

1	2	3	4	5
6	Maharashtra	0.250	0.140	0.000
7	Meghalaya	0.140	0.110	0.140
8	Nagaland	0.000	0.250	0.450
9	Rajasthan	0.050	0.000	0.000
10	Tamil Nadu	0.000	0.420	0.000
TOTAL		1.500	2.250	1.470

Protection of rights of forest dwellers

1188. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rights of forest dwellers are not protected despite legislation to this effect; and
- (b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the information collected from the State/UT Governments, till 31st January, 2010, more than 26.72 lakh claims have been filed for recognition and vesting of forest rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, and more than 7.09 lakh titles have been distributed. More than 37 thousand titles were ready for distribution.

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. The Ministry has advised and is pursuing all the State/ UT Governments to ensure completion of the work relating to vesting of forest rights at the earliest.

Education of tribals against superstitions

1189. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the tribal population in the country is still reeling under various kind of superstitions;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to make the tribal population aware and make them educated; and
- (c) the assistance given to each State for upliftment of tribal people in the country particularly for Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The general population of the country, including the tribals, have their share of superstitions. However, this Ministry has no programme that collects information about the various kinds of superstitions believed in, by Scheduled Tribes.

(c) However, this Ministry has various schemes, wherein assistance is given for promoting education, thereby uplifting the tribal people, under implementation in the country including Orissa. Some of the important schemes include, inter-alia, Post-Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe (ST) students, Upgradation of Merit for ST Students, Hostels for ST Girls and Boys, Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students, Top Class Education and the National Overseas Scholarship for STs. The State-wise details of the financial assistance given under these schemes is contained in the Annual Reports of the Ministry.

Financial assistance to NGOs in Assam

1190. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme for providing financial assistance to NGOs in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details of the funds allocated, organization-wise and scheme-wise during the last five years;
- (c) the achievement made, so far, scheme-wise; and
- (d) the list of blacklisted NGOs of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) This Ministry implements the following schemes:

(i) Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes; (ii) Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts; (iii) Vocational Training in Tribal Areas; and (iv) Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs) (NGO-component) through NGOs. These are equally meant for NGOs in all the States including the State of Assam subject to eligibility criteria prescribed in the scheme.

(b) The details of the funds allocated, organization-wise and scheme-wise during the last five years are given in Statement-I and II (*See below*).

(c) The achievement made, scheme-wise during the last five years are given in Statement-III (*see below*).

(d) This Ministry has not black listed any NGO of Assam during the last five years.