

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3532
ANSWERED ON 10/08/2021

INCREASE IN BPL PEOPLE DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

3532. SHRI P.C. MOHAN:
SHRI LALLU SINGH:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether applications for inclusion in the BPL list are lying pending with the Government, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether there has been an increase in the number of people living below poverty line in last two years due to corona pandemic in the country;
- (c) if so, the details of the number of people living below poverty line in the country, especially in the backward rural areas, State and district-wise including State of Karnataka;
- (d) whether the Government has any scheme to uplift these people from poverty, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has set or proposes to set the targets for upliftment of all the people living below poverty line especially in the backward and rural areas during the next five years, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the number of persons living below poverty line targetted to be uplifted, year-wise along with the updated status thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a): No Sir. After Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 replaced earlier Below Poverty Line (BPL) Surveys, rural households have been classified as (i) automatically excluded, (ii) automatically included and (iii) deprived.

(b) & (c): The erstwhile Planning Commission defined poverty line and estimated the number of people living under poverty line (for both all-India and states, including Karnataka), based on the quinquennial large sample surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The latest available poverty estimates are for the year 2011-12.

(d): The Government has taken many steps to help the poor during the pandemic period including relief packages under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY). Under this package, an ex gratia of Rs. 1,000 in two installments of Rs. 500 each were given to 2.82 crore existing old age, widow and disabled beneficiaries of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), amounting to Rs. 2814.50 crore, and an ex gratia of Rs. 1,500 in three installments of Rs. 500 each were paid to all 20.40 crore women account holders of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), amounting to Rs. 30,944.9 crore. In addition, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKY) free food grains were distributed to

nearly 80 crore beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA) [Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH)] during April-November, 2020 and it has been decided to extend these benefits for the period May-November, 2021. Further, for the development of rural areas, through generation of employment, strengthening of livelihood opportunities, promotion of self-employment, skilling of rural youth, provision of social assistance and development of rural infrastructure, the Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyay–Gramin Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana–Gramin (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Shyama Prasad Mukherjee National Rurban Mission (SPMRM) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP).

(e) &(f): 8.73 crore rural households, that were classified as deprived in SECC-2011, are being supported through schemes such as PMAY-G for providing houses to houseless, DAY-NRLM for mobilizing Self Help Groups (SHGs), DDU-GKY for skilling rural youths, MGNREGS for preparing labour budget in order to provide adequate employment to the poor people, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) for extending health insurance cover, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) for providing Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) connections to the poor and Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijili Har Ghar Yojana- Saubhagya (PMSBY) for giving electricity connections to unelectrified houses.
