

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) As per the 'Global Economic Prospects-2009', published by the World Bank, India had about 455.8 million people living on less than US \$ 1.25 per day in the year 2005. As per the Census 2001, the numbers of illiterates in the country were around 304 million in the age group seven years and higher. As indicated in the Report of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), titled 'Perceived Adequacy of Food Consumption in Indian Households 2004-2005', the percentage of households not getting enough food every day was 0.4% for rural areas and 0.1% for urban areas respectively in the year 2004-05.

(b) The country has shown significant improvements with respect to poverty, illiteracy and hunger over time. The percentage of people living below poverty line declined from 54.9 per cent in 1973-74 to 27.5 per cent in 2004-05. Literacy rate improved from 18.3 per cent (for age group 5+) in 1951 to 64.8 per cent in 2001 (for age group 7+). Proportion of people not getting enough food every day declined from 2.4 percent in 1983 to 0.4 percent in 2004-05 in the rural areas and from 0.8 percent in 1983 to 0.1 percent in 2004-05 in the urban areas.

(c) The Eleventh Five year Plan (2007-12) envisages reduction in the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points. Similarly the Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at increasing the literacy rate for persons of age 7 years or more to 85% by 2011-12. The Government is implementing a number of poverty alleviation programmes such as: National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Mid-day Meal Scheme, Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), etc. For improving literacy rate the Government is implementing the Sarva-shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid-day meal Scheme.

Number of poor people in country

‡2948. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to member of Planning Commission Shri Abhijit Sen the number of poor people in the country could be 80 per cent in villages and 64 per cent in cities;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that according to report of World Bank the number of poor people in India is about 45 crore and as per the report of the Committee nominated by the Rural Development Ministry it is 40 crore;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, whether Government has taken any step to get the correct information thereto; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) No, Sir. However, according to Prof. Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission, he had confirmed to a question from a press person that nearly 80 per cent of persons in rural areas and nearly 64 per cent of persons in the urban areas had per capita calorie intake of less than 2400 kcal and less than 2100 kcal in rural areas and urban areas respectively in the year 2004-05. This is calculated on the basis of information available from 61st Round of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO).

(b) As per the World Bank Report entitled 'Global Economic Prospects for 2009', the number of poor people in India living on less than \$1.25 a day is around 455.8 millions. The Ministry of Rural Development has not constituted or nominated any committee to estimate poverty in the country.

(c) and (d) The various estimates on poverty are strictly not comparable as they follow different assumptions and criteria for calculating the number of persons below poverty line.

Mid-term review of Eleventh Plan

2949. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether newly constituted Planning Commission met and had a mid-term review of growth targets of Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether a new plan was launched on globally melt down and was fully discussed;

(c) if so, whether Eleventh Five Year Plan was projected for target of 9 per cent growth and in the second quarter of 2009 agriculture growth plunged to 2.8 per cent;

(d) whether in view of this Planning Commission has to revise growth rate; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the discussions held and to what extent changes have been incorporated to meet targets as per present situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) had fixed an annual average growth target of 9 per cent. As per the information available from the Revised Estimates of Annual National Income, 2008-09 released on 29th May, 2009 by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the growth rate of Agriculture and Allied