

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:441  
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000  
PEOPLE BELOW POVERTY LINE  
BALIRAM;RAMSHETH THAKUR;SUNIL KHAN

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have constituted a panel of experts to study the latest estimates on poverty and ascertain the comparative figures of people living below poverty line;
- (b) if so; the details thereof;
- (c) whether percentage of people living below poverty line has dipped in 1999-2000 as compared to 1993-94;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the number of people uplifted from below poverty line to above poverty line during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;
- (f) whether the Central assistance being provided for the people living below poverty line is not reaching the actual beneficiaries; and
- (g) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.VENKAIAH NAIDU)

- (a): No such panel has been set up so far.
- (b): Question does not arise.
- (c) to (e): Reliable estimates of percentage of people living below the poverty line in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are not available for comparison with the information during 1993-94.
- (f) & (g): The 5th Round of Concurrent Evaluation (July, 1995 to June, 1996) of the erstwhile Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), has revealed that the assistance provided to the people living below the poverty line is reaching them.