

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2619
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012
CRITERIA ADOPTED FOR BPL CENSUS
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government follows thirteen point exclusion criteria which includes households owning motorized two/three/four wheelers/fishing boats for it Below Poverty Line Census;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the above criteria would exclude poor families who have been provided with above amenities under different State Government schemes as in Kerala;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is reconsidering the said exclusion criteria; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor and alternative measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): The recommendations made in August 2009 by the Saxena Committee constituted to devise the methodology for BPL Census were discussed with the State Governments, concerned Central Ministries and experts in the field of poverty estimation. It was decided to pre-test the methodology. Accordingly, a pilot survey was conducted in 254 villages across 29 States in the country from August to December 2010. The findings of the Pilot survey were discussed with a Core Group of Experts and State Governments. Based on the findings of the pilot survey a questionnaire to collect information on socio-economic indicators of households was prepared, and a full-fledged Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) has commenced in June 2011 using the questionnaire.

(c)to(e): In a joint statement issued by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Hon`ble Minister of Rural Development it has been stated that the present state-wise poverty estimates using the Planning Commission methodology will not be used to impose any ceilings on the number of households to be included in different government programmes and schemes. The eligibility and entitlements of rural households in the country for different central government programmes and schemes based on the SECC, 2011 survey results has not been arrived at.