GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 195 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

INCOME DISPARITY

195. SHRI RAJU SHETTY:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the gap between the percentage increase in the incomes of poor and the rich has grown during the past few years;
- (b) if so, the details of the percentage of increase registered in the income of 10% of the poorest and 10% of the richest people during the last three years;
- (c) whether the economic policy of the country is responsible for the said disparity in the income; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) & (b) In India, the data on class distribution of income is not compiled centrally. However, household consumption expenditure data collected by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) could be used as a proxy to capture the economic inequality in terms of consumption expenditure. The latest data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 68th round conducted in 2011-12. The disparities in the class distribution of consumption expenditure are measured by the Lorenz ratio from the NSSO data on Consumer Expenditure. Based on consumption expenditure data, the Gini coefficient (measuring the inequality between different expenditure classes of the population) in rural areas is observed to be almost same in 2004-05 and 2011-12 at 0.27 and 0.28 respectively. In the urban areas, the Gini coefficient has increased marginally from 0.35 in 2004-05 to 0.37 in 2011-12.
- (c) & (d) The primary policy objective of the Government is development of all segments of the population. The Government is implementing a number of targeted programmes in this regard, like Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (PMAY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Stand Up India Scheme, etc. These interventions are expected to yield better results over time towards overall balanced development in the country.
