

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1486  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2005  
IDENTIFICATION OF BPL FAMILIES  
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) whether certain States particularly Gujarat have requested the Union Government to lift the restrictions on enrollment of people under Below Poverty Line (BPL) Scheme and to enhance the annual limit for getting benefit under BPL Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Union Government on each such proposal?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): The initial guidelines issued by the Ministry of Rural Development stipulated that the total number of BPL families to be identified under the BPL Census, 2002 should not exceed more than 10% of the poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for the year 1999-2000. A number of States had represented to the Ministry to review the number of BPL households to be identified under the guidelines of BPL Census, 2002. These representations have already been considered by the Ministry and the States have been given enough flexibility to decide the total number of BPL households which may be equal to the poverty estimates of 1999-2000 of the Planning Commission or the Adjusted Share whichever is higher. In addition, 10% flexibility has also been granted on account of transient poor.