

O.I.H.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 245
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018

IDENTIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE BPL FAMILIES

***245. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:**

Will the Minister of **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to display information regarding the Statewise list of people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) on the Internet, so that only the genuinely poor persons can be identified and can avail the benefits of Government sponsored schemes and ineligible people illegally availing of the benefits meant for poor persons can be identified;
- (b) if so, details thereof and action taken in this regard;
- (c) if not, how does Government proposes to identify the ineligible people who are living above the poverty line and misusing the benefits of Government facilities meant for BPL people; and
- (d) the reaction of Government thereto?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 245 for answer on 19th March 2018

(a) to (d): The first BPL Census was conducted in 1992 for the Eighth Five Year Plan. Subsequently, BPL Census was conducted in 1997, for the Ninth Five Year Plan and in 2002 for the Tenth five Year Plan period. The Ministry of Rural Development provided financial and technical support to the States / UTs for conducting the BPL Census to identify the families living Below the Poverty Line in the rural areas who could be targeted under its various programmes.

In 2011, in place of BPL Survey, a comprehensive Socio-Economic and Caste Census 2011 (SECC 2011) was conducted by the States / UTs under technical and financial support from the Government of India to rank households based on their reported socio-economic status.

Ministry of Rural Development is using granular details of socio-economic Caste Census (SECC- 2011) data for identifying multi-dimensionality of poverty of rural households. With the use of SECC data, programme specific priority list is generated keeping in view the fiscal space of programmes/schemes for targeting specific development intervention to alleviate rural poverty. The SECC Data at "Draft stage" was placed in public domain and was displayed prominently in Gram Panchayats for inviting claims and objections during Gram Sabhas. The Claims and objections received were examined by the appropriate authority in district. Based on decision on claims and objections, the SECC Draft list was finalized in each District by District Authority. Keeping in view the privacy concern of 17.96 crore rural household, the Ministry decided not to place households assets and socio-economic details in the public domain.

To maximize the outcome of Government expenditure on Rural Development, the government has revamped governance framework which has increased transparency and accountability. The eligibility of beneficiary is decided through SECC data. Ground truthing and validation of beneficiaries' data is got done in Gram Sabha. Wherever permissible, Aadhar is used for identification of beneficiary. Benefits are transferred through electronic fund transfer directly through Aadhar linked (Jandhan) bank account of beneficiary. Satellite images are also used in programmes including Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and assets are geo-Tagged in MGNREGS. For transparency and accountability, citizens have been empowered to monitor programme and up-keep of assets created under the rural development programme through Mobile applications, namely, "Meri Sadak" and "Gram Samvad".