

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:165

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2011

URBAN POVERTY

Singh Baba Shri K.C.,Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the guidelines for identifying the people living below poverty line in the metropolitan cities and urban areas in the country alongwith the number of such families living in such areas, State-wise including Uttarakhand;

(b) whether the Union Government takes into consideration the standard of living, cost of living and housing while planning schemes for BPL families in the urban areas in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the various schemes launched for the benefit of such families and the projects launched thereunder alongwith the allocation made in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.165 FOR 08-03-2011 REGARDING URBAN POVERTY.

(a): Planning Commission, as the nodal agency in the Government of India for estimation of poverty, has been releasing estimates on the number and percentage of people Below Poverty Line (BPL) at national and state levels from time to time. Official estimates of poverty in India have hitherto been made by Planning Commission on the basis of the methodology recommended by the Lakdawala Committee (1993). This methodology defined the criteria for BPL, based on the average per capita household consumption expenditure. For defining the poverty line, the per capita consumption was fixed at Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 calories in rural areas and 2100 Calories in urban areas. The last official estimates on poverty released by Planning Commission which takes into account household consumption expenditure data revealed by the 61st Round of the National Sample Survey Organisation data pertain to 2004-05.

The Planning Commission reviews the methodology of estimating poverty from time to time. An Expert Group under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh. D. Tendulkar was constituted by the Planning Commission to review the methodology for estimation of poverty. The Tendulkar Committee submitted its report in November, 2009. The Committee started with the national level urban poverty ratio yielded by the Lakdawala methodology. The consumption basket associated with this per capita household consumption expenditure is taken as a base for computing urban and rural poverty for all States. The urban poverty line in each State is computed by valuing the consumption basket corresponding to national urban poverty line at prices prevailing in each State, taking into account price differentials between the State and the National level. The urban poverty line thus derived for each State yields a poverty ratio for urban areas in that State. The resulting state-specific urban poverty-line consumption baskets are then valued at the rural prices for each State so as to estimate rural poverty line and rural poverty ratio for each State.

The Planning Commission has decided to accept the Tendulkar methodology for the present. State-wise details of urban poverty and rural poverty estimates as per the Tendulkar Committee Report, including those for Uttarakhand are at Annexure-I.

(b) to (d): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) aimed at provision of gainful employment to the urban poor by assisting them to set up individual/group enterprises and through skill training as well as utilising their labour for the construction of socially useful public assets. The scheme, under implementation since 1997, has been comprehensively revamped in 2009. The revamped scheme is under implementation.

In order to address the other facets of poverty, the main schemes that this Ministry have been implementing since 2005 are the Sub-Mission of Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP), catering to 65 identified cities, and the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), in cities / towns other than the 65 identified cities under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). These programmes are aimed at providing basic amenities viz. water, sanitation, primary health, primary education and

social security to the urban poor, including slum dwellers with decent shelter and security of tenure.

Allocation made under SJSRY during last three years and current year is at Annexure-II. Project cost approved and Central share released under JNNURM during last three years and current year is Annexure-III.