

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3860
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
WELL BEING OF CITIZENS
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) world's forum on "Measuring Well-Being for Development Policy Making" was organized in India recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the major outcome of the forum;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note that many developed and developing economies have been measuring the general well-being and happiness amongst its citizens and have their country specific Gross Happiness Indexes which is taken as a factor in the policy making process;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to measure the well-being and happiness of the citizens to ensure that these parameters are also considered during the policy making process in addition to the economic parameters; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) : Yes, sir.

(b) : The 4th OECD Forum on Statistics, Energy and Policy under the theme "Measuring Well-Being for Development and Policy Making" was organized in New Delhi, India on 16- 19 October, 2012. The main objectives of the Forum were to further discuss on the different aspects that make for a good life today and in the future in different countries of the world and to promote the development and use of new measures of well-being for an effective accounting. In its concluding statement it is stated that to achieve these goals it is vital that the relevant things are measured and the link between measurement and policy is strengthened in order to design and implement the right policies.

(c) & (d): The Government does not compute Gross Happiness index.

(e) & (f): The objective of all policy decisions is to raise the well-being of citizens. In an endeavor to achieve this objective Plan schemes are implemented with enhanced allocations to social sectors such as education, health, women and child development, etc.