

Taking Action for the World's Poor and Hungry People

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SPEAKER SUMMARY NOTE

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Title: Infrastructure and the Poorest

Poverty has many dimensions. From hunger without food, poverty of human development without health and literacy, capability and functional poverty without infrastructure and public goods and services to vulnerability, hopelessness despair and lack of self respect.

India has made progress in many dimensions of poverty. Yet the average numbers do not fully reflect the disparity across classes and regions.

To deal with poverty we need to deal with all the dimensions and see that the measures reach the poor.

The poor are poor because they lack assets, capital, skills, access to public goods and services and physical and social infrastructure.

Government has to play an important role in providing infrastructure, education and health services. It has to see that the economy grows rapidly and creates opportunities for the poor.

The Indian Government's 11th five year plan is targeted to get FASTER AND MORE INCLUSIVE GROWTH.

Its strategy is to provide health and education to all in a time bound manner, ensure access to all enabling infrastructure, empower people with rights and create a safety net.

I will elaborate on the specific measures and our approach to effective implementation.