

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2956  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006  
BENEFITS OF HIGHER GROWTH RATE  
Jatiya Dr. Satyanarayan

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the interests of the common people have been served with the higher economic growth rate registered during the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (b) whether any analysis has been made to ascertain the benefits of increased growth rate availed by the people living below poverty line; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (c) : The estimation of poverty in India is done by the Planning Commission based on the Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), once in approximately five years. The last two such surveys were conducted by the NSS 55th and 61st Rounds of Consumer Expenditure in 1999-2000 and 2004-05 respectively. On the basis of provisional consumer expenditure data of 61st Round of the NSS, as reported in the draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Plan, the poverty ratio at the national level is estimated to be about 22 percent in 2004-05 using Mixed Recall Period (MRP in which the consumer expenditure data for five non-food items, namely, clothing, footwear, durable goods, education and institutional medical expenses are collected from 365-day recall period and the consumption data for the remaining items are collected from 30-day recall period). This is roughly (but not strictly) comparable with the poverty estimates of 1999-2000, which is 26.1 percent. The effect of high economic growth rate during the Tenth Five Year Plan period (2002-03 to 2006-07) on people living below living poverty is not available, as such.