

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1318  
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014  
FOREST RIGHTS ACT  
Yeddyurappa Shri B. S.

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

- (a) whether the intended benefit under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 have been given to the forest dwelling communities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of claims for distribution of titles received under the Act and the number of titles out of them distributed, rejected and still pending including the total number of claims disposed off/ percentage, with respect to claims received State/UT-wise and the factors which are impeding effective implementation of the Act;
- (c) whether the provisions of the Act has not been implemented in many States including Karnataka: and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the implementation status thereof, State-wise along with steps taken by the Government to expedite the implementation of the legislation?

**Answer**

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

(a) : Yes, Madam. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 was enacted with the objective of remedying the historical injustice done to the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers. The Act has substantially met this mandate through distribution of 14,36,290 titles to the eligible claimants under the Act till 31st May, 2014.

(b): The requisite details sought in this part of the question are given in the Annexure. Substantial progress has been made towards implementation of the Act over the years. However, certain operational issues were brought to the notice of the Ministry such as convening of Gram Sabha meetings at the panchayat level, low recognition of community rights relating to minor forest produce, grazing areas, water bodies, habitats of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups, pastoralists routes, high rate of rejection of claims etc. These have been suitably addressed by the Ministry and appropriate changes have been effected in the Rules on 06.09.2012 and guidelines issued on 12.07.2012 to ease out the problems and hindrances encountered in the implementation of the Act, and to provide unencumbered access to rights already conferred by the Act.

(c) & (d): No, Madam. Ministry has implemented provisions of Forest Rights Act,2006 including Karnataka. 2 Implementation status is given at Annexure. As per the information available with the Ministry, the States have progressed in varying degrees in implementation of the Act. As on 31.05.2014, more than 37.64 lakh claims have reportedly been filed in various States/UTs and more than 14.36 lakh titles have been distributed. More than 34 thousand titles were ready for distribution. In the State of Karnataka, 2,54,577 claims have been filed and 7,058 titles distributed so far.