

**Lack of basic facilities in tribal villages**

3084. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Ministry has been drawn to the fact that various tribal villages in different States of the country lack basic facilities like roads, educational facility, medical facilities etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the number of such villages along with the number of population;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether it is also a fact that children between 0 to 5 years are severely malnourished;

(e) if so, whether Government proposes to undertake any programme to uplift the conditions of those tribal people on urgent basis;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MAHADEO S. KHANDELA): (a) to (c) Tribal Village wise data are not available. However, this Ministry extends special central assistance to tribal sub plan which covers employment-cum-income generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto, not only family based but also run by the self help groups or community. Its ultimate objective is to boost the demand based income generation programmes and thereby raise the economic and social status of tribes. Further, this Ministry gives grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India for the purpose of promoting welfare of the Scheduled Tribes (ST) or raising the level of administration in the scheduled areas. This Ministry is committed to the inclusive growth of the ST and has many schemes/programmes which supplements the efforts of other Ministries at improving infrastructure and access to education and other services. Major Schemes/programmes of this ministry are development of Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs), Girls/Boys Hostels for ST students, Ashram Schools in TSP area, Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas, Strengthening education among scheduled tribe girls in low literacy district, Post-matric scholarship for ST students, Upgradation of merit of ST students, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme, Scheme of top class education for ST students and National Overseas Scholarship

Scheme for ST. In health sector, there are programmes for providing Mobile dispensary, 10+ bedded hospitals in tribal areas and Balwadis (Creches) etc. which are implemented through NGOs.

Apart from this the Ministry of Rural Development is also implementing a number of schemes/programmes, namely, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, (MGNREGA), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for wage and self employment, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for rural connectivity, Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) for houses and Integrated Watershed-Management Programmes (IWMP) for area development and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which has one of the major schemes, namely, Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) in rural areas of country. These are also benefiting the ST population of the country.

(d) to (g) According to the NFHS III survey, commissioned by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the nutritional status of children is strongly related to maternal nutritional status. Undernutrition is much more common for children of mothers whose body mass index is below 18.5 than for children whose mothers are not underweight.

The following table gives the percentage of malnourished children over three interrelated anthropometric indices with certain statistical expressions.

*Percentage of children underage five years classified as malnourished according to three anthropometric indices of nutritional status: height-for-age, weight-for-height, and weight-for-age, by background characteristics, India, 2005-06*

Background Characteristics	Height-for-age Percentage below-3SD	Weight-for-height Percentage below-3 SD	Weight-for-age percentage below -3 SD
Scheduled Caste	27.6	6.6	18.5
Scheduled Tribe	29.1	9.3	24.9
Other backward class	24.5	6.6	15.7
Other	17.8	5.2	11.1
Don't know	22.3	3.1	16.3

*Note:* Table is based on children who stayed in the household the night before the interview.

Each of the indices is expressed in standard deviation units (SD) from the median of

the 2006 WHO International Reference Population. Table is based on children with valid dates of birth (month and year) and valid measurement of both height and weight. Total includes births with missing information on size at birth, religion, and caste/tribe, who are not shown separately.

Includes children who are below -3 standard deviations (SD) from the International Reference Population median. (*source* : NFHS III)

According to this Report, all the measures decrease steadily with an increase in the wealth index of the household. Children from households with a low standard of living are twice as likely to be undernourished as children from households with a high standard of living.

#### **Rehabilitation of child baggars**

3085. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the Ministry not initiating any rehabilitation process in real way for child beggars particularly in various holy places and public places;

(b) whether Government has been amending any law or rules for severe punishment of culprits who involved behind the child trafficking and child begging activities as it become a business; and

(c) the number of such cases registered within last five years, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The Government, in the Ministry of Women and Child Development has introduced a centrally sponsored scheme namely, Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) from 2009-10 for children in difficult circumstances, which includes child beggars. ICPS provides support for Open Shelters which may be setup within the community in Urban and Semi-Urban Areas to *inter-alia* provide for age-appropriate education, access to vocational training, recreation, bridge education, linkages to the National Open School Programme (NOSP), health care, counselling, referral services for specialized services, *e.g.*, for prevention of drug and substance abuse etc. to the children.

(b) There is no central legislation for prevention of beggary, however, several State Governments/UT Administrations have either enacted their own legislations or adopted legislation of other States, or enforced anti beggary measures through executive orders. As per information furnished by the Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment, 20 States and 2 UTs have anti beggary laws and 1 State and 1 UT have taken anti beggary measures through executive orders.