

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2048
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.03.2020

Pension under NSAP in Odisha

2048. SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large percentage of the population in Odisha consists of the elderly, which is considerably higher than the national average;
- (b) if so, the details of the percentage of the elderly in Odisha benefiting from pension scheme under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP);
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure that maximum number of the elderly come under the benefits of this scheme, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government has any plans to increase the amount of pension under the said scheme, particularly for those above 80 years of age and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

- (a) As per the Census-2011 data, the percentage of elderly population in Odisha is 9.49%, which is higher than the national average of 8.58%.
- (b) The total number of beneficiaries under old age pension scheme under NSAP is 14.19 lakh in the State of Odisha and the percentage of elderly persons in Odisha benefiting from old age pension scheme under NSAP is 35.60%.
- (c) For effective implementation of the scheme, information technology interface has been strengthened. With this initiative list of beneficiaries has been fully digitized and funds under the scheme are released to the State on the basis of digitized number of beneficiaries.
- (d) A third party evaluation study of NSAP has been initiated. The broad terms of reference of the study inter-alia include documentation of best practices and to bring about uniformity in the implementation of the scheme in all States/ UTs and to suggest changes in assistance and criteria related to various schemes included under NSAP.
