

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 110**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023

**ESTIMATION OF THE PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE**

\*110 SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken any estimation of the percentage of people below the poverty line in the country and the definition of the poverty line that Government uses;
- (b) if so, the data for 2020, 2021, and 2022;
- (c) if not, when was the last time Government undertook the estimation of the poor in the country; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to undertake an estimation for the present year?

**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 AFFAIRS

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

(a). to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*110 REGARDING “ESTIMATION OF THE PERCENTAGE  
OF PEOPLE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE” RAISED BY SHRI BIKASH RANJAN  
BHATTACHARYYA**

(a) to (d) : The erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty line and poverty ratio on the basis of Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The last data of Large Sample Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure published by NSSO was for the 68<sup>th</sup> round conducted in 2011-12. Based on this data, the erstwhile Planning Commission estimated poverty lines and poverty ratio in 2011-12 following the extant Tendulkar Committee methodology and released through a Press Note issued on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2013. The poverty line has been defined on the basis of Monthly Per Capita Consumption Expenditure (MPCE) as the criterion. For the year 2011-12, the poverty line at all India level has been estimated as Monthly Per-capita Consumption Expenditure of Rs. 816 for rural areas and Rs. 1000 for urban areas. According to the Press Note, the number of persons living below poverty line in India has been estimated as 27 crore in 2011-12.

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