

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:294
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2012
FOREST PRODUCE
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has constituted any committee to provide suggestions for the promotion of the use of forest produces in the country including Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SMT. RANEE NARAH)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): On the recommendation of committee of Secretaries, Ministry of Panchayati Raj constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. T. Haque on 23.08.2010 to suggest appropriate measures for implementation of provisions regarding Ownership, Price Fixation, Value Addition and Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP). The Committee has inter-alia recommended for amendment in State laws and Indian Forest Act, 1927 to clearly reflect the ownership of MFP by the Gram Sabha, fixation of Minimum Support Price, defend MSP at State level, promoting the value addition in MFPs in a participatory manner for ensuring payments to MFP gatherers at par with market with better prices. Committee has also recommended creation a knowledge base about MFPs.

(c): in view of the replies to parts (a) & (b), this question does not arise.