

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1271

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011

BPL PEOPLE

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Nana

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of people living below the poverty line is on the rise in the country according to the latest report of National Sample Survey Organization;

(b) if so, the number of people living below the poverty line as per the said report,State- wise;

(c) whether any programme, project has been undertaken by the Government to reduce the number of people living below the poverty line by improving the living standards of the indigent people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): No, Sir. The Planning Commission is the nodal agency in the Government of India to estimate poverty in the country. The latest poverty estimates released by the Planning Commission for 2004-05, based on 61st Round of National Sample Survey Organization's (NSSO) consumer expenditure data and as recommended by the Expert Group under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar, percent of the population living below the poverty line in the country has declined from 45.3% in 1993-94 to 37.2% in 2004-05.

(b): Latest State wise Poverty Estimates (Poverty head count ratio in %) for the year 2004- 2005 published by the Planning Commission on the basis of recommendations contained in the report of the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar are at annexure.

(c)&(d): The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing several schemes of Rural Development and poverty alleviation through the State Governments and Union Territory (UT) Administrations. These include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Swarnjayanti Gram Swaroggar Yojana (SGSY)/ National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for poverty alleviation and employment generation in rural areas of the country. Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) are intended for providing basic amenities and area development in rural areas. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) is welfare scheme under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) under which Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is provided to States/UTs.