

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2501

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014

PER CAPITA INCOME OF TRIBALS

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Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has carried out any study with regard to per capita income of tribals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether per capita income of tribals is less than those of general and other castes; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase the average income of tribals along with the extent to which the Government has achieved success as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) to (c): No, Madam. The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation collects data on the household consumer expenditure but not on income in their household surveys. The Planning Commission estimates poverty ratios for the years for which household consumer expenditure surveys have been conducted by NSSO. Presently, Planning Commission is following Tendulkar Committee methodology for estimation of poverty. The percentage of persons living below the poverty line among Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Classes, others and all population, at all India level for the years 2004-05 and 2011-12 have been estimated by the Planning Commission, which are as follows.

Estimates of Poverty Ratio among Social Groups

Social Group	Rural		Urban	
	2004-05	2011-12	2004-05	2011-12
Scheduled Tribes	62.3	45.3	35.5	24.1
Scheduled Castes	53.5	31.5	40.6	21.7
Other Backward Classes	39.8	22.6	30.6	15.4
Others	27.1	15.5	16.1	8.2
All Population	41.8	25.7	25.7	13.7

Note-The poverty ratios among the social groups are estimated from the percentage distribution of persons of the respective social groups as obtained from the large sample survey consumer expenditure data of the NSS and the poverty line for all population.

(d): Various programmes for people below the poverty line including tribals are run by different Ministries. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs supplements the efforts of other Central Ministries by way of various developmental interventions in critical sectors through specially tailored schemes. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is running the following schemes/programmes to improve the living standards of STs across the country.

- (i) Scheme of Construction of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys
- (ii) Scheme of Establishment of Ashram School in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas
- (iii) Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students
- (iv) Upgradation of Merit
- (v) Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students studying in classes IX & X.
- (vi) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for STs
- (vii) Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for STs
- (viii) Top Class Education for ST students

- (ix) Grants in aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of STs
- (x) Coaching for Scheduled Tribes
- (xi) Strengthening Education among Scheduled Tribe Girls in Low Literacy Districts
- (xii) Vocational Training in Tribal Areas
- (xiii) Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)
- (xiv) Grants-in-Aid to STDCCs for MFP Operations
- (xv) Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP as a measure of social safety for MFP gatherers,
- (xvi) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India
- (xvii) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)
- (xviii) Development of Tribal Products/Produce (Grants in aid to Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED)
- (xix) A new Scheme called `Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojana` has been launched.

As per the estimates of poverty ratio of the Planning Commission, the percentage of STs living below the poverty line has come down from 62.3% in rural areas during 2004-05 to 45.3% during 2011-12. In the urban areas, the percentage of STs living below the poverty line has come down from 35.5% during 2004-05 to 24.1% during 2011-12.