

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1786**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022**

**Eviction from forest area**

1786. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of forest area in square kilometers from which tribals were evicted forcefully during the financial years from 2017-18 to 2021-22;
- (b) the details of the work for which the forests were to be used from where the tribals were forcefully evicted;
- (c) whether the tribals had opposed the eviction from the forests;
- (d) if so, the details of the options offered by Government to the tribals; and
- (e) whether the tribals are satisfied with the option offered by Government, if not, the reason therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

- (a) Protection and management of forests is primarily the responsibility of concerned State/UT Governments. The various actions to remove encroachment are taken as per the provisions under various acts such as Indian Forest Act, 1927; Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972; Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, various rules made under these Acts and State Specific Acts and Rules. The data regarding eviction of families including tribals from the forest areas under encroachment are not collated at the level of this Ministry.
- (b) to (e) The Ministry does not evict forest dwelling communities including tribals from the forest areas forcefully. However, the villagers are relocated from forest areas as and when required for developmental projects following due procedure under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and to protect and conserve the critically endangered wild animals under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The consent of villagers are obtained during relocation process as per the provisions under various Forest and Wildlife related Acts and Rules including The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

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