

(c) whether there has been any improvement in the above rank during 2006 to 2011; and

(d) the parameter of measuring HDI and whether it is according to United Nations standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Human Development Report (HDR) 2009 of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India was placed at 134th position out of 182 countries.

(b) and (c) According to HDR 2005, India's position was 127 out of 177 countries and HDR 2006 placed India at 126th position out of 177 countries. It has been clarified in the reports that International Data Agencies continuously improve their data series and update the historical data. Therefore, year to year changes in the Human Development Index (HDI) values and rankings across editions of the HDR are not strictly comparable. The HDR 2011 indicates that India's HDI position improved by one rank during the period 2006-2011. However, in terms of HDI value India registered a significant improvement from 0.512 in 2006 to 0.547 in 2011. In fact, India has registered highest ever average annual HDI growth rate of 1.66 percent during the decade 2000-2010.

(d) The UNDP uses HDI as its summary measure of human development. It is a composite index measuring the average achievements in a country in three basic dimensions of human development, a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living. As per the latest methodology adopted by UNDP, health is measured by life expectancy at birth. Achievement in knowledge is indicated by mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling. The standard of living is indicated by purchasing-power-adjusted per-capita Gross National Income (GNI).

Mobile phone to BPL individual

2111. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to provide mobile phone to every Below Poverty Line (BPL) individual as per the media report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the reasons for the same; and
- (d) the details of funds likely to be spent on this scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) A proposal to utilise the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to subsidise and incentivise phone usage in rural areas by facilitating easy access to mobile phone connections has been mooted but no decision on the proposal has been taken on the suggestions so far.

Improvement of infrastructure

2112. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether government envisages a comprehensive plan for improvement of infrastructure for expanding roads, railways, ports, airports, telecom and information technology;
- (b) if so, the constituent details thereof, sectorwise; and
- (c) the allocation made for each constituent infrastructure under the twelfth plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government envisages a comprehensive plan for improvement of infrastructure which will be incorporated in the Twelfth Five Year Plan document.

- (c) The allocations would be included in the Twelfth Five Year Plan document which is under formulation.

Decline in infrastructure development

2113. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that infrastructure development has declined during the last three years;
- (b) whether the lack of adequate infrastructure is a major constraint in our growth; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to increase investment in infrastructure development?