

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2558
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
TRIBALS RIGHTS TO FOREST PRODUCE
Harsha Kumar Shri G.V.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has referred the case of tribals' right to forest produce to the Committee of Secretaries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when a final decision is to be taken in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) The matter of ownership rights on minor forest produce has been discussed along with other matters in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries held on 29.3.2001 and 25.3.2004. It was felt that some of the matters discussed fall within the purview of State Governments and it is for the State Governments to consider such recommendations. Ministry of Environment & Forests were required to take further necessary action.

(c) The State/UT Governments have been urged on 11-8-2004 to bring about a legislation conferring ownership rights in respect of minor forest produce on people from weaker sections working in forests.