

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3718  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005  
OLD AGE PENSION TO TRIBALS  
Murmu Shri Rupchand

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has any plan to pay a monthly pension of Rs. 500 to tribals after the age 60 years and to those who are living below poverty line;
- (b) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be started;
- (c) the number of persons will be benefited;
- (d) whether any State Government has launched similar scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

- (a) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has no scheme/plan to pay a monthly pension of Rs. 500 to tribals after the age of 60 years and to those who are living below poverty line.
- (b)&(c) Do not arise.
- (d) & (e) The Ministry of Rural Development had been administering the Centrally Sponsored National Social Assistance Programme consisting of National Old Age Pension Scheme and the National Family Benefit Scheme until the programme was transferred to the State Plan along with the Annapurna Scheme with effect from the financial year 2002-03 and the States/UTs have requisite flexibility in the choice and implementation of the Schemes. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not received information about any such scheme being launched by any State Government.