

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4026
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005
CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES THROUGH PANCHAVATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS
Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has cleared the scheme to provide roads, hospitals and schools facilities to Adivasis through Panchayats as published in Rashtriya Sahara dated November 27, 2005 ;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to expand the limit of Panchayats (extension to Scheduled Area) Act in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof ;
- (d) the number of Adivasis likely to be benefitted by the aforesaid scheme ;
- (e) whether it is proposed to operate this scheme through State Governments; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a)(e)&(f) The position with reference to news item published in daily Rashtriya Sahara dated November 27, 2005 regarding creation of infrastructure for scheduled tribes in the forest areas through Panchayats is that Ministry of Environment & Forest has accorded general approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land up to one hectare to Government Departments for taking up developmental works like schools dispensaries/hospitals, electric and telecommunication lines, drinking water, Water/rainwater harvesting structures, Minor irrigation canal, Non-conventional source of energy, Skill up-gradation/ vocational training centre, FOWBI sufc-statbas, Communication posts and Police establishments like police stations/ outposts/border outposts/towers, in sensitive areas (identified by Ministry of Home Affairs) for a period of 2 years ending 31.12.06 and will be subject to review thereafter.

(b)&(c) At present there is no proposal to expand the limit of Panchayats (extension to Scheduled Areas) Act.

(d) The exact number of Scheduled Tribes to be benefitted due to the general approval mentioned in reply to part(a) above has not been estimated.