

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:314  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX  
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Ray Shri Rudramadhab

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the findings of the 2010 Human Development Report (HDR) which ranks India at 119th of the 169 countries reported on Human Development Index;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) the salient features of the HDR, 2010 with respect to India;
- (d) the details of India's position in various indicators vis-a-vis other South Asian countries; and
- (e) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSION(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 314 REGARDING "HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX" BY SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA AND SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY DUE FOR ANSWER ON 1st DECEMBER, 2010

(a) to (e): The Government is aware of the Human Development Report 2010 (HDR) released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) recently. The HDR which ranks the countries by the level of their human development measured by Human Development Index (HDI) is being published annually since 1990. The HDI is based on three indicators, namely Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (in Purchasing Power Parity in US \$), life expectancy at birth and education as measured by adult literacy rate and gross enrolment ratio (combined for primary, secondary and tertiary education). As per the "The Human Development Report, 2010", India has been placed at 119th rank in HDI as compared to 134th rank in 2009. It has been clarified in the report that International Data Agencies continuously improve their data series and update the historical data, therefore, year to year changes in the HDI values and rankings across editions of the Human Development Report often reflect changes. The HDR 2010 reveals that India has registered a consistent improvement in HDI value which increased from 0.482 in 2005 to 0.519 in 2010. It is also reported that India has registered highest ever average annual HDI growth rate of 1.66 percent during the decade 2000-2010.

The HDR 2010 has also introduced a new measure of poverty named Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). This index replaces the Human Poverty Index (HPI) that was being reported in the earlier HDRs since 1997. The MPI covers multidimensional deprivation suffered by the poor broadly under health, education and standard of living irrespective of income or consumption expenditure levels which is different from the official poverty lines. Based on these parameters Headcount Ratio of MPI for India has been estimated at 55.4 percent. The comparative statement containing details of India's position under various indicators as compared to other South Asian Countries is at Annexure-I.

The Eleventh Five Year Plan adopted the strategy of promoting inclusive growth. The objective is to achieve high growth rate with generation of more employment opportunities and strengthening of social infrastructure such as public health and education. Further, the implementation of flagship programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA), Rural Drinking Water Supply and Total Sanitation Campaign, etc. along with maintaining a high economic growth rate is expected to further improve India's ranking in HDI.