

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6239
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015
IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST RIGHTS ACT
S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar

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

- (a) whether the implementation of the Forest Rights Act has not been satisfactory;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the report by the National Committee on Forest Rights Act (FRA) which includes recommendations for implementing it effectively, has been taken into account;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of "The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has informed that the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA) has been satisfactory with regard to recognition and vesting of individual rights and is receiving due attention. A total of 39, 61,194 claims (38,64,161 individual and 97,033 community) were filed and out of which 32, 91,504 claims have been disposed of which constitute 83.09 per cent of total number of claims filed and 15,62,453 (15,32,555 individual and 29,898 community) titles have been distributed.

(c) to (e) The recommendations contained in the Report of the National Committee on Forest Rights Act were taken into account by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The report includes inter alia recommendations / suggestions relating to process and institutions of the Forest Rights Act, individual and community forest rights, future structure of forest governance, enhancing livelihoods through non timber forest produce and convergence of development programmes for tribals and forest dwellers. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs had issued comprehensive guidelines to the State Governments/ UT Administrations on 12.07.2012 and amended the Forest Rights Rules, 2008 on 6th September, 2012 to remove impediments and ensure effective implementation of the Act at the ground level. The recommendations/suggestions of the National Committee were also taken into consideration while issuing the guidelines and making amendments in the Forest rights Rules. Subsequently, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has also issued an Advisory to all States/Union Territory for effective implementation of the Act and the guidelines issues by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.