by Ministry of Rural Development. The scheme of NSAP was under State Plan from 2002-03 till 2013-14 and funds were released in a combined manner for all the Schemes under NSAP to the States and UTs by Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Home Affairs, respectively. From the current financial year 2014-15, the scheme of NSAP has become a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Ministry of Rural Development and funds are being released scheme-wise. The expenditure incurred on the schemes of NSAP (including IGNDPS and NFBS) as reported by the State / UT Governments during the last three years, scheme-wise and State/UT-wise is at Annexure – II. The State / UTs are yet to report the expenditure incurred under IGNDPS and NFBS during the current financial year 2014-15.

(c) & (d) Details of revision in the amount of assistance under IGNDPS and NFBS during the last five years are given below:-

#Under IGNDPS, the amount of central assistance has been increased from Rs.200/- per month to Rs.300/- per month w.e.f. 1st October, 2012.

Under NFBS, the amount of central assistance (lump sum) to the bereaved family has been increased from 10,000/- to Rs.20,000/- w.e.f. 18.10.2012.

(e) & (f) A Task Force constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission, considered all the issues, demands and suggestions relating to social assistance / security, received from various quarters and submitted its report in March, 2013, inter-alia, recommending expanding the scope of coverage and increasing the quantum of pension. Further action has been initiated to process the recommendations of the Task Force.