

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
ST & SC DEVELOPEMNT DEPARTMENT**

No. 15179 / SSD
STSCD-FRA-MISC-0034-2015

Dated **23rd August, 2017.**

From

Shri Raj Kishore Das.
Asst. Director (Hqr.)

To

All Collectors,


Sub-

Minutes of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Revenue & DM, Odisha on 24.07.2017 at 12.30 P.M on implementation of ST & OTFD under Forest Rights Act, 2006 in the State- Request for follow up action.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the proceedings of the review meeting on implementation of the STs & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 held under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister, Revenue & DM, Odisha on 24.07.2017 at 12.30 P.M. for your information and necessary follow up action on the decisions taken in the said meeting.

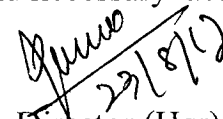
Yours faithfully,


23/8/17

Asst. Director (Hqr)

Memo No. 15180 / SSD Dt. 23-08-2017 .

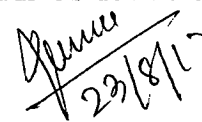
Copy along with copy of the enclosure sent to all Nodal Officers under FRA (9 PA, ITDAs and 21 DWOs) for information and necessary action.


23/8/17

Asst. Director (Hqr)

Memo No. 15181 / SSD Dt. 23-08-2017 .

Copy along with copy of the enclosure sent to Forest & Environment Deptt., Odisha/ PR & DW Department, Odisha / All RDCs for information and necessary action.


23/8/17

Asst. Director (Hqr)

Minutes of the meeting held on 24.7.2017 at 12.30 p.m. under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Revenue & DM in his Office Chamber on implementation of FRA Act in the State.

A meeting was held at 12.30 p.m. on 24.07.2017 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Revenue & DM to discuss about the issues pertaining to FRA Pattas distributed to Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries in the State. Principal Secretary Revenue & DM Department, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, ST & SC Development Department and other officers attended the meeting.

At the outset, Commissioner-cum-Secretary ST & SC Development Department informed that out of 6,12,365 individual claims received for conferring forest rights under FRA Act, 4,05,897 beneficiaries have been distributed the FRA pattas in the State. Similarly, out of 13,433 community right claims, rights have been conferred in respect of 5891 cases. Forest right claims in respect of 1,49,520 numbers have been rejected. He also informed that in the 9th State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) meeting held on 7.3.2017, it was observed that all the rejected claims should be treated as suo-motu appeal cases at SLDC and DLC levels and these cases should be re-examined and disposed of as appeal cases by the respective authorities. Although this has been communicated to all Collectors, but no effective step has been taken in this regard. It was also indicated that out of 405897 cases of patta distribution, demarcation of land has been done only in respect of 187870 cases. Thus, proper demarcation of land is required in respect of 2, 18,027 cases. Besides, there are 20 forest villages pending for declaration as Revenue Villages.

Participating in the discussion, Principal Secretary, Revenue & DM Department informed that detailed guidelines have been issued to Board of Revenue vide this Department letter No.3831 dated 02.02.2017 for

conversion of forest villages, unsurveyed villages and old habitations into Revenue Villages. Secretary, Board of Revenue will be further instructed to expedite the process of declaring revenue villages. Similarly, guidelines have been issued vide R&DM Department letter No. 43974 dated 29.10.2010 for correction of RoRs and maps for forest land in revenue villages. Due to shortage of Amins and RI in the field, the demarcation work might have suffered, however Collector of the districts where pendency of demarcation cases is high, will be instructed to take up the demarcation work on priority basis after rainy season. Instructions have also been issued to all Collectors vide this Department letter No.8092 dated 10.03.2017 to ensure that the FRA patta holders are able to sell their produce to the procuring agency for procurement of paddy under the MSP on submission of the FRA patta.


Hon'ble Minister instructed that the demarcation work should be taken up in a mission mode, so that all the pending cases are completed within a stipulated time. All Collectors may be instructed to re-examine the rejected applications and file suo-motu appeal cases and dispose of the same in a time bound manner. Similarly, new claims for forest rights should be taken care with utmost sensibility and steps should be taken to confer forest rights to eligible claimants within in a time bound manner.

After detailed discussions on the above issues, the following decisions were taken;

1. All the cases rejected by Gram Sabha or by the SDLC will be examined by the SDLC or the DLC respectively and suo-motu appeal cases shall be filed latest by the end of August, 2017.
2. All such appeal cases shall be disposed of at the concerned levels by the end of October, 2017 and a reply with reasons shall be given to the concerned claimants.

3. All the pending cases of demarcation of land of FRA patta-holders shall be taken up on priority and be completed latest by 31st December 2017.
4. Collectors of the districts with high pendency of demarcation cases, namely, Mayurbhanja, Keonjhar, Sundargarh, Deogarh, Kandhamal, Koraput, Nabarangpur, & Rayagada will take expeditious steps to complete demarcation within the stipulated time.
5. The concerned Collectors shall engage required number of retired Amins and R.I.s for a limited period for this purpose. The ST& SC Development Department shall place funds with Collectors for engagement of additional Amins for this purpose to complete the demarcation work within the scheduled time.
6. Board of Revenue shall expedite the process for declaration of 20 forest villages as revenue villages latest by end of March, 2018.
7. All Collectors shall be instructed to take steps for correction of RoRs and maps as per the guidelines issued by R&DM Department.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and participants.


Minister
Revenue & DM Department
Minister
Revenue & District
Management, Odisha