

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5815  
ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011  
SURVEY ON BPL POPULATION  
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**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a Pilot survey conducted on Below Poverty Line (BPL) population across twenty two States in the country has revealed that the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) form half of the total `poor and deprived households` in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether SC/ST communities have high rates of adult illiteracy, destitution, landlessness and homelessness as revealed by the said survey;
- (d) if so, whether the Central Government propose to devise or formulate any welfare schemes for SC/ST community; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

**Answer**

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

- (a) to (c): In order to suggest a methodology for identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in rural areas the Ministry of Rural Development in association with State Governments conducted a Pilot Socio Economic Survey covering all the households in sample villages. It also conducted Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) in the same villages. The Pilot survey did not identify any BPL household including Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe households as poor or as non-poor.
- (d) & (e): Does not arise.