

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4696
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
NORMS OF POVERTY LINE
MANSUKHBHAID. VASAVA

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the norms regulating the poverty line have been revised recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the prescribed norms for availability of calories in food, clothing, housing and sanitation facilities and the standard of living;
- (c) whether the only criteria prescribed under the revised norms is two meals a day;
- (d) if so, the reasons for ignoring the other norms; and
- (e) the state-wise estimated number of people living below the poverty line in the rural and urban areas and the percentage thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) and (b): No, Sir. The poverty line is expressed in terms of per capita consumption expenditure needed to attain a minimum amount of calorie intake out of food consumption along with a minimum amount of non-food expenditure in order to meet the requirements of clothing, shelter, transport etc. These poverty lines were originally recommended by a Task Force on Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand in 1979. Then, in 1993, the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor recommended disaggregation of these national poverty lines into state specific poverty lines using state specific price indices and inter-state price differential.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): The Planning Commission estimates percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organisation. The last such survey was conducted in the 55th Round of the NSS covering the period July 1999 to June 2000. The state-wise estimates of number and percentage of people living below the poverty line in 1999-2000 derived from the 30-day recall tabulation in the Key Results of the 55th Round large sample survey of Household Consumer Expenditure in India carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation, is given in the enclosed Table.

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States - 1999-2000 (30-day Recall period)

Sl.No.	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	No. of (Lakhs)	% of (Lakhs)	No. of Persons	% of Persons	No. of Persons	% of Persons
1. Andhra Pradesh	58.13	11.05	60.88	26.63	119.01	15.77
2. Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	40.04	0.18	7.47	3.98	33.47
3. Assam	92.17	40.04	2.38	7.47	94.55	36.09
4. Bihar	376.51	44.30	49.13	32.91	425.64	42.60
5. Goa	0.11	1.35	0.59	7.52	0.70	4.40
6. Gujarat	39.80	13.17	28.09	15.59	67.89	14.07

1. Andhra Pradesh 58.13 11.05 60.88 26.63 119.01 15.77

2. Arunachal Pradesh 3.80 40.04 0.18 7.47 3.98 33.47

3. Assam 92.17 40.04 2.38 7.47 94.55 36.09

4. Bihar 376.51 44.30 49.13 32.91 425.64 42.60

5. Goa 0.11 1.35 0.59 7.52 0.70 4.40

6. Gujarat 39.80 13.17 28.09 15.59 67.89 14.07

7 Haryana 11.94 8.27 5.39 9.99 17.34 8.74

8. Himachal Pradesh 4.84 7.94 0.29 4.63 5.12 7.63

9. Jammu & Kashmir 2.97 3.97 0.49 1.98 3.46 3.48

10. Karnataka 59.91 17.38 44.49 25.25 104.40 20.04

11. Kerala 20.97 9.38 20.07 20.27 41.04 12.72

12. Madhya Pradesh 217.32 37.06 81.22 38.44 298.54 37.43

13. Maharashtra 125.12 23.72 102.87 26.81 227.99 25.02

14. Manipur 6.53 40.04 0.66 7.47 7.19 28.54

15. Meghalaya 7.89 40.04 0.34 7.47 8.23 33.87

16. Mizoram 1.40 40.04 0.45 7.47 1.85 19.47

17. Nagaland 5.21 40.04 0.28 7.47 5.49 32.67

18. Orissa 143.69 48.01 25.40 42.83 169.09 47.15

19. Punjab 10.20 6.35 4.29 5.75 14.49 6.16

20. Rajasthan 55.06 13.74 26.78 19.85 81.83 15.28

21. Sikkim 2.00 40.04 0.04 7.47 2.05 36.55

22. Tamil Nadu 80.51 20.55 49.97 22.11 130.48 21.12

23. Tripura 12.53 40.04 0.49 7.47 13.02 34.44

24. Uttar Pradesh 412.01 31.22 117.88 30.89 529.89 31.15

25. West Bengal 180.11 31.85 33.38 14.86 213.49 27.02

26. A & N Island 0.58 20.55 0.24 22.11 0.82 20.99

27. Chandigarh 0.06 5.75 0.45 5.75 0.51 5.75

28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli 0.30 17.57 0.03 13.52 0.33 17.14

29. Daman & Diu 0.01 1.35 0.05 7.52 0.06 4.44

30. Delhi 0.07 0.40 11.42 9.42 11.49 8.23

31. Lakshadweep 0.03 9.38 0.08 20.27 0.11 15.60

32. Pondicherry 0.64 20.55 1.77 22.11 2.41 21.67

All India 1932.43 27.09 670.07 23.62 2602.50 26.10

Notes:

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.
4. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.
9. Urban Poverty Ratio of Rajasthan may be treated as tentative.