

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1846
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2014
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL DISABILITY PENSION SCHEME
Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of differently abled persons covered under the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme(IGNDPS);
- (b) whether the Government proposes to enhance the monthly pension of Rs. 300 under IGNDPS;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to bring uniformity in the amount of pension and eligibility criteria followed by the States and make the scheme more inclusive?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIBIRENDER SINGH)

- (a) 15,79,246 differently abled persons are covered as reported by the State /UT Governments under the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) during the year 2013-14.
- (b) & (c): A Task Force constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development under the Chairmanship of the then Member, Planning Commission, considered all the issues, demands and suggestions relating to social assistance/ security, received from various quarters and submitted its report 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.
- (d): The pension amounts under NSAP are provided entirely from the Central Government funds and identification of beneficiaries, implementation of the programme and disbursement of pensions is done by the State /UT Governments. States have been advised to contribute at least an equal amount from their own resources. States are having their own pension schemes. Since the matter essentially relates to the domain of the State Governments, it cannot be made mandatory for them to contribute as per Central Government directions.