

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1120
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2022

PENSION TO DESTITUTE AND WIDOW WOMEN

1120. SHRI CHUNNI LAL SAHU

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an initiative has been taken to eliminate the compulsion to be enlisted in the BPL list of census survey of 2002 and 2011 to provide pension to many underage destitute, poor widow and deserted women in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for not providing pension to the underage destitute, poor widow and deserted women in Chhattisgarh;
- (c) If not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the said women are facing many problems in earning livelihood on account of being deprived of the various schemes of the Government too; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken/is considering to take appropriate steps in this regard to identify and include them in welfare schemes and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e) There are a number of schemes being implemented by various Ministries of the Government of India for providing assistance to widows, deserted and abandoned women. This Ministry implements a number of schemes for widow, deserted and abandoned women in the country which are centrally sponsored schemes. Details of the schemes are as under:

- i. **Swadhar Greh Scheme:** The Ministry of Women and Child Development implements Swadhar Greh Scheme which envisions a supportive institutional framework for women victims of difficult circumstances so that they could lead their life with dignity and conviction. It envisages shelter, food, clothing and health as well as economic and social security for such women. It also envisions that the special needs of these women are properly taken care of and under no circumstances they should be left unattended or abandoned which could lead to their exploitation and desolation.

- ii. **Ujjawala:** It is a comprehensive scheme implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development which includes five components, viz., prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, re-integration and repatriation, if needed. In the protective and rehabilitative homes under the scheme, basic amenities such food, clothing and other items of personal use, medical care, legal aid etc. are provided to the victims.
- iii. **Home for Widows:** A Home for widows has been set up in Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh with a capacity of 1,000 inmates to provide widows a safe and secure place of stay, health services, nutritious food, legal and counselling services.

The Schemes of other Ministries include:

- iv. **Atal Pension Yojana (APY):** This scheme is implemented with an objective to create a universal social security system for all Indians, especially the poor, the under privileged and workers in the unorganized sector. The scheme is open to all citizens of India between 18-40 years of age having a saving bank account in a bank or post office.
- v. **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)** is a social security programme for senior citizens, widows, disabled persons and bereaved families on death of primary bread winners belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in rural as well as urban areas. Under NSAP, monthly pension at the rate of Rs.300/- per person per month to widows and disable persons in the age group of 40 to 79 years and 18 to 79 years, respectively, and Rs.200/- per person per month to old age persons in the age group of 60 to 79 years belonging to BPL households is being paid. The amount of pension is increased to Rs. 500/- per person per month in respect of these beneficiaries on reaching the age of 80 years. A onetime assistance of Rs. 20,000/- is provided to a bereaved BPL family on the death of the primary breadwinner of the family. An amount of Rs. 27,767.02 lakh has been released to Chhattisgarh State during FY 2021-22 for implementing NSAP Schemes.
- vi. **Prime Minister Awaas Yojana (PMAY-G):** This scheme aims to provide 'Housing for All' through provision of pucca house with basic amenities to all houseless households and households living in kutcha and dilapidated house in rural areas by 2022. This will also benefit the neglected, abandoned and destitute widows.
- vii. **Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY-U):** This is a Scheme with a vision for facilitating Housing for All by 2022 started from 17.06.2015. Under this scheme, central assistance is provided to States/UTs in addressing the housing requirement of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) including slum dwellers in the urban areas. However, under Credit linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) component of the Mission, LIG, MIG I & MIG II segments are also covered.
