

Review of implementation of Forest Rights Act

2406. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken a review of the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006;
- (b) how many claims have been received by the Ministry and how many of them have been settled;
- (c) how much is the total area of land for which the claims have been settled; and
- (d) whether the Ministry is contemplating any serious steps to secure the better implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been reviewing the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 by obtaining monthly progress reports on the status of the implementation of the Act from all the States/UTs. Review meetings with the concerned officers of the State/UT Governments are being held periodically. The officers of the Ministry are also visiting the States to assess and guide the pace of implementation.

(b) As per the Act and the Rules framed thereunder, the onus of implementation of the Act lies with the State/UT Governments. As per the information collected from the States, the requisite details, as on 31st July, 2010, are as under:

No. of claims received	No. of title deeds distributed	No. of claims rejected	Total No. of claims disposed of/settled
28,49,000	9,93,988	11,91,362	21,85,350

(c) As per the information received from 11 States, as against 9,14,258 title deeds, the forest rights under the Act have been vested over a total area of 32,31,945.51 acres of forest land, as

on 31st July, 2010. The information in respect of the remaining title deeds has not been received from the States.

(d) The Ministry has been interacting with all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations urging them to expedite implementation of the Act. The Ministry has advised and is pursuing all the State/UT Governments to ensure completion of the work relating to the vesting of forest rights at the earliest.

Scheme for poor women

†2407. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether schemes are being run by Government for the welfare, empowerment, education and providing employment to poor women; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the progress made in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Women & Child Development in Government of India is implementing Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) in all the States and UTs. The scheme aims to make the assetless and marginalized women economically self-reliant. The Ministry is also implementing the Swadhar and Ujjawala schemes aimed at welfare of women in difficult circumstances.

Some of the other schemes by different Ministries / departments for women are as under:

- The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing (i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and (ii) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in all States / UTs (except Delhi and Chandigarh). Under SGSY, 40% of Self Help Groups (SHGs) are of women.
- The Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) in all States / UTs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.