

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2552
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2021

POVERTY AMONG TRIBALS

2552. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of people below poverty line in India as per latest survey report;
- (b) the percentage of tribals below poverty level; and
- (c) whether Government policies have been effective in reducing the level of poverty among tribals over the past five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFARIS [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a): The erstwhile Planning Commission was the nodal agency in the Government for estimation of the poverty in the country and it constituted Task Force from time to time for determination of the methodology to estimate poverty line. The last Expert Group whose recommendations were accepted by the Government in 2011 was chaired by Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar.

The erstwhile Planning Commission used a poverty line based on per capita consumption expenditure as the criterion to determine the persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in rural and urban areas. The latest data on household consumer expenditure available is for the year 2011-12 as per the report on Consumer Expenditure Survey 68th Round (July, 2011-June, 2012) published by this Ministry. The percentage of people below poverty line during 2011-12, estimated following the extant methodology of Tendulkar Committee is 21.92%.

(b): The all-India percentage of Scheduled Tribes (ST) Below Poverty Line, worked out by the erstwhile Planning Commission following the extant methodology of Tendulkar Committee in rural and urban areas during 2004-05 & 2011-12 are given below:

Percentage of ST Population during 2004-05 & 2011-12		
Year	Rural	Urban
2004-05	62.3	35.5
2011-12	45.3	24.1

(c): Government of India implements various schemes/programmes to reduce the level of poverty among tribals. Some of the major schemes/programmes include Scholarship Schemes, Eklayya Model Residential Schools, Hostel Schemes, Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce, Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through minimum support price and development of value chain for MFP, Equity Support to National/State Schedule Tribes Finance & Development Corporations.

The various schemes/programmes have gradually improved the living conditions of tribals and reduced level of poverty among tribals over the years.
