

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
ST & SC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

No. 5391 / SSD, Bhubaneswar Date 4-3-2021
PT1-STSCD-FRA-MEET-0001-2017

From

Sri Raj Kishore Das
Officer on Special Duty

To

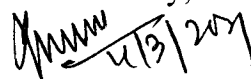
The Additional Secretary to Govt., Revenue & D.M. Deptt./ Forest & Environment Department/ Panchayati Raj & D.W. Deptt./ Director Spl. Project, P.R. & D.W. Deptt./ PCCF & HoFF, Odisha/ Deputy Conservator of Forest (IT & GIS), PCCF Office/ CEO, ORSAC,

Sub.:- Proceedings of the Review Meeting held on 18.02.2021 to expedite effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act.

Madam/ Sir,

I am directed to send herewith the proceedings of the review meeting held on 18.02.2021 at 12.30 PM under the Chairmanship of the DC-cum-ACS in the Conference Hall of the Planning & Convergence Department, Odisha on important issues of Forest Rights Act for your kind information and necessary action.

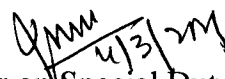
Yours faithfully,


4/3/2021

Officer on Special Duty

Memo No. 5392 / SSD Dt. 4-3-2021

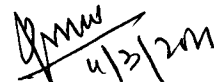
Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to the Sr. P.S. to the DC-cum-ACS, Planning & Convergence Department for kind information of the DC-cum-ACS, P& C Department.


4/3/2021

Officer on Special Duty

Memo No. 5393 / SSD Dt. 4-3-2021

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to the Sr. PS to the Principal Secretary, ST & SC Dev. Department/ P.S to Director, ST for kind information of the Principal Secretary & Director, ST respectively.


4/3/2021

Officer on Special Duty

Memo No. 5394 / SSD Dt. 4-3-2021

Copy along with copy of the enclosure forwarded to all Collector cum Chairperson of DLCs on FRA/ all Nodal Officers on FRA (9 PA, ITDAs & 21 DWOs) for information and necessary action.


4/3/2021

Officer on Special Duty

Proceedings of the Review Meeting held on 18.02.2021 under the Chairmanship of the DC cum ACS, Odisha on important issues of FRA.

The meeting to review important issues on implementation of Forest Rights Act was held on 18.02.2021 at 12.30 PM under the Chairmanship of the DC cum ACS, Odisha. The list of Members who attended the meeting is attached at **Annexure-1**. As per the agenda of the meeting, following issues were discussed and decisions taken:

1. Disposal of pending rejected Individual Forest Rights by the DLCs concerned, as per the submission made before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

As per the compliance affidavit filed by the Chief Secretary, Odisha on 05.07.2019 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P (C) No.109/2008, about 13,851 FR claims were finally rejected by the DLCs concerned and 1,27,620 were pending for review and disposal. Out of that, only 39,914 IFR claims have been finally rejected by the DLCs concerned till the end of December, 2020 thus, leaving a balance of 87,706 more claims yet to be disposed (District wise status is at **Annexure-2**), though the time line adduced for its completion has been over since March, 2020

DC cum ACS expressed serious concern over the issue and instructed for issuance of letters to the concerned Collectors seeking detail action taken and their action plan for its disposal and reasons for non-compliance of the directions of the Government. It was further decided that a VC is to be scheduled in this regard and this matter is to be reviewed on a fortnightly basis by the Department.

2. Determination of polygons (digital vector boundaries) of the land parcels on which claims of STs and OTFDs have been rejected by the competent authority and its submission to the FSI in shape file (.shp) format.

Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its Order dt.28.02.2019 had directed the FSI to undertake satellite survey of the rejected FR claims and accordingly, FSI had sought data on the rejected claims from the State. Required data in respect of 4,290 IFR claims rejected till the filing of affidavit and which are under the Forest & Env. Department have been submitted. But the requisite information in respect of 9,561 claims rejected on forest land of R & DM Department could not be provided as the required information is not available. To overcome it, it was decided that the ORSAC would work out a strategy to determine the geo-referenced data of the IFR claims made and through its empanelled Vendors, it should get the work done at the earliest possible. Funds required for the purpose is to be arranged by the ST & SC Dev. Department and R & DM Department. Official of ORSAC present in the meeting agreed on it.

3. Conversion of forest villages, un-surveyed villages / habitations etc. into Revenue villages.

As per the provisions enumerated under Section 3(1) (h) of the FRA, 2006, all forest villages, un-surveyed habitations and old habitations etc. are to be converted into "Revenue Village". Basing upon the Census 2001 data and the information available in the District Statistical Handbooks, about 589 such villages/habitations with Zero area have been identified and circulated among all districts. R&DM Department has also issued elaborative guideline in this concern vide its letter no.3831 Dt.02.02.2017. But the progress made till 31.12.2020 is not at all satisfactory (**Annexure-3**), since only 133 applications have been received, out of which 11 villages have been declared as 'Revenue Village' by the Board of Revenue. The DC cum ACS suggested for devising specific formats wherein information on various procedural stages of conversion of forest village are to be sought from the districts and captured /analyzed to understand the ground reality and devise strategy accordingly. This matter is also to be reviewed by the R & DM Department through its meeting with the Revenue Officials.

4. Correction of RoR/Maps in respect of the titles vested with the claimants

Till the end of December, 2020, although 4,50,198 forest rights claims have been distributed in the State, but demarcations have been made over 3,68,531 (82%) titles and RoR & Map corrections have been made for 2,11,321 (48%) titles only (**Annexure-4**). Since record & map correction is one of the statutory requirements under the Act, so this aspect is to be treated on priority and it should be one of the main agenda of the monthly revenue meetings being conducted at the district level. Revenue & DM Department to issue necessary instructions in this regard and monitor it on weekly basis. Further, it was instructed that the FRA cells so constituted may have more officials to expedite the progress of work on Forest Rights.

Forest & Environment Department should also work out a methodology and frame a process/guideline to record & hand over Forest Pattas to the forest right title holders in respect of the forest land under it and ensure its uploading in “Bhulekh” portal as per the process adopted & Format devised by the R & DM Department, so that the FR title holders or his dependents /legal heirs do not face any problem in future.

5. Coverage of FRA title holders under different schemes/ programs of the Govt.

Data presented in this regard were not in proper order as the number of title holders assisted with multiple benefits is not depicted. It was decided that a detailed database of the FRA title holders is to be worked out, which would help us to enumerate “actual numbers of title holders covered under different schemes” and “total number of convergence initiatives undertaken” correctly. Aadhaar based linkage may be ensured for the forest dwellers. The major convergences with mapping are to be in the area of Housing, land development, sanitation.

It was further decided that PR & DW Department should undertake the need assessment of each family vested with forest land and provide them the necessary assistances and in this regard support of good & credible NGOs/CSOs may be sought at the district level or sub-district level. It was further decided that a consultation may be organized involving multi-sectoral actors like officials from Forest Deptt., Panchayati Raj Deptt., SSD, representatives of NGOs/ CSOs so as to devise an effective mechanism for strengthening the livelihood aspects of the FR title holders. Also, migration prone FRA blocks may be identified and steps be taken to provide livelihoods to these people on priority to arrest migration.

6. Constitution of Committees for the protection of Wildlife, Forest and Biodiversity, as envisaged under rule 4 (1) (e) of the amended FR Rules, 2012 to carry out the provisions of Section 5 of the Act.

The draft guideline prepared by the SSD Department have been shared with the concerned Departments vide letter no.3014/SSD dt.08.02.2021 and it was decided that views and comments on it are to be furnished soon for its adoption in the State for the larger interest of the STs and OTFDs.

Petitions received from several Gram-sabha as regard transportation of Kendu leaves and Bamboo were discussed and it was decided that sensitization of forest officials deployed at the field level is to be undertaken by the Forest & Env. Department. It was also decided that in the forthcoming VC to be conducted with the Collectors, DFOs may also be asked to attend so that issues on community rights and community forest resources rights could be discussed & sorted out.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chairperson and all participants.



Development Commissioner cum ACS, Odisha

Annexure-1

Attendance of the meeting on FRA held on 18.02.2021 at 12.30 P.M.
under the Chairmanship of the DC-cum-ACS, Odisha

Sl. No.	Name of the Officer	Designation
1	Shri Pradeep Kumar Jena, IAS	DC-cum-ACS, P&C Deptt., Odisha
2	Smt. Ranjana Chopra, IAS	Principal Secy. to Govt., ST & SC Dev. Deptt.
3	Ms. Guha Poonam Tapas Kumar, IAS	Director (ST), ST & SC Dev. Deptt.
4	Shri Arindam Dakua, IAS	Director, Special Project, PR & DW Deptt.
5	Shri Jitendra Kumar, IFS	I/c Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and HoFF, Odisha
6	Shri Sudhansu Sekhar Khora, IFS	Dy. Conservator of Forest (IT & GIS), PCCF, Office
7	Shri Avaya Kumar Nayak, OAS (SAG)	Additional Secy. to Govt., Revenue & DM Deptt.
8	Shri Pramod Kumar Parida	Scientist, ORSAC
9	Shri Raj Kishore Das	Officer on Special Duty, ST & SC Dev. Deptt.

Annexure-2**District-wise pending rejected Individual Forest Rights claims**

Sl. No.	District	Claims Pending After Filling of Affidavit	Claims Disposed After Filling Affidavit	Claims Pending for Disposal
1	Sundargarh	15838	0	15838
2	Keonjhar	15274	0	15274
3	Nuapara	12215	2372	9843
4	Sambalpur	14908	5303	9605
5	Jharsuguda	6604	0	6604
6	Deogarh	5810	0	5810
7	Angul	4957	0	4957
8	Jajpur	2971	0	2971
9	Cuttack	3233	757	2476
10	Kandhamal	2428	9	2419
11	Malkangiri	2400	0	2400
12	Gajapati	16516	14740	1776
13	Boudh	1465	0	1465
14	Balasore	1292	23	1269
15	Khurda	1242	0	1242
16	Puri	1169	0	1169
17	Mayurbhanj	8636	7749	887
18	Bolangir	1412	676	736
19	Subarnapur	542	0	542
20	Kendrapara	2928	2545	383
21	Bargarh	1696	1656	40
22	Bhadrak	0	0	0
23	Jagatsinghpur	0	0	0
24	Nayagarh	0	0	0
25	Dhenkanal	1497	1497	0
26	Ganjam	0	0	0
27	Kalahandi	0	0	0
28	Koraput	2587	2587	0
29	Nawarangpur	0	0	0
30	Rayagada	0	0	0
Total		127620	39914	87706

District-wise status of conversion of forest villages into Revenue villages

Sl No.	District	No. of forest villages, un-surveyed villages etc. identified from the Census 2001 data			No. of forest villages, old habitation etc. identified by the District	No. of claims received	No. of villages converted into Revenue villages
		No. of "ZERO" area	No. of Forest villages	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Balasore	1	0	1	0	0	0
2	Bhadrak	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Cuttack	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Jagatsinghpur	1	0	1	0	0	0
5	Jajpur	0	0	0	30	13	0
6	Kendrapara	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Khurda	5	3	8	3	0	0
8	Mayurbhanj	24	0	24	24	6	0
9	Nayagarh	3	0	3	42	0	0
10	Puri	1	0	1	0	0	0
11	Angul	9	5	14	9	9	1
12	Bargarh	7	7	14	7	0	0
13	Bolangir	1	2	3	2	2	0
14	Deogarh	12	0	12	8	8	0
15	Dhenkanal	17	0	17	17	12	10
16	Jharsuguda	5	0	5	5	0	0
17	Keonjhar	38	0	38	0	0	0
18	Sambalpur	7	0	7	4	4	0
19	Subarnapur	0	0	0	36	0	0
20	Sundargarh	46	0	46	0	0	0
21	Boudh	9	0	9	9	9	0
22	Gajapati	54	0	54	0	0	0
23	Ganjam	53	0	53	53	53	0
24	Kalahandi	16	3	19	0	0	0
25	Kandhamal	35	0	35	35	8	0
26	Koraput	83	0	83	0	0	0
27	Malkangiri	112	0	112	66	2	0
28	Nawapara	7	0	7	7	7	0
29	Nawarangpur	9	0	9	0	0	0
30	Rayagada	34	0	34	0	0	0
	Total	589	20	609	357	133	11

Annexure-4**District-wise status of Demarcation and correction of RoR/ Map**

Sl	District	Title Distributed	Demarcation made	Demarcation to be done	RoR Correction made	RoR Correction to be Done
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Kandhamal	57818	53360	4458	51932	5886
2	Mayurbhanj	51128	48202	2926	45303	5825
3	Gajapati	35707	35169	538	19376	16331
4	Malkangiri	35657	33681	1976	16167	19490
5	Sundergarh	21458	15251	6207	13456	8002
6	Nabarangpur	44359	39634	4725	12812	31547
7	Keonjhar	59419	32204	27215	11216	48203
8	Koraput	29284	21066	8218	7911	21373
9	Kalahandi	10743	10614	129	5363	5380
10	Dhenkanal	9664	9664	0	4383	5281
11	Rayagada	25786	23073	2713	4347	21439
12	Jajpur	5995	5165	830	2853	3142
13	Sambalpur	14021	13249	772	2598	11423
14	Angul	2727	2137	590	2137	590
15	Jharsuguda	2599	2599	0	1921	678
16	Balasore	2604	2604	0	1889	715
17	Boudh	1914	1739	175	1739	175
18	Nayagarh	3868	1008	2860	1512	2356
19	Nuapara	7167	2288	4879	1218	5949
20	Ganjam	6341	3808	2533	996	5345
21	Deogarh	7368	5014	2354	767	6601
22	Bargarh	1097	898	199	540	557
23	Kendrapara	315	305	10	264	51
24	Bhadrak	204	204	0	204	0
25	Subarnapur	465	259	206	197	268
26	Khurda	985	985	0	174	811
27	Jagatsinghpur	47	46	1	46	1
28	Cuttack	1712	0	1712	0	1712
29	Puri	0	0	0	0	0
30	Bolangir	3049	3049	0	0	3049
Total		443501	367275	76226	211321	232180