

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3375**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023

**CRITERIA FOR BELOW POVERTY LINE**

3375. SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any criteria and income slab of people living below poverty line as on 2023;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the last updated report on India's poverty estimates after the 2011 census;
- (c) whether it is a fact that 21.9 per cent of the population in the country are still suffering from poverty as on 2023; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**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 (d) The erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty line and poverty ratio on the basis of Large Sample Surveys carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. 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 (21.92%) 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 had been estimated as Monthly Per-capita Consumption Expenditure of Rs. 816 for rural areas and Rs. 1000 for urban areas.

NITI Aayog released the National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023 on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in partnership with UNDP. As per this report 13.5 crore people escaped "Multidimensional Poverty" between 2015-16 and 2019-21. A Steep decline has been reported in number of multidimensionally poor from 24.85% to 14.96% between 2015-16 and 2019-21.

The Government has initiated Central sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, for reducing poverty in the country. Some of the schemes aim to directly benefit the citizens through Direct Benefit transfer of resources/ money while others intend to create enabling infrastructural provisions. These include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana– National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Deen Dayal Upadhyay – Gramin Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojna (PMGKAY), Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), etc.

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