

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:139  
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2007  
COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL TRIBAL POLICY  
Murmu Shri Hemlal;Murmu Shri Rupchand

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to prepare a comprehensive tribal policy to ensure protection, all round development, welfare and empowerment of tribals etc. in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame fixed for it; and
- (c) the details of stake holders from various sections of the society being consulted before finalization of such policy?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH)

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.139 raised by Shri Rupchand Murmu and Shri Hemlal Murmu regarding "Comprehensive National Tribal Policy" due for reply on 21.8.2007

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) : Ministry of Tribal Affairs has formulated a draft National Tribal Policy, 2007 in order to address the issues concerning tribals viz. lower Human Development Index, poor infrastructure, diminishing control over the natural resource base, persistent threats of eviction from their natural habitat, exclusion from mainstream society, inequality in distribution of wealth and opportunities, non-empowerment, and inadequate implementation of Constitutional provisions, and to ensure their active and informed participation in development. Action has already been initiated for finalization of the draft Policy as per laid down procedure. No time frame can be fixed at this stage.

(c) : The draft policy was widely publicized through print and electronic media and placed on the Ministry's website for seeking comments from the general public in July 2006. The copies of the policy were also sent for the consultation to the Central Ministers, Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, State Governments, UT Administrations, research institutions, and to various stakeholders including academicians, anthropologists, tribal associations, non-governmental organizations, social activists, business community/association and experts working for the welfare of tribal people. On the basis of comments received from various stakeholders, the draft has been formulated.