

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1877
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
RELOCATION OF VILLAGERS FROM NEARBY FORESTS
Anuragi Shri Ghansyam

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to relocate or rehabilitate the villagers residing in nearby forests in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests does not propose to relocate or rehabilitate the villagers residing in nearby forests in the country. However, Central Government while according approvals under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose stipulates appropriate conditions for Resettlement and Rehabilitation of project affected families, as per existing policies, guidelines and rules for the purpose, from the funds to be provided by the project proponent.

Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitat, there are provisions to provide financial assistance to States for relocation / rehabilitation of people residing in Tiger Reserves, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries outside the Protected Areas.