

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2199
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.05.2016**

†2199. AMOUNT SPENT ON WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS

SHRI HARIVANSH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent by the Central Government on the welfare of senior citizens at present;
- (b) the number of senior citizens in the country who are receiving the benefit of Government's health and pension scheme; and
- (c) the details of the figures in urban and rural areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a): This Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP), under which financial assistance, in the form of grants-in-aid is given to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies, Non-Governmental Voluntary Organisations, Institutions or Organisations set up by Government as autonomous/subordinate bodies, Government Recognized Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals/ Nursing Homes, and Recognized Youth Organisations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra sanghathan (NYKS) etc for running and maintenance of, inter-alia, Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units etc. In exceptional cases such financial assistance is also provided to the State Governments/UT administrations. A total of Rs.27.58 crore was released under this Scheme during the year 2015-16.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had launched the “National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly”(NPHCE) during 2010-11 to address various health related problems of elderly people.

At present, a total no. of 227 districts of 32 States/UTs have been approved for implementation of the Programme. Since 2015-16, the activities of the programme up to District level have been subsumed under the NCD flexible pool within the overarching umbrella of the National Health Mission(NHM). During 2015-16 an amount of Rs.433.00 crore was released under this programme to the States/UTs and to Institutes.

The Ministry of Rural Development has intimated that under the National Social Assistance Programme(NSAP), Old age pension Scheme is provided under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) to the persons belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) household. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided to the persons of 60 years and above and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. Central assistance of Rs.200/- per month is provided to persons in the age group of 60-79 years and Rs.500/- per month to persons of 80 years and above. Under IGNOAPS, during the year 2015-16, an amount of Rs.5504.55 crore has been released to the State/UTs.

(b) and (c): Schemes of IPOP and NSAP are being implemented in rural as well as urban areas of the country. Separate data of beneficiaries of rural as well as urban areas is not maintained at Central Level. However, 229 lakh beneficiaries have been covered under the Scheme of NSAP.
