

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5648

ANSWERED ON:07.09.2011

POVERTY RATE

Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether as per the UN Report, 320 million people from India and China are likely to come out of extreme poverty in the next four years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any target has been fixed for bringing down the poverty line; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve these targets?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The UN Report on 'The Millennium Development Goals 2011' has stated that: "The fastest growth and sharpest reductions in poverty continue to be found in Eastern Asia, particularly in China, where the poverty rate is expected to fall to under 5 per cent by 2015. India has also contributed to the large reduction in global poverty. In that country, poverty rates are projected to fall from 51 per cent in 1990 to about 22 per cent in 2015. In China and India combined, the number of people living in extreme poverty between 1990 and 2005 declined by about 455 million, and an additional 320 million people are expected to join their ranks by 2015".

(c) to (e): Alleviation of poverty in the country is one of the monitorable targets of the Eleventh Five Year Plan and it aims at reduction in the Head-Count Ratio of Consumption Poverty by 10 percentage points during the Plan period (2007-12). The Government is implementing a number of poverty alleviation programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Antyoday Anna Yojana (AAY), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewable Mission (JNNURM), Swarna Jyanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), etc. All these programmes and Government policies relating to inclusive economic growth aim at reducing the incidence of poverty in the country. The 11th and 12th Plan focus on inclusive growth is aimed at poverty reduction throughout the country.