

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:281
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010
EXCLUSION OF APL FAMILIES
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to identify number of poor and the Empowered Group of Minister (EGoM) which was formed has favoured exclusion of APL families from the National Food Security;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the EGoM headed by Finance Minister looking into the proposed act has favoured mandating the States to adhere to the below poverty line population estimate calculated by the Planning Commission;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it has also argued for non-inclusion of APL in the ambit of the proposed act; and
- (f) if so, the time by which final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIV. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (f): Identification of number of poor is a continuous process which is done by the State/UT Governments in association with the Ministry of Rural Development keeping in view the poverty estimates made by the Planning Commission, the nodal agency in the Government for estimation of the poverty in the country. The Department of Food and Public Distribution is the nodal agency for operating the Public Distribution System and the matters relating to the proposed National Food Security Bill. The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) headed by the Finance Minister in its meeting dated 05.04.2010 has not indicated any move to exclude APL families from the proposed National Food Security Bill. The proposed legislation, when finalized, is expected to address the issues relating to the prices and quantum of entitlements of food grains for the targeted population. No final decision has been taken by the Government in this regard.