

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:400
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014
POVERTY ALLEVIATION SCHEMES
Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Singh Shri Bhola

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per a report published by the United Nations Development Programme, India has the highest population of the poor in the world;
- (b) if so the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether taking cognizance of the said report, the Government has taken any steps to address the problem of poverty in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of the targets set and achieved under the schemes for the purpose during the last three years, year/State-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the schemes launched for poverty alleviation in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor? .

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)to (e): A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 400 due for reply on 20.2.2014.

The Human Development Report of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) 2013 in its Chapter on 'poverty' mentions that in India the percentage of population living on less than 2005 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) \$1.25 a day went down from 49% to 32.7%.

The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing through State Governments and Union Territory Administrations the major programmes namely the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana(SGSY)/ National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for poverty alleviation through wage and self employment in rural areas of the country. MGNREGA aims at to enhance the livelihood security of rural households by providing on demand up to at least 100 days guarantee of wage employment in a year to the adult members of every rural household who is willing to do unskilled work. The NRLM aims at reducing poverty by enabling poor households to access gainful self-employment/skilled wage employment for ensuring appreciable improvement in their livelihood on a sustainable basis. SGSY has been restructured as NRLM /Aajevika and launched with effect from 3.6.2011 in the intensive blocks of the States.

The MGNREGA and NRLM are demand driven programmes. The State Governments submit the labour budget under MGNREGA whereas under NRLM the State Governments formulate their own poverty reduction action plans. NRLM also focuses on supporting rural poor youth for assessing skilled wage employments through placement linked skill development projects. The State-wise achievements made under NRLM and MGNREGA during the last three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) is given at Annexure.

The Ministry of Rural Development has put in place a comprehensive system of monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the programmes through On-line Periodical Progress Reports, Performance Review Committee, Area Officer's Scheme, Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at the State/District Level and National Level Monitors. Besides, the State Governments have been advised to adopt a five- pronged strategy consisting of

- (i) creation of awareness about the schemes,
- (ii) transparency,
- (iii) people's partnership,
- (iv) accountability, social audit and
- (v) vigilance and monitoring at all level.