

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3897
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

Modifications in Forest Related Laws

3897. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

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

- (a) whether Forest Rights Groups have requested for modifications in forest related laws, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of the demands placed by the Forest Rights Groups before the Government during the last four years; and
- (c) the details of the demands accepted and rejected out of those demands along with the reasons for rejection?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) Keeping in view the need for preserving forests and their biodiversity and for enhancing forest based economic, social and environmental benefits, including improvement of livelihoods for forest dependent communities, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been amended through Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 2023.
- (b) and (c) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, recognizes and vests the forest rights and occupation on forest land among Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers, who have been residing in such forests for generations, but whose rights could not be recorded. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs being the Nodal Ministry, along with the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change have issued various guidelines and advisories to States/Union Territories for effective implementation of the Act.
