Social Security Schemes

In order to move towards creating a universal social security system for all Indians, specially the poor and the under-privileged, three ambitious Jan Suraksha Schemes or Social Security Schemes pertaining to Insurance and Pension Sector were announced by the Government in the Budget for 2015-16. The schemes were launched on 9th May, 2015, for providing life & accident risk insurance and social security at a very affordable cost namely (a) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana and (b) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana and (c) Atal Pension Yojana.

**Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)**

The Scheme is available to people in the age group 18 to 70 years with a bank / Post office account who give their consent to join / enable auto-debit on or before 31st May for the coverage period 1st June to 31st May on an annual renewal basis. Aadhaar would be the primary KYC for the bank account. The risk coverage under the scheme is Rs. 2 lakh for accidental death and full disability and Rs. 1 lakh for partial disability. The premium of Rs. 12 per annum is to be deducted from the account holder’s bank / Post office account through ‘auto-debit’ facility in one installment. The scheme is being offered by Public Sector General Insurance Companies or any other General Insurance Company who are offering the product on similar terms with necessary approvals and tie up with Banks and Post Offices for this purpose.

As on 31st March 2019, the gross enrolment by banks, subject to verification of eligibility criteria, is about 15.47 crore under PMSBY and 32,176 claims of Rs. 643.52 Crore have been disbursed.

**Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)**

The scheme is available to people in the age group of 18 to 50 years having a bank/ Post office account who give their consent to join / enable auto-debit. Aadhar would be the primary KYC for the bank account. The life cover of Rs. 2 lakhs is available for a one year period stretching from 1st June to 31st May and is renewable. Risk coverage under this
scheme is for Rs. 2 Lakh in case of death of the insured, due to any reason. The premium is Rs. 330 per annum which is to be auto-debited in one instalment from the subscriber’s bank / Post office account as per the option given by him on or before 31st May of each annual coverage period under the scheme. The scheme is being offered by Life Insurance Corporation and all other life insurers who are offering the product on similar terms with necessary approvals and tie up with Banks and Post Offices for this purpose.

To facilitate all those getting enrolled under PMJJBY for the first time during the middle of the policy period, payment of pro-rata premium has been allowed at a considerable low premium. Thus, if the enrolment takes place during the months of –

- June, July & August – Annual premium of Rs. 330/- is payable.
- September, October & November – 3 quarters of premium @ Rs.86.00 i.e. Rs. 258/- is payable.
- December, January & February – 2 quarters of premium @ Rs.86.00 i.e. Rs. 172/- is payable.
- March, April & May – 1 Qly premium @ Rs.86.00 is payable.

As on 31st March 2019, the gross enrolment by banks, subject to verification of eligibility criteria, is about 5.91 crore people under PMJJBY and 1,35,212 claims of Rs. 2704.24 Crore have been disbursed.

4.3.3 Atal Pension Yojana

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) is being implemented with effect from 1st June, 2015. The Scheme aims to provide monthly pension to eligible subscribers not covered under any organized pension scheme. APY is open to all bank and post office account holders in the age group of 18 to 40 years. Under APY, any subscriber can opt a guaranteed pension of Rs 1000 to Rs 5000 (in multiples of Rs. 1,000) receivable at the age of 60
years. The contributions to be made vary based on pension amount chosen. The key features of APY are as under:

- The APY is primarily focused on all citizens in the unorganised sector, who join the NPS. However, all citizens of the country in the eligible category may join the scheme.
- Any Indian Citizen between 18-40 years of age can join through their savings bank account or post office savings bank account.
- Minimum pension of Rs. 1000 or Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000 or Rs. 4000 or Rs. 5000 is guaranteed by the Government of India to the subscriber at the age of 60 years, with a minimum monthly contribution (for those joining at age 18) of Rs. 42 or Rs. 84 or Rs. 126 or Rs. 168 and Rs. 210, respectively.
- After the subscriber’s demise, the spouse of the subscriber shall be entitled to receive the same pension amount as that of the subscriber until the death of the spouse.
- After the demise of both the subscriber and the spouse, the nominee of the subscriber shall be entitled to receive the pension wealth, as accumulated till age 60 of the subscriber.
- The subscribers in the eligible age, who are not income-tax payers and who are not covered under any statutory social security scheme, are entitled to receive the co-contribution by Central Government of 50% of the total prescribed contribution, up to Rs. 1000 per annum, and this will be available for those eligible subscribers, who join APY before 31st March, 2016. The Central Government co-contribution shall be available for a period of 5 years, i.e., from Financial Year 2015-16 to 2019-20.
- If the actual returns during the accumulation phase are higher than the assumed returns for minimum guaranteed pension, such excess will be passed on to the subscriber.
- The contributions can be made at monthly / quarterly / half yearly intervals through auto debit facility from savings bank account/ post office savings bank account of the subscriber. The monthly / quarterly / half yearly contribution depends upon the intended / desired monthly pension and the age of subscriber at entry.

Major steps have been initiated by the Government to popularize create awareness about APY:

- Simplification of default penal charges
- The mode of payment has been changed from monthly to monthly, quarterly and half yearly keeping in consideration the seasonal income earners.
- Removal of closure of account clause after 24 months and continuation of the account till the time corpus is available in the account.
- Periodic advertisements in print and electronic media.
- Capacity building of bank branch officials through various training programs.
- Participating in town hall meetings, SLBC meetings.
- Conducting meetings with State Governments of Telangana, Kerala, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Orissa.
- Meeting with Secretaries of Union Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development, WCD, Panchayati Raj, Health etc with a view to get their unorganized workforce like MNREGA workers, SHG, Asha workers, Aganwadi workers etc under APY.

As on 31\textsuperscript{st} March 2019, the number of subscribers is 149.53 lakh with Asset under Management (AUM) of Rs. 6860.30 crore.