

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2031  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2013  
INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS IN TRIBAL AREAS  
Shanavas Shri M. I.

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

- (a) whether the consent of gram sabha is required on industrial projects to be implemented in tribal areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether any legislation has been proposed by the Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government on inclusion of the representatives of the gram sabhas in the consultative process for drafting such a legislation ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): As per provisions of the Panchayats (extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1996, Gram Sabhas located in the Schedule-V areas are to approve of the plans, programmes and projects for social and economic development before such plans, programmes and projects are taken up for implementation by the Panchayat at the village level. They are responsible for identification or selection of persons as beneficiaries under the poverty alleviation and other programmes.

The act also provides that the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be consulted before making the acquisition of land in the Scheduled Areas for development projects and before re-settling or rehabilitating persons affected by such projects in the Scheduled Areas; the actual planning and implementation of the projects in the Scheduled Areas shall be coordinated at the State level; the recommendations of the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be made mandatory prior to grant of prospecting license or mining lease for minor minerals in the Scheduled Areas.

As per Section 4(k) of the Act, recommendations of the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be made mandatory prior to grant of prospecting license or mining lease for minor minerals in the Scheduled Areas and Section 4 of the Act provides that prior recommendation of the Gram Sabhas or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be made mandatory for grant of concession for the exploitation of minor minerals by auction.

(c) to (e): Does not arise.