

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1455

ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012

PENSION SCHEMES FOR WIDOW OLD AGE HANDICAPPED

Jaiswal Dr. Sanjay ;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Sushant Dr. Rajan

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to amend widow pension and old age pension rules;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to remove certain conditions while granting pension to elderly, handicapped and widow;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to increase the amount of pension being provided to widow/old age/ handicapped persons; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a)&(b): At present there is no proposal under consideration to amend widow pension and old age pension rules.

(c)&(d): Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) is applicable to persons who are 60 years and above and Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) is applicable to widows who are in the age group of 40-59 years. Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) is applicable to persons with severely or multiple disabilities in the age group of 18-59 years. All three pension schemes are applicable to persons belonging to household living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by Government of India. Apart from the eligibility criteria as stated, there are no other conditions prescribed to receive central assistance.

(e)&(f): The Hon`ble Finance Minister in Budget speech for 2012-13 announced that `under the ongoing Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) for BPL beneficiaries, the monthly pension amount per person is being raised from 200/- to 300/-.`