

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 3018**  
ANSWERED ON – 18/03/2026

**SUPPORT FOR SENIOR CITIZENS IN KERALA**

3018. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note that Kerala has one of the highest proportions of elderly population in the country;
- (b) the details of schemes implemented by the Ministry for welfare of senior citizens in Kerala during the last five years;
- (c) the funds allocated and released to Kerala under schemes such as the integrated programme for senior citizens during the said period;
- (d) whether any proposal has been received for establishing additional old age homes, geriatric care centres or day-care centres in Kerala, status thereof; and
- (e) whether Government propose any special policy intervention for States with rapidly ageing populations such as Kerala?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) to (c) As per the Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections constituted by the National Commission on Population, the population of the senior citizens in Kerala is 42.27 lakhs which is 3.90% of the total senior citizen population of the Country in 2011. As per Census 2011, the highest proportion of the senior citizen population is of the State of Uttar Pradesh at 13.65% and Maharashtra at 10.32%.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing an umbrella scheme, namely **Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY)** w.e.f. 01.04.2021 for the Welfare of Senior Citizens across the country including the State of Kerala. The details of components of the scheme are as follows-

1. **Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC)** - Under IPSrC, grant-in-aid is provided to the organisations for maintenance of Senior Citizen Homes (Sr.CH), Continuous Care Homes (CCH), Mobile Medicare Units (MMU) and Physiotherapy Clinics. The objective of the scheme is to improve the quality of life of the Senior Citizens, especially indigent senior citizens by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities and by encouraging productive and active ageing.

2. **SAPSRc (State Action Plan for Senior Citizens)**- The Government of India perceives a major and critical role of all State/ UT Governments in welfare of senior citizens. Each State/UT is expected to plan taking into account their local considerations and frame their own State Action Plans for the welfare of their senior citizens. Under SAPSRc, the Ministry releases funds to States/UTs for implementation of their action plans. SAPSRc is being implemented since FY 2019-20.
3. **RVY (Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana)**- The Scheme aims for providing Physical Aids and Assisted Living Devices for Senior Citizens below poverty line and with the family income not exceeding to Rs. 15,000/- per month. The Scheme is being implemented since 2017.
4. **Elderline**- The National Helpline for Senior Citizens (14567) is to generate awareness about the Act, Schemes & Programmes being executed by different Central & State Governments and to provide platform to redress their grievances.
5. **Training of Geriatric Care Givers**- The main objective is to bridge the gap in supply and increasing demand in the field of geriatric caregivers so as to provide more professional services to the senior citizens and also to create a cadre of professional care givers in the field of geriatrics. Considering the acute shortage of Geriatric Caregivers, skill trainings are organised to meet the demand.
6. **Other Initiatives for Senior Citizens**- Initiatives are undertaken for promoting inter-generation bonding's and also involving the elders in building up knowledge which can be useful for the society as a whole.
7. **Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE)**- The main objective is to promote out-of-the-box and innovative solutions for the commonly faced problems of senior citizens. Under this Scheme component, innovative start- ups would be identified and encouraged for developing products, processes and services for the welfare of the elderly.

State-wise funds are not allocated under the component of Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSRc) of AVYAY Scheme. An amount of Rs. 1.65 crore has been released to the NGOs in the State of Kerala during the last 05 years under IPSrC.

(d) During the last 5 years, a total of 8 proposals for establishing old age homes were received, out of which 5 have been approved for providing support in the State of Kerala by this Department. This Department does not provide financial support for the establishment of Geriatric Care Centres and Day Care Centres.

(e) National Policy for the Older Persons, 1999 is already in place across the country, including the State of Kerala.

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