

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4530

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012

BPL CENSUS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Below Poverty Line (BPL) census was scheduled to be completed by December, 2012;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the BPL census would not be completed by the scheduled timeframe; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for the same?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Cabinet note on the Methodology for identification of BPL families and modalities for Conducting BPL Census 2011 was approved by the Union Cabinet with directions to complete it by December, 2011. Socio Economic and Caste Census was launched on 29th June 2011 in the country which is being carried out by the respective State/Union Territory Governments with the financial and technical support of the Government of India.

(c)&(d): The SECC 2011 is conducted in a phased manner throughout the country by the respective State/Union Territory administration. The state of preparedness of all the States is not similar. Some States are well equipped while some States lack adequate infrastructure to conduct the SECC. Since the Socio Economic and Caste Census enumeration is done with the help of low cost electronic handheld device (Tablet PC) for the first time, certain operational problems have been faced by the States/UTs. Also, recruiting data entry operators and training them for the Census and state of preparedness in the States/UTs are some of the reasons which delayed the survey operation. Besides, Legislative Assembly and Local Body elections etc. in some of the States also added to the delay. In order to improve the robustness of the data, a Verification and Correction module has been incorporated into the process over and above the standard procedure. This has also resulted in a time over run.