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Bihar has recently launched a **universal old-age pension scheme** in which each person at the age of 60 years and above, **irrespective of their financial, family or caste status**, will get a monthly pension directly in his/her bank account. The scheme aims to bring all elderly in the state under a social security plan.

- Each male and female at the age of **80 years and above** will get a pension of **Rs 500 per month**, whereas people in the age group of **60-79 years** will get a pension of **Rs 400 per month**.
- **In other states**, generally, **old-age pensions** are provided only to the members of either **BPL family or SC/ST** or widows or disabled persons.
- But in Bihar, each male and female above 60 years, if they are not getting any other pension either from the state or the central government, will be entitled to get old-age pension under this new scheme.
- The state government would make an additional expenditure of Rs 1,800 crore per annum on this scheme.
- The new scheme has been made **effective from 1st April, 2019.**