



# ASARA PENSIONS IN TELANGANA STATE A CASE STUDY OF THIRMALAPUR VILLAGE, MAHABUBNAGAR DIST.

**S. Siva Prasad.**

Assistant Prof. of Economics,  
MVS Govt. arts & Science College (A),  
Mahabubnagar. Telangana.

Email: [shivaprasadsk6553@gmail.com](mailto:shivaprasadsk6553@gmail.com)

Phone: 9908660553.

## Abstract

The Telangana State formed in 2nd June 2014. After the a day survey i.e., 19th Aug 2014, the government of Telangana launched the AASARA Pension scheme which will be benefitted by the Old age pensioner, Widows, Disable Pensioner's, Weavers Pensioner, Toddy Pensioner, and Single women. This paper elucidates the AASARA Pension Scheme & explores the challenges and outcome of the scheme at Thirmalapur Village in Mahabubnagar Dist. Telangana State. The Paper analyses the beneficiaries especially the old age pensioner and how far the old pensioner are getting benefit through this scheme in the newly formed state of Telangana and suggests measures to overcome the challenges.

## Key Words

Old age pensioner, Vulnerable sections, Social status and security.

## Introduction

The Government of Telangana as a part of its social safety net strategy, hereby prestigious scheme introduces the Aasara pensions with a view to ensure secure life with dignity for all the destitute families. This scheme is meant to protect the most vulnerable sections of society in particular the old and infirm people with HIV-AIDS, widows, incapacitated weavers and toddy tappers, who have lost their means of livelihood with growing age, in order to assist their day to day minimum needs required to lead a life of dignity and social security.

2. In the past, social security pensions provided were meager and, barely sufficient to cover the basic minimum requirements of the needy. With a view to combat the ever-increasing cost of living and inflation,

the Government, hereby, introduces a new scheme called Aasara pensions, which will provide substantial financial benefits to all the above categories, particularly those who are most needy.

3. Government with a view to identify eligible beneficiaries conducted a comprehensive one day Samagra Kutumba Survey (SKS) of households in the State of Telangana on August 19, 2014. The data was collected during the Survey is expected to form the basis of identifying the poor and vulnerable who are truly eligible for the social safety net protection, through the AASARA Pensions. Towards this purpose, instructions have already been issued vide Memo 6th cited above to commence a detailed process of identification of the poor and vulnerable. To this endeavor, District Collectors will have to strategize the identification of the most poor and vulnerable by broadly assessing exclusion and inclusion criterion. Past experiences have shown that large number of ineligible beneficiaries have managed to appropriate the benefits meant for the poor and vulnerable leading to neglect of the needy and deserving despite their being eligible for pension. Schemes implemented as social security nets are meant for protecting the poor and vulnerable by providing a means to live a life of dignity and alleviating immediate distress. There is therefore a need for utmost care to be taken to ensure that no eligible poor or vulnerable are left out in the process. District Collectors will need to correlate the data with census data of the persons who are old and infirm, with disabilities and widows for their respective district to broadly identify the number of beneficiaries under each category. Similarly, care must be taken to ensure that artisans handicapped by loss of livelihoods due to ageing are also covered adequately as opposed to granting benefits based on the community.

4. Government after careful examination of the proposal are hereby issue the comprehensive guidelines for Aasara pensions in supersession of all order issued in the past on the subject as under: I. Name of the Programme. The new social safety net scheme proposed by the government shall be called Aasara Pension Scheme and shall be effective from October 1, 2014.

In this connection for the case study Thirmalapur village in Mahabubnagar Dist. has been selected by me how for the Asara Pension is being effectively implemented by the state Government.

### Eligibility Criteria

There are different eligibility criteria that have finalized for the different group of beneficiaries which is available under the Telangana Aasara pension scheme for 2020.

#### For Old Age-

- The age should be 65 years and above.
- The applicant must belong to primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups
- Only one pension in a family, preferably women is eligible.

- Landless agriculture laborers, rural artisans/craftsmen slum dwellers, persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector like porters, coolies, rickshaw pullers, hand cart pullers, fruit/flower sellers, snake charmers, rag pickers, cobblers, destitute and other similar categories irrespective of rural or urban areas are also eligible.
- Homeless, houseless households residing in temporary informal establishments or huts especially in urban areas are eligible.
- Households headed by widows or terminally ill persons/disabled persons /persons aged 65 years or more with no assured means of subsistence or societal support are also eligible.

#### For Widow-

- The age of the widow must be above 18 years.
- The applicant must belong to primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups

#### For Weavers-

- The age of the weaver must be above 50 years.
- The applicant must belong to primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups
- Only one pension in a family can avail of the pension.
- By profession, a person should be in weaving, irrespective of rural or urban areas

#### For Toddy Tappers-

- The age of the applicant must be above 50 years.
- The applicant must belong to primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups
- By profession, the person should be in Toddy Tapping, irrespective of rural or urban areas.
- For Toddy tapper pensions the verification should be confirmed whether the beneficiary is a registered member in the Co-Operative Society of Toddy Tappers.

#### For Disabled Person-

- A person of any age can apply for the scheme.
- The applicant must belong to primitive and Vulnerable Tribal Groups

#### Revised Pension Amount

The [government of Telangana](#) has implemented **TS Aasara Pension 2021** after bringing about some amendments. Under these amendments, the pension amount of beneficiaries is increased. The details of the pension amount are as follows:-

Beneficiary Category	Old Amount	Revised Amount
Disable Persons	1000	3000
Single Female	1000	2000
Beedi Labourers	1000	2000
Filaria Patients	1000	2000
HIV Patients	1000	2000
Old Age Pension	1000	2000
Disabled Person	1000	2000

Weavers	1000	2000
Disabled	1000	2000
Widows	1000	2000

## Review of literature

Praveen Jha and et al ( May 2013)

1 highlighted about the the summit conducted in the year 2010 to one of the aspects is to eradicate poverty for all. According to ILO report 28% of the people having social security. Only the fractional section people out of total population are comes under umbrella of social security by the government. Elucidate different type of pension schemes available. Categorized the groups into above poverty line and below poverty line. There have been a limited effort interms of social security for old age.

D.Rajasekhar & et al ( July 2017 )

2 From 2010 onwards government focuses on the welfare of the old age people under the poverty line and explains the schemes such as National Pension System Lite and Atal Pension Yojana schemes. Under this study they failed to fulfill the needs of unorganized workers. Prayas, Pune, India (January 2005)<sup>4</sup> Reli team undertaken this research regarding different popular government schemes draw back in the design and implementation and remedial measures. They find large gap between design and implementation. This researcher identified voices from the grassroots, study made on government schemes for poverty on tribal pensioner, based on the insights and experiences of grassroots social activists.

MouhamadouThile Sow (2014)

3 examined the relationship between two used t – test, ANOVA and divided the total group into two groups i.e., dependent & independent variable. He highlighted if two variables t-test and two or more than two variable ANOVA. Latin square with five treatments randomized to 5X5. The experience pensioner suggest the good and bad experiences old pensioner are the root cause of the growth of the children in the family. But now a day they are neglected one because expect their experiences they cannot monetary contribute to the family. ANOVA was significant due strong effect size.

## Objectives:

- To explore the challenges and outcome of Implementation of the scheme with reference to eligible candidates.
- To suggest measures to overcome the challenges for implementation of this scheme.
- To explain the social security for vulnerable.
- To explain the Social and economical development.
- To explain the consumption pattern.

## Data Interpretation:

**Primary data:** It has been collected through questionnaire method which is consisted 20 questions. With this questionnaire the data received 50 members at Thirmalapur Village Mahabubnagar District.

Sl. No.	Persons	Opinion	Percentage
1	40	Satisfied	80%
2	8	Dissatisfied	16%
3	2	Ineligible	4%

The above data clearly stated that 80% of Thirmalapur villagers highly satisfied with Telangana Government Asara Pensions. 16% of the people are not satisfied with different reasons. 4% of the people are Government pensioners.

## Secondary data:

This data has been collected from Telangana Government official portal.

## Findings:

- To enhance social security and respect
- Consumption pattern, economical self reliance have been achieved
- At present Pensioners are not relayed on family members for financial assistance
- It helps to the Physical challenged people and single woman
- By this pension widows and single woman are very much satisfied and are not in trouble of lost of family head.
- Some pensioners are not satisfied with this amount.
- Some eligibility candidates are in the village has not been sanctioned.
- Political and Nepotism involved in the sanction of the Pension.
- Ineligible persons are also sanctioned the pensions.

## Suggestions:

- Villagers rejecting the Political Involvement.
- Should not give the scope for the nepotism and political involvement.
- Delayed is being minimized for sanction of pension.
- Widows and single woman are demanded one more thousand in addition to present pension amount.
- Eligible candidates must be sanctioned without any prejudice.

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## Conclusion:

Before formation of the Telangana in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh the economically and socially vulnerable were sanctioned two hundred rupees only. After formation of Telangana Pension has been increase for five times the mentioned group of people. Once again the pension has been increase from 1000 to 2000 rupees. With this all eligible people are enjoying with social security, social respect and economically fulfillment of their stand of livings in the Telangana State.

