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## Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) Meeting held on 23 November, 2012 at 4 P.M.

The 6<sup>th</sup> State Level Monitoring Committee Meeting on implementation of the Scheduled Tribes & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 & Amendment Rules, 2012 was held on 23.11.2012 at 4 P.M. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Hall of the Secretariat under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Odisha. The list of members present is given at *Annexure I*.

Initiating the discussion, the Chief Secretary desired to know the progress made so far in implementation of the Act besides follow up action taken in view of the recent amendment of the concerned Rules. The progress card was accordingly placed before the Committee. While appreciating the encouraging progress made in case of Individual Claims settled so far numbering over 3,20,000, the Committee impressed upon for similar performance for settlement of community rights as well. Thereafter, detail discussion was made point by point on the amended provisions and the following decisions were taken

1. I. Amended provisions should be given wide publicity besides their implementation in a time bound manner.

**(Action:- All Collectors)**

II. On completion of the process of settlement of rights and issue of titles, the forest rights so vested should be incorporated in the Revenue & Forest records, as the case may be, within a period of three months. Though R & DM Deptt has already issued guidelines for incorporation of such details, Forest & Environment Deptt is also required to issue similar guidelines.

**(Action:- F & E Deptt. & All Collectors)**

III. Details of land development programme taken up under MGNREGS for the benefit of the forest right holders should also reflect the mandays generated & amount paid to such title holders.

**(Action:- All Collectors)**

IV. DLCs should sit frequently for not only considering the claims but also should facilitate the process for recognition of community rights including Habitat Rights for PVTGs/ Community Forest Resource Rights as well. Since the amended rules have mandated holding of SLMC meeting at least once every quarter and that specifically compliance to the provisions contained in section 3 (1)(m) and 4(8) are to be monitored, the DLC meetings should ensure implementation of these provisions (cited supra) as well. Hence, the meetings of DLCs should be held as many a times as may be necessary; and, in any case, not less than once every <sup>two months</sup> month.

**(Action:- All Collectors)**

V. In case of rejection of claims filed by Other Traditional Forest Dwellers, each district should carry out the sample survey to ascertain the reasons, report the results thereof and take corrective measures. This survey may be carried out in at least 20 cases per district or 2% of such rejected claims whichever is more.

**(Action:- All Collectors)**

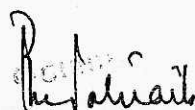
VI. Dr. Prafulla Majhi, Hon'ble M.L.A, and a member of the Committee complained regarding settlement of claims particularly in villages like Darlipalli, Raidihi etc. in Sundergarh district in favour of non STs manipulating the requirement of 75 years and that such settlement has been done in favour of few influential persons, who have even subsequently got substantial compensation of such land through land acquisition. Collector, Sundargarh should enquire into the matter, take appropriate action and report compliance.

**(Action:- Collector, Sundergarh)**

VII. All Collectors and other district officials should check/ interact with forest right holders during their field tours so as to facilitate proper implementation of the Act/ Rules framed there under.

**(Action:- All Collectors)**

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair

  
Chief Secretary  
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