
West Bengal

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| 1. 24 Paraganas South | 2. Bankura |
| 3. Birbhum | 4. Dinajpur Dakshin |
| 5. Dinajpur Uttar | 6. Jalpaiguri |
| 7. Maldah | 8. Medinipur East |
| 9. Medinipur West | 10. Murshidabad |
| 11. Purulia | |
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Norms for categorizing BPL people

1769. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the existing norms to categorize people living Below Poverty Line (BPL);
- (b) whether there is any proposal to review the norms for the people living under BPL;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the revised norms are likely to be finalized and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI INDERJIT SINGH RAO): (a) The Planning Commission defines poverty line on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. The present poverty estimates are based on the methodology recommended by the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar in 2009. The Tendulkar Committee recommended MPCE of ₹ 447 for rural areas and ₹ 579 for urban areas as the poverty line for the year 2004-05, which was accepted by the Planning commission. Since January 2011, the Planning Commission has been using Tendulkar Committee methodology to estimate the poverty line and the poverty ratio at national and state level. For the year 2011-12, the Planning Commission, using the poverty line recommended by the Tendulkar Committee for 2004-05 and updating it to 2011-12 has estimated the poverty lines as monthly per capita consumption expenditure (MPCE) of ₹ 816 in rural areas and ₹ 1000 in urban areas.

(b) and (c) The methodology for estimation of poverty line followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by the experts in the field. The Planning Commission reviews the methodology for estimation of poverty from

time to time to make the estimates of poverty contemporaneous. In conformity of its practice of reviewing the methodology for estimation of poverty, Planning Commission, in June 2012, constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. Rangarajan to Review the Methodology for Measurement of Poverty. The Terms of Reference of the Expert Group were as follows:

- (i.) To comprehensively review the existing methodology of estimation of poverty and examine whether the poverty line should be fixed solely in terms of a consumption basket or whether other criteria are also relevant, and if so, whether the two can be effectively combined to evolve a basis for estimation of poverty in rural and urban areas.
 - (ii.) To examine the issue of divergence between consumption estimates based on the NSSO methodology and those emerging from the National Accounts aggregates; and to suggest a methodology for updating consumption poverty lines using the new consumer price indices launched by the CSO for rural and urban areas State-wise.
 - (iii.) To review alternative methods of estimation of poverty which may be in use in other countries, including their procedural aspects; and indicate whether on this basis, a particular method can be evolved for empirical estimation of poverty in India, including procedures for updating it over time and across states.
 - (iv.) To recommend how the estimates of poverty, as evolved above, should be linked to eligibility and entitlements for schemes and programmes under the Government of India.
- (d) The Expert Group submitted its report to Planning Commission on 30th June 2014. The Government is examining the report.

CSSs for Jharkhand and Gujarat

1770. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) that are in operation in the country *vis-a-vis* the States of Jharkhand, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are any instances of mismatch between funds allocated, disbursed and utilized for financing of such schemes, the details thereof;