

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Employment for evicted tribals in irrigation projects**

*397. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a representation from a tribals' organisation, namely 'Godavari Coolie Sangham' demanding one job per family for tribals evicted from all irrigation projects;

(b) what are the details of the petition given by tribals; and

(c) whether steps will be taken to give employment to all tribals evicted across the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (SUSHRI UMA BHARTI): (a) and (b) A petition was received from President Godavari Coolie Sangham, Kotha Devaragondhi, Polavaram Mandal, Andhra Pradesh with the request to provide one job for each affected family.

(c) Water Resources Projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priorities. Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) of persons affected due to the irrigation projects comes under purview of respective State Governments as per their approved R & R policy in force.

In respect of Polavaram Project, the petitioners' lands were acquired and compensation paid under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and R&R benefits were provided as per AP R&R policy, 2005 (A.P. Government G.O. Ms. No. 68, dated 08.04.2005) which was in force at that time. The gratuitous relief was also provided by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in addition to the benefits under AP R&R policy, 2005. However, there is no provision to provide employment to the families whose lands have been acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 and AP R&R policy, 2005.

Status of proposals under CRF from Jharkhand

*398. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had returned the proposals for funds from Central Road Fund (CRF) recommended by the Jharkhand Government for the year 2016-17 and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether revised proposals have been received by the Ministry, so far, and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of the proposals as on date?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) The Ministry has not returned any proposal recommended by State Government of Jharkhand for release of funds from Central Road Funds (CRF) for the year 2016-17 and released funds of ₹ 110.55 crore in the year 2016-17 for ongoing CRF works based on utilization certificate received from State Government of Jharkhand. Beside above, two proposals amounting to ₹ 108.35 crore have been approved by the Ministry in 2016-17 under the CRF Scheme.

Objectives of 73rd and 74th amendments to the constitution

*399. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the main objectives of 73rd and 74th amendments to the Constitution have been realised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the areas of failure or under-achievement; and

(d) in view of the fact that the rural people who are far away from 'Sabka Vikas' what time bound programmes are being envisaged or implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The Constitution of India recognizes Panchayats and Municipalities as 'Institutions of local self-government'. 'Panchayats' and 'Municipalities' being 'Local Bodies' is a State subject mandated under Part IX, Part IXA and List II (State List) of Seventh Schedule (Article 246) of the Constitution of India. The 73rd and 74th amendments of the constitution deal with Panchayats and Municipalities respectively. The major objectives of these amendments including three tiers of Panchayats, direct election to seats at all three tiers of Panchayats and indirect elections to offices of chairpersons of Block and District Panchayats, reservations in seats and offices for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and women, rotation of reserved seats and offices of chairpersons and setting up of State Election Commissions and holding elections to Panchayats every five years have, by and large been implemented by all the States.

Under the 74th Constitutional Amendment, the mandatory provisions like constitution of Municipalities, direct elections to territorial constituencies in a Municipality, constitution of Ward Committees, reservation of seats and offices of Municipalities for SCs, STs and women, holding of elections every five years by