

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

**LOKSABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3112**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.12.2019

**Construction of Houses and Roads for Tribals**

3112. SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:

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

- (a) whether construction of houses and roads for tribal inhabitants of Jawadhu Hills in Tamil Nadu is yet to take off due to inordinate delay in clearance from Forest Department;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for fast tracking clearance from Forest Department to ease the sufferings faced by tribal people in the area?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**  
**(SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO)**

- (a) to (c) As per Government policy, proposals received for consideration under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (FCA), are dealt expeditiously. There is no such proposal regarding construction of houses and roads in forest area for tribal inhabitants of Jawadhu Hills in Tamil Nadu, received in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Central Government, with a view to facilitate development of critical public utility infrastructure which involve forest areas, has accorded General Approval under FCA for allowing non-forest use of forest land for 15 categories of projects, including construction/widening of roads involving forest area upto 1 ha.

Up-gradation of roads, constructed in forest areas prior to 25<sup>th</sup> October 1980, from 'kutcha to pucca' is permissible without attracting the provisions of FCA. Black topping and bituminous work of forest roads (management works) which have been brought under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana is also permitted without attracting the provisions of the FCA.

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