

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2315
ANSWERED ON:05.02.2014
URBAN POOR
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the poverty levels across the country has decreased by 15 per cent in the last eight years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the rural poverty has declined faster than urban poverty; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION [DR.(Ms.) GIRIJA VYAS]

(a) & (b): As per the estimates of Planning Commission, the percentage of people living below the poverty line as computed using the Tendulkar methodology has come down by 15.3 percentage points from 37.2% in 2004-05 to 21.9% in 2011-12.

(c) & (d): The percentage of persons below the Poverty Line in 2011-12 has been estimated as 25.7% in rural areas and 13.7% in urban areas. The respective ratios for the rural and urban areas were 41.8% and 25.7% in 2004-05. During the period 2004-05 to 2011-12, the decline in the rural poverty ratio is 16.1 percentage points which is higher than the 12 percentage points decline in the urban poverty ratio.