

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2445
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 18/12/2023

DATA OF FOREST DWELLERS

2445. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the claims received under the Forest Rights Act, detailing titles distributed and area claimed and titled for forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFDs), State-wise;
- (b) the data on villages/habitations in each State claiming Community Forest Resource rights under FRA;
- (c) the details of the States continue to restrict the ownership, collection, use and disposal of minor forest produce by the STs and OTFDs and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to issue directives on the recommendations of Dr. Hrusikesh Panda's expert committee on PVTGs' habitat rights and pastoralists' rights; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to address GST concerns on minor forest produce like tendu leaves for direct benefit to STs and OTFDs?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

(a) to (c): As per the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of forest Rights) Act, 2006 (in short FRA) and rules made there under, the State Governments / UT Administrations are responsible for the implementation of various provisions of the Act.

As per the information submitted by the State Governments upto the month of October, 2023, the State wise details of number of claims received under the Forest Rights Act, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles have been distributed (individual and community rights) upto 31.10.2023 under FRA is at **Annexure-1**. The Ministry collates cumulative figures. The segregated data of Forest

Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers is not centrally maintained as also village wise details of rights relating to community forest resources.

The FRA though its Section 3(1)(c) guarantees the right of ownership, access to collect, use, and dispose of minor forest produce which has been traditionally collected within or outside village boundaries. State Governments / UTs have not formally reported continuance of restrictions thereon.

(d): The expert committee chaired by Dr Hrusikesh Panda has submitted its report on recognition of habitat rights of PVTGs and the rights of pastoralists. Provisions are there in the Act and Rules to guide the authorities concerned for recognition of forest rights including habitat and habitation rights detailed in Section 3(1)d and 3 (1)e to eligible individual and /or communities. No separate guidelines have been issued by this Ministry for recognition of habitat rights.

(e): The GST Council consisting of the Union Finance Minister and representatives from all States and Union Territories has been established by the Government of India to make decisions on various aspects of GST, including tax rates, exemptions, administrative procedures, addressing GST concerns and shaping the GST framework in India. Under the Indian GST, goods and services are categorized into different tax slabs, including 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28%. Some essential commodities are exempted from GST,

Annexure -1 referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2445 for 18.12.2023

Statement of Claims received, titles distributed and Extent of Forset land for which titles have been distributed under The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 upto 31.10.2023:

S. No.	States	No. of Claims received upto 31.10.2023			No. of Titles Distributed upto 31.10.2023			Extent of Forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)		
		Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total	Individual	Community	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	2,84,294	3,294	2,87,588	2,25,826	1,822	2,27,648	4,54,041	5,26,454	9,80,495.00
2	Assam	1,48,965	6,046	1,55,011	57,325	1,477	58,802	NA/NR	NA/NR	NA/NR
3	Bihar	8,022	NA/NR	8,022	121	0	121	NA/NR	NA/NR	NA/NR
4	Chhattisgarh	8,83,938	53,920	9,37,858	4,75,100	49,241	5,24,341	9,44,154.80	51,46,193.75	60,90,348.55
5	Goa	9,758	378	10,136	472	13	485	884.37	18.16	902.53
6	Gujarat	1,82,869	7,187	1,90,056	96,559	4,791	1,01,350	1,63,508.86	12,40,680.15	14,04,189.01
7	Himachal Pradesh	4,880	466	5,346	256	59	315	50.92	11,180.74	11,231.66
8	Jharkhand	1,07,032	3,724	1,10,756	59,866	2,104	61,970	1,53,395.86	1,03,758.97	2,57,154.83
9	Karnataka	2,88,549	5,940	2,94,489	14,981	1,345	16,326	20,077.30	36,340.52	56,417.82
10	Kerala	44,200	991	45,191	28,641	224	28,865	38,045.62	7,61,489.62	7,99,535.24
11	Madhya Pradesh	5,85,326	42,187	6,27,513	2,66,901	27,976	2,94,877	9,03,533.06	14,63,614.46	23,67,147.52
12	Maharashtra	3,89,723	11,323	4,01,046	1,98,220	8,400	2,06,620	5,53,960.01	33,01,556.68	38,55,516.70
13	Odisha	6,32,326	15,461	6,47,787	4,57,238	7,813	4,65,051	6,70,181.16	3,74,303.02	10,44,484.17
14	Rajasthan	1,11,560	8,478	1,20,038	48,614	2,259	50,873	68,591.34	1,83,091.77	2,51,683.11
15	Tamil Nadu	34,877	2,584	37,461	10,536	531	11,067	9,626.44	NA/NR	9,626.44
16	Telangana	2,04,176	2,808	2,06,984	97,434	102	97,536	3,10,916.00	3,631.00	3,14,547.00
17	Tripura	2,00,557	164	2,00,721	1,27,931	101	1,28,032	4,65,192.88	552.40	4,65,745.28
18	Uttar Pradesh	92,577	1,162	93,739	18,049	861	18,910	19,190.27	1,20,776.00	1,39,966.27
19	Uttarakhand	3,587	3,091	6,678	184	1	185	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	West Bengal	1,31,962	10,119	1,42,081	44,444	686	45,130	21,014.27	572.03	21,586.29
21	Jammu & Kashmir	32,207	10,224	42,431	315	4,190	4,505	NA/NR	NA/NR	NA/NR
TOTAL		43,81,385	1,89,547	45,70,932	22,29,013	1,13,996	23,43,009	47,96,364.16	1,32,74,213.27	1,80,70,577.43

NA/NR- Related figure is either not applicable or not reported.
