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title: Regarding socio-economic condition of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in Assam.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): Sir, through you, I would like to raise the issue of the problems faced by the tribals, tea tribes and adivasis in Assam.

Assam is predominantly a tribal State with about seven million tribals and tea tribes. There are different categories of tribes living there like Bodos, Mising, Karbi, Deori, Thewar, Rava, Dimasas and Sonowal. But the areas inhabited by the tribals are most backward. There is no road connectivity. They are mostly living in inter-State border areas. There is no facility of drinking water. There is no facility of electricity. There are no good schools. So, they are rotting. Even after about 70 years of Independence, we are yet to provide them the basic requirements of life which the Constitution of India has guaranteed. There are several laws for their protection but those laws are not being implemented. Even the Forest Rights Act which grants rights to forest dwellers is not being implemented in Assam.

Through this august House and through you, I would request the Government of India and the Government of Assam to implement the laws and provide road connectivity, drinking water, schools and colleges, electricity and other basic needs to these tribal areas, tea garden areas and adivasi areas so that they can live a life of some standard.

HON. CHAIRMAN: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Dr. Manoj Rajoria are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ram Prasad Sarma.