

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:401
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014
TRIBAL WELFARE SCHEMES
Ramadoss Dr. Anbumani

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is implementing various tribal welfare schemes and if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds sanctioned, released and utilised during the last two years;
- (b) whether suggestions have been received from various quarters to converge the tribal welfare schemes with rural development schemes, so as to improve the delivery and efficacy of such schemes and if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has taken adequate steps for the development of infrastructure, roads, railways, etc. in tribal inhabited areas/States, including Left Wing Naxalism areas, so as to improve market accessibility; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIJUAL ORAM)

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

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.401 for answer on 22.12.2014 by Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss

(a): Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing a number of schemes for the welfare of tribals; the details of which including the funds allocated/released during the last two years are at Annexure I. In so far as utilization of the funds are concerned, fresh releases to the implementing agencies are made subject to fulfilment of requirement of utilization certificate for the previous years as may be applicable. Therefore, the unspent balance, if any, is taken into account for further releases to the implementing agencies.

(b): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs consults various stakeholders to ensure that the benefits of various schemes of the Government flow to tribal population and the funds available are expended judiciously and in a holistic manner. A Project Appraisal Committee has been constituted in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to appraise and approve the proposals for allocation of funds under various schemes of the Ministry in consultation with State Government/Union Territory representatives, Internal Finance Division amongst others. This has, inter alia, helped in convergence of various schemes of the Ministry and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes and of the State Plan Schemes. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has recently launched Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY), a strategic approach for overall development of tribal people with aim to converge available resources under various Central and States/UTs schemes for desired outcome.

(c)and (d): Yes, Madam. The Government has been taking various measures through concerned line Ministries/Departments of Centre and States/UTs to improve physical infrastructure like roads, railways etc. in tribal inhabited areas including that of Left Wing Extremism affected areas. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs attempts filling of critical gaps through limited resources in the areas of education, health and livelihood. The continuous efforts of the Government has helped in improving well being of the tribal people; a few indicators of the same are at Annexure II.