

cost for construction of school complex mandatorily. The Central Government will provide capital cost for construction of school complex and eligible recurring cost for the first three years. In addition, one-time grant for procurement of essential and non-recurring items like furniture, recreation, garden, etc. is proposed to be provided by the Central Government.

(c) No, Sir. No proposal has been received from Jharkhand for setting up residential schools.

Financial assistance to senior citizen

769. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had announced schemes to provide financial assistance to senior citizen and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total amount of funds allocated for this scheme; and

(c) how many and in what manner senior citizens have been benefited under this scheme till 31st December, 2017?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) since 1992 under which grants-in-aid are given by the Ministry for running and maintenance of *inter alia*, Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units, Multi Facility Care Centre for Older Widows etc. The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the quality of life of Older Persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities etc. Implementing agencies eligible for assistance under the Scheme are Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies, Non-Governmental Voluntary Organizations, Institutions or Organizations set up by Government as autonomous/subordinate bodies, Government Recognized Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals/Nursing Homes, and Recognized Youth Organizations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sanghathan (NYKS) and in exceptional cases the State Governments/UT administrations.

This Ministry has recently launched the 'Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)' with an objective to provide senior citizens, belonging to BPL category and suffering from age related disabilities/ infirmities, with such physical aids and assisted living devices which can restore near normalcy in their bodily functions. Under the Scheme, assisted living

devices such as walking sticks, elbow crutches, walkers/ crutches, tripods/ quadpods, hearing aids, wheelchairs, artificial dentures, spectacles are distributed to the beneficiary senior citizens.

(b) and (c) The details of funds allocated and senior citizens benefited under the various schemes are as under:—

Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP): ₹ 46.00 crores have been allocated for the year 2017-18 for the Scheme. The expenditure and the details of Senior Citizens benefited under the Scheme of IPOP are as under:—

Financial Year	Expenditure (₹ in crore)	No. of Beneficiaries
2014-15	14.99	18225
2015-16	27.58	23095
2016-17	36.99	40200
2017-18 (as on 31.12.2017)	20.79	21985

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY): The Scheme is entirely funded from the Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund (SCWF). The expected outlay for the Scheme till 2019-20 is ₹ 483.6 Crores. The National launch of Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana was held at Nellore (A.P.) on 1st April, 2017. Till 31st December, 2017, 16 distribution camps were organized and 24,118 beneficiaries were provided physical aids and assistive devices.

Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY):—The Department of Financial Services is implementing "Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)" to protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to the uncertain market conditions, as also to provide social security during old age. Government launched a simplified scheme of assured pension of 8% called the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)". This Scheme has been launched through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India. As per the scheme, on payment of an initial lump sum amount ranging from a minimum purchase price of ₹ 1,50,000/- for a minimum pension of ₹ 1000/- per month to a maximum purchase price of ₹ 7,50,000/- for a maximum pension of ₹ 5,000/- per month, subscribers will get an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8 % per annum, payable monthly/quarterly/half-yearly/annually. The duration of the scheme will be for a period of ten years and the scheme is open for subscription for a period of one year *i.e.* from 4th May, 2017 to 3rd May, 2018. As on 20.01.2018, a total of numbers of 2.18 lakh policies have been issued under PMVVY.

In the Budget Speech 2018-19, the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana has been extended up to March, 2020 and the existing limit on investment of ₹ 7.5 lakh under this scheme has also been enhanced to ₹ 15 lakh.

Welfare of senior citizen

770. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated any action to provide financial support and exploring ideas like additional tax benefit and higher interest rates and also to ensure security and healthcare for the welfare of senior citizen;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) (i) The Department of Financial Services is implementing "Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)" to protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to the uncertain market conditions, as also to provide social security during old age, Government launched a simplified scheme of assured pension of 8% called the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)". This Scheme has been launched through Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India. As per the scheme, on payment of an initial lump sum amount ranging from a minimum purchase price of ₹ 1,50,000/- for a minimum pension of ₹ 1000/- per month to a maximum purchase price of ₹ 7,50,000/- for a maximum pension of ₹ 5,000/- per month, subscribers will get an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8 % per annum, payable monthly/quarterly/half-yearly/annually. The duration of the scheme will be for a period of ten years and the scheme is open for subscription for a period of one year *i.e.* from 4th May, 2017 to 3rd May, 2018. As on 20.01.2018, a total of numbers of 2.18 lakh policies have been issued under PMVVY.