

development of forest villages with a view to raise the Human Development Indices (HOI) of the inhabitants of the forest villages and for provision of basic facilities and services in 2474 forest villages/habitations spread over 12 States. Under the programme, funds are released out of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan for infrastructure work relating to basic services and facilities viz. approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls, etc. for development of forest villages.

**Seng Khasi community of Meghalaya**

2928. SHRI TARUN VIJAY : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many tribal communities have been declared as Minority also as well as enjoying tribal status, State-wise list of those communities;

(b) whether the Ministry is aware of the growing unrest amongst the Seng Khasi community of Meghalaya, who has not been granted a minority status despite several memorandums; and

(c) whether Government is contemplating to assuage the hurt feelings of Seng Khasi community, who has been deprived of minority benefits in the State, is there any religious persecution angle to it also, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) A person claiming to be Scheduled Tribe may profess any religion. As the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is mandated for scheduling of communities as Scheduled Tribe in a particular State/UT, no such information is maintained.

(b) As per the information provided by the Government of Meghalaya, no such unrest has been reported.

(c) In view of (b) above, does not arise.

**Devolution of functions, funds and finances to the PRIs**

2929. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry is preparing Activity Maps for the devolution of

Functions, Funds and Finances to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);

(b) if so, which schemes and programmes of the Ministry are being covered and which are not, and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the deadline(s) set by the Ministry for the completion of Activity Mapping for the first set of schemes and subsequent schemes and programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has requested all the States/UTs for ensuring the role of Panchayats, as part of guidelines of Schemes namely (i) scholarships (ii) schools, hostels, residential hostels and vocational training centres; as well as Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP) and the schemes implemented through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The States/UTs have also been requested that the action taken on each of these be included as part of the proposals for funding sent to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

#### **Setting up of EMRSS in the country**

2930. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) for tribal students across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise/ UT-wise along with the details of funds released/utilized for the purpose so far especially in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the time by which these schools are likely to be functional; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide all necessary facilities in EMRSs including proper study atmosphere, class rooms, computer science laboratory, library etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides a part of grant