GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2643 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2016

PENSION TO WIDOWS

2643. DR. UDIT RAJ:

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government provides a monthly pension to widows above the age of 40 years under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to reduce the minimum age for the said group to below 40 years and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether the Government proposes to introduce any scheme to provide a monthly pension to widows between 18 and 40 years of age and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

- (a): Yes Madam. Under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, Central assistance @ Rs.300/- per month is provided to widows in the age-group of 40-79 years and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. After attaining the age of 80 years, the beneficiaries are shifted to Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) to get enhanced pension of Rs. 500/- per month.
- (b) & (c): At present, no such proposal is under consideration.
