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No. J-11015/ 1 /2011-NSAP
Government of India
Ministry of Rural Development

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi 110114
Dated 30th June 2011

To,

The Secretary
In-charge of NSAP
All States/ Union Territories

Subject: Lowering of age limit under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) from 65 years to 60 years and increase in central assistance to beneficiaries of 80 years and above- regarding.

Sir,

This is to inform that Government of India has decided to lower the age limit from 65 to 60 years under ongoing Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS). Government has also decided to increase the rate of central assistance from Rs.200 to Rs.500 for IGNOAPS beneficiaries of 80 years and above. The revised norms would be effective from 1.4.2011.

2. Further, due to revision in age limit from 65 to 60 years under IGNOAPS, the upper age limit under Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) have also been revised from 64 years to 59 years. IGNWPS would henceforth be applicable for BPL widows in the age group of 40-59 years and IGNDPS would be applicable for BPL persons with severe or disabilities in the age group of 18-59 years. Accordingly, revised guidelines under IGNOAPS, IGNWPS and IGNDPS have been separately issued by this Ministry (copies enclosed).

3. In view of the above, the States are requested to take immediate follow up action to implement the above decisions as per the following:-

- a) States with existing State pension schemes are requested to identify the eligible beneficiaries in the age group of 60-64 yrs from the existing pensioners who fulfill the criteria of IGNOAPS.
- b) States who have paid pension @ Rs.200 or more from their resources for existing eligible beneficiaries (60-64 yrs) can reimburse expenditure from ACA @ Rs.200 per month per beneficiary after migrating them to IGNOAPS. States who have paid pension @ less than Rs.200 per month may reimburse the actual amount paid by them upto June 2011.
- c) From July 2011 all beneficiaries in the age group of 60-79 years should be paid central assistance of at least Rs.200 along with State contribution. However, new beneficiaries identified as per the revised eligibility criteria will have to be paid from the date of sanction only.
- d) All other States who do not have any existing old age pension scheme for persons in the age group of 60-64 years are requested to identify the

