

- (iii) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) based MIS has been made operational to make data available to public scrutiny including job cards, muster/ rolls, employment demanded and number of days worked, shelf of works, funds available/spent, social audit findings, registering grievances etc.
- (iv) State Governments have been advised to make use of ICT enabled models like Business Correspondent, Rural ATM, handheld devices, smart cards, bio-metrics, mobile banking etc., for easy wage payments to MGNREGA workers.
- (v) In consultation with the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, MGNREGA Audit of Schemes Rules, 2011 has been notified on 30th June, 2011.
- (vi) Instructions have been issued directing all States to appoint Ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal.

(d) The information is being collected from the State Governments Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Beneficiaries of IGNOAPS

3099. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any instructions have been issued by the Central Government to the States with reference to the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure that the beneficiaries receive the pension in time in cases of shortage, non release and delays in release of funds from centre;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the total number of beneficiaries enrolled in the scheme and those who have started receiving pension, state-wise and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Schemes (IGNOAPS) was launched in November 2007 by modifying the eligibility criteria to make it applicable to all persons who are 65 years and above and belonging to a household below poverty line as per criteria

prescribed by Government of India. Further, *w.e.f.* 1.4.2011, eligibility age for old age pension has been lowered from 65 years to 60 years and amount of pension has been increased from Rs. 200 per month to Rs. 500 per month for beneficiaries who are 80 years and above. Accordingly, guidelines have been issued to States in the year 2007 and in 2011 to identify the beneficiaries eligible to receive central assistance as per the decision of the Government.

(c) and (d) Adequate funds are released as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) every quarter/month to the States by Ministry of Finance and to the UTs by Ministry of Home Affairs, to meet the requirement for number of beneficiaries eligible to receive central assistance.

(e) IGNOAPS is a component National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which is under State Plan. Identification of beneficiaries, sanction and disbursement of pension are responsibilities of the State Governments. The number of beneficiaries provided assistance under IGNOAPS, State-wise is as in statement.

Statement

Number of beneficiaries under IGNOAPS

Sl.No.	States/UTs	No. of beneficiaries provided central assistance under IGNOAPS as on 31.03.2011
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	971709
2	Bihar	2341267
3	Chhattisgarh	530193
4	Goa	2734
5	Gujarat	298519
6	Haryana	130306
7	Himachal Pradesh	90619
8	J&K	129000
9	Jharkhand	650145
10	Karnataka	782538

1	2	3
11	Kerala	185316
12	Madhya Pradesh	1166199
13	Maharashtra	1072113
14	Orissa	1193176
15	Punjab	159792
16	Rajasthan	574828
17	Tamil Nadu	1014172
18	Uttar Pradesh	3274780
19	Uttarakhand	191168
20	West Bengal	1271631
21	Arunachal Pradesh	14500
22	Assam	598965
23	Manipur	50714
24	Meghalaya	48112
25	Mizoram	23747
26	Nagaland	40462
27	Sikkim	15169
28	Tripura	136592
29	A & N Islands	1063
30	Chandigarh	4094
31	D & N Haveli	944
32	Daman & Diu	130
33	NCT Delhi	94000
34	Lakshadweep	36
35	Puducherry	15523
Grand Total		17074256