GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 804 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2022

Climate Change Mitigation Actions

804. SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that climate change mitigation actions such as plantations are coming up on customary lands and forests of adivasis and forest dwellers and undermining their rights under the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA); and
- (b) the mechanisms the Government has in place to ensure that actions taken to combat climate change are compliant with the FRA and PESA?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)

(a) and (b) Plantations in forest areas are undertaken by State/Union Territory (UT) Forest Departments as per approved Working Plans, excluding the areas where individual forest rights titles are issued under the Forest Rights Act, 2006. Wherever Community Forest Rights (CFR) have been recognized, plantations and other activities are taken up in consultation with local communities as per the approved Working Plans and Micro Plans prepared by CFR management committee constituted under rule 4 (e) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules, 2007.

There are no reports from States/UTsto show that the rights of adivasis and forest dwellers vested under FRA, 2006 and PESA, 1996 are being undermined due to Climate Change mitigation action such as plantations.
