

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3916
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.01.2019

Forest Village in Gujarat

3916. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA

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

- (a) the number of forest villages in the country, State-wise including Gujarat at present;
- (b) the details of criteria for declaring a village as forest village;
- (c) the details of developmental works being done by the Government in these forest villages; and
- (d) the quantum of fund utilized on this account during the last three years, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

- (a) As per information received from respective State Governments and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, the number of the forest villages and villages inside the core/critical tiger habitat in the country, State-wise including Gujarat, is given at **Annexure-I**.
- (b) As per the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, "forest village" means the settlements which have been established inside the forests by the forest department of any State Government for forestry operations or which were converted into forest villages through the forest reservation process and includes forest settlement villages, fixed demand holdings, all types of *taungya* settlements by whatever name called, for such villages and includes lands for cultivation and other uses permitted by the Government.

Hence a forest villages is the area where in people were settled by the forest department in past and were allotted land for cultivation and for residential purpose with a view to get persons for forestry works.

- (c) & (d) Developments work like road, drinking water, school, electrification, sanitation, etc are done in forest settlement villages by the respective line departments and forest department of a State Government. Such details are not collated in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. However, total fund utilized by forest department of Gujarat during last three years is given in **Annexure-II**.

In addition, Ministry of Tribal Affairs had implemented a programme for development of forest villages since 2005-06 as a one-time measure for integrated development of forest villages with a view to raise the Human Development Index (HDI) of the inhabitants of the forest villages and for providing basic facilities and services in 2,474 forest villages/habitations that were covered under the scheme spread over twelve States including Gujarat in the country. The programme was implemented as a part of the Special Area Programme 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan'. The programme included infrastructure works relating to basic services and facilities viz., approach roads, healthcare, primary education, minor irrigation, rain water harvesting, drinking water, sanitation, community halls etc. and activities related to income generation.

Components funded under Gram Vikas Yojana are covered under other schemes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs particularly Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA to TSP) and grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India where grants have been increased. During the last three years and the current year funding requirement of the various components of the said special area programme has been done through other schemes of the Ministry. The details of Budget Estimates (BE) and expenditure under these programmes during the last three years and the current year is given in **Annexure-III**.

The overall contribution to the Tribal Sub-Plan (now Sub-Scheme) across Ministries by the Central Government is now Rs.31919.51 crore for the year 2017-18. Centralised monitoring of TSP allocations for focused development of tribals has been taken up by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Budgetary requirement for development of tribal villages is duly addressed by the Government.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3916 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.01.2019 ASKED BY SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA REGARDING FOREST VILLAGE IN GUJARAT

Statement showing total No. of forest villages in various States

S.N.	State	Total No. of Villages
1	Assam	499
2	Chhattisgarh	425
3	Goa	52
3	Gujarat	196
4	Himachal Pradesh	0
5	Jharkhand	24
6	Madhya Pradesh	893
7	Meghalaya	23
8	Mizoram	85
9	Odisha	20
10	Tripura	62
11	Uttarakhand	61
12	Uttar Pradesh	13
13	West Bengal	170
A	Sub total	2,513
Information available for number of villages only for core/critical Tiger Reserve area in the following States		
S.No.	State	No. of villages inside the core/critical tiger habitat
13	Andhra Pradesh	28
14	Arunachal Pradesh	3
15	Bihar	0
15	Karnataka	102
16	Kerala	0
17	Maharashtra	33
18	Rajasthan	82
19	Tamil Nadu	49
20	Telangana	37
21	Uttrakhand	0
B	Sub total	3,34
Grand Total (A+B)=		2,847

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3916 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.01.2019 ASKED BY SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA REGARDING FOREST VILLAGE IN GUJARAT

Total fund utilized by forest department of Gujarat during last three years

Rs in Lakh

S.No.	Year	Funds utilized
1.	2015-16	Rs 361.63
2.	2016-17	Rs. 223.98
3.	2017-18	Rs. 232.45
4.	Total	Rs. 818.06

Annexure-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) & (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3916 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 04.01.2019 ASKED BY SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA REGARDING FOREST VILLAGE IN GUJARAT

The details of BE and expenditure under these programmes during the last three years and the current year is as under:-

Grant under SCA to TSP

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Year	BE	Expenditure
1.	2014-15	1200.00	1039.61
2.	2015-16	1250.00	1132.17
3.	2016-17	1250.00	1195.02
4.	2017-18	1350.00	1166.66 (sanctioned upto 12.03.2018)

Grant under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution

(Rs. in crore)

S No.	Year	BE	Expenditure
1.	2014-15	1317.00	1132.64
2.	2015-16	1367.00 (R.E. 1392.28)	1392.26
3.	2016-17	1400.00	1265.81
4.	2017-18	1500.00	1374.44 (upto 12.03.2018)