

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13/12/2024

STAGNATION IN GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION UNDER NSAP

2140 SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of years Government's contribution to old-age pensions under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) has been stagnant to ₹200 per month for beneficiaries between the ages of 60 and 79, ₹300 per month for the widows between the age of 40 and 79, ₹300 per month to people between the ages of 18 and 79 with severe or multiple disabilities and ₹500 per month to beneficiaries 80 and older; and
- (b) by when Government proposes to raise this contribution and by how much?

ANSWER

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

(a): The details of revision done in rate of assistance under various sub-schemes of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is given at **Annexure**. NSAP provides a basic level of assistance towards social security to vulnerable categories such as old aged, widows & disabled belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category. As per guidelines of NSAP, the States/UTs are encouraged to provide top-up amount of at least an equivalent amount to the assistance provided by the Central Government so that the beneficiaries could get a decent level of assistance. At present, the States/UTs are adding top-up amounts ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 3716 per month per beneficiary under NSAP schemes, resulting in an average monthly pension of around ₹1,000/- in most of the States/UTs.

(b): While considering the continuation of the NSAP for the 15th Finance Commission cycle (2021-26), the revision in the eligibility criteria 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. At present, no proposal for raising the contribution is under consideration.

Annexure referred to in part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2140 to be answered on 13.12.2024 regarding Stagnation in Government's contribution under NSAP

Year	Details of revision per beneficiary
2007	Old age pension was increased from Rs.75 per month to Rs. 200 per month.
2009	Widow and Disability Pension schemes were introduced at the rate of Rs. 200 per month.
2011	Old age pension was increased to Rs. 500 per month for beneficiaries of age of 80 years and above.
2012	Widow Pension and Disability Pension were increased to Rs. 300 per month from Rs. 200 per month.
