

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2436

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2009

PERSONS LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE

Pal Shri Jagdambika; Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the definition of persons living below poverty line;
- (b) the number of persons living below poverty line in the country during the last three years; State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the estimated number and percentage with respect to population of such persons by the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan;
- (d) the action plan of the Government to ameliorate the condition of these people during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and
- (e) the facilities provided/being provided by the Union Government to the people living below poverty line and the funds allocated for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a): The national poverty line is estimated as Rs.356.30 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs. 538.60 per capita per month in urban areas at 2004-05 prices. People who spent less than these amount were defined as persons living below poverty line for that year.

(b): The Planning Commission estimates the number of persons living below poverty line at national and state level, separately in rural and urban areas from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. As per the latest available estimates for the year 2004-05, the number of persons living below poverty line is estimated to be 301.7 million. The State-wise number of persons living below poverty line is given in the annexure.

(c): The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) envisages reduction in the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points.

(d) and (e): The Government is implementing a number of poverty alleviation programmes, to ameliorate the condition of the poor. The major schemes and programmes include: National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY), Swarn Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Mid-day Meal Scheme, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) etc.

The funds allocated, year-wise, for different programmes of rural poverty alleviation and specific program for urban poverty alleviation namely SJSRY are as under:

Allocation (Rs. in crore)

Year Rural Poverty Alleviation SJSRY
Programmes

2006-07 24025.62 250.00

2007-08 27512.00 344.00

2008-09 31500.00 515.00

2009-10 69170.00 515.00