

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1199**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 25/07/2022

**ENVIRONMENT AND RIGHTS VALIDATION ACT 2006**

1199. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of total 427 villages in Banni Area of Bhuj Taluka of Kachchh district of Gujarat having forest district committees were made only in 83 villages and 47 claims validated under the Environment and Rights Validation Act 2006;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has issued a letter to all Secretaries of State Governments to convert in revenue villages under Section 3(1) (h) of Forest Rights Act 2006;

(d) if so, whether the Government has received representation from these villages; and

(e) if so, the instructions issued by the Government to State Government of Gujarat in this regard?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) & (b):** Ministry of Tribal Affairs is not privy of the Act with nomenclature “Environment and Rights Validation Act 2006”. However, the State Government of Gujarat has informed that in 55 villages of Banni area of Bhuj Taluka of Kutch District, village level Forest Right Committee have been formed under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (in short FRA). In these villages no FRA community claims have been vested so far. The 47 community claims have been sanctioned at the level of Sub-Divisional Level Committee and lie with District Level Committee for further sanction.

**(c) to (e):** As per FRA and rules thereunder, the responsibility for implementation of the Act lies with State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs issues letters/clarifications from time to time to State Governments/UT Administrations for effective implementation of FRA which inter-alia include communication to all State Governments/UT Administration including Gujarat to convert forest villages into revenue villages under section 3 (1) (h) of FRA. The details of representation received by State Governments for conversion of forest village into revenue village is not centrally maintained in the Ministry.

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