

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1256
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012
ERADICATION OF POVERTY
Rajbhar Shri Ramashankar

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is committed to eradicate poverty;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the time by which poverty will be eradicated from the country; and
- (d) the steps taken so far by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Government is fully committed to working for the reduction and eventual elimination of poverty. The Eleventh Five Year Plan, for achieving inclusive growth, aims at reduction in the Head-Count Ratio of Consumption Poverty by 10 percentage points during the Plan period (2007-12).

(d): The Government has taken various measures to reduce poverty in the country through direct intervention by implementing programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Antyoday Anna Yojana (AAY), 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. Over the years, the sharp edges of acute poverty and deprivation have been blunted as a result of various programmes and policies of the Government, as also there has been a reduction in the percentage of people living below poverty.