

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1057  
ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010  
CRITERIA FOR BPL PEOPLE  
Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Government has set criteria to assess the people living below poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has set up/ proposes to set up inquiry cells in each of the States/towns consisting of non-political persons/institutions for the above purpose; and
- (d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to extend its benefits, to all persons?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b): The Ministry of Rural Development provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs for conducting the BPL Census to identify the families living below the poverty line in the rural areas who could be targeted for getting the benefits under its programmes. The last BPL Census was conducted in 2002 using the methodology of score based ranking of rural households for which 13 socio-economic parameters were used based on the recommendation of an Expert Group constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development.
- (c): No, Sir.
- (d): Does not arise.