

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2487
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.7.2017

POPULATION OF FOREST VILLAGES

2487. SHRI ANSHUL VERMA :

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of tribals and other traditional dwellers living in forest villages in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of tribal and other traditional dwellers living in forest villages that are denied the privileges under the Forest Land Area Act and if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to recognize such village as revenue villages and give their entitlements?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI JASWANTSINH BHABHOR)

- (a): As per Census 2011, State/UT-wise total population and Scheduled Tribe population of Forest Villages in the country are given at **Annexure 1**.
- (b): The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (in short FRA) has been enacted to recognize and record rights of forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations and whose rights could not be recorded; and also to empower them and their community institutions as statutory authorities with the power to protect and manage forests.
- (c): 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, on conversion of 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. Status of conversion of Forest Villages to Revenue Villages based on the information received from the State Governments is given at **Annexure 2**.

Annexure 1 referred to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2487 for 31.07.2017 regarding “Population of Forest Villages”.

State wise Number and Population of Forest Villages

State Code	India/State/UT	No. of Forest Villages	Population	Scheduled Tribe Population
	INDIA	4,526	22,06,011	13,32,265
01	Jammu & Kashmir	41	82,652	56,539
02	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
03	Punjab	0	0	0
04	Chandigarh	0	0	0
05	Uttarakhand	421	1,87,432	2,538
06	Haryana	0	0	0
07	NCT of Delhi	0	0	0
08	Rajasthan	0	0	0
09	Uttar Pradesh	89	44,178	1,523
10	Bihar	0	0	0
11	Sikkim	51	3,691	893
12	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
13	Nagaland	0	0	0
14	Manipur	0	0	0
15	Mizoram	0	0	0
16	Tripura	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	0	0	0
18	Assam	897	7,65,098	3,29,445
19	West Bengal	0	0	0
20	Jharkhand	14	6,575	5,762
21	Orissa	47	2,544	2,120
22	Chhattisgarh	658	2,17,123	1,79,423
23	Madhya Pradesh	1165	7,37,837	6,35,671
24	Gujarat	162	38,047	29,624
25	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
27	Maharashtra	73	81,675	80,181
28	Andhra Pradesh	3	341	341
29	Karnataka	0	0	0
30	Goa	0	0	0
31	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
32	Kerala	0	0	0
33	Tamil Nadu	736	23,125	7,764
34	Puducherry	0	0	0
35	A & N Islands	169	15,693	441

Source: Primary Census Abstract, 2011

Annexure 2 referred to part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2487 for 31.07.2017 regarding “Population of Forest Villages”.

Status of conversion of Forest Villages to Revenue Villages as per Forest Rights Act, 2006 based on the information received from the State Governments.

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.
