

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:172
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014
INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES IN TRIBAL AREAS
Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for providing infrastructural facilities like roads, electricity, water, education, health etc. in the tribal areas/hamlets and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of tribal areas/hamlets electrified and connected with all-weather roads, State-wise;
- (c) the major projects/works undertaken by the Government for development of tribal areas, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the efforts made by the Government to complete these projects as per time schedule?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

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

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 172 (12th position) for answer on 18.07.2014 asked by Shrimati Poonamben Maadam

(a) & (c): Government has adopted multi-pronged strategy for ensuring overall development of tribal areas across the country while ensuring inclusive growth of STs. While the major schemes/programmes for providing infrastructural facilities like roads, electricity, water, education, health etc. in the tribal areas are implemented by the concerned Central Ministries, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements schemes/programmes which are primarily aimed at filling critical gaps in these sectors for tribal population.

Among the major schemes of the Ministry, the Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) covers employment-cum- income generation activities and the infrastructure incidental thereto, to boost the economic and social status of tribes. Further, the grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India are meant for raising the level of administration in Scheduled Areas and for meeting recurring and non-recurring expenditures aimed at providing infrastructural facilities to the tribal people in sectors like roads, electricity, water, education, health, irrigation etc. The grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution also cover setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs).

Besides, Ministry is implementing other schemes / programmes / interventions, which supplement the efforts of other Ministries at improving infrastructure, access to education and other services. A list of such schemes/programmes/ interventions is at Annexure-I. Some of the prominent schemes, which are being implemented by other Central Ministries, are at Annexure-II.

(b): A statement showing State/UT wise detail of ST households with electricity as main source of lighting, as reflected in Census 2011, is at Annexure-III. Details regarding number of tribal areas connected with all-weather roads are not centrally maintained in the Ministry.

(d): Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Planning Commission have been constantly pursuing with the State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments concerned for utilization of Tribal Sup Plan (TSP) funds commensurate to the agreed objectives translating into tangible outcomes.

The Planning Commission has revised Guidelines for implementation of TSP by States /UTs on 18th June 2014. The Guidelines, inter alia, reiterate the resolve of the Government for allocation of funds under TSP out of total Plan Outlays not less than the population proportion of STs in State as per 2011 census. The Guidelines further stipulates for non-diversion of funds meant for tribal areas and comprehensive monitoring framework with well-defined indicators, covering provisioning, service delivery standards as well as outcomes.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also issued Operational Guidelines for Formulation, Implementation and Monitoring of Tribal Sub-Plan and Article 275(1) grants in the month of March, 2014 for effective implementation of schemes administered by this Ministry wherein issues related to allocation of funds, priority areas, need for nodal Department in States, judicious utilization of TSP fund, institutionalizing the instruments for ensuring transparency, accountability and social audit have been suitably taken care of. The operational guidelines have laid special emphasis on strengthening of institutions viz. Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA)/

Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP), Tribal Research Institutions (TRIs) through which tribal welfare programmes are implemented in the State.

Moreover, while releasing funds to the State Governments / Agencies under the Schemes / Programmes, relevant provisions of General Financial Rules, 2005 regarding submission of Utilization Certificate (UC) and Progress Report in respect of funds released in previous years are taken into account to ensure timely completion of the development projects.