

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3924
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2020

SDG INDEX

3924. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Index 2019-20 released by NITI Aayog, every fifth Indian is still below the poverty line and about 22 States have become poorer on this Index;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been envisaged by the Government to attain its ambitious target of attaining zero-poverty by 2030; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) and (b): In the SDG India Index 2019-20, data pertaining to the percentage of people living below poverty line in India has been sourced from estimates of the Tendulkar Committee Report, 2011-12. As per the report, 21.92% of the people in India live below poverty line. No new official estimate on poverty line in India is available other than the 2011 Tendulkar Estimates. However, as a result of consistent endeavours of the Government of India, extreme poverty, as measured by the World Bank's International Poverty Line, has plummeted from 21.2 per cent to 13.4 per cent in 2015.

Multidimensional Poverty also came down by half to 27.5 per cent between 2005-06 and 2015-16, leading to over 271 million people climbing out of poverty, as established by the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2018 developed by Oxford Poverty Human Index (OPHI)-UNDP.

The SDG India Index 2019 is available via an online dashboard (<http://sdgindiaindex.niti.gov.in/>). The report is in the public domain and can be found in https://niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2019-12/SDG-India-Index-2.0_27-Dec.pdf

(c) and (d): The Government of India through the various Union Ministries/Departments has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to eliminate poverty, reduce inequalities and to promote social and financial inclusion of all communities. This strategy largely focusses on provision of basic services, social protection and employment and income generation. Further, the State Governments and Union Territories are key drivers for achieving the SDGs within the stipulated time frame and implement a host of programmes of their own apart from the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of various Union Ministries/Departments.
