

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2778
ANSWERED ON 10/03/2026**

NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

2778. Shri Bharatsinhji Shankarji Dabhi:

**Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara:
Shri Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri:
Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh:
Shri Nalin Soren:
Shri Bibhu Prasad Tarai:
Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah:
Shri Jagdambika Pal:
Shri Captain Brijesh Chowta:
Dr. Hemang Joshi:
Shri Yogender Chandolia:
Shri Rajesh Naranbhai Chudasama:
Smt. Aparajita Sarangi:
Dr. Nishikant Dubey:
Shri Shankar Lalwani:
Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:
Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab:
Smt. Mahima Kumari Mewar:
Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal:
Shri Haribhai Patel:
Shri Godam Nagesh:**

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) as of January 2026, State and district-wise including Karnataka and Dakshina Kannada;**
- (b) the details of beneficiaries covered under the five sub-schemes—Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS), and the Annapurna Scheme, State-wise;**
- (c) whether Gram Panchayats and Municipalities are correctly identifying eligible beneficiaries, if so, the details thereof;**

- (d) whether there are any plans to increase pension amounts or expand coverage, if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Ministry has assessed the impact of the scheme on poverty reduction especially for vulnerable sections, including the district-level assessment conducted in Dakshina Kannada; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN)**

(a) & (b): National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) caters to 3.09 crore BPL beneficiaries with scheme-wise ceiling/cap on the number of beneficiaries for each State/UT. Scheme-wise and State-wise ceiling of number of beneficiaries and State-wise fund released under NSAP, including Karnataka, during the last year and current year (as on 31st January, 2026) are given at Annexure. The Ministry releases funds to the States/UTs and the States/UTs further release funds to the beneficiaries.

(c): Under NSAP, the identification of eligible beneficiaries is carried out by Gram Panchayats and Municipalities in accordance with the scheme guidelines. Local bodies play a central role in proactively identifying eligible persons. Applications are verified by designated State/UT authorities with reference to eligibility criteria, and the list of applicants is discussed in the Gram Sabha/Ward Sabha before sanction by the competent authority.

(d): At present, there is no proposal under consideration to revise the coverage/rate of assistance under NSAP.

(e) & (f): From time to time, various impact assessment and evaluation studies have been carried out to assess the impact of NSAP schemes by the Ministry and NITI Aayog. The assessments indicate satisfactory implementation at the grassroots level, with most beneficiaries expressing overall satisfaction with the processes of selection, sanction, and disbursement of pensions. The studies also find that pensions are primarily used to meet essential needs such as food and healthcare. At the same time, they have recommended further strengthening of the programme through measures such as improving adequacy of assistance, ensuring timely and regular payments, enhancing beneficiary verification and monitoring systems etc.

A third-party evaluation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, including NSAP conducted by NITI Aayog finds that the NSAP remains highly relevant in its present form, as it aligns with national priorities and international commitments by providing a social safety net for vulnerable category of persons. The programme contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Social Protection (SDG 1.3), Reducing Inequalities (SDG 10), and Ending Hunger (SDG 2.1).

Annexure

Annexure referred to in part (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2778 to be answered on 10.03.2026 regarding “National Social Assistance Programme”

Scheme-wise and State-wise ceiling of number of beneficiaries under NSAP

	States/UTs	IGNOAPS	IGNWPS	IGNDPS	NFBS	Annapurna
1	Andhra Pradesh	663736	246832	24412	10906	54354
2	Bihar	3157256	635091	127100	35859	166600
3	Chhattisgarh	644429	203628	32085	12801	24196
4	Goa	7308	5886	466	225	420
5	Gujarat	620548	276078	20327	10695	35377
6	Haryana	259865	70808	16583	4154	
7	Himachal Pradesh	93178	21974	853	684	2644
8	Jharkhand	985094	266077	26349	14148	54939
9	Karnataka	899422	452027	44825	18312	
10	Kerala	458813	368358	19285	4358	36904
11	Madhya Pradesh	1575079	546920	101470	30826	
12	Maharashtra	1122920	80725	9322	34987	108000
13	Odisha	1418631	525045	90283	24697	64800
14	Punjab	112955	19294	5982	2673	
15	Rajasthan	823972	315048	30513	12347	47500
16	Tamilnadu	1282504	574258	64096	18445	66388
17	Telangana	480315	180720	20578	7794	38846
18	Uttar Pradesh	4722613	1025236	85773	73075	
19	Uttarakhand	204557	23898	2880	4808	
20	West Bengal	1281159	726172	59941	21553	65068
21	Arunachal Pradesh	5893	288	112	346	1840
22	Assam	695997	119955	34579	8524	25308
23	Manipur	55891	7075	1005	669	3320
24	Meghalaya	55734	8024	1558	781	3580
25	Mizoram	24524	2278	722	197	1000
26	Nagaland	45941	3827	1011	535	2600
27	Sikkim	16928	1469	457	175	960
28	Tripura	135232	17537	2131	984	5740
29	A&N Islands	585	3	2	86	560
30	Chandigarh	2378	2486	100	80	440
31	D&N Haveli and D&D	8754	2109	310	119	358
32	NCT Delhi	113824	36361	4635	2270	8040
33	J&K	130298	7631	2465	323	10220
34	Ladakh	6486	443	219	112	7260
35	Lakshadweep	155	87	51	9	60
36	Puducherry	17713	9821	1271	283	1580
	GRAND TOTAL	22130687	6783469	833751	358840	831642

**State-wise fund released under NSAP (excluding Annapurna scheme)
during the last year and current year (as on 31st January, 2026)**

(Rs. in crore)

	States/UTs	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26 (As on 31.01.2026)
1	Andhra Pradesh	354.49	273.10
2	Bihar	1390.68	691.80
3	Chhattisgarh	375.26	154.17
4	Goa	0.00	0.00
5	Gujarat	207.55	85.51
6	Haryana	10.70	39.95
7	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	77.28
8	Jharkhand	324.79	237.63
9	Karnataka	113.93	631.12
10	Kerala	131.24	273.85
11	Madhya Pradesh	889.77	553.75
12	Maharashtra	534.13	0.00
13	Odisha	549.53	147.96
14	Punjab	22.88	10.94
15	Rajasthan	608.67	148.93
16	Tamilnadu	640.77	326.34
17	Telangana	0.00	171.19
18	Uttar Pradesh	1947.38	813.48
19	Uttarakhand	111.85	78.67
20	West Bengal	796.40	612.45
21	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
22	Assam	319.19	96.98
23	Manipur	21.94	0.00
24	Meghalaya	21.81	17.14
25	Mizoram	14.01	2.00
26	Nagaland	30.58	18.62
27	Sikkim	0.00	0.00
28	Tripura	56.13	44.07
29	A&N Islands	0.00	0.00
30	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00
31	D&N Haveli and D&D	0.00	0.00
32	NCT Delhi	117.83	13.48
33	J&K	34.64	24.13
34	Ladakh	5.74	1.49
35	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00
36	Puducherry	0.00	0.00
	GRAND TOTAL	9631.89	5546.02

Note: Annapurna scheme is demand driven. There was no demand under scheme.
