

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 352**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2018

**TRIBAL FESTIVAL IN TELANGANA STATE**

352 SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI)

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government has received representations from the public and State to declare Sammakka-Sarakkaa Tribal festival as a national festival in Telangana State and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether a large number of Tribal people from neighboring States throng Medaram for this bi-annual festival; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the Government will declare it as a national festival and if not, reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Yes, Madam. References from Minister for Housing, Law and Endowments, Government of Telangana, Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department, Government of Telangana and Secretary, Youth Advancement, Tourism & Culture Department, Government of Telangana have been received in the Ministry requesting therein to consider "Sri Sammakka Saralamma Jathara (Festival) as National Festival.

(b): As informed by State Government of Telangana, the three days Jathara attracts large number of tribal devotees from all over Telangana and neighbouring States.

(c): Taking cognizance of the magnificence of the festival, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has already extended support to the tune of Rs. 2.00 Crore to the State Government of Telangana for successful conduct of the festival. Presently, the Ministry has no scheme/guidelines for declaring any event as national festival.

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