

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3812
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010
EXCLUSION OF SCS FROM BPL
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Scheduled Castes (SCs) have been kept out of the ambit of `Below Poverty Line` category; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a): No, Madam. Planning Commission is the nodal agency of the Government of India for estimating poverty at National and State levels. The guidelines for identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in rural areas are issued by the Ministry of Rural Development. In association with States/UTs, the Ministry of Rural Development conducts the BPL Census to identify rural households living below the poverty line. The last census was conducted in 2002 based on the methodology of score based ranking of rural households for which 13 socio-economic parameters were used.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.