

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 96
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2021

STATE OF LAND REFORMS ACT IN KERLA

96. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the enactment status of the Land Reforms Act in the State of Kerala that has completed 51 years of its formation on the 1st January, 2021 with regard to the long-pending legitimate land claims of the State's landless tribals;
- (b) whether the land ownership of the tribe households in Kerala is very low as per the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC);
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the surplus and revenue forest land allocated to them for cultivation or housing in the last two years till date in Kerala?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)**

(a): The Government of Kerala has informed that the Kerala Land Reforms Act, 1963 came into force w.e.f. 01.01.1964. As per Section 96 of the Act, 87.5 percent of the area available for settlement in a taluk shall be allotted to landless agriculture labourers, of which half of the area shall be assigned to landless agriculture labourers belonging to the SC/STs and such other socially and economically backward classes. So far, 8830 ST families were assigned with 3175.97 hectares of land in the State.

(b) & (c): As per the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011, there are 6319215 rural households in Kerala including 103268 ST rural households. Out of the ST Rural Households, 55164 households are landless. District wise details of ST Rural Landless

households are given at **Annexure**. Govt of Kerala has informed that the prime aim of the Revenue Department in the State is to allot suitable land to landless under provisions of various assignment rules and caste-wise data are not collected and prepared by Revenue Department.

(d): Distribution on vested Forest Land:

As per information received from Govt. of Kerala, the Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) had given stage I & II clearance for 7693.22 hectares (19000 acres) of vested forest land in Palakkad, Malappuram, Wayanad, Kannur & Kasargod districts for resettlement to the landless tribes in the State. So far, 2021.88 hectares of land was assigned among 3594 beneficiaries. The districts wise breakup are as follows:-

District	Extent of land which got stage I & II clearance from MoEF	Assignment of land till date		Land assigned for the last two years	
		No. of beneficiaries	Extent of land (in hectares)	No. of beneficiaries	Extent of land (in hectares)
Palakkad	4361.30	2003	1005.90	802	241.78
Malappuram	203.64	34	6.88	34	6.88
Wayanad	3008.08	1407	978.74	557	22.55
Kannur	83.00	-	-	-	-
Kasargod	37.20	150	30.36	-	-
Total	7693.22	3594	2021.88	1393	271.21

Distribution of surplus land:

Since the enactment of the Kerala Land Reforms Act, 1963, 8830 families belonging to Scheduled Tribes were assigned with 3175.97 hectares of land. Out of this, 87 families got benefited during 2017-2020.

Distribution of land under the Kerala Assignment of Government Land to Scheduled Tribes Rules, 2001:

As per this Rule, 284.5 hectares of land were assigned to 310 ST families.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (b) & (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.96 for Answer on 02.02.2021.

State/ District	Total Rural Households	Total ST Rural Households	Total ST Rural Landless Households
All Kerala	6319215	103268	55164
Kasaragod	232943	11063	4954
Kannur	475109	8791	4105
Wayanad	180860	33033	24762
Kozhikode	537969	2632	1315
Malappuram	707117	3207	2540
Palakkad	563475	11861	7401
Thrissur	591510	1298	970
Ernakulam	529673	2258	1277
Idukki	258610	14634	3019
Kottayam	418899	4822	1287
Alappuzha	454793	856	546
Pathanamthitta	283661	1613	980
Kollam	542337	1430	508
Thiruvananthapuram	542259	5770	1500

Source: SECC, 2011 data as provided by Department of Rural Development
