

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3549
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2010
GLOBAL PROSPERITY INDEX
Chaudhary Shri Jayant

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has recently been listed 88th in the Global Prosperity Index compiled by the Legatum Institute;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether poor healthcare and education systems and weak entrepreneurial infrastructure have been the reasons behind India's low ranking; and
- (d) if so, the Government's response in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. The Global Prosperity Index 2010 compiled by Legatum Institute has placed India at 88th rank in the list of 110 countries based on eight sub indexes with 89 variables linked to higher levels of income and wellbeing. The eight sub indexes include economy, entrepreneurship & opportunity, governance, education, health, safety & security, personal freedom, and social capital. It has been indicated in the report that India has undergone large shifts in ranking from 2009 to 2010 due to significant changes in sub-indexes. The fall in ranking by 10 places since 2009 is primarily due to drop in Personal Freedom sub-index following the Mumbai Attacks in 2008. The report also mentions that the drop in ranking for India is not a reflection of an absolute change in India's prosperity but rather a change in the Prosperity Index's estimation methods especially in the Social Capital sub-index and also due to slow progress on the indicators on health, and education.

Improving the healthcare, education status and generating employment opportunities have been accorded priority in the development planning process. The central government is already implementing a number of flagship programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Rural Drinking Water Supply, Total Sanitation Campaign, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). In addition, launching of Rashtriya Swasthaya Bima Yojana, Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana and Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) are the initiatives to strengthen the social security system. The above initiatives are expected to further improve the prosperity and wellbeing of the citizens in the country.