

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2811
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2012
IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST RIGHTS ACT
Ajmal Shri Badruddin

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rights of forest dwellers have not been protected even after the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 ;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received several complaints of violation of the said Act from different parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the rights of forest dwellers?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam. As per the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 and the Rules framed thereunder, the responsibility for implementing the Act lies with the State/Union Territories Governments. According to the information received from the State/UT Governments, till 29th February, 2012, 31,70,247 claims were filed under the Act, out of which 27,27,684 (86.04%) claims were disposed of. 12,54,668 titles were distributed and 16,052 titles were ready for distribution.

(b) & (c): Complaints have been received over a period of time concerning denial of rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and eviction of tribals from forest etc. These complaints have been sent to respective States/UTs for taking necessary action as the implementation of the Act lies with the States/UTs.

(d) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been interacting with all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations urging them to ensure that forest rights of the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers are recognized and vested in them as per the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 at the earliest. Meetings with the concerned officers of the State/UT Governments are also conducted to review the progress of implementation of the Act.