

Jairam questions BPL cap criterion

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Amid the raging controversy over the Planning Commission affidavit on Below Poverty Line (BPL) cap, Rural Development Minister Jairam Ramesh has written to commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia, questioning the current methodology.

“Relying on poverty estimates of the Planning Commission to arrive at cut-offs will not resolve the problem in any manner. There will have to be different cut-offs for different dimensions,” he said. He said there was a need to have different yardsticks to identify households for various schemes. He suggested an exclusion criteria saying “all non-excluded households be part of a main list with subsidiary lists for specific programmes”.