

Land rights for tribals

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that tribals in many States, especially in Andhra Pradesh, were under target after they filed their claims for land rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, especially in Andhra Pradesh, during the last four years; and
- (c) what steps Government would take to protect the interests of the tribals in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has no information from any State, including Andhra Pradesh, of tribals being under target after they filed their claims for land rights.

(c) Both the Central and State Government have enacted laws and set up institutions for protecting the land rights of tribals in every State. The operation of such laws is frequently monitored.

Functioning of social welfare hostels

290. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the social welfare hostels are being set up, to provide education to the tribal students;
- (b) if so, whether any mechanism has been put in place, to effectively monitor the functioning of the officials running these hostels; and
- (c) if so, how far it is helpful in providing nutritious diet and quality education to tribal children and also in protecting the boys and girls from exploitation in the tribal districts of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) to (c) The Government of India in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs does not set up social welfare hostels. It only supports States/UTs in constructing hostels for ST boys and girls at the middle, secondary, college and university level of education. The running and maintenance including, monitoring thereof, of these hostels is the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Officers of the Ministry from time to time, inspect the projects sanctioned by the Ministry.

Implementation of Forest Rights Law

291. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementing the Forest Rights Law, State-wise;
- (b) the names of the States providing benefits to tribals and forest dwellers, in detail; and

(c) the number of tribals and forest dwellers who are benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) to (c) 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. As on 30.9.2008, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh have distributed 5000 (approx), 59548 and 4186 pattas respectively.

Inter-State visits by tribals

292. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme regarding exchange of inter-State visits by tribals; and

(b) if so, whether there is any such scheme for the tribal people of Meghalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. All the States including the State of Meghalaya are eligible to apply as per provision of the Scheme.

Scheme for upliftment of tribal people

293. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the effect of various schemes for the upliftment of tribal people, whether it is negligible, marginal or substantial;

(b) what are the various measures underway to do something substantial for the growth and development; and

(c) whether there would be a time-frame for such measures, to get the desired growth and development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON): (a) The main objective of the schemes/programmes implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as well as other Ministries of Government of India is to bring the tribal people into the mainstream economy through their economic, educational, health and social development, while simultaneously retaining their culture and traditions to suit their own genius. As a result of these schemes, there has been all-round socio-economic development of tribal people and they are getting benefits by way of increase in income and employment, infrastructure development, educational development and improvement of their health.