

have been detailed in Chapter 24 namely “Social Inclusion” of the Twelfth Plan document which is available on the official website of the Planning Commission *i.e.* www.planningcommission.nic.in.

System for assessment of growth rate of GDP

†2097. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Abhijit Sen, a Member of Planning Commission, has requested Government to upgrade the system of assessment of annual growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has considered this request and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any proposal has been formulated for upgradation of the system of assessment of growth rate of GDP and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): (a) Shri Abhijit Sen, Member, Planning Commission has not made any official request to the Government regarding the upgradation of the system of assessment of annual growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the country. However, in an interview to PTI, he mentioned that modeling of the economy is not as robust as it should be, given that the world situation is so much volatile.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Increase in jobless population

2098. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the current report by Government there is an increasing number of growth of joblessness in Agricultural and Industrial Sectors during the UPA Government's tenure and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government is going to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): (a) Based on data of the Employment-Unemployment Surveys of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), between 2004-05 and 2011-12, employment on Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) is estimated to have declined by about 35 million in the Agricultural Sector whereas it increased by almost 31 million in the Industrial Sector. The overall employment in the country is estimated to have increased by around 15 million during this period including services sector.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) aims at creating 50 million job opportunities in the non-farm sector. In order to achieve this target several measures are proposed to be taken. For instance, the Plan has identified labour intensive sectors, viz., textiles and garments, leather and footwear, gems and jewellery, food processing industries, handloom and handicrafts etc., to receive greater focus for employment generation. In addition, to promote industrial growth, the National Investment and Manufacturing Zones (NIMZs) are to be developed as integrated industrial townships with suitable infrastructure and other support facilities. Furthermore, since acquisition of new and relevant skills is essential in a fast changing job environment, an autonomous body called the National Skill Development Agency has been set up for harmonizing the skill development efforts in the country (including in the private sector), anchoring the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) and facilitating setting up of professional certifying bodies in addition to the existing ones.

Reduction of poverty in India

2099. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to report of Planning Commission published in July, 2013 poverty in India is reduced to 21.9 per cent in 2011-12, the details thereof;

(b) whether as per the said report poverty line has been drawn at Rs. 816 per capita per month for rural areas and Rs. 1000/- per capita per month in urban areas, the details thereof;

(c) if so, the reasons for entitling 67 per cent of the population under Food Security Ordinance ignoring the assessment of Planning Commission; and

(d) whether Government is considering rejection of the Planning Commission assessment on reduction of poverty and yardstick of poverty line and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty from the Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation based on the methodology determined by an Expert Committee. The NSSO surveys are normally conducted on quinquennial basis. The latest data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure has been collected by NSSO in its 68th round conducted in 2011-12. Based on this data, the Planning Commission has estimated poverty lines and poverty ratio in 2011-12 following the Tendulkar Committee methodology. These estimates have been released by the Planning Commission through a Press Note issued on 22nd July, 2013. According to this Press