

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4874
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
ESTIMATES OF POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty, unemployment, labour force and employment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the year in which last survey was conducted by the Planning Commission;
- (c) the criteria fixed for conducting such survey in the country; and
- (d) the reasons for not conducting the survey beyond 1999-2000?

Answer

MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a): Yes Sir. Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty, labour force, work force and unemployment on the basis of quinquennial rounds of large sample surveys on 'Household Consumer Expenditure and Employment and Unemployment' conducted by NSSO, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation in the country.

(b): The latest large sample survey on 'Household Consumer Expenditure and Employment and Unemployment' was conducted during 1999-2000 (NSS 55th Round). The estimates of persons living below the poverty line for 1999-2000 (NSS 55th Round) are as follows:

Percentage and number of poor

Year	Poverty ratio	Number of poor (Million)		
		Rural	Urban	Total
1999-2000	27.1	23.6	26.1	193.2
		67.0		260.2

The number of persons employed per 1000 persons according to usual status and current weekly status as per the survey conducted during July 1999-June 2000 (55th round) were as given below:

Sector	Usual Status		Weekly Status	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Rural	522	231	510	253
Urban	513	117	509	128

The number of persons unemployed per 1000 persons according to usual status and current weekly status as per the survey conducted during July 1999-June 2000 (55th round) were as given below:

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Sector Usual Status Weekly Status
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Male Female Male Female

Rural	21	15	39	37
Urban	48	71	56	73

(c): The official estimates of poverty are based on the Report of the Expert Group on 'Estimation on Proportion and Number of Poor' (Lakadwala Committee) which recommends that such estimates should be based only on the large sample surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation approximately once in every five years. The sample size of such surveys are about 120000 households.

(d): The latest large sample survey was conducted in the 55th round (1999-2000) for which results are available. The next quinquennial round that is 61st round (July 2004-June 2005) of large sample survey on consumer expenditure and employment and unemployment is being conducting by the NSSO. The fieldwork for the 61st round survey is currently under progress and NSS survey results may be available one year after the fieldwork is over