

(c) whether the stipulation that not exceeding 16 per cent of the administrative expenses shall be met from out of the income of Employees Pension Fund has been scrupulously followed; and

(d) whether there is any violation of this stipulation and if so, in which years and by what percentage?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) Total amount held under Employees' Pension Fund Account as on 31 March 2011 is Rs. 1,42,760.89 Crore.

(b) Interest income earned on the investment during 2010-11 is Rs. 10,732.67 Crore.

(c) The stipulation regarding administrative expenses to be met from Employees Pension Fund has been done away with from 6th January 2007. As per Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, all administrative expenses are to be met from the Central Administration Account of the Employees' Provident Fund.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

Enhancement of pension in unorganized sector

2911. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

SHRI K.E. ISMAIL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost 94 per cent of Indian workforce are engaged in the unorganized sector and deprived of various social security benefits during work periods and also after the cessation of work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many of these receive a monthly pension of Rs. 750/- only as old age pension;

(d) whether the Central Government has received representations from various organizations demanding enhancement of the pension to at least Rs. 1500/- per month; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) and (b) According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 2009-10, the total number of workers employed in the unorganized sector was 43.7 crore which is about 93% of the total employment.

Recognizing the need for providing social security to unorganized workers, the Government has enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act 2008. The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board to recommend social security schemes viz life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganized workers. The Government has launched the following schemes to provide social security to certain categories of unorganized workers.

The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) was launched on 1st October, 2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000/- per annum on a family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. More than 2.89 crore BPL families have been covered as on 25.04.2012.

RSBY has been extended to building and other construction workers {registered under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1996}, street vendors, beedi workers, MGNREGA beneficiaries (who have worked for more than 15 days during the preceding financial year) and domestic workers.

The Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) was launched on 02.10.2007 to provide insurance cover to the head of family or one earning member of rural landless households. Under the scheme, the head of the family or one earning member in the family is insured. The benefits include Rs. 30,000 in case of natural death; Rs. 75,000 for accident death or total permanent disability due to accident and Rs. 37,500 for partial disability due to accident. The premium of Rs. 200 per member per annum is equally shared in the ratio of 50:50 between Central Government and respective State Government/Union Territory. The children of beneficiaries of AABY studying between classes IX and XII are eligible for a scholarship @ Rs.100/- per month upto a maximum of two children. More than 1.98 crore lives have been covered under the scheme as on 29.02.2012.

To encourage the workers of unorganized sector to voluntarily save for their retirement and to lower the cost of operations of the New Pension System (NPS) for such subscribers, the Central Government launched a co-contributory pension scheme 'Swavalamban' on 29.09.2010.

(c) Under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) which is part of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), old age pension is provided to a person of age 60 years and above and belonging to a household living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by the Government of India. The rate of central assistance is Rs. 200/- p.m. for beneficiaries in the age group of 60-79 years and enhanced to Rs. 500/- per month for beneficiaries of 80 years and above. States have also been requested to contribute at least an equal amount from their own resources.

The total monthly pension amount disbursed by States varies depending upon the State contribution.

(d) and (e) The Government has been receiving representations from various organizations/individuals for increase in the amount of old age pension. The central assistance under the scheme of NSAP is increased from time to time depending on the availability of resources and keeping in view the financial implication to the total number of beneficiaries all over India. The details of such representations received is given in Statement.

Statement

Representation received in National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) Division of the Ministry of Rural Development from individuals/organizations for increase in amount of pension under IGNOAPS.

Sl.No	Details of Applicant	Suggested amount of pension
1	Smt Madhuri Atul Patel, Mayor, Municipal Corporation, Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh	Increase in pension from time to time
2.	Shri Om Prakash Dhiman, AISC& ST Federation, 6 Moula Nagar, Bareilly, UP	Rs. 1000
3	Shri S K Irfani, 16/510, Indra Nagar Haldwani, district- Nainital, Uttarakhand	Rs. 1200
4	Shri C. S. Sawant, A/P. Ubha Bazar, Behind Narayan Temple, Sawantwadi, Distt-Sindhudurga, Maharashtra	Rs. 2000
5.	Smt. Mariyam Bibi, Chairperson, District Planning Committee, Zilla Parishad South Andaman, Port Blair	Increase in pension amount from Rs. 500
6.	Shri Somnath Chatterjee, P-514, Raja Basanta Roy road, Kolkata	Rs. 600
7	All India Senior Citizens Confederation, Jyestha Nagrik Bhawan, Nerul (West), Navi Mumbai-400706	Rs. 1000
8	Rajasthan Grameen Majdoor Organisation, Bakra Road, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan	Rs. 3000
9	Social Security Foundation, Tripolia Bazar, Jaipur	Rs. 600