

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3838
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.12.2019

Estimation of Poverty

†3838. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NITI Aayog reviews the methodology for poverty estimation from time to time;
- (b) if so, the details of the review conducted during the last three years;
- (c) the outcome of the said review; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF
STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d): Pursuant to the decision taken in the first meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8th February, 2015, a Task Force on Elimination of Poverty in India was constituted by NITI Aayog on 16th March, 2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The report of the Task Force was submitted to Prime Minister's Office on 11th July, 2016. The Terms of Reference for the Task Force inter-alia included to "Develop a working definition of poverty". The report of the Task Force primarily focuses on issues of measurement of poverty and strategies to combat poverty. Regarding estimation of poverty, the report of the Task Force states that "a consensus in favour of either the Tendulkar or a higher poverty line did not emerge. Therefore, the Task Force has concluded that the matter be considered in greater depth by the country's top experts on poverty before a final decision is made. Accordingly, it is recommended that an expert committee be set up to arrive at an informed decision on the level at which the poverty line should be set." The Report of the Task Force is under consideration of the Government.
