

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4583
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
IMBALANCED MODERNIZATION
Sinh Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether despite modernization in the country, people are facing problems like unemployment, poverty and inflation;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the lives of crores of people are being adversely affected due to imbalanced modernization in the country; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The country has been on a high growth trajectory for almost a decade now. The general upliftment in the economic and social well-being of the people is reflected in the improvement of general living standard of the people as indicated by an annual average increase in the Per Capita Income (PCI) of 5.9% in real terms during the last 10 years, decline in the Head Count Poverty Ratio from 45.3% in 1993-94 to 37.2% in 2004-05 and decline in unemployment rate (usual status) from 4.5% in 2004-05 to 3.4% in 2009-10 for urban areas and from 1.7% to 1.6% for rural areas.

It is the Government's endeavour to ensure balanced, inclusive, sustainable and rapid economic growth so that the benefits of economic growth positively impact the quality of life of the common man. The Twelfth Five Year Plan seeks to attain this objective. The flagship programmes of the Government and increased investments in health, education, skill developments and infrastructure aim at reducing unemployment and poverty.

The Government remains totally committed to the welfare of the under-privileged & poor sections of the society and is pursuing prudent macroeconomic policies on an ongoing basis with a countercyclical focus in recent years to contain inflation and obviate the impact of price rise. Besides, the Government is implementing a number of poverty alleviation and employment generation programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), 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 and improving living condition of poor in the country and have made a substantial contribution in blunting the sharp edges of poverty & deprivation.