

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1283
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012
POVERTY ALLEVIATION
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in the country including Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise;
- (b) the physical targets set and achieved in each of the above schemes during the above period; and
- (c) the extent to which the Government has been able to reduce the poverty after implementation of these schemes?

Answer

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

(a): The Government is implementing a number of poverty alleviation programmes in the country to increase the income levels of the poor. The major schemes and programmes in operation in the country including Andhra Pradesh during the last three years in this regard are

- (i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which provides a legal guarantee of at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to rural household, whose adult member volunteer to do unskilled manual work;
- (ii) Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), a holistic programme covering all aspects of self-employment, such as organization of rural poor into Self Help Groups and their capacity building, training, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure development, financial assistance through bank credit and subsidy and marketing support etc.,
- (iii) Swaran Jayanti Shahri Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY) that strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under-employed poor, through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by the urban poor living below the poverty line, and also through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

(b): The physical targets and achievement of major poverty alleviation programmes during the last three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) is given in the annexure.

(c): As a result of the implementation of the various policy initiatives of the Government including those referred to above, the harsh edges of absolute poverty have declined over the years and a large number of people have been lifted above the poverty line as had been determined in the past. However, Government revises the poverty estimates from time to time based upon a holistic consideration of the various indices of poverty as may be proposed by experts from time to time and taking into consideration all the relevant data.