

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.\* 147**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024

**POVERTY ESTIMATION IN THE COUNTRY**

147 SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which Government estimates poverty in the country;
- (b) the number of times this estimate is revised;
- (c) whether it is a fact that NITI Aayog had released a Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) in 2021;
- (d) if so, whether the country had switched to a MPI while estimating poverty formally; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**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 CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*147 FOR ANSWER ON 05.08.2024 REGARDING  
“POVERTY ESTIMATION IN THE COUNTRY” RAISED BY SHRI RYAGA  
KRISHNAIAH**

- (a) In 2021, the Government developed a comprehensive index known as Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). MPI estimates poverty which captures dimensions such as health, education and standard of living, covering 12 indicators. It measures both the share of people in poverty and the degree to which they are deprived. The second edition of the index was released in 2023. As per the National MPI Report, 2023 released by NITI Aayog, the proportion of population in multidimensional poverty declined from 24.85% to 14.96% between 2015-16 and 2019-21, indicating that about 135.5 million persons escaped poverty during the period. The details are in public domain and can be accessed at <https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-08/India-National-Multidimensional-Poverty-Index-2023.pdf> under methodology section.
- (b) & (c) The Multidimensional Poverty Index was released in November 2021. NITI Aayog has further released the “National Multidimensional Poverty Index – A Progress review 2023” in July 2023.
- (d) & (e) To develop national MPI, an inter-ministerial MPI Coordination Committee (MPICC) was constituted under NITI Aayog including Ministries and Departments pertaining to areas such as health, education, nutrition, rural development, drinking water, sanitation, electricity, and urban development, among others. It also included experts from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the publishing agencies.

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