

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 766
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2015

PLAN TO INCREASE RURAL INCOME

766. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:
PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 75 per cent of the rural households are earning less than five thousand rupees a month;
- (b) whether Government has any plans to increase the income bracket of such rural households;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has taken any initiative during the past one year to increase the non-farm job opportunities available in rural India; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a): As per "Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households" (70th Round) conducted during July 2012- June 2013 by National Sample Survey Office, average monthly income of agricultural household in India was then Rs. 6426. The Socio Economic Caste Census of Rural India has trusted the 'self declaration' of the household respondent that the main earner of the households has income of less than Rs. 5,000 per month in case of 74.49 per cent of the rural households. SECC-2011 was mainly aimed at collecting verifiable evidence of multi dimensionality of poverty for giving benefits of government positive intervention to alleviate poverty. 50.5 per cent of rural households did not report incidence of any of the seven pre-identified deprivation parameters and 39.39 % households reported on parameters that would automatically exclude them from being declared as poor. Self declared income was not a parameter of deprivation in the SECC-2011.

(b) to (e): The Ministry of Rural Development, inter alia, is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), PradhanMantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY), National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), Indira AwaasYojana (IAY) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) in rural areas of the country as a part of overall planning process through State Governments and UT Administrations. The objective of these programmes is to bring about overall improvement in the quality of life to people in rural areas through employment generation, development of rural infrastructure and provision of other basic amenities. MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. NRLM provides for training and capacity building of interested members to take up micro enterprises for enhancing their incomes. PanditDeenDayalUpadhayaGrameenKaushalyaYojana, a placement linked skill development programme and a sub scheme of NRLM, provides for skilling of rural poor youth to improve their employability.
