

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1550
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
ASSESSMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT
Ramshankar Dr.

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has made any assessment of poverty, unemployment, and labour-force in the country;
- (b) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (c) the norms prescribed for conducting such an assessment?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA)

(a) to (c) The Planning Commission is the nodal agency to estimate the number and percentage of people living below the poverty line. The Planning Commission defines poverty line on the basis of monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. As per the latest available information, the poverty line at All India level for 2009-10 is estimated as MPCE of Rs 673 for rural areas and Rs 860 for urban areas. The percentage of people living below the poverty line in the country in 2009-10 has been estimated at 29.8 %.

Planning Commission does not collect data on unemployment and labour-force. However, such data is collected on quinquennial basis by the National Sample Survey Organization under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.