

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1300

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010

FAMILIES BELOW POVERTY LINE

Jaiswal Shri Gorakh Prasad ;Ramshankar Dr. ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of people brought above the poverty line in the country including Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether the number of families living below the poverty line has increased;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of families living below poverty line, State-wise; and
- (e) the details of steps being taken by the Government to improve the standard of living of these families?

**Answer**

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

(a)to (d): The Ministry of Rural Development does not maintain State-wise and year-wise number of people brought above the poverty line in the country including Uttar Pradesh.

The Planning Commission estimates the percentage and number of persons living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) at national and state level, separately in rural and urban areas. The two latest comparable estimates of poverty are available for the years 1993-94 and 2004- 05. As per this, the number of people living below the poverty line for the country as a whole is estimated to decline from 320.4 million (36% of the total population) in 1993-94 to 301.7 million (27.5% of the total population) in 2004-05. Accordingly, the number of people living above the poverty line for the country as a whole is estimated to have increased from 570.3 million (64% of the total population) in 1993-94 to 795.4 million (72.5% of the total population) in 2004-05. The percentage of population living below poverty line and percentage of population living above poverty line, state-wise including Uttar Pradesh for 1993-94 and 2004-05 along with number of BPL families identified as per Census 2002 is given at Annexure.

(e): The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act (MGNREGA) which is a Wage Employment Scheme and also Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) to provide self employment to the rural poor families in the rural areas. Besides this, Bharat Nirman out of six components of Bharat Nirman, the components, namely, Rural Housing, Rural Connectivity and Rural Drinking Water Supply are being implemented by the Ministry. These schemes are primarily designed to provide employment to the rural poor in their villages besides creating rural infrastructure and creating basic amenities and these are the main steps being taken by the Government to improve the standard of living of these families.