

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARED QUESTION NO.2982
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2019

EVICTION OF FOREST DWELLERS

2982. SHRI SANJAY SINGH

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of 19 lakh forest dwellers who were being evicted from the forests by the Supreme Court;
- (b) the steps taken to help them; and
- (c) the details of future plans to ensure their rights to livelihood and residence?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(Smt. RENUKA SINGH SARUTA)

(a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their order dated 13.02.2019, in the matter of W.P. (C) 109/2008 & 50/2008 ordered to evict the claimants from forests whose claims have been rejected under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. (Forest Rights Act)

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs filed an application, in Hon'ble Supreme Court on 26.02.2019 for modification of order dated 13.02.2019. The Hon'ble Supreme Court admitted the application filed by this Ministry and vide their Order dated 28.02.2019 stayed the eviction orders given on 13.02.2019.

The State Governments have been issued advisories by this Ministry to strictly adhere to the provisions of the Forest Right Act, 2006 and Rules thereunder while processing the claim of Forest dwellers under the Act and to ensure that no eligible claim is rejected. Chief Secretaries have also been requested to file detailed affidavits in this regard before the Hon'ble Supreme Court as directed by its order dated 28.02.2019.
