

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2769

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008

PEOPLE BELOW POVERTY LINE

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**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of people in the country living below the poverty line and the number out of them belonging to Minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, State-wise/UT-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to improve their standard of living;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take some new measures to meet the millennium development goal in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) : The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of people living below the poverty line at national and state/UT level from the class distribution of persons obtained from the large sample survey data on household consumer expenditure of the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, and the poverty line. Applying the projected population, the number of persons in poverty is estimated from the percentage of persons. The latest estimate of the percentage and number of people living below the poverty line at national and state/UT level is available for the year 2004-05 based on the large sample survey consumer expenditure data of the 61st Round of NSS. These are given in Annexure-I.

The percentage of persons living below the poverty line among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at national and state/UT level in 2004-05 are estimated from the respective distribution of persons as obtained from the large sample survey data of household consumer expenditure of the 61st Round of NSS and the poverty line for all population. These are given in Annexure-II. The estimate of number of poor among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not available. Separate poverty estimate among the minorities is also not available.

(b) to (d) : The Eleventh Five Year Plan has set the growth target for the economy at 9% per year for the Plan period (2007-12) and aims at putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory with a growth of approximately 10% by the end of its period. The central vision of the Eleventh Plan is to trigger a development process, which ensures broad based improvement in the quality of life of the people, especially the poor, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, minorities, etc. The Government is implementing a number of anti-poverty programmes, such as wage employment and asset generation programmes to raise the income of poor, in addition to the income generated from the general growth process. In alleviating poverty and improving the standard of living of the poor, the major schemes and programmes being implemented include Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana, Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Indira Awaas Yojana, National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, Swaran Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana, Targeted Public Distribution System, Antyodaya Anna Yojana, Integrated Child Development Services, Mid-day Meal Scheme, etc. For health, National Rural Health Mission and for education, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is being implemented. For water supply and sanitation, the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and Total Sanitation Campaign, respectively are being implemented. The Government has not drawn any separate programme to meet the Millennium Development Goals. However, the Millennium Development Goals are quite similar to the objectives and targets laid down in the Five Year Plans.

Annexure-I

Number and Percentage of People Below Poverty Line by States/UTs - 2004-05

S.No.	States/U.Ts	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	15.8	126.10
2	Arunachal Pradesh	17.6	2.03
3	Assam	19.7	55.77
4	Bihar	41.4	369.15
5	Chhattisgarh	40.9	90.96
6	Delhi	14.7	22.93
7	Goa	13.8	2.01
8	Gujarat	16.8	90.69

9	Haryana	14.0	32.10
10	Himachal Pradesh	10.0	6.36
11	Jammu & Kashmir	5.4	5.85
12	Jharkhand	40.3	116.39
13	Karnataka	25.0	138.89
14	Kerala	15.0	49.60
15	Madhya Pradesh	38.3	249.68
16	Maharashtra	30.7	317.38
17	Manipur	17.3	3.95
18	Meghalaya	18.5	4.52
19	Mizoram	12.6	1.18
20	Nagaland	19.0	3.99
21	Orissa	46.4	178.49
22	Punjab	8.4	21.63
23	Rajasthan	22.1	134.89
24	Sikkim	20.1	1.14
25	Tamil Nadu	22.5	145.62
26	Tripura	18.9	6.38
27	Uttar Pradesh	32.8	590.03
28	Uttarakhand	39.6	35.96
29	West Bengal	24.7	208.36
30	A & N Islands	22.6	0.92
31	Chandigarh	7.1	0.74
32	Dadra & N. Haveli	33.2	0.84
33	Daman & Diu	10.5	0.21
34	Lakshadweep	16.0	0.11
35	Pondicherry	22.4	2.37
	All-India	27.5	3017.20

Note.: The percentage of people below the poverty line (poverty ratio) are estimated separately for rural and urban areas. These are combined to get the poverty ratio for the State/UT as a whole. The following assumptions are made to estimate the rural and urban poverty ratios.

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab is used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
- Poverty Ratio of Keraka is used for Lakshwadweep

#### Annexure-II

#### Percentage of Population below Poverty Line of Social Groups by States - 2004-05

No.	States	Rural		Urban	
		ST	SC	ST	SC
1	Andhra Pradesh	30.5	15.4	50.0	39.9
2	Assam	14.1	27.7	4.8	8.6
3	Bihar	53.3	64.0	57.2	67.2
4	Chhattisgarh	54.7	32.7	41.0	52.0
5	Delhi	0.0	0.0	9.4	35.8
6	Gujarat	34.7	21.8	21.4	16.0
7	Haryana	0.0	26.8	4.6	33.4
8	Himachal Pradesh	14.9	19.6	2.4	5.6
9	Jammu & Kashmir	8.8	5.2	0.0	13.7
10	Jharkhand	54.2	57.9	45.1	47.2
11	Karnataka	23.5	31.8	58.3	50.6
12	Kerala	44.3	21.6	19.2	32.5
13	Madhya Pradesh	58.6	42.8	44.7	67.3
14	Maharashtra	56.6	44.8	40.4	43.2
15	Orissa	75.6	50.2	61.8	72.6
16	Punjab	30.7	14.6	2.1	16.1
17	Rajasthan	32.6	28.7	24.1	52.1
18	Tamil Nadu	32.1	31.2	32.5	40.2
19	Uttar Pradesh	32.4	44.8	37.4	44.9
20	Uttarakhand	43.2	54.2	64.4	65.7
21	West Bengal	42.4	29.5	25.7	28.5
	All-India	47.3	36.8	33.3	39.9

Legend: SC = Scheduled Castes; ST = Scheduled Tribes;

N.B.: 1. The poverty ratios among the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes are estimated from the respective percentage distribution of

persons as obtained from the large sample survey consumer expenditure data of the NSS (61st Round, July 2004 to June 2005) and the poverty line for all population.

2. The estimates are based on the methodology outlined in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

3. All India poverty ratios are worked out from the respective NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all-India poverty line for all population.

4. The poverty ratio among the Scheduled Tribes population in some states may be treated with caution due to the smallness of the sample household based on which the class distribution of persons have been obtained in the NSS. These states are: in the rural areas, Haryana and Punjab, where the number of sample households among the Scheduled Tribes (STs) is 10 or less, and Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu, where the number of sample households is 15 or less. Similarly, in the urban areas, the states are: Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala and Punjab, where the number of sample households among the Scheduled Tribes (STs) is 10 or less, and Delhi, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand, where the number of sample households is 20 or less.