

Country's status in HDI vis-a-vis neighbouring countries

2920.SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the last BRICS meet, India had turned out worst in Human Development Index (HDI) Sector while US among the developed peers;

(b) the status of India's development in Human Development Index (HDI) sector vis-a vis its neighbours Nepal and Bangladesh, whether India is lagging behind the above neighbours;

(c) if so, whether India has developed some action plan to speed up its status in the sector, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the main reasons for such a poor status *inter-alia* indicating the measures that since been devised to improve this status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) As per the Human Development Report (HDR) 2014 of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India was placed at 135th position out of 187 countries in 2013. It is the lowest rank among the BRICS countries wherein Brazil was placed at 79th position, Russian Federation at 57th position, China at 91st position and South Africa at 118th position in 2013. In the report, Russian Federation, Brazil and China falls in the category of countries with 'High Human Development' whereas India and South Africa falls in the Medium Human Development category. United States falling in the category of countries with 'Very High Human Development' was placed at 5th position in 2013.

(b) to (d) As per the Human Development Report (HDR) 2014 of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India was placed at 135th position out of 187 countries in 2013. Bangladesh and Nepal were placed at 142nd and 145th position respectively in 2013. Over the years India has registered a consistent improvement in Human Development Index (HDI) value which increased from 0.483 in 2000 to 0.570 in 2010 and further to 0.586 in 2013. The Government's strategy of achieving high growth rate by generating more employment opportunities and strengthening social infrastructure such as public health and education through implementation of flagship programmes like National Health Mission (NHM), Sarva Sikhsha Abhiyaan (SSA), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), and poverty alleviation by providing wage and self-

employment, safe drinking water, Swachh Bharat Mission etc. have impacted the human well-being positively and are expected to further improve India's social indicators.

Demand to wind up UIDAI

2921.SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that biometrics of Aadhaar has failed miserably in many parts of the country if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there has been a demand to wind up Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI); and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the views of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) As per available information, there has not been any specific demand/proposal to this effect under consideration.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Steps taken to provide research laboratory facilities

2922.DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has appointed Chairman and members for the various committees and groups pertaining to the Ministry and its allied/autonomous institutions, if so, the list of committees and their composition as on date;

(b) the measures taken by Government to provide adequate opportunities for women and young scientists to showcase their talents;

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide adequate research laboratory facilities with state of art technologies for doing innovative researches in India; and

(d) the total amount earmarked for the same during the Twelfth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.