

properly upkeep, maintain and operate the project for tourism purpose only. However, cost of operation and maintenance is provided under the scheme of funding to Central Agencies such as Railways, ITDC, CPWD for tourism infrastructure development.

Deprivation of rights of Gram Sabha over forest clearance

2224. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gram Sabha in scheduled areas have been deprived of their rights of deciding over forest clearance for non-forest projects in their jurisdiction under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether Government has decided to implement recommendations of High Level Committee on status of Tribal communities constituted in August, 2013 pertaining to strengthening the Forest Rights Act, 2006; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Steps taken in the Ministry to strengthen Forest Rights Act, 2006, based on feedback, review and recommendations of various Committees:

(i) The Ministry has issued guidelines and clarifications from time to time to ensure that the provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 are not violated. The close monitoring of implementation of FRA and providing guidance to States has resulted in the conferment of 16.73 lakh Individual titles and 41,367 Community titles comprising 36.36 lakh hectares of forest land as on 31.01.2016.

(ii) In order to expedite recognition and vesting of community rights, the Ministry has issued guidelines dated 23.4.2015 and 22.9.2015, based on experience and feedback from the States and other stakeholders. This has resulted in 41,367 Community titles being issued thus far.

(iii) Attention of low performing States has been drawn to the speedy implementation of Forest Rights Act and their progress is monitored through video conferencing and monthly progress reports.

(iv) A code for managing community forests is the strategy to empower the community to sustainably manage forest resources.

- (v) Use of satellite imagery as an evidence for rights claim and Geo-referencing for Record of Rights.
- (vi) Further, the right holders under FRA are also being linked to the different development programmes of the Central and State Governments for their sustainable livelihood.

Tribal welfare projects allotted to NGOs

2225. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise number of projects of tribal welfare sanctioned along with money disbursed during last two years;
- (b) the State-wise number of projects allotted to NGOs;
- (c) whether there is any system of monitoring the work done by NGOs which is essential as many NGOs are dependent on Government funds;
- (d) whether the Ministry has come across non-functioning and money spinning NGOs during last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA): (a) and (b) The State/UT-wise details of number of projects under the following Schemes of the Ministry for the Welfare of STs being implemented through various Voluntary Organizations (VOs)/Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), along with details of grants in aid sanctioned during the last two years are given in the Statement-I to IV, respectively (*See* below).

- (i) Grants in Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes
 - (ii) Strengthening Education among Scheduled Tribe Girls in Low Literacy Districts
 - (iii) Vocational Training in Tribal Areas
 - (iv) Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)
- (c) The projects are monitored through:
- (i) Mandatory Annual Inspection by District Authorities.