

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3911
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2021

Tribal Population in Reserved Forests

3911. SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:
SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

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

- (a) the details of the tribal population in reserved and protected forests of the States and Union Territories including Maharashtra, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from the State Government of Maharashtra and other State Governments regarding land settlement of these tribal families;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a)to(c) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (Forest Rights Act, 2006) vests various forest rights on forest lands in the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers. The Act provides right to hold and live in the forest land under the individual or common occupation for habitation or for self-cultivation for livelihood by a member or members of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dwellers. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for the Act and the State Governments are responsible for implementation of various provisions of the Act.

As per information received from the State Governments, a total of 19,20,507 individual titles over an extent of 4,182,274 acres (1.69 million ha) of forest land in the country, including Maharashtra, have been distributed till 31.12.2020 to the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers. State-wise details of number of such title holders are given in Annexure.

As per the Forest Rights Act, 2006, Gram Sabha is the authority to initiate the process for determining the nature and extent of individual forest rights in the forest dwelling scheduled tribes. Thereafter, Sub-Divisional Level Committee after examining the resolution passed by Gram Sabha forward it to the District Level Committee for a final decision. The decision of the District Level Committee on the record of forest rights are final and binding. The State Level Monitoring Committee constituted by the State Government is the authority to monitor the process of recognition and vesting of forest rights and to submit to the nodal Ministry. Thus, the cases are finally decided by the above respective authorities.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3911 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 19.03.2021 ASKED BY SHRI MANOJ KOTAK AND SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL REGARDING TRIBAL POPULATION IN RESERVED FORESTS

State wise details of claims received, titles distributed and the extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual), as on 31.12.2020

S.No.	State/Union Territory	No of claims received up to 31.12.2020	No o f titles distributed up to 31.12.2020	Extent of forest land for which titles distributed (in acres)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	177,466	96,675	239,554
2.	Assam	148,965	57,325	Not available/ Not reported
3.	Bihar	8,022	121	Not available/ Not reported
4.	Chhattisgarh	858,869	401,251	843,100.69
5.	Goa	9,758	35	76.60
6.	Gujarat	182,869	91,102	150,545.43
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2,642	129	5.96
8.	Jharkhand	107,032	59,866	153,395.86
9.	Karnataka	275,446	14,667	20,813.51
10.	Kerala	43,331	26,398	34,750.38
11.	Madhya Pradesh	585,266	230,028	817,582.75
12.	Maharashtra	362,679	165,032	392,928.73
13.	Odisha	623,252	441,529	657,872.95
14.	Rajasthan	77,906	44,071	61,690.16
15.	Tamil Nadu	33,755	8,144	9,626.44
16.	Telangana	183,252	93,639	300,284.00
17.	Tripura	200,696	127,931	460,182.41
18.	Uttar Pradesh	92,570	17,964	18,850.28
19.	Uttarakhand	3,574	156	0.00
20.	West Bengal	131,962	44,444	21,014.27
21.	Total	41,09,105	19,20,507	41,82,274