

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1254
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2018

UPGRADATION OF FOREST VILLAGES INTO REVENUE VILLAGES

1254. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of programme being implemented by Government specially for forest villages and its dwellers in the country, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the allocations made, amount sanctioned, released and utilised by the State Governments as well as concerned departments for the purpose during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether Government proposes up-gradation of forest villages to revenue villages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the criteria fixed and the steps taken therefor; and
- (e) the total number of forest villages upgraded to revenue villages till date, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Tribal Affairs had implemented a programme for development of forest villages since 2005-06 as a one-time measure for integrated development of forest villages with a view to raise the Human Development Index (HDI) of the inhabitants of the forest villages and for providing basic facilities and services in 2,474 forest villages/habitations that were covered under the programmes spread over twelve States in the country. The programme included infrastructure works relating to basic services and facilities viz. approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls, etc. and activities related to income generation. The programme was implemented as a part of the Special Area Programme 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan' and funds were released from the year 2006-07 to 2011-12 only. No fund has been released during 2012-13 and onwards.

(c) & (d) This Ministry has issued guidelines, in compliance of Section 3 (1) (h) of "The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 to convert all forest villages, old habitations, unsurveyed villages in forests, whether recorded, notified or not into revenue villages vide letter No.23011/33/2010-FRA dated 08.11.2013.

(e) Status of conversion of Forest Villages to Revenue Villages based on the information received from the State Governments is as under:-

S.No	Name of the State	Forest village to Revenue village
1.	Madhya Pradesh	925 Forest Villages to be converted to Revenue Villages
2	Maharashtra	All Forest villages are in the process of conversion into revenue villages
3	Chhattisgarh	421 Forest villages converted to Revenue villages
4	West Bengal	86 Forest villages converted to Revenue villages
5	Odisha	Recorded 22 Forest Villages and unsurveyed habitations identified for being converted to Revenue villages
6	Gujarat	175 have been identified for conversion to Revenue villages
7	Uttar Pradesh	6 have been converted to Revenue Villages.