

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4404
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014
CONSTITUTION OF MONITORING COMMITTEES 2006
Neta Shri Ashok Mahadeorao

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 mandates for the constitution of monitoring Committees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the compliance/implementation status in regard to the constitution of the said Committees by the States/Union Territories, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes for early Constitution of monitoring Committees at block and district level in the States where such Committees have not been constituted as yet; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government to do the same at the earliest?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. Section 6 (7) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 provides that the State Government shall constitute a State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) to monitor the process of recognition and vesting of forest rights and to submit to the nodal agency such return and reports as may be called for by that agency. As per Rule 9 of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules, 2007 the State Level Monitoring Committee comprises of

- (i) Chief Secretary Chairperson
- (ii) Secretary, Revenue Department member
- (iii) Secretary, tribal of Social Welfare Department member
- (iv) Secretary, Forest Department member
- (v) Secretary, Panchayati Raj member
- (vi) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests member
- (vii) Three Scheduled Tribes member of the Tribes Advisory Council (TAC), to be nominated by the Chairperson of the TAC and where there is no TAC, three Scheduled Tribes members to be nominated by the State Government;
- (viii) Commissioner, Tribal Welfare or equivalent who shall be the Member Secretary.

As per Rule 10 of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Rules, 2007, functions of the SLMC are as under:

devise criteria and indicators for monitoring the process of recognition and vesting of forest rights;

monitor the process of recognition, verification and vesting of forest rights in the State;

meet at least once in three months to monitor the process of recognition, verification and vesting of forest rights, consider and address the field level problems, and furnish a quarterly report in the prescribed format, to the Central Government on their assessment regarding the status of claims, the compliance with the steps required under the Act, details of claims approved, reasons for rejection, if any and the status of pending claims.

(c): As per the information available with the Ministry, all the States have constituted SLMC except Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and

Telangana.

(d) & (e): The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 does not mandate for the constitution of monitoring committees at the block and district level.