

Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) was expanded by revising the eligibility criteria. The persons living below poverty line and above the age of 60 years are eligible for old age pension of Rs. 200 per month. For persons above the age of 80 years, the amount of pension has been raised to Rs. 500 per month. More than 1.90 crore beneficiaries have been covered under IGNOAPS as on 29.02.2012.

Similar Social Security Board shall be constituted at the State Level also. As per available information, States of Karnataka, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Assam have constituted State Social Security Board and framed Rules under the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. State of Gujarat, Orissa, Kerala and Tripura have framed rules only.

State of Tamilnadu has, however, informed that there is no requirement of constitution of State Social Security Board in the State as it is already implementing various welfare schemes for unorganized workers.

Amending Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for MNREGA

888. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN :

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

(a) whether the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is to be amended to empower Government to fix a lower figure for payment to those employed under Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decision comes in the wake of the Karnataka High Court verdict; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no such proposal.

(b) to (d) Not applicable.

Vocational Training Programme for Women

889. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY :

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

(a) the details of vocational training programme being run for women;