

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:656  
ANSWERED ON:08.07.2009  
ACTION PLAN FOR BPL PERSONS  
Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

(a) whether more than 70 percent of the total population of people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) belongs to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Minorities communities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a number of working groups in their reports have recommended for implementation of programme of actions to uplift their economic conditions; and

(d) if so, details of the specific steps/action taken or being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Percentage of population Below Poverty Line of Socio-economic groups for All India in 2004-05 were as follows :

Social Group	Rural	Urban
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Scheduled Castes (SCs)	36.83	39.86
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Scheduled Tribes (STs)	47.32	33.28
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Other Backward Classes (OBCs)	26.73	31.42
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Others	16.07	16.03
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These estimates are based on consumption expenditure distribution of the population as obtained from National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) survey on household consumption expenditure. Consumption expenditure distribution for special social groups and minorities are not mutually exclusive since there is an overlap between the social groups (SC/ST and OBC) and minorities.

(c) & (d): The Working Groups on Empowerment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Minorities have recommended for economic upliftment of these groups. In this regard, guidelines for implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) have been issued by the Planning Commission in 2005 and 2006 to all the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations and Central Ministries for economic upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Regarding well-being, protection and development of the Minorities, guidelines for implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15-Point Programme was issued in June, 2006 to all the States / UTs. Besides, National level Finance and Development Corporations also provide credit facilities to those living below double the poverty line belonging to these groups towards economic independence.