

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4031

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004

PARAMETERS TO REDEFINE BPL PEOPLE

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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to redefine the Below Poverty Line (BPL) in terms of parameters of land, housing, clothing, education, health and sanitation besides the earlier parameters, i.e. level of calories consumption; and

(b) if so, the details of the new parameters to redefine BPL people in urban and rural areas separately?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) : The Poverty Line used by the Planning Commission for assessment of the number and percentage of people below the poverty line is based on the recommendation of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (1989), which was adopted in 1997. There is no proposal to redefine the poverty line. However, the Ministry of Rural Development, which is responsible for identification of poor households in rural areas, has proposed a normative approach to identify rural poor for the Tenth Five Year Plan. This approach was a score-based ranking, based on 13 socio-economic indicators. These indicators include size of operational holding of land, type of house, average availability of normal wear / clothing, food security, sanitation, ownership of consumer durables, literacy status, labour force status, means of livelihood, status of children, type of indebtedness, reason for migration and preference for assistance.