

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2059  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015  
SCARCITY OF WATER IN TRIBAL AREAS  
Giluwa Shri Laxman;Laguri Smt. Sakuntala

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

- (a) whether tribals have to travel several kilometers to fetch drinking water in the forests;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure availability of drinking water to the tribals in their respective villages located in the forests itself; and
- (d) the extent to which the above steps ensure availability of drinking water in various forest villages?

**Answer**

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

(a): As per Census 2011 figures, the position regarding Scheduled Tribes households by location of the main source of drinking water is as under :

Total ST Households		
Within the premises	Near the premises	Away
19.7%	46.7%	33.6%

(b) to (d): Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation of the Central Government supports all States/UTs for providing safe drinking water for all in rural India, including tribal areas.