

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3519**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 08/08/2022

**FOREST VILLAGE**

3519. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of conversion of forest villages to revenue villages; and
- (b) the number of forest villages identified and at different stages of conversion?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) & (b):** Under the provisions of ‘the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (in short FRA) rights are, inter alia, recognized and vested to the eligible individuals and community from amongst Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers to use forest land and resources for their livelihood as also conversion of forest villages, old habitations, unsurveyed villages and other villages in forest, whether recorded, notified or not into revenue villages. Respective State Governments / UT administrations are responsible for implementation of the provisions of the Act.

Apart from Rule 2A of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules, this Ministry has issued guidelines in 2013 which delineates the procedure for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages by the States / UTs.

The State wise information with regard to the number of forest villages as per Census 2011 is at **Annexure 1**. The status of conversion of forest villages to revenue villages as per relevant section of FRA is at **Annexure 2**.

**Annexure 1**

**Annexure 1 referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3519 for 08/08/2022 regarding “Forest Village”.**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>State Name</b>	<b>No. of Forest Villages</b>
1	Jammu & 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 & Nicobar Islands	169
	<b>INDIA</b>	<b>4526</b>

(Source: Census 2011)

**Annexure 2**

**Annexure 2 referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3519 for 08/08/2022 regarding “Forest Village”.**

S.No	Name of the State	Forest village to Revenue village (based on information received from State Governments upto 04.08.2022)
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Out of 925 Forest Villages, 827 forest villages has been decided to convert into revenue villages by State Govt. vide their letter No. F-23-2/2021/25-3/384 dated 22.04.2022. In compliance of said decision, Madhya Pradesh Tribal Affairs Department, Revenue Department and Forest Department has jointly issued procedure and guidelines for conversion of Forest Villages into Revenue villages vide letter dated 23-2/2021/25-3/484 dated 26.05.2022.
2	Maharashtra	All Forest villages are in the process of conversion into revenue villages
3	Chhattisgarh	421 Forest villages converted to Revenue villages
4	West Bengal	86 Forest villages converted to Revenue villages
5	Odisha	458 nos. of forest /surveyed villages/habitation/ forest villages etc. have been identified by the respective district authorities. Out of which 14 villages have been converted into revenue villages till the end of June, 2022. Conversion process of 209 villages/habitations is under process and 62 have been approved at the DLC levels.
6	Gujarat	196 forest settlement villages have been identified in the State. All villages, except 14 villages in protected areas have been declared as revenue villages.
7	Uttar Pradesh	Procedure for conversion of 42 forest villages into revenue villages in 7 Districts have been completed.
8	Karnataka	State Govt. of Karnataka has informed that District Level Committee on Forest Right Act, Davengere district has received 8 forest villages application for conversion of forest villages into revenue village which are under process.

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