

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1085
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021

DISPARITIES BETWEEN PVTGS AND OTHER SOCIAL GROUP

1085. SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a Vulnerability Index to classify Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs);
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government aims to establish similar mechanisms to assess the socio-economic disparities between PVTGs and other social groups in order to design policy interventions required for the upliftment of PVTGs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SMT. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) & (b) : No, Sir.

At present, Government has identified 75 tribal groups, which are classified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) spreading across 18 States and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands on the criteria adopted for identification/classification of PVTGs as under:

- i. a pre-agriculture level of technology;
- ii. a stagnant or declining population;
- iii. extreme low literacy; and
- iv. a subsistence level of economy.

(c) & (d) : There is an existing mechanism under the scheme of Conservation-cum-Development of PVTGs which aims at socio-economic development of PVTGs in a comprehensive manner, while retaining their culture and heritage. Under this mechanism, the State Tribal Development / Social welfare or other Department (in charge of tribal development activities) will formulate PVTG community wise long-term Conservation Cum Development plan (3-5 Years) of their State based on requirements assessed through Baseline/ other specific surveys conducted by them and with the approval or Executive Committee chaired by the Chief Secretary. While formulating

CCD plans under the scheme, efforts are also made for due convergence of resources with the line Departments after assessment of gaps and identification of "Critical Deficit Areas'.

Financial assistance provided to the 18 States and 1 UT under the scheme of 'Development of PVTG' for wide range of activities like,

- Livelihood generation
- Education
- Housing
- Agricultural development
- Animal husbandry
- Construction of link roads
- Installation of Non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose
- Social security
- Any other innovative activity meant for the comprehensive development of PVTGs.

Moreover, in order to ensure effectiveness of the Scheme, following provisions are provided for,

- State Governments are given the flexibility of utilizing the funds gaps identified through Base Line Survey.
- Emphasis given on Micro planning.
- Conservation cum Development (CCD) plans are aimed at preserving traditional architecture, traditional medical practices and cuisine and maintaining the heritage and culture of PVTGs.
- Monitoring of the physical progress of works approved under the scheme and impact assessment is part of the regular review of schemes of the Government.
