

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3353**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2022

**SCHEME FOR WIDOW**

3353. SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR

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

- (a) whether according to the 2001 census, several lakh widows are leading a miserable life in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons these unfortunate widows are forced to lead such wretched lives just because their husbands have died;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any special scheme to gradually rescue these unfortunate widows in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d) Census 2011 (as also Census 2001) gives the number of widows in the country and not their economic condition. The number of widows as per Census 2011 is at Annexure.

There are a number of schemes being implemented by various Ministries of the Government of India for safety, security and empowerment of women, including widows. The major schemes of Government of India in this regard are:

**Home for Widows:** A Home for widows 'Krishna Kutir' 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.

**Shakti Sadan:** Under the newly launched umbrella scheme 'Mission Shakti', an integrated women empowerment programme for safety, security and empowerment of women, Shakti Sadan is a component under the sub-scheme 'Samarthyaa'. Shakti Sadan caters to primary needs of women in difficult circumstances – women and girls rendered homeless due to family discord, crime, violence, mental stress, social ostracism or being forced into prostitution and are in moral danger. Shakti Sadan also aims at prevention of trafficking and rescue, rehabilitation, re-integration and repatriation of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. The scheme through the provisions of shelter, food, clothing, counselling, vocational and skill upgradation training, clinical and legal aid aims to rehabilitate such women economically and emotionally.

**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 disabled 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.

**Atal Pension Yojana (APY):** This scheme is implemented with an objective to create a universal social security system for all Indians, especially the poor, 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.

**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.

**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.

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**Annexure**

Annexure referred to in reply of parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3353 for reply on 05.08.2022.

**State-wise number of Widows as per Census 2011**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States/UTs</b>	<b>No. of Widows</b>
1.	JAMMU & KASHMIR	283650
2.	HIMACHAL PRADESH	293475
3.	PUNJAB	928158
4.	CHANDIGARH	24496
5.	UTTARAKHAND	387215
6.	HARYANA	773297
7.	NCT OF DELHI	456613
8.	RAJASTHAN	1983634
9.	UTTAR PRADESH	4856188
10.	BIHAR	2238793
11.	SIKKIM	13717
12.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	31787
13.	NAGALAND	39496
14.	MANIPUR	77990
15.	MIZORAM	28569
16.	TRIPURA	164969
17.	MEGHALAYA	84825
18.	ASSAM	1156042
19.	WEST BENGAL	3792184
20.	JHARKHAND	1027878
21.	ODISHA	1612627
22.	CHHATTISGARH	973787
23.	MADHYA PRADESH	2160609
24.	GUJARAT	2015742
25.	DAMAN & DIU	6816
26.	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	7378
27.	MAHARASHTRA	4520764
28.	ANDHRA PRADESH	4297481
29.	KARNATAKA	2989429
30.	GOA	77935
31.	LAKSHADWEEP	2448
32.	KERALA	2010984
33.	TAMIL NADU	3856398
34.	PUDUCHERRY	73579
35.	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	12525
<b>INDIA</b>		<b>43261478</b>