

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2114

ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010

UN REPORT ON WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION

Mahto Shri Baidyanath Prasad;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan)

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

- (a) whether as per the recent UN report on the world's Social Situation, 2010, 41.6 per cent of people in the country are surviving on Rs. 60/- per day;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the estimated number of poor people in the country; and
- (d) the target fixed by the Government to alleviate poverty under the Millennium Development Goal and achievement made as a result of efforts of the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (c): As per the UN report on World Social Situation 2010, the percentage of people living on less than \$1.25 per day in India is estimated as 41.6 % (Rural-43.8% and Urban- 36.2%) in 2005. However, the poverty line defined by Planning Commission at all-India level is Rs. 356.30 per capita per month consumption expenditure for rural areas and Rs.538.60 per capita per month consumption expenditure for urban area in 2004-05. On the basis of these poverty lines, 30.17 crore people are estimated as poor accounting for 27.5% of total population (Rural-28.3%, Urban-25.7%).

(d): Alleviation of poverty in the country is one of the monitorable targets of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and it aims at reduction in the Head-Count Ratio of Consumption Poverty by 10 percentage points during the Plan period (2007-12). One of the Millennium Development Goals relating to India is to reduce the proportion of people below poverty line from nearly 37.5 percent in 1990 to about 18.6 percent by 2015. As a result of various measures taken, the incidence of poverty declined from 36 percent in 1993-94 to 27.5 percent in 2004-05. The trend rate of decline is 0.8 percent during 1993-94 to 2004-05. The rate of decline based on thin sample estimates of consumer expenditure for the year 2005-06 is 1.4 percent. If the improvement in the rate of decline in the poverty as observed during 2004-05 to 2005-06 is maintained in the subsequent years or further improved, it is expected that India will be able to achieve the 2015 target.