

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3465  
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2010  
CULTURAL LOSS  
Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao

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

- (a) Whether the tribal areas in the country are facing the danger of ecological destruction and cultural loss;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has made any inter-ministerial coordination in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and results achieved so far thereby; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. TUSHAR A. CHAUDHARY)

(a)to(e) During the course of development, both tribal and non-tribal areas are exposed to potential dangers emanating from ecological disturbances and thereby in the process, changes in cultural patterns are also anticipated. The causes include, inter alia, anticipated climate change, developmental activities, population pressures and exposure to endogenous and exogenous cultural influences. For major adverse impacts that can be anticipated for development initiatives, safeguards are already included right at the inception, i.e. the planning stage itself, by the concerned Administrative Ministries. The Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is the nodal line Ministry, coordinating issues relating to environment and ecology, gives due consideration to such aspects and their impact. This is done in accordance with the Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy of the Government and Forest Rights of tribals residing in the area. No inter -Ministerial coordination has been made by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in this regard, but such coordination is envisaged in the preparation of Annual and Five Year Plans.