

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3459
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
LAND RIGHTS OF TRIBALS
Wanaga Shri Chintaman Navsha

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any claims of land ownership from tribals for land in which they lived on and possessed for a long time;
- (b) if so, the details of such claims, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the response of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a), (b) & (c): Land falls under the State List of the Constitution of India, therefore, Government of India does not process any claims made by tribals with regard to ownership of land, however, the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 recognizes and vests the pre-existing forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. As per the information collected from the State/UT Government, till 31st October, 2014, more than 33.72 lakh claims have been filed, more than 14.97 lakh titles have been distributed and more than 40 thousand titles are ready for distribution under the Act till 31st October, 2014. The State/UT-wise break-up of the individual and community titles distributed under the Act, as on 31.10.2014 is Annexed.