

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4071

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012

DEVELOPMENT OF VILLAGES IN FORESTS

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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has authorised some agencies to develop the villages situated in the forests of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts made by these agencies to provide basic amenities in these villages so far; and
- (d) the success achieved by the Government as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a)to (d): Ministry of Tribal Development (MOTA) is implementing a scheme called Integrated Development of Forest Villages Scheme for development of villages located in the forests under the Special Central Assistance of Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP) Programme wherein the funds are provided by the Ministry to the States which in turn transfer them to the concerned Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) for implementation of scheme through Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs). The Ministry of Environment and Forests provides technical assistance to MOTA in processing of the state proposals.

Under the Scheme, infrastructure works relating to basic services and facilities viz. approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rainwater harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community hall etc. and activities related to livelihood are taken up. There are 2,474 forest villages/habitations in the country spread over 12 States. Funds released to States for the Development of Forest Villages is given in the Annexure.