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Title: Need to implement the Scheduled Tribe and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act, 2006 in Assam particularly in Tezpur Parliamentary Constituency in the State to ensure extension of social-economic benefits to tribal people in the State.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): I would like to draw immediate attention of Union Government towards the implementation of the Scheduled Tribe and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act 2006 in Assam. Union Government had passed the Forest Dwellers Act in year 2006 and circulated the same for implementation in the year 2006 but till the date this Act has not been implemented in my area. Under my parliamentary constituency Tezpur (District of Sonitpur) more than 1200 villages with population of 2.50 Lakh and in entire Assam state the population of forest dwellers would be more than 10 Lakh. These people are deprived from all Government schemes & programmes, because this Act has not been implemented in my area. These people are living in forest for decades but they have not been issued land patta as a result of which they have been denied the Permanent Residence Certificate (PRC) which is necessary to get admission in school or join any service. As land patta is not available they are not allowed to establish even primary school for their children. These people are also deprived from Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) even though they vote for Assembly and Parliamentary elections. As Panchayati Raj is not applicable in forest dwellers area these people are not enjoying any Central Government schemes like MGNREGA, Indira Awas Yojana, Public Distribution System which takes place only through Panchayats.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government to look into the matter and take the immediate initiative to provide benefit under Scheduled Tribe and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act 2006 to these forest dwellers of Assam without further delay.