

[16 December, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

Clearance of Upper Lanth Irrigation Project in Orissa

2629. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRIMATI SUSHREE DEVI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Upper Lanth Irrigation Project in Bolangir district of Orissa is pending with Government for clearance;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the project on completion would irrigate vast areas of land especially in the drought-prone blocks of KBK districts; and

(c) if so, the present status of the case?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) to (c) On receipt of the project proposal, the same was sent to the ST & SC Development Department, Government of Orissa for furnishing additional information.

Autonomous District Councils for Welfare of STs

2630. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population of Scheduled Tribes in the country;

(b) the number of Autonomous District Councils for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes;

(c) whether the tribal people in the States, other than those in the North-Eastern region, have been demanding Autonomous District Councils in their respective States;

(d) if so, the steps taken; and

(e) if not, whether Government have any such plan?