

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3126
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006
PER- CAPITA INCOME
Prasad Shri Hari Kewal;Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

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

- (a) the per-capita income in rural areas vis-à-vis urban areas;
- (b) whether gap in per-capita income of rural and urban areas is widening constantly;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to lower the gap; and
- (e) the success achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a) The available statistics on National Income, as estimated by the Central Statistical Organisation, provide information in respect of per capita Net Domestic Product (NDP) separately for rural and urban areas at current prices for the base years of the National Accounts Statistics. Therefore, estimates of per-capita income

(Net Domestic Product) separately for rural and urban areas are available for the years 1970-71, 1980-81, 1993-94 and 1999-2000. These are as follows:

Per-Capita Income (Rs.)

Years Rural Urban

1970-71	529	1294
1980-81	1245	2888
1993-94	5783	13525
1999-2000	10683	30183

(b) The ratio between urban and rural per-capita income was 2.45 in 1970-71, 2.32 in 1980-81, 2.34 in 1993-94 and 2.82 in 1999-2000. This shows that the gap in urban-rural per-capita income has reduced between the periods 1970-71 to 1980-81 and has not increased significantly from 1980-81 to 1993-94. The gap has increased to 2.82 in 1999-2000.

(c) One of the reasons for increase in the gap in urban-rural per-capita income between the period 1993-94 and 1999-2000 could be that the growth rate of agriculture and allied sectors slowed down from 3.4% during the period 1980-81 to 1993-94 to 2.9% during the period 1993-94 to 1999-2000.

(d)&(e) The Government has given priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty and accelerating the growth rate of the economy with stable prices. In addition, Bharat Nirman has also been launched. Bharat Nirman is a time-bound business plan for action in rural infrastructure over the 4-year period (2005-09). Under Bharat Nirman, action is proposed in the areas of irrigation, rural roads, rural housing, rural water supply, rural electrification and rural telecommunication connectivity. These along with other measures taken by the Government in the Tenth Plan period are aimed at lowering the gap in per-capita income of rural and urban areas.