

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
ST & SC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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No. 5347 /SSD., Bhubaneswar Dt. 30-01-2014  
TD-II(FRA)-02/2014

From,

Sri Sanjeeb Kumar Mishra, IAS  
Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt.

To,

All Collectors.

**Sub:** Prompt disposal of pending claims and review of rejected claims filed under  
Forest Rights Act & Rules

Madam / Sir,

On review of the status of implementation of Forest Rights Act & Rules as on 31.12.2013 in respect of our State, it is ascertained that about 37893 numbers of individual claims and 5417 numbers of community claims (Form B -3355 & Form C-2062) are pending at different statutory levels for further processing and finalisation. Moreover, it is observed that 138905 number of individual claims and 614 number of community claims have been rejected at different levels for various reasons but in most of these cases, it is observed that the provisions enumerated u/r 12 A (3) of the Forest Rights Amendment Rules, 2012 have not been followed up.

You are well aware that the said rule stipulates that in case of modification or rejection of a claim by the Gram-sabha / SDLC / DLC, such decision shall be communicated in person to the claimant to enable him/ her to prefer a petition to the appropriate forum. But in practise, most of these rejections seems to have not yet been communicated to the claimant concerned, thus bypassing the basic principle of natural justice and the mandate enshrined in the Amended Rules. District wise figures on pendency and rejection of claims are indicated at Annexure- 1 & 2 enclosed herewith for your reference and needful action.

In view of the above noted facts I would request you to look into the matter personally and initiate prompt action at your end which would facilitate the early disposal of pending claims as indicated in the attached statements and the Rule quoted above is followed up scrupulously in the larger interest of the claimants.

This may please be treated as Most Urgent.

Yours faithfully,

Memo No. 5348 /SSD dt. 30-01-2014  
Commissioner cum Secretary to Govt.

Copy along with copies of the enclosures forwarded to the PA, ITDAs/ DWOs concerned (Nodal Officers under FRA) for information and necessary action. They are instructed to place this matter in the next DLC meeting and ensure its strict compliance.

Director (ST) cum Additional Secretary to Govt.