

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1195
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2013
BPL CENSUS
Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had set up an expert group for preparing guidelines for next census of people living below poverty line in rural areas;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received the report of the said expert group;
- (c) if so, the time by which cards are likely to be issued to all the eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) people as per the report of expert group; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. N.C. Saxena to advise on the suitable methodology for identification of below poverty households for the 12th Five Year Plan. The Expert Group submitted its report on 21st August, 2009. Based on the Saxena Committee report, findings of the pilot study and consultation with State Government/UT Administrations and stakeholders, a Questionnaire to collect information on socio-economic indicators of households was prepared, and a full-fledged Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) was launched on 29th June, 2011 in the country. The Census is being carried out by the States/Union Territories with the financial and technical support from the Government of India.