

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.5660
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2019

Conservation of Forests

5660. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:
SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any scheme for the conservation of forests and rehabilitation of the people displaced from forest areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of people displaced from the forest areas during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken for the rehabilitation of people displaced from forest areas?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)

- (a) to (d) Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change implements number of schemes for conservation of forests such as:
- i. Forest Fire Prevention and Management
 - ii. Green India Mission
 - iii. National Afforestation Program
 - iv. Project Tiger
 - v. Project Elephant
 - vi. Development of Wildlife Habitat
 - vii. Biodiversity Conservation

However Ministry does not does not have any specific scheme that addresses conservation of forests and rehabilitation of the people displaced from forest areas. There are provisions under Scheduled Tribe & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA, 2006), for protection/safeguard of rights of Tribals and Other Forest Dwellers. There are well laid down procedure in Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and FRA, 2006 to

process the settlement/disposal of rights of Tribals displaced from the forest areas that are permitted for non- forestry activities.

Moreover, Guidelines for relocation of villages was issued by the Government of India vide letter F. No. 8-34/2017-FC dated 20th May 2019 as per direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their order dated 28th January, 2019, regarding relocation/rehabilitation of the villages from the core/critical Tiger reserves and core of the Protected Areas (National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries) to the periphery of Reserved Forest/Sanctuaries/National Parks subject to certain conditions.

In case of any Project Affected Persons (PAP) needs to relocated from the forest area proposed to be diverted under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, same is addressed through a duly approved Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R) package as per R&R Policy of the concerned State Government.

The information of number of persons displaced from forest areas is not maintained at Ministry level.
