

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4216
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
INCLUSION OF MUSLIM FAMILIES IN THE LIST OF BPL
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Expert Committee has been constituted by the Government for inclusion of Muslim families living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in the BPL list;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the committee has submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the salient features of the report; and
- (e) the decision taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Committee?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): The Government has not constituted any Expert Committee for inclusion of Muslim families living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in the BPL list. The Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology for estimation of poverty in the country which is applied uniformly.

The Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group (Saxena Committee) for recommending suitable methodology to identify the families living Below the Poverty Line in the rural areas. The recommendations of the Expert Group include automatic inclusion and exclusion of specified rural families. For the remaining families, it has been recommended to conduct the survey and to rank them on ten point scale. For the proposed scoring, it has been recommended to assign to SC/STs: 3 points, Denotified tribes and Designated 'Most Backward Castes': 2 points and Muslims/OBCs: 1 point.