

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1489
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF POOR
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 77 percent of our population has dubbed as poor and deprived of basic necessities of life as per the conclusive report of International agencies in 2005 along with the report of the National Commission for Enterprises in the unorganized sectors after assessing the level of poverty;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the daily average consumption in rupees of people falling under this category;
- (d) whether the said percentage of poor people is likely to increase till 2011; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): As per the World Development Report 2011, brought out by the World Bank, in 2004-05, 41.6% of the Indian population lived below International poverty line of U.S. \$ 1.25 a day and 75.6% of the Indian population lived below U.S. \$ 2.00 a day. The National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NSEUS) set up by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) under the Chairmanship of Prof. Arjun Sengupta in 2004 brought out a report on 'Conditions on Work and Promotion of Livelihoods in the Unorganised Sector'. In this report, it was mentioned that 77% of people in India had a per capita daily consumption of upto Rs. 20 in 2004-05 and this section of population was termed as poor and vulnerable. However, the Economic Survey 2008-09, brought out by the Ministry of Finance stated that based on the calculations of data on household consumption expenditure for 2004-05 (NSS 61st Round), 60.5% of people had per capita per day consumption expenditure of less than Rs. 20.

(d) & (e): The Planning Commission estimates poverty lines and poverty ratios for the years for which Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure have been conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). These surveys are conducted quinquennially. As per Tendulkar Committee Report, percentage of population under poverty for the year 2004-05, for all India is estimated as 37.2 percent out of which 41.8 percent is Rural and 25.7 percent is Urban. After 2004-05, this survey has been conducted in 2009-10. The Planning Commission is in the process of estimating the revised poverty estimates on the basis of 2009-10 survey data on Household Consumer Expenditure, which are now available. The NSSO is conducting Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure in its 68th round, 2011-12, also. The number of persons below poverty line for the year 2011-12 can be estimated only after the results of the ongoing 68th Round of NSS become available.