

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4338
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012
RE WORK ON POVERTY ESTIMATES
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government had decided to re-work poverty estimates in the country;
- (b) if so, the present status thereof;
- (c) the years on which the current poverty estimates are based on; and
- (d) the time by when the poverty estimates will be re-worked by the Planning Commission and the year on which these will be based on?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The methodology for estimation of poverty followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by the experts in the field from time to time. Government has since decided to set up a Technical Group to revisit the methodology for estimation of poverty and identification of poor taking into account multiple dimensions and indicators of poverty so that the poor and deprived households can obtain the benefit of different government programmes and schemes. The composition of the Technical Group and its terms of reference are being finalized.

(c) & (d): The current estimates of poverty are based on large sample survey of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) on household consumer expenditure conducted during 2009-10. These large sample surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure are carried out by the NSSO every 5 years. Since 2009-10 was not a normal year, NSSO decided to conduct Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure again during 2011-12. The estimates of poverty will be reworked for the latest survey data available. Whenever methodology for estimation is revised the general practice is to rework the estimates for some of the previous years.