

**Van Dhan Vikas Kendras**

†3785. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to establish a large number of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras for upliftment of tribals in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard, so far; and
- (c) if so, the number of such Kendras proposed to be established along with the locations and time-line thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram is an initiative targeting livelihood generation for tribal population by harnessing the wealth of forest *i.e.* Van Dhan. The programme aims to tap into the traditional knowledge and skill sets of tribal people by adding technology and Information Technology for upgradation of output at each stage and to convert the tribal wisdom into a remunerative economic activity. Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram seeks to promote and leverage the collective strength of tribal people to achieve a viable scale.

(b) On April 14th, 2018 Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has announced the launching of Van Dhan Yojana in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh under which one Van Dhan Vikas Kendra was set up, as a pilot project, at a cost of ₹25 lakhs of which 25% is to be met by the State Government. This Van Dhan Vikas Kendra is to cater to ten Self Help Groups of thirty tribal gathers each.

(c) Implementation of Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram is through Van Dhan Kendras. Selection of a place for setting up of a Van Dhan Kendra is dependent upon the area's potential and availability of land to be provided by the State Government. The number of Van Dhan Kendras developed depends on the above factors.

**Museum for cultural heritage of tribals**

†3786. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan for setting up museums and research institutes at national level in order to save and preserve the cultural heritage of the tribal people;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is making efforts for collecting their historical information based on oral history; and

(c) whether life and struggle of tribal freedom fighters such as Rani Gaidinliu, Birsa Munda, etc. have been displayed in the National Museum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has given approval for setting up a 'National Museum of Tribal Freedom Fighters' at village 'Garudeshwar' of Narmada District in Gujarat.

It has also been conceptualized to set up National Tribal Research Institute at Central level for providing hand holding support to TRIs to strengthen them as body of knowledge and research and as think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, etc.

(b) As informed by the Government of Gujarat, State Government has referred archival records, visited library, university, Indian Council of Historical Research and several museums existing in the country in connection with 'National Museum of Tribal Freedom Fighters'. Further, historical information has been collected from concerned TRIs of different States.

(c) Yes, Sir. Life and struggle of the prominent national tribal freedom fighters including Birsa Munda and Rani Gaidinliu is envisaged to be displayed through 16 major galleries which includes one dedicated gallery for Birsa Munda and one gallery for Rani Gaidinliu.

#### **Funds for various schemes**

3787. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for various schemes during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds released under various schemes during that period, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of spent/un-spent funds under various schemes during that period, State-wise; and