

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:695
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2014
REVIEW OF WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any review of the implementation of schemes formulated for the welfare of senior citizens;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to remove the lacunae in the said schemes;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to reduce the age limit of senior citizens for availing the benefits of the various Centrally Sponsored Schemes and has also received suggestions/recommendations in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a), (b) & (c): The Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) under which grants are given for running and maintenance of old age homes, day care centres, mobile medicare units etc. During the XI Five Year Plan period, evaluation studies were got conducted to assess the impact of the IPOP. Some of the major recommendations of these studies were enhancement in financial norms, increase in types of projects supported and need for engagement of specialized doctors in the Centres etc.

In view of the above recommendations, IPOP was revised w.e.f 1.4.2008. Beside revision of the financial norms, several innovative projects, e.g., Day Care Centres for Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia patients; Physiotherapy Clinics for Older Persons; Help-lines and Counselling Centres for Older Persons; Regional Resource and Training Centres; etc. were added as being eligible for financial assistance under the Scheme.

(d) & (e): There is no such proposal in respect of the above scheme.