

| | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| (8) | Infrastructure Leasing – and Financial Services Limited | 06.28% |
| | Employees Welfare Trust and others | |
| (9) | Credit Commercial – de France (HSBC Group) | 05.23% |

Rich Household in India

†2790. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of rich household in the country has increased by 34 million, whereas the number of poor has decreased by 24 million between 2000-01 and 2009-10;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the main reason of above difference is lack of equitable development in the country; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(a) to (d) The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has published a book titled "How India Earns, Spends and Saves" based on a study conducted by them. The study report reveals that the number of low-income households (those earning under Rs.45,000 per annum at 2001-02 prices) is estimated to have declined from 84 million in 1985-86 to 65 million in 2001-02, and this number is projected to further decline to 41 million by end of the decade. The number of middle-income households (earning Rs. 45,000 to Rs.180,000 per annum) is estimated to have increased from 43 million in 1985-86 to 109 million in 2001-02 and is expected to rise further to 141 million in 2009-10. The high-income households (earnings over Rs. 180,000 per annum) are projected to have risen from 1.4 million to 13.8 million and expected to further rise to 47 million by end of the decade.

The survey report highlights gradual and steady increase in the income and living standards of each level of households implying that the number of the low income households is declining. As quoted in the book 'the wheel of fortune continues to spin in India, with each level of household

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

income set to move a notch higher by end of the decade/' These findings are similar to the one brought out in the National Sample Survey (NSS) report no. 508 titled "Level and Pattern of Consumer Expenditure, 2004-05", which indicates that the monthly per-capita consumption expenditure in real terms has gradually increased for each percentile group of the population. This can be attributed to effective policy intervention of the Government through implementation of various developmental programmes.

Subsidy to bridge economic Disparities

2791. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of money spent during the last three years as subsidies on food, fertilizer and petroleum to bridge economic disparities;
- (b) whether Government conducted any study to find out whether the subsidies are actually reaching the poor people;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and
- (d) the steps taken to create jobs in tribal and rural areas to bridge inter-regional imbalances and economic disparities?

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

(a) The quantum of money spent during the last three years as subsidies on food, fertilizer and petroleum, as per the Budget 2010-11 document, is given below:

| | (Rs. in crore) | | |
|------------|----------------|----------|---------------------|
| | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
| Item/Year | (Actual) | (Actual) | (Revised Estimates) |
| Food | 31328 | 43751 | 56002 |
| Fertilizer | 32490 | 76603 | 52980 |
| Petroleum | 2820 | 2852 | 14954 |

Source: Expenditure Budget Volume-1 (2010-11)