

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?