GOVERNMENT OF INDIA TRIBAL AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1028 ANSWERED ON:02.03.2015 DISPLACEMENT OF TRIBAL PEOPLE Reddy Shri Ponguleti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a): whether the Government is aware of incidents of displacing Koya tribe people and destroying houses and removing of villages in forest areas of Khammam District in Telangana by Forest Officials on the pretext of the nomadic tribe of Koya people allegedly eradicating forests for Podu cultivation;
- (b): if so, the details thereof;
- (c): whether the Government has taken any measures to provide security to the Koya tribe people and if so, the details thereof;
- (d): whether action has also been taken against the Forest Officials who are responsible for these incidents; and
- (e): if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MANSUKH BHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)

(a): No Madam. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is being implemented in letter and spirit to protect the interests of the tribals who were cultivating forest lands in reserve forests as on 13.12.2005.

Further, it is submitted that there is no nomadic tribe of Koya in the State of Telangana.

- (b): Does not arise in view of answer to Part (a) above.
- (c): To protect the interests of the tribes; The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is being implemented. The tribes who were in possession of forest lands as on 13.12.2005 have been given individual Title Deeds to the extent in their occupation not exceeding 4.00 hectares.

Further, Community Title Deeds have been given on the forest land diverted for the community purposes. The land is less than one hectare in each case; but the condition has been stipulated that felling of trees should not exceed the limit of 75 trees per hectare as per section 3(2) of the Forest Rights Act, 2006.

So far, 31,961 Individual Title Deeds were distributed covering an extent of 1,14,082 Acres in Khammam District. Further, 144 Community Title Deeds covering an extent of 96,304 Acres were distributed in Khammam District.

- (d): No incidence of displacing of tribal belonging to the State of Telangana from the forest areas by the Forest Officials in Khammam District has come to the notice of the Govt.
- (e): Does not arise in view of answer to Part (d) above.