

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5867
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015
LIVING STANDARDS OF BPL FAMILIES IN NER
Sarmah Shri Ram Prasad

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) the average monthly annual income of BPL people/ families in NER;
- (b) whether due to shortage of industrial units in the region, the population of BPL families are increasing in NE region;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure overall improvement in the living standard of BPL population in NE region?

Answer

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (Dr. Jitendra Singh)

(a): Data on income of BPL population is not compiled centrally. Therefore, the information is not readily available.

(b) to (d): Poverty is a social as well as a multidimensional phenomenon and a composite of factors that include inadequate income, and low capabilities such as low awareness, low level of education, poor health, low self confidence, etc. Therefore, shortage of industrial units cannot be directly linked to change in the BPL population size. There are in operation a wide range of poverty alleviation programmes related to wage employment, self-employment, food security, social security, livelihoods promotion, etc. covering both rural and urban areas, including the North Eastern Region.