

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4434  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX  
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the findings of the 2013 Human Development Report (HDR) which ranks India at 136th of the 186 countries reported on Human Development Index;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the key features of the HDR, 201 with respect to India and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has evaluated the factors leading to slow growth in terms of human development in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to improve the human development status in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a): As per the Human Development Report (HDR) 2013 of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India was placed at 136th position out of 187 countries in 2012.

(b): The UNDP uses Human Development Index (HDI) as its summary measure of human development. It is a composite index measuring the average achievements in a country in three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living. As per the latest methodology adopted by UNDP, health is measured by life expectancy at birth. Achievement in knowledge is indicated by mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling. The standard of living is indicated by purchasing-power-adjusted per-capita Gross National Income (GNI).

As per HDR 2013, the position of India in the above mentioned indicators is as follows:

India\_HDR 2013

Life Expectancy at Birth (2012) 65.8 years

Mean years of schooling (2010) 4.4 years

Expected years of schooling (2011) 10.7 years

Gross National Income (2012) 3285 (as per 2005 PPP \$)

# Data refer to 2010 or the most recent year available.

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(c) to (e): Over the years there has been substantial improvement in the components of HDI for India. The Government's strategy of achieving high growth rate by generating more employment opportunities and strengthening social infrastructure such as public health and education through implementation of flagship programmes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Mid-Day Meal Scheme, and poverty alleviation by providing wage and self-employment, safe drinking water, Total Sanitation Campaign, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) etc. have impacted the human well-being positively and are expected to further improve India's social indicators.