

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2782
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2016**

†2782. WOMEN SENIOR CITIZENS

SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to make the policies/schemes meant for the welfare of senior citizens more effective;
- (b) whether the Government has received any suggestions to reduce the eligibility age of women senior citizens in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a): This Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP), under which financial assistance, in the form of grants-in-aid is given to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies, Non-Governmental Voluntary Organisations, Institutions or Organisations set up by Government as autonomous/subordinate bodies, Government Recognized Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals/Nursing Homes, and Recognized Youth Organisations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra sanghathan (NYKS) etc for running and maintenance of, inter-alia, Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units etc. In exceptional cases such financial assistance is also provided to the State Governments/UT administrations.

Each NGO which has been receiving grants under the scheme of IPOP is required to be inspected by the State Government every year, and grant is considered after recommendations of the State level grant-in-aid committee along with the inspection report and other relevant documents are received through the State Government. The Ministry also obtains utilization certificate and audited accounts duly certified by a Chartered Accountant from the grantee NGOs in order to ensure proper utilization of funds and release of funds for subsequent year is considered only after receipt of utilization certificate of the previous year's grant.

- (b): No such suggestions has been received in this Ministry.
- (c): Does not arise.
