

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

(a) The Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group on 13th May 2010 under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.R. Hashim to recommend a methodology for identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in urban areas for extending benefits to them under various welfare schemes.

(b) to (d) The Expert Group has not yet submitted its recommendation to the Government. The Expert Group is aware of the Tendulkar Committee report on methodology for estimation of poverty and the Saxena Committee report on the methodology for identification of BPL households in rural areas.

#### **Special Development Programmes**

2795. SHRI MANGAL KISAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the special development programmes and planning of the Central Government for the backward areas of the tribal populated regions of the country;

(b) the number of districts located in the backward and neglected regions of the country; and

(c) the socio-economy conditions of the people of these backward regions of the country?

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

(a) and (b) The Planning and Development of an area is primarily the responsibility of the States concerned. The Central Government, on its part, supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Special Area Programmes, Flagship Programmes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. In order to specifically address the problem of regional imbalances in development in the country, the Government is implementing the schemes of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) in 2006-07. The BRGF has two components, namely, (i) special Plans for Bihar and the undivided Kalahandi – Bolangir – Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa, and (ii) Districts Component covering 250 districts. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides Special Central Assistance to the States under Special Area Development Programme through the schemes of – (i) Special Central Assistance to

Tribal Sub Plan; and (ii) Grant-in-Aid under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. The Ministry of Minority Affairs also implements a scheme of multi-sectoral development programmes in 90 Minorities Concentration Districts which include backward areas of tribal populated regions.

(c) the socio-economic condition of the people in the country is indicated in the table given below:

Sl. No.	Socio-economic Indicators	% of persons by Social Groups		
		Scheduled Castes(SCs)	Scheduled Tribes (STs)	Others Non-SCs/STs
1.	Literacy rate (2001)	66.64	59.17	78.70
2.	Health Status (NFHS – III, 2005-06)			
	(i) Infant mortality	66.40	62.10	48.90
	(ii) Neonatal Mortality	46.30	39.90	34.50
	(iii) Child Mortality	23.20	35.80	10.80
	(iv) Under Five Mortality	88.10	95.70	59.20
	(v) Total Vaccination	39.70	31.30	53.80
3.	Below Poverty Population (2004-05)			
	(i) Rural	36.80	47.30	16.10
	(ii) Urban	39.90	33.30	16.01

#### Fiscal Prudence

2796. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- whether Planning Commission has called for fiscal prudence;
- if so, the reasons therefor; and
- the steps Government has mooted in this regard?