

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 19.11.2009
ANSWERED ON
INDIA ECONOMIC GROWTH .

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Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether country Director of Action Aid India has remarked during October, 2009 that `the dark side of India economic growth has been that the excluded social groups have been further marginalized, compounding their hunger, malnutrition and even leading to starvation deaths`;
- (b) if so, whether any additional population has gone `below poverty line` during 2008 and 2009;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures that have been included in the Eleventh Five Year Plan to arrest this trend?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of it.

(b): In India, the poverty estimates are released approximately after a period of five years. The poverty estimates for the year 2004-05 reveal that 301.7 million people were living below the poverty line as compared to the poverty estimate of 320.3 million in 1993-94. Thus, there has been a decline in the total number of persons living below poverty line during the period 1993-94 to 2004-05 and the poverty ratio which was 36 percent in 1993-94 has come down to 27.5 percent in 2004-05.

(c): Does not arise.

(d): The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) envisages reduction in the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points. To achieve the objective of inclusive growth and to alleviate poverty in the country the Government has taken initiatives through direct interventions by implementing programmes such as: National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Mid-day Meal Scheme, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), etc.