Sumit Bose

PANEL REPORT on
Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC)

WHY IN NEWS?

Resource allocation based on 75% weight to income and 25% to the headcount ratio of poverty put additional burden on public resources.

BACKGROUND

Major Findings of SECC 2011

- 23.5% of rural HHs are landless
- 23.5% rural HHs having no literate adult
- 50% of rural HHs in the age group 6-15 have no literate adult
- SC/ST households have lower productivity

Significance of the Report

- SECC has the potential to replace the binary approach of BPL-APL
- Used to allocate resources and derive income from manual, casual labour
- Used for welfare programmes and reduce social destitution

Recommendations of the Report

- NC SAXENA committee (for rural areas) recommended a three-step classification of the rural population
- SR HASHIM Committee (for urban areas) recommended the use of SECC data for urban areas

Use SECC Data for Various Programs of the MoRD

- National Social Assistance Program (NSAP)
- National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)
- MGNREGA
- Others

Challenges

- Data on SECC includes households with multiple identities
- The urban caste data has not yet been released

Way Forward

- Use SECC data to plan for poverty reduction
- Replace Below Poverty Line (BPL) by multidimensional SECC for different states
- Use SECC data for all schemes of central government, state governments to ensure targeting of the right beneficiaries.