

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3977
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04/04/2025

**RENAMING OF NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME (NSAP) AS JAI
BANGLA IN WEST BENGAL**

3977 SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) has been renamed as Jai Bangla Scheme in West Bengal, if so, whether this renaming was done with the approval of Centre;
- (b) whether funds allocated under NSAP are being fully utilized for pensions and social security schemes or whether there are discrepancies in fund disbursement under Jai Bangla;
- (c) whether Union Government contribution to NSAP is being properly acknowledged, or whether West Bengal Government is presenting the scheme as State-funded initiative; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure that beneficiaries under NSAP in West Bengal receive their entitlements without any political bias?

ANSWER

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

(a): Government of West Bengal has informed that National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) has never been renamed in the State of West Bengal and is implemented without any change in nomenclature since inception. Government of West Bengal has also informed that Jai Bangla is a 100% State sponsored Social Security Pension Scheme which is completely disconnected from NSAP.

(b) & (c): The Central funds under NSAP are allocated to the States/ UTs on the basis of State cap of beneficiaries or data of digitized beneficiaries of the particular State/UT, whichever is lower. Further, the funds are released to the States/UTs including West Bengal based on proposals received, complete in all respects including Utilization Certificate for the earlier releases, certifying that the funds have been utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

(d): As per NSAP guidelines, responsibility of implementation of NSAP schemes, selection/verification of beneficiaries, disbursement of pension to beneficiaries, stoppage of pension, annual verification of beneficiaries, lies with the States/UTs.

A robust web portal i.e. NSAP- Pension Payment System (NSAP-PPS) linked with PFMS (Public Finance Management System) has been operationalized by the Government and provided to States/UTs as an end to end digital solution for the implementation and monitoring of NSAP schemes. The State of West Bengal uses NSAP-PPS for disbursement of pensions under NSAP.
