

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:264
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015
SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF STS
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of tribes and their population in different parts of the country, State and UT-wise;
- (b) whether any empirical studies have been conducted by anthropologists, social scientists, NGOs, and other agencies to ascertain the tribes which have become extinct or are on the verge of extinction and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the details of schemes/ programmes implemented/ being implemented by the Government for the welfare, socio-economic development and emancipation of the Scheduled Tribes (STs)/ tribal areas including the Bangara community and various extremists affected tribal areas and achievements made thereunder;
- (d) whether the Government is also implementing any scheme for literacy and educational development exclusively for STs and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government for effective implementation of the various schemes for socio-economic development of tribals in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a)to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 264 for answer on 16.03.2015 by Shri Nishikant Dubey and Shri S. R. Vijayakumar

(a): State/ UT-wise population of Scheduled Tribes, whose population is enumerated by Census Commissioner of India, is at Annexure I.

(b): Seventy five communities have been identified as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) on the basis of stagnant or declining population, among other criteria. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing a 100% Central Sector Scheme viz. "Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)" exclusively for PVTGs. The scheme aims at the socio-economic development of PVTGs in a holistic manner by adopting habitat development approach and intervening in all spheres of their social and economic life, so that the quality of life of PVTGs is improved and a visible impact is made.

(c) and (d): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing a number of schemes for the welfare and socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes. The details of schemes are given in Annexure II. Besides, many schemes of various Ministries have a Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) component specifically for welfare of tribal people. The Schemes of State Governments also have a Tribal Sub-Plan component.

There are also a number of schemes being implemented especially for LWE affected districts. The details of these are given in Annexure III.

The continuous efforts of the Government have helped in improving well-being of the tribal people. For example the literacy level of STs has improved from 8.53% in 1961 to 58.96% in 2011 vis-À-vis 28.30% and 72.99% for all social groups during the same period.

(e): During the current year a number of initiatives have been taken by the Ministry:

(i) Strengthening of institutions specifically meant for STs on priority, and also to create new ones so that they can deliver goods and services more effectively. Resources have been allocated for strengthening of Integrated Tribal Development Agencies/ Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDAs/ITDPs) and Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) to gear up the process of planning/ implementation of activities in accordance with the objectives, so that these translate into tangible outcomes.

(ii) A Project Appraisal Committee, headed by Secretary, Tribal Affairs, with representatives of State Governments, Financial Advisor, etc. has been constituted to appraise and approve the proposals for allocation under various schemes of the Ministry. This has helped in ensuring consultation with the States, convergence of various schemes of the Ministry and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes,

transparency in the process of appraisal and fund releases, and ensuring optimal allocation of limited financial resources.

(iii) Central Government has also launched a strategic process "Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana" (VKY) during 2014-15 which aims at creating enabling environment for need based and outcome-oriented holistic development of the tribal people.

(iv) To improve literacy amongst STs and reduce drop outs, the following steps have been taken:

(1) Development of Bilingual Primers containing text both in regional and tribal language but in local official script through Tribal Research Institutes and Sarva Siksha Abhiyan.

(2) Content of the primers in the tribal cultural context.

(3) School vacation to be in synchronization with major tribal festivals.

(4) Construction of Girls toilets: to check girl drop out; physical safety; sanitation issues.

(5) Vocational training integrated with residential schools – to make education more useful for livelihood, and perceived as relevant and valuable.

(6) Residential schools (200-300 students' capacity) in block headquarters for quality education and physical safety including in LWE affected areas.

(7) Promotion of kitchen garden and sports.

(8) Traditional Food (minor millets) in school meals.

(9) School management to engage teachers to overcome shortage.

(10) 100% screening of children for Sickle Cell Anaemia Trait.

(11) 100% physical enrolment of children.

(12) Habit of hygiene and sanitation, use of recyclable material amongst school children, reduction in generation of garbage.

(13) Engagement of trained lady health workers as Wardens/ Asstt. Wardens in girls' hostels.

(v) For better health and nutrition amongst STs, the following measures have been taken recently:

(a) Sickle Cell Anemia: To eradicate Sickle Cell Anemia, health check-up followed by issue of health cards to students of tribal department schools/ hostels to identify sickle cell trait [HbAS] (SCT) cases has been undertaken. Parents are to be made aware of the problems and its prevention methods. Health ministry has been requested to include Sickle Cell test for all population as prevalence is high in all population groups in malaria- prone areas.

(b) Malaria: Composite fish culture for controlling mosquito population and also to provide protein supplement to the people has been advocated and supported.

(c) Traditional Crops and Food: Growing and consumption of minor millets; kitchen garden for green leafy vegetable are encouraged in the projects to address nutritional issues.

(d) Tribal Medicines and Practices: Documentation of tribal medicines and practices through Tribal Research Institutes has been initiated. Efforts to mainstream tribal medicines and validate practices for effective health service delivery for tribal people have been started.

(vi) In order to ensure recognition and vesting of pre-existing rights, 15.32 lakhs individual rights titles, and more than 29,800 community rights titles, covering an area of 72.09 lakh acres land have been conferred under Forest Rights Act (FRA).

(vii) For conservation and promotion of the rich cultural heritage of STs, a National Tribal Festival, Vanaj, was organised in New Delhi from 13th February, 2015 to 18th February, 2015; which showcased glimpses of tribal folk dances, music, song, painting, craft, medicine practices, etc.