

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3131**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

**METHODOLOGY FOR CALCULATING PEOPLE BELOW POVERTY LINE**

3131. SHRI RAJESH NARANBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the total number of people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) and in Extreme Poverty has reduced during the last five years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of methodology used for calculating people living Below Poverty Line (BPL) along with the numbers and percentage of population living Below Poverty Line; and
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the methodology for poverty measurement in the country during the last five years, if so, the details thereof?

**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 CULTURE

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

- (a) to (c) In 2021, the Government of India developed a comprehensive index known as Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) to measure poverty that captures overlapping deprivations in dimensions such as health, education and standard of living, covering 12 indicators. It measures both the share of people in poverty and the degree to which they are deprived. This is the only methodology that is being used presently to measure poverty. The second edition of the index was released in 2023. As per the latest National MPI Report, 2023 released by NITI Aayog, the proportion of population in multidimensional poverty declined from 24.85% to 14.96% between 2015-16 and 2019-21, indicating that about 135.5 million persons have escaped poverty during the period. The details including methodology are in public domain and can be accessed at <https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-08/India-National-Multidimensional-Poverty-Index-2023.pdf>.

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