

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1427
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2024

BENEFICIARIES UNDER NSAP

1427 SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of beneficiaries under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) whether several poor elderly, widows, and persons with disabilities are excluded from the NSAP due to non-inclusion in the Below Poverty Line (BPL) list;
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure that vulnerable individuals are not excluded due to BPL criteria;
- (d) whether Government is considering recommendations from States that expanded NSAP to include non-BPL individuals; and
- (e) measures being taken to review and update the BPL criteria to include all deserving individuals?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)

(a): State-wise details of beneficiaries under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) (number of digitized beneficiaries or the State/UT cap, whichever is lower) during the last five years are at **Annexure**.

(b) & (c): National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is implemented as a social security programme, primarily meant for vulnerable sections of the society such as old aged, widows, and disabled persons belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category. Scheme-wise and State/ UT wise cap of number beneficiaries of NSAP has been fixed based on the population figures as per the census of 2001 and the poverty ratio (2004-05) determined by erstwhile Planning Commission. The Central Government releases funds to States/ UTs as per upper limit of beneficiaries fixed for each State /UT (State Cap) and number of beneficiaries digitized on NSAP portal, whichever is lower. As per NSAP Guidelines, identification, updation & verification of beneficiaries and disbursement of benefits to them are done by the concerned State / UT. Presently, NSAP caters to 3.09 crore BPL beneficiaries. Further, as per NSAP guidelines, if there are more deserving beneficiaries in a State/UT, the State/UT has the option to give them pension from its own resources. As per information received from the States/ UTs, in addition to the NSAP beneficiaries, more than 5.86 crore old aged, widows and disabled persons get pensions under various state schemes.

(d) & (e): While considering the continuation of the NSAP for the 15th Finance Commission cycle (2021-26), the revision in the eligibility criteria, increasing coverage and rate of assistance under the scheme was considered by the Government. However, the Government has approved continuation of NSAP scheme in its present form.

Annexure referred to in part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1427 to be answered on 06.12.2024 regarding Beneficiaries under NSAP

| NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (NSAP) | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Sl. No. | States/UTs | No. of beneficiaries for FY 2019-20 | No. of beneficiaries for FY 2020-21 | No. of beneficiaries for FY 2021-22 | No. of beneficiaries for FY 2022-23 | No. of beneficiaries for FY 2023-24 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 997921 | 997921 | 997921 | 997921 | 1000240 |
| 2 | Bihar | 3867270 | 3867270 | 3959782 | 3959782 | 4121906 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 889272 | 896519 | 906080 | 911904 | 917139 |
| 4 | Goa | 2706 | 2706 | 11959 | 14242 | 14305 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 735025 | 857543 | 865730 | 878710 | 963025 |
| 6 | Haryana | 331423 | 331423 | 329496 | 331423 | 351410 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | 115191 | 115191 | 115338 | 119333 | 119333 |
| 8 | Jharkhand | 1357937 | 1359831 | 1357739 | 1355932 | 1316651 |
| 9 | Karnataka | 1416722 | 1416757 | 1413400 | 1414586 | 1414586 |
| 10 | Kerala | 729591 | 729591 | 729591 | 729591 | 887718 |
| 11 | Madhya Pradesh | 2236789 | 2236789 | 2236789 | 2236789 | 2254295 |
| 12 | Maharashtra | 1311372 | 1338693 | 1359210 | 1351386 | 1346365 |
| 13 | Odisha | 2116519 | 2120601 | 2101948 | 2127452 | 2111244 |
| 14 | Punjab | 143077 | 126569 | 137904 | 140904 | 140904 |
| 15 | Rajasthan | 1047628 | 1069320 | 1168697 | 1195049 | 1202382 |
| 16 | Tamilnadu | 1899533 | 1899533 | 1934987 | 1951042 | 2005691 |
| 17 | Telangana | 712596 | 713193 | 713193 | 713193 | 728253 |
| 18 | Uttar Pradesh | 5330465 | 5483086 | 5485153 | 5592696 | 5906697 |
| 19 | Uttarakhand | 219917 | 219917 | 239758 | 236143 | 236143 |
| 20 | West Bengal | 2219580 | 2220205 | 2202448 | 2207824 | 2041166 |
| NE States | | | | | | |
| 21 | Arunachal Pradesh | 8025 | 36325 | 8480 | 8480 | 8479 |
| 22 | Assam | 874816 | 875563 | 858254 | 877764 | 812099 |
| 23 | Manipur | 65961 | 66545 | 66577 | 66963 | 67359 |
| 24 | Meghalaya | 58488 | 66329 | 69034 | 70015 | 69446 |
| 29 | Mizoram | 28735 | 28503 | 28645 | 28604 | 28721 |
| 26 | Nagaland | 52345 | 52345 | 52345 | 52345 | 53914 |
| 27 | Sikkim | 19467 | 19467 | 19479 | 19984 | 19989 |
| 28 | Tripura | 145197 | 135416 | 124509 | 149873 | 160798 |
| Union Territories | | | | | | |
| 29 | A&N Islands | 6574 | 1240 | 1241 | 1238 | 1236 |
| 30 | Chandigarh | 3935 | 3935 | 3935 | 5484 | 5484 |
| 31 | D&N Haveli and | 11521 | 11441 | 11487 | 11553 | 11730 |
| 32 | NCT Delhi | 166746 | 166746 | 168831 | 162581 | 162185 |
| 33 | J & K | 153944 | 139932 | 150152 | 150402 | 147734 |
| 34 | Ladakh | NA | 7406 | 6959 | 7260 | 10262 |
| 35 | Lakshadweep | 393 | 375 | 375 | 366 | 328 |
| 36 | Puducherry | 30620 | 28639 | 29910 | 30620 | 30668 |
| | GRAND TOTAL | 29307301 | 29642865 | 29867336 | 30109434 | 30669885 |
