

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2875
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2009
IDENTIFICATION OF BPL FAMILIES
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal;Pal Shri Jagdambika;Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is apparent contradiction in figures of families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in some States including Bihar vis-a-vis those of the Union Government owing to incredible criterion for identification of BPL families;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the remedial measures adopted or proposed to be adopted by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a) to (c): The BPL (Below Poverty Line) Census is conducted by the concerned state governments in association with the Ministry of Rural Development, to identify the BPL families in the rural areas for providing assistance under various programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at the national and state level on the basis of large sample survey of consumer expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) using the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee).

The identification of BPL rural households through BPL Census by the State Governments and the estimation of poverty by the Planning Commission on the basis of sample survey data are two separate exercises arrived for different purposes. Since these are based on different methodologies, they are not comparable.