

Scheduled Tribe status to Adivasis/Tea Tribe Community of Assam

296. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken so far by the Ministry in the matter of granting Scheduled Tribe status to the Adivasis/Tea Tribe Community of Assam in response to the recommendation of the State Government on more than one occasions; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is unable go ahead with it, because of the objection raised by Registrar General of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has processed the proposals/recommendations of State Government of Assam for inclusion of various communities, including Adivasis/Tea-Tribe Communities, in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Assam as per modalities approved by the Government on 15/06/1999 for determining the claims for inclusion in/exclusion from and other modifications in Orders specifying Scheduled Tribes. The matter is being processed as per modalities.

Implementation of Tribal Rights Act by State Governments

297. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments are not taking proper steps for implementation of the Tribal Rights Act, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government would like to take on such State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) and (b) As per the information available with the Ministry, States have progressed in varying degrees in implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. While States like Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan have established the prescribed structures and procedures, have received a large number of claims and some have even started distributing title deeds, other States, because of various reasons, including holding of State and Panchayat elections, are still to catch up.

(c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been interacting with all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations urging them to expedite implementation of the Act. Review meetings with the concerned officers of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are being held at regular intervals. The officers of the Ministry are also visiting the States to assess and guide the pace of implementation.