

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2748
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TRIBAL WELFARE
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to set up a National Council for Tribal Welfare;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for setting up of such Council;
- (c) the number of tribal habitats in the country cut off from the mainland; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to connect them to the mainland?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA)

(a) to (b): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has constituted the National Council for Tribal Welfare on 03.09.2010 under the chairmanship of Prime Minister with the following members:-

- 1) Minister of Tribal Affairs, Government of India;
- 2) Minister of Finance, Government of India;
- 3) Minister of Agriculture, Government of India;
- 4) Minister of Home Affairs, Government of India;
- 5) Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India;
- 6) Minister of Environment & Forests, Government of India;
- 7) Minister of HRD, Government of India;
- 8) Minister of Rural Development, Government of India;
- 9) Minister of Woman and Child Development, Government of India;
- 10) Minister of Culture, Government of India;
- 11) Minister of Mines, Government of India;
- 12) Minister of Coal, Government of India;
- 13) Minister of Power, Government of India;
- 14) Deputy Chairperson, Planning Commission;
- 15) Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh/ Gujarat/ Himachal Pradesh / Maharashtra / Rajasthan/ Odisha/ Jharkhand/ Madhya Pradesh/ Chhattisgarh / Assam/ Meghalaya/ Mizoram/ Tripura (Schedule V and Schedule VI States);
- 16) Two experts to be nominated by the Prime Minister for a period of 2 years.
- 17) Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India as Member Secretary;

The objectives of the National Council for Tribal Welfare are as under-

- (i) To provide broad policy guidelines to bring about improvement in the lives of the ST community in the country. (ii) To review the implementation of the Forest Rights Act. (iii) To review the implementation of Schedule-V and Schedule-VI of the Constitution. (iv) To

monitor the implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan. (v) To monitor programmes aimed at protecting Particularly vulnerable Tribal Groups.

(c) &(d): This Ministry does not maintain data on tribal habitats in the country cut off from the mainland. Central Ministries/ Departments, State Governments/ UT Administrations and Voluntary Organisations implement schemes/programmes for socio-economic upliftment of tribal population including those living in inaccessible and remote areas. Bridging the gaps in connectivity of tribal areas/habitats for bringing them in the mainstream of the country is one of the important activities of such schemes/programmes.