

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1097**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026

**WEALTH INEQUALITY**

1097 SHRI PRAKASH CHIK BARAIK:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state?

- (a) whether it is a fact that the average wealth (PPP ₹) of top 1 percent of population is almost 626 times the bottom 50 per cent; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that 1 per cent of the population gets the 40 per cent while the bottom 50 percent population gets only 6.4 percent share in the average wealth (PPP ₹)?

**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 CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b) In India, the data on class distribution of income is not compiled centrally. The household consumption expenditure data collected by the National Statistical Office (NSO) could be used as a proxy to capture the economic disparity in terms of consumption expenditure. According to the latest Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (2023–24), income inequality has declined in both rural and urban India, with the Gini coefficient falling to 0.237 and 0.284, respectively, from 0.266 and 0.314 in 2022–23. This improving trend is further corroborated by World Bank estimates (India Poverty and Equity Brief, April 2025), which place India's Gini Index at 25.5 (as against 28.8 in 2011-12), ranking it fourth globally in income equality.

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