GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3112 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2016

PENSION TO FARM LABOURERS

3112. SHRIMATI NEELAM SONKER:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to implement welfare schemes for rural farm labourers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the farm labourers get work for six months only in a year and if so, the details thereof:
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide any pension/compensation during the remaining period of six months; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this pension/compensation is likely to be provided to them?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Rural Development, inter alia, is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyay- Gramin Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana –Gramin (PMAY-G) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) to bring about overall improvement in the quality of life of the people including farm labourers in rural areas of the country through employment generation, promotion of self employment, skilling of rural youths, provision of social assistance and other basic amenities.

MGNREGA guarantees at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The farm labourers are eligible to avail benefits from these programmes upon fulfilling eligibility criteria laid down in the programmes guidelines.

National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is a social assistance programme for the aged, widows, disabled and bereaved families on the death of primary breadwinner belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. NSAP comprises of 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 Annapurna. The farm labourers are eligible to avail benefits from these programmes upon fulfilling eligibility criteria laid down in the programmes guidelines.

Besides, the Government has also enacted National Food Security Act, 2013 to cover upto seventy five percent of rural population of the country for receiving food grains at subsidized prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).