

Besides the above initiatives for skilling, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is setting up one Multi-skilling Institute in all Districts under their scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY).

Forest Villages in the country

3836. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of the number of Forest Villages in the country;
- (b) the details of the norms and criterion established by Government to declare a village as a Forest Village; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government towards the development of Forest Villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR): (a) The number of forest villages State-wise is as under:—

Sl. No.	State Name	Number of Forest Villages
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	41
2.	Uttarakhand	421
3.	Uttar Pradesh	89
4.	Sikkim	51
5.	Assam	897
6.	Jharkhand	14
7.	Odisha	47
8.	Chhattisgarh	658
9.	Madhya Pradesh	1165
10.	Gujarat	162
11.	Maharashtra	73
12.	Andhra Pradesh	3
13.	Tamil Nadu	736
14.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	169
	INDIA	4526

(b) This Ministry has not prescribed any norms for declaring a village as forest village. However, as per Section 2 (f) of 'The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006', "forest villages" means the

settlements which have been established inside the forests by the forest department of any State Government for forestry operations or which were converted into forest villages through the forest reservation process and includes forest settlements villages, fixed demand holdings, all types of taungya settlements, by whatever name called, for such villages and includes land for cultivation and other uses permitted by the Government.

(c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs had implemented a programme for development of forest villages since 2005-06 as a one-time measure for integrated development of forest villages with a view to raise the Human Development Index (HDI) of the inhabitants of the forest villages and for providing basic facilities and services in forest villages/habitations in the country. The programme included infrastructure works relating to basic services and facilities *viz.* approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls, etc. and activities related to income generation. The programme was implemented as a part of the Special Area Programme "Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan" and funds were released from the year 2006-07 to 2011-12 only. No fund has been released during Twelfth Five Year Plan period.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED
QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 3RD APRIL, 2017***

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Toxic e-waste stored in power firms

*331. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of toxic e-waste of disposable nature was stored in all the power firms across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the power firms to dispose of these e-wastes without damaging the environment; and

(d) if so, the response received from the power firms in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE): (a) and (b) Information is

* The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Monday, the 3rd April, 2017 was cancelled. Answers to the Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, the 5th April, 2017.