



NATIONAL INSURANCE SCHEME PROVIDENT FUND PENSION

In 1970, an Agricultural Workers' Provident Fund Act was introduced in Grenada. It required employers to pay fifteen cents (15¢) per day for each worker into the Government of Grenada Consolidated Fund. This was to ensure that a retirement benefit was paid to all agricultural workers.

An evaluation of the provisions under this act was done following its establishment, it was found to be limited and inadequate, and therefore it was repealed. When the National Insurance Scheme was established in 1983, it took over all assets and liabilities in an effort to provide some form of meaningful assistance to these Estate Workers.

However, one of the major difficulties encountered in the effort to provide assistance was the unavailability of records. Most of what was collected from the Ministry of Finance in 1983 was incomplete and in some cases, there was none. This resulted in many persons not being able to obtain their benefits

In 2000, the Scheme in collaboration with the Government of Grenada sought to rectify this situation by inviting applications from all the Estate Workers who may have been affected. In December of that same year, the first batch of 1,300 workers received a pension for the first time. In 2001, a

similar call was made and another batch of 650 workers was paid. Again, in 2006, this process continued and another 421 former Estate Workers began receiving an NIS Age Pension from October 2007, bringing the total payment made to these workers to over \$13.6 million.

Presently, there are 1,590 former Agricultural Workers in receipt of a monthly provident fund pensions from the NIS.