

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6621
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012
EXPENDITURE ON SOCIAL SECTOR
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that net expenditures as percentage of the GDP in social sector is still low in comparison to some of the developed economies;
- (b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government expenditure on social services and rural development has increased over the years but it hardly has any impact on the overall poverty reduction and improvement in the social security net;
- (d) if so, whether despite improvement in central allocations, there are still leakages in the system which are preventing the benefits from reaching the intended target groups; and
- (e) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : The public expenditure on social sector in India has been lower compared to some developed countries. The public expenditure on Education and expenditure on Health of some selected countries including India for 2009 is shown in Annexure-I.

(c) to (e): The Government expenditure on social services and rural development has increased over the years leading to a reduction in poverty and improvement in social security net. Various mechanisms have also been introduced to stop leakages and minimize inclusion and exclusion errors. These include statutory and social audits, community participation and empowerment, third party concurrent evaluation and impact evaluation by Programme Evaluation Organization. The Government has recently initiated Unique Identification Scheme (UID) to enable better targeting of subsidies and benefits under different Government Schemes. It has also been decided to set up an Independent Evaluation Organization (IEO) for evaluation of Flagship Programmes.

(Ref: Lok Sabha unstarred Question No 6621 to be answered on 16.05.2012)

Annexure-I

Public Expenditure on Education & total expenditure Health as % of GDP of some selected Countries in 2009

1	United States	16.2	16.2	45.5
2	Canada	10.9	10.9	70.0
3	United Kingdom	9.3	9.3	81.7
4	Australia	8.5	8.5	67.5
5	Japan	8.3	8.3	81.3
6	China	4.6	4.6	44.7
7	India	4.2	4.2	26.2

Note: - (a) Public expenditure includes both revenue and capital, (b) Expenditure on Health includes both private and public expenditure and (c) GDP is expressed in PPP in international dollar terms. (Source: (i) Human Development report, 2011 and (ii) # WHO statistics 2010)