

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1086

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010

DISPLACEMENT OF TRIBALS

Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.;Yadav Shri Dinesh Chandra

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

- (a) the extent to which the tribals depend on the forests as their main source of livelihood;
- (b) whether any inter-ministerial effort has been made to give primary role to tribals in creating ecological balance and make this community prosperous;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any national level scheme in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) Although tribals depend inter-alia on the forests for their livelihood, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has, no information regarding the extent of dependence.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs is not aware of any inter-ministerial effort being made to give primary role to tribals in creating ecological balance and make this community prosperous. Section 5 of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, however, inter-alia empowers the holders of any forest rights, Gram Sabha and village level institutions in areas where there are holders of any forest right under the Act to protect the wildlife, forest and biodiversity and ensure that adjoining catchment area, water sources and other ecological sensitive areas are adequately protected.

The Ministry has advised the State Governments to plan convergence of existing welfare and development initiatives for the potential title holders in the forest land under the Act, in order to improve their condition and help them to wean away from timber related activities.

The Ministry of Environment & Forests has also constituted a Joint Committee of the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Ministry of Tribal Affairs to inter alia recommend, necessary policy changes in the future management of the forestry sector in India which may be necessary as a consequence of implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 and to identify opportunities for and recommend measures to ensure convergence of various beneficiary oriented programmes for the forest rights holders taken up by various line departments in the States.

(d) & (e) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not formulated any national level scheme in this regard.