

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1267**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

**BENCHMARK FOR DEFINING POVERTY IN THE COUNTRY**

1267 SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the current definition of poverty and parameters used by Government to define poverty and the data on the number of people in the country currently living below poverty line (BPL), State-wise in urban and rural areas;
- (b) whether States/UTs are free to define their own parameters of BPL household, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that in Haryana, more additions have been made under the BPL category, if so, statistical details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND 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) to (c) 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. Based on the data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure published by NSSO for the 68<sup>th</sup> round, the erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty lines and poverty ratio in 2011-12 following the extant Tendulkar Committee methodology. The result was released through a Press Note issued on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2013. According to this Press Note, the number of persons living below poverty line in India has been estimated to be 27 crore in 2011-12. The poverty line was defined on

the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. For the year 2011-12, the poverty line at all India level has been estimated as Monthly Per-capita Consumption Expenditure of Rs. 816 for rural areas and Rs. 1000 for urban areas. The State/UT-wise details of population, including the state of Haryana, living below poverty line in the country as per the above Press Note is given at **Annexure**.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1267 FOR 31.07.2023 BY SHRI SANDEEP KUMAR PATHAK: REGARDING BENCHMARK FOR DEFINING POVERTY IN THE COUNTRY**

**Number and Percentage of Population below poverty line by states - 2011-12**

**(Tendulkar Methodology)**

S.No.	States	Rural		Urban		Total	
		% of Persons	No. of Persons (lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	10.96	61.80	5.81	16.98	9.20	78.78
2	Arunachal Pradesh	38.93	4.25	20.33	0.66	34.67	4.91
3	Assam	33.89	92.06	20.49	9.21	31.98	101.27
4	Bihar	34.06	320.40	31.23	37.75	33.74	358.15
5	Chhattisgarh	44.61	88.90	24.75	15.22	39.93	104.11
6	Delhi	12.92	0.50	9.84	16.46	9.91	16.96
7	Goa	6.81	0.37	4.09	0.38	5.09	0.75
8	Gujarat	21.54	75.35	10.14	26.88	16.63	102.23
<b>9</b>	<b>Haryana</b>	<b>11.64</b>	<b>19.42</b>	<b>10.28</b>	<b>9.41</b>	<b>11.16</b>	<b>28.83</b>
10	Himachal Pradesh	8.48	5.29	4.33	0.30	8.06	5.59
11	Jammu & Kashmir	11.54	10.73	7.20	2.53	10.35	13.27
12	Jharkhand	40.84	104.09	24.83	20.24	36.96	124.33
13	Karnataka	24.53	92.80	15.25	36.96	20.91	129.76
14	Kerala	9.14	15.48	4.97	8.46	7.05	23.95
15	Madhya Pradesh	35.74	190.95	21.00	43.10	31.65	234.06
16	Maharashtra	24.22	150.56	9.12	47.36	17.35	197.92
17	Manipur	38.80	7.45	32.59	2.78	36.89	10.22
18	Meghalaya	12.53	3.04	9.26	0.57	11.87	3.61
19	Mizoram	35.43	1.91	6.36	0.37	20.40	2.27
20	Nagaland	19.93	2.76	16.48	1.00	18.88	3.76
21	Odisha	35.69	126.14	17.29	12.39	32.59	138.53
22	Punjab	7.66	13.35	9.24	9.82	8.26	23.18
23	Rajasthan	16.05	84.19	10.69	18.73	14.71	102.92
24	Sikkim	9.85	0.45	3.66	0.06	8.19	0.51
25	Tamil Nadu	15.83	59.23	6.54	23.40	11.28	82.63
26	Tripura	16.53	4.49	7.42	0.75	14.05	5.24
27	Uttarakhand	11.62	8.25	10.48	3.35	11.26	11.60
28	Uttar Pradesh	30.40	479.35	26.06	118.84	29.43	598.19
29	West Bengal	22.52	141.14	14.66	43.83	19.98	184.98
30	Puducherry	17.06	0.69	6.30	0.55	9.69	1.24
31	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.57	0.04	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.04
32	Chandigarh	1.64	0.004	22.31	2.34	21.81	2.35
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	62.59	1.15	15.38	0.28	39.31	1.43

34	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	12.62	0.26	9.86	0.26
35	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	3.44	0.02	2.77	0.02
	<b>All India</b>	<b>25.70</b>	<b>2166.58</b>	<b>13.70</b>	<b>531.25</b>	<b>21.92</b>	<b>2697.83</b>

Notes: 1. Population as on 1st March 2012 has been used for estimating number of persons below poverty line. (2011 Census population extrapolated)

2. Poverty line of Tamil Nadu has been used for Andaman and Nicobar Island.
3. Urban Poverty Line of Punjab has been used for both rural and urban areas of Chandigarh.
4. Poverty Line of Maharashtra has been used for Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
5. Poverty line of Goa has been used for Daman & Diu.
6. Poverty Line of Kerala has been used for Lakshadweep.

\*\*\*\*\*