

Displacement of tribal settlements

289. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that 43 tribal settlements are going to be displaced due to declaration of 89,000 hectares in Adilabad district as 42nd Tiger Zone;

(b) whether it is a fact that tribals are agitating for nearly one year against their eviction;

(c) if so, what steps the Ministry has taken or going to take to protect the tribals;

(d) whether any consultations in this regard have been held with the Environment Ministry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) to (e) As reported by National Tiger Conservation Authority, Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has notified the Kawal Tiger Reserve, District Adilabad in April, 2012 under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Village relocation from the core/critical tiger habitat is done on voluntary basis under the mutually agreed terms and conditions, as per provisions contained in the Wildlife (Protection) At, 1972 and Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 with an enhanced package of Rs. 10 lakhs per family. The Ministry of Environment and Forest has informed that it has not received any such proposal from the State.

Literacy rate amongst tribals

290. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a significant gap in literacy rate between tribals of several States in the country and the respective State's average literacy rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are measures being taken by Government to increase the literacy rate amongst tribals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?