

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1649
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2010
RICH POOR DIVIDE
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recently published report of World Bank has stated that in India the poor became poorer and the rich became richer during the recent times;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the concrete steps taken by the government to bridge the gap between the poor and the rich?

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): The Government is aware of the latest report released by the World Bank on World Development Indicators 2010 whose data places the lowest 20% population in India as sharing 8.1% of the total consumption expenditure, and the highest 20% as sharing 45.3% of the total expenditure. This analysis is based on the data for the year 2004-05. Reduction of inequality has been one of the objectives of the development planning. The Government has taken various measures to reduce poverty and inequality in the country through direct interventions by implementing programmes such as: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarnajayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), National Social Assurance Programme(NSAP), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and the Total Sanitation Campaign etc.

Since 2004-05, many of the flagship programmes were launched, and the results of the ongoing survey by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on consumption expenditure for the year 2009-10, expected to become available by 2011, would help in revealing the quantitative changes in the expenditure distribution.