

(c) The report also mentions that “New poverty estimates for 2010 and 2011 show a notable decline in extreme poverty. In part this decline reflects newly available household surveys that show much lower poverty rates. For example, India’s poverty headcount fell by 10 percentage points within two years (from the National Sample Survey, or NSS, 2009/10 to NSS2011/12).”

**Adoption of methodology of Suresh Tendulkar Committee**

1350. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to adopt the methodology of Suresh Tendulkar Committee to estimate the poverty in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the amount earmarked for eliminating poverty during this Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The methodology for estimation of poverty followed by the Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by the experts in the field from time to time. An Expert Group was constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar in 2005 to review the methodology for estimation of poverty. The Tendulkar Committee, which submitted its Report in 2009, recommended Mainly Per capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) of ₹ 447 for rural areas and ₹ 579 for urban areas as the poverty line at 2004-05 prices, was accepted by the Planning Commission. Presently, Planning Commission is following Tendulkar methodology for estimation of poverty. Based on this methodology, the latest estimates of poverty have been released for 2011-12.

(b) The Twelfth Plan (2012-17) aims to reduce the Head Count Ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points during the plan period. It does not specify the amount of expenditure to achieve this target as poverty is multidimensional necessitating similar approach. The Plan document mentions various programmes which directly or indirectly help in poverty alleviation. The flagship schemes in this regard are Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), etc.