

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:152
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
UN REPORT ON POVERTY
Patil Shri C. R. ;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, UNDP Report/UN Millennium Development Goals Report, 2010 have come out with facts in regard to poverty and under-nourishment in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce poverty in the country?

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): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.152 REGARDING "UN REPORT ON POVERTY" BY SHRI SANJAYDINA PATIL AND C.R. PATIL DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04-08-2010

(a) to (c): As per the recently released "The UN Millennium Development Goals Report, 2010", it has been acknowledged that India has also contributed to the large reduction in global poverty. Measured at the \$1.25 a day poverty line, the poverty rates are expected to fall from 51% in 1990 to 24% in 2015. Also, the number of people living in extreme poverty in India is likely to decrease by 188 million by 2015. The Report does not have details regarding under-nourishment specific to India. However, the Report states that in 2005-07, the proportion of undernourished people in South Asia has reached back to the level to where it was in 1990. The proportion of undernourished people in South Asia was 21% in 1990-92, which reduced to 20% in 2000-02 and again increased to 21% in 2005-07. The report also mentions that South Asia has the highest rate of under-nutrition among children globally, with 46% children under age five being underweight.

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). The Government has taken various measures to reduce poverty in the country through direct interventions by implementing programmes such as: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and the Total Sanitation Campaign etc. Many of the flagship programmes were launched in 2004-05 and results of the ongoing survey by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on consumption expenditure when received by 2011 would help in revealing the quantitative reduction in the poverty head count ratio.