

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3600  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.04.2017**

**REPORT ON ELIMINATION OF POVERTY**

3600. SHRI RIPUN BORA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared any report on elimination of poverty in the country;
- (b) if so, the proposals, suggestions and strategic anti-poverty programme therein;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the base income of the family has been fixed against the 7th Pay Commission and the details of BPL families as on 31st December, 2016 State-wise?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION**

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

(a): Pursuant to the decision taken in the first meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8th February, 2015, a Task Force on Elimination of Poverty in India was constituted by NITI Aayog on 16th March, 2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The report of the Task Force was submitted to Prime Minister's Office on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

(b) & (c): The report of the Task Force primarily focusses on issues of measurement of poverty and strategies to combat poverty. Regarding estimation of poverty, the report of the Task Force states that "a consensus in favour of either the Tendulkar or a higher poverty line did not emerge. Therefore, the Task Force has concluded that the matter be considered in greater depth by the country's top experts on poverty before a final decision is made. Accordingly, it is recommended that an expert committee be set up to arrive at an informed decision on the level at which the poverty line should be set." With respect to strategies to combat poverty, the Task Force has made recommendations on faster poverty reduction through employment intensive sustained rapid growth and effective implementation of anti-poverty programs.

(d) : The Government of India launched Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) in June, 2011 to generate information on a large number of social and economic indicators for ranking of households in rural and urban areas across the country. The process of the SECC 2011 has been concluded in March, 2016. SECC 2011 provides data on households regarding various aspects of their socio-economic status – housing, land-holding/landlessness, educational status, status of women, the differently abled, occupation, possession of assets, SC/ST households, incomes, etc. The finding of the Census is in public domain at <http://secc.gov.in>.

Ranking of Households in rural areas under SECC is made through a three-step process involving 13(Thirteen) Automatic Exclusion parameters for identifying not-poor households, 5 (five) Automatic Inclusion parameters for identifying poorest of the poor households and 7 (seven) Deprivation Criteria for identifying poor households. Out of 17.97 crore households in rural areas, 48.53% have reported incidence of deprivation and 0.92% of households reported for automatic inclusion criteria.

The Ministry of Rural Development is using SECC data for the selection of the beneficiaries in its various programmes. SECC data is also being used for programmes implemented by other Ministries viz. Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana, National Food Security Act etc.

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