

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2874**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.01.2018

**NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME**

**2874. SHRI PARTHA PRATIM RAY:**

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

- (a) the criteria fixed by the Government to provide pension to widows and old age persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP);
- (b) the total number of widows and old age persons in the country covered under the said scheme, State/UT-wise including West Bengal;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to provide old age pension to all in proportion to their population on the lines of compulsory pension scheme in different regions of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), 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. Old Age Pension @ Rs. 200/- per month is provided under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) to the persons of 60-79 years of age and belonging to below poverty line (BPL) household. On attaining the age of 80 years, enhanced assistance @ Rs.500/- per month is provided to the eligible beneficiaries of IGNWPS and IGNOAPS.

(b): Details of beneficiaries covered under the IGNWPS and IGNOAPS in the States/UTs including West Bengal during the current year are at **Annexure**.

(c) to (e): The mandate of the National Social Assistance Programme as piloted by Ministry of Rural Development is to extend the assistance through its pension schemes to beneficiaries belonging to below poverty line families only. Under current dispensation universal coverage of all the elderly people irrespective of income status is not envisaged.

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**Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred  
Question No. 2874 dated 04.01.2018**

**Details of No. of Beneficiaries under the NSAP schemes under State/Uts-wise**

<b>Year: 2017-18</b>			
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States/UTs</b>	<b>No. of Beneficiaries</b>	
		<b>IGNOAPS</b>	<b>IGNWPS</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	662641	245514
2	Bihar	2996472	501267
3	Chhattisgarh	624169	144230
4	Goa	1705	315
5	Gujarat	538098	12548
6	Haryana	198828	57149
7	Himachal Pradesh	87332	17979
8	J & K	130085	6777
9	Jharkhand	908185	272108
10	Karnataka	892302	465363
11	Kerala	449158	209236
12	Madhya Pradesh	1569627	536412
13	Maharashtra	1123485	36604
14	Odisha	1386290	489404
15	Punjab	201039	15424
16	Rajasthan	799636	130902
17	Tamilnadu	1237809	549084
18	Telangana	473575	140705
19	Uttar Pradesh	4204232	991784
20	Uttarakhand	239498	26995
21	West Bengal	1423192	644590
<b>NE States</b>			
22	Arunachal Pradesh	29290	3565
23	Assam	707927	137463
24	Manipur	56045	8043
29	Meghalaya	77980	8498
26	Mizoram	25251	1925
27	Nagaland	44530	3720
28	Sikkim	16418	1614
29	Tripura	141510	17927
<b>Union Territories</b>			
30	A&N Islands	556	0
31	Chandigarh	2975	942
32	D&N Haveli	8058	1388
33	Daman & Diu	840	470
34	NCT Delhi	119403	36361
35	Lakshadweep	203	93
36	Puducherry	17713	9785
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>21396057</b>	<b>5726184</b>

