

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5288  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010  
CLEARANCE OF PROJECTS AFFECTING TRIBALS  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether Ministry of Tribal Affairs is nodal central body in charge of the Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006;
- (b) if so, role played by the Ministry in giving clearance of development projects affecting STs;
- (c) whether the Ministry has asked for a mandatory role in clearance of projects affecting tribals;
- (d) if so, the response of the Prime Minister to the request; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by Government to settle down the turn between his Ministry and Ministry of Environment and Forests?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Madam. As per Section 11 of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal agency for the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

(b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 seeks to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest and in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. However, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, as per the directions of the Planning Commission, deals with the clearance of 'Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plans' of irrigation and flood control projects where displacement of Scheduled Tribe population is involved.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. On 25.11.2010, the Minister, Tribal Affairs, has written to the Prime Minister to issue suitable instructions for obtaining clearance of 'Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plan' from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for all the development projects, if it involves displacement of tribal population. The Ministry has not received the response of the Prime Minister to the above proposal.

(e) There is no such matter under consideration of Ministry of Tribal Affairs.