

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:652

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012

. INCLUSION OF PEOPLE IN THE BPL LIST

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to identify people living below poverty line in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the criteria fixed for the purpose;
- (c) whether the survey is being conducted as per the affidavit filed in the Supreme court;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to include more people in the BPL list on the basis of the survey; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): The Ministry of Rural Development in association with the State Government has been conducting the BPL Census to identify the families living below poverty line in the rural area. Until now, three such Census have been conducted in 1992, 1997 and in 2002.
- (b): The BPL Census in 1992 used income as a criteria. In the BPL Census 1997, a mix of exclusion criteria and consumption expenditure was used. In 2002, the BPL census was based on a set of 13 socio-economic parameters.
- (c) & (d): Supreme Court in an order in February 2006 directed that the survey methodology for the next BPL Census will be designed by the Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with the Supreme Court Commissioners in the right to food matter along with other sections of society. Accordingly, an Expert Group headed by Dr. N.C. Saxena, Commissioner, Supreme Court in the matter of right to food was set up to recommend suitable methodology. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Group, consultation with States and other sections of society and after conducting a Pilot Survey, the SECC 2011 has been launched.
- (e) & (f): SECC 2011 results are not yet available. However, the Hon`ble Supreme Court in its aforementioned order has inter-alia directed, `Provisions will be made to allow new names to be added and ineligible names deleted from the BPL List 2002 on a continuous basis during the period that the list will be applicable.