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Title: Need to take a drive to eradicate poverty from the developing countries.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA (CALCUTTA, NORTH EAST): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and also the Members of this House to a serious threat of global recession likely next year, that is, 2003. The report, which has come out, is that 'International Economy and the Prospects of Developing Countries' has given a serious warning to India. It has been reported that India must immediately and without any delay ask the laggard States, which are not doing well in removing poverty, to take action forthwith. The Government of India has been warned to take the steps to see that those underdeveloped States, especially, below poverty line States should immediately improve the situation.

India has been warned that this sluggish global economic outlook will impede poverty reduction in developing countries. The developing countries must immediately remove trade and investment barriers that hurt poor people in developing countries. The reason given for such a situation of recession is that corporate and bank scandals in the USA have hurt not only the USA but also other countries including developing countries.