

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4866
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2009
ASSESSMENT OF URBAN POOR
Panda Shri Prabodh

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

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment to ascertain the number of people living below poverty level in urban areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of poor people living in mega cities?

Answer

MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION(KUMARI SELJA)

(a)&(b): Planning Commission releases estimates of urban poor from time to time based on the national sample surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The National Sample Survey Organisation has conducted the latest large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure (61st Round), covering the period July 2004 to June 2005. From this data, two different consumption distributions for the year 2004-05 have been obtained. The first one is from the consumption data collected using 30-day recall period for all the items. The other distribution is obtained from the consumer expenditure data collected using 365-day recall period for five infrequently purchased non-food items, namely clothing, footwear, durable goods, education and institutional medical expenses and 30-day recall period for the remaining items. These two consumption distributions have been termed as Uniform Recall Period (URP) consumption distribution and Mixed Recall Period (MRP) consumption distribution respectively. The Planning Commission has estimated poverty in 2004-05 using both the distributions. As per these estimates, number and percentage of urban poor both by URP method as well as MRP method, State-wise, are at Annexure.

Data on the number of people living below poverty line in mega cities of the country are not available, in these assessments.