

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3352
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011
BPL LIST OF ELEVENTH PLAN
Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Below Poverty Line (BPL) List for Eleventh Five Year Plan period is not finalised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is provision for fresh BPL list in each Five Year Plan period; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for non implementation of the said provision in Eleventh Five year plan period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (d) : The Ministry of Rural Development provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs for conducting the BPL Census to identify the households living below the poverty line in the rural areas who could be targeted for getting the benefits under its programmes.

The BPL Census is generally conducted on the eve of the Five Year Plan. The Ministry of Rural Development has already conducted BPL Census in 1992 for the 8th Five Year Plan (1992-1997), BPL Census has also been conducted in 1997 and 2002 for 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) and 10th Five Year Plan (2002-2007) respectively. For various reasons, the BPL Census could not be conducted in 2007. The work relating the BPL Census 2011 is on.

For conducting the BPL Census for the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Rural Development, on 12th August, 2008, constituted an Expert Group to advise the Ministry on the suitable methodology for identification of BPL households. The Expert Group under chairmanship of Dr. N.C. Saxena submitted its report on 21st August 2009. The report of the Expert Group was circulated among the State Governments/UT administrations and the concerned Central Ministries for their comments. The Ministry has also consulted various experts on the issue. Based on their suggestions a pilot socio-economic survey has been conducted to pre-testing the methodology recommended by the Expert Group with alternative options. Results of pilot study have been discussed with States/UTs.

The Ministry of Rural Development has decided to seek approval of cabinet for the methodology for conducting the BPL Census 2011 and a draft note for cabinet has been circulated to the concerned Ministries/Departments for their comments. The Ministry of Rural Development has proposed that the BPL Census be conducted in association with the Office of Registrar General of India (ORGI) along with caste Census going to be conducted by them.