## Reference page 201-202

PUC is the letter dated 22/10/2008 from the Assistant Conservator of Forest (Planning & Statistics), PCCF office, Port Blair regarding Rajya Sabha Starred/ Unstarred Question Dy. No.S 1775 due for 30<sup>th</sup> October 2008 by Shri Praveen Rashtrapal about "Encroachment on Forest Land". They have requested us to furnish the information in respect of point No "C" to the Ministry directly under intimation to their office.

The Point No.'C' of the question i.e. "The action that are taken by his Ministry to claims of tribals on Forest land for agricultural activities as per the recent Act passed by Parliament" is discussed as under:-

As per the provision in Chapter II (at Flag 'A') of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006, the forest rights and occupation in forest land by the Forest Dwelling Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers who have been residing in such forest for generations have the right to hold and live in the forest land under the individual or common occupation or habitation, right of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce etc.

Since the above said question has not been received from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs who has to give answer to the question, there seems to be no need to send any reply of the question to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forest.

Submitted for perusal please.

Research Officer (J)

Assistant Commissioner (TW) 2111

Secretary (TW)

Inform ACF accordingly.

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