

Index. The floor level wage was last revised to Rs. 50/- per day w.e.f. 1.9.2002. All States/UTs have been informed of this increase and requested to ensure that in none of the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions, the minimum wage is below the national floor. Majority of the State/UTs have adopted the national floor level wage introduced by the Central Government.

BPL Population

†3681. SHRI ISAM SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people living Below Poverty Line in the first year of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the target set by Government for upliftment of people living Below Poverty Line during the Ninth Five Year Plan period and to what extent the same has been achieved; and

(c) whether Government are considering to act under a special plan to meet the target set for Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The Planning Commission estimated poverty at national and state level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest two such surveys were conducted in 1993-94 (NSS 50th round) and 1999-2000 (NSS 55th round). As such, the number of people living below poverty line in the first year of the Ninth Five Year Plan is not available. However, the number of people living below poverty line has been estimated as 3203.68 lakhs in 1993-94. During the Ninth Plan period, poverty has been estimated only for the year 1999-2000 and the number of poor for this year has been estimated as 2602.50 lakhs.

(b) No target set by the Government for the upliftment of people living below poverty line during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) There is a three-pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are: (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human, and social development through literacy, education, health,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

nutrition, meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

People Below Poverty Line

†3682. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey conducted by the Planning Commission in 1999-2000 revealed that the number of people living below poverty line has been reduced *vis-a-vis* that in 1997;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such people living Below Poverty Line during 1999-2000 in each State; and

(c) the monthly income of the people of this category in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and state level from the large sample surveys on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five year. The latest two such surveys were conducted in 1993-94 (NSS 50th round) and 1999-2000 (NSS 55th round). As such, the number of people living below poverty line in 1997 is not available. However, the number of people living below the poverty line has reduced from 3203.68 lakhs in 1993-94 to 2602.50 lakhs in 1999-2000.

(b) The State-wise estimates of number of people living below poverty line in rural and urban areas of the country during 1999-00 are given in Statement I (See below).

(c) The average monthly per capita expenditure of the people living below poverty line, separately for Rural and urban areas, is given in Statement-II.

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