

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1099**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2026

**INCOME INEQUALITY**

1099 SHRI SAMIRUL ISLAM:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state?

- (a) whether it is a fact that the average income (PPP ₹) of top 1 percent of population is almost 150 times the bottom 50 per cent; and
- (b) whether it is fact that 10 per cent of the population gets the 57.75 per cent while the bottom 50 percent population gets only 15 percent share in Income?

**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 places 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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