GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1749
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

INCREASE IN POVERTY ACROSS THE COUNTRY

1749 Shri Mallikarjun Kharge:
Shri Kumar Ketkar:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether 230 million Indians have been pushed below the poverty line, according to a report by the Azim Premji University;

(b) whether people's net financial assets dropped from 21 per cent of India's GDP to 8.2 per cent of GDP;

(c) whether 159 districts in 25 States saw a decline in fixed deposits (in Q4;2020-'21);

(d) if so, whether Government is taking any steps to alleviate the acute economic distress that ordinary citizens are facing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and impact reports of the steps taken?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) Different Research Institutes/Organisations follow alternate ways to estimate poverty in India. However, officially the erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty line and poverty ratio on the basis of 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 last data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 68th round conducted in 2011-12. Based on this data, the erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty lines and poverty ratio in 2011-12 following the extant Tendulkar Committee methodology and released through a Press Note issued on 22nd July 2013. According to this Press Note, the number of persons living below poverty line in India has been estimated as 27 crore in 2011-12.

(b) and (c) Sir, the relevant information is not available in this regard.

(d) and (e) Government has initiated several targeted schemes that aim to improve the quality of life of the people and aimed at reducing population below poverty line in the country. These include Pradhan Mantri Jan-DhanYojana (PMJDY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY), National Health Mission (NHM), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/ National Food Security Act (NFSA), road connectivity through the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti BimaYojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana etc.

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