

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1439
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013
PROTECTION OF NAGAS
Pala Shri Vincent H

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Nagas enjoy special protection under the Constitution in relation to their customs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the tribes in Meghalaya enjoy similar special protection under the Constitution;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): As informed by the Ministry Home Affairs, special provision with respect to the State of Nagaland is governed under Article 371A, which states:-

(2) Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution,.

(a) No act of Parliament in respect of-

- (i) religious or social practices of the Nagas,
- (ii) Naga customary law and procedure,
- (iii) administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law,
- (iv) ownership and transfer of land and its resources,

shall apply to the State of Nagaland unless the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland by a resolution so decides;

(c) & (d): There are certain special provisions for Meghalaya under 6th Schedule of the Constitution which are not same as entrusted under Article 371A.

(e): Does not arise.