

Primitive communities in the country

1463. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total numbers of primitive communities in the country as on the 30th June, 2006, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have received a proposal from the State Government of Sikkim to include Lepcha caste in primitive tribal group of the country;

(c) if so, the details of action taken so far thereupon; and

(d) the time by when the Lepcha caste is likely to be included in the primitive group of the country?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) There are 75 Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) in the country as on the 30th June, 2006. A Statement showing State/UT-wise number of PTGs is enclosed (See below).

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has received a proposal from the State Government of Sikkim regarding recognition of the Lepcha Tribe of Sikkim as a Primitive Tribal Group. The proposal has been examined as per the prescribed criteria for declaring a community as a PTG and it has been found that the Lepchas do not fulfill the criteria.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement***State/UT-wise number of Primitive Tribal Groups***

States/UTs.	Number of P.T.Gs.
Andhra Pradesh	12
Bihar (including Jharkhand)	9
Gujarat	5
Karnataka	2
Kerala	5
Madhya Pradesh (including Chhattisgarh)	7
Maharashtra	3
Manipur	1
Orissa	13
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	6
Tripura	1

States/UTs.	Number of P.T.Gs.
Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	2
West Bengal	3
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5
TOTAL:	75

Projects for the welfare of tribals in NER

1464. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the projects proposed/taken up by Government for the welfare of the tribal people in the North Eastern States, more particularly in Assam;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned for such schemes in North Eastern States, State-wise;

(c) the present status of the schemes taken in North-East, particularly in Assam; and

(d) whether the implementation of the schemes is being monitored, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements several Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored schemes/programmes for the welfare of tribal people in the North Eastern States, including Assam. The list of schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs being implemented for the welfare of tribal people is enclosed as Statement-I (See below). Details of funds released to North Eastern States under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years (2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06), alongwith the unspent balances, are at Annexures-II. Out of a total amount of Rs. 40,246.96 lakh released to the North Eastern States during 2003-04 to 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 24,643.27 lakh, representing 61.23% of the total amount released during the said periods, has been reported to be utilised by the concerned States for the purpose for which funds were released. The Ministry has, further, allocated a total amount of Rs. 18298.99 lakh to the North-Eastern States during 2006-07 for implementation of various schemes/programmes of this Ministry as per details given in the enclosed Statement-II (See below).

(d) In order to ensure that the funds released under the schemes of the Ministry are utilised properly and expeditiously, the Ministry ensures that release of further funds is linked to the utilisation of funds within the time limit prescribed for the purpose. The Ministry also regularly monitors the implementation of various tribal welfare schemes through review meetings with the State Government officials.