

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1022
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009
INDIA'S POSITION IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has slipped several places from the previous year's ranking in the UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the main reasons for such drastic fall in HDI; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve its ranking position?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. There is no change in India's rank in the UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI), 2009. The Human Development Report (HDR) 2009 includes the data for 192 UN member states whereas the HDR report 2007-08 was based on data for 175 countries. It has been clarified in the report that International Data Agencies continuously improve their data series and update the historical data, therefore, year to year changes in the HDI values and rankings across editions of the Human Development Report often reflect changes. In fact, Human Development Report of UNDP-2009 (based on data up to 2007) with HDI value of 0.612 in respect of India reflects an improvement over the previous report which indicated the HDI value of 0.604.

(c) : Does not arise.

(d): The development strategy with emphasis on generating more employment and development of social sectors such as public health and education with enhanced allocation of resources has yielded positive results over the years. The Human Development Report of UNDP 2009 itself reveals that there has been a consistent improvement in the HDI value i.e. 0.427 in 1980 to 0.612 in 2007.